

# Fraternization News

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## NOTES AND NEWS



On the Way—

We're all set for a stimulating and inspiring convention at Niagara Falls. The program speaks for itself and from all sides we hear reports of students planning to attend. The Fox Head Inn is giving us special rates, but we would advise you to make your reservations early as the number of single rooms and rooms without bath is limited. The following are the rates quoted: Single with running water, \$2; double, ditto, \$3; single with bath, \$2.50 to \$3.50; double, ditto, \$4 to \$5; twin beds with bath, \$5 to \$6. Special rates are available for three or four in a room. May we urge, once more, that you support Convention Headquarters by staying at the Fox Head. We'll be seeing you!

Thanks a Lot!

For publicity given the Convention we wish to express our best thanks to *The Canadian Theosophist*, *The Theosophical News*, *The Toronto Theosophical News*, *The Hamilton Theosophical Quarterly* and the *O. E. Critic*. We also acknowledge with thanks donations for *Fraternization News* received from Col. E. L. Thomson, Toronto (\$2), and Mrs. A. Hambly, Hamilton (\$1). Word of the convention is spreading across the continent. In recent weeks we have received many letters of approval of our Fraternization efforts from distant places.

### Others Co-operate

You will note in the General Information on the program that the Immigration Authorities are co-operating with us to make the Convention a success. From Inspector H. A. Hunt, of Niagara Falls, Ont., we have received a courteous promise of assistance. Ronald V. Garratt, of Welland, has kindly undertaken to look after advertising, and the editor of the *Niagara Falls Review* and Miss Winnifred Stokes, who gave us valuable aid at the first Convention, are generously co-operating. Already a good notice of our gathering has appeared in the *Review*.

If you propose attending the Public Luncheon on Sunday you will help to make things run smoothly by letting Mrs. Kathleen Marks know immediately. Her address is 875 St. Clair avenue west, Toronto.

### American Indians

It is perhaps significant that at this Convention at Niagara Falls, a place sacred to the Indians of America, two members of this ancient race should have a prominent part on the program. We made reference last month to Dr. Parker, the modest and scholarly archaeologist of Rochester, who is to speak on Indian lore. This month we wish to call attention to the address by Mr. O. Macklin, who under his Indian name of Nowataye, will speak on the Ojibway beliefs. Those who have met him declare he is an authority on occult matters.



—to Convention.



# Suggestions To Students

Less than two weeks after you read this, we shall be renewing old friendships—and probably making new ones—at the Fox Head Inn at Niagara Falls. It is a good idea for Theosophical students of any Society, or none, to exchange ideas once a year with their fellow students; to be able to demonstrate that they have respect for the other person's point of view when it differs from their own; to recognize the fact that both are probably only relatively correct. What a Theosophical writer said in one of his books in referring to the classification of the "seven principles", equally applies to all other teachings, i.e., that they are merely exoteric renderings intended to carry the student a certain distance.

## One Basic Fundamental

Theosophists the world over, no matter to what Section they are affiliated, have one basic fundamental to which they all subscribe, that ideal which the masters state must be recognized by all—that is a belief in Universal Brotherhood without any distinctions. These Conventions may be called a practical demonstration of this fundamental. If Theosophists of different Societies do not have toleration for the beliefs of brother Theosophists, it is hardly possible for them to be tolerant towards the beliefs of those to whom Theosophy makes no appeal.

Everyone is naturally interested in seeing these yearly "get-togethers" are a real success. In order to make this one so, a number of students at the present time are busy preparing talks of interests, and a large Committee is busy at many jobs, all with one aim in view—to make this 1937 Convention the best we have had. BUT—though the organizer may organize, and the orators "orate", in the last, analysis it is the spirit of fraternization and good fellowship each student contributes that really matters.

I offer you all two suggestions:—

1. FRATERNIZE by staying at Convention Headquarters. It makes us so much more a family party, and if it costs you an extra dollar to do so, don't forget the management are giving us the use of the ballroom, etc. Think of that extra dollar as your particular contribution towards the cost of Headquarters.

2. FRATERNIZE by making friends with those with whom you are not acquainted. Leave your own little "gang" alone—you can talk to them on your return.

So, on to Niagara!

KATHLEN MARKS.



# Loyalty and Brotherhood

The Fraternization Convention held at Buffalo last year was a decided success and I for one am looking forward with great pleasure to the one to be held at Niagara Falls next June, fully anticipating that it will be even more successful than the last.

It was at the Convention last year that a light dawned on me when I saw for the first time a sample of practical brotherhood in bringing together members of various Theosophical organizations in order to discuss their ideals and interests in an atmosphere of socialibility, friendship and fraternization.

## Hob-Nobbing With Impunity

In a life devoted to the military profession I had been imbued with what is called "loyalty" to one's regiment, and by that I mean I had had ingrained in me a distorted, as I know it now to have been, idea of its superiority to other regiments in prestige, glory or what-have-you; and I am sorry to say that this feeling had not entirely disappeared when I joined the Theosophical Society, for I felt this same idea of loyalty to that organization to the detriment of others and thought that to become a member of another society of the same kind at the same time was not "loyal," and to meet under the same roof and discuss differences was an acknowledgment that one was wavering, in other words it was "not done." The Buffalo Convention brought home to me the futility of this and emphasized the fact that we could hob-nob with impunity and that one could with advantage discuss matters of diversified interests in an atmosphere of friendliness and goodwill and get somewhere with it.

## Theosophy Strengthened

Each of us joined the organization we thought had most to offer and whilst there were and are many to choose from, yet fundamentally all are the same; some may think that Theosophy is weakened by this array or disarray of the ancient teachings but I venture to assert on the contrary that it is strengthened, the only essential being that we coalesce and become a mighty force in the spiritual life of the world by presenting a united front held together for the one purpose of disseminating the wonderful knowledge that we possess of the Wisdom Religion.

From mixing with the members brought together at that Convention and reading the literature issued by the various organizations I now fully realize the importance, nay the necessity of doing all in our power to foster these Conventions and make them more and more successful. Not only are they of real value to all who attend from the point of view of the papers and discussions which are both inspiring and uplifting, but the contacts made and the friendships formed are most valuable, and further, it is only by bringing members together to discuss amicably the hundred and one problems so vital to all of us that we will be able to trim the lamp of Theosophy and hold it aloft for all the world to see what we have in store for it.

—E. L. THOMSON.



# The Great Orphan

Answering Addison, we might justly maintain that it is "the business of magic to humanise our natures with compassion" for the whole mankind as all living beings, instead of concentrating and limiting our affections to one pre-dilected race—yet few of us (except such as have attained the final negation of Moksha) can so far enfranchise ourselves from the influence of our earthly connection as to be insusceptible in various degrees to the higher pleasures, emotions and interests of the common run of humanity. Until final emancipation reabsorbs the *Ego* it *must* be conscious of the purest sympathies called out by the esthetic effects of high art, its tenderest chords to respond to the call of higher and nobler *human* attachments.

## An Immense Love

Of course, the greater the progress towards deliverance, the less this will be the case, until, to crown all, human and purely individual personal feelings—blood-ties and friendships, patriotism and race-predilection—all will give way, to become blended into one universal feeling, the only true and holy, the only unselfish and eternal one—Love, an Immense Love for humanity—as a *Whole!* For it is "humanity" which is the great Orphan, the only disinherited one upon this earth, my friend. And it is the duty of every man who is capable of an unselfish impulse to do something, however little, for its welfare.

## The Body and Its Members

Poor, poor humanity! It reminds me of the old fable of the war between the Body and its members: here, too, each limb of this huge "orphan"—fatherless and motherless—selfishly cares but for itself. *The* body uncared for suffers internally, whether the limbs are at war or at rest. Its suffering and agony never ceases . . . And who can blame it—as your materialistic philosophers do,—if, in this everlasting isolation and neglect it has evolved gods, unto whom "it ever cries for help but is not heard!" . . . Thus

"Since there is no hope for man *only in man* . . .

I would not let one cry whom I could save!" . . .

—THE MAHATMA LETTERS.

## STAUNCH THEOSOPHIST PASSES

We deeply regret the passing of Dr. Kenneth Morris, of Cardiff, Wales, a brilliant contributor to our pages. Theosophy and Fraternization have lost a valuable server. To his relatives and friends we extend sincere condolences.

*Fraternization News* is the organ of no society, but represents the desire of Theosophical Students, belonging to any Theosophical Society, or to none, to give expression to the teaching of Universal Brotherhood. The *News* is circulated free, but donations for its maintenance are welcomed. Please send all contributions to Cecil Williams, 49 East 7th Street, Hamilton, Ont., editor and chairman of the international committee, appointed at the Buffalo convention. Other members of the committee are O. J. Shoonmaker, 30 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Mass., and Robert Hughes, 78 Tom Street, Hamilton, Ont.

Robert Marks, 875 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ont., is the convention organizer, the following assisting him: Mrs. Kathleen Marks, E. B. Dustan, 218 Albertus Avenue, Toronto, Ont.; Harry D. Potter, Y.M.C.A., Hamilton, Ont.; Mrs. Henry Heubner, 2313 Goddard Road, Toledo, Ohio. The next International Theosophical Students' convention will be held at Niagara Falls, on June 12 and 13, 1937.