

THE WORK OF THE ASTROLOGICAL LODGE OF LONDON

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

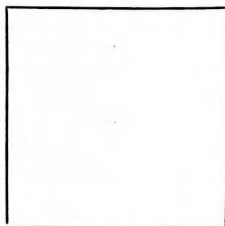
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For all particulars of the Work of the Lodge write to the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Hurren, 49, Twyford Avenue, East Finchley, London, N.2, who will be happy to answer all inquiries.

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OF INTEREST TO ALL ASTROLOGERS

ASTROLOGY

THE ASTROLOGERS' QUARTERLY

ISSUED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
ASTROLOGICAL LODGE OF LONDON
AND DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF
ASTROLOGY IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

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ASTROLOGY

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Readers will please note that neither the Astrological Lodge nor the Editor necessarily endorses opinions expressed in signed articles, the object of the Quarterly being to provide a forum for the free discussion of astrological problems.

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ASTROLOGY

The magazine ASTROLOGY is conducted upon purely non-commercial and idealistic principles. All contributions and all services (other than printing) are rendered voluntarily and gratuitously in order to assist in spreading a knowledge of astrological science in all its aspects. Readers are invited to co-operate in this work in the above spirit.

VOLUME SEVENTEEN

JUNE

NUMBER TWO

JULY AUGUST 1943

EDITORIAL

The Status and Future of Astrology

A helpful discussion on the above took place at the Lodge on March 13th, led by Mr. David Freedman.

There was a call for a permanent headquarters, nobly built and comfortably furnished (the speaker has a satellitium in Taurus!): this is unquestionably an object to be kept constantly in view, but it involves two prerequisites—the money to acquire such premises and a competent and trustworthy staff to look after it.

One of the most strongly-urged views was that we should endeavour, individually and collectively, to improve our methods of presenting astrology to inquirers and to the public generally. It was suggested that even the so-called “popular” publications, which now deluge their readers with pseudo-astrology, might be ready to print better copy if it were sent to them for consideration.

My own view is that there should be a definite determination to keep the predictive aspect of our science in its proper place, as being only one—and not the most important—branch of our work. When prediction is called for, it should be presented in a rational manner, and by no means in a fatalistic spirit. I would stress that the nativity is the toolshop of the soul, not its cage!

Mrs. Sudbury Hurren dwelt particularly on the place of true astrology in education and Mr. Roberts spoke of the need for more standardised methods of prediction, and, if possible, simpler ones. He suggested that there was great need of a new book on transits.

It seems to me that there is not much one can write on this subject, because of its simplicity. I have always believed that all astrologers regarded transits as being reliable, though of distinctly less importance than directions; but recently I have encountered some who consider them to be absolutely ineffective! That is certainly not my own view, but it may be

we have yet to discover the key to their measure of effectiveness and on this topic I may have something to say at a future date.

I have certainly seen some excellent week-to-week predictive work about the war that was based entirely on transits; but I question whether the broad sweep of events could be dealt with adequately in this manner.

From the point of view of psychological unfoldment nothing, I imagine, will ever detract from the value of solar directions, whether calculated by the secondary method, radix, or one degree.

Mr. Roberts also expressed the view, with which I heartily concur, that most predictive astrologers attempt far too much. In consequence they make deplorable mistakes, as when one eminent student, now deceased, foretold that "not a bomb would fall on London." What is the use of our asking why the Government neglects astrological advice, when we perpetrate blunders like this?

The discussion closed on a hopeful note, one speaker pointing out that far more educated and influential people believe in astrology than we are apt to imagine, though they do not all proclaim their allegiance, for understandable motives.

I have even seen it stated that one of the most enlightened statesmen of our day, the Vice-President of the United States, "dabbles in astrology." By the way, why is it that journalists will never allow anyone to "study" or "be interested in" astrology? The one and only verb applicable in such cases is "to dabble." The individual in question may be Chaucer, Kepler, Newton or Goethe—a giant in any other direction. As soon as he turns towards astrology, he must be regarded as a mere trifler.

Pluto

A reader has suggested that a half-page should regularly be devoted to opinions on this planet.

I doubt if such a feature could be maintained, but the time has perhaps come when a symposium of views on the value of Pluto might be published. Will readers therefore send in their contributions, stated as succinctly as possible? Those who find no value in the orb whatsoever should also "record their votes."

The War

Retrospect—February

As we foresaw this period saw basic changes in Germany's policy—or, rather, in her declaration of policy, which is a very

different matter. The "Red Bogey" was resurrected and the doctrine of *Festung Europa*, a purely defensive slogan, was proclaimed. Belated attempts at Liberalism were in evidence, with promises of protection for the small countries and their cultures.

These developments coincided with brilliant advances by the Soviet armies. It was a plain case of "When the Devil was sick. . . ."

The lunar eclipse in Virgo characteristically produced the proclamation of total mobilisation in Germany.

The current strength of Neptune in the mundane maps was reflected, in our country, in such events as the publication of the Beveridge Report, the founding of the Nuffield Trust, and important gifts to the National Trust.

Towards the end of the month the enemy won a considerable, though temporary, advantage in Tunisia, under the Pisces ingress, which showed Venus on the midheaven at Berlin, repeating the position which it held at the same city at the winter ingress. This, we suggested, would yield some relief for the enemy. In the Don Basin the Germans counter-attacked with considerable success, although in the north the Russians made important gains.

Gandhi's fast attracted much attention, as it was probably designed to do. His data appear in *More Notable Nativities*, the valuable supplement to *One Thousand and One*.

March

The first week saw the total destruction of a Japanese armada in the Bismarck Sea. Both the February eclipses were unfavourable for Japan.

During the month a terrific aerial offensive against Germany developed, following the lunar eclipse in square to Hitler's malefics in Gemini. We are apt to take these attacks as matters of course, owing to their frequency, but their effects must be tremendous.

This may well be connected with Hitler's ☿ p. and its afflictions.

Several weeks later it was reported in our Press that Hitler relinquished effective control of the German armed forces on March 11th—just when these ☿ directions were exact.

Yet it became clear, as March wore on, that the Germans had again escaped a fatal disaster in Russia, thanks to Venus in the M.C. of the Berlin winter ingress, and, more exoterically, to an exceptionally mild winter. Indeed they staged a substantial come-back.

murdered Polish officers, must be recorded as a great victory for Goebbels and a godsend to German propaganda. In the map for November 7, 1917, the day which the Russians themselves celebrate as the birthday of the U.S.S.R., Ψ had come to $\delta \text{ } \text{♂}$ in the 8th (o-d), a contact quite in keeping with this macabre affair.

The month had been comparatively quiet on the Russian front, except in the Kuban. It closed with a threatened coal-mine stoppage of great dimensions in the U.S.A. ♂ , ruler of that country, was $\text{♂ } \text{♂}$ in the May lunation, at Washington, with ♂ at the nadir. Astrologers have long foreseen trouble for our allies when ♂ and ♂ were together in Gemini, and unfortunately ♂ joins them in August for a period of six months. Such conditions in a mutable sign indicate dissension.

May

It is possible for me to add a few words on this month before going to press.

On the 6th a general attack was launched in Tunisia, and on the next day Bizerta fell to the Americans and Tunis itself to us. Bizerta had been reputed to be a fortress of great strength. This achievement was in the highest degree gratifying.

As regards the rest of May, I draw attention to Mussolini's transit of Saturn over radical Mars, and Hitler's transit of Uranus over Pluto. It will be recalled that Uranus was stationary on his Pluto in last September.

Prospect (June, July and August)

June

The lunation is a good one for us. Both benefics, well aspected, are in the 7th at London, in Cancer, and in close conjunction. This seems to point to victories. There may be new alliances or at any rate the opening up of fresh and cordial relations with other countries. Constantinople is ruled by Cancer, as well as Amsterdam and several important Italian cities.

On the other hand at Berlin and Rome ♂ is on the nadir, though well aspected.

The conjunction of ♀ and ♂ on June 2nd is close to the place of ♂ in the U.S.A. horoscope—a sure sign of victory. It falls on the nadir at Rome, which should benefit the people but not the Facist Government.

By transit ♂ now afflicts both Victor Immanuel's and Hirohito's maps; but at Tokio both benefics rise at the lunation. For a long time Chungking has had favourable indications,

month, the transit of Saturn over his progressed Sun and Mars. This transit, however, will also affect our King's radical Sun and the Prime Minister's Venus, as well as Mr. Eden's radical Sun. That is the drawback of judgment based solely on transits, so far as the general sweep of events is concerned; they rain not only equally, but also simultaneously, upon the just and the unjust alike.

August

This month begins with an impressive annular eclipse in 8-02 Leo. Actually it is only visible as such in Antarctica and (as a partial obscuration) in Australia. But at London the locus is only just below the horizon, whilst there is a conjunction of Jupiter and Pluto, in 6-55 Leo, only about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. later. Truly, the Lion will roar!

When we consider how this phenomenon affects important horoscopes we cannot doubt but that it will have great significance in the unfoldment of world-history. As we have just said, it falls conjunction Jupiter and Pluto in the heavens and on the ascendant at London; it falls conjunction the King's Jupiter and midheaven; on Mussolini's ☿-☉, and square Hirohito's ♀-☉. It is within $2'$ of ♄ in Hitler's epoch of July 16th; if we prefer one of two other possible epochs (July 29th-30th) it is still near ♄ and also ☉.

An eclipse in the first decan of Leo is said to portend the death of princes and rulers.

Leo, it will be remembered rules Rome, also Sicily and Apulia, as well as Roumania, France and perhaps Japan.

At Ankara Mars is exactly on the M.C. and it is in trine to Venus, so that Turkey may enter the war. According to Lilly Turkey is ruled by Leo, and also Bohemia.

The partial lunar eclipse of August 15th does not seem very important, though it is a bloody one, the lights being square Mars. ♀ culminates at Washington; but it is not afflicted.

At Tokio the place of ♄ in the Constitution map is on the ascendant.

The lunation of August 30th is, we regret to say, probably not good for Russia, as ♄ is on the nadir, and ♄ is exactly rising. The latter is, however, lord of the 10th house, which might bear a favourable interpretation.

Taking these three months as a whole there is much to encourage us and produce an opposite effect upon our enemies. I cannot speak of the Russian side of the conflict with confidence because of the lack of adequate data; the mundane figures show no reason for great anxiety in this direction. We

move towards gigantic aerial battles: note the station of Mars and his conjunction with Uranus in September, within 1' of Goering's Neptune. Note also the six months' stay of Mars in Gemini, with Saturn and Uranus.

Final Recension, May 16, 1943

THE EDITOR

[Mr. Pilkington's usual medical article has been omitted from this number owing to lack of space. It is hoped to resume the series in September with a paper having special relations with the Cell Salts.]

THE ASTROLOGY OF HUMOUR

By RUPERT S. GLEADOW, M.A.

(Mr. Gleadow prepared the following paper for the 1940 Convention of the American Federation of Scientific Astrologers.)

Originally I had hoped to follow my contribution to last year's congress at New York with a paper on the basic meaning of the houses; but it is difficult to concentrate on such deep questions at a time when one's countrymen are fighting desperately for the defence of civilisation in every continent against an outbreak of barbarism so terrible that the menaced nations have not even dared to unite in their own defence, and that two of the greatest Powers in the world are very hard pressed. Instead, therefore, I shall have to treat of an easier subject, namely the horoscopic indications of a sense of humour.

When treating of humour it would be a mistake not to treat also of wit, for the two are akin, though they do not necessarily go together. The difference is that wit depends for its existence on language, and on the ability of an individual who can use words cleverly. On the other hand the situation may be humorous in itself without a word being said about it, as is commonly supposed to be the case when a custard-pie alights on a film comedian's face. The qualities of wit and humour are therefore quite different. Many men who can watch Laurel and Hardy with a straight face laugh heartily at the cleverness of Oscar Wilde; on the other hand, the more hearty and boisterous a man's sense of humour the less he admires wit.

Wit then is essentially a matter of cleverness, and as such is inevitably the province of the Mercurian. The witty man will have Mercury angular, or at any rate strongly placed, perhaps ruling the ascendant by Gemini or Virgo, and probably in aspect of Mars, Uranus or the Moon. He is likely to have the Moon angular too, for there can be no wit without some sense of humour. Moon strong and in aspect of Mars or Mercury is

therefore another indication of wit, particularly if she be in an appropriate sign.

The most likely ascendants for wits are obviously Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and if Mercury be angular and Moon in aspect of Mars, one may add Cancer. The incisiveness of Aries and Scorpio may help them to wit of a mordant kind, but unless the native is of a genuinely Mercurial turn of mind there will be no wit.

Voltaire, as an example of a wit and satirist, had Mercury joined to Mars in Sagittarius and both opposed by Uranus; and if, as seems probable, his ascendant was at the beginning of Virgo, his Moon will have been early in Aquarius in the 5th house and Mercury, Mars and Uranus will have been angular in the 4th and 10th, Mercury being the ruler.

Humour on the other hand demands no cleverness, but a certain adaptability and not a literal mind. Usually it goes with some social sense and always it is a help to popularity, so it is not surprising that the man with a good sense of humour has an angular Moon. A sense of humour may exist when the Moon is cadent, but it will be greater if she is angular and in a congenial sign. The best signs for her are the mutable signs and Aquarius, though Virgo is definitely less good than Gemini or Sagittarius. The least favourable signs are probably Capricorn, Scorpio, Aries and Leo. In fact those signs which take themselves seriously; but of that more anon. The lunar aspects most favouring a sense of humour are probably those to Mercury, Jupiter and Neptune—Uranus and Saturn are both unfavourable because too cold, though Moon-Uranus is of course the indication of the poker-faced joker—and Mars tends more to wit, on account of its leaning to criticism.

But whereas wit depends on strong configurations of Moon, Mercury, Mars and Uranus, humour comes under the rule of Moon and Jupiter. The Jupiter person is notoriously fond of amusing himself; and though a weak Jupiter does not deprive a man of a sense of humour, it will help to do so if the Moon and Mercury are weak and Saturn is strong, especially if the signs occupied are inclined to take themselves seriously.

It is essential here to consider the attitude of the different signs to humour.

Aries is not, I think, a very humorous sign; it is not very good at laughing at itself, a defect it shares with Leo, Scorpio, Capricorn and Virgo. It is probable that that crude form of humour, the practical joke, appeals most to the fiery signs. Aries in any case is not much able to laugh at things it takes seriously.

Taurus might be thought too heavy and slow to have much sense of humour, but this would be unjust. Taurus may not see jokes quickly, but his laughter when he does see them is loud and hearty. Besides this, some Taureans have a rather subtle sense of humour. Being shy, they spend five minutes deciding whether a story is worth telling, so that when they do tell it the conversation has moved on and everyone has forgotten its relevance, but it does come out with a quiet chuckle that shows that the teller has been enjoying it for some time.

Gemini can always appreciate the more refined and subtle forms of humour, since his quickness of mind teaches him to do so, but his natural distaste for all forms of heavy-handedness and physical crudity is such that many jokes of the hearty back-slapping man are entirely lost on him; and these remarks apply with even more force to Virgo. However, the Geminian will often develop a special form of humour out of his own job, which the Virginian is not so liable to do. Both signs are given to verbal humour and quips.

Your Cancerian is an adaptable creature and therefore learns to laugh. He has, however, more sense of fun than true sense of humour, "Aren't we having a good time" is a typical Cancerian remark. And Cancer's range of humour is liable to be limited by a strong sense of reverence. The subjects which must not be joked about are patriotism, motherhood and the greatest artists. Cancerians do not make jokes about Beethoven, or in picture galleries. Even their relatives are sacred to them, and they will rebuke a niece for making a joke about her absent aunt. It is this sense of reverence that makes them such bad partners for the irreverent Sagittarians and Aquarians of this world.

Leo certainly does not like to be laughed at as a rule, but this disadvantage, though a bad one, does not prevent him from being normally humorous on any other subjects, except that he too, like Cancer, has his reverential taboos.

Libra with unfailing social sense has trained himself from childhood to laugh at other people's jokes, and thus from long practice can probably see a joke of any kind, subject to the limitations of his upbringing. Since he is an intellectual the jokes he makes will probably be of a rather intellectual type.

Scorpio has not a great sense of humour, he takes himself too seriously and is too sensible of affronts to his importance. Scorpio rising has produced more great men than any other sign, and the reason is that Scorpio people combine with a frequent inability to laugh at themselves a physique capable of a tremendous amount of concentrated work. It must be ad-

mitted that the ability to laugh at oneself, though a socially admirable quality and one without which any man soon becomes a bore, is not a help to worldly success, since one does not take one's own effort seriously enough.

Sagittarius is probably the most humorous of the signs. His conversation, though very inconsequent, is often amusing, and he is notoriously fond of all kinds of fun and enjoyment. His view of life is cheerful, and he is popular because he can laugh. His humour is not always subtle, sometimes crude and hearty, but he is rarely too pompous to see a joke. He always enjoys a good story and is the best person to tell one too.

In Capricorn, the most serious-minded of all the signs, a sense of humour is not indigenous; but the Capricornian becomes aware of this and teaches himself to appreciate jokes, so that although he dislikes vulgarity he does not in conversation appear deficient in humour. Many Capricornians have an endless flow of talk punctuated with funny stories, and being intellectual they tend to wit, or to humour of a pedantic type. Calverley, who founded what was called the "university school of humour" had the Sun in Capricorn.

The most characteristic sense of humour is that of Aquarius, for, unlike Sagittarius who makes jokes in order to amuse others and be thought a good fellow, Aquarius makes jokes to amuse himself, and if other people don't see them, so much the worse for them. Aquarius too, being ruled by Uranus, a planet that erects no prejudices against the unexpected and the new, has no barriers to his humour; he will make a joke of anything, even the things most sacred to himself, for this is the one sign that sees nothing incongruous in combining humour and serious matters. Not only is he no respecter of persons, but he can appreciate fantasy and the far-fetched. Thus it often happens that the humour of Aquarius is not appreciated by other people, simply because it is too much of a good thing. His fantasies appear forced to their more conventional minds, and his irreverence seems in bad taste. But it is obvious that this Aquarian humour is of an intellectual type, and so the less intellectual Aquarian is not likely to have a much more striking sense of humour than anyone else.

Pisces, like Sagittarius, is usually good at enjoying himself, and does not lack a sense of humour. His tendency seems to be towards good honest fun, not intellectualised.

As examples, one may quote Mark Twain, the foremost American humorist, and Laurence Sterne, one of England's greatest, both of whom had Sun in Sagittarius; Sterne is especially typical of Sagittarius even though his fantasy sug-

gests Aquarius. Sir Harry Lauder, the famous Scottish comedian and one of England's outstanding humorists for the past thirty years, has Mercury exactly rising in Leo in sextile to Jupiter in Gemini, trine Neptune and Saturn, while his Moon, though in Scorpio, is in opposition to the midheaven, and aspects Sun, Venus and Mars. Thus both Moon and Mercury are angular, one having the aspect of Mars and the other of Jupiter.

G. K. Chesterton, another eminent English humorous writer, had Scorpio rising, but Moon very close to the ascendant in sextile to Jupiter in Virgo in the 10th, and Mercury in Gemini conjoined to Mars, square Jupiter, trine Saturn. Both of these last two cases exemplify the rules quoted earlier.

As an example of wit, Oscar Wilde had Mercury ruler of the ascendant by Virgo, in aspect to Moon, Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune.

Another wit of my acquaintance has Mercury in the 4th conjunct Sun, opposition Saturn; Mercury being in Libra, but the Moon, ruler of the ascendant is in Taurus joined to Mars and Pluto. It has been suggested that the aspects of Pluto to the Moon and Mercury may help to bestow a sense of humour.

By contrast one cannot quote people deficient in wit—that is the normal lot—but we have two excellent examples to-day of people deficient in a sense of humour, in other words, in a sense of proportion. It is true that Hitler has Moon conjunction Jupiter, but both are cadent in the very serious sign Capricorn, the least humorous position the Moon can have. Mercury too is angular, as befits an orator, but he is not in a humorous sign and has no aspect to Moon, Jupiter or Neptune. The horoscope is altogether dominated by Saturn as the character shows and Saturn is no joker. In Mussolini's case Moon is angular in Gemini conjunct Mars and sextile Mercury, giving some ability to express self effectively, but she is also conjunct Saturn; the signs occupied are Scorpio and Leo, signs which take themselves seriously; Mercury is cadent, without aspect to Jupiter.

A BROAD OUTLINE FOR MUNDANE ASTROLOGY

By P. VERNON

It is generally accepted that the three outer planets, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, affect us more in a universal than individual manner, and since their comparatively recent discovery greater changes have taken place in world conditions than has

ever before been the case. The vibrations of these planets call for adjustments that we do not as yet completely understand, and therefore their effects often appear to the average person as more adverse than beneficial.

We have, however, some idea of their line of effectiveness, which has been felt with increasing force since the time of their discovery. Uranus, first charted in 1781, covers inventions and all revolutionary ideas, and has brought us to the machine age. Neptune, discovered in 1846, has taken effect mainly on the social and moral conditions of the world, dissolving to a great extent existing beliefs and narrow religious trends and tending to change and level down the social structure of civilisation as we had previously known it. Pluto first revealed himself in 1930, and his most noticeable effect is that of a purge. He turns up the stones one by one till all existing evils are revealed and then forces us to take action towards their elimination, however much we may resent the disagreeable efforts involved.

Modern history is vastly affected by the fact that in recent times invention has so speeded up industry, transport and communication that the world now responds very swiftly as a whole to conditions which may exist in any one part of the globe. This trend is closely connected with the influence of these outer planets, and it seems reasonable to commence a study of mundane conditions by watching the various aspects in formation between them, and to take these aspects as a fundamental basis to give meaning to world events during any particular period under consideration.

These aspects invariably cover a comparatively long period of time, owing to the slow motion of the planets and their retrograde movements, which cause several recurrences of the aspect we may be examining. It will be found that during this period world affairs respond in a general manner to the implications of the planet and aspect involved, and that at a point in time almost exactly midway between the first and last of a repeated aspect an event will emerge which will be of the greatest importance as a culminating point to the conditions in force.

In developing this thesis I will call this primary aspect between any of the three outer planets the "key-aspect." The next point in time to be considered, together with the event which it will bring forward, is the moment when either of the other two heavy planets, Saturn or Jupiter, form a similar aspect to either of the planets involved in the key-aspect. Here again events of great importance in the general trend of

affairs will be noted. Following this theme still further, it will probably be found that the lesser planets act likewise in a lesser degree.

A very brief illustration will show the effectiveness of this line of study with regard to comparatively recent events in history. Commencing in April 1932 and finishing in January 1934, a square aspect between Uranus and Pluto occurred five times. This period was the most effective in the consolidation of the Nazi régime in Germany, and at almost the exact mid-point in time between the first and last aspect Hitler came into power. Had the implications of this aspect been fully understood, the warning would have been obvious.

Consider next the points at which Saturn or Jupiter squared up to either of these two planets. With Jupiter forming the square to Pluto in 1934 Hitler completed his dreadful purge of the Nazi Party, thus strengthening his régime. As a further example—although outside the actual radius of the key-aspect—Saturn and Jupiter formed the square aspect to Pluto in August 1939 and March and May 1940, from the position previously held by Uranus. This was followed by events which showed the full meaning of the original key-aspect, when Hitler overran Poland and later most of the countries of Western Europe.

Turning to the next key-aspect we find Uranus in trine to Neptune in July 1939, the aspect recurring seven times, the last formation being in March 1943. This aspect seems to give some basic meaning and reason to the war and sounds a note of hope for the future.

The mid-point in time between the first and last occurrence of this aspect was May 1941. In that month and July 1941 we find Saturn and Jupiter forming the identical trine to Neptune. Following out the scheme I have outlined, we look for an event of the greatest importance bearing on the general conditions brought forward by the key-aspect, and we find that in June 1941 the balance was definitely turned in favour of the Allies when Russia entered the war.

Looking into the future we find the third act in the drama of the outer planets commencing when Pluto, already within orbs of a sextile from Leo to Neptune and Uranus as they enter the two airy signs Gemini and Libra during 1942, completes the sextile aspect to Uranus in June and again in October, 1943. Having no ephemeris of the future movements of Pluto, I cannot study further data of these interlocking aspects. But I have no doubt that an examination of these and

their mid-points, and the similar aspects to either one of them made by Saturn and Jupiter, will give us the exact time-points for future events of historic importance, and also give us the general trend of things to come.

“Q 5”

By GEORGE H. BAILEY

“If this fail
The pillared firmament is rottenness,
And earth's base built on stubble.”

THE point raised by Mr. Bray in the last issue concerning the devitalizing effects of latitude on planetary influence is a very important one, and calls for further investigation if we are to establish astrology as a science based on the correlation of human experience with celestial phenomena. Doubtless other students have wondered at the lack of results from apparently strong directions without realising that one or more of the planets concerned had excessive latitude, and I myself must confess to feeling extremely surprised in the summer of 1932, when my progressed Moon conjoined Saturn and Uranus and nothing occurred save an exhilarating feeling following a change of residence. At that time the Moon had 5° S. latitude, and as Saturn was 2° and Uranus $\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ north of the ecliptic, the luminary could approach the malefics no nearer than 7° and $5\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ respectively, so that as far as latitude was concerned the conjunction was a wide one, and on that account presumably inoperative.

This seems at variance with the accepted canons of astrology, for if the planets affect us partly in terms of the zodiacal degrees they hold, theoretically their influence should be felt whenever aspects are formed with those degrees. As has been stated, however, experience does not appear to bear this out, but lest readers should imagine they are likely to avoid the results of evil directions through excess of latitude, it must be pointed out there is another side to the question and planetary rays can yet be effective along other planes of influence.

So far we have been dealing with conjunctions in the zodiac, the celestial belt or sphere corresponding to the life-essence. For the inter-action between that essence and the material world, however, we must relate the celestial sphere to the mundane framework of the horoscope, which in most systems of house-division is based on the great circles of the horizon

and meridian. These two circular planes form the cusps of the four angular houses, and as they intersect at the north and south points of the horizon, it is only logical to assume that the intermediate cusps must also converge to those points. If this be true it follows that similar circles must define the positions of the planets and other celestial bodies in relation to the houses, these circles forming lines or planes of influence on which the mundane effects of the heavenly bodies are localised and exert their maximum stress.

Such considerations open up a wide vista of possibilities, for in addition to the mundane radical aspects between the planets based on their angular distances apart as measured in terms of the terrestrial housing framework, the effects of zodiacal latitude can be seen not to nullify the action of directions but to hasten or retard them by many months or even years.

Doubtless most students know that when two planets are in the same degree of right ascension they are both crossing the meridian in those parts of the world having that degree on the M.C. or I.C. at that moment, no matter what difference there is between the longitudes, latitudes and declinations of the bodies concerned. Similarly a planet with south latitude may appear on the horizon at the same time as another with north latitude several degrees later in the same or following sign, and in both cases the planets would be termed in mundane conjunction, as they would also be if they were together on the cusp of an intermediate house circle, or if one planet by direction crossed the terrestrial circle of another.

I had hoped, through the medium of quarterly jottings in "The Log-Book," to have shown how the positions of these planetary circles may be computed, but wartime restrictions on space prevent this, and I can only point out that the zodiacal degrees occupied by the planets should not be taken as more than a very rough guide to their house position, especially when signs of short ascension are rising, for often the latitude of the bodies concerned is sufficient to throw them outside the borders of the houses in which they appear to be by sign. Those who wish to tackle the mathematics of mundane position will find the method set out in Alan Leo's *Casting the Horoscope* , and if the task proves difficult I shall be pleased to do what I can to simplify it through private correspondence.

The circles of the meridian and horizon are 90° apart, and the terrestrial positions of the planets can be expressed in relation to either of those circles or to the intermediate cusps, all of which in the Campanian system lie 30° and 60° away from the angles. As an example I give below the positions of

the planetary circles in the specimen horoscope given in the Quarterly for December 1941, taking them round the houses in turn and relating them to the houses in which they are located, the figures on the right being their mundane distances from the ascendant.

Moon	1° 8½'	below asc.		1° 8½'
Jupiter	9° 31'	above cusp of	3rd	50° 29'
Uranus	11° 1'	below	„	6th 138° 59'
Saturn	10° 4'	below	„	6th 139° 56'
Sun	9° 46'	above	„	6th 159° 46'
Mercury	13° 18'	below	„	7th 166° 42'
Venus	10° 11'	above	„	7th 190° 11'
Mars	2° 11'	above	„	12th 327° 49'
Neptune	3° 5'	below	„	12th 333° 5'
Pluto	6° 42½'	below	„	12th 336° 42½'

At the risk of appearing tedious, I repeat that every one of these planetary circles, in common with the house cusps, cuts the horizon at the two points due north and south, and if shown on a horoscope form would appear as a straight line running from the rim to the centre, through each planet, just as if it were a cusp line. If, for instance, a planet were exactly midway between the 11th and 12th cusps it would be in mundane semi-square aspect with the ascendant and with the M.C. and would also be in mundane square with another planet if the latter were midway between the 2nd and 3rd cusps.

So far as mundane aspects are concerned I should not be prepared to allow a wide orb, and it will be seen that apart from conjunctions the only close contact in the foregoing schedule is the quadrature between Jupiter and Uranus-Saturn. As the former planet is already weak by sign and house position and is zodiacally afflicted by Mars, Neptune and Pluto, the camel's back would have broken had it not been for the trine from Mercury (zodiacal and mundane). The afflictions from Uranus-Saturn seem to have operated mostly through chills, liver complaints, the necessity for a restrictive dietary, repressive conditions of employment imposed by the whims of autocratic authorities, and consistent unreliability of those working under my control.

The way to test the relative house influence of the planets is to observe their effects in the affairs of life, and as I have said before, I have had sufficient personal experience of the specimen horoscope to know that the planets therein operate from the house positions assigned to them by Campanus. At present, however, I am not so much concerned with the houses as with

the terrestrial circles of the planets, and as these circles are definitely localised in the horoscope, the reality of their influence should be capable of verification by positive tests such as, for example, the directing of other planets to them.

There are two ways of doing this, one by the rotation of the sphere, thus carrying the radical mundane planetary circles round to meet the other planets, which in effect is the same procedure as progressing the M.C. and ascendant, the heavens apparently moving over the planetary "cusps" as they do over those of the angles. The other method is to progress the planets by their own local day-to-the-year motion until they arrive at the mundane circles of the other bodies, and as we have not yet determined the correct rate at which to rotate the sphere (about which I hope to write later), let us apply this second method to the specimen horoscope.

▷ p. ♄ ♀-h r. will serve as an excellent example, for as has been said, the bodies concerned were a long way apart in latitude. The zodiacal conjunction occurred in June-July 1932, but it was not until January-February 1933 that Luna crossed the terrestrial circles of the two malefics (and the circle in mundane square with Jupiter), after having traversed eight zodiacal degrees in swinging up from the south. At the latter period I was laid up with influenza, and to confirm that this was something more than a coincidence, the same complaint confined me to bed in January 1943, when the converse Moon went over the same circles in the reverse order. The conjunction in the zodiac does not occur until July-August 1943, but as the converse Moon still has 5° S. latitude, doubtless that direction will pass by without much effect.

A similar sort of thing is discernible with the solar converse directions to the same planets. The zodiacal conjunction with Saturn occurred in September 1931, but brought nothing worse than a mild attack of bronchial catarrh, insufficient to keep me at home. The mundane contact fell in March 1929 when with everyone else in the house, I was laid up with a bad cold which in April turned to influenza and tonsillitis, followed by persistent catarrh. ☉ conv. ♄ ♀ r. (zod.) fell in December 1930 and coincided with a cold, a paltry affair compared with the effect of the mundane conjunction in the preceding August, which brought an extremely sharp attack of influenza (due to getting chilled indulging in the Uranian pastime of sea-bathing).

One of the difficulties in research work of this kind is the separation of the effects of a number of different directions occurring at about the same periods, and for this reason I am unable to make use of quite a lot of contacts for demonstration

purposes. On the other hand, it is rarely a single direction will indicate an affair of any magnitude, for the big events of life are built up, as it were, from a confluence of directions operating from various quarters, some acting as a background for incidents more sharply defined by the others. I can, however, point to several occurrences characteristic of the directions concerned and am accordingly giving a few further examples to illustrate the potency of mundane aspects.

In December 1935 when ♀ conv. was in 13°M it was $\star \text{♀ } 1$. (mund.) from the 5th house, and at that time my father (indicated by Venus in my map) gave me a radio set. The combination of speech and music and the pleasure derived therefrom is seen to be aptly particularised by the two planets and the houses involved.

My marriage in April 1920 coincided with ♀ prog. $\square \text{♁} - \text{h } 1$. (mund.) followed by ♂ 24 r. (mund. & zod.), Venus at that time being in 10°X and, as might be expected, I experienced an abundance of the troubles already mentioned as associated with the three heavy planets, which as I see in retrospect, were definitely precipitated by the Venusian influence during the period covered by the directions.

It is difficult to locate a pointed effect from the configurations of these heavy planets amongst themselves, as Uranus and Saturn were in close conjunction in the radix and their exact quadrature with Jupiter was formed very slowly, for the latter was practically stationary at birth. h prog. reached $\square 24$ r. (mund.) in my ninth year, but as the aspect was so close for so long a time all my schooldays were repeatedly broken into by spells of bad health. The exact mundane conjunction between the converse Saturn and the radical Uranus coincided with a serious attack of tonsillitis in the summer of 1910, the converse Jupiter having reached the mundane square with Saturn radical at the same time, while in November 1918 when the converse Jupiter arrived at the mundane quadrature with the radical Uranus I went down with my first heavy dose of influenza (in the epidemic which was raging in those days), and it was not until September 1923 that I again caught this complaint, when by forward progression Jupiter formed the same aspect.

Neptune and Pluto of course move too slowly for experimentation of this sort, and even Mars is not of much assistance in the present case, for it went stationary in my 24th year. As can be seen from the schedule of planetary positions, its contact with Neptune is wider mundanely than in the zodiac, due to being about 3°N. of the ecliptic while Neptune is $1\frac{1}{2}^\circ \text{S.}$ When by converse motion it reached the exact mundane

conjunction, however, in my 22nd year, I was then at about the middle of a three-year spell of bizarre romance and fascinating bewitchery such as I shall never experience again and which from its very nature could only be attributed to those planets.

Sufficient has been said to show the importance of mundane directions by the "day-to-the-year" method, and if readers would like to follow it up on their own maps and require further assistance I shall be happy to explain the procedure in detail. Other directions of this sort can be found between the planets in their progressed positions, and also by turning the sphere to bring the various bodies to the terrestrial circles of the others by axial rotation, so that it can be seen that many further avenues of investigation await exploration.

I would like to add that the use of mundane aspects need not be confined to natal horoscopy, for they may well assist in rectifying some of the deficiencies in international prognostications based on lunations and ingresses. In fact, it is possible that the potency of eclipse charts may be due to the close conjunction of the luminaries on the same mundane circle as well as in the zodiac, and if this be so our lunations should all be calculated for the mundane conjunctions of the Sun and Moon instead of their zodiacal contacts. Such a procedure would make immense alterations in some of the monthly charts, especially as the mundane conjunctions occur at different times in different places.

De mortuis

Many readers will have felt deep regret at the loss the astrological world has suffered in the passing of Mr. V. E. Robson. I did not know him personally, but in the correspondence I had with him from time to time always found him most helpful. Apparently his end was quite unexpected for he thought he would reach the age of 63 if not 68 or 70. I do not know on what data he based this prognosis, but like many other astrologers he made no use of converse directions, and therefore did not foresee the intensity of stress to which he was subject last year. It was not that he disbelieved in converse progression, but merely considered forward directions were sufficiently comprehensive for the purpose of prediction.

The possibility of a sudden death was clearly shown in his map, for Mars, ruler of the 8th, was in opposition with the Sun and Mercury (his ruler) and in square with the risen Moon and ascendant, at the same time being close to the cusp of the 4th, and by converse secondary progression it had

moved to the exact square with the radical ascendant and opposition Mercury at the time of his demise. As readers know, I hold no brief for transits, but as Mars was so obviously the anareta, I must record that on the day of death it was transiting its converse place. Death occurred through heart failure, typical of Mars afflicting the Sun.

In the radix the effect of 5° N. latitude was to bring Luna in close mundane contact with Saturn, and this was evidently a pointer to one of the contributory causes of death, for a few months previously when consulting a doctor due to a chill on the liver and stomach trouble, extraction of the teeth was advised, as they were poisoning the system, a condition which was confirmed at the post-mortem, which revealed that the arteries were corroded by the poison.

Whether death could have been avoided had these factors been foreseen is a moot point, for Destiny so often blinds us that her own ends may be served.

GROUP ASPECTS

A preparatory article to the description of Focal Charts

By "REGULUS"

In this preliminary article I wish to discuss a feature of astrological aspects the value of which is all too seldom realised, especially in the consideration of related charts.

We know that, other things being equal, planets in aspect have certain definite reactions on each other, the trine and sextile being undoubtedly benefic; the square and opposition definitely malefic; the conjunction benefic or malefic according to the nature of the two planets; while the minor aspects (the semi-square, sesquiquadrate and quincunx) are generally considered latently if not actively malefic, and the semi-sextile latently benefic.

It frequently happens that two or more planets in a chart are in aspect and complete, or nearly complete, the circuit of the zodiac. Two planets in opposition to all intents and purposes can be said to circuit the zodiac, while three planets all in trine to each other undoubtedly do so, as do four planets in square and opposition, each in different signs of the same quality.

Again, two planets in aspect can be, with only a few exceptions, split by the aspects of a third planet in aspect to both of them, by the process which the traditional astrologer termed

"Collection." Traditionally, the third planet had the greater effect, whether it came between the other two planets, or contained (as the geometrician would say) both their angles. Thus two planets in trine could be collected by a planet between them in square to one and semi-sextile the other; or by a planet in opposition to one and sextile the other.

For the sake of convenience, I shall discuss these collections by proceeding from the greatest aspect to the two (or more) contained in it, and my experience of these is that the common-sense significance obtained from considering the implications of the combined aspects is reliable.

I strongly believe that the minor aspects are mainly latent in their influence as distinct from being of active hindrance or help. Those that are of the opinion, however, that there is more active influence in the sesquiquadrate or quincunx can modify my findings and apply them in practice according to their own experience.

First and foremost, I must make clear the significations I use and the division of each aspect into its parts. In each case I am discussing the division of a greater aspect between two planets "collected" by a third planet between them in aspect to both.

Opposition—Malefic, adverse, failure

Divides into—

Semi-sextile, quincunx	..	No conclusion or culmination, latent difficulties.
Sextile, trine .. ..	..	The adverse opposition resolves into successful culmination.
Square, square .. ..	..	Worst influence, failure certain.
Semi-square, sesquiquadrate		No culmination, great latent difficulties and adverse influences.

Quincunx—Latent malefic, hindrances

Divides into—

Semi-sextile, trine .. ..	..	No conclusion or culmination, but hindrances are removed.
Sextile, square .. ..	..	Not conclusive, struggle and conflict, hindrance increases.

Sesquiquadrate—Latent malefic, hindrances

Divides into—

Semi-square, square	Not conclusive, hindrances and adverse influences increase.
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Trine—Best benefic, success

Divides into—

Semi-sextile, square..	..	Not conclusive, nullified by severe hindrances and adverse influences.
Sextile, sextile	..	.. Conclusive and culminative, certain success.

Square—Worst malefic—adverse, failure

Divides into—

Semi-sextile, sextile..	..	Benefic influences actively nullify the adverse square.
Semi-square, semi-square	..	Not conclusive, adverse influences tend to remain latent.

Sextile—Benefic—active good influences

Divides into—

Semi-sextile, semi-sextile	..	Not conclusive, good influences tend to remain latent.
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The minor aspects (semi-square and semi-sextile) do not divide into other aspects and can only form part of larger aspect divisions; their influences as previously stated are latent rather than active.

Just as two planets in aspect can be divided or “collected” by a third planet, so three or more planets can circuit the zodiac completely or nearly completely, as has previously been stated. The astrologer might be forgiven for thinking that the famous Grand Trine of three mutual trines would be the best influence of all, but generations of astrologers have found from their experience an adverse “flaw” in this combination. I am of the opinion that the key to this lies in the familiar phrase: “*Too good to be true.*” The Grand Trine has an element of illusory success about it, and takes its rightful place as indicating the Unattainable, and therefore from it can only come failure.

The very best augury of three planets is then the Opposition-Sextile-Trine, especially if the opposition itself splits into another trine-sextile by a fourth planet in aspect to both of the two opposed planets. The following groups of three planets are especially to be noted, and their significances follow on simply by the application of the influences already noted:—

Three trines	..	Unattainable, “Too good to be true.”
Opposition, sextile, trine		Eventual success, culminative.
Trine, square, quincunx		Success possible after adverse influences or difficulties.

Two quincunxes, sextile	Over-confidence, frustration, struggle, difficulties; not culminative.
Two sesquares, square..	Not culminative, danger of failure, interference, adverse influences.
Opposition, two squares	Worst augury, culminative, failure.

This last can be still further emphasised by the Cardinal, Fixed or Mutable Cross of four planets in square to each of their neighbours, and oppositions to each of the further planets. This gives the formula: opp., opp.; sq., sq., sq., sq.

But other double oppositions exist, where the other angles form trines and sextiles, culminatively successful. Or where the other angles are quincunxes-semi-sextiles; or sesquares-semi-squares, the result is not culminative, and severe hindrances or latent adverse influences abound.

Apart from these, groups of four or more planets are best dealt with by considering the three most important, and bringing in the others as modifying influences.

The term "culminative" is here used to mean that the aspects lead to a definite active conclusion, either success or failure, and this is specially useful in considering the effect of multi-aspects in progressed charts, or (as I hope to discuss in my next article) the comparison of natal and mundane charts in describing the effects of astrological influences on events, by means of the focal chart.

(To be continued)

THE EARTH'S PLACE IN THE COSMOS

By JOHN CLEARY-BAKER, F.F.B.A.

In this age of scientific materialism it has become customary to accept the findings of the astronomers on trust. Anyone bold enough to challenge the Copernican theory and its implications is likely to find himself relegated to the ranks of the mystery-mongers and flat-earth fanatics.

At first consideration this would seem to be just. In view of the high degree of accuracy attained by astronomers in respect of their predictions of astral phenomena, it may indeed appear absurd to question the foundation on which their scheme of cosmic relations is based. The argument has not, however, so much weight as might be supposed.

The Ptolemaic theory, with its cycles and epicycles, enabled

its followers to predict planetary motions, eclipses and so on with perfect accuracy, and it was not until the invention of the telescope that the theory became inadequate to cover observed phenomena. Similarly, we suggest, the Copernican theory is on the verge of being superseded by another, simply because the universe of modern astronomy, with its limitless realms of emptiness, its incredibly attenuated gas-clouds and its total lack of any co-ordinating factors making for unity in stellar realms, is passing out of the region of possibility into that of nightmare!

The work of Professor U. G. Morrow, in the United States of Herr Karl Neupert and Dr. Ernst Barthel in Germany, of Professor Emilio Amico-Roxas in the Argentine, not to mention the labours of various lesser known students such as the writer, has resulted in the development of a completely new theory of the Cosmos, which while accounting for every observed celestial phenomena, planetary motions and retrogradations, the phases of the Moon and of the inner planets, the precession of the equinoxes and so on, returns the Earth to its ancient place as the only true and habitable world.

On this new theory Earth is not a tiny planet circling in an orbit between Venus and Mars and lost with the solar system to which it belongs in a vast gulf of space. It is the mighty, living cell-form which environs all space and within which stars, planets and luminaries move in their courses. In short, the new concept exactly reverses the current theory and locates the stellar universe within and not without the Earth.

Obviously this cannot be true in the flat and featureless three-dimensional space to which our studies in Euclidean geometry have accustomed us. The work of Einstein and others, however, has demonstrated that space may contain all sorts of properties not suspected by us. The new geocosmic theory postulates a space which contracts and condenses as we move away from the Earth inwards towards the stellar nucleus constituting the cosmic centre. This is to say that the universe of the astronomers is not a factual representation but an enormously enlarged scale model. A little thought will reveal that such incidents as the discovery of the planet Neptune as a result of the mathematical calculations of Adams and Leverrier are thus natural even though the theory of the planetary system adopted by the astronomers concerned is incorrect.

The philosophical implications of the geocosmic theory are revolutionary. If it has been a supposed realisation of human weakness and unimportance in the scheme of things which has thrown open the doors of civilisation to the destroying forces

of Greed, Materialism and War, may it not be that a readjustment of Man's mental outlook towards a saner perspective will be a long step towards restoring peace and harmony to a troubled world?

The astrologer, too, will hardly fail to understand that the new world-view has a great and direct bearing on his work. It was pre-eminently the growth of scientific materialism which resulted in the virtual discrediting of astrology in the West. When it is generally accepted that the cosmos is a living organism and the Earth the all-enfolding mother of life and form, the way will be paved for a revival of astrology.

It has only been found possible to cover a very small portion of the ground embraced by the new theory in the course of this article. Criticism will be welcomed, although it would be well to remind critics that the field of astronomical phenomena has been thoroughly traversed by exponents of the theory and there are no flaws in that part of the edifice. Whether any will reveal themselves elsewhere, only time will unfold.

STUDIES IN THE FIXED STARS

By THE EDITOR

No. 4: *Seginus, Wasat, Propus*

Wasat is a third magnitude star in the constellation of the Twins, with a longitude (January 1, 1920) of $17^{\circ} 24' \text{ } \varpi$. Propus, in the same constellation, is in $17^{\circ} 50' \text{ } \varpi$, and Seginus is in Bootes, with a longitude of $16^{\circ} 32' \text{ } \varpi$. Their natures are respectively h , ♀ - ♀ , and ♀ - h . A mind gifted in ♀ matters but also strongly Saturnian might be expected, and actually Wasat seems to have the most prominent significance of the three.

One of the most marked correlations of this group seems to be *trouble through relations with stern old men*, who are often martinets and miserly in nature.

Of this I could give several striking examples from my private collection; but there are many cases well known to the world. So far as I can see, the above characteristics are most prominent when the $17^{\circ} \text{ } \varphi$ - ϖ areas are emphasised. At least it is these, rather than the corresponding areas in ϖ - ♏ , that have arrested my attention.

When a violent body, such as ♂ , occupies these areas, discipline is commonly resented; our Prime Minister has been described, by one of his early teachers, as the very worst little

boy she had ever encountered! When \hbar occupies the same place, the father (or whoever may stand *in loco parentis*) is often a martinet. Carol of Rumania was brought up under the shadow of his severe grand-uncle, and his father died young. He is a very talented man, with a special taste for archaeology. I remember reading that as a child his own disciplinarian propensities were shown by his favourite game, which consisted of erecting barriers in the corridors of the palace and enforcing tolls from all who passed. I have the natus of a young woman who was born on the same day; her father was a domestic despot and died leaving the family in straitened circumstances.

Another instance well known to astrologers is that of Mrs. Leo, whose biography appears in her husband's *Esoteric Astrology*, from which it appears that the father was a tyrant and a miser, who ended by losing most of his money.

It is true that these conditions might be seen from the respective horoscopes without reference to the stars; but that is not always so.

Notable Nativities contain two relevant cases in the sphere of marriage, to wit Nos. 266 and 833. Note that Carol was divorced and Mrs. Leo dissolved her first marriage. Dr. Annie Besant ($\text{♂ } 17^\circ \simeq \text{♂ } \text{♁}$) left her husband.

The overbearing Goering has ♁ in $17^\circ \text{ } \varphi$; so too had Emily Popejoy, victim of a cruel mistress. Note that Goering lost his first wife.

The Archduke Franz Ferdinand, whose assassination led to the first Great War, had Saturn in $17^\circ \simeq$; it had no bad contacts, but he was known as a gloomy, ill-natured man, and his morganatic marriage, though perhaps happy in itself, led to conditions that embittered his life. He was in every sense a Saturnine character, but, except that this planet was in elevation, his nativity hardly indicates this, since Sun rising in Sagittarius should be genial and open-hearted. True, his ruler was in ♁ , but even so it was $\text{♂ } \text{♀}$. A typical case of Wasat!

Whether he had any intellectual tastes, I do not know; but as a rule this position introduces that element, presumably through Propus.

I have the natus of a child (Paris, 1.30 p.m., January 16, 1921) who was thrown from a window by its mother and killed directly after birth. The Moon is in $17\frac{1}{2}^\circ \text{ } \varphi$.

Another strongly Saturnian character, Viscount Snowden, who, though a Socialist, was a very thrifty protector of the public purse against Continental spongers on our idiotic liberality, had Moon opposition Wasat. He suffered also from lameness.

Amongst less estimable individuals whose lives betray this influence was Landru, the wife-murderer, who had ♀ and ♀ in 15° and 17° ♑, whilst N.N. 271 ("poisoned grandmother, husband and brother for insurance money") had ♀ 15° ♑. Note greed as the motive in each case.

However, the 17° of cardinal areas are more often apparent in the horoscopes of victims of violence than in those of perpetrators of crime. I will not append a long catalogue, since readers can check this assertion for themselves; but one may mention the unhappy Maximilian, emperor of Mexico, who had ☉, ♀ and ascendant ♂ Wasat. We have already cited Franz Ferdinand and Popejoy. Members of the Russian royal family furnish other instances, including Alexander II. The Lindbergh baby had Wasat on M.C. conjunction Pluto. The Empress of Austria had ♂ 17° ♏. Apart from her death her life was spoilt by the restrictive influences of Austrian court life: she was emphatically one of the "rapid falcons in a snare." Maximilian and the Romanoffs were all victims of political (i.e. Saturnian) conditions which were more or less outside their own control.

No. 5: Vertex, the Great Nebula in Andromeda

This favourite object of the amateur astronomer falls in the longitude of $26^{\circ} 43'$ ♑ and is said to be of the natures of Mars and the Moon. Its influence, falling beyond the Pollux and Procyon groupings, which we have already discussed, covers the last semidecanate of the cardinal signs. No other well-known star combines very closely with its orb of significance.

This star, as I have mentioned in earlier writings, seems to have a close connection with the disease of consumption, being potent in this respect if it falls on the cusps of the 2nd or 8th houses. It has also a relation, I believe, with mental troubles, perhaps in particular with religious mania; and the kind of temperament that flies from a bitter sense of personal inadequacy by indulging in outbursts of fury may well be connected with Vertex, though I am not, of course, affirming that this sort of psychology is never shown in other ways, or is always present in a marked degree when Vertex is prominent. All nebulae are traditionally prone to cause blindness and there is a certain truth in this. But I think the true interpretation should include figurative blindness, including the liability to becoming blind with passion, prejudice, and mental maladies.

The myth of Andromeda—the maiden bound to a rock to be devoured by a sea-monster and delivered by Perseus—is obviously an allegory of the middle principle in man being rescued from imminent destruction by the higher principle.

The nebula in Andromeda's Head might typify the blinding elements which lead her into danger by binding her to the rock of materiality by the sea of the astral world, though actually in the myth it is the sin of her mother by which she is betrayed, not by her own.

Be this as it may, in practical astrology Vertex appears to signify danger of betrayal, loss, attack, and weakness; and psychologically it seems to indicate a weakness and lack of restraint and control, one who "lets himself go" in some sense or another. Queen Victoria had Venus with this star, and her uncontrolled grief at her husband's death is well known and laid her open to much criticism.

Among victims of violence many have planets in conjunction with or opposition to Vertex, e.g. the last king of Portugal and his son, and Nicholas II of Russia. The Czarina, too, had $\hbar \square \psi$ with this star, also Joseph Smith, founder of Mormons, had $\hbar \oslash \mathfrak{H}$ opposed to it; he was dragged from jail and shot.

I believe that Adolf Hitler was probably born with the longitude of this star on the descendant, with Mercury, and it was similarly placed in the nativity of Gandhi.

(To be continued)

COMPETITION

The following birth data are those of one unmarried and two married sisters, all born in latitude 51°N . $22\frac{1}{2}$, longitude 2°W . 11 , and readers are invited to correlate the circumstances given below with the respective horoscopes.

- A. November 24, 1885, 10.10 a.m., G.M.T.
- B. October 29, 1887, 3.15 a.m., G.M.T.
- C. February 3, 1896, 5.10 a.m., G.M.T.

Two were school teachers; one married a school teacher and had a daughter.

The father died on March 12, 1929.

One slipped and fell on the back of her head in June 1938, apparently without serious effects at the time, but several weeks later she complained of a severe pain over the eyes and was treated for neuralgia. Later she had difficulty in keeping awake, and sleeping sickness was suspected, but when a specialist was called in he diagnosed a slow haemorrhage inside the skull which had been going on for a long time due to the fall, and stated that death was likely to occur within a few days. The lady died on September 30, 1938.

One had been living with her mother, and when the latter died (on February 9, 1940), leaving her with the home on her hands, she decided to marry a man with whom she had been long acquainted, and did so on March 23, 1940.

The wedding of the other married sister took place on September 30, 1920.

A prize of one guinea will be given to the first correct solution to arrive. My decision to be final and all attempts must reach me not later than August 1, 1943.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ASTROLOGY AND THE CHURCH

From GLADYS M. GOULD.

Having read through with interest the letter by Mr. John Harvey and having passed through this very trying experience of justifying my science to Church people some twenty years ago with the same failure, I would like to offer my means of convincing them which has been reached only after much thought.

First ask whence comes temptation? God planted the tree of knowledge in the Garden of Eden. There was no need for its presence except for this purpose.

Now bring in astrology. Man is tempted by good as well as bad influences. If he gives way, he suffers, if he resists he is strengthened. Here the planet Mars is best used as an illustration, for even the clergy are tempted to bad temper, and, if you can gain their birth data and give a list of days when Mars afflicts, a challenge to deny that on those days they were not tempted to irritation or anger will usually settle the matter and rouse their interest in the influences of the other planets, unless they are of the type who will not admit a truth "even though one rose from the dead" to convince them.

Although Christ did not actually speak of astrology, his whole teaching was in accord with it in that he always advised overcoming evil with good. To take the planet Mars once more. No one who has passed through a period when Mars afflicted will fail to realise that when he or she met with antagonistic people and gave way to anger nothing was gained, rather the life was unsettled, the spirit buried by materialism; but, when these same irritating people were met with kindness, strength flowed into the character and peace was maintained.

This merely gives an idea of the line to take. I am sure a Mercury trine Saturn will think out details to suit the mentality of his particular opponent.

BLINDNESS AND THE ECLIPSE

From M. A. KROON.

The case of blindness and the September eclipse interested me very much, also the reference to it in the March Quarterly.

Did you notice that in the natus ♀ was almost static, whilst the eclipse took place on the 12th cusp in quincunx to it and square the radical ♀? The radical ☾ was close to the Pleiades, square radical ♀, thus causing an inclination towards eye-trouble. Moreover, at the time of the eclipse ♀ (T) was just leaving his station in conjunction with Prima Hyadum, close to Pluto. Of Prima Hyadum, V. E. Robson says: "these give tears . . . blindness."

No doubt the fact that on the day in question, as well as in the natus, ♀ was all but stationary, while the eclipse took place on the 12th cusp, indicated the intensity of the effect. It would be most interesting if one could hear of anyone born on the same date, preferably with the same 12th cusp.

Another point that struck me was that the station of ♀ on the 10th of the month (the day of the eclipse) took place exactly equidistant between the 12th cusp and radical ♀. Probably the distances are too great to speak of rapt parallels, but the fact remains interesting nevertheless.

With regard to the fixed stars did you notice that Darlan had ♀ near Procyon, the influence of which according to Robson is "sudden preferment by exertion, ending in disaster."

As regards this star I have among my charts one in which it is conjunction the ascendant. This lady was bitten by a *cat* (not a dog, though I believe she has had a dog-bite or dog-bites at some time) and this bite has caused her months of trouble.

Speaking of eclipses generally a friend of mine had the solar eclipse of last August on her ☾, square a ♀-♂ conjunction. I was dreading the result. She rang me up that same day to tell me she had just had a head-on collision with her car and had some lumps and bruises—nothing more!

REVIEW

Be *Your Own Astrologer*, by IRIS VOREL. Published by Quality Press, Ltd., 22, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. 121 pp., 2s. 6d. net.

As implied by the title, this book is not written for advanced students, but nevertheless its exuberant vivacity and freshness of outlook will commend it to many. The writer is never at a loss for words, but they are so dynamic they seem to breathe new life into the commonplaces of astrology. A book for the enthusiast, whether novice or adept.

G. 13.

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