



People Are Funny

EVERYONE has heard the slogan "People are funny." The latest incident fitting this category cropped up when we received a letter from an agitated woman, saying: "Please take my name off your mailing list. I am dead."

Too bad she didn't leave a forwarding address.

'INTERNATIONAL' What Does It Mean?

"INTERNATIONAL" has been used to describe all types of organizations — civic and religious. International means between the nations but we must assume the number of nations necessary when using the word. In the strictest sense, by the use of this word, people are led to believe that a number of nations are involved and, in some cases, all nations.

Then, too, individuals are sometimes referred to as being "internationally-known." In some cases, an individual's name is only associated with one or two countries — usually England or Canada, and this with the U. S. A. seems to justify the use of "international."

To be specific, "Prediction," a monthly magazine published in England, has this to say about the International Spiritualist Federation whose recent Congress was held in Holland:

"The question has been raised whether the International Spiritualist Federation is in danger of becoming less international. It was pointed out that the office-holders and several others of the executive of nine are British—President Len Lloyd, Vice-President David Bed-

brook, Secretary Rolf Carleson (who, surprisingly, was born in Canada) and Treasurer Ralph Rositer; as well as Harry Dawson and Mrs. Hibbs.

"We are often told that the rest of the world looks to Britain for a (Con't Page 2, Col. 1)

How Low . . . Can a "Star" Get?



JACK PAAR

When he presented one of Spiritualism's most vicious critics, one Rose "Goldburg," a new low for anti-religious programs was achieved in the TV world.

It seems that Mr. Paar, ex-G.I., discovered by Vaughn Monroe, was ill-advised when he permitted the religion of Spiritualism to be maligned on one of his otherwise creditable program. (See *Psychic Observer*, Jan. 10th edition, page 3, col. 3, "Letters to the Editor" column, Oscar B. Smith, R.F.D. No. 5, Frankfort, Indiana.)

PSYCHIC DRAWING AT CHESTERFIELD



The above photograph, taken during the 1954 summer sessions at Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp, Chesterfield, Indiana, shows Professor Kohei Ando and Rev. Loretta Schmitt, Chesterfield staff medium. The photograph was taken in Rev. Schmitt's seance room directly after Dr. Ando attended a seance where he received the spirit drawing he is holding in his right hand.

In his left hand, Dr. Ando is holding a set of bells which were caused to ring by the spirit forces during the course of the seance he attended with some 20 other persons, all of whom received spirit drawings.

This being a new experience for the professor, he was accompanied by the editor of *Psychic Observer*.

Seances of this nature are held in total darkness and are much like other direct-voice seances with the phenomena known as spirit drawing being the principal manifestation witnessed.

Throughout the course of the seance, each sitter is reached by being addressed by a spirit entity, usually the Indian guide of each sitter, who receive a drawing which is brought to them in the trumpet. At the time the sketches are received by each sitter, short communications are conveyed. The seances last from 40 to 90 minutes, depending upon the number of sitters present.

In past years, the late Maud Fox and Rev. Schmitt demonstrated this phenomena together, but since Rev. Fox's passing, Rev. Schmitt carries on alone.

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What About Jefferson and Lincoln?

"The Soul Survival of Man"

Prophecies For 1955

Part 1 of "Prophecies for 1955" appeared in January 25th edition.

Reported by JAMES CRENSHAW

Data received through the mediumship of Rev. Richard Zenor, Los Angeles trance medium.

About Flying Saucers, Science, Airplanes, Medicine, Treasure and Movies.

PART II

PROPHETS of old forecast that strange things would be seen in the heavens in the Latter Days. Now the Latter Days are upon us, and the great cyclic change which is overtaking the earth will bring many strange sights and many unprecedented phenomena of all kinds to a tortured world groping toward a new Golden Age, according to the prophets of the New Age through Richard Zenor of Los Angeles.

Besides the mighty catastrophes which go with the shifting of the earth and the throwing off of accumulated poisons from the evil consciousness of unlearned men, there will be signs and portents of a great change for the better, both in the heavens and on the surface of the earth itself.

For the Latter Days, say the Zenor prophets, also take in the beginning of a Psychic Age when (Con't. Page 4, Col. 1)

THE WORLD —of— PRAYER

Rev. Florence Becker and San Francisco's Golden Gate Spiritualist Church.

By MICHAEL FLAGG

ONE OF the great blessings of Spiritualism is that it increases and enriches our understanding.

It frees us from a narrow and limited and often pagan view. It expands our area of consciousness, and enlarges our vision, so that we see things more as they really are. We begin to perceive the fuller, higher, and true meaning of all that is worth while. Sometimes it is as if we see for the very first time.

What we have noticed only as a (Con't. Page 2, Col. 1)

Spontaneous Psychic Photography



The photograph above, appearing on the front page of "Psychic Science News Magazine," a Spiritualist journal published in West Perth, Australia, shows a spirit face superimposed over the subject. It was taken by a non-Spiritualist using his own ordinary camera.

The photographer was D. W. Moore, Redcliffe, Western Australia, and the picture was taken by a friend during a visit to Claremont, Tasmania, in 1949. When the film was developed and printed, by a professional photographer, the picture was regarded as a "spoil."

Neither Mr. Moore nor his friend knew anything about spirit photography or Spiritualism, and they did not consider the picture of any interest. Later, however, Mr. Moore became a Spiritualist

LINCOLN --- SPIRITUALIST? A Medium Visits the White House



The pen sketch above, appearing in the out-of-print book, "Was Abraham Lincoln A Spiritualist?" illustrates Nettie Colburn Maynard's reason for believing Abraham Lincoln was a Spiritualist for, according to the caption under the picture, this conversation actually took place: "Mr. Lincoln turned to me, and laying his hand upon my head, uttered these words in a manner that I shall never forget: 'My child, you possess a very singular gift; but that it is of God, I have no doubt. I thank you for coming here tonight. It is more important than perhaps any one present can understand.'" (Page 42-5: Was Abraham Lincoln A Spiritualist?)

Furthermore, after the passing of Lincoln's last close relative, his personal effects were placed on exhibit in the Hall of Records, Washington, D. C. Photostatic copies of these Lincoln letters, now (Continued Page 2, Col. 4-5)

single, slender thread, Spiritualism enables us to see as a glowing tapestry, rich with beauty, and warm and alive with color. In each essentially lovely thing, Spiritualism helps us to see not a point, but a world. Nowhere is this truer than in the concept of prayer.

Man has prayed from time immemorial. In the long archives of history, there is no record of any tribe or people, at any time, who did not pray in one form or another.

Man has always reached out to something that he knew was greater

than himself. He has always hungered for unity with what he felt was a Great Power, however little he has understood it.

Too often, and for too long, prayer was inspired by fear, and fear alone—fear of natural phenomena; fear of trees and rocks and rivers; fear of the rain and wind and lightning and thunder; fear of the sun and moon and stars; fear of virtually everything; and later, fear of a jealous, wrathful, vindictive, personal god, an insatiable capricious god who destroyed unless perpetually appeased. It is a fear that still per-

sists among most of the people in the world today.

It is that fear, the fear of the unknown, that bred and fostered so many superstitious mumbo-jumbo incantations and rituals—incantations and rituals that are still seen in the prayers of almost all orthodox churches. It is a fear that is often encouraged by those in authority. In the litany of one of the world's most powerful churches there still occurs this line: "The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom."

Today, many know that the opposite is true: the love of God is the beginning of wisdom.

Prayer is defined in many ways, by many people, depending on the narrowness or breadth of view of those who define it.

In any religion based on fear, prayer is almost invariably a plea to God to change or interfere with the natural laws that govern the universe. Primitive man did not realize—as most men today do not realize—that the law of cause and effect is eternal and unchangeable, for man and angel alike.

By prayer we never change the law; we never change God; but the important things is this—by prayer we can change ourselves. And if our prayers are unselfish and sincere, the change is always for the better.

In a religion based not on fear, but on love, the concept of prayer is of an entirely different mold. The definition I like best is that prayer is the aspiration or communion of our soul with the Over-soul, a concentration of thought directed to God, the Infinite Intelligence that is the source of life and light and love.

No Set Rule

Prayer is a tuning-in with the Infinite, with the divine in nature, as precisely as we can. In prayer we can escape from the narrow limits of personal self, and reach the higher self we too often ignore.

Prayer is not, as so many of the unthinking, orthodox and unorthodox both, mistakenly believe, merely an asking for things, a begging for favors. Asking is only one form of prayer. There are other, and nobler, forms.

Prayer can spring spontaneously in our mind when we are filled with joy or gratitude for our blessings and attainments; and the true Spiritualist, more than any other person, knows how bountiful indeed are the blessings we possess.

When we are lifted up by beauty—when we are stirred by a phrase or line of poetry, or a burst of song; when we are moved by a flaming sunset, or by a silver sea,



Rev. Florence S. Becker, 194 Brentwood Ave., San Francisco, California and Michael Flagg, 1725 Fulton St., San Francisco, 17, California. The former is minister of the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, 1901 Franklin St. in the city of San Francisco. The latter is author of the article beginning page 1, col. 3.

What I Observe

lead in Spiritualism, and obviously it is convenient and economical for the leaders to be geographically in proximity. But if this is at the expense of the enthusiasm and loyalty of the many other nations of the world, the price is too high.

Moreover, in wide membership of the governing body there is the benefit of diverse views and varied wisdom which is virtually essential if the true value of an international organization is to be extracted and utilized.

"If all nations and all races feel that they can make a contribution to the work their enthusiasm for it will be far greater than if they feel themselves to be merely impotent members."

Since the origin of the I. S. F., all of the three-year meetings have been held within a radius of some 200 miles. It is reasonable to believe that, in order for the directors to function between Congresses they should, of necessity, be in close relation for two reasons: one, less travel expense and two, a chance for closer cooperation.

If the I. S. F. directors were chosen from members representing distant nations, constructive efforts for furthering the interest may crystallize since it would hardly be possible for all to meet and confer except every three years.

Expense Problem

It seems that if the I. S. F. is to function properly this close association is imperative, at least among the directors. On the other hand, if the flavor of the organization is to be international, executive positions should be held by one member from each nation.

But "Prediction's" statement seems to bring out the point that the three-year meetings should extend out of the 200 mile radius. It is doubtful that if an I. S. F. Congress were to be held, say in New York City, that few, if any, of the present directors would be

able to attend. Not only because of the terrific expense in travel, the expense while harbored in the U. S. A. for a week or ten days but because of the difficulties in bringing their own money to pay their own expenses away from home.

Or if the Congress five years hence, 1960 to be exact (1957 Congress will be held in Paris) were to be held in, say, U. S. A., Italy, Mexico or even as far away as India, it is doubtful whether there would be good attendance.

Five years is a long time, but sufficient time for Spiritualists in the United States, if interested, to work to the end that the 1960 Congress be held in the U. S. A. At least an invitation should be extended at the Paris Congress.

America in 1960

Frankly, to do so, would necessitate raising at least \$25,000 in this country to take care of the project up to the point where an invitation could not be turned down by the directors. This money could be used for propaganda with a portion set aside as expense necessary to help to insure the attendance of the important present leaders now or at that time functioning.

This idea may be scorned, or even laughed at, but nothing would create greater interest in the cause of Spiritualism in the United States than to have an International Spiritualist Congress held in the most logical city of our country, namely, New York City.

Therefore, to this end all Spiritualists, especially leaders of all groups, should give this idea some thought and plan now to attend the 1957 Paris conference in such numbers and with the kind of backing that the invitation would be joyously accepted. It would mean a lot of work for all concerned but can be done. All Spiritualist leaders should discuss the idea at their annual conventions.

or by the wind and the rain and the lightning, or by the flowers in the garden, or by a child's laughter, or by a glimpse of Truth—then too are we in prayer.

There is no need for rigid rituals, or bended knees, or prostrations, or elaborate ceremonies. There is no need for even a set place of worship, though a set place of worship can provide the atmosphere and stillness that are so helpful.

We can pray while walking, or standing still, or sitting in silence. We can pray in the roar of traffic, or in the quiet of a sequestered glade. It is better, of course, if we have quiet and repose, for we can then better concentrate. But wherever we are, whenever we earnestly aspire to betterment, whenever we truly and humbly seek light and guidance, it is then that we are most nobly in prayer.

The force of prayer, which is concentrated thought, is remarkable. The force of mass prayer is still more remarkable. That is why the Spirit World seems closer than ever to us at Easter and Christmas. Not because of the seasons or the celebrations themselves, but because at those times more persons are more friendly than usual, more persons have a prayer in their heart for goodwill and peace and love and all else that is good and godly.

Power of Prayer

Wise ones from the Spirit Side of life tell us that thought is actually visible to them, though invisible to use. They see it as light—flashes of light of varying colors and intensities. The more powerful the prayer or concentrations of thought, the more powerful and visible is the light they see. So prayer should be concentrated; not the fearful, cringing, abasing, sanctimonious thing so many make it, but earnest and direct and forthright, wholesome and virile.

Prayer need not be long. It may take just a few minutes, or just a few seconds. It may take just a heartbeat. For the effect of prayer depends not on how long we pray, but on how we pray, and on what we pray for. The more the prayer comes from the heart, the greater the results. The more we focus our mind on what we say, the more we know and understand what we say as we say it, the greater the effects.

Directing the Force

That, by the way, is why the recital of familiar prayers is all too often useless. They are so familiar, that we can say them without thinking. We can say them by rote, without any effort or intensity of will; and when we say a prayer by rote we cannot, unless we are alert, put thought into the words. And as Shakespeare tells us: "Words without thought never to heaven go."

When people congregate, a group prayer must of course be a familiar one, so that we can utter it in unison. But we must take double care then to think of what we say, as we say it, so that we put meaning and directive force into our words, so that we do not unconsciously say one thing and think

another—what the person near us is wearing, or what we shall do tomorrow, or any of a hundred other things.

In all prayers, and particularly our individual prayers, the prayers we say in solitude with but the angel world as witness, it is not what we say, but what we feel at the time, that has power. Better a few words of simple, powerfully concentrated thought, than a flood of words with no directive force, or a barrage of grandiloquent phrases with no deep inner intensity.

"Charm not thyself!" is advice we should always remember, in anything we do or say, and especially when we pray. Then, more than at any other time, should we be ourselves. It would be pointless, anyway, to be otherwise. It would be senseless to try by acting to impress God and the angel world, they who know us so much better than we know ourselves. We can never move them by acting, but only by humility and sincerity and the eternal virtue of simplicity.

Prayers are heard when our words and mind are one, united and joined in earnestness. We are told that again and again.

We are told, too, not to pray to God in one breath, and tell Him how to answer it in the next. To each prayer we can well add: "Thy will be done, O Lord, not mine!" Or better still: "Thy wisdom prevail, O Lord, not my will!" For will suggests capriciousness, which is an attribute of man. It does not suggest the law and order and justice and goodness and impartiality that we associate with wisdom, which is divine.

Afraid to Tell

And when we pray, and put our thought out into the universe, we should leave it at that, and be content and grateful for whatever is the response to our prayer. We know there is a law of justice. We know there is a wisdom far beyond the capacity of our limited finite minds to more than remotely grasp. So when we place our problems with God we will, if we have any spiritual reliance, leave those problems with Him, and not dwell further on them.

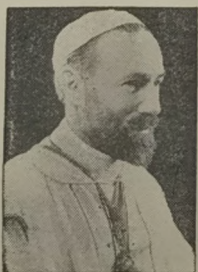
One story in the Bible, which always moved me, illustrates this. It is about King David, when his infant son, born of his beloved Bathsheba, was desperately ill.

For six days David fasted and wept, and lay on the earth, and would not eat, praying day after day that his child would recover. When he surmised, from the whisperings of his servants, that his son had made the great flight, he taxed them with it, and they admitted that his son had indeed passed away.

They had been afraid to tell him, thinking that the news, coming to one so stricken with grief, would make him lose his mind. Instead, David arose, washed and anointed himself, changed his apparel, went to the temple and worshipped, and then went home and ate.

His servants were shocked by (Continued Page 4, Col. 3)

THESE QUESTIONS NEED ANSWERS



BISHOP RALEIGH
Ancient Chaldean Rite

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Why Do Some People Have So Much Worry And Trouble?

Why Are Prayers Not Answered?

Why Do Those Who Try To Do Good Often Get The Worst Of It?

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BISHOP ROBERT RALEIGH

STAR ROUTE, CALABASAS, CALIFORNIA

Lincoln--Spiritualist —Continued from Page 1

on file at the Psychic Observer office, disclose certain letters in his own handwriting which bear out the facts disclosed by Mrs. Maynard as a result of her many demonstrations of mediumship when Lincoln was present.

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THREE-HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR

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February 10, 1955

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Spiritualism's New Era?

EVER since I first heard the word "Spiritualism," and that was about fifty years ago, there have been many schools of thought regarding the relative importance of our teachings and phenomena. In the old days, most of the leading lights stressed the philosophy as being of greater importance although there were many outstanding mental and physical mediums through whose instrumentality life after death and spirit communication was proven.

Very little of the literature in the early 1900's even mentions Spiritual healing. In fact, this phase of our mediumship was scarcely practiced in public.

Times have changed. Now it seems that a new kind of Spiritualism is being presented, particularly in England, which stresses the philosophy, technique and practice of Spiritual healers — and this above all else.

There are even special magazines circulated to Spiritualists which feature nothing else except Spiritual healing. This is good but shows the trend. In America, many churches devote even 50% of the time allotted to a regular service to healing. In fact, many of the prominent mediums who used to demonstrate clairvoyance or billet reading are now devoting their time mainly ministering to the sick. Cases in point: George Daisley, noted English clairvoyant and T. John Kelly; who has always been known as an outstanding American blind-fold billet reader. In fact, a healing shrine is now available for Kelly at Lily Dale.

If the teachings and the phenomena are side-stepped, and it appears now that they are being neglected, it is quite possible that the whole foundation of Spiritualism may take a new look.

There are those who feel that Spiritualism was not brought into being to cure aches and pains but rather to teach immortality of the soul and prove personal conscious survival and that this must always remain Spiritualism's prime objective; healing of secondary consideration.

Of what avail will our efforts have been if the healed do not become Spiritualists? Of what avail will the life of the healed one be if not transformed by the teachings of Spiritualism? What a waste of time it would be if we continue to afford accommodation for thousands of people to witness healing demonstrations and then fail to explain and prove the true significance of such proceedings?

True, there is a benefit in the healing of the body alone but surely we need not remind Spiritualists that the body is but the vehicle of the soul. It is the soul that inherits life eternal, not the body. It is soul which really benefits from the knowledge we call Spiritualism.

It appears that now is the time to be vigilant about such matters for, at this very moment, it seems that we are in the process of creating a new kind of Spiritualism and a new presentation of the same old truths. We must not overlook the important fact that people do not come to hear the healing message. Their interest in this is nil. Some don't even know Spiritualism exists. The idea that the meeting is really held for some greater purpose than healing the sick never occurs to them.

What concerns the masses is self-interest and this applies to the message service. They really come because of some benefit they may receive themselves. That the basic purpose of Spiritualism is to demonstrate survival is far from their thought and there is, alas, a danger that Spiritualists themselves may tend to so regard these meetings if we are not vigilant.

But why the trend. Could it be that the mediums themselves have become lazy or that they are following the line of the least resistance? Lazy in the sense that development of psychic power and the strain of giving messages is not easy; line of the least resistance in the sense that criticism can be avoided because it is rare people will quibble with

HOUDINI UNMASKED

I read the mention of Houdini in your "What I Observe" quoting the *Toronto Daily Star*. When I hear the mention of Houdini I always think of the day, some 49 years ago, when I was in vaudeville with a Male Quartet, on the same bill with Houdini.

After the show, I was sitting in the manager's office when a man walked into the room carrying a dozen or so handcuffs. The manager opened his large vault and the man laid the handcuffs on the floor for safe keeping.

This struck me as quite an unusual incident, unnoticed by any except the manager and myself. I said to the manager, after the man had left the office, "Houdini's handcuffs?" The manager said "Yes, they are brought here after every show and put in the safe."

Further conversation led to the fact that Houdini carried a dozen men with him to bring up the handcuffs! This was news, but not unusual because it was an open secret in the show business that "Herman the Great" carried a whole car-load of men with him to be his stooges for tricks.

Houdini used to say, did he not, that he could do any trick he ever saw in a seance, which is of course utter rot. As well say he could do the Transfiguration done by Jesus in the presence of two of His disciples. Houdini was a great trickster, definitely so. He undoubtedly had great control of his muscles, his breathing to stay under water as he did. He no doubt got loose from the entanglements they tied him with when they threw him off a high bridge in a wooden dry-goods box.

He did all these things. More power to him. But right there, of course, it ended. I don't profess to know anything about Spiritualism. I am agreeable to the thought "blessed are they who haven't seen, and yet believe."

I like the words used by Byron, "a man is a fool to dispute what he can't disprove." Shakespeare said the same thing in a dozen ways. My personal way of saying it is contained in my song "There is No Death."

Relying upon that philosophy, I like to question a non-believing scientist who says "when you die you're dead," with these words: "do you know what Life is, its origin, etc.?"

To which he will instantly reply "no, I don't." Then I ask him "can you tell me what happens after death when you don't know what death is?" and he usually curls up.

In other words, how can anyone know what happens after life when he doesn't know what life is? The quest for this answer has occupied the attention of humanity ever since man began to think. Those valiant souls who are trying to discover the answer to it all should be commended. Herewith I do.

GEOFFREY O'HARA

Quaker Hill
Pawling, N. Y.

A MOUTHFUL

I submit that Spiritualism in America has not become a religion, as it should, and that it is for this very reason that it has remained obscure. It has not become the power among people that it must, to fulfill itself; and the most proper—and most lively—source of power which it could seek is Spiritualist (another thing!) and not that merry, harmless preoccupation, curiosity.

I rejoiced to read the Basic Principles, published in *Psychic Observer*. Here was something definite and sound and intelligent. But a bare skeleton of principles is not a religion. That is our point of beginning; surely we must go on from there.

I think, Mr. Powell, you have made a mistake in being too impressed with 'Phenomena.' What is that, after all, but a spirit's way of being understood and believed in and, therefore, heard?

Surely all the meaning to be caught in phenomena is reducible

to the medium after a healing service. These may be harsh words, but true nevertheless.

And so we say, if there is to be a new healing era of Spiritualism, so be it. Possibly this is our greatest need during these trying days, but if Spiritualism is to carry on as it was intended by its founders, then all phases must be equally stressed and none to take the place or supersede the other. Then and only then will the true teachings of Spiritualism advance to a point where we can proudly say "Well done, good and faithful servant (medium)."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All letters subject to condensation and deletion of matter considered libelous or in poor taste, but we try to hold editing to a minimum. As a loose general rule only, signed letters of 200 words or less have preference. No letter attacking an individual by name will be considered unless the writer permits his own name and address to be printed.

to this. Their words are the most efficient means of communicating, and once we no longer need proof of the reality of the other world—maybe this takes a while for stubborn people!—then what they want to communicate is what should mainly concern us. The study of "phenomena" will always be interesting, of course, but why get side-tracked by it!

Besides, these peculiar events turn aside many people, because they can't see any sense in such goings-on, and are attracted only by curiosity. This would not be so if messages from the other world were published among our friends.

Spiritualists in America are shy, uncertain; they are never so sure of anything as they will be scorned and misunderstood—because that is true. I have been religious all of my life (30 years) and have always discussed religion with people everywhere.

Until last year I had never heard of the Spiritualist Church in our country! Through all this cross-reference of friendly discussion, Spiritualism had not made itself felt, ever, by means of the advertising of books, church meetings, or lectures—not ever! Yet I am the person who would gladly have sought it.

Another symptom of vital lack: where are our intellectuals? There are a few, to be sure, but they should be flocking to you with ideas and hopes and a will to listen. I do not mean to disparage *The Observer* or any contributor to its pages; some intellectuality is there, I only say it is scarce. . . . Why?

I believe it to be lack of development in its philosophy and religion that holds this movement back from coming into its own. It must investigate further into the reason that spirits, enjoying life beyond us, trouble to look back and talk to earthbound mortals.

What do they want to tell us, what is it they want us to do, why do they care about us, once released from bondage to this physical world? What do they advise us about the wise, good and right way to live?

When Spiritualism actually has something to say to the mortal world, and speaks with a clear voice of what it stands for and what it offers people, of vision and purpose and, possibly, of worship or something else of what the soul craves; then that day Spiritualism can begin to find its place among highly-regarded schemes of thought; its members will not be shy, and it will challenge the interest of the creative mind of its world.

I had much, much more to say in defense of religion, directly answering charges leveled at it in the pages of the *Psychic Observer*, but I guess I have already said a mouthful!

MRS. NORMAN W. HASSINGER
635 Hamilton Lane,
Santa Clara, California.

Evidently our critic is not aware of the vast amount of literature on the subject; literature written by people who may be classed, even by her, as intellectuals (i.e.) Davis, Richmond, Wallis, Lodge, Doyle, Britten and a host of others, to say nothing of dozens of noted scientists; all of whom no doubt possess a higher I. Q. than our critic.

It seems strange that those intellectuals who find fault with the type of minds who embrace Spiritualism would, since they endorse the fundamental truths of spirit return, join our ranks and lend their educated minds to the cause instead of standing outside and

pointing out our mistakes much as a kibitzer at a bridge game.

True, there is no Spiritualist periodical published today and this includes the *Psychic Observer*, whose journalistic content even approaches the literature published on this subject some 50 years ago. However, the three leading Spiritualist journals in America today are ever striving to present creditable material.

We therefore, suggest that our critic present an article that would be recognized as being forthcoming from what she chooses to call an intellectual. She does not claim to be in that category but her letter certainly infers as much.

OLD TIME SLATEWRITING

I have read with interest your articles on slate writing. It took my mind back to the days when I was a member of the "Students of Nature,"—then one of the Spiritualist churches in Chicago.

About the year of 1898 (I am now 76 years) the pastor, a Mrs. Summers, gave a party in her home which I attended with my then girl friend, later my wife.

There was a gathering of mediums and one invited us for a slate-writing sitting with her. A large vacant apartment, adjoining that of the pastors, was quickly furnished with a table and three chairs at which we sat with the medium. A wooden children's blackboard, sawed in half, furnished the two slates. A small toy dish filled with liquid colored paints was placed on top of the slates after a stub of a slate pencil was dropped into the paints. The room was fairly dark.

After a lapse of about five minutes, we felt a vibration in the slate and heard the pencil scratch; then some voices were recognized, one as my mother's.

When, after about 15 minutes, the slate was withdrawn and opened, one side was covered with a painting of natural colored violets and tulips, the paint so fresh it started to run as the slate was held upright.

Among the branches of the leaves and flowers short messages had been written and the other side was covered with messages from our guides in the various styles of penmanship, all in English but one in German script written by my mother.

Upon comparing this writing with others still in my possession, it was plain to us that we had received a letter from mother who had passed away about five years earlier. The slate to this day is one of my most treasured possessions.

OTTO F. RUPPERT.

10449 Palmer Ave.
Melrose Park 2, Illinois.

ACTIVE AT 82

"I am now getting to the point where I feel I will soon be leaving this world. Rest assured I will continue to do the best I can for the advancement of Spiritualism. I am 82. However, I am quite active.

I have been known as a healer for quite a few years, even though I have made no claim to the power. It is only through the Divine Healing Power of God that I have been able to be used to restore others back to normal life. In this way, I have been able to do a great deal of missionary work for Spiritualism.

I believe I am fairly well-known as a lecturer on Spiritualism, having spoken from nearly every well-known church rostrum in Chicago. I visited Chesterfield some time ago and while there, I was asked by Mable Riffle to lecture.

F. B. MEISTER

216 N. Kolin Ave.,
Chicago 24, Illinois.

COMING SOON

DUNNINGER
EXPOSE

4 Prophecies For 1955

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

men become more acutely aware of the vast etheric worlds around and about them in increasing numbers and diversity.

Occult-minded

Between now and 1965 is the cycle of adjustment and cleansing for the world, says Agasha, the Master Teacher who speaks through Richard Zenor's trance instrumentality. As he has said so often, Nature will "go on a rampage" and cataclysmic forces will take the lives of many, causing those who remain to cry out for an understanding of life and God.

Thus will they be jarred into a search for the truth of occult things and will be ready to accept psychic manifestations in their true light. That will prepare the way for the Age of Peace—the era of harmony, advancement and understanding—scheduled to start in 1965, according to Agasha.

He adds: "People are going to become more occult-minded and more scientific-minded. They are not going to believe. They are going to prove and know the meaning and purpose of life, why they are here and why men have suffered as they have for thousands of years. They will know why we have evolved from the lower form of life up to where we are now and what the future life holds for all of us."

He also says: "This is the year—1955—when the strange things will begin to be seen more and more out in space, and fantastic tales will be told. Your papers will be filled with accounts of the strange things which will be photographed. Much will not be understood, and there will be a great deal of speculation."

"There will be reports of strange lights and sounds, strange objects and eventually explosions in space. There will be showers of minerals, metals and other debris which shall fall to the earth plane, not so as to be injurious to people or to cause any appreciable amount of damage, but they will be studied, speculated about and assayed by scientists."

Watch the Islands

Because of great disturbances within the earth, "anything and everything" can take place on the surface, Agasha declares. Climatic conditions of various countries also are to change.

"Where we now find it tropical, in years to come you will find it just the opposite in some parts of the world. This will be a gradual process, but it will be noticeable. In years not too far distant, some countries because of the sinking of the land. Islands shall arise, and islands shall submerge."

With all of this change and turbulence, science will advance with seven-league boots, and scientists more and more will begin to probe into the etheric. Eventually their electronic cameras and devices will probe the astral world and photographs of these now hidden realms will be taken. Meanwhile, strange phenomena from those realms will be made visible at times to the sight of men.

Here are some further specific predictions for 1955 and the climatic years to follow:

MORE STRANGE THINGS—It is indicated in 1955 that there will be something washed ashore along the California coast that is going to be quite unusual. Although it is of no value, it is a peculiar something that brings a peculiar odor. In the months of March, April and May, there shall also be strange objects off the coast of Southern California.

Strange things are going to be reported from Europe. These will be accounted for to a certain extent, but there will be other things to be seen that will not be accounted for, such as what you people call flying saucers and cigars and the like that seem to be floating out there in space.

LITTLE MEN—There shall be many reports of little men, and some will think that because they seem to appear occasionally, with certain devices, they are from outer space but are already here, living in your atmosphere in the etheric

world—elementals, as they are called.

Strange people will be seen in 1955, and eventually through photography, their existence shall be proved to those who seem to believe it is a lot of foolishness. However, it is true that much has been grossly exaggerated.

(Many who have reported riding in flying saucers and have told of similar experiences actually have had astral experiences that were so vivid they could not be distinguished from happenings on the material plane, according to Agasha.)

All this does not mean that mysterious sights and sounds from outer space will not be reported with some degree of accuracy—including more flying discs and space ships of various shapes and sizes, as well as purely etheric manifestations which will become visible and photographable.

DISCOVERIES—Archaeologists are coming closer to discoveries which will prove the existence of a great, peace-loving civilization in Egypt approximately 7,000 years ago.

Besides secret chambers in the Great Pyramid which contain relics of this era, there will be found a passage connecting the Pyramid with the Sphinx. In niches will be found crude replicas and drawings of mechanical devices which were in existence at the time of Atlantis. Many other remnants and records of the Atlantean civilization will also be found there and in the Great Pyramid, as well as prophecies of our own modern civilization, including the New Atlantis.

Material will be brought up from the bottom of the sea to prove the existence of Atlantis—not 25,000 or 30,000 years ago, as some think, but approximately 172,000 years ago.

In the Himalayas a mysterious valley will be found—a bit of heaven and eternal spring on earth—where men have been living for hundreds of years in perfect harmony (much like the Shangri-la of James Hilton's "Lost Horizon").

More authentic Biblical records will be found in Palestine—true reports of the teachings and prophecies of the Old Testament. In Tel Aviv, there will be a remarkable find that will prove valuable in the occult field—authentic records of the original statements of Master Jesus. Eventually his own writings will also be found.

SCIENCE—Methods of extracting chemicals and metals both from the sea and from the ether will be discovered. They will be able to bring into manifestation every known metal.

Many new materials will be synthetically produced, some so durable and strong they can last as long as the earth itself.

AIRPLANES—Successful "flying disc" type planes will be built in Southern California and also near Seattle. This will cause a great deal of excitement. The discs will be able to fly perpendicularly, flat and in every direction. They will be very successful, being controlled by jet force. This is how they will work: the outer part will rotate, and in the center will be the cockpit.

A new type airship will be put to use for air express on a large scale. There will be much discussion.

(Continued from Page 5, Col. 1)

THE WORLD OF PRAYER

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

his composure and tranquility, and they said to him: "What thing is this that thou hast done!..." They did not perceive what David perceived—that we should pray, and pray earnestly, and then accept, completely and gratefully, whatever comes our way.

I am sure that each one of us, looking back, can recall instance after instance where we were happy later that our prayers were not answered as we had desired.

I know I am grateful now that many of my prayers were not answered as I wished them answered at the time. And I am grateful that the very first prayer I ever remember uttering was not heard as I wanted it heard.

Nothing Impossible

I was about four or five, and in my father's room while he dressed for dinner. My father and mother were having company that evening, and he was wrestling with the stiff starched evening shirt and even stiffer hard collar that men wore formally in those days.

I was overwhelmed with panic and a fear that it was an art I would never be able to master; and I remember praying that night, with every ounce of earnestness at my command, that I would die before I grew up, so certain was I that I could never acquire the technique of putting on formal attire!

Regardless of how it is answered, prayer has greater effect than most of us imagine. As Tennyson said: "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

The power of prayer is unlimited, for nothing is impossible to Spirit. We will not get miracles, for miracles do not happen—in fact miracles have never happened. For miracles are only apparent contradictions of laws, not real contradictions.

But Spirit can set in motion some of the laws that govern the universe, many of which laws we still know nothing of, but in accord with divine wisdom, they will be answered as we wish, for the laws will be set in motion.

Prayer must be reinforced by action, whenever it is humanly possible. We should not only pray; we should help our prayers along by everything we can do, by deed as well as by thought. It is useless to pray and then just sit back, waiting for the plums to fall into our lap.

Prayer opens the doorway, but we ourselves must make the effort to go through the open doorway.

Dig for water, though you pray for rain; And sow the seed, if you would reap the grain. A wonderful old proverb says: "Pray devoutly, but hammer stoutly"; and I seldom go into San Francisco's Golden Gate Spiritualist Church without recalling it. That house of God was completed before I was blessed with a glimpse of this almost incredibly beautiful thing that we call Spiritualism, but I have come to know a little of how that temple became a reality.

I have come to know how its

pastor, Rev. Florence Becker, worked with the strength of a hundred, physically, mentally, spiritually—letting no other pressures, or other duties, or physical illnesses, interfere with the task. She was aided in the work by a loyal and devoted band; and the result is a building that is a haven, an oasis of Truth in a desert of illusion.

They prayed devoutly, but they also hammered stoutly—a lesson we can all well take to heart.

As I have suggested, there can be prayer without words. A good man's life is prayer perpetual, we are told.

The wise men of all countries, in all ages, have told us the same thing, in one way or another.

The Mohammedans say: "One hour in doing justice is worth a hundred in prayer." Moslems are not against prayer. On the contrary, they are perhaps the "prayingest" of people. Five times a day, wherever they may be, devout Moslems face Mecca, prostrate themselves, and pray. But they know that actions speak louder than words, and far more eloquently.

Prayer is perfect, of course, when words and action are perfectly joined.

We can never overestimate the value of prayer. If it comes from the depths of the heart, if it has earnestness, meaning, and sincerity—it brings us strength, a profound inner strength that nothing else can bring.

It helps us to reframe or re-crystallize our ideals, or reawaken our slumbering ideals; and it sets invisible powers to work so that we can realize a greater part of the possibilities for goodness and greatness of character that exist in each and every one of us.

We know that a generous prayer is never wasted. Even if it is "unanswered," as some might term it, it enriches the person who prays. As George Meredith said: "Who rises from prayer a better man, his prayer is answered."

Dostoevski said: "Every time we pray, if our prayer is sincere, there will be new feeling and new meaning in it, which will give us fresh courage, and we will understand that prayer is an education."

Key to Prayer

Prayer serves another great purpose. It strengthens the ties between us and our guides, and brings a richer, fuller intimacy with them. For they are the ones who carry our prayers upwards towards the One Great Source; and they are the ones who, if it is in divine order, make our prayers come true.

If we only realized what spiritual blessings can come from prayer, we would all pray more. And we would pray spiritually—not selfishly, and not for just material gain.

One last quotation. I don't know where it comes from, but we would be wise to establish it as part of our pattern of living. "Prayer should be the key of the day, and the lock of the night."

What could be better than prayer to open and close our waking hours?

Our morning prayer might well include the aspiration to become, by the end of another day, a little more worthy of the Truth and Beauty and Loveliness that the true Spiritualist realizes floods the universe, for all who have eyes and would see.

Our prayer at night might well include the aspiration that we be touched and enriched and spiritualized while we physically sleep.

And there are few prayers, it seems to me, that might not well include thanks to God for the gift

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A Tribute To

MINNIE SAYERS

A SPIRITUALIST medium of national and international fame, Rev. Minnie M. Sayers, former pastor of the Spiritualist Church of Revelation, Los Angeles, California, passed away December 4th after a brief illness of several weeks. Rev.

Sayers conducted services at her church continuously since March 5th, 1916. She was a native of Texas and secretary of the Texas State Spiritualist Association at the time she became the wife of Dr. W. Q. Sayers.

The first convention of the National Spiritualist Association which they attended was held in San Francisco in 1910. Their first church affiliation in California was with the Peoples' Spiritualist Church of Los Angeles.

Rev. Sayers served State and National conventions, and was a featured medium at Lily Dale Assembly for eighteen consecutive years.

We shall miss the physical presence, but the spiritual beauty will remain with us.

VIOLA WEDDERBURN

Secretary—C. S. A.

of life eternal; thanks to the ministering angels, our beloved ones, the guides and companions and teachers and others who enrich that life beyond measure; and thanks to the blessed mediums of high caliber who fling wide the gates between the two worlds, and who give us the Truth that sets us free, and the Knowledge that can make this world—heaven.

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LECTURER — TEACHER — AUTHOR



The photograph above, showing Peggy Barnes Jeffs, author, lecturer, and teacher, was taken last summer at Camp Silver Belle, Ephrata, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Jeffs is well-known in the field of Spiritualism and has published numerous books which, for years, have been used in class work: *Psychic Facts*; *A Way of Life*; *A Comparison of All Religions*; *The Questionnaire*; and *"Lo, I Am With You Always."* During the winter months, Mrs. Jeffs carries on her spiritual work at the Florida headquarters of the Church of the Beloved, 2806 Central Ave., St. Petersburg.

Prophecies For 1955

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 2)

sion of this, because the same company which has made possible express by rail will offer this service.

MEDICINE—The atomic force will be used successfully to treat not only cancer but diseases like tuberculosis, which will be affected by the special frequencies of the rays produced. They will ship this atomic power to foreign lands to treat various diseases and will overcome leprosy.

You are going to have the greatest program in medical science in the next few years than in all your life before. There will be fewer operations, because they will be able to diagnose accurately. Instruments will be devised in the future to diagnose more accurately.

A new chemical will be brought out to strengthen and stimulate the heart, and people who have the various types of heart trouble will have their lives prolonged a considerable length of time because of this new discovery.

Migraine headaches will be overcome. Many other diseases will be effectively controlled.

Sound waves will be used to bring about many cures.

TREASURE—There will be a treasure found in the South. It will date back to the Civil War period. They are going to find lots of relics—quite a cache—including money, gold. It will be quite historical, and it appears to be in South Carolina or that region.

CRIME—You are going to have a great deal of upheaval in Las Vegas, and it will be an indirect result of what will happen to a very notorious person in your part of the country here. His life will be taken. This person once was very active here and now is very active in Las Vegas. It will be what you term a murder and will be quite a shock to many people.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA—An airport in the Los Angeles area is to be transferred to a more satisfactory location after much discussion. Within two years, homes will be built on the property that is now used for the airport.

There will be a great political upheaval in Los Angeles in 1955 over the routing of freeways—much political squabbling.

The San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles is one of the fastest growing areas in the world. A monorail system will eventually be established there, connecting with the downtown section and other communities.

Real estate activity will be good in Los Angeles in 1955. In fact, Los Angeles will be the most active city in the United States in 1955.

The desert is going to be utilized more in the future, and people who have property in that part of the country will benefit. There will be more resorts and more aeronautical activity on the desert.

The smog condition in Los Angeles is going to be controlled, though not immediately.

Uranium will be found near the city of Los Angeles. It will become quite a fad to go out looking for uranium. Strangely enough, they are going to find it. It will be quite a profitable thing for some people.

The largest university in the world will be built in Southern California in the next few years. It will have the greatest professors, and people from all over the world will attend. It will be in session 24 hours a day.

MOVIES—Your motion picture industry is going to be extremely active in 1955. As a matter of fact, people who have been unemployed in that field will be very active in 1955, because there is a great improvement in the method of production.

A new lens that is going to be announced in 1955 will make pictures most enjoyable, and more people will be attending the theaters than ever before. The studios will be humming because of the new systems that will be devised.

A wonderful new process will give much sharper, more realistic pictures to the extent that when you see a picture in the future, it will appear that you can walk behind the object or individual shown in the picture. That's how perfect the picture is going to be in three dimensions.

One of your most important producers in Southern California in

the motion picture industry will be freed from the physical body. This producer has been in the business for many a year and is well known and will be freed in the year of 1955.

One of your most beloved stars—and she has been loved for a number of years—will be freed from the physical body. Everyone knows her, and she passes away very suddenly.

A pioneer moving picture producer is liable to be freed from the physical body in 1955.

COMING EVENTS

Jan. 1st March 31st, 1955: Annual sea son of The Southern Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp Meeting Association, Cassadaga, Florida; President: Ray B. Babcock.

January 11-12: Annual Convention of The Spiritual Churches, Churches, Inc., Hotel, New York City; For information write: Rev. Glenn Argoe, President, 7th Ave. No. 1010, Carnegie Hall, 50th & 7th Ave., N.Y.C.

Sept. 29-30; Oct. 1-2, 1955: 11th annual convention of the Federation of Spiritualist Churches and Associations, Inc., Hotel Gunter, San Antonio, Texas; Chairman: Rev. Vernon R. Cummins, 614 Travis Bldg., San Antonio 5, Texas.

June 24-Aug. 27, 1955: Annual summer season Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp, Chesterfield, Indiana; for 1955 programs, write: Mable Riffle, Sec'y.

ADDIE TOBIAS

BELOVED SISTER OF MABLE RIFFLE Passes Away

Addie C. Tobias passed away December 31st 1954 at Chesterfield, Indiana. She was 79. Mrs. Tobias was born in Conway, Arkansas. She was a Spiritualist all her life. She is survived by her husband Henry, mother, Lydia Simpson, 97, sister Mable Riffle, Secretary of Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp, Chesterfield, Indiana, and brother Claude Simpson, Indianapolis, Ind. Rev. Lytle Sensabaugh and Rev. Edith Stillwell officiated. Services were held in the Chapel on Chesterfield Camp Grounds.

SUMMERLAND

This column is open to every Spiritualist, every Spiritualist minister, every Spiritualist Church and organization to use without charge. Send typewritten notices, include full name, age, survivors, and name and affiliation of Spiritualist minister officiating—Ed.

ANDREWS, Catherine M. (60) Chicago, Illinois; survived by daughter, 3 grandchildren and 2 sisters; Rev. Lena Crane officiated.

BURNETT, William (60) Chicago, Illinois; Nov. 8th; survived by wife Catherine, 2 children, 3 brothers, 2 sisters; member of First Spiritualist Church of Cicero; Rev. Lena Crane officiated.

ELLIOTT, Leray Sams, (36) Nov. 6th; Chicago, Illinois; survived by his parents; Rev. Ernst A. Schoenfeld officiated.

GLASGOW, Amanda (63) Nov. 5th; Chicago, Illinois; survived by daughter Mildred; Rev. Ernst A. Schoenfeld officiated.

JOHNSON, Louise (80) Cicero, Illinois; Nov. 5th; member of First Spiritualist Church of Cicero; Rev. Lena Crane officiated.

MILLER, Rev. Ruth Evelyn (66) November 14th, Oakland, California, Pastor of the Church of Spiritual Proclamation.

MILLER, Bessie L. (61) Nov. 15th; Indianapolis, Indiana; survived by husband John, one sister, one niece; member of Psychic Science, White Cross Guild; Secretary-Treasurer of Psychic Science Spiritualist Church and secretary of Spiritualist Club; Dr. B. F. Clark officiated.

REYNOLDS, Herman (64) LeRoy, Illinois; December 12th; Rev. Floyd A. Thornton, pastor of the Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church, officiated.

SAYERS, Rev. Minnie M. (79) Los Angeles, California; survived by husband, W. Q. Sayers, 1807 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles; 2 brothers, George H. Monday, Compton, and J. A. Monday, Burbank; sister, Ella Larsen, Santa Rosa; Rev. William C. Donovan officiated.

TOBIAS, Addie Clarissa (79) Chesterfield, Indiana, December 31st, 1954; survived by husband Henry, mother Lydia Simpson, sister Mable Riffle, Chesterfield, and brother Claude Simpson, Indianapolis, Rev. Lytle Sensabaugh and Rev. Edith Stillwell officiated.

USED BOOKS

The books in these three columns will only be listed once. Of some we only have one copy. First come first served. No lay-aways. No C.O.D.'s. Send check or money order to Psychic Observer, Inc., Drawer 37, Chesterfield, Indiana.

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MEDIUMSHIP

A STUDY IN HUMAN SENSITIVITY
AND ITS DEVELOPMENT

by

GILBERT N. HOLLOWAY, D.D., Ph.D.

★
Mediums are persons whose souls and mind natures are sensitized to make contact with invisibles.

PART I

RELIGIOUS knowledge and practice unfold from man's belief in an invisible spiritual world that somehow greatly affects the obvious world of physical existence. From this invisible world that cannot be touched by the senses, but can be sensed by the mind or psyche, emanates an influence that men call God or Spirit.

Over the long ages of human evolution the idea of realization of God improves; the nobler the human soul, the nobler the God-Concept, and vice-versa. Men of mean and petty minds visualize a God of wrath, jealousy and other human frailties. We tend to endow the Creative Spirit with our own in-most attributes and subjective feelings!

So religion begins with the effort to know God, to understand something of the enigmatic Divine Mystery. The effort to experience directly and personally this Divine Reality we call Mysticism. Its contacts bring the highest moments of human experience. Socrates long ago averred that only the mystic is the true philosopher, as he alone is able "to see the vision of Truth in God."

Invisible Beings

The honest effort to know spiritual truth will sooner or later bring one to another great fact of the omniverse: the invisible world which surrounds and permeates this plane of existence is peopled with intelligent beings!

Furthermore, as one might logically suppose, most of these beings have lived at one time or another normal human lives upon this planet—although there are other classes and hierarchies of Beings who have never existed in the flesh upon planet earth and probably never will do so.

The majority of earthly persons spend their lives in ignorance of the exact nature and function of these extra-terrestrial beings, or "spirits," but there are other sensitive mortals who in various ways contact and communicate with invisible personalities.

Persons whose minds and soul natures are sufficiently sensitized to make contact with invisible astral or etheric persons, we term "mediums" or simply sensitives. Stewart Edward White in his many psychical volumes calls them "stations"—others designate them as channels, instruments, transmitters or "contact points."

Opposition

It is to be expected that in an earthly civilization largely filled with spiritual ignorance and superstition, sensitive or mediumistic personalities are often misunderstood and frequently persecuted. Our western "culture" in particular, with its materialistic emphasis, looks askance at most attempts to communicate with the invisible world and its personalities. Both orthodox religion and materialistic science combine to vent their wrath upon those who presume to contact the higher worlds.

Yet the irony of it all is that the greatest figures of religion, and many of science, were sensitive by nature and often derived their inspirations and guidance from spiritual sources. Taking the direct example of Jesus, we recall that upon the Mount of Transfiguration the Master talked with Moses and Elijah. Those venerable men had been "dead" for long centuries, yet Jesus talked with them!

The very churches who all too often scorn and persecute modern sensitives worship to the point of idolatry a Man-God who was both medium and adept! It should be noted that all adepts and true masters exercise mediumistic powers; unfortunately, not all mediums are

adepts, in the sense of having gained full conscious control of their natures and faculties, and realized oneness with the Supreme Spirit. Adeptness is mediumship plus, but in this discourse we shall confine our remarks largely to mediumship and its phenomena.

Evil men of earth fear the invisible; they fear that their crimes and machinations will be uncovered, and they resent their inability to control or dominate by force the free spirits who move through the etheric planes. As long as materialism, war, crime and all other hideous aspects of negative human consciousness are so prevalent upon this planet, it can be assumed that mediumship will meet with intense opposition from various quarters.

But the New Age is knocking at the door of our civilization, and one of its features will be raising of the veil, at least in some good measure, that separates the worlds.

Theoretical Background

To understand human sensitivity one must realize that the entire universe is essentially psychical, mental and spiritual; that matter reduces to energy, which in turn derives from Mind, which emanates from Soul or Spirit. Thus the entire creation emanates from the Creative Spirit which is God.

This universe of visible and invisible manifestation is vibratory, or exists as a vast cosmic scale of vibratory frequencies of the one underlying substance, which we might call Etheric Mind-Substance. Our visible world of three dimensions is but a small fraction indeed of the assemblage of worlds and dimensions which constitute the omniverse. With our physical senses we see and know only the minutest fragments of the all-encompassing Reality.

To believe that "seeing is believing" is to limit oneself hopelessly in the quest of knowledge. Modern nuclear physics is dealing almost entirely with invisible forces in its atomic developments! Why should human scientific investigation confine itself to atomic and electrical forces of nature? Why not explore the most wonderful of all mysteries—the mind in its many phases and dimensional contacts?

Etheric Worlds

People who leave this earthly plane through the process of "death" or transition pass into a subtler yet definite realm which psychic science terms astral or etheric. Other writings of this school detail the higher worlds, especially "Life After Death" and "The Future of Psychic and Occult Science."

"It is important to accept and understand the reality of astral existence. People on the Other Side are living an active, intelligent and purposeful life just as we are doing here. William Dudley Pelley created a sensation in 1929, when his famous article appeared in the American magazine entitled "My Seven Minutes in Eternity."

In this inspired piece of writing, Pelley described in detail a no-

turnal experience wherein he seemed to "die" and became conscious of his existence with friends and other persons in the astral plane. He recognized many of his old friends whose waxen faces he had last seen as they lay in caskets during earthly funeral ceremonies. Yet here they were, alive, active and very much themselves!

Actually Mr. Pelley claims he spent four hours in the etheric world that memorable evening in 1929 and it changed the entire course of his life. It resulted also in his establishing lifelong contacts with astral Mentors who poured through him many volumes of highly instructive literature.

The Pelley article in the American magazine brought 3,000 letters of inquiry from all over America, and created a sensation among spiritually minded people. Yet, to show the heavy hand and yoke of orthodoxy, every member of the editorial staff responsible for the publication of "Seven Minutes in Eternity" was subsequently disapproved in a cloud of disapproval, and from that day forward no Pelley writings appeared again in that magazine.

Phases of Mediumship

The phenomena of mediumship are as multifarious and unique as the persons who manifest them. Every sensitive mortal has his own peculiar psychic constitution, and its gradual development will produce individualized manifestations. The stronger these powers come to be, usually the more unique is their exact expression.

Mediumistic phenomena divide themselves broadly into (1) mental and (2) physical. That is, psychical occurrences that happen within minds and have no external manifestation we term mental, while those happenings which result in the release of overt expression of energy in the physical world we term physical.

For example, one of the most popular mental phenomena is clairvoyance, or clear-seeing. The sensitive "sees" visions, signs, symbols, colors or pictures within, and describes them in relationship to personalities living or "dead." Another mental phenomenon in great demand is prophecy or divination.

The medium mentally attunes with a person or condition and travels forward in time, predicting events in the presumed future. Sometimes prophecy comes as the result of interior vision or prescience; or again it may result from an inward voice or apparition which makes the prophecy, to be related by the medium to his hearers in turn.

Physical phenomena result in the application of energy under intelligent control upon this plane. During certain types of seances objects move about a room, they may be levitated or raised in the air, or they may disappear only to appear again. Even more impressive is the building up of human bodies or parts of bodies from a super-normal substance known as ectoplasm or teleplasm—into the "materialization" of friends and teachers from the Other Side.

Meaning of Entrancement

Mediums may be also classified in terms of whether their phenomena are produced while in conscious control of their faculties (conscious cooperation with the Higher World) or whether they permit themselves to lapse into a sleep-like condition known as trance. During stages of entrancement the vehicle and faculties of the medium are assumed by discarnate operators who proceed to talk or otherwise manifest themselves in the three-dimensional world.

One of the greatest classics of

TRUTH
WAYS

with

Dr. HOLLOWAY



psychic literature is "Spirit Teachings," a volume of exceptional instruction dictated through the pen of Stanton Moses of England by a band of Higher Intelligences. The principal Control, or operating intelligence, was known as Imperator and had been known in a previous earthly life as Malachias, a Hebrew prophet.

Dictating this information through Moses in 1875, Imperator said trance mediumship is to a certain extent abnormal, but that it was used at that time in order to secure exact and accurate communication between the worlds.

But this august personage predicted that in decades to come the "normal" type of communication would increasingly be that of conscious cooperation between sensitized mortal minds, and their invisible friends and helpers of the subtle worlds.

Much has been said and written against trance mediumship, yet it has been practiced down through the ages. Properly exercised for a good purpose by a medium of sound health and mind, with a suitable band of protectors and Guides from the Etheric, it would seem that much good has and will come through trance instrumentalities. There are some people whose destiny or mission seems to be that of serving as a trance medium. An example will be given from the author's personal experience.

Experiences With Ford

One of the greatest mental mediums is a likeable gentleman of New York City named Arthur Ford. I have known him for three years and we have presented meetings together in large auditoriums of New York. Mr. Ford has been well known in America and Europe for nearly thirty years.

Ford's mediumship began to unfold during War I when he was in the trenches of France with the American forces. He found that friends of his who died in battle began to appear to him; in fact, sometimes his first knowledge of their "passing" would be the presentation of their apparition or spiritual body to him in an unexpected moment of relaxation.

Following the war, he contacted Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in London, and received much good advice and encouragement from the famed creator of Sherlock Holmes. Several years later, he came into national prominence by giving to the widow of Harry Houdini, under test conditions, the "code" messages by which the famed magician had agreed to contact this world after his passing. Documents exist to prove that Arthur Ford "broke" the Houdini code by contacting his entity and receiving the evidential information.

Ford is both clairaudient and clairvoyant, and can work either while conscious or entranced. His specialty is seeing and hearing astral entities, or discarnate people. During one of our joint meetings in Philadelphia in 1953, he turned to a lady in the front row of the audience and said that he "saw" a man whom he took to be her husband, and that with him was Conan Doyle!

He then gave personal information from her husband, and inquired what she knew of the connection with Doyle. The lady, who was a stranger to Mr. Ford, replied that her husband frequently went to England on business and was a close personal friend of Sir Arthur for many years! She accepted the communication as true, and highly evidential.

Arthur Ford has a "Control" named Fletcher who was a Canadian soldier-friend of his in France in 1918 and perished in battle. Fletcher is the principal

trance control when Ford gives interviews of personal counsel and astral contact.

Ford's principal teaching Control is a Dr. Bennett. One night during a trance sitting, I heard Dr. Bennett deliver an eloquent and memorable discourse on reincarnation! He declared that Karma is the principal law of human experience, and that rebirth upon this plane is one of the ways of learning karmic lessons and evolving through experience.

Sherwood Eddy, the noted Christian thinker, in his excellent volume "You Will Survive After Death" pays tribute to Arthur Ford and details some very evidential information that he and Gerald Heard received during a sitting with Ford in Hollywood some years ago.

Arthur has had to experience many ups and downs of life, and various personal vicissitudes, but in this year of 1954 his mediumship is still functioning excellently and it is hoped that he may long continue his services to the public of such a helpful and unique nature.

TO BE CONTINUED

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PSYCHIC HIGHLIGHTS—by Lt. Col. ARTHUR E. POWELL

PSYCHIC OBSERVER, FEBRUARY 10, 1955

Spiritual Healing

Imbecile Child Cured

It is claimed that, in the spirit world, both mind-power and knowledge of the mind are greater, the mind there being more objective to spirit doctors, so that, with a good medium, cures of physical imbeciles can sometimes be effected.

Norman Spedding was born with defective brain and completely abnormal glandular system. Specialists proved powerless. Unable to talk or walk, the child crawled on the floor on his stomach. At two, he began to use hands and knees, but that was as far as he got. Circulation was so bad that hands, legs and feet were purple-black. Doctors did not expect him to live.

In desperation, the mother took him to C. F. Millington, of Newton-le-Willows, Lancashire: two weeks treatment by Millington's spirit doctor brought improvement, and the boy was able to repeat words. That was in 1952. The mother now states that her son progressed steadily, mentally and physically, and is now strong and healthy.

Psychic Pianist

From the "Folies Bergere"

When the "Folies Bergere" was performing recently in London, Winifred Atwell, honky-tonk pianist, ran through her routine at rehearsal with the band. At the second house, she suddenly began to play Grieg's piano concerto, which she did not usually play, taking the band by surprise.

The musical director, Harold Collins, went pale, and a woman in the hall screamed. For Winifred was playing the concerto in the exact style and personal arrangement of Dareski, well known pianist, who died in 1929.

Collins had for years been pianist in the orchestra when Dareski was playing solo. The woman who screamed was the widow of Max Dareski.

Telegram Predicted

Medium Reports Death At Sea

At Medborgarhuset, a hall in Stockholm, Mrs. Bertha Harris, a medium, gave to a man present a message from his sister, stating that she had died and been buried at sea. The brother denied this, because, if true, he would have been notified. He was told he would find under his home door-mat a cable which the messenger boy, against instructions, had pushed under the door.

The prediction was found to be true.

Service Recorded

New Zealand

In Christchurch, New Zealand, at the Psychic Research Society, a 20-minute sound film of healing by Harry Edwards has been shown. To this has been added tape-recordings of talks on healing by the controls of trance medium. As previously remarked, there should be a great future for tape-recordings of this nature.

Mediums Beware!

Evan Powell Reminisces

Evan Powell, 74-year old Welsh miner, estimates that some 25,000 people during the last 50 years have experienced phenomena he has produced at seances. He recalls how, when he first became "notorious," he puzzled a medical man who put him on a couch and then ordered his heart to stop and start again, which it obediently did.

He relates also that an American "expert" investigator was so moved, when he saw a materialization of his brother, that he hysterically embraced the figure. When Powell, the medium, woke next morning, he was in great pain, his chest being black and blue with bruises. "So you see why mediums must be careful." Quite so.

Doctor's Aid

Medium with X-Ray Vision

Mrs. Hellena Powell, clairvoyant and excellent trance medium, has her own church in Salisbury, S. Rhodesia, and conducts also a healing mission.

Possessing, apparently, X-Ray sight, she works with medical men, some of whom regularly consult her. Accounts of her successes have recently been reported in print.

Research Needed

Albert Hall Meeting

Repercussions of the giant Albert Hall, London, meeting, organized by Two Worlds, to demonstrate healing by Harry Edwards, are still being felt. This event may well prove to be a turning-point in the history of Spirit Healing in modern times.

A doctor was grateful for the invitation to attend, and remarked that medical men 'could not believe their eyes when Harry Edwards demonstrated speedy improvement, especially with arthritic cases where no pain was involved.' To watch an "unqualified" man break all medical rules and achieve results that were outside their powers was something they could not fathom.

The Greek national press published article and photographs of the meeting.

From New Zealand: "It was inspiring to read in our daily papers of the success of the Harry Edwards demonstration . . . the first time any notice has been taken of psychic healing here . . . a good omen."

De Bussumsche Courant, a Dutch newspaper, mentions scientists and doctors who saw the healer at work.

A doctor said: "I shall certainly not say any more that this healing method is impossible."

A scientist, commenting on the remarkable results, declared: "This demonstration urges the need for research."

Always Consequences

Ingersoll Is With Us

R. G. Ingersoll, famous Rationalist: "There are in nature neither rewards nor punishments—there are consequences."

Anybody Know?

Spirit Gymnasium

Running in Psychic Realm is a series of articles describing adventures of the newly-deceased.

A entity named Joy greets her mother on arrival, and starts to teach her to walk, explaining that travel 'over there' is so different from what it is with us that it has to be learnt. The mother said that, if one walked in the earth-manner, it was like walking the deck of a pitching ship. After several innocuous falls, she was told to quicken her stride, when she found she could get along with "great speed and determination."

Presently the mother finds herself in a large hall, fitted much like a gymnasium, where keen spirit folks are walking, running and leaping to great heights on to platforms, then down again. Some fell rapidly, slowing up near the floor.

Others came all the way down like feathers. To reach a platform, 25 or 30 feet high, she was told to rise on her toes, and desire strongly to reach the platform, which she did "at breathtaking speed, but landing safely." To come down to the floor, she had to fix her attention on a certain spot and desire a slow descent, which she did, "dropping as lightly as a feather on the spot."

I have often wondered why, from the earliest age, we take delight in rapid movement—running, tobogganing, cycling, motoring and so on. Could this be a faint recollection of the time when we were on 'the other side'?

Any way, there seems a gay time ahead for gymnasts: or will it be too easy to be fun, once the novelty has worn off? Anybody know?

Occult Tradition

Space Ships

There is a good deal of evidence that phenomena, associated with 'Flying Saucers' and the like, closely resemble those of the seance room, a matter with which I hope to deal one of these days.

Edward Gall, Edinburgh University lecturer, points out that there are innumerable accounts in history of Space Ships, indicative of this connection. Desmond Leslie, among many others, records sightings, closely resembling those of the present day, and "definitely not of this planet."

Well known is the occult tradition that Venus belongs to a scheme considerably advanced beyond us, its matter being of a type finer than ours but capable of being transformed into our type when necessary. There is evidence also that our Moon seems to be used as a halfway house on the journey to our earth, astronomers having frequently observed remarkable and unexplained activity in the craters of the Moon, such as lights moving in formation, especially in the crater Plato (see Bluebook April 1954).

There are also numerous accounts of debris from these Space Ships having fallen to the earth. Their material usually disintegrates and disappears, strongly suggesting ectoplasm. Of this, more anon.

Defy Duplication

Spirit Artists

Jacob and Gmelig Meijling are brothers who, while in trance, produce exquisite sculptures in paraffin wax.

In early childhood they became aware of psychic gifts: one used to see deceased persons, who seemed to him the same as the living; he used to find lost articles: at the age of 6 he became aware of their chief Guide, whom, when the younger boy was 17, told them they would devote themselves to healing and painting. Both used to heal animals in pain. They diagnose from the aura; they have x-ray sight; healing is done mainly by magnetic passes and holding hands over affected areas.

One of 4 large tableaux, in glass cases in the home of one of the brothers in Bloemendaal, near Amsterdam, contains 79 figures. The tableaux are described as "comments on humanity," portraying its virtues and vices, sacrifice and selfishness, love and avarice, in fact, all the characteristics of man.

So perfect is the work that the grain of marble in pillars is reproduced. Yet all colors come from one bowl! Colors change as the wax is poured from one bowl to another. Often models emerge from the hot paraffin completely finished. Automatic writing tells them what paraffin, paint and wood for frames they are to buy. The wax is near boiling point when modelled, yet their hands come to no harm when plunged in it. Neither has had an art lesson: in fact, one said his reports for drawing and painting were always "bad."

They also paint, using colors, oils and palette knife. Spirit artists produce individually characteristic seascapes, landscapes, flowers, interiors, churches and portraits. Their latest accomplishment is Balinese carving.

Their exhibits have been commended by art and petroleum experts, who could not solve the mystery of the colors. Vain were efforts to duplicate results.

The four exhibits name as artist a Roman Catholic woman, Miro Rossini, who lived in Italy about 250 years ago, and who, to avoid censure by the Church, signed her work with a man's name. Examples of her painting were found at Vienna. Two other spirit artists are Chinese and Japanese, who produce characteristic paintings.

In all this psychic art (they have turned out more than 1200 examples) speed is remarkable. A large canvas, covered with at least 25 varieties of flowers, was executed in just over 2 hours: a seascape in 33 minutes. 20 persons watched the production of a miniature on a matchbox in 2½ minutes, and another painting in 13 minutes: a film was made of the process, signed by a sworn declaration, which has been seen by the

Editor of Two Worlds, to whom we are indebted for this remarkable story.

Larger works have taken about 12 hours to produce, involving several trance sessions, the brothers working alternately, yet results seem as if done by one man. Automatic writing, which both brothers display, give explanations of the symbolism.

The reporter pertinently asks: "Is there anywhere else in the world such a versatile, unique, joint mediumship, a living tribute to the reality of that spirit world which always seeks to make its beneficent presence known?"

If any Reader knows of such, would he or she please say?

Carry On

California: E. J. Folkenberg, at a Seventh-Day Adventist conference recently, branded Spiritualism as a "satanic force leading thousands to turn away from God." Curiously enough, he adds: "The continued teaching of the immortality of the soul by churches and religious leaders will make Spiritualism one of the dominant religious forces in the closing hours of the earth's history."

Faith Healing

Canada: Joseph Anatole Desfosse, the Montreal "faith healer," has been fined the maximum \$100 for "practicing medicine without a license," and faces a second similar charge. The charges were laid by the registrar of the British Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. So now we know: faith is a medicine.

Rare Experiments

Ceylon: At the recent Congress of Microbiology, held in Rome, Dr. de Silva, Medical Research Institute of Ceylon, read a paper on the "Influence of the Mind on the Growth of Bacteria." 25 years ago the author started experimenting, studying hypnosis and other mental phenomena, to find if the human will could impede the growth of bacteria.

Diphtheria bacteria were placed in two sterile boxes containing suitable nutritive substance. Dr. de Silva then concentrated intensely on one of these boxes, repeating it, continuously, for half an hour: "No growth, no growth, no growth; you are sterile, you are sterile, you are dead!" The two boxes were then set aside.

24 hours later, a count was made of the colonies of microbes, with the following results:

"Subject" Box	Control Box
99	250
60	216
39	75
6	24

Many times the experiment was repeated, each resulting in fewer colonies being found in the 'subject' box than in the other one.

The Institut Metaphysique in Paris, is taking keen interest in these experiments.

"Revue Metaphysique" is investigating the work of Dr. de Silva of Ceylon: Dr. Lucius Nicholls, Director of the Institute of Bacteriology of Tropical Medicine, of Lisbon; Dr. Loehr, of Los Angeles, and others.

Dr. Loehr claims successful results from his experiments with prayer on the growth of plants.

Psychic Censors

South Africa: The Rev. Dr. George May, Scots archaeologist churchman, spoke recently to the Marybone Spiritualist Association on "My Life in South Africa."

"In that country, I found more freedom than I have found in my own land . . . I get the radio all to myself once a month for an hour at a time . . . I can say exactly what I like. I don't find the same here . . . the average script used on the radio here would be heavily blue-pencilled here . . . I know it would, because I have tried it."

"You will be happy to know that throughout South Africa there is an immense stirring in favor of the truths of Spiritualism . . . Often when I go to Broadcasting House,

I find 500 letters awaiting my attention . . . In all my 3½ years on the South African radio, I have found only three opponents and I am sorry to say that all of them were clergymen. The leader of them was most venomous and swore he would have me deported from South Africa. But now I have heard that he has returned to this country, so it seems he has deported himself instead."

Catholics Differ

Brazil: S. J. Haddad writes that a "significant fact in Brazilian Spiritualism is the remarkable activity of the spirits of former Catholic priests are displaying in bringing spiritual teachings to the people."

Emmanuel, who was a priest on the earth, is today considered as one of the main national guides of the movement.

Needless to say, all the spirit priests who return to teach do not agree with the dogmas of the Catholic Church.

Thousands Attend

London, England: According to "Picture Post" Radio Luxembourg featured Harry Edwards recently. The Post said that thousands were given an opportunity to hear about spirit healing.

"Moon Trail" Returns

London, England: For over 15 years, Spiritualists in the United States have received no news regarding Horace Hambling, who spent several years in America (1936-37).

Hambling will be remembered as the trance intermediary for "Moon Trail." Only last month, he was in the news again, having filled an engagement for a trance lecture which was followed by clairvoyance, through the mediumship of Eileen Blaschke. The meeting was sponsored by the Universal Brotherhood Federation.

New Medium

Havana, Cuba: We have been informed by Dr. Ernesto Ganivet that there is a very fine medium in the Republic of Cuba: Maria Amalia Romero do Navarro, 414 21st St., Vedado, Havana, Cuba.

According to Dr. Ganivet this medium is a Doctor of Philosophy and speaks English fluently.

Dr. Ernesto Ganivet, 9th St., corner Siboney Vista Alegre, Santiago de Cuba, formerly resided in the U. S. A.

Religious Freedom

Philippines: In San Fabia, Panhasinan, lives a "poor, unlettered man" (name not given), who performs bloodless surgical operations, using only his hands. Thousands, including doctors, have seen these operations performed, at centers of the Union Espiritista de Filipinas, dealing with appendicitis, kidneys, stomach ulcers, heart troubles.

Tiburcio Ramirez, in "Yours Fraternally," journal of the International Spiritualist Federation, states: "Members of the medical profession, present during the operations, are still marvelling how such things are possible."

Hostile Philippine doctors have threatened to prosecute Spiritualists, especially the medium. Speaking of the power of the Church of Rome, Ramirez says: "Experience has long shown that wherever Rome has political power, other religious bodies need to be wary." When President Ramon Magsaysay was asked to define his position relative to religion, he stated that he does not favor any particular religion, and that the Philippine Constitution provides for religious freedom.

What Death Is

Marcus Aurelius

"Death is a cessation from the impressions of the senses, the tyranny of the passions, the error of the mind, and the servitude of the body . . . the body which is but as it were the coat, or cottage of the soul."

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THE SPIRIT WORLD

CHAPTER X

Part I

AFTER the spirit leaves the body, where does it go? The Spiritualist answers that it goes to the spiritual world; and the question further arises: What and where is the spiritual world?

The term, "spiritual world," has a somewhat double meaning in Spiritualism. In its first meaning, it signifies the universal spiritual life of the world, which dwells within and pervades the entire material universe.

Everything, according to Spiritualism, has its inner or spiritual side, and the material universe, considered as a whole, has also its inner or spiritual side, and this spiritual side is, properly speaking, the spiritual world.

In this sense, therefore, the spiritual world is everywhere, wherever one has his faculties attuned to perceive it, and a man living on earth is just as much in the spiritual world as a spirit in the heavens. In such a definition, therefore, the spiritual world is the great spirit life of God, or as Plato defined it, the Soul of the World.

Proper Terms

In very much the same sense, the spiritual world may be defined as simply a higher state of consciousness, since that is what it actually is, and the spirits inhabiting it experience it as such.

In its second sense, however, the spiritual world is more definite and local in its meaning. In this sense, it is the local abode and habitation of the many spirits who once lived on earth. In this sense, the spiritual world is more generally and more properly spoken of as the "spirit world."

This is the term that is used by the Spiritualists and others in describing the home of the soul, and it is this term, spirit world, which we shall use in the present chapter. The spirit world is the heaven of the orthodox Christians—considered as a definite locality.

When the spirit leaves the body on earth, therefore, it goes to the spirit world, which is the abode of all spirits, good and bad. And we may now repeat our former question, "What and where is the spirit world?"

According to the best information obtained from the spirits, the spirit world consists of a number of spheres or zones of spiritualized matter which surround the earth like broad belts and are arranged in concentric order. The number of these zones is usually given as seven, although there are many subdivisions.

These zones are formed from the spiritualized emanations from the earth and the objects upon it. These emanations rise straight up to a point in space above the earth, where they collect and condense and form a spiritualized earth.

Spirit Planets

The natural law of gravitation causes things to rise up farther and farther from the earth as they become less material and more refined, and thus as the atmosphere of the earth proceeds farther and farther up, it becomes more and more refined until it becomes spiritual or ethereal in its nature and then it condenses to form the first spiritual sphere or zone.

It is explained in Spiritualism that every heavenly body that has progressed sufficiently in development has its spirit world, spirit planet, or spirit spheres, and necessarily so, since these spheres are but the natural development from the body itself. Thus all planets have their spiritual spheres or spirit planet, in the same way that the natural body of man has a spiritual body within it.

And just as the spiritual body of man is formed out of the things we eat, so also are the spiritual spheres formed out of the refinements and emanations of the material planet.

The spiritual spheres of the

THE PHILOSOPHY AND TEACHINGS OF SPIRITUALISM IN THEIR RELATION TO ACCEPTED PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE

—by—

JOHN C. LEONARD

For over twenty years this book has been out of print. Good used copies of "The Higher Spiritualism" by John C. Leonard have sold as high as \$15. As a result of thousands of requests, we are publishing the entire volume. Chapter IX, Part III, appeared in January 25, 1955, edition.



earth, therefore, are but a small part of the total spirit world or spiritual spheres in the universe. For, from planetary spirit worlds we go to solar spirit worlds or spirit spheres and then farther on to the intersolar and interstellar spiritual spheres.

It is said, however, that man must have reached a very great stage of development, and only after a very long period of time, before he can leave the earthly spirit spheres for the larger ones beyond.

Such, in outline, is the general idea of Spiritualism regarding the spirit world or spirit spheres, and before going on to a further consideration of it, we will first inquire into the historical origin and development of the idea.

The first definite statements regarding the existence of the spiritual spheres were made by the great Swedish philosopher and revelator, Emanuel Swedenborg, in his publications about 1750. Swedenborg, in his clairvoyant trances, was enabled to see into the spirit world and to record many scenes and events which took place there.

Swedenborg Says

But his mind was greatly under the influence of the orthodox religion of his time and he consequently proceeded to describe the spirit spheres almost wholly in terms and conceptions of orthodox theology. He described the lower spheres, where dwell the undeveloped spirits, as so many hells, and the higher spheres, in which dwell the higher spirits, as so many heavens, and in many other particulars of description, he followed the conceptions previously outlined by orthodox theology.

The reader of Swedenborg, consequently, is obliged to see the spirit world through the eyes of orthodox theology, and so colored were his revelations in this respect, that they were never able to make much of an advance.

Swedenborg did not attempt to give his spirit world any definite location in space, claiming that, inasmuch as it was spiritual, it was outside of the material order of things and did not, therefore, exist in time and space. Consequently, his spirit world could have no special relation with respect to the earth.

The next description, after Swedenborg, of the spiritual spheres, was made by the American revelator, Andrew Jackson Davis, in his clairvoyant revelations published in 1847 and afterward. Davis's clairvoyance was very much of the same nature as Swedenborg's, but unlike Swedenborg's, Davis's mind was wholly untrammelled with the conceptions of orthodox theology, and he was consequently able to give a clear description of the spirit world, independent of any theological preconceptions.

Davis' Revelations

Davis gave his first description of the spiritual spheres in his first book, "Nature's Divine Revelations," which he dictated while in a trance state. He mentions seven distinct spheres and describes in detail the nature and conditions of life of the spirits there.

The first sphere, he regards as the home of the undeveloped spirits, but as these become developed, they progress to the second spiritual sphere and ultimately to the spheres beyond. Life in the higher spheres is described in the most transcendent terms and as being the perfection of all that we on earth can imagine.

Davis conceived his seven spheres as almost universal in

scope, and each sphere as existing within a great circle of material suns, of which our sun is but one small body and near the outermost circle. All these circles of suns, six in number, revolve around the great Central Sun, which is the center of the universe.

Within each circle of suns is a spiritual zone or spirit world, which is the after death dwelling place of all the inhabitants of the suns and planets which compose that circle.

The Milky Way

Our sun, says Davis, is a member of the fifth circle of suns, of which the Milky Way is a visible part, and within this circle of suns is the first spiritual sphere.

The sixth or outermost circle of suns consists of cometary bodies only, which are not yet formed into suns and, accordingly, have as yet no spiritual sphere corresponding to them.

In his later works, Davis went more into detail regarding the location of the spiritual spheres, but he never changed his original idea that they were universal in character. In fact, Davis's mind seems to have been centered on the larger cosmic spheres of the universe rather than to those which surrounded any small body, such as the earth.

In "The Thinker," the fifth volume of his Great Harmonia and published in 1859, twelve years after his first book, Davis placed the location of the first spiritual sphere within the vast circle of suns, of which, he says, the Milky Way is a part.

The Spirit-Land, together with all the natural worlds which night or science reveals to our knowledge, belong to this one immeasurable system. Within the vast cloud of material globes is the "silver lining"—the aurelian circle—which is the soul's immortal home.

It is revolving within this visible circle of resplendent suns and planets; just as the spiritual body is a silver-lining within a cloud environment—the outer visible form. This interior circle or spiritual world is what we term "The Second Sphere."

Within that is the third; next the fourth; then the fifth; lastly, the sixth; the seventh is the Deific vortex, a great Positive Power, perfect and divine.

The Difference

The spiritual spheres, says Davis, are unfolded from the natural systems of suns and planets in the same way that the spiritual body is unfolded out of the natural body.

Every physical planet, therefore, is to bring into existence the different animals not only (so that man may exist), but it is also designed and commissioned to contribute a portion of the universal spirit-land, so that after death, the spirit of man may have a natural and holy home. The subtle intimacy and familiarity which now daily exist between your body and its living soul are not more perfect or real than that between the natural world and the spirit world every instant of time.

The analogy is as reliable and accurate as science. The physical body, chronologically speaking, is the spermatoc foundation of the spiritual body; even so is the natural world the germ-repository and foundation of the spiritual world. Lessons acquired of the one will teach the beauty and truthfulness of the other. The spiritual world is in one sense a material world, I repeat; but it is higher in its constituents and in the order of its formation.

Elementally, it does not essential-

ly differ from those primates which compose the rock, the tree, the animal, or a human body. The difference is similar to that between a rose and its liquidated fragrance. The best imponderable emanations of this world gravitate to what we call the spiritual sphere and help to form its substance.

Much to Learn

Let us examine this progressive series of emanations. First, we have undeveloped earth, in the form of solid stone; second, the embedded gases are liberated, and condensed in the form of water; third, out of water thus derived comes the ocean of atmosphere; fourth, out of atmosphere is eliminated what is termed electricity; fifth, from the abundant opulence of electricity, there issues a finer element, magnetism; and lastly, out of all these ponderable elements, and imponderable elements, there flows forth a mighty sea of imperceptible emanations into universal space.

The question might possibly be by science put: "Whither go these emanations?"

As the finest particles of all organizations below man ascend, or are attracted into his constitution, so these finest particles or emanations from the natural worlds in space ascend, or are attracted, into the constitution of the spiritual world.

Mercury, Venus, the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and all the other planets, both visible and invisible, eliminate their finest aura and atoms, which ascend in the shape of atmospheres and imponderable elements, and halt suspended at a point in space, where the inward principle of affinity becomes supreme.

The consequence is, that these accumulated emanations very soon associate, and become compact, firm, strong and inter-coherent; and this progressive development goes forward until there is formed a vast semi-solid aurelian zone, around a great starry system in the universe.

Ye, learn well the lesson that the spiritual spheres are unfolded by, and out of, the natural worlds, as flowers unfold from, and by means of, the earth; that the spirit-land rolls out of the essential emanations of the earth-land, the same as the spiritual body comes out of the refinements and rarefactions of the natural body.

The Real Truth

Davis's conception and localization of the spiritual spheres, was, as we have said, elaborated several years in advance of Spiritualism; and when the Spiritualists later brought out their conception of the spirit world as a series of spheres surrounding the earth, Davis was well aware of it and of the discrepancy which existed between his conception and that of the Spiritualists.

But Davis never changed his view, maintaining his fixed policy never to change any of his clairvoyant revelations until he had clear and definite reasons for so doing, and such definite reasons he appears never to have had with respect to changing his view regarding the location of the Summerland.

The real truth in regard to this discrepancy between Davis's view of the spirit spheres and that of the Spiritualists is that Davis was describing the general and more universal spiritual spheres—those that are intersolar and interstellar, while the Spiritualists were concerned more particularly with the local spheres surrounding the earth.

Davis's revelations were designed to teach general principles, and the principles and explanations which he laid down applied to the universe in general and not to any particular part of it. Consequently, in describing the spiritual spheres, he naturally had his mind fixed on the wider and more universal spheres, and not on those attached to the earth.

The best accounts of the Spiritualists regarding the spiritual spheres also teach the existence of these wider and more universal spheres, so that the discrepancy between the two accounts is greatly lessened and almost disappears. Thus, in one of the more recent

(Continued Page 10, Col. 4)

SPIRIT LIFE

THEODORE PARKER,

NARRATED BY HIMSELF

(Given through the mediumship of Sarah A. Ramsdell when in a semi-trance condition, 1899.)

Continued from Jan. 25, 1955,
Edition of Psychic Observer.

What it is like to live in the
Spirit World; What they
do; What they wear.

CHAPTER XXIII

Were mankind to allow reason a freer scope, it would impart new vigor to the life-forces of action. Man has yet to learn that reason is the key that unlocks the scientific world, and brings the treasure of doubt to a basis of truth where no doubt can disturb its sure foundation.

My ethereal life is clothed with vestments of substantial evidence to the society that occupy my sphere in the order of progression. The fabric in which we clothe ourselves is tangible to our sense of touch; and, when I say it is all woven in the looms of earth, I state another fact that I must prove with the key of reason.

The fabric, or illusory material, as earth terms spirit-clothing, is the *finesse*, or the art in Nature, of the outwrought materials of earth. It is the fancy dictum of the interior design; it is the test-mark of inorganic substance, the nerve-portion underlying the outspoken design. Let me illustrate.

How Spirits See

In order to bring out a design, whether in substance to clothe a material body, or in the conception of some grander scheme, reared for the world's benefit, it is necessary to fashion the fabric or structure on the internal plane of thought; and the mind that fashions on earth takes that same power of design to the higher sphere of use. The condition of the soul always seeks its affinity in artistic worth and ability.

Therefore, when I say spirit-vestments are a condition of the soul, it is no more than saying that my earth-garments were the outwrought fancy or condition of my mind or soul. My fancy, when on earth, led me to the attire of black; and now, when I near earth, I assume the old condition of mind.

And those that see with the light of clairvoyance always see me in my suit of black. Let me give another illustration. Take, for instance, the color of green. Now, the combination of oxidized gases compose the prismatic shades in that one color. Note, for instance, the shading of a rainbow.

Does it ever occur to the public mind that man, on earth, helps to fashion the rainbow? Let me explain the process by which it is done. Rainbows assume the different shades of coloring. Sometimes we see them span the heavens dressed in the rosy tints of morning; at other times, they done their blue-tinted robes; and oftentimes they appear in the shimmering dress of green, showing, conclusively, that the system of change is not confined to earth; and also showing the disposition in ethereal space to harmonize and blend the true elements of purpose in constructing the rainbow.

How Spirits Move

As I before remarked, man on earth helps to fashion the rainbow through the law of give and take. Man on earth possesses the power, through chemical process, to embody the electric currents or the prismatic shades that vibrate through the universe of color.

Now, as man possesses the ability to embody the primates, or bring out a color from primordial confusion, he possesses the power to embody that color in space; and there it undergoes the process of blending.

Those on earth who suppose that labor ceases at the expiration of

material existence, will be surprised to know that the truth of labor is accomplished in the spirit-world; that the essence, or ideal, finds shape through the active energies of spirit-life. Color is a condition of the soul.

I have my earth-conditioned garments, my spiral-pointed armor, which bears the rosy hue of morning; and my white robe of peace, that assimilates with my present condition of mind. I might here state that life is a condition of soul—the only condition that remains firm to its trust, because life is soul, the intuitive essence that symbolizes structure, and manifests itself in outwrought design.

CHAPTER XXIV

I will now take up my present condition in space; and, to the eye of faith, I am doing the Lord's will; but in reality, I am on the direct road of progressive movement, having followed out the dictates of conscience, my monitor of strength, in ushering me along the road of salvation, until this present time finds me in a condition to master every difficulty that impeded my progress on earth.

My condition of soul is in harmony with the system of laws through which I labor. I am in no way constrained. Labor assumes its standard worth: each department has its pointer of use, directing me onward and upward to pick in fields not yet open to earth. My road lies up the steep and rugged hill of duty. I claim no wings of flight aside from those tipped with the ether dew of use.

CHAPTER XXV

I am, at this present time, folding the leaves of my past biography. It is written on the fine tissue sheets of vellum manufactured from etherealized substance found in the second-sphere: it is a species of galvanized rubber-lasting prepared from oxidized gases or fluids; it is done through chemical process, brought to a higher focus of power than earth claims at present.

Galvanized rubber forms a part of the basis of etherealized atmosphere: it is the soluble part to the outward sense.

What Spirits Do

The other portions of ether forming the electric currents in atmospheric conditions have their basis in the minutiae of earth soluble to that code of reason that acknowledges the ether dew or the *finesse dictum* in all substance,—the portions of earth that throw off the strata or inorganic particles that compose space; the portion that contains the sympathetic monitor, or the portion that graduates to intelligence.

That may be a new thought to some, that matter contains any intellectual parts; but there is a strata running through all matter possessing the component element of intellectuality. It was that same element in mother-earth that made man upright, and endowed with reason.

Mother-earth has ceased to build from the bygone fashion, because the necessity is passed; and the higher law came to the rescue as soon as reason could exert a sway outside of primordial substance. Then Nature had accomplished her highest effort, and man then possessed a key to unlock old Nature, and bring her to the platform of investigation, to find her subtle element or elements that compose the spiral points of reason.

In a work that the ensuing spring will bring before the public, Alpha and Omega of spirit-claim on and over the rudimental shaping of earth will be tested. The work I here advertise will embrace the primordial confusion of

matter, and bring out the strata of mind that wrought structure and shape from confused inharmonies of chaotic ruin.

CHAPTER XXVI

My present condition of life is rather picturesque: I have my harbor of refuge, my home of secret pleasure and thought, my fancy-wrought Castle of Ease in the ascending scale of progress. I think every person has a local habitation of ease somewhere in the future; and that breastwork, thrown up for the soul to reach and mount, keeps green the field of hope, and leads us out to span the unseen shores of time and eternity.

My present home winds its sustaining arm of strength around my every wish and purpose. I find gifts for the soul in every corner of my local habitation.

Let me here describe my seat of honor, or, in other words, give the exact dimensions of my spirit-home. As I before stated, my local resort is situated in the third sphere, near the constellation of Andromeda: it bears the tropical climate along its smooth and undulating plots of verdured green.

How Spirits Build

My mansion of rest from active duty is in the suburban style, with broad parterre and sylvan haunts that vibrate to the mystic touches of my white-robed angel friends. But to make my home more definite, more tangible to earth, I will give it in the form of a parable; I will dress it up in allegory, but with the stamp-mark of truth facing every side of my spirit-edifice.

We term spirit the life, the pulp of being, the interior casket, that takes precedence in going a journey, or going to rest, or in any effort that requires movement. The spirit first starts the team of strength that moves the outward edifice.

Let us, then, suppose the interior portion of man, the casket of strength, the pulp of being, desires to outstrip time; desires to build from the interior plane of thought; that is, desires to fashion a structure that time can not control. The very desire is outwrought on the spirit-camera in space; the desire is the structure.

You desire to build a material edifice; that is, you desire the protection of the material body, and your mind fashions from material substance; but, in every particle of material substance, there is spirit-architecture, there is life wrought out in what seems dead structure. Now, the homes upreared from thought and application on the earth-plane are dagger-retyped on soluble atmosphere, before the earth-provision is made.

We speak of weaving our castles of fancy when those fancy-wrought castles are the real structures of endurance that Time apes at, but only reaches in a bungling manner. We can not build on the earth-basis as finely as spirit can conjecture; and why is that nonconformity to thought apparent in every symbolized edifice on the footstool of Time, if thought found in matter its fruition of purpose?

CHAPTER XXVII

My spirit-home is an establishment of unpretending merit as far as its local purposes are concerned, or as far as it supplies the attachments that the past can claim. It serves as the restaurant of growth at present, or my refuge from impending storms that threaten every cargo of strength on the boundless sea of Time.

How They Study

Let me here state that eternity is Time, an outreach from the system of days, weeks, months, and years; but still it is Time on the wing. A higher schedule of purpose, a loftier tone of thought, propelled by the steam-car of progress.

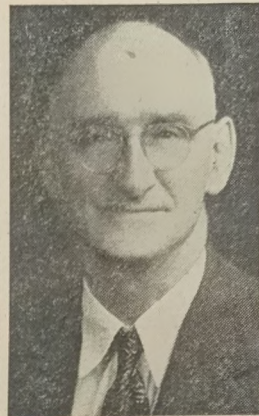
My spirit-home has a foundation-site that borders on the stream of Life; it fronts the chapel of Duty, and has a corner hedge of Doubt to dispel the ingrowing ease of conditional circumstances. My home is adorned with pictures of art; the walls are frescoed with the true art in Nature.

I have my study-room, my system of study, or my system of thought, brought to actual use; I have my reception-room, where I meet my spirit-friends in social converse, where we gather strings

A Tribute To

John C. Barents

TEN Spiritualist churches, from Michigan and Indiana, took part in the recent memorial service for John C. Barents, who passed away Oct. 31st last. This service, held November 4th at Kalamazoo, Michigan, was



JOHN BARENTS

under the direction of Dr. William R. Aldred, Muskegon, Michigan.

Mr. Barents was born January 12, 1889 in Rotterdam, Netherlands and moved to Kalamazoo in 1910. He was associate founder of the Church of Spiritual Truth on Mill St. He is survived by his wife, Rev. Mattie M. Barents, pastor of the Church of Spiritual Truth, 729 Stockbridge Ave. Mr. Barents was a staunch Spiritualist and well-known for his devotion and tireless work for the cause of Spiritualism.

of pearls, and count them for the benefit of each other.

CHAPTER XXVIII

Let me now take up my occupation, and bear my burdens back to the world, to be there tested and weighed in the balance with common sense and justice of acknowledgment. The majority of people on the earth-plane suppose that spirit-life is divested of all car and labor, that we float in space, or have seats of honor surrounding the throne of God, where praise and thanksgiving is the continual theme of evangelical life.

Now, those who accept that life of ease and worship will look upon my life as being too practical for heaven; but those who knew me on the earth-principle of life would fully understand my incapacity for serving dead-letters.

That may seem impious; but, to a reflective mind, God's realms of space are glowing with the active energies of disembodied mortals.

All labor must have a systematized footing; must have aqueducts of use leading from that system, and pillars of strength to sustain the embryotic principle of worth that maintains its position above any altar of pride, or distilled flummery that mankind manufactured from the idle driftings of polished fastidiousness and corrupt ingenuity of content.

CHAPTER XXIX

My spirit-home has never frustrated one desire of my earth-ability to perform my duty of purpose in maintaining my system of thought toward the high and holy calling of promulgating the true seeds of the Christian religion.

My spirit-life takes form in active works; I see my way through active precision of movement. A friend of mine called at my study a short time since for the purpose of investigating the byways of poverty in the Second Ward of Progress. My friend stated the condition of one district or locality where God's pruning-hook of knowledge had scarcely found an entrance.

The inhabitants of that locality are steeped in famine and want; they are the offshoots from the lower grades of social life on earth. And let me here state, that heaven's door is open to all life; but the platform has a signal-gun that fires a bullet of disapproval at every intruder that shows a lack of the current material surrounding the gates of Paradise.

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THE SOUL SURVIVAL OF MAN

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4)

Just what day Jesus is scheduled to appear is not stated by these ministers, nor do they know for sure that Jesus declared such an event. He did say on one occasion that "many standing here shall not taste of death till they see the Son of Man coming in this kingdom." Matthew 16:28—but "those standing there" died and passed away, yet Jesus did not return.

I asked a very noted preacher of Boston what he thought of the hundreds of persons who are good moral people that died without making any confession of Christianity. He replied: "It is my personal belief of the authority of the Bible that good moral people who are without Jesus Christ go to hell when they die, whether they are my relations or your relations, for our morality is not enough to save us."

Jefferson—An Atheist?

I cited to him such noble souls as Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson. Lincoln died without confessing Jesus Christ; Jefferson wrote his version of the New Testament, revising its harsh creed, and denying Sacrificial Atonement.

Jefferson was looked upon as an atheist. Lincoln had written a denial of the "Plan of Salvation" and his law-partner urged him to destroy the document lest his political enemies should use it as material against him. It was accordingly destroyed. (See Herndon's "Life of Lincoln.")

The good minister of Boston and the Bible both declare Jefferson and Lincoln have gone to hell!

"The grave cannot praise thee, death cannot celebrate thee; they that go down to the pit cannot hope for thy triumph. The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day." —Isaiah 38:18,19

Nothing goes into the grave by the fruits of death. We do not read anything about dead souls being resurrected. The resurrection theme comes from the pagan belief that dead bodies can one day be brought back to life.

In Egypt, the ideas of death did not include the conception of a resurrection of a second physical body in the underworld. The Egyptians considered that should the physical body be destroyed, the ka, or double, the shadow and spirit of man, might also perish. This idea became the foundation of the mummification of the dead.

The Egyptians believed devoutly in the existence of the soul, and that it, and not the body, journeyed to the underworld and enjoyed happiness, or suffered sorrow. The mummy of the deceased was but the physical body protected from dissolution, for the comfort of the soul.

Divine Destiny

The author of the school-book essay declares: "The heaven and the earth had a beginning and they shall have an end. The face of the world is changing daily and hourly. All animated things grow old and die."

The finest works of man too are gradually giving way. The ivy clings to the mouldering tower, the wall flower springs from the disjointed stones. The founders of these perishable works have shared the same fate, long ago. If we look back to the days of our ancestors, to the men as well as the dwellings of former times, they become immediately associated in our imaginations, and only make the feeling of instability stronger and deeper than before.

"In the spacious domes which once held our fathers, the serpent hisses and the wild bird screams. The halls that once were crowded with all that taste, and science, and labor could procure, which resounded with melody and were lighted up with beauty, are buried by their own ruins, mocked by their own desolation. The works of art, the forming hand, the tombs, the very ashes they contained, are all gone!"

Beautifully stated long ago in the school-book. But as true to-day, in our world of advanced science, atom bombs, learned discovery, elegance and extreme wealth. Yet still the main question in all our observation and philosophy is the existence of the soul.

All things of this world cluster around the soul. All discovery, or

art or philosophy must spring from the consciousness of man. Since we know this, and revel in this wonderland of the fruits of the soul's endeavors, shall we not believe that God has greater plans for the living soul of man than anything this limited earth-span can account for?

Any limited and selfish system of religion cannot apply to such a heaven-born creation as the soul. No words of man's wisdom can fit the divine destiny of the soul. The light that Jesus brought was centered upon the real worth of the soul. Every true philosophy has exclaimed in wonder at the native magnificence of man as an immortal creature.

Constantly falling away from the spirit man are the gross habits of his earth pilgrimage. He cannot hold anything here on earth; he cannot stay on earth. He must fly away to some region where he can find the atmosphere and the spiritual nourishment for his immortal nature.

Alpha to Omega

Did not the Psalmist sing "And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever—throughout eternity?"

Joseph Addison brings his glorious inspiration to the great thought of man's immortal destiny: "Eternity!—thou pleasing, dreadful thought!"

Through what variety of untried being, Through what new scenes and changes, must we pass; The wide, unbounded prospect lies before us."

Homer's Iliad, that famous book of wisdom and philosophy makes Achilles say: "'Tis true, 'tis certain man though dead, retains Part of himself; the immortal mind remains; The form subsists without the body's aid. Aerial semblance, and an empty shade! This night my friend, so late in battle lost, Stood at my side, a pensive, plaintive ghost: Even now familiar, as in life he same: Alas! how different, yet how like the same."

The central theme of our Spiritualism is precisely this theme: there is no death to the soul. Onward throughout the ages—from Alpha to Omega—the soul exists. No one soul that has espoused some one exalted system of religious belief, but all souls that ever were created!

This earth shall pass away, but the universe of infinite space and durability shall house and care for the soul creation that God in His divine wisdom has created. You and I are surely a part of that creation.

Our evidence must rest upon the truth of spirit communication. Homer recorded that in his time souls had returned and communicated their identity. That was recorded by him 850 years B.C.

Twisted Minds

Then shall puny pulpit-pounders minimize its truth by limiting and conditioning immortality to a much distorted report of the teachings of the Man of Nazareth? If the Master's words were distorted by those who gave us the record, then we must seek to find the real truth in the certain and reasonable evidences that can give us assurance.

We Spiritualists say we have received messages TODAY that support our belief in immortality. The skeptic tries, in every way he can, to discredit our evidence. Even the Christian declares that we cannot know. He cites his version of religious faith to prove that man is too feeble to pierce the veil between this life and any other.

The non-Christian skeptic seeks to decide the matter for the Spiritualist by declaring that all message communication is but a twist of the mind; that hypnotism or telepathy, or imagination can be responsible for all our messages from the so-called dead.

Leonore Piper, noted psychic of Cambridge, used to write in the handwriting of the departed and speak in the voice of the departed, when she read for those who interviewed her. If your mother was present, she wrote through Mrs.

Piper's hand, and spoke through Mrs. Piper's vocal cords. And you recognized Mother!

She did this for Sir Oliver Lodge and other scientists. They became convinced that the spirit world has power to return and identify itself!

Plan of Salvation

In these days of apparent physical danger, when any one pagan nation might well gain control of all the world, I think it would be well for Christian ministers to sound forth the certain philosophy of the living soul of man, both in his present state and that state he is destined to obtain in the hereafter.

If we cannot "flee from the wrath of this world," let us try to learn something about the safety and beauty of the heavenly kingdom where the soul will be free from disease and atom bombs!

The Plan of Salvation entails a selfish and self-centered objective of saving a few and damning millions who surely should have been able to call God "Father" because He created them.

The old comic prayer used to be, "Me and my wife, my son John and his wife—us four and no more! A-men."

It still seems to be about that; "save us O Lord, and to the everlasting flames consign all the rest!"

God is love, we are taught—everlasting Love, Wisdom, Mercy, and Righteousness. Then there is no room in His nature (or will) for anything vile, unjust, evil, revengeful, unloving or limited.

God created man and in man He placed the capacity for loving his fellow creature. We all love someone else with a love that is holy and divine. It may be Mother or Father, or other kindred, or friend.

Heavenly Father

That love is our divine passport into heaven. It will be continued, strengthened and preserved for ever. Else all the whole life we live here is a nightmare, purposeless and vain. All that has ever been on earth, if we continue not, has been wasted as a plaything thrown aside by a horribly fantastic creator.

God is our Heavenly Father—such a title was given him by Jesus who sought to inspire in man a trust and a love for the source from which he sprang. Jesus said "I came to make known the Father."

Since love and beauty and thought and music, and philosophy and reason are man's divine heritage here, then we shall look for the extension and the retention of all those qualities in a life to come.

If God is my Father, then I am indeed his son! What true father would cast off his son? God, Who from the beginning knew all things, surely has divine plans for every separate soul that He has called into being.

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"HIGHER SPIRITUALISM"

(Continued from Page 8, Col. 5)

accounts of the spirit spheres, revealed through the mediumship of the Rev. G. Vale Owen, the existence of these wider interstellar and interlunar spheres is clearly set forth.

Other spiritual communications also refer to them. But the fact that these larger spheres are so remote from earth and beyond the immediate experience of any spirit who has lived upon earth, perhaps accounts for the fact that they are not more frequently mentioned in spiritualistic literature proper. All the spiritualistic accounts agree that no spirit that has ever lived on earth has yet progressed beyond the outermost spirit spheres of the earth.

Spiritual Spheres

The question of the correct localization of the spiritual spheres has always been a more or less difficult one with Spiritualists, and nearly all of their accounts vary somewhat when stated in terms of actual miles or distance. The reason for this perhaps, is that it is more or less impossible to relate by actual miles or distance, two such wholly disparate things.

The spiritual spheres belong to the spiritual side of things, and have a distinct spacial order of their own, and this spacial order is entirely unlike that of our spacial order. The spiritual spacial order, which is really what is known as the fourth dimension, interpenetrates and exists within our own spacial order, and its spacial and visual attributes, according to the Spiritualists, are a magnification of our spacial and visual order.

Thus, distance which seems great to us seems small to the percipients on the spiritual side and objects which are far off to mortals appear quite near to the spirits.

A. J. Davis himself testifies, in his clairvoyant activities, that the spiritual medium or ether by which spiritual or clairvoyant sight is made possible, possesses the property of greatly magnifying objects and of almost annihilating distance. He says:

The clairvoyant vision is telescopic. I mean exactly what I say—telescopic. For example, the sun is supposed to be 92,000,000 miles from where I now write. Clairvoyance can bring it so near that it can scarcely be seen. Its extreme nearness strikes and blurs the mind's eyes.

Bacon Answers

And yet, these eyes do not see anything of that external sun which is contemplated by astronomers. It was a long time before I had perfectly and practically acquired this essential truth. Everything (in clairvoyance) is seen from its vital points; thence outwardly and successively, until the outmost or matter forms are fully discerned.

All this shows how difficult it would naturally be to relate by actual miles of distance two things of such an entirely different nature as the spiritual spheres and the earth; and this doubtless accounts for the many discrepancies contained in writings and communications regarding the distance of the spheres from the earth.

Among the first references to the spiritual spheres in spiritualistic writing proper (A. J. Davis being considered as before Spiritualism) are those contained in the early book of Edmonds and Dexter, Spiritualism, which purported to be inspired by Swedenborg, Bacon and others.

These communications, it will be noted, recognize the difficulty of relating the spiritual spheres to the earth by actual distance. Bacon, the communicating spirit, was asked by one of the sitters, a Mr. Warren, concerning the nature and location of the spirit world.

Are the spheres where you reside material globes, on the surface of which are the same general manifestations of vegetable and animal life as on the earth?

Answer: Yes.
What distance is it from us? How situated? Is it visible to us or not?

Answer: Calculate the distance from space to space unknown, and you have it. We can't tell, at least I can't, never having measured it.

I can only say, when I want to go to any place, I am there.

The distance is only to be calculated when gross matter requires absolute and positive locomotion. I understand what you desire, Mr. Warren, and I really appreciate your intention. But you will not get any positive or approximate calculation of distance. Add the distance of the fixed stars four times and multiply by twice fifty thousand, and then you are as near as when you commenced.

Six Spheres

The first book of Spiritualism to attempt a definite statement regarding the spiritual spheres as surrounding the earth and at fixed distances from it, was that of Professor Robert Hare, "Spirit Manifestations," published in 1855, shortly after the book by Edmonds and Dexter. The communication purports to come from the father of Professor Hare. It is as follows:

The spirit world lies between sixty and one hundred miles from the terrestrial surface. The whole intermediate space, including that immediately over the earth, the habitation of mortals, is divided into seven concentric regions called spheres. The region next to the earth, the primary scene of man's existence, is known as the first or rudimentary sphere. The remaining six may be distinguished as the spiritual spheres.

The six spiritual spheres are concentric zones or girdles of exceedingly refined matter, encompassing the earth like belts or girdles. The distance of each from the other is regulated by fixed laws.


You will understand, then, that they are not shapeless chimeras or mere projections of the mind, but absolute entities, as much so indeed as the planets of the solar system or the globe on which you now reside. They have latitudes, longitudes and atmospheres of a peculiar vital air.

Splendor Baffles

The physical economy and arrangement of each sphere differs from the other, new and striking scenes of grandeur being presented to us in each, increasing in beauty and sublimity, as they ascend.

Although the spheres revolve with the earth on a common axis, forming the same angle with the plane of the ecliptic and move with it about the ponderable sun, they are not dependent on that body for light and heat, receiving not a perceptible ray from that ponderable source; but receive those dispensations wholly from his internal or spiritual correspondence (a spiritual sun concentric with the sun of your world)—from that great central luminary whose native brightness and uninterrupted splendor baffle description.

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NOVENA . . . to St. Theresa: Send intentions, requests for healing and help in personal problems. All correspondence confidential. Ritual and details written complete. Please write: AGC, Box 285-P, Pennsgrove, New Jersey. (P-397)

CHANGE YOUR MIND to Health and Happiness through absent healing. Long experience with spiritual co-operators and doctors. Love offering. Write: Ella M. Carlson, Box 53, Salmon, Idaho. (P-397)

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FOR 25 YEARS a true Spiritualist medium, teacher and healer. I can only serve and love God by serving His children. If you have trouble or illness of any kind, I may be able to help you. Send three questions and a birthdate to: Rev. Alice Miller, 1408 North Congress St., Austin, Texas. Love offering. (P-398)

SPIRITUAL HELP: Will try to help you where ever you are; have had experience all my life. Twenty years answered questions for \$2.00; Write: Maude Isler, 423 West 17th St., N. P.; Route No. 2, Cadillac, Michigan. (P-397)

YOU CAN ONLY SERVE God by lovingly serving His children. As Spiritualist, teacher and medium, I will try to serve you. In trouble or ill? Send birthdate and three questions. Love offering. Write: Rev. Alice Miller, 1408 North Congress St., Austin, Texas. Phone: 89495. (P-397)

WOULD LIKE to help you where ever you are. Just send your questions to me. Have had experience all my life. Two dollar love offering. Spiritual help. Write: Maude Isler, 423 West 17th St., (N.P.) Route No. 2, Cadillac, Michigan. (P-398)

Questions—Continued

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CASADAGA, FLORIDA: Rev. Clarence Argoe, Minister; direct voice (trumpet); Psychic Photography; Materialization, Friday 8 P. M.; Trumpet, Sun. & Mon. 8 P. M. by appointment only; Phone: Spring 4-3598. (P-394)

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NEW YORK CITY: Akashic Records Interpreted. Readings of Life Patterns and Reincarnations. Rev. Glenn Argoe, Spiritual Science Mother Church, Inc. Studio 1010, Carnegie Hall, 56th St. at 7th Ave. Phone: Columbus 5-2952. (P-407)

NEW YORK CITY: Psychic Analyst, Great Northern Hotel, 118 West 57th Street, Suite No. 203; Phone: Circle 5-4915; constructive classes for unfoldment. Wed. 8 P. M. Open meetings including messages: Thurs. 10 A. M., 5 P. M. at St. Mark's Church. Write for instruction and consultation by appointment only. Message answered through psychic faculty; Rev. Martha K. Seidler. (P-398)

NEW YORK CITY: Dr. S. R. Mandal Hindu Mystic, Astrologer and Intuitionist. Spiritual advice on all problems. Free lectures, messages: Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday, 8 P. M.; Wed. 2 & 8 P. M.; also Sunday, 5 P. M. at St. Mark's Church. Write for instruction and consultation by appointment only. Message answered through psychic faculty; Rev. Martha K. Seidler. (P-398)

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Mediums—Continued

NEW YORK CITY: Chapel of Eternal Star, 237 West 72nd St., New York City, 23, N. Y. C. Telephone: TRAfalgar 7-3113. Services daily 7:30 P. M., with the exception of Monday and Thursday. Noon Services: 1 P. M., Tuesday and Thursday. Perhaps I can help you with your problem. Why not write me today. Love offering. Write for correspondence to: Rose Ann Erickson, Minister, 5 Tilton Road, Tarrytown, Westchester, Chapel of the Eternal Star, 237 West 72nd St., New York City 23, N. Y. (P-396)

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CLASSIFIED ADS

(Continued from Page 14)

Books

WANTED: A good used copy of the book, "The Bride of Dreams" by Van Eeden. State price desired and communicate directly with J. Hitchens, 171 Manor Road, Manselton, Swansea, England. (C-398-P)

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"THE GLORY"—A Book You Should Not Miss! This book contains personal testimony concerning Spirit Return. The author, Rev. Rowland F. Nye, spent over thirty years of his ministry in New England and in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The book is not a collection of sermons, but the presentation of many instances illustrating the truth of Lyman Abbott's assertion: "The resurrection of Christ Jesus was not an extraordinary event; it was extraordinary evidence of an ordinary event." The marvel the author describes is set within the framework of the New Age in which purpose desire releases matter into energy and transforms energy into matter. The latter is illustrated by the return from the invisible world of Spirit-visitants in every attribute of human personality. For your copy, send \$1.00 to Rev. Rowland F. Nye, Box 935, Tryon, North Carolina. (P-399)

READ: "The Voice on the Shandoread" by Wilson C. Gilman. This 128-page "Goldenrod Book" is specially priced at \$1.00. The content is based on the lectures of "Ishtar" and described Life Here and Hereafter beyond the Horizons of Manhood. For your copy, send \$1.00 to the author, Wilson C. Gilman, Box 221, Waterville, Maine (P-401)

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A SHORT MESSAGE: "Where in the L.I. are you going? Dam if I know!" by Dr. S. E. Schell, Jr., M.S., P.S. D.D. This short folder contains a message that will tell you how the spiritual powers and personalities from God, through me, can bring to you victory over evil and you will be crowned with success, love, health and happiness. Absent treatments given. Send cash love offering, plus 10c in stamps for postage to: Rev. Dr. S. E. Schell, Jr., P.O. Box 55, Rahway, New Jersey. (P-399)

YOU MUST READ one of the outstanding booklets of the year: "The Mew and Purpose of Spirit Phenomena"; Photographs and Explanations of Ectoplasm and Materialization; Price \$1.00. For your copy, send one dollar in currency to: Samuel N. Craig, Box 892, Los Angeles 53, California (No stamps, please). (P-406)

Trenton, N. J.: Regular Sunday afternoon and evening services continue at the Spiritualist Friendly Church, 700 Liberty St., according to pastor, Rev. Adah Ross Crew. Rev. Crew was assisted by Geneva Stone.

Philadelphia, Penna.: Israel Shatz was presented recently over Station WPHN at the invitation of Steve Allison. According to Shatz, over one quarter million people listened to his hour-long discussion of psychic phenomena. Others who have appeared on the Steve Allison show at the same time: Vincent Price and Ed Harris.

Huntington, W. Va.: According to Albert E. Scheffler, the Clara Pritchard Memorial Psychic Science Church, 510-4th St., nineteen-fifty-four will be regarded as an outstanding year in the history of the church.

During the month of December, minister of the church, Rev. Marie E. Doyle and associate pastor, Ethel G. Colby, were assisted by Edith Goddard, Windsor, Canada trance medium.

Board of Directors for 1955: president, Ethel G. Colby; vice president, Rose Hicks; secretary-treasurer, Irene Elkins; Trustees: Marie E. Doyle, Martha Elmore and Albert E. Scheffler.

During the holiday season, special donations were received from Celesta Johnson, Ashland, Kentucky; and Mr. and Mrs. Oman Arthur.

Enid, Oklahoma: Rev. Albert E. Vaughn Strode, N.S.A. Missionary, reports a successful 1954. A report shows he served churches in Hartford, Connecticut; Boston, Massachusetts; Stamford, Connecticut; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as well as numerous organizations in Colorado, Kansas and Illinois. He was a featured speaker at Lily Dale Assembly, Lily Dale, N. Y. during the summer months.

Los Angeles, California: According to Rev. Beulah Englund, Pastor of the Church of Divine Light, 837 S. Park View St., Dana Howard, author of the book "My Flight to Venus" was the featured speaker recently.

Rev. Englund reports good attendance when a Christmas party was held for little Billy Hall.

Buffalo, N. Y.: Rev. Stanley Spears and Miss Marilyn Ellen Moor were married recently (Nov. 26th) in the John Carlson Spiritualist Memorial Church, 1045 Elmwood Ave. by Rev. Edith Sandy Wendling. The couple met at the Chicago 1954 convention of the Federation of Spiritual Churches and Associations, Inc. They will make their home in California.

New York City: According to Edward Mackey, the first Sunday series of public meetings, inaugurated November 14th last, was well attended. Speakers and mediums assisting at these services: Rev. Hazel Herrejon, Rev. Penninah Umbach, Vera Scott, Anita Loneragan, Rev. Henrietta Cox, Kitty Leith, Rev. Helen Thury, Anita Williams, Rose Champagne, and William Gavagan.

All arrangements were under the supervision of Harold Clark and Otto Zoecialni.

Says Mr. Mackey: "Since there seems to be a great demand for these special public series of serv-

CHURCH NEWS

ices, they will perhaps be continued at an early date, possibly as early as the month of February."

St. Petersburg, Florida: During the month of January, when Rev. Helene Gerling and Rev. J. Bertram Gerling were the featured workers at the Southern Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp-Meeting Association, the Universal Psychic Science Church services continued.

All activities were under the leadership of Rev. Linda Lynn. She was assisted by Rev. Adrian Durbin, Rev. Louis Ruth, Alice England, Millie Downs, Rev. John Kunst, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Max and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Terry.

Honoring the featured worker, January was called the "Thelma Fischer" month.

Niagara Falls, N. Y.: According to secretary, William E. Hill, the White Rose Center Free Psychic Truth conducts services every Sunday evening at 7:30 at 639 Main St., under the supervision of the pastor, Rev. Rosebud Vogel Williamson.

According to Mr. Hill: "The White Rose Center group first met at the home of Rev. Rosebud Vogel, 537 Ninth St. in the fall of 1925 and decided to study the philosophy of Spiritualism."

"The original charter members at that time: Rev. Vogel, Bertha Blumberger, Millie Romaine, Ida Cooley, John Maney and William E. Hill."

"After a period of time, the group decided to bring in more people to our classes. It was then we decided to open a church in the Odd Fellows Temple. When we had to leave there, we moved to the Eagles Temple for our Sunday meetings. We met at the home of the pastor for our Tuesday night philosophy and development classes."

"After serving the Spiritualists in Niagara Falls, N. Y. for several years, we decided to start a church in Niagara Falls, Ontario, on the same principle. After being there three years and building up a wonderful organization, we decided to come back to the States and let the Canadian people look after their church while we could help out other churches on our side of the river."

"At that time, there was a group of Spiritualists meeting at the Hotel Niagara headed by Henry Ficknall, who was having trouble making ends meet, so they decided to ask Rev. Vogel to help them out. We were able to get them back on their feet and after we

got strong enough, we decided to look for larger quarters."

"About that time, we heard that William Bickert was giving up the church at the Unitarian Church so we contacted Rev. Robert Day, pastor and made arrangements to take over as the White Rose Center Church. Mr. Ficknall was our president up till his passing, then Rosebud was made president of the group. That was about 17 years ago."

"There have been a lot of changes in that time. Our pastor and myself are the only two surviving of the original six charter members. We are still trying to bring comfort and cheer to all that attend our services and I feel great pride in knowing we have helped and comforted so many."

"Previous to organizing the White Rose Center Church, our pastor was in charge of Beth El Church which met in Silberberg's Hall, North Main St., for several years."

San Francisco, California: According to Marie Haggquist, the "Forecast of 1955" by Dr. Briggs, through the trance mediumship of Rev. Florence S. Becker, pastor, was received recently with great interest by a large audience, at the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, 1901 Franklin St. Seats had to be placed in the Chapel and Social Hall upstairs to accommodate the overflow crowd which began to fill the church auditorium as early as 6 o'clock.

Dr. Briggs' "Forecast," given for the 40th successive year, was preceded by Rev. Becker's address, "Make Ready for the New."

Special music was rendered by Greta McGregor, pianist, and Serena McKinney, soprano; accompanied by Mae Hartley.

Chicago, Illinois: Pauline Douglas, vice president of St. Paul's Spiritual Church, 4201 W. Armitage St., was ordained recently (Nov. 28th) by minister of the church, Rev. Louise Quinn. Rev. Douglas was sponsored by Frances K. Finstad, treasurer of the First Fraternal Spiritual Church of Chicago.

Those in attendance: Rev. John and Ann Eastert, Rev. Fred and Ella Pieper, Rev. Sophie Schaffer, Rev. M. Fuller, Rev. Peter Harnack, Rev. Alma Pocztak, Lena Naselli, Lucy Bjarnum, Margaret Amstutz, Anne Runke, Bishop Klingemeier, Mary Pieck, Rev. Anne Zolakar, Mary Dorkum, Rev. Wm. H. Duhnsen, Rev. Wm. Weier and Wm. Wilke.

Others: Rev. Marietta Stanley, vice president of the First Spiritual

Charter Presented



Rev. Maude Kline, N.S.A. missionary for the National Spiritualist Association, Long Beach, California, (right) presents a church charter to The Chapel of Light, Eugene, Oregon.

Lehe Ordained



Rev. Margaret Lehe (left) receives certificate of ordination from Rev. Helen Paul (right). Teaneck, N. J. She was sponsored by Rev. Rose Geoffrey, Ridgefield Park, N. J. Rev. Lehe conducts services at the Spiritual Church of The Holy Family, 7812 Bergeline Ave., North Bergen, N. J.

Fraternal Church; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bannister, Douglas Bannister, John Douglas, Mary Morse, Dr. Lee and Mable Vogt.

Bronx, N. Y.: The 34th wedding anniversary of Rev. Angela Sessa was celebrated recently (Dec. 9th). Rev. Sessa is pastor of the Franciscan Order of Good Will and Harmony, 1991 Arthur Ave. Those taking part in this special service: Ethel Perkel, Gertrude L. Holmgren, Elmsford, N. Y., and Rev. Martha Seidler.

Rev. Sessa just returned from California where she served churches on the West Coast.

Encino, California: A charter was presented recently to the Valley Spiritualist Church, according to Edith S. Minnich, vice president. This charter, presented to minister of the church, Rev. Letha Mahoney, was received during a special service held at the Woman's Clubhouse, 4924 Paso Robles Ave., Rev. William F. Meier, president of the California State Spiritualist Association, presiding.

Others taking part in the service: Rev. Paul D. Wilson, Rev. William C. Donovan, Nevada E. De Vore, Beatrice Voel and Rev. Ann Johnson. Pianist: Thelma B. Carroll; ushers: Carl E. Voel and Albert Anderson.

Distinguished visitors: Viola Wedderburn, secretary of the C.S.S.A.; Rev. Emma Pearl Knight, Clara E. Murphy, Rev. Elizabeth Ann Taylor, Rev. John A. Zaccane, Ann Cannara, Beatrice Goatcher.

Churches represented: Central Spiritualist Church, Los Angeles; Trinity Spiritualist Church, San Diego; and the Universal Church of the Master of Granada Hills and San Fernando; also First Spiritualist Church, San Bernardino.



The photograph above was taken at the Universal Spiritual Church, 8701 Tampa St., Tampa, Florida when Elizabeth Strickland was ordained into the ministry of Spiritualism and Mary Harmon received a certificate for Divine Healing. Rev. Nellie Cherry, minister of the church, officiated.

They are, left to right: Rev. Nellie Cherry, Rev. Elizabeth Strickland, Mary Harmon and co-pastor, Rev. Lennie Burns.



The photograph above was taken when new members assembled after a service in the Universal Spiritualist Church, 8701 Tampa St., Tampa, Florida. At this all-day service, the new building was dedicated.

Those taking part: Mary Harmon, Harry Haskins, Carl Blossfield, William Buckland, Rev. Elizabeth Strickland, Rev. B. Dinsmore, K. Turner, H. Stauffer, Dr. Whiting and minister and founder of the church, Rev. Nellie Cherry.

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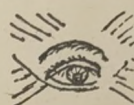
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