

Inspiration

PROMOTES INSPIRED, CHRISTIAN LIVING



A BALANCED INTERPRETER OF METAPHYSICAL,
MYSTICAL, AND ESOTERIC CHRISTIANITY

Theme: God's Presence in Nature

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Pessimist or Optimist?

The person who has formed the habit of thinking cheerful, hopeful, positive thought has a creative power that the pessimist never possesses. To recognize the value of changing from negative to positive thought habits gives one the incentive to search for ways to accomplish such a change.

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*Some thought-provoking
reflections upon—*

Our Heart's Innermost Urges

By Flower A. Newhouse

MANY ARE THE times when we fervently wish for an improved humanity as well as for the betterment of our own individual lives and tastes. Again and again these wishes appear, incited perhaps by contact with some experience which we should like to see changed. Usually we work very little upon translating our broadest dreams into reality, because so much of our attention is given to lesser interests and demands. Were we to understand these recurrent drives, their *objectives* might be more easily attained.

Deep desires of man's higher nature originated in his soul's consciousness. It is this luminous soul body which is the Spirit's reflector of insights, goals, and commissions pertaining to the Supreme Will. Directly from the Adonai, every responsive soul receives impressions to carry out certain specifications and to work upon given needs of evolving mankind.

One man's orders may vary considerably from his brother's, yet his and his brother's highest dreams are their directions from the Spirit's Instructive Presence to sponsor these Wishes of the Highest—to make

themselves responsible agents for the fulfillment of God's will!

The effect of constructive thought energizes the thinker and he becomes open to the idealism of other artisans. Beatrice Chesebrough, in *Good Business*, indicated this vital truth with these words, "When the mind is inspired by good examples the hands get clearer direction and produce more perfect work."

In the region of our Soul's World, creative energies are everywhere pressing themselves into responsive outlets. These waves of creative force are surcharged by Archetypal images which are emanated and broadcast by pure, Perfected Beings to whom the wishes of God regarding His world are known.

A human being comes into super-physical attunement with the Soul Dimension through purified and purposeful living, as well as through specific techniques of meditation, and a conscious seeking to understand God's Will. His soul body is as a luminous antenna which responds to energies and powers to which he is agreeable by reason of idealism, or by choice. Through his radiant center, man feels impacts from Archetypal Orders which

seek him for the outlet or broadcasting of God's Will towards the improvement of all His Created Life.

In a recent issue of *Mind Digest*, Malcolm Schloss tells about a Franciscan monk who exerted a very benign power over the sick and the lame in that he was able to heal them. Finally the Abbot heard about the seeming miracles this saintly monk was causing. He visited the brother and asked him to give a detailed account of his spiritual exercises. He found that the healer practiced exactly what every other monk of his order had, in prayers and devotions. But the Abbot was not satisfied. "Recollect well, my son," he inquired, "is there not some one thing that you do which you may have forgotten to relate?" The monk thought, and slowly answered, "I think not, Father, unless—ah, yes!" and his face beamed, "whenever I have nothing else to do that claims my attention, I repeat over and over, 'Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven!'"

Archetypal images cause man to feel a great consuming desire to become responsible for their High Orders. He may give his entire incarnation to the fulfillment of a specific goal, similar to that objective which filled Martin Luther as a desire to have religion pure and untainted. Hundreds of individuals, such as Luther, Dr. Granfel and Jane Adams, have felt comparable inward compulsions and have made themselves custodians of sacred, hu-

manitarian drives. Civilization has been advanced by the work of guided Workers for God.

Our distinct tastes and aspirations hold clues regarding our alignments to Bright Archetypal images we contact at our highest moments. They could and should form the basis of our personal endeavors towards the Good of Humanity. Until these compulsions of Spirit receive our sincerest attention and awaken our activity, everyday affairs and lesser desires could usurp the place of Holy Orders. For that reason we daily should dedicate ourselves to the soul's Inmost Urges and ever regard them as of first importance in thought and effort.

To illustrate how we may each respond to spiritual stimuli, let me tell you impersonally about the Inmost drives that spur my own individual consecrations. Listed briefly they appear to be:

1. The desire to bring men closer to God by sincere living and by the Spoken and Written Word.
2. The desire to cause every person to realize the need and the beauty of loving each other as growing Sons and Daughters of Life.
3. The desire to help mankind live *peacefully*, free of selfish influences that deceitfully try to incite men to war for the sake of material profit.
4. The desire to protect and strive for the highest good of the Creatures in a way com-

parable to the care Angelic Hosts accord our human kingdom.

5. The desire to build my life according to the truth, beauty, order, and eternity of the Spirit Indwelling.

To achieve these aims one needs to be afire with transforming zeal. He must himself live close to God in an ever-increasing sense of spiritual companionship.

In him the alchemy of love must be constantly exercised. No one is above or below the reaches of love. Humanity can best and most speedily make progress in a world fellowship of genuine brotherhood, where racial and religious differences are surmounted by Spiritual love and trust. In one of Gardner Hunting's articles in *Good Business*, he points to love's value in business relations. "I asked an old salesman in the furniture department of a fine department store: 'What is best for business—to make the customer like the goods, or like the store, or like you?' He grinned at me and said, 'Its best for business for me to like the customer!'"

One who follows Love's Rule cannot agree to the tyranny and force of war. He hates no one, not even ambitious war-creators, for he is busy striving to bring others to a realization of the wisdom of peace.

It is odd that numerous human beings pray to the Supreme Benefactor to give them Divine and Angelic assistance, while on the human plane they are indifferent and heed-

less of the animal kingdom, below their own, which requires human administration and kindness.

Physical existence is strenuous enough without those confusions and complexities that low-level thinking and disorganized living creates. A man who chooses and endeavors to live in a peaceful, orderly, Truth-loving manner, keeps his own inner and outer habitation harmonized. Having accomplished cleanliness and order in his private thought and surroundings, he possesses knowledge by which his humanitarian labors will benefit.

"Without vision the people perish." Those Dreams of Spirit to which we give the utmost in our thoughts and our endeavors slowly become concrete achievements. Perhaps we may not complete our Dream in one lifetime, but if we have been sincerely enthusiastic, someone else will take the torch we were impelled to light, and carry on the unfolding of the Dream in his own way.

Before a Humanitarian Artisan leaves his earth duties for heavenly renewal, he will have reaped, to some extent, a double reward. His whole incarnation will have been warmed and fired with a holy vision that refined and gave purpose to his character and actions. If he has lived long enough he will see his Dream moving with ever-enlarging influence into the world of men. He has helped indeed to make clearer and more accessible God's Kingdom to the world of men.

"There shall never be one lost good . . . !
On the earth the broken arcs ; in heaven a perfect round.
All we have willed or hoped or dreamed of good shall exist ;
Not its semblance but itself ; no beauty nor good nor power
Whose voice has gone forth, but each survives for the melodist
When eternity affirms the conception of an hour.
The high that proved too high, the heroic for earth too hard,
The passion that left the ground to loose itself in the sky,
Are music sent up to God by the lover and the bard.
Enough that He heard it once ; we shall hear it by-and-by."

—Robert Browning (From "Abt Vogler")

My Mountain of Silence

Some speak of the "Valley of Silence,"
But mine is a high mountain top,
Where the air sparkles clear, and the snow gleams white,
And the sun warms my heart though it blinds my sight
And the glory of Christ fills the spot.

I have climbed to my Mountain of Silence
To be alone with my God—
To give thanks for the blessings and joys he has given,
To refresh my tired heart with the beauties of heaven,
Sustaining the path I must trod.

So no matter how meager or dull my lot,
I can know that the highest is mine ;
On the wings of each morning my spirit shall soar
To that Mountain of Silence where all treasures are stored—
His Presence, His Love, divine.

—Elizabeth Smith

*A Clergyman "opens" the
Scriptures to—*

Nature's Mantle of Beauty

By Williston M. Ford

OUR LOVELIEST FLOWER, perhaps is a lily-of-the-valley—found joyously by Jesus in lush creek beds and moist shady spots in spring. During those thirty silent years, preparing unconsciously for His earth-saving mission, such poetic words of sacred Scripture as "I am the rose of Sharon and the lily-of-the-valleys,"¹ must have made an impression very deep. For Jesus loved beauty of nature.

Then, too, in the prophecy of Hosea, come these words, "He shall grow as the lily."² Israel, the Lord's Chosen, was to grow as beautifully and simply as that! How disappointing religious leaders of His day must have been in their artificiality of expensive dress!

One can imagine Jesus saying to a modern ecclesiastic of high station, or to a poor peasant girl full of hankering concern for fine clothes, "Consider the lilies-of-the-valley, how they grow! Even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these!"

With grace and color of wild flowers, Jesus had reverent wonder for the earth itself. Speaking of His sublime ideal, an actual kingdom of God, He said, why, it's just like casting seed into the ground and it springs up mysteriously; "for

the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself."⁴ In fact, He added in another parable, the trouble with much seed is not enough earth; people have "no deepness of earth"⁵—they are not close to the heart of Life in rich empowered soil. Even today we speak of "mother" earth. We find release from tension of any kind by working a while in gardens.

But in that dry parched Holy Land water came as a gift of God, bringing life and harvest. That is why Jesus conceives it as a symbol of renewal: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God!"⁶ He offers the half-breed woman living water, which shall be "a well of water springing up into everlasting life."⁷ Later He describes the simplest service in His name as a giving of cold water—just a cup full. Through a faithful disciple would flow a veritable "river of living water."⁸ How fascinating these words are as we watch a fountain, cascade, or mighty waterfall!

There remains His love of wind—so refreshing in that hot sultry country with the lake far below sea level and Jordan running down its gorge into a sink of desert salt. Brother Lawrence speaks of Sister

Water and Brother Wind; but to Jesus freedom of wind to blow "where it listeth,"⁹ uncontrolled by man, is analogous to the Spirit which comes as a second birth. So every prophet had become God-controlled. So all true mystics become possessed of God, either suddenly like St. Paul, or very gently and quietly like St. John. Wind reminded Him of a Divine breath.

It is memorable that Moses, great progenitor of the Hebrews, found direct contact with God on a mountain top in a wild storm of wind, thunder, and lightning. From Mt. Sinai came the ten basic moral laws of the old Testament. And from the Mount of Transfiguration, probably Mt. Hermon, snow-capped all year, north of the Lake, came that Divine guidance to Jesus which directed Him to the cross on Calvary. The revelation of our Bible takes place on mountain tops from Ararat to Zion—that "city set on an hill."¹⁰

Do we love nature as spiritually-minded followers of a Mystic Master? Rain is the revivifying action of God. To John Muir, mountains had clouds for halos and wind played upon pine needles as on a harp. We know that trees rise in vibration from willows, birch, and palm, to maple, elm, and oak—so on to pine, spruce, and redwood. So flowers and birds rise in vibra-

tion, giving us increased joy. Amiel wrote in his journal, "Mother of marvels, mystic and tender, why do we not live more in thee?" "Learn," he adds, "how to rejoice at each leaf awakened to life."

This might seem ultra-sensitive and poetic to some; yet the mystic philosopher Jacob Boehme wrote, "All about us is a wonderful Energy we call God." Beauty is a reflection of this. Religion is a capacity to sense fresh beauty with each day's waking—as Jesus did.

"Our elemental esthetic or creative sense must not be dulled by modern habits of life," wrote Dr. Alexis Carrell, "beauty is an inexhaustible source of happiness hidden everywhere."

Does anything give deeper satisfaction than appreciation of the beautiful in form, word, and deed? It is a well spring of inspiration. A health-giving, healing, curative effect imparts itself.

Whenever we see beauty of ocean, sunset, or cloud, loveliness of form, blossom, music, or movement, cadence of words or shimmer of light, we sense God's pervading Presence. He is within sunshine, shade, trunk, and bud; He is within moving water and air, charging the very earth.

To poet, mystic, or sincere disciple of Jesus the Christ, life is beautiful at every turn.

Bible references: 1. Song of Solomon 2:1, 2. Hosea 14:5, 3. Matthew 6:28 and Luke 12:27, 4. Mark 4:28, 5. Matthew 13:5, 6. John 3:5, 7. John 4:14, 8. John 7:38, 9. John 3:8, 10. Matthew 5:14.

(Rev. Ford is author of a four-page mimeographed publication issued monthly from his home, 208 Madrona Street, Chula Vista, California. Interested readers may subscribe to this splendid publication, devoted to meditations on the Life of Christ, by ordering direct from the author. Rate: \$1 per year.—Ed.)

Mysteries are glimpsed through—

The Open Door of Nature

By Flower A. Newhouse

NATURE HAS VAST instruction to impart to man. The door to her mysteries is always ajar to those who rightly desire enlightenment. She does not teach through the use of a textbook, for her lessons are written in all living things. Not every inquiring student shall learn from her, for only the reverent and appreciative are initiated into her secrets. Those who do not *see* the Loveliness of Life as it exists everywhere cannot hope to sense the superphysical aspects of Nature. They need to learn to revel in the varied manifestations of beauty, color, and design of endless forms of being. When they can feel exultation from observing a perfect flower, mountain crests, or glorious sunsets, they can prepare to apply for tuition in Nature's university.

The foremost principle that Nature stresses in all the areas of this globe is that the sacred flame of Life is active everywhere, both in visible and invisible forms. Life is a holy, dynamic power which gives purpose to all the forms it infuses. Nothing is unworthy; all things are distinguished when they possess the godly life element. Realizing this, we cannot but feel a new respect for the most common things — stones, earth, and weeds.

A friend had this prime lesson

concerning Nature's evaluation of Life brought home to her quite forcefully one day. She was invited into a laboratory where an acquaintance made daily excursions into the wonders of science. He asked her what she would call the object he held in his hand. "It is a block of wood," said the puzzled visitor.

The student of science said, "Yes, it appears to be a piece of dead wood, but just look at it through this instrument, and then tell me what you see."

To the young woman's utter amazement, the magnifying lens disclosed *motion* in the wood, a slow moving of the grain that was motion, undeniably. It was no longer a specimen of inert wood but a *living* thing.

With light footsteps this beholder left that laboratory knowing greater reverence than she ever before had felt. She saw God in every fallen branch and leaf she observed on the campus. When passing a muddy puddle of water, the words of Emerson awakened in her memory: "In the scum of things something always sings."

Another noteworthy disclosure Nature invariably imparts to her students is this: Everything which lives either possesses Intelligence or is acted upon by Intelligence. How-

ever humble they may be on evolution's ladder, vines possess the innate instinct to seek sunlight, and they extend themselves through dark areas until sunlight is reached. This instinctive knowledge is a form of intelligence. Again, no one can look upon a many-faceted diamond with its flashing of many hues without marveling at the Mind which created it.

A third revelation the Spirit of Nature imparts is that much in the physical realm receives impetus and development through directing Intelligences from the superphysical side of existence. The trees we see, the sweep of the terrain, and the weather we enjoy, are all acted upon by higher dimensional Minds which work under unchangeable laws to keep the earth inhabited. In fact, all living things in Nature are touched by Intelligences whose missions revolve around their growth, development, and awakening. In admiration of the forms we behold, we want to remember to salute those God-commissioned Beings who dwell on planes invisible to our physical perception. By saluting Them and appreciating Their ministrations we shall draw into a closer bond of acquaintanceship with these busy Servers.

Go to National Parks, not alone to see the outer beauty that they hold, but also to sense the inner Presences that guard and permeate the locality. You will gain much more from your pilgrimages by including a spiritual awareness of the

Loving Minds that make the Nature Shrines places of peace.

Just as you find a different variety of trees, shrubs, or flowers in various areas, so do you come in contact with Nature Beings whose appearance, emanation, and service differ from range to range. Let your inner faculties of intuition and perception identify the invisible powers enveloping the places you visit. One forest will be charged with healing energies which are especially invigorating to the etheric body. Another mountain fastness will possess a strong current of reverence for God. Lake regions are usually attuned to radiations of peace. The open desert country quickens keenness of mind. These contrasting vibrations are largely due to the type of Beings which ensoul the various territories.

Because Mt. Lassen in Northern California is a volcanic site the Nature Spirits there are Fire and Earth Beings. Zion National Park contains great stately Angels of power whereas, not many miles away, Bryce Canyon National Park is inhabited by Presences which are particularly gentle and loving. At Mt. Rainier the whole country is dominated by the superior force of the advanced ego known as the Lord of the Mountain. The radiations of this national forest are very powerful, spiritually. Yet, hosts of human beings are not aware of them because of their own insensitiveness to high currents.

There are those who, knowing

of the superphysical aspect of Nature, appeal to God's Spirit in these Intelligences to help mankind. Indians are aware of these benevolent forces. In June 1936, the Navajos of Arizona prayed for much-needed rain, and it came within two hours in answer to their supplications. A month later, the Sioux Indians of South Dakota entreated the Rain Devas to send them showers. They had a response in a matter of minutes. *We* should pray for the particular weather that is needed in our community. We address our prayers to the Eternal God Spirit in this way:

"Infinite and Absolute Spirit, bless our region, and every community on earth which needs it, with showers of rain. Empower the Angels of Rain to replace the Angels of Calm during this period of necessity. For Thy answer we give thanks and praise in Christ's Name. Amen."

Those who realize they may ask for Nature's assistance see evidences of its responsiveness on every hand. One farmer prayed for rains and a

good crop. He was answered with the best crop he had ever grown in his twenty-two years of farming.

Nature tells us that we can learn more of God by observing Him through His handiwork. She promises to initiate us into the wonders of Life *when* we appreciate Life around us *everywhere*—when our veneration for the Supreme Spirit includes the visible and invisible regions of being. She speaks to us in realization of this kind, "Look about you and profit by all you see. Whatever of good you find represented, you can become. Your character can be as strong as yonder stalwart pine. The light of day and the peace of night can radiate from your heart. Bless everything you behold and be prepared to receive my message."

True understanding of the wonders of Nature is evidenced by Elizabeth Browning in her words:

"Every common bush afire with
God,
But only he who *sees* takes off
his shoes."

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"Whosoever therefore, with a single heart lifteth up his intention to God, and emptieth himself of all inordinate love or disliking of any created thing, he shall be the most fit to receive grace, and meet the gift of true devotion. For the Lord bestoweth His blessings there, where He findeth the vessels empty."—*Thomas a. Kempis*

*An expert on human relations
speaks of—*

Growth

By Wilferd A. Peterson

GROW OR DIE is nature's law.

It is a law, too, among institutions and men.

Trees must be pruned of dead branches and firms must cut away the old, outworn and dust-covered ideas that cause business death. Executives must be daring tree surgeons, cutting out the dry rot, and stimulating new growth through creative and constructive thinking. They must cultivate employees and grow strong men to shoulder responsibilities and assume dynamic leadership.

Governments must fight weeds. The weeds and tangled undergrowth of law upon law, bureau upon bureau, that smother initiative and enterprise, must be swept from freedom's path if we are to continue to grow and progress as a nation.

The world must be rid of its dan-

gerous parasites and deadly insects that injure and kill the growth of justice, understanding and goodwill among men. These pests must be destroyed to make way for the growth of lasting peace.

All growth is rooted in the growth of individual greatness. To have better neighborhoods, we must be better neighbors. To have a better America, we must be better Americans. To have a better world, we must be better world-citizens.

The best way for a man to help his business, his nation, his world and himself is to grow personally in mind, heart and spirit.

To be bigger today than he was yesterday and bigger tomorrow than he is today. To plant and nurture in the garden of his personality, the finest qualities of manhood: this is the law of creative evolution.

Let's grow!

A poet sees—

Golden Linings for Gray Clouds

By Agnes B. Gard

THE WONDER OF GOD's cloud patterns, reflecting the glory of the sun at eventide, brings us that beautiful certainty of the perpetual shining of God's Light and benediction. We see this *golden* lining made possible through the soft, gray billows that gently hold the precious moisture which is one of God's blessings to us. Across the western sky at evening God flashes His message of courage. Though the darkness will soon descend, the bright banners of abiding assurance give steadfast confidence to keep us until the dawn.

The Promise of the Rainbow comes from the raying sun filtering through the raindrops. Here, again, is God's eternal covenant with man that he will never be forgotten nor forsaken.

The lakes and the ocean reflect the sunshine in dancing light. Since the blessed waters of the earth give back the glory of the sun and sky, they gain in beauty. Witness the eternal snows on Mount Rainier "the Mountain that was God," according to Indian legend. Snows are condensed moisture, reflecting back to God by their own purity the delicate sunset colorings of gold and salmon pink, just as the waters of the earth give back the sunshine.

It is the moisture in the air that lends itself to our lovely atmospheric effects, the violet-blue haze of God's artistry bringing distances to our landscapes as we look toward far horizons.

Let us express gratitude for the sun, our life-giver, for the gift of rain, and for earth's waters, with appreciative vision for the varied beauties expressed in His handiwork.

May we always remember with each golden sunset, that again God renews His Promise of Courage and strength to safefold us throughout the dark hours.

*Dedicate nine meditation
periods to a—*

Novena for Becoming God-Centered

By Mabel Mace Smith

(*Editor's Note:* Prior to the 1946 Annual Pilgrimage, the author dedicated nine consecutive morning meditations to a Novena of Preparation. Soon afterward, during Pilgrimage week, she discovered a striking similarity in the teachings she had received in meditation to the main theme of the Pilgrimage lessons. You may use these excerpts from her Novena as a pattern for **your own study periods** for nine days.)

First Day

TO BE AWARE of your own God-Self, you must remain centered in God. When thought is turned completely on this center of your being, the spiritual identity as a God-Being becomes the true center. From this center, all the inner and outer experiences of life take their true place and are seen for their relative values.

The "Kingdom of God" lies in this heart of your being. In the Causal world the true center is always recognized and known. If the individual considers life from any lower plane, either the mental, emotional, or physical, it is immediately moving out of center and becoming unbalanced and distorted. The Kingdom of God *is* balance and harmony.

In this lies the solution to all problems: It is absolutely necessary to arrive at the Soul Level (Causal Plane) and view each difficulty from this eternal elevation. Peace exists on this high plane, and all problems find their solution in peace and in forgetfulness of the little self. Become God-Centered.

Second Day

TRUE FREEDOM EXISTS in God. It is the *little* self that is bound and limited. To remove the bonds it is only necessary to let the *True Self* take charge of one's life.

Releasement is two-fold: First, releasement of all persons and problems; and second, releasement of the great Inner Self.

Habits are often strong bonds; you are chained by place and circumstances, you are slave to emotions and appetites, and you are caught and held in certain lines of thinking.

In meditation search out the jailers that hold you. Rise to your highest spiritual plane and there release them and let them go. Pray regularly that your releasement be complete and that you be permanently freed. Ask for guidance for new plans that will change and alter your life so that the old, binding ideas and routines shall be broken.

Be more quiet and tranquil; do not rush into things—tasks or conversations. Take your time. Of all problems and weaknesses say, "Lord, I am greater than this."

Release yourself from all old thoughts and habits.

Third Day

WHEN YOU ALIGN your real Self with the God-Source, all the shadows of life—its sorrows, pain, and uncertainties—are lost in His Light. Strength and self-assurance make you eager to undertake your duties. You know that you are adequate to undertake your life work and to do it wonderfully and successfully.

The sense of completion—of being filled where you were empty—ends all hungers and longings. All hurry and empty strivings drop away as you place yourself in your Divine Center.

And what is the *Center*? It is the consciousness of your own God-Spirit—the knowing that you are God-engendered, God-guided, and God-illuminated, and that God-in-you will fulfill your needs and your destiny.

A great peace calms the emotions and the mind, and you know that all is right in your life. There is courage and strength for the problem at hand. There is joy in living and doing. God is with you and makes you content. No need to seek release when living in the God-Center for there can be no fetters nor bars. You are free. Align yourself with God, daily and hourly.

Fourth Day

IN THE STILLNESS of the God Presence you recognize your God-Spirit. All is calm—an eternal calm. The Kingdom of God has never known storms or trouble. These are only on the planes of the lower self.

It is necessary to form habits of thought to keep the consciousness more firmly fixed in the eternal kingdom of spirit. When Jesus had mastered this and lived in the constant awareness of the Father, He said, "I have overcome the world."

Release all problems and live only in the *Now*. In one, small instant of time you can hold the realization of God and His Kingdom and of your own God-Self as belonging to this Kingdom.

You can and do release every person and every problem. God knows of them and how to care for them. All will be perfected. You have only this beautiful moment to live gloriously and joyously. *You*, too, have overcome the world. You live only in the *Now*.

Fifth Day

BE GREAT. LIFT your love to that high level that is above personalities. Love everyone, always. Love the good that they stand for and the good that they do. All human beings have their frailties—their unperfected areas in development. Be understanding and loving when you see these. The God-Centered person neither condemns nor becomes personally involved, but is just and compassionate. When someone as-

sumes virtues not yet developed, or pretends kindness, do not become disillusioned, but think this: "Though you have not yet attained the greatness you have assumed, still your *ideal is greatness*. You are striving to be great and in thinking and acting as though great, you will in time achieve greatness."

Build anew—higher love, higher faith, and higher consciousness.

Sixth Day

FREEDOM AND RELEASEMENT are yours! They are the compensation earned by pain and effort.

"Thy will be done," as a prayer, said *constructively* and trustingly, brings new trends, new circumstances, and new vision into your life. Regrets and backward-looking are negative and often undermine a whole life. Leave the sense of inferiority behind, too. Each one has many abilities. No one need feel inferior to others. Self-assurance, contentment of spirit, and a spiritual consciousness, when mixed with loving interest in others, are all that are needed.

Perfect your health and your affairs so that you are prepared for this new freedom. Keep your interests broad; consider world affairs, friends' problems, and community interests. It is the difference between being self-centered or God-centered! Be peaceful and expectant.

Seventh Day

THE POWER OF THE Most High works through all your affairs. Through aligning yourself always

with the strength, power, and purpose of the Great Source; the compassion and service of the Lord Christ, and the wisdom and guidance of the Spirit of Truth, you are forever assured of taking the right course—of doing your duty and your life work correctly. As this is done, you are free and happy each day, carrying no burdens, nor thinking any negative thoughts. You become creative in your thoughts and good flows to you and from you.

To be "in the secret of His Presence" is to be protected, strengthened, loved, understood, and guided on inner planes. Outwardly, it brings confidence in all life's activities. Peace and joy follow.

In His Presence is power, assurance, joyful activity, wise choice, and all His Good. Be at one with God, always.

Eighth Day

THE PAST IS GONE, and you live in the *Now*, facing forward into a beautiful future that is filled with God's good. You need only to keep close to Him and to know His purpose and direction for your every minute. Seek the highest and most valuable in this life and it shall in truth be well-lived—a spiritual success. Look forward with joy and anticipation to the new adventures God has in store for you. Plan and prepare for them, that you may be ready.

It is well to think honestly and fearlessly, coming to your own conclusions. Let there be no pretense. Search for your own creed and pat-

tern for living that will be honest, honorable, dependable, and peace-giving. When this is accomplished and lived-by, life will be serene and stable. Find your God-Center and stay solidly, serenely in it always.

To be completely free, ask for nothing in the world but God-justice, God-love, God-help, and God-abundance. In this is freedom from all personality. God supplies the needs on every plane, impersonally and perfectly, for your unfoldment. This is your center, and your life is the radius of your own development. You cannot live in others' lives and plans. You must look to your own. You have all power over your own life; none over that of another, and this is right.

Ninth Day

Constant attunement with God requires a quietness and balance, in order to make the contact and maintain it. We see this in others as a serenity of spirit.

To gain this quietness of spirit requires practice on many points.

1. The body must be comfortable and relaxed.
2. The emotions should be reso-

lutely controlled and placed on a high plane of beauty.

3. Clear the mind of small, darting, troublesome thoughts and turn peacefully to the contemplation of eternal values.

4. The highest ideals and aspirations must be kept in the foreground of consciousness.

5. The whole self must reach and stretch for new spiritual light, greater horizons, and new concepts of life's meaning.

6. Reach the high Soul Level of consciousness, and then, with serenity of soul and great spiritual strength and purpose, stay there—hold the high view of life. Say, "I will abide here, and this will be my permanent vantage point. I can now see through God's eyes and intelligently and joyously do His will—which is all good."

In this serenity of soul is a new birth—a new vision. Here is a fresh, high consciousness and a new life opening. Here is tranquillity and the peace of God. Here is release and freedom. All God's good flows in fullness. Here is the ecstasy of attunement with God. This is the victory!

Daily Realizations

Morning—

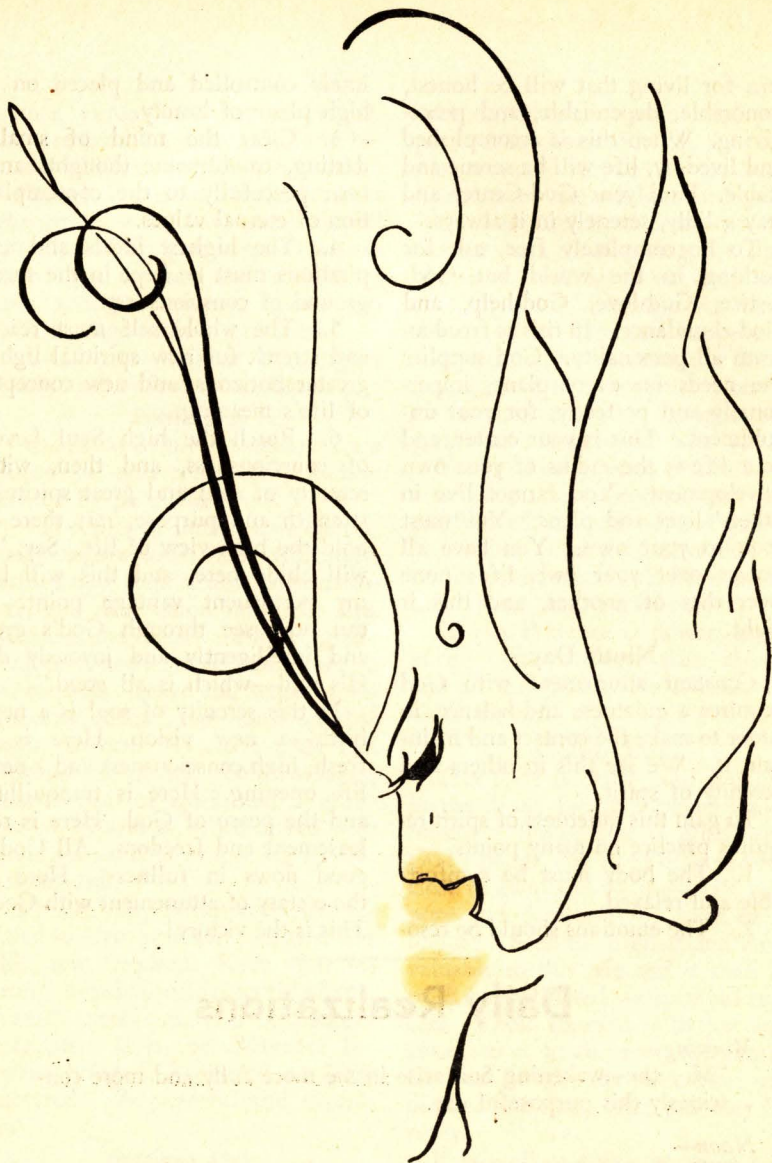
"My the awakening Son arise in me more fully and more consciously this purposeful day."

Noon—

"The Spirit of Christ illumines me so that I am freed from negative bondages and established in New Life."

Night—

"The Spirit of Life relaxes me and gently releases my inner self for its nightly Pilgrimage into Light."



DEVA OF MUSIC

By SEKMET RAULER

A promising young artist, Sekmet Rauler, realized this conception of a Deva. It is of the Order of Devas who associate Themselves with music. This particular Being looks like an Angel of Song.—F. A. N.

*An organist-composer's
account of—*

An Experiment In Music

By Edith E. Young

I SPENT TWO and a half hours of piano practice this morning, mostly on the Warsaw Concerto which a pupil is studying—as I must keep a jump ahead of her! First I marked the problem passages that, if not executed perfectly, would spoil the musical flow. I set the metronome at fifty—very, very slow—and played each sixteenth note to that slow, monotonous beat. At a snail's pace, unhurried, the right finger on the right key, practice begun—the goal in mind, precision, perfection, mastery of the entire concerto. Little by little the metronome was moved to faster tempo, a notch at a time. Ease was coming, but only the metronome measured the progress as the fingers comprehended the intricate pattern and began to find their path over the keyboard with assurance. All mechanical so far, then gradually the subconscious mind took over the work, and mind and spirit were free to roam as the hands became automatic in their task.

From the worldly viewpoint, what a waste of time, all this dull practice! What possible value had all this drudgery and effort? As I practiced ploddingly and methodically I began conversing with the soul of my pupil for whom I was

preparing the way. What soul qualities had I used in these two laborious hours of practice? Will power, concentration, self-direction, patience, perseverance. I thought of the patience of God down through the ages, His *infinite* patience! The timing of the stars in their course, the law and order of the universe, this eternity-of-life going on and on from a limitless past to a limitless future, with the present moment being the bridge between.

In my own labors the endless drills, the tedious repetition and technical performance is finished—and the labor of love becomes a bridge between this world and the invisible. The Spirit of Music suddenly enters in and breathes the breath of life into the performance, and the music now becomes a living, breathing thing. It is no longer outside oneself, but one is possessed by it, enfolded, completely surrounded and at one with the great outpouring of sound. Something of this is then passed on to the pupil to help her appropriate these soul qualities which will make of the dull practice period a shining hour of companionship with God. How to build these same qualities into her character to meet the challenge

passages and intricate problems as she makes her life journey? Everything she learns and *masters* in this field of music study is preparing her for mastery in the problems of of life, to overcome the difficult

life, to bring harmony and beauty into all life's relationships.

That is why I believe music study can be used as one of the greatest character building influences in the life of the child.

*Spiritualized living
begins with—*

The Life of Preparation

By Flower A. Newhouse

(Here is Chapter One of Christward Vol. II, a booklet published in 1939 which has been out of print for several years. Because many requests have been received for this volume, one chapter will be shared with readers in each issue of *Inspiration* during the coming year. In future issues, watch for "Faith, the Potency of Christ Works," "Healing," "The Healing Technique," "The Esotericism of the Christ.")

JUST WHAT WAS the purport and goal of Christ's teachings? We know that this Emissary proclaimed a message that would change the course of human affairs if it were only accepted and applied as a *reality* rather than an idealistic belief. The basic objectives of these imperishable doctrines were designed to lift men into a higher level of consciousness—

1. Where they would be just as conscious of God as they were of themselves.
2. Where they would be in ceaseless communion with those active forces that labored for their good.
3. Where health, gladness, prosperity, enlightenment and advancement were continual ex-

pressions of highly motivated living.

4. Where peace would be a lasting experience because men knew themselves as brothers of the same Divine Creative Source.

When we take the illuminating advice of the Christ *into our very hearts* and live by it, all the negatives in us fall away from the presence of vigorous positives. It is not possible to realize God as equally present everywhere and feel loneliness, panic or despair. These converse attitudes exist only where the Divine Spirit's immediacy is not considered. Jesus taught us to dwell *continually* in an awareness of God's enfolding Spirit. Regardless of our circumstances, difficulties or

weaknesses, we are urged by our Wayshower to *hold steadfastly to God's desire and ability to help us*. Releasing our cares to the Eternal Spirit enables the Father to act upon them and upon us. When we give our attention to God ensouling and God indwelling we find courage, strength, wisdom and wondrous assistance flowing into our beings and affairs. Then, whether we must deliver a speech or rebuild our lives, we do our part with high resolve and faith because *the Father is enabling and renewing us*.

The application of the Christ teaching excludes any attitude but that which is Godly. Walking in the light of the Christ doctrine we follow the pattern of forgiveness, integrity, praise, gratitude and gladness for everything that comes to us—the lessons as well as the conquests. It is no more difficult to follow a single course of spiritual conduct than it is for us to be swayed, torn and tortured by a seesawing between the Christ principles in conduct and the human way. Our choice is to prove the Christ teachings in our own behavior, to face forward and not backward toward the lines of least resistance whose heart-breaking ways we know all too well from past enslavement.

The Christ directs us to that inner state of mind where the spirit within us governs our reactions according to its spiritual nature. So long as our thoughts and feelings are uncontrolled and unsublimated we exhibit pride, selfishness, tension

and dependence on persons. We who strive to follow the path of Jesus no longer submit to the tyranny of destructive emotions, since our High Priest illustrated so challengingly the wisdom of checking and transmuting the negative human tendencies.

Clear and confident were the ringing tones of the Christos, "I am the way, the truth and the life." "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do . . ." Jesus referred both to deeds nobly done and to acts of great faith that we should do in His Name. Most of us have accepted the character training of our Exemplar but we have failed, too many of us, to give great service to His cause of elevating the lives of human beings. We have done very little toward perfecting and wielding the powers of spiritual faith. Whether we pledge ourselves to the enlightening of persons, to the sponsoring of the clearance of slums, or to the rehabilitation of individuals we are guided to assist, we must do something for the benefit of humankind if we are to deserve the name of Christians. And in our own lives we must take steadfast hold of faith and use it in such a high way that by healing, protecting, enriching and overcoming, we prove our works by His.

After the ascension of Jesus, John and Peter went to the temple to pray. In nearing a gate called "Beautiful" they heard the cries of

a man calling for assistance. Because he was an invalid the man could not enter the court of the temple but he could beg others for offerings. Begging was this soul's whole purpose in life. John and Peter were looked upon as likely benefactors. Instead of agreeing with his dependent habit Peter said to the man, "Silver and gold have I none but such as I have give I unto thee . . . In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."

The works and active trustfulness of the disciples inspired other individuals, not yet Masters, to increase their own efforts in the Christ Cause. The world would be a much more wretched one without the noble influence of persons such as St. Francis of Assisi, Florence Nightingale, George Muller and Father Damien who added their unselfish labors to its crucible.

"The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them for they are *spiritually discerned*." "But the hour cometh *and now is* when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him." "God is spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." These verses disclose mysticism which the Christ taught to His inner group. They open up an undreamed-of world of spiritual experiences into which Jesus admits His apostles.

The Lord Jesus indicated throughout His ministry that those who approach God spiritually will gain illumination, gifts and powers of a spiritual nature. Job was also of this faith for he declared, "Yet in my flesh shall I see God." It was the belief of Jesus and His disciples that those who regenerated themselves through spiritual devotion would be prepared to be "in communion with the Saints" as well as the Angel Orders mentioned in the New Testament.

This mystical side of the Christ teachings has received but scant attention from the average Christian. Some persons consider this esoteric vein (so noticeable in the Revelations of St. John) to be merely superstition. Instead, these deeper experiences are the natural conclusions of a life consecrated to God. They cause the Christ teachings to lead us from our humanity to our state of Christhood. They also open the gates of knowledge and attunement with those higher attainments and Orders, which are not myths of fancy, but *realities* in the next dimensions of our unfoldments in Christship.

Paul well knew of the inner happenings which occur to an individual who follows the Christos. Because he had known a few of these enlightenments he admonished us, "I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you." Regardless as to who or what we are, *now* is the time to make the teachings of the

Christ a *reality in our lives!* From the moment the realization of the significance of these verities awakens us, until we have accom-

plished the goal to which the Lord Jesus directs us, may we all be permitted to say, "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision."

A pertinent question—

Do Your Habits Need Watching?

By Lawrence G. Newhouse

PUBLIUS said, "Powerful, indeed, is the empire of habit."

When habits force us involuntarily to perform acts or to think thoughts which are detrimental to our highest good, that is the time when habits need watching.

When we use bad habits as an excuse for lack of accomplishment, that is the time when habits need watching.

When we begin to boast about the acquiring of a bad habit or fool ourselves into believing that it is smart to be "one of the crowd," that is the time when habits need watching. Furthermore, these instances prove that we are fostering habits which *need changing!*

Psychologists believe that it is just as easy to develop beneficial habits as it is to become the victim of detrimental ones which rob us of happiness and progress in life. The practice of habits which bring mental health is even more enjoyable than the practice of those negative habits which lead to mental

stagnation and ill-health. But man is not always willing to submit himself to change until he is convinced that his investment of time and effort will prove valuable to himself.

As in the life of Vash Young, a drunkard sinks to the lowest depths of self-debasement when suddenly he sees what life can become. A spiritual awakening occurs, freeing him from enslavement and lifting him into a new life of resolution and worthwhile service.

A grouchy perfectionist self-righteously scolds his friends so constantly that he finds himself living alone and disliking it. Realizing his plight, he decides to form the habit of looking at his friends and acquaintances through eyes of humility and genuine compassion.

Unwise food and tobacco habits are seldom changed until the resulting ill-health reminds us of our need for a carefully planned diet and freedom from nicotine.

Busy men and women fail to see the importance of regular medita-

tion and prayer until faced by some insurmountable obstacle or a disconcerting problem.

Through the lack of understanding of the laws of habit, **men who** would otherwise be outstandingly successful sink to utter failure, and women who have the potential qualities for a charming life of accomplishment degenerate into social misfits.

During infancy and childhood the formation of our habits is dependent upon the guidance of our parents and teachers. Later in life, however, we are thrown upon our own and we must face the task of developing our mental habits.

It is imperative that we learn more about the tremendous influence of habits upon our everyday life. You may not have realized it, but you are largely a creature of repetition. If, when in private, you form traits you would not wish revealed in public, sooner or later you will be embarrassed by what you will say or do in an unguarded moment. If you have carelessly allowed personal customs to form without discrimination and wise selection, your life is like a ship without a helmsman. You would never knowingly board a ship without a helmsman—yet, how much more valuable is the vessel of *your life*! How much attention are you giving to the steering of your mind and the forming of good, beneficial habits? It is highly essential that you understand and rightly direct **this potent force which can either**

help or harm you. It is one of the most rewarding studies that anyone can undertake. It should be a required subject in every training program.

What is the basis of habit? To what part of the mind is it related? The mental, emotional, and physical responses which we call habits find their motivating power in the portion of the mind termed the Instinctive or Subconscious Mind. Every man is created equal; and every man is furnished with an infallible agent of repetition that never sleeps—that is on the job twenty-four hours a day. Since the Instinctive Mind is incapable of returning to us anything with which we have not first supplied it, the responsibility rests upon us to furnish it with the impulses we want to receive back from it.

Dr. Rolf Alexander, in his book called "The Doctor Alone Can't Cure You," explains with remarkable clarity and revelation how the Instinctive Mind works tirelessly and devotedly to changing the body cells and organic functions to match the thoughts, positive or negative, which are held in the mind.

Dr. Coue's method really works! By the use of affirmation you can transform your whole life. If you think health and success ten minutes and then for the rest of the day affirm just the opposite in your body, actions and attitudes, your subconscious will act upon the pre-

dominant suggestion which is negative.

Your habit formations are similarly influenced. Each repetition of an act cuts a deeper groove on the "dictaphone" record of the subconscious, enabling it to play back its instinctive, habit response with greater clarity and intensity.

When you drive your automobile into the city, your subconscious mind does most of the driving. If it did not function, you would be a "nervous wreck" in a short time. Over a period of many driving experiences, repetition of movements and responses has taught the subconscious to guide your bodily actions in pressing the brake pedal, disengaging the clutch, and shifting the gears without conscious thought on your part. Have you ever noticed a back seat driver pressing his foot on the floor of the car as though he had some invisible brake pedal under his foot? The subconscious mind controlled his action.

Every time a stream cuts a deeper bed in the sand and rocks its likelihood of remaining in that channel is increased. It is the same with each repetition of thought or deed. In memorization work, this principle is active. Intense thought is like a rushing stream. It cuts deeper into the created channel or groove. Less intensive thought is like a **gentle stream** which must pass over the same route many more times in order to penetrate as deeply as the

rushing stream or the intense thought.

If the groove is shallow, a thought strongly motivated by the Divine Will will not follow the previously created groove but will instead create a new pathway inaugurating a new habit response which will have precedence over the lesser one. If the behavior pattern is cut deeply by many repetitions, a weak thought will follow the path of least resistance and fail to make a change in the direction of the deeper habit pathway.

Edwin Booth never allowed his body to assume one ungraceful pose because he knew that off-stage habits would become on-stage acts. Some motion picture stars install large mirrors in their homes in order to watch themselves critically and to correct immediately any tendency to assume unbecoming poses.

If you don't manage your body, your subconscious mind will. Therefore it is important to train the subconscious to do a good job so that when you are off guard it will not embarrass you. You wish to train it so that it will guide your life along lines of healthy growth and happy progress.

With more knowledge of the power with which we have to deal in the establishment of good thought and action habits, it is easier to intelligently plan our work and strategy. When we wish to replace negative habits with beneficial ones, it is helpful to consider these five points:

Recognize the Value of Change

Study the lives of successful men and women, and you will find that one of the main keys to their achievement is their well-formed habit of positive thinking.

The cadet from West Point has been thoroughly drilled in snappy posture—straight shoulders, carriage erect. When he graduates with a commission he is the very essence of poise and is a living example of the value of good habit development through a positive training program.

Ralph Waldo Trine was speaking of what any individual can achieve through the control of his habits when he said, "As man is in tune with the Infinite, he rises out of his own garden spot and mingles with the universe."

We believe that the coming man will no more allow negative thoughts of discord, pessimism, and disease to enter his mind than he would take poisonous liquids into his stomach.

The person who has formed the habit of thinking cheerful, hopeful, positive thoughts has a creative power that the pessimist never possesses. To recognize the value of changing from negative to positive habits gives one the incentive to search for ways to accomplish such a change.

Your Ability to Change

It is possible to change the character of the mind by habitually controlling the thought.

Attention, controlled by the divine will and directed by higher judgment, can so discipline the mind that it will dwell on higher ideals until positive thinking has become a habit.

When a man realizes that he is master of his thoughts, he knows that he can develop those habits he wants to affect his life. The subconscious is sure to return to him exactly the habit pictures and impulses he sends to it.

Determination Is an Aid

In order to achieve the proper degree of intensity in our right thinking, it is necessary for us to be highly motivated—linked up with high idealism. We can gain power of purpose by aligning ourselves with the omnipotent power of God within—the Divine Will within us. We must keep a goal in sight and keep working toward it. Soon obstacles will diminish and we shall achieve our objective.

Epictetus said, "Ordain for thyself forthwith a certain form and type of conduct which thou shalt maintain, both alone and, when it may chance, among men."

We can become masters of our thoughts; and thoughts are the dynamic recording devices which set habits in motion. Therefore we can become masters of the kingdom of our habits and captains of our lives.

Wise Planning

Wise planning enables you to distribute the load of new habit de-

velopment at a pace you can certainly maintain. Set a reasonable goal, and then determine with intense desire to achieve that milestone. When that is reached, set your next marker at a reasonable distance and renew your determined pledge. Each time you keep your promise to yourself you will gain more confidence. The habit of keeping your vows will make the next assignment easier.

Knowledge of Progress

Knowledge of progress along the path toward complete mastery of your subconscious responses is helpful. It is encouraging to know that some growth is visible. We must not become self-satisfied, nor over-confident. If we have missed the mark, we must aim a little higher, truer, and profit by the mistakes we made in previous attempts. Through trial and error we shall attain our objective. Though we fall time and time again, we shall succeed if we keep pressing on toward the ideal we have set as our goal.

It is humiliating to admit we possess a bad habit and have not found the strength of will to overcome it. Every time we nurse a weakness, we invite it to stay. Why be bogged down by a bad habit?

There is a saying: "Be kind to the old folks." Have you ever thought of being kind to the man

or woman you will be in the distant tomorrow? If you want to be kind to yourself, try this training program:

Replace now old negative tendencies with new, vibrant, building habits.

Form the custom of producing beautiful pictures in your mind.

Start a "bad-habit" elimination fast. For one week or one month, deny your subconscious the right to indulge in health-destroying habits, temper and emotional tantrums, unwholesome thoughts, disease and poverty fears. Instead, allow the Christ-within to assume control.

Inaugurate a new, positive program of inspired living. Vision health, happiness, prosperity, love, and wisdom. Think and speak only of the positive, good conditions you wish to manifest! Then, you will find your habit life will undergo a remarkable transformation. You will be amazed at the ease with which your body and affairs resume their normal, healthy, joyous status!

Wild geese in V-formation
Make their way southward:
One leader, one goal, one guidance
Through the pathless air.
One changeless law governs all.

—Vivien L. Maxwell
(In El Memo)

—OPEN YOUR EYES TO REALITY—

From Our Reading Table



ACROSS THE BORDERLINE

A very interesting book has come to our desk. It is "*Across the Borderline*" by Charles V. P. Young, and is published by Richard R. Smith, 120 East 39th Street, New York 3, N. Y. In narrative form the author describes his enlightened beliefs regarding *life after death*. Through the pages we glean what one man undergoes who is freed from his physical body to spiritual existence. The theme is not spiritualistic and is very helpful in its esoteric approach. Price \$2.00.

COME NOW INTO YOUR FREEDOM

Vida Reed Stone has written a very fine volume called "*Come Now Into Your Freedom*." Publisher: The Montrose Press, Wakefield, Mass. Written both in mystical and poetical style, the short chapters reveal the insights and realizations of a wise and mature soul. Some of the headings include "Enter the Ocean of Life," "Teach Me Thy Way," "Behold Your Freedom," and "Come Forth, O Son of God." Price \$1.60.

PROCESSIONAL OF JOY

Malcolm Schloss has another treasure awaiting eager readers. His newest group of poems is entitled "*ProceSSIONal of Joy*." This mystical poet is rapidly becoming recognized as one of the illumined writers of our time. In this latest work is included "Awakening," "Benediction," "Illumination," and "The Master Speaks." To order, write: Malcolm Schloss, 720 Equitable Bldg., Hollywood 28, California. Price \$2.00 for the regular edition, and \$5.00 for the cooperative, signed, numbered edition of 250 copies. Postage 10c. Sales tax in California 2½%.

(Please place orders with publishers as listed above.)

*First annual event is
pronounced success.*

Report of August Art Festival

By Mabel Janet Lepley

INSPIRATION CLUB OF VISTA presented its first Annual Art Festival Sunday afternoon, August 18th, at the Woman's Clubhouse in Vista. This long-looked-for event was an outstanding success and a credit to the entire community. Southern California's wealth of beautiful flowers in unusual, artistic arrangements made a colorful setting for the numerous exhibits of drawings, paintings, and handicrafts. As an opening, a program of music, dance, drama, and poetry was greatly appreciated by the large, enthusiastic audience, many of whom had journeyed from distant points.

The highlight of the program was a talk by Flower A. Newhouse who outlined the principles and ideals of Inspiration Club, and who invited others of the audience to develop talents and participate in the displays next year. Mrs. Newhouse said:

"Our lives are harmonized and mellowed by the Spirit of Beauty which envelopes us when we hear a glorious song or study a colorful painting. Beauty is ennobling. We feel its power when we see interesting flower arrangements, sculptured forms symbolizing the joys of life.

A man who possesses the gift of music has no more right to silence his talent than a teacher has to silence the Holy Word. We hope that in time Inspiration Clubs will appear in every city. We have civic clubs, fraternal and service organizations. It is time that there be clubs devoted to the enrichment of man's reception of beauty. Such a club would be a center for the dissemination and sharing by those possessed with artistic talents. We have here such a gathering. Here we see some of the fruits—not of professional—but of artistic-minded persons whose pictures, handicrafts, flower arrangements, songs, poetry, and other expressions are given with the motive to share that which has inspired them, rather than to have an audience before whom to express. . . . The world as a whole is helped to progress, not by the pessimists who are said to have a "worm's-eye view," nor by the dreamers who are content to leave their dreams in abstract mental dimensions, but by the practical idealists who carve out beauty from ordinary materials, and who open roads and build cities to match their dreams!"

The Philosopher's Stone

Have you seen some bit of crystal
Which was inlaid with virgin gold?
Have you marveled at its beauty
Wrought in mystic ways untold?
Mother Nature has her chemists
And has taught them what they know
So they create the precious jewels
That men seek to have and hold.

The yellow light of afternoon
That shimmers in the summer heat,
Shines in the heart of the topaz,
Your discerning eye to greet.
Every grassy meadow pays it toll
To an emerald's living green
And the haze of Indian Summer
In the amethyst is seen.

Thinking gold could buy contentment,
A stone was sought by men of old,
For they believed this stone could change
All it touched to shining gold.
'Tis love that has the magic touch
That reveals what you are worth;
'Tis love that makes the whole world kin
And glorifies the home on earth.

Love of gold and lure of jewels
Blind men's eyes to greater treasures;
They miss the better things in life,
Too busy, seeking wealth and pleasures.
Priceless things you cannot buy
Are often found right in your home;
You'll never find the Holy Grail,
My friend, until you cease to roam.

—Rodger Jackson

TO KEEP YOU INFORMED

*News and Notes by
Mabel Janet Lepley*

Leadership Training Class . . .

"LEADERSHIP FROM THE Spiritual Viewpoint," Flower Newhouse's long-awaited lesson course, was presented in Los Angeles the week ending September 1st. The four lessons which comprise Course No. 1 of the Ministry's leadership training program were enthusiastically received by a large group of students and teachers from the Los Angeles area. Beginning September 27th, practice work class-meetings will be held every Friday night at 8 p.m. in a conference room of the First Unitarian Church, 2936 West 8th Street (near Vermont), Los Angeles.

Leadership Course To Be Repeated . . .

It has just been announced that the Leadership Training Course will be presented in Vista by Mr. and Mrs. Newhouse the week ending October 12th. This series of class lessons will begin at 8 p.m. the evenings of October 7, 9, and 11 at the Vista Woman's Clubhouse, with the final class at Questhaven on Sunday, October 13th, at 11 a.m.

The four lessons are titled, "Cultivating the Qualifications," "Leadership Techniques," "Self Development," and "Channelship for Christ." While "Leadership from the Spiritual Viewpoint" is planned for those who desire to consecrate themselves to the Ministry of Christ on Earth, it will also possess untold value for any person desiring greater self-development, as well as more knowledge and training for participation in civic and religious activities. Those planning to attend from a distance are asked to write the Christward Ministry, P.O. Box 116, Vista, California, for information regarding housing and transportation.

Southern-Eastern Lecture Tour Postponed . . .

Due to the pressure of a heavy work program here, Flower and Lawrence Newhouse have decided to postpone the Southern-Eastern Tour until next March and April. Invitations from various centers along the route may be addressed to P.O. Box 116, Vista, California.

Glendale Lecture . . .

Flower A. Newhouse gave a public lecture entitled "*Our Heart's Innermost Urges*" at the Institute of Religious Science, Glendale, Thursday evening, September 26th. Mrs. Lora Holman is the leader in charge at this center.

Santa Monica Engagement . . .

"Aids and Barriers to Evolution" will be the thought-provoking sub-

ject of the lecture by Flower New-South American Trip
house at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, September 29th at the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Clubhouse, 1210 Fourth Street (at Wilshire). This event is sponsored by the Rosicrucian Philosophy Study Center, under the capable leadership of Gene Sande.

Postponed . . .

Due to the delays and uncertainties of air travel through our sister continent at this time, Mr. and Mrs. Newhouse have found it necessary to postpone their journey to South America. Travel agencies advised that steamship passage was not available at the present time. It is hoped that by the Fall of 1947 a boat trip will be possible. This would allow time for the rest and relaxation necessary for inner investigation and inspirational writing for which purposes this journey is planned. Funds which are being contributed for this South American tour will be used for the trip next year.

1946 Annual Pilgrimage . . .

The 1946 Annual Pilgrimage of The Christward Ministry held the week ending June 29th at Idyllwild, high in the San Jacinto Mountains, proved to be a wonderful success in every way. The beauty of the surroundings and the purity of the mountain atmosphere contributed greatly to the high state of consciousness that was held for the entire week. Next year's pilgrimage is planned for the same location, and approximately the same time (the last week of June). Watch for announcements and make reservations early. Pilgrimage lessons are now being published in the current issues of *Training for Self-Conquest*.

Christmas Orders

Our office staff would greatly appreciate it if your Christmas gift orders for books, and subscription orders for *Inspiration Magazine*, *Training for Self-Conquest Lessons*, and the *Christward Way Lessons*, could be sent in early this year. Orders can then be handled more efficiently, gift-wrapped, and held until specified mailing date.

Inspiration Club Activities . . .

The monthly meetings of Inspiration Club have been just that—Inspirational! The June meeting was devoted to Healing and Music; the July meeting to Poetry and Music, starring several men in our group with Stephen Isaac as Chairman. The August Art Festival took the place of the regular August meeting and this month (September) the group, together with many friends from other communities, enjoyed a picnic and songfest at Live Oak Park near Fallbrook in addition to the regular meeting which was devoted to the Arts. The October meeting will feature a travelogue by Faith Isaac, based on experiences during her recent trip through Old Mexico, Guatemala and Yucatan.

Questhaven Items . . .

Since last going to press, the electric line has been extended to the Oak Grove Sanctuary and the pump house. As a result, we now have an electric outlet which enables us to have beautiful recorded music for our Sunday Services, as well as an automatic water supply system for Questhaven.

A cement block structure is now being erected near the Oak Grove Sanctuary to house the chairs and equipment used for outdoor services.

A larger supply of water to meet the increasing need during the dry summer and fall seasons was made available recently by increasing the depth of the main well and repairing the windmill and pump at the supplementary well. Glenn Lepley planned and supervised this important work. We are looking forward to the day when sufficient funds will be available for future development of natural water resources in preparation for future expansion of the Questhaven project.

Another urgent need is for sufficient funds to hire a full-time gardener-caretaker for Questhaven's beautiful acres.

Questhaven Services . . .

During the summer months, Sunday services are held in the Oak Grove Sanctuary at Questhaven at 11 a.m. Our principal Speaker during these months this year has been Inspiration's Editor, Lawrence G. Newhouse, who has given the

following talks: "Northwest Tour Report," "Review of Pilgrimage Highlights," "The Heavenly Vision," "Human Nature Can Be Changed," "Man's Spiritual Make-up," and "The Quest for Reality." Vernon Day and Lee Funderburk have served as chairmen.

On September 8th and 15th, Flower A. Newhouse, presented these lectures: "Our Heart's Innermost Urges" and "Aids and Barriers to Evolution."

Personals in Brief . . .

Walter John Mundy Jr., of Long Beach, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mundy of Vista, and Ruth Faye Atkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Garvin Atkins of Oklahoma City, were united in marriage at Idyllwild on June 20th by Lawrence Newhouse. Matron of Honor was Faith Isaac of Oceanside, with Stephen Isaac, also of Oceanside, acting as Best Man. . . . Another beautiful wedding ceremony took place at Idyllwild on June 29th when Mrs. Newhouse officiated at the wedding of Kurt Reineman, noted artist of Idyllwild, and Mrs. Letha Olson of Fallbrook. . . . Mabel Brothers, formerly of the San Francisco Christward group, is a new and welcome resident of Oceanside. Dorothy and Lauralee Thomas, formerly of Mt. Vernon, Washington, have now joined their husband and father, Edwin (Tommy) Thomas, in their new home at Point Loma (San Diego) . . . Two newcomers to this planet have been added to our

growing list of "the youngest generation" friends of Inspiration and the Ministry: Bonnie Joy Day was born July 3rd in Oceanside. Her parents are Managing Editor Vernon Day and his wife, Joy Day. David Edwin Johnson was born July 16 and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Johnson of Long Beach, and the grandson of Vista's Elizabeth and Walter Mundy . . . Alta Maddox of Richmond has just returned from a trip to Alaska. . . . Glenn and Mabel Janet Lepley are back in Vista after several weeks' sojourn in the Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park country.

Practical Suggestion . . .

In searching through Inspiration files, the following note was discovered and is shared with friends because it offers a practical suggestion:

"Each Christmas brings to Flower and Lawrence Newhouse many gifts, each expressing love for them, and they are loved and prized by their recipients. However, each year increases the problem of "housing" the gift articles. Since I have become aware of this, I follow this plan: I decide each year how much I can allot to the gift for Flower and Lawrence, and send that amount to be placed in the fund which is to build the home they need and which some day—we hope soon—will house the lovely gifts they have received."—Mrs. G.

In Memoriam . . .

Loving thoughts and blessings continue to wing their way to *Beata*

Cass, steadfast devotee of Truth, who graduated from this earth-school in July; and to *Esther Palmer*, saintly wife of B. J. Palmer, and mother of five daughters, four of whom are dedicated servers in Christward activities—Faith Isaac, Marion Pierce, Dorothy Thomas and Joy Day. Mrs. Palmer was summoned September 3rd.

More Privacy Needed . . .

Due to the rapid expansion of their world-wide work, our leaders, Flower and Lawrence Newhouse, find an ever-increasing need for more privacy in order to have the time to cover the vast scope of their inspirational writings, correspondence, and healing work. It is hoped that all will understand this urgent need and help to maintain Questhaven as a retreat. This is with the exception of Sundays when all are invited to attend public devotional services at 11 o'clock a.m.

Meditation Booklet

Now Available . . .

After being out of print for several years, "Meditation with a Purpose" by Flower A. Newhouse is now available in a new multi-graphed edition with a beautiful new cover design by Gretchen Cornany. Twenty-five cents (30c postpaid; four for \$1).

Also, a new edition of "The School of Life" by Flower A. Newhouse is now off the press. Through the years this helpful booklet has become increasingly popular. Twenty-five cents (30c postpaid; four for \$1).

Vision

In a recent issue of NEW LIFE magazine, an old story was retold about the stranger who watched three stonecutters at work. To the first workman he asked, "What are you doing?" The man replied, "I am earning my bread and butter."

The second worker was asked the same question to which he impatiently retorted, "Can't you see, I'm cutting this stone."

"What are YOU doing?" he asked the third stonecutter. "I am building a cathedral," he answered.

This stonecutter, by his words and by the light shining from his eyes, revealed that he had true vision which enables us to see the importance and significance of our daily tasks.

INSPIRATION MAGAZINE aspires to help growing men and women develop and improve their vision and perspective of life so that they may be able to discharge their responsibilities successfully and change life's problems and difficulties into adventurous, victorious living.



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