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New Age Interpreter

A magazine issued every month or two devoted to studies designed to aid the modern seeker to a spiritual reorientation in the light of the Ageless Wisdom. Eight issues, \$1.50—Five issues, \$1.00—20c a copy. Theodore Heline, Editor

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*There was war in heaven
and
Woe for the earth.*

—Revelation 12:7; 12

Reverence for Life

Only through the emergence of a fresh ethical impulse can humanity give birth to a new civilization. That impulse must spring from some fundamental principle, some basic idea, some elementary and universal concept concerning life in the totality of its expression.

Albert Schweitzer, medical missionary to Africa, philosopher, theologian, master organist and one of the supreme geniuses of our generation, has seized upon such a basic concept and crystallized a whole philosophy and way of life in three words that have in them the ring of immortality:

REVERENCE FOR LIFE

These words convey a concept that must now be woven into the whole context of life and not merely express a religious sentiment and a philosophical ideal. It must condition human behavior and humanize man's relations to all living creatures including those in the lower kingdoms of nature. A new world order awaits building on the adoption of a way of life based on the simple yet profound concept voiced in the words

Reverence for Life

Michael and The Dragon

Legend and Reality

The biblical account of the heavenly struggle between Michael and the Dragon is widely regarded as pure legend. To others it is symbolism veiling a sacred truth. To yet others it is a literal rendering of an actual combat that occurred in time and place between individualized intelligences dwelling in super-physical realms.

Among the latter are the religionists whom we know as the literalists or fundamentalists. In the other categories, we have the liberal minded believers who accept the account as a mingling of legend and reality, whereas the pure rationalists see in it only a fabled portrayal of impersonal forces or abstract principles that common experiences verifies to be in constant conflict one with another.

As extremes meet, the esotericists position comes closer to the literalist's than either of the other interpretations, although it is by no means the same. It is more scientific, a feature which it has in common with the rationalist. It is less materialized. While it accepts the literal rendering as true, it also recognizes the symbolism employed as an aid in grasping spiritual concepts that lie beyond the power of mere words to convey.

As recorded in the Book of Revelation, the war in heaven was waged between Michael and his angels and the Dragon and his angels. The latter, it declares, prevailed not, nor was there any longer a place for them in heaven. So the great Dragon was thrown out—"the old serpent called the devil, and accuser, the deceiver of the whole of the habitable world, was thrown to the earth; and his angels were thrown with him."

This victory for Michael and defeat for the Dragon calls forth rejoicing in the heavens but a cry of sympathy for the earth to which the Dragon had been banished. "Exalt, therefore, O heavens, and you who are sheltered in them!" But, "Woe to the earth, and to the sea!—because the devil has descended to you. . . ."

This war in heaven may be interpreted from various points of view and in terms applicable to different levels of consciousness. It can be dealt with solely as a conflict between principles in nature; and again as opposing forces within man himself. It can also be dealt with as a contest between actual beings who embody within themselves the principles in nature and the forces in man that are in opposition to one another. It is this latter interpretation with which we shall first concern ourselves.

The Protagonists

Who then is Michael and who is the Dragon?

Michael is an archangel whose celestial status is indicated by his very name which means "he who is like unto God." His countenance is described as being like that of the sun and his office is that of ambassador to the earth from the central solar orb.

Michael is alluded to in the Scriptures as an angel of great powers and as presiding and watching over the Church of God with particular solicitude and resolution, and as triumphant over evil. In the Old Testament he is referred to as the guardian of the Chosen People in their battle against godless powers and in the New Testament as the vanquisher of the Dragon and his hosts.

According to the teachings of esoteric Christianity, various archangels assume certain specific tasks in relation to humanity. The mission of Michael is to show mankind the way to the Christ. It is to liberate his earth-bound consciousness and made him aware of his true spiritual nature. It is to assist the Christ in His redemptive work for humanity. It is to raise man from out of the spiritual darkness in which he lives into the light of his divine being.

According to the late eminent spiritual scientist, Rudolph Steiner, humanity comes at present under what he calls the Regency of Michael. This has a definite term, having commenced in the latter part of the last century and will continue over a period of about three hundred years. Historically speaking, it may be said, therefore, that the Michael subject is a timely theme.

Michaelmas

It is the Archangel Michael that is honored at Michaelmas, a festival observed at this season of the year by both the Roman and Greek Catholic Churches and also by various Protestant bodies. The date is September 29th. Michaelmas is also known as the Feast of Saint Michael and all the Holy Angels. It is an autumnal festival.

While that Festival has not passed out of the Church calendar, it receives no such general recognition and observance as does, for example, the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox festivals of Christmas and Easter. When the true significance of the time will be generally understood, there is no doubt that Michaelmas will be observed in a manner comparable to those of the Church's major holy days. But this waits on a more spiritual humanity. We live today in a half light; we stand on the horizon line where heaven and earth meet. The equinoctial points are on that line. Day and night are here at equal length. Here the two natures in man meet. Here the light of the spirit contacts unilluminated matter. Here it is that Michael, the embodiment of light, meets the Dragon, "the power of darkness," as Paul defines the mind when devoid of spirit.

In the Talmud it is stated that the Tabernacle in the Wilderness was constructed half in light and half in shadow. This is the state in which humanity lives. A corroboration of this fact appears in the manner in which the four turning points of the year are observed. While these four are all equally sacred in character and equally important, only the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox receive general recognition and celebrations as holy times. The Summer Solstice and the Autumn Equinox are all but completely ignored. Not until they are observed with celebrations as festive as those which now occur at Christmas and Easter can it be said that the tabernacle of our worship stands in full light.

The half light in which we live is furthermore indicated in the fact that such observance as we do give to the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox is regarded primarily as commemorations of past historical events and not as times for active participation in a present spiritual activity of a most highly significant character. The exoteric features pertaining to these seasons are fully recognized but their esoteric meaning still remains largely hidden.

The Dragon

Now who is the Dragon? The Dragon is the name given by John in Revelation to the leader of a group of angels who decided to detach themselves from the divine will before they were mature enough to rightly exercise individual freedom. They were rebels. As rebels there did not exist for them forms or conditions in the realms to which they rightly belonged to suitably provide for their evolution, hence they were expelled from heaven and banished to this earth. It cleared the heavens but it darkened the earth. This was the circumstance that prompted the exclamation previously quoted: "Exalt, therefore, heavens, and you who are sheltered in them! Woe to the earth, and to the sea!—because the devil has descended to you, in great fury, knowing his time is short."

In Revelation the Dragon is called both a serpent and a deceiver. These two terms really signify two distinct beings but for apparent simplicity are designated as the Dragon. Both were rebels, both departed from "the straight and narrow path" of their own line of evolution, both lost their heaven world and both were sent to work out their salvation in our earth sphere. Of these two the serpent is the Lucifer of Genesis and the deceiver is the being who in the Zoroastrian religion is called Ahri-man, a name by which he is still known in esoteric theology.

Thus humanity has become entangled in two classes of interloping spirits. The one is the Ahrimanic spirits and the other the Lucifers. The Lucifers play on the emotions which they tend to debase; the Ahrimanic spirits play upon the mind which they tend to veil from the light of the spirit. By his desires man contacts the Lucifers; by his intellect, the Ahri-man forces.

The nature of the Ahriman spirits is to absorb knowledge. This ability they possess to a marvelous degree. But it is knowledge of the mind devoid of spiritual light. This creates a glamor, an illusion that leads to deception. Hence the statement in Revelation that these spirits, referred to under the symbol of "the great dragon," "deceiveth the whole world."

The deception lies in the belief that pure intellect is man's highest faculty and that with its full development the race can mount to the summit of its possible attainment. Therein lies the great error. The human mind can carry man a long way ahead of where he now is, but its highest potentialities fall far short of man's intended destiny. For this to be realized, mind is but a stepping stone to higher and yet higher faculties awaiting unfoldment. These higher faculties are super-mental; they are spiritual.

Ahriman seeks to convince man that this is not so. Today a great part of the human race are under the conviction that he is right. Michael, as the representative of the Christ, as a bearer of the inner light, is seeking to break this hold of Ahriman on man's mind. He is seeking to quicken in the heart of man a recognition of the soul light within that must come forth and transform human thinking, charge it with the powers of the spirit and bring it into proper relation as a transmitter between the outer personal nature and the indwelling divine spirit.

The War in Heaven

Having now designated the character of the contestants in the war in heaven, it remains to consider more specifically the nature of the conflict as it occurred in the superphysical world and the resultant effects of that struggle on earth and its humanity. For the time has come when it is of the utmost importance for man to acquire a better understanding of this event. Such information has become accessible to us in the amplified body of spiritual science which has been released in our time through the Western Mystery School of the Rose Cross. This has hitherto been presented to the general public only in the form of myths, legend, poetry and drama. The truths were veiled in symbols and as such were suitable to the times they served. But the needs of the present are different. Science is supreme today. But the science to which people generally look for guidance is the science that confines its investigations to the physical world only. That science embraces vast intellectual knowledge, but it does not concern itself with the supersensual worlds nor does it admit into its material sphere the forces of the spirit. From this lack mankind lives in the half light of which we have spoken. For entrance into the full light it is necessary for physical science to make operative contact with spiritual science. As previously stated, it is the mission of Michael to assist humanity

in accomplishing such a union. More than that, Michael's task is to assist in the spiritualizing of the mind and the liberation of the intellect from its bondage to form.

Again, it is to be observed that the war in heaven was not merely one of opposing principles but of principles embodied in actual beings. Also that it was not an event belonging alone to the past. It is a continuing conflict and the contestants are to be seen in the supersensible world by those who have the higher vision with which to perceive them. Furthermore, the conflict is not confined to the superphysical planes; it is present here on earth and all humanity is involved in it whether or not mankind knows of its origins, understands its nature or is aware of the manner in which it enters into daily experience.

As areas on earth vary greatly in the quality of their physical and psychic atmosphere, so is it also in the spiritual worlds. Conditions are not uniform. There are regions in which the pure and lofty spirits congregate and others that are populated by beings of opposite natures. Swedenborg has developed this feature of the inner worlds at considerable length as all students of his works well know. And so there is a field in the cosmos where the struggle with the spiritually-blinding Ahrimanic forces is most sharply focussed. By correspondence it is so also on earth.

The War on Earth

Where on earth is the contest the sharpest? Not as one might at first suppose in festering city slums. It is rather in the refined study and the marvelously equipped laboratories. It is not where uncontrolled emotions and bestial passions lead to acts of shame and deeds of crime and a life of moral degradation. It is where human intellect has developed independently of the spiritual faculties and has barricaded itself against the infiltration of light from the spiritual world. The sins—and we should not stumble over this word because we have left behind the orthodoxy with which it is associated—the sins that stem from the emotional body are not so deep seated nor so difficult of correction as are those that spring from the higher principle in man, the mind. In the Lord's Prayer the petition for the emotional body is: "Lead us not into temptation;" for the mind it is: "Deliver us from evil." The weaknesses centered in the astral vehicle simply require reincarnational experience for their correction but the barrier which a mind, materially focussed, sets up, if persisted in over a period of lives, ultimately results in severing the link between the ego and its bodies.

The mind is the battlefield where Michael is seeking to defeat the Dragon. Here is where the battle of Armageddon takes place. That battle rages fiercely in the world today as the cold war in which we are en-

gaged is being fought out on the mental rather than on the physical plane. The battles that have so far been lost and won in that war have been the outcome almost entirely of ideological assaults, diplomatic maneuvering and propaganda infiltration. Marching armies and bombing armadas have played but a small part in the struggle which commenced in 1945 when the focus of the conflict shifted from the physical to the mental level.

The successful outcome of this present struggle depends, therefore, in the last analysis, not on which side possesses a preponderance of material resources, population, armies and military equipment, but on the side that develops the most dynamic ideas, the most powerful mental armory and the most liberating spiritual philosophy.

At present the resources that come within the latter category are for the most part limited by Ahriman to those of the brain mind alone. They are highly developed. They possess great power. They threaten to conquer the world and to institute a reign under which the light of the spirit will be effectually closed out.

In the conflict the side which officially repudiates religion, which recognizes no power or principle in man higher than that of mind, which rejects all beliefs in the existence of the spiritual world and builds its life on the doctrine of pure materialism, is for the moment the strongest. It is strongest for the simple reason that it has no qualms of conscience in putting the whole of its life force back of its mental faculties and those alone; there is no temptation to divide allegiance between "the things that are Caesar's and the things that are God's." To them all things are Caesar's, and under this banner they continue to advance.

The weakness in the opposition lies in the fact that it is divided in its convictions, its allegiance, its powers. It is not able to go all-out for Caesar alone. Ahriman is not in such full control. Michael gets a look in. The light of the spirit does flash across the mind and bring remembrance of the higher principles to which the real man is eternally linked. *But what are flashes only must become a steady light.* For this Michael, the Ambassador of Light, the representative of Christ on earth and the protagonist of the forces that would again cast Ahriman and his hosts into the abyss, is battling today even as when He first engaged these same powers in battle in the war in heaven. In that contest, Revelation presents Him as victorious. And as Revelation concludes with a portrayal of a new heaven and a new earth, we have in this fact an assurance that the present conflict between these two mighty antagonists will again end in a victory for Michael and his hosts.

But Michael can not do it alone. The Christ can not do it alone. They assist man; they do not do man's work for him; man must save himself, albeit by the help of Saviors from above.

THE AUTUMNAL EQUINOX

LIBRA — Where Michael Meets the Dragon

The Autumn Equinox is the point in time in the annual cyclic experience of evolving humanity when it arrives at a place of choice, of judgment, of divine appraisal. It is where man is weighed in the balance to determine his self-made rating. This is represented astrologically by the scales, the pictorial symbol of Libra, the first degree of which becomes operative at this time.



The choice that ever confronts us is also represented by the signs to the right and to the left of Libra. To the right is Virgo, the Virgin, representative of the feminine principle in man or the attributes of the soul. To the left is Scorpio, representative of the way of the flesh that carries man toward destruction and death until the forces of the lower, separative personality are transmuted into the higher powers of the spirit, an accomplishment represented by the second pictorial sign of Scorpio, the Eagle.

Michael, ambassador for the Sun, the cosmic home of the Christ,

stands on the right whereas on the left stand the powers that would cut man off from his true spiritual destiny and keep him bound prisoner to this earth. Here is represented zodiacally the conflict that goes on within the life of humanity and every member of it—a battle which has its inception in the war in heaven and which has continued since as a war on earth.

And so it is at the Autumn Equinox when Nature's forces are in a state of equilibrium under the influence of Libra, the scales, that humanity comes to judgment. It is the time when cosmic conditions bring the contest between mind and soul, light and darkness, Michael and the Dragon, to their sharpest focus. Zodiacally a call comes from the right and from the left. As previously observed, Virgo, the Virgin that gives birth to the Christ, beckons to the right, and Scorpio, the serpent that stings to the death, makes enticing advances on the left. It rests with humanity which way it will go. It is free to choose. And the familiar orthodox exhortation that now is the day of salvation is neither without truth nor urgency as understood in the light of Esoteric Doctrine.

Autumn Afternoon

*Autumn afternoon
Lighted with a soft
expectant glow.*

*Atmosphere all hushed
Like winter trees
before a snow.*

*Colors muted in a haze
Brilliant as the threads
upon an eastern loom.*

*Softened by the warp,
as by a cherished presence,
in the room.*

*What was it waiting for?
Standing still it seemed
in an etherial mist.*

*Do you think perhaps
It had been,
by the Great Creator,
kissed?*

—Gladys Simmons Olmstead.

A Commentary on the Above

In the above verses the poetess has not only succeeded in capturing and beautifully conveying the soft light, the reflective mood and the minor chord of the Autumn season, but has also given expression to a cosmic truth that prompts translation into scientific statement.

What was the Autumn afternoon waiting for? Was it a kiss from the Great Creator. It was. And it was blessed with that for which it waited.

Consider what happens with the advent of Autumn. In our part of the world we call it the Fall of the year. The sun sinks deeper to the south, the days shorten and the nights lengthen. The fruit drops to the ground, the leaves fall, and the sap descends to the root of the plants. Hibernation among some animals indicates a similar condition in the animal kingdom.

In the human kingdom the focus of interest begins to shift from the

exuberant physical activities of Spring and Summer to the more pensive and contemplative exercises of fall and winter. During the half year from Christmas to Midsummer when the sun moves northward, the emphasis falls on the physical side of life, whereas during the second half of the year when the sun moves southward, it turns more to the inner life.

By correspondence, this earth also experiences something of a spiritual nature similar to that which we observe and experience in our outer environment. This relates to the ministry of the Cosmic Christ, a ministry carried out not independently of, but in harmony with natural laws and cosmic evolution.

In the recurring annual cycles of that ministry, there is a periodic ascent to and descent from the Father whose will and purpose the Christ has come to manifest on this earth, and the Autumn Equinox marks the time of His descent. It is then that the Christ first contacts the outer periphery of the earth's atmosphere. A divine Savior stoops to kiss this sorrowful star. Heaven and earth meet. Spirit touches matter. The polarities are conjoined and an act of creation takes place. It is the moment of the conception of the Christ Spirit by Mother Earth.

At Christmas, the time of the Winter Solstice, there occurs the quickening. The Spirit that touched the outer atmosphere at the Autumn Equinox has drawn into the earth to the very center. The physical sun has descended to its farthest southern declination, and the spiritual sun to the very core of the planet.

All humanity senses that quickening which sends a quiver of new life through the planet and celebrates the event as the birth of the Christ.

But it is really not yet the birth. It is rather an assurance that there will be a birth, even as the physical sun in terminating its further descent gives promise on resuming its northward course that all nature will again be resurrected to new life with the coming of Spring.

Not until Easter or the Spring Equinox do we have the birth of the Christ. Then that which has been gestating below the surface comes to light, both physically and spiritually. All nature bursts forth into new life, and by correspondence, the Christ is resurrected from the dead, the death which the Christ Spirit voluntarily accepted at the Autumn Equinox when leaving the realm of pure spirit and entering into the confining material form of our plantary body. In the annual solar cycle of Christ's ministry, the Autumn Equinox is thus the point of His crucifixion, that is, his fixation on the cross of matter, as the Spring Equinox at the opposite point on the equinoctial line becomes the point of His resurrection.

Then there follows the Summer Solstice or Midsummer when the sun reaches its highest point in the heavens. With the ascendant physical sun,

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THE HEBREW ALPHABET

A Series of Cosmic Glyphs

BY CORINNE HELINE

HE

The meaning of the fifth letter, *He*, is Life. *Beth* is the Divine Feminine while *He* represents the same force as it is disseminated to man.

Daleth is the door of Initiation for the few, the door to human birth for the masses. *He* is the breath of life that *endures* for the few, the breath of life that *animates* the physical body for the masses.

He is symbolized by the pentagram or five-pointed star, indicative of man in his present stage of development—which is midway between the animal and Godhead. One of the most important meanings of the number *five* is its position as half of all that is contained in Unity, symbolized by the number *ten*. The work of *five* and of *He* is to so train the human will that it becomes one with Divine Will.

Hu is the first of the twelve single letters correlating with the twelve zodiacal signs as they affect life upon the earth plane.

Physiologically, *He* represents the head; astrologically, Aries, whose pictorial symbol it resembles. *He*, like Aries, points the way through sacrifice and suffering to attainment.

Its key is D Flat; its keyword, Polarity.

The Tarot figure is that of the ruler of the church, the high priest of Isis, with his right hand raised in the blessing signified by the Trinity. His left hand holds a sistrum, the sacred seven-note musical instrument used in Egyptian Temples. These notes correspond to the seven spiritualized body centers, the seven roses or stars. Here we find the origin of all Temple music and dancing. The sistrum was played in holy Temple ceremonies only by vestal or virgin maidens who had awakened these centers by pure and holy living.

Though *He* is a feminine letter it is represented in the Tarot by a masculine figure. This shows that its highest ideal is the attainment of that state of duality wherein the two natures are equal and harmonious. This attainment is expressed by the ancient Egyptian Temple hymn which was chanted during Initiation Rites:

*O Fatherhood, O Motherhood, Thou blessed Two in One,
Absorb me evermore in Thee, and find the soul's completeness.*

Words Beginning with *He* (E)

Word	Meaning
EAST	<i>Place of Light</i>
EBAL	<i>Bold, bare. Lack of spiritual awareness.</i>

EDEN	<i>Pleasure. State of exalted consciousness.</i>
EDOM	<i>Red. Carnal nature. (The Edomites were descendants of Esau.)</i>
EASTER	<i>Translation from Greek pascha, the passover. Time when the Sun passes over the Equinox.</i>
ELIJAH	<i>My God is Jehovah. An early messenger preparing the way for the Christian Mysteries.</i>
ELISHA	<i>God is salvation. The first disciple of above.</i>
ENOCH	<i>Dedicated. One of the highest biblical Initiates.</i>
ESSENES	<i>The silent and mysterious.</i>
EPHRIAM	<i>Double fruitfulness. Development of centers in feminine currents...Ephriam was a child of Joseph.</i>
ESAU	<i>Lower nature. A son of Jacob.</i>
ESTHER	<i>Star.</i>
EVE	<i>Mother of all living. A generic term for the universal feminine attributes.</i>
EZRA	<i>Help. A master builder of the new Arian Dispensation.</i>
ELOHE	<i>The God of Israel. Cypher insignia for use of Initiates.</i>
EMMANUEL	<i>God is with us.</i>
EPHOD	<i>Divining rod. Specific spiritual powers developed within.</i>
EUNUCH	<i>An initiate term for development through chastity.</i>

This is the fifth in a series of articles on the Hebrew Alphabet. A brief treatise on the other letters will follow until all twenty-two have been covered.

THE MICHAEL ILLUSTRATIONS

The cover illustration of Michael and the Dragon is a Spanish primitive which was discovered only recently. It is considered one of the finest works of the period and has been described as an important and fine work by a Spanish master of about 1510.

The other picture which represents St. Michael as the Angel of Judgment is attributed to the fifteenth century Flemish painter, Hans Memling.

Note that the cover picture, like that of Memling's, portrays Michael with the scales in which souls are being weighed in the balance. And true to the mission he is performing as a celestial wayshower to the Christ, it is in the sign of the cross that he conquers. The sword in the one illustration and the staff, in the other are both in the form of the Christian cross.

Among the many artists who have dealt pictorially with the Michael theme, the two here introduced are by no means alone in presenting the "Viceroy of Paradise" in His aspect of judgment by the employment of the equinoxial symbolism of the scales. There is one by Lazzaro Bastiam, a fifteenth century Venetian artist; another is a mural on the Reredos of Benavent in the Province of Lerida in Spain, and there are yet others. Thus art, drawing more often in these later centuries on tradition than directly on the wisdom of the Mysteries, preserves for humanity the deeper spiritual truths that have always been known to the initiated few but which have remained occult to the many. Time and experience will one day make it common knowledge.

Nature's Ceremonials

BY CORINNE HELINE

ANGELS OF THE REDWOODS

Upon reaching a certain stage of individualization, every tree is given into the care of a Tree Spirit—an angelic Presence which guides and directs both the subjective and objective life activities of that tree. These are beautiful and inspiring Beings indeed.

On every plane of existence the Law holds that only by service is attained the highest degree of perfection. To contact the Tree Angels, who have had years of ministry to their charges, is a starred event in one's life, a milestone that will forever linger in the corridors of one's memory. Even the most famous artist has failed to depict on the face of the Christ such infinite tenderness and loving compassion as is found in the countenances of these benign angelic Presences. In the exaltation of communion with them comes the sense of being lifted into that realm where abides the great Peace which passeth understanding.

There is a certain area in the enchanted land of the redwoods where one can stand in the presence of the awe-inspiring Mother Tree of the forest. This sublime "Madonna of the Redwoods" is seventy feet in diameter at the ground level and lifts its spine-covered crest three hundred and twenty-nine feet heavenward to commune with the stars. It is a great power center, raying out such tremendous force that it causes the earth to vibrate many feet in every direction.

The observer who has learned to pass beyond the veils of sound and shut out the distractions of mortal hearing will be conscious of the rhythms of an exquisite chanting. It is the soft intoning of the Mother Tree Angel as she sends forth blessings upon the Spirit of Motherhood and a prayer for all mothers of the world and all mothers yet to be.

Near this central area stands the magnificent Cathedral Group. The shadowed aisles and changing lights of such tree groups have been the inspiration of cathedral builders down through the ages. Those persons who christened the redwood shrines were either consciously or unconsciously imbued with the specific emanations from them, so fitting is the particular designation given to each one.

Early morning hours are the most inspirational in which to attend services in this redwood cathedral. Then it is that the heavenly chorus is most clearly audible. A rare ecstasy past all mortal comprehension animates the morning matins—an ecstasy that cathedral choristers catch and echo back and forth like the dulcet tones of a far-away flute. If these celestial hymns could be translated into earthly notes, the music would sound strangely like "Holy, holy, holy, Descend, O Lord of Love and Peace."

A short distance from the Cathedral Group is the Resurrection Tree. Here the vibrations are no longer soft and subdued. They are vibrant and sparkling with new life. The dynamic force rayed forth in all directions is a soothing balm to the tired nerves and weary minds willing to avail themselves of its healing currents. The voice of this mighty Tree Angel rings out in cadences of "I am the resurrection and the life."

Each year, since the event of the supreme Resurrection, the all-embracing life energy of the Cosmic Christ has permeated the entire earth, growing more potent with each passing twelvemonth. Two thousand years ago both men and angels chanted this divine truth. Now, alas, the majority of human beings have forgotten the words and their significance. Not so the angels! They live, move and have their being in full realization of eternal life. In this consciousness they garner and utilize all fresh life forces released by our blessed Lord each year, doing it in a manner unknown to man. Mighty is the healing force evoked by the angels in their continuous chanting of "I am the resurrection and the life."

The great Spirit of Silence broods over the mystic redwood world. The radiations of this divine Being are made luminous by white and golden lights that flash in and out of cathedral-like aisles—fairy fantasies of unspeakable beauty. This Being gathers up all sounds of joy or sorrow, of passion or resignation, that have registered in the atmosphere of these gigantic forest sentinels during the centuries of their existence. These are woven into a vast Veil of Silence which drapes itself in tender brooding over the entire environment. This Veil of Silence becomes the Voice of Wisdom for those who can interpret its unspoken message; and it accounts for that sudden sense of awe and reverence which enfolds even the uninitiated upon entering its sacred precincts.

The angelic Presences of the Redwoods are truly ambassadors from heaven to the earth as they guide and direct all the life energies of past and present concentrated in these majestic monarchs of the forest.

A COMMENTARY ON THE ABOVE (Continued from page 11)

the Christ spirit, working ever in harmony with nature's rhythm, also rises—rises to the very throne of the Father, there to renew His spent energies for another cycle of redemptive service to this earth. This event Christendom celebrates as Christ's Ascension Day.

His strength restored, comes another Autumn and there is repeated another cycle of divine ministry to this earth. Our planet again expectant, hushed, awaits once more the moment when it will again receive the blessed touch, the loving kiss of descending Divinity from above.

WORLD DAY FOR ANIMALS

OCTOBER FOURTH

The Day dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi, the benign saint who over 700 years ago saw the need of a better realization of our obligation to our younger brothers, the animals.

The observance of this day has a threefold objective:

1. To direct attention to wrongs inflicted on animals through their sacrifice for furs, food, sport and vivisection. Also in the course of commerce and training for animal acts.

2. To focus thought on the more effective means of abolishing such wrongs.

3. To inspire action on behalf of all suffering animals.

While humanity has a long way to go in the direction of greater humaneness toward animalkind, there is ample evidence to indicate that with the passing years and centuries sympathy and compassion are ever on the increase, and that these attributes are more and more reaching out to include the lesser kingdoms of nature. It gives a confidence in the future that the present break-down of civilization, with all its moral degradation, political corruption and international strife, cannot destroy. The way is forward, albeit through great pain and suffering.

The Christ impulse that quickens the heart and that unifies all life grows ever stronger. As a seed planted in the ground brings forth an increase, so does the spirit of love which was implanted into the heart of humanity two thousand years ago, multiply in power with the passing ages. In this lies the assurance of the salvation of all that lives and breathes, man and animal alike.

VIVISECTION—AN UNCHRISTIAN PRACTICE

From Reverend Eugene Hurdle of the Christian Rose Cross Church in Washington, D. C., we have received a sermon on the above subject from which we quote the following brief excerpts by way of stimulating further thought on this very important matter:

"The Rosicrucian Philosophy teaches that the animals are man's younger brothers in evolution. To reach our present human stage, we have passed through the stages of mineral, plant and animal, but in different forms or bodies than now exist in these kingdoms of nature. The Bible describes man as being created last, because we had first to pass through the lower forms before we could become human. The angels, archangels and Lords of Mind are as far above man in evolution as man is above animal, plant and mineral.

"There is a further evolution in store for the animals, as for all other Beings in God. Romans 8:21—The creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. Psalm 36:7—Thou, Lord, shalt save both man and beast.

On the ever-ascending spiral of evolutionary attainment, all beings

shall ultimately reach perfection and reunion with God. We have dominion over the animals, as the angels have dominion over us. If we expect to receive mercy, we must also be merciful.

"The horrors of vivisection are well known. The diabolical and sadistic tortures to which animals are subjected in the name of medical research constitute a challenge to all true Christians.

"In the coming New Age, methods of healing which now seem dependent upon animal experimentation will be obsolete. We will then look upon many of the practices in vogue today as we now look upon those of the Middle Ages. The so-called civilization which now looks complacently upon the horrors of the vivisector's dungeon, will then condemn such practices as unchristian and immoral. Mankind will have passed through bloodshed and suffering and the composite soul of the race will have been baptized by fire and by blood. The new method of healing will be that which was taught and demonstrated by the Lord Christ. 'And when He had called unto Him His twelve disciples, He gave them power against unclean spirits to cast them out and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of diseases.'"

Saint Francis

*Where once you walked and blazed the trail,
O, messenger of Light;
So may your gentle spirit bless
The nations to unite.*

*A mighty city bears your name—
A meeting place today;
Where men have met on common ground,
To find a common way.*

*O saintly one, who once did bless
With love's most radiant flame;
May your own gentle spirit guide
And put vain strife to shame.*

*Be thou an instrument of peace,
Where there is hate, sow love;
Where there is darkness, shed thy light
Direct from heaven above.*

*Where there is injury, forgive,
Plant faith and hope indeed;
That all may truly understand
The other nation's need.*

*Thy tranquil spirit guide their thoughts,
Thy prayers again prevail,
Thy selfless spirit touch each heart,
Lest mortal humans fail.*

—E. F.

The Transition of Emmet Fox

An eloquent voice was silenced with the passing of Dr. Emmet Fox of New York on August 13th. It was in Paris.

For a little over twenty years Dr. Fox, who came to this country from England in 1930, was one of New York's leading exponents of Christian metaphysics. Perhaps no one in his field has ever drawn larger and more devoted audiences.

He originally established his Church of Divine Science in the old Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Later he moved to the Biltmore, then to the Astor Hotel and finally to the old Hippodrome which during the nineteen-thirties was filled to capacity every Sunday.

For many years Dr. Fox conducted noon-day meetings at the Astor to which he attracted large numbers of the metaphysically minded from any and every other group of related thought. His Wednesday evening meetings at the Manhattan Opera House were also remarkable for the attendance and response. So, too, the meetings held in Carnegie Hall which he filled with ardent listeners.

Dr. Fox was as successful in his writing as in speaking. His best known book, *The Sermon on the Mount*, had run through nineteen editions in 1940. Among the many other books which he authored, one is titled *Make Your Life Worth While*; another, *Alter Your Life*; and yet another, *Find and Use Your Inner Power*. The last named is dedicated 'to all men and women everywhere who believe that the will of God for man is freedom, healing and harmony, and that these things can be attained by learning the laws of life and applying them.' Several of his books have been translated into French and Spanish.

Dr. Fox brought a fresh inspirational note into both his written and spoken message. The secret of his success lay perhaps above all in his utter simplicity. For this he had a rare genius, an attribute shared with all truly great teachers. Emphasis ever fell on the fundamental, universal truths in their applicability to daily life. Clarity, simplicity, conviction and grace characterized their utterance.

The withdrawal of Dr. Fox from our scene removes a voice that will long be missed by thousands upon thousands of New Yorkers whose consciousness has been lifted, whose burdens have been lightened, and whose way has been made brighter by the love and light that flowed forth from both his written and spoken word.

Immortality Now

The time is approaching when death will be met with understanding and therefore without doubt, fear and dread. Measureless will be the gains when the energies now emotionally dissipated through the present negative attitude toward life's transition from this plane to another will be exchanged for those of a completely positive nature.

IMMORTALITY NOW is an organized service directed toward hastening the day of that clearer seeing and better knowing when death will have lost all of its present terrors for men. It sends out a brief message to people newly bereaved that instills faith and inspires hope. Anyone with a little spare time for helpful, selfless service can avail himself of this service. For information address Box 87, Utica, N. Y.

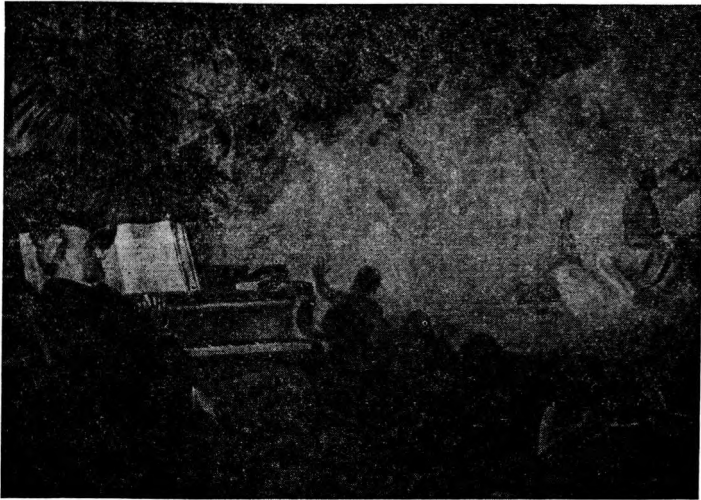
Wagner at Bayreuth

Wagnerian performances are again being given at Bayreuth after an interval of disruption caused not only by World War II but by the misinterpretation and misuse made of them by the Nazi regime. Their spiritual values were subverted to material ends and their universal significance distorted to serve narrow nationalistic interests. So severe was the reaction of such prostitution of pure art that for a period following the war the German people seemed to feel that until a correction in attitude and interpretation had been effected it was better to leave the works untouched. And so for a time Wagner was not on the German stage.

But now it is back, and the Wagner festivals have been resumed in Bayreuth where the great composer himself founded a theatre as a temple of art for the special presentation of his works.

According to reports, the current season has seen a welcome departure from the traditional realistic stage settings in which the music-dramas have been presented in the past for simple, impressionistic designs which leave something to the imagination of the spectator. It is another case of leaving the somber, ponderous past for the swift, bright, streamlined future.

The direction is right, and that the results aimed at have been successfully realized may be safely concluded from the testimony of a single attendant when that one is Ernest Newman, who is undoubtedly the foremost Wagnerian scholar in the world today and who has been attending the Bayreuth festivals for no less than a half a century. Says this English music critic of the current *Parsifal* production: "The most beautiful I have ever seen. I will never go to Covent Garden for it again. I will only see it here (Bayreuth)."



RICHARD WAGNER'S DREAM

(Reading the Akashic Records)

From a Painting by Schweniger

Wagner's Music Dramas

THEIR ESOTERIC INTERPRETATION BY CORINNE HELINE

As another opera season arrives, Wagner is soon to be seen on the stage again and his works heard more often on the radio. As every thoughtful person will realize, these works merit more than a casual hearing; they deserve understanding—the kind of understanding that can come only from giving time and thought to the profound truths they contain.

Wagner's works carry a surface meaning that has in it enough color, vigor and truth to grip the interest, fire the imagination, and to satisfy both the artistic and intellectual demands of great numbers of people. But Wagner delves deep beneath the surface and for those who are ready and willing to explore the path that leads to their esoteric riches there is more than passing emotional and intellectual satisfaction; there is soul nourishment and spiritual stimulation. Wagner's music-dramas are charged with potencies that flowed in from the higher and archetypal worlds and no student of the deeper mysteries of life can afford not to make proper preparation to enter effectually into conscious understanding rapport with these supernal values.

For such preparation **Esoteric Music Based on the Musical Seership of Richard Wagner** is proving an invaluable aid as indicated by the following typical appreciations:

Santa Barbara, Calif.

"We can never express in words our appreciation for your great and selfless contribution in giving us your precious Wagnerian interpretations. We seem to tune in to your consciousness as you wrote it. We are filled with unspeakable reverence. Many, many times during that reading I felt I was pressing my lips to the hem of your garment in gratitude."

Edinburgh, Scotland.

I had the good fortune a few weeks ago to hear a broadcast of Parsifal. I had by me at the time an old libretto in German-English and a copy of your **Esoteric Music**...Between the two, I had a wonderful evening! Then again about three weeks ago the Covent Garden Opera Company came to Edinburgh and did Lohengrin.

DeWitt, New York.

I enjoyed your lovely book on Wagner to such an extent that I sent your literature on same to Mr. Sigmund Spaeth of the Metropolitan Opera Quiz, recommending he read the book.

Cleveland, Ohio.

Every evening around nine o'clock I retire to my room and plunge myself soul and heart into reading your wonderful book on Richard Wagner's magic music. Without any flattery, I want to say that it is a masterpiece.

* * * * *

This illuminating exposition of the esoteric significance of Wagner's music-dramas is bound in blue cloth, gold lettered, three illustrations and 274 pp. It is yours for \$3.00.

BACK NUMBERS WANTED

For the recovery of the following issues of the Interpreter we would be glad to pay full price in order to accommodate customers who desire them to complete their files: Sept. '41, Jan. and May '42, and Jan-Feb. '51.

A Rosicrucian Conclave

The Eastern Seaboard Center of the Rosicrucian Fellowship will hold its fifteenth annual convention on September 21, 22, and 23rd under the patronage of the Newark Center.

There will be two meetings to which the general public is cordially invited, the first of which will be on Saturday, Sept. 22nd, 8 p. m. and the second on Sunday, Sept. 23rd, 11 a. m. The address: Douglas Hotel, 15 Hill Street (near City Hall), Newark, N. J.

The Rosicrucian Fellowship

The Rosicrucian Fellowship is a school of Esoteric Christianity, founded by Max Heindel in 1911 at Oceanside, California. Since that time its teachings have gone out to all parts of the world with study centers established in all principal countries and in many less known parts.

The School offers courses in cosmic science, spiritual philosophy, astrology and Bible Interpretation. It is also dedicated to the healing of the sick. On its grounds is a temple devoted exclusively to spiritual healing and also a sanitarium in which patients are treated according to the most advanced methods of physical therapy.

A major activity of the Fellowship is the publication and distribution of Max Heindel's writings, more than a score in number. The most important of these works is the **Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception**, a book which is to Rosicrucianism what *The Secret Doctrine* is to the Theosophists. There is also the monthly publication, **The Rosicrucian Magazine**.

A Tabloid for Truth

THE CENTER OF LIGHT. Published by House-Warven, 5228 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood 27, Calif. \$2.00 per year, 20 cents a copy.

There is real glow in the Center of Light, a publication which lives up to its inspired title. Here is something really new in journalism, and more specifically in the field of higher thought publications. It has dared to take the form of a tabloid while filling its pages with matter deserving of vellum. Thus while it is popular and commercial in form, its readers are among the aristocracy of mind and heart and its writers have poured out their spirit in print for the sheer love of sharing their inner riches with kindred souls. All articles appearing in the twelve-page publication are contributed gratuitously and without compensation to the writers.

Among its staff members regularly contributing are such well known writers, poets and artists as Guy Bates Post, Rupert Hughes, Frank Scully, Manly P. Hall, and Don Blanding—to name but a few among scores of others.

There is no doubt but the brightness, the joyousness, and the spirit of freedom that literally radiates from **THE CENTER OF LIGHT** derives in great part from the complete absence of the commercial motive on the part of those who write for its columns and the idealism of the publishers who have had the vision to bring it into being.

By virtue of both its outer form and its inner contact, **THE CENTER OF LIGHT** promises to make a real contribution toward winning a wider acceptance of the more idealistic philosophies and their practical expression in daily living.

BOOK REVIEWS

By Elizabeth Hill

HIS HEART WAS IN AMERICA. Evelyn Whitell. Willing Pub. Co., Box 51, San Gabriel, Calif. Cloth. 139 pp. A novel. \$2.50.

This author has many fine books to her credit. Now she presents this story of a lad who came to our shores and proudly took this country as his own. The story is told in a most delightful and gratifying manner.

PEACE I GIVE UNTO YOU. Marie Winchell Walker, M. D. Willing Pub. Co., P. O. Box 51, San Gabriel, Calif. Cloth. 146 pp. \$2.50.

It is cause for much rejoicing when a medical practitioner elects to present spiritual and mental keys to health, peace and well being. This is just what Dr. Walker, a former U. S. Government physician, does in her latest book. She devotes a whole chapter to **Spiritual Healing Is Practical Victorious Prayer, Inspiration and Divine Guidance** and other subjects right in line with healing techniques of the New Day. A volume for both the ailing and the professional healer, whatever his method.

TEACHINGS OF THE TEN. Transcribed by Ruth Laurene. Portrait sketches by Raphael Emerigo. Paper. 51 pp. J. F. Rowny Press, 705 Anacapa St., Santa Barbara, Calif. 50c.

In all ages and climes Masters and Teachers have walked the paths of earth that they might serve humanity. Ten of their number speak to the world of men in this, our day, through the instrumentality of Ruth Laurene. A feast of wisdom awaits your partaking.

MEDITATION, THE WAY TO ATTAINMENT. Flower A. Newhouse. Christward Ministry, Vista, Calif. Paper. 48 pp. \$1.00.

Many times we have been asked for the name of some book dealing specifically with the technique of meditation. Of course, there are many ways to meditate, and each person eventually evolves a method peculiar to himself. However, Flower Newhouse, a truly enlightened teacher, presents in a simple, clear, concise manner that wealth of material on the subject which she has gleaned from her years of devotional practices. Each successive step is easily understood and followed by any earnest seeker after attainment.

YOUR SUN'S RETURN. By Alfa Landanger, 428-295 Manhattan Beach, Calif. Paper. 48 pages with charts and illustrated cover. \$1.25.

One of the ablest astrologers in the West has set forth in this work the technique of computing a solar revolution chart with thirteen chart illustrations together with the noon date method of finding an unknown birth time. It also sets forth an accurate method of rectification by arcs of events.

Among the charts used for illustrative purposes are those of Mme. Marie Curie, Theodore Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The book is a welcome aid to many students in acquiring proficiency in performing the mathematical calculations connected with the problems above mentioned. The work is clear, concise and dependable.

All books reviewed in these columns are obtainable from the New Age Press, Inc., 1544 Cerro Gordo Street, Los Angeles 26.

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