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ANNIE BESANT, D. L.
Protector of the Order of the Star in the East

An Address

By J. Krishnamurti

Delivered in Sydney, June 23, 1925

Most philosophers lay down principles which teach us to lead a noble life, and every religion and practically all ceremonials teach us paths and ways and means to make us realize that a noble life is paramount and essential. All those exist to show that a noble life is of far greater value and is far more essential than the mere following of such paths for their own sake. A noble life—I mean to use that word in its proper, most wonderful sense—can only come if each one of us has sufficiently developed the emotional, intellectual, and artistic sides of our character, because they perfect the human nature, they give the balance to our being; and, without their full development to the ultimate extent, we shall not fulfill, not in any way give the world, or to the Masters, the service which each one of us might give. It is of those three functions, those three qualities, that I should like to speak this afternoon.

There are so very few people who have a fundamental knowledge, a real conception of truth. We may read in books, we may hear sermons, we may attend meetings; but what gives impetus, life, energy, is experience gained for ourselves, whether it be unhappiness or happiness, whether it be a great spiritual unfoldment or a condition of depression; each person must naturally have some experience before he can become a noble character, or really be called "noble" in the Buddhistic sense of the word. To acquire that experience, to gain full possession of it, we must develop a mental attitude which not only criticizes but creates; in the sense that it is thinking out problems for itself and worrying over difficulties which it cannot solve—a mind, in fact, which is all the time asking "Why?" We must develop such a mind before any of us can have that wonderful experience which comes only when all the qualities are fully developed; we must have a mind which sees the difficulties.

I am trying to explain something which I am just going through myself, which is very

difficult to talk about, because each mind is so different, so varied, depending upon the evolution of the individual. But what we all should have is a mind that acts like a razor, and at the same time creates the razor which cuts and criticizes ourselves first; a mind that annihilates anything wrong; a mind that creates the vision which we want to follow.

There are so very few Theosophists and Star members who desire fundamentally to know, who desire earnestly, who demand persistently to have for themselves that knowledge which they read about in books. We shall get the experience perhaps in twenty years, or in the next life; but that is of no value to us now because we are living in the present. We must have the experience now because it gives vitality to our thought, energy to our action, and some motive for life. A mind which is not satisfied, which demands, questions, argues, fights, in fact a spirit of revolution and revolt—that mind must be born in each one of us. There are too many people who are self-satisfied, who like to sit back in their comfortable chairs and *think* about life. Thought is comparatively easy; we can all do it. I think the Theosophists are rather experts at it because they have so many solutions for various problems. Propound a problem to them, and they immediately have an answer; but they have not lived the problem; they have not experienced it; and life, experience, is what matters and what is so tremendously valuable; to have experience and to use that experience is creation.

Do not think that I am just talking because I have got up on the platform. For the last five or six years since I began to think for myself, I have learnt a great many things. One either suffers or one is interested in life, or one falls in love. We learn through all those experiences, and most of us wait for them, for occasions which will enliven our brains. We wait rather than advance to the attack. I do not want to be personal, but I

must say that I have always had a spur to push me on because I wanted to know, to find out for myself, whether all the teaching, the theories we talk about were true; I wanted to know the truth, and I have learned it, not through great sorrow, or tribulation, or falling in love, but by watching, thinking, imagining. By watching other people I have learned that we have merely to open the doors, to exert a little energy to be able to see the clear sky. Once we have seen that clear sky, it does not matter how many people shut our windows, or how many windows are shut; we know that the blue sky exists, and we know that nothing else matters in the world. It is wonderful to have that feeling; I am sure most of us have it occasionally. It only comes if we keep our minds awake, and do not let them go to sleep in self-satisfaction.

Then there is the emotional nature. I will not say it is crooked, but it is warped. We know how our emotion interferes with every thought. We have not learned to separate the emotions from the mind. We get excited, emotional, and at once feeling interferes. When once we have learnt to separate the mind and the emotion, emotion may pass through various stages of suffering, excitement, happiness, and so on, but yet it is running straight without being warped, or cramped, so that at the end of its journey it acquires a true experience. I hope that I am making this point clear, because it is very clear to me personally, and each one learns to analyze his emotions according to his own method. Speakers can only be sign posts; they cannot lead. We may take a horse to the water; we cannot make him drink. In same way we must each learn how to feel; we must learn to think about our emotions in the richer way. So many people are very prejudiced; presently we shall develop our own Theosophical dogmas, Star dogmas, and so on, because our minds and emotions are not large enough to grasp the immense vision that comes to those who know. Our little minds begin to separate, to segregate, to work out their own petty theories and in the end we lose sight of the real vision; we create a false vision of our own.

Finally, to develop nobility of character, greatness of character, we must gain the ar-

tistic faculty. I hope you will excuse me if I will say something unpleasant. I think T. S. members and Star members do not exert themselves sufficiently along artistic lines. They are not beautiful; they do not express beauty in their homes, in their dress, in their outlook. I often imagine what a Greek or a really cultured person would feel if he saw a number of us together, if he were able to see our thought-forms, the way our minds work. I think he would be pretty sick (I use that word purposely, because it has got more strength in it). To be really nice, to feel nice, is not very difficult if we are simple instead of becoming complicated over things that do not matter. We are only instinctively beautiful. I mean that our evolution, our civilization is complicated; consequently it is not naturally beautiful; whereas the Greeks or the Indians were obliged to be natural, and simple because they had not the complicated systems of architecture of the present day. We cannot help admiring their art or feeling that the people who built such temples as those of Greece and India must have been wonderful people. Imagine if a Master really were to come to our homes, how quickly we would put some things away and, if we had any sense, how we should alter our whole trend of thought. Yet what are we waiting for? I do not know.

Australia is a young country. It has not all the traditions and troubles of the old world; but, instead of learning that culture is essential to evolution we are forgetting that fact, forgetting that duty is as necessary for growth as intellectual strength and emotional expansion. What are Theosophists supplying in this direction of art? They may be great speakers, great talkers, but what has each one of them given to Australia along this line. I know we have here the Ampitheatre; that is one bright spot. But, after we do not live in the Ampitheatre! I some of us could. What matters is the outlook on life, the air we breathe, the way we dress and hold ourselves and Such things matter. And I would like to how many of us, even though we have members for years, and have studied far more than I can possibly ever study, for I lo reading books, except of a certain type, I

given the tone for a young nation that is growing up. I should like to find out. Because such a lead might alter the course of thought in Australia. We may be awakening a different type of emotional nature; but if we fail to produce beautiful feelings, beautiful minds and beautiful characters in others, I think we shall have failed.

We are just following on, one after another, in doing the ordinary ugly things without using our knowledge to transform all that we contact into something more beautiful; and I am sure that is why none of us are acquainted with, or know, or feel the Master. Some of us may, but the majority of us do not. What is the use of a few having this knowledge when the majority have not. If we are intrinsically beautiful and artistic, it is much easier for the Master to come to us. It is as though we were like magnificent gardens with varied flowers, beautifully coloured, and fragrant, where delicious murmurings of water are to be heard. We can imagine the very highest Being could come to such gardens. But we have to live in an ugly city, and it is more difficult to come to us; it is harder for us to create such gardens. Yet we can develop a mind, an emotional nature, which are beautiful in spite of our surroundings, for it is not the external things that really matter.

I wonder what we shall do about this question of beauty? You agree with some of the things I say. But what will you do about it all, because the action is much more important than what we think for the moment. What result will there be in five years' time? In what way shall we theosophists and Star members have altered, or be able to alter, the greater side of Australia? That is where the Theosophist and Star member has to act and not merely attend meetings and meditate. The important thing is the effect of our actions, thoughts and emotions, the course of our

minds and emotions shall run so as to produce results which will make the world nobler, happier, and more beautiful.

There is another thing we have to think over. It is no use giving a musical instrument to a child or to one who can play no instrument at all. The result will be frightful noise, discords and unspeakable sounds. But give the musical instrument to a genius who knows how to produce harmonies, who can draw out real music, and then see the difference. Most of us are in the first category. We are children with magnificent teachings, magnificent instruments, and we are making a jumble of noise. Some may succeed in producing music. But the majority of those who are trying to follow and to learn ought to be able to produce music, and not only the few.

If the Master came, if the Teacher came, and told us to do this or that, told us delightful tales and simple truths, how many of us would see the beauty of them? How many would be stirred by the simplicity of His great thought? Our minds, our emotions and our artistic natures are so warped that we cannot appreciate simplicity. We cannot see that simplicity carries with it the genius of greatness. We demand complications before we understand the truth. You and I must have the experience of tremendous warriors. Imagine Caesar's feelings when he led the soldiers who fought under him, who scaled walls, who persisted with tremendous energy, who had the desire to follow Caesar, who put up with every kind of trouble; then you can realize how Caesar felt he could rely on his soldiers, on their strength and courage. We all must be such soldiers. We must have experience. We must come to Caesar with experience. We must have scaled every fortress of imagination and of truth. Then when the Teacher comes we shall really be soldiers; we shall then be able to follow and to understand.

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PUBLICITY NOTES

With the coming to this country of the Head, our members have a special and important duty. In and around Los Angeles we have a committee at work upon the objective of informing and educating the Press. The competent chairman is Miss Florence Gill, 822 North Hobart Boulevard, Hollywood. Miss Gill will be ably assisted by workers in Long Beach, Pomona and elsewhere. Already much has been done. At Miss Gill's request, the National Representative wrote to the Committee as follows:

The points I would urge upon you and your colleagues are:

1. We are not seeking publicity. This should be made clear to editors.

Our position is that we have had prominence thrust upon us. We seek now only to supply facts. We want editors in each place to know that in their own communities there are people who count who are committed to the Coming. Thus it has for editors (a) a local interest and (b) a local responsibility.

2. We must be exceedingly dignified. We represent a great being in our tiny way. Not a single crude, unlovely or unworthy action or word should escape us. This does not mean we are to be pompous and solemn, however. We must be simple, frank and direct.

3. Our workers must strive gigantically with themselves to look at this whole thing as the world sees it. We must not speak our own technical language and expect everyone to understand it. The sudden injection of ideas about the KING of the World, etc., upon unprepared minds makes the matter fantastic. Similarly regarding facts about the New Race. Be sure of your ground. The two authorities on this matter are Ales Hrdlika (pronounced herdlich-ka) and Franz Boas. The former is ethnologist with the Smithsonian Institute and the latter is anthropologist at Columbia University.

4. We must guard against the suggestion that Krishnaji is Jesus reincarnated or that he is himself the Lord.

5. We must not commit the Teacher to any special

teaching about economic changes, new sex relations or anything of that sort. Better avoid such topics altogether in dealing with the Press, whatever one's own ideas may be.

6. Explain to the correct person on the staff of the local paper that we are ready at any time when syndicated stories come through, to check them up, add local interest and help. Be sure you get the right person on the staff. If he is not approachable, make friends with someone else in the office, and get him or her to advise you when a story comes in. Make it quite clear that you only want to help them get it straight, for the sake of our work, the community, and the paper itself.

7. Let it be known that this is quite outside the class of ordinary freak Messiah stories. Dr. Besant's name is enough in most cases, but you can mention others in your discretion, incidentally.

8. There is nothing secret about Krishnaji's movements. He leaves India May 1st, and spends most of the summer in England and Europe. He arrives in America at New York late in August. He will probably be in this country three or four months.

9. When opportunity offers, let it be known that the Head is wholesome, humorous, happy and healthy. He is no mysterious figure. He detests cant and hypocrisy and bunk. He makes no claims to perfection or marvellous powers.

I think those are the chief items to be kept in mind. A very great responsibility rests on you and your colleagues. We cannot control events, but if we are rightly in tune with the inner movements we can give little touches here and there which will make a big difference indeed.

* * *

A correspondent sends me advertisements from a Los Angeles paper of May 1st, a Saturday. No less than six sermons upon the Second Coming are announced therein. I suspect we have had something to do with this special interest. The denominations involved in these large display advertisements are Baptist, Christadelphian, the Gospel Hall and two important Presbyterian churches.

THE FIRST HUNDRED THOUSAND

For the first time in America there is to be a strictly Order of the Star in the East edition of *At the Feet of The Master*. This is an inexpensive edition designed for the widest possible distribution to English-speaking countries. The edition is complete, printed in miniature form and paper bound, so that a copy can be mailed out in an ordinary envelope for two cents. It makes a very presentable gift,

commanding attention at once by its simplicity and good taste.

Star members can do good work by getting together in groups and sending out copies of *At the Feet of the Master* widespread. The low price, three-and-a-half cents per copy, quantities over one hundred, makes this possible. Better work of distribution can be accomplished if members co-ordinate their efforts. To illustrate, in one town four men

bers had the idea of sending a copy to each of the clergy of that town. This overlapping of effort can be avoided by combining lists of names and working together.

Help the committee handling the publishing and distributing of this million edition by ordering promptly and sending cash with your order!

Almost every member can use more than a hundred copies. Star groups can use thousands. The special price applies only to orders of one hundred and more. There is a fixed retail price of 5 cents per copy on this edition but the Star is not handling retail orders. Orders of less than a hundred copies can be sent to the Theosophical Press, 826 Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, or to your local dealer, and you will be charged at the rate of five cents per copy. If you want one hundred

copies, or more than one hundred copies, send your order to THE ORDER OF THE STAR IN THE EAST, Room 638 Roanoke Building, 11 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois, enclosing therewith your personal check or postal money order for the full amount you have ordered. The books will then be shipped to you by express, charges collect.

This million edition will quickly become a fact if every member will co-operate by ordering promptly, giving the widest possible distribution to this famous classic, by making his or her orders explicit and legible, and by sending the full payment along with the order. In short, by accepting the conditions briefly outlined here, you are assisting the English-speaking world to make the acquaintance of the Head through his chief work, *At the Feet of the Master*.

WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

By Muriel Lauder

Managing Editor, *The Young Theosophist*

"A Young Theosophists group wherever there is a T. S. Lodge!" That is the slogan of the American Section of the World Federation of Young Theosophists. More than that—wherever there is even an isolated member, a youth group might spring up. Who knows? Won't you co-operate with our fine organization which already has over twenty active groups spreading Theosophy among our American youth? We have several hundred individual members, as well, in the United States, but our work has scarcely begun, because our groups exist mainly through the Southwestern and Southern states, thanks to the efforts of Sidney T. Field, our National Group Organizer, who has just returned from a field tour of twenty-five states. We must extend our work to every quarter of this vast Nation of ours so that before long we shall have a large happy body of young people dedicated to service, and to the spreading of theosophical ideals among the youth of the New Age.

Who are we? Our International Head is Oscar Kollerstrom, our acting Head, Arthur Burgess of London, while our Corresponding Secretary is Dora Van Gelder. The Head of the European Section is J. Krishnamurti; for India, Mrs. Rukmini Arundale; for Australia, Byron W. Casselberry; and for America, Dorothy Maxson.

How do we work together? Through International Correspondence, and in America through the medium of our magazine *The Young Theosophist*, and in groups.

How are groups formed? Two members are sufficient to form a group, although most of our clubs have from ten to thirty-five members. No dues, rules, By-laws or a Constitution are required, although clubs desiring them may feel free to organize in any manner they wish. Groups should be open to all young people whether they be T. S. members or not, although we have two Youth T. S. Lodges in the United States, Surya of Chicago, and the Junior Theosophical Fraternity of Hollywood.

The age limit? "Under thirty-five in America," is the usual reply to this touchy question. Thirty years is the limit in all other countries.

Our work? We are training grounds wherein we are endeavoring to prepare ourselves for service by trying our wings in speech-making and in study-class leading, in research and in writing—for, to learn, we must do all of these things ourselves. Through our dances, plays and socials we attract the high school and college students, who might never come to a Lodge otherwise. In other words, association with our youth clubs is actually bringing Theosophy out into the world of American youth.

Service is our goal, preparation our watchword, fun our means, and a world-wide friendship, our dream.

Of course you want to join our Federation! Please write to our Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Howard Pennell, Auberry, Fresno County, California, for full particulars.

P O R T R A I T

It was before the first break in the New York newspaper stories about the Head that I smothered a jangling telephone by shouting "Hello" down its throat. The call was from my immediate Star boss who assigned me to go up town and talk with "an ex-newspaper man who had just promised a handsome check for Star publicity purposes."

Naturally I hopped to it. Newspaper men and handsome checks don't go hand in hand as a rule unless the check are in the form of a sporty suit on the newspaper man's back. I grabbed the subway (N. Y. metaphor for being sardined in a steel train whose speed makes one's astral body pop) and eventually arrived at one of the millions of apartment houses, only distinguishable from each other by numbers, and names that outrival those of Pullman cars for incongruity.

I was elevated to the proper floor, did the perfectly natural thing in pushing the bell button and then—then I met my man.

Three things intruded on my consciousness at once. The apartment—it was rather dingy. It lacked the kindly ministrations of a woman and helpmate. But out of the dinginess, sharp in their cleanliness, shone a picture of a woman who undoubtedly had been beautiful and with that rare harmony of physical and spiritual charm; and flanking this were two other portraits, Dr. Besant's and Bishop Leadbeater's.

And then the man himself. Kindliness, I think, was the impression which registered most strongly. He was slight, somewhat stooped—but after all the physical characteristics do not mean so much, do they? Enough to say that he radiated a quiet love which overcame his very evident ill health.

We talked, first of our common interest, newspaperdom. He knew his newspaper work like a book. And why not? He had given his best years to its service—a correspondent whose name, were it known, would find sympathetic reaction in the minds of many readers the world over.

Sorrow and sickness had not dimmed his brain. Here was a mind that still followed world politics day by day—but with a keener insight—the Light of the World had rekindled his vision anew.

We talked. He told me of his wife and of their beautiful early life together in odd corners of the world. She had been dead now for a long time. The time is coming soon, he says, when he will join her. But he is waiting—waiting for but one thing in the world.

He told me of her great spiritual beauty—it so surpassed his own, he said. He told me of their early contact with Theosophy years ago when William Q. Judge was conducting the first New York Lodge. How interested they were in it! Finally, however, they gave it up because of its abstruseness due to the many Sanskrit and Indian terms which had not then been replaced with English by Dr. Besant and other workers.

This man was not a member of the Theosophical Society. He could not get to hear the first public lecture on the Near Coming of a Great World Teacher, for which he donated some of his well-earned savings. He could not get out to hear Mr. Kunz's lectures for which he later gave further money. He is physically feeble. His diet is one of a few raw vegetables. He lives alone.

Soon he will encounter the Great Adventure. And he will be glad, for he will meet his beloved wife again.

Meanwhile he waits, hoping, holding firmly the reins of life. He has but one desire left—to see the Coming of the World Teacher, to know that a new and better Age is at hand than the Age that is passing—an Age whose unworthiness he had occasion to understand even as today he appreciates the Age of Tomorrow.

Then he will pass quietly from his old haunts, content in the knowledge that once again His compassion the Teacher, walks among men.

M. G. B.

CHICAGO STAR CONFERENCE

The next number of *The Server* will contain announcement of the Star Conference at Chicago at the end of August. Just how much time can be given to this is yet to be settled. Members of the Order should, however, plan to be in Chicago for this occasion, which will occur between August 27th and September 1st. The Protector and the Head will be present.

A feature will be a conference of Field Workers. Mrs. Ruggles and other Field Work secretaries will be there.



Annual Address 1925---1926

By the National Representative

INTRODUCTION

It is impossible to convey adequately to the hearer or reader of this report the most important achievements of the past year, for they are not physical. There has been an immense increase in solidarity and an advanced appreciation of what the Coming means to the members and the world. Life has taken on a different color and a note of deep assurance and peace has sounded more obviously in the lives of all of us as the year has passed. For this we are not ourselves responsible, for all strength comes from Him and our knowledge and power has increased because the pressure of His presence has carried us forward.

HEADQUARTERS

The first physical advance was the purchase of Headquarters. Thanks to the consideration of Mrs. Catherine Morison, a splendid building in lovely Hollywood was acquired at a cost of \$15,700.00. We have paid upon this to Mrs. Morison the sum of \$6,500.00 and improvements to the amount of \$795.07 have been added, greatly facilitating our work and increasing the value of the property. The house stands upon a wide and beautifully paved street which leads to the most important real estate development in Hollywood itself, and there has been a very large increase in value since we bought it. The place next door, for instance, has been sold for \$16,500.00, yet the house is very much smaller than our own and the lot is only one-half as large.

HEADQUARTERS STAFF

In this permanent location, conveniently situated, my dear colleague, Mr. Ernest Stone, has gathered a staff which handles the business of the Order in a most competent manner. It is an immense relief to be able to extend our work without constant thought of its details. Mr. Stone's assistants (Mrs. Gillespie, Miss Fouraker, Mrs. Butler and Miss McCauley) are not only on duty at early morning and late night, as required, but keep everything beautiful and tidy within the building. Mrs. Gulick contributes her quota to the peacefulness of the whole. Our staff is an example of the New Age, as their workshop has all the attractiveness of a private house and the entering visitor would scarcely notice the office atmosphere and appearance. I am obliged to mention the fact that all (with one exception) are working for pay quite inadequate to their commercial talents, because of their devotion to our work. The exception is Mrs. Gillespie, an honorary helper whose faithfulness and enterprise in learning, and patience with the monotonous details of accounts, has been beyond praise. Mr. Stone is a secure foundation for this aspect of our work, as he thinks and lives for nothing else and his competence and energy along these lines are, in my experience in the T. S. work, unequaled.

PRESS

Nine months ago we purchased a printing press, which includes a weekly newspaper. This fact will

be news to a majority of Star members, and I will therefore deal with it at a little length.

When Mr. Krishnamurti returned to Ojai last July it so happened that the local newspaper (known as *The Ojai*) and a small job printing plant (as for sale). Realizing what a splendid opportunity it was for us to begin to establish our influence in a new way, and advantages of having a press of our own, I arranged privately with some of our members for the necessary capital, some \$10,500 in all. We had our Head's approval, and as the business was a going concern, established for thirty odd years and with a fairly successful financial record, there was every indication that the business could be made to pay. Those who provided the capital were given promissory notes signed by myself, Mr. Frank Gerard (who was placed in charge of the business) and Mr. Ernest Stone, the three comprising the partnership known legally as The Ojai Publishing Company, under which name the business is conducted. The enterprise has been a success from the start. First as regards the newspaper. Having already spent a year in the Ojai Valley as a member of the faculty of the famous Thacher School for boys, Mr. Gerard was sufficiently well known to take over the work of editor without any undue loss of good-will to the paper. As a matter of fact he at once took hold of it and instituted a number of changes both in style and material, bringing the paper more in line with what he considered the Valley needed and would respond to. Success was immediate. Congratulations poured in by letter, telephone and personal calls. Without any campaign for subscriptions the circulation advanced rapidly from 350 to around 725 where it now stands. Important people in the Valley have repeatedly gone out of their way to praise both the appearance of the paper and the matter, editorial and otherwise, that Mr. Gerard has supplied. Furthermore, papers in the surrounding towns have joined in the general approval, and not only on occasion copy editorials from *The Ojai*, but express approval of its general style as well. The attempt is being made to construct a weekly paper that shall give all the essential local news and at the same time set a certain tone in the community. We are not content merely to echo the life and thought around but desire to draw our readers along certain definite lines of constructive and forward-looking ideas.

So much for the paper.

The printing business has also held its own locally. The press gets all of the local job printing. Care has been taken with the work, a few new fonts of type bought, and there has been general satisfaction with the class of work turned out. On an important musical festival job, printed recently, which was one of those difficult and fussy items with which even big printing plants have trouble, the verdict of the customer was that "it could not have been done better in New York."

The bulk of the printing has, however, been star work. Every bit of Star printing turned out since August last has been done at Ojai. As we expected, it was found at first that the equipment, though suited to the requirements of local work, was not altogether adapted for some of our work. For instance we use a great many booklets and pamphlets which have to be folded. Our equipment does not include a small folding machine. A certain amount of small equipment has been bought, all of which has been paid for out of profits in addition to a monthly payment of \$65 on our intertype machine.

Having demonstrated to our satisfaction that the business can be made to pay, we now plan to make such changes and additions in the plant as will allow us to operate with the greatest economy, and at the same time handle the Star printing more efficiently.

To do this we need certain equipment, such as a folding machine, a wire stitcher, a metal pot, a new Miehle vertical press for booklet work — about \$6,000 worth of new equipment in all. In addition we should like to pay off the remaining balance due on our Intertype machine, \$2,500.

For this additional capital we would issue promissory notes signed by the three partners, bearing 7 per cent interest payable quarterly. If, as has already been done by some investors, the amount subscribed is placed in the name of the Order of the Star, then the interest is paid in to Mr. Stone each quarter, for the Order.

MEMBERSHIP

When I arrived in America from Australia the number of members on the rolls was 2,000. As the activity of the membership had not been tested for some time, this figure is approximate, but certainly is not minimized. Admissions each month have been as follows:

June, 1925	40
July, 1925,	23
August, 1925	118
September, 1925	57
October, 1925	104
November, 1925	126
December, 1925	341
January, 1926	363
February, 1926	267
March, 1926	208
April, 1926	93

The active membership today stands at 3,275. We have unfortunately not achieved our ambition of doubling the membership. The increase, however, is substantial. I must mention that there are some 454 members who have not yet paid their annual dues for last year and a number of these can be added to the above total, for they will unquestionably pay in due course.

MILLION EDITION

At the very close of the year we embarked upon the enterprise of printing a million copies of *At the Feet of the Master* and the first are just off the press. The small cost of the single copy, 5 cents, will enable us to flood the country with this precious little book. I beg every member to do his part. Each can take 100, at least, for \$3.50. Groups can

take from one to five thousand and by co-operative distribution the country should be covered. This work is entirely in the hands of Miss Gail Wilson and her committee.

FIELD WORKERS

Pursuant to a general plan of the work which I developed on the voyage up from Australia last year, we are gradually appointing members of the Order to co-operate with other great societies for social, educational and other aspects of reform. A certain amount of experimentation has been necessary in these appointments, but on the whole we are satisfied that we have the talent. We unquestionably have a special message. I would like to emphasize here the fact that we are not attempting to duplicate the work of the existing animal rescue and prisoners' protection and other societies, but to distribute our special ideas:

- (1) Man is a soul and has a body.
- (2) His immortality and frequent rebirths make for a new understanding of what these problems are.
- (3) The near Coming of the Great Teacher throws a wholly new light upon our relationship to our fellow men, to the Nations and to God.

The following is the list of field secretaries who have worked so strenuously and effectively:

- Mr. Ray Harden, publicity Department.
- Mrs. Edith Lee Ruggles, Prison Welfare Department.
- Miss Bernice T. Banning, Animal Protection Department.
- Miss Mary Fouraker, Progressive Education Department.
- Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Hoit, Problems of Women Department.
- Miss Mary Alice Hudson, Child Welfare Department.

THE DIVISIONAL WORK

The Divisional Secretaries (Mrs. Povelsen, Miss Wilson and Mrs. Gulick) have continued throughout the year to guide the Groups in their work as Groups. Unfortunately not one of them is able to travel about over the Division as freely as she would like, but all have fostered the work by correspondence. When Groups resume next autumn renewed attention to their function must be paid. The Self-Preparation aspect of things must be kept well forward, and at the same time Sentinels must be appointed and converted into propagandists who will create Groups from the people about them. Finally, our membership must educate itself into some technique which is better than the present. With the Masters as our inner leaders and with the quality of our outer guidance, with a starving world about us and with such good will and intention and sacrifice in the majority of our members, one can only blame our technique for the fact that our numbers and our influence continues to be small in proportion to the possibilities.

I mean to take counsel with the Divisional Secretaries about all this.

MESSAGES AND MONTHLY LETTERS

Owing to the constant travel and occupation of the Head, we have been so unfortunate as to be de-

prived of his Messages during the year. We are promised a resumption of them. This is an age of Inferior Substitutes, and therefore, at the Head's particular request, I wrote each month a letter to Groups, suggesting various new ways of looking at things. I hope to continue this during the ensuing year on such occasions as the Head finds it impossible to give his own priceless guidance.

GROUPS AND SENTINELS

There has been a fair increase in the number of Groups from our original total and the figure now stands at 109, but I cannot regard this position as entirely satisfactory as yet. On the interesting map which Mr. Stone has in front of his desk, I witness even the painful fact that a few states have no Groups at all. This includes Arizona, New Mexico, South Dakota, Maine, Arkansas, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, South Carolina and Indiana, according to our present records. In the meantime, Sentinels have been appointed at various places. These are lone members who are willing to have themselves known as Star members and do what they can to break the ground of their community. We are printing the list of Secretaries and Sentinels in a future issue of the magazine.

BOOKS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

During the year we shipped directly from Star Headquarters about a ton and a half of books for the International University library, and many more were sent direct.

CENTER

The most important feature of the latter part of the year was the recognition of Ojai, California, as the American center in the World scheme. Detailed plans for this important spot will be worked out when the Head is with us, later on.

SCHOOL

The idea of a school where children will be taught how to live instead of how to earn a living has caught the imagination of the American members. We have purchased outright 15 acres and are in process of buying 70 more. Of this also more will be written as time goes on.

GARDENS OF THE STAR

A complete list of gardens offered appeared in *The Server* for April and need not here be repeated. How soon will each State be represented?

Idaho has come on this list as I write.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Without question, the most astonishing episode of last year's working has been the great outburst of interest in us pursuant upon the announcement of the Protector at Ommen that the Coming would be very soon and her public lectures in London upon the general theme of the appearance of the great World Teachers. It did not need exceptional shrewdness on the part of newspaper men to connect these two sets of addresses. Unfortunately, ignorance or enmity let them to prepare and send out reports that were deformed and even scurrilous. Thanks to the speed and enterprise of two workers in particular, Captain Russell L. Jones and Mr. Ray Harden, and their colleagues in general, the first accounts in the American papers were friendly, dignified, and on the whole, accurate. We have in our

scrapbook hundreds of articles that have appeared in all parts of the United States. In consequence of this, Mr. Kroshnamurti's name is a household word in many parts of the country and we rejoice to note that the percentage of unfavorable comments has been trifling.

THE FUTURE

It is most evident that a profound change is coming over all of us. We want, however, to be a little more intelligent in adapting our technique to the new circumstances. We are still haunted by the subconscious idea that the Teacher of men and angels is coming mainly for us. A more reasonable attitude would be to expect that after we have done *our* work, and if we are not in the main stream of *His* work, the likelihood is that we shall be on the periphery and not in the centre of the great work. Why should we be? It depends upon how much we can help the world. If we go on, as a few of us are inclined to do, thinking that the Order is a sort of private establishment upon which we have claims and that the Coming is mainly for our benefit, we shall inevitably be swept away from the center of things. The Lord who comes is the Lord of the world. All eyes shall behold Him. When a King sends ambassadors to precede him to a foreign country he does not follow on in order to visit the ambassador who has gone before him to prepare the way. We have gone before, and when the Coming is become an Advent it will be only the measure of our usefulness in helping Him to reach the world that will determine our relationship to Him.

Therefore we must diligently take stock of our motives, our ability, our secret and half-admitted intentions. And if we mean to be useful, we must likewise adapt our technique to the rapidly changing point of view of the world.

My brothers, the full glory of the daylight is close upon us. The breath of the dawn-wind, blowing from the far still heights of the spiritual world, brings a fresh air into the turbid and fetid atmosphere of the dying night. Fear not that it is a threat of whirlwind! It is but the freshening for the New Age. How shall we arise to meet the splendor of the coming Day? Shall it be to think only of ourselves, that we may bask and stretch our cold and cramped bodies in the beauty and the warmth of God's glory, or are there those amongst us who feel that for them there is no happiness until in the darkest spots of the world the sleepers have been awakened to share the beauty and the loveliness? Our call to you is one of sacrifice, of love, and of adoration for the truth, however painful that truth may be. You have gone with us steadily during the past year and it is indeed your strength which has made the work possible. Yet a few days and the more strenuous portion of our work will be over. Falter not, doubt not, fear not! The Lord who comes, for those who feel His inner splendor, brings release and new hope. May we advance fearlessly into the second of our years of special effort dedicated, as all things are dedicated, to Him and Him alone.

Field Work

A Department Devoted to Right Action in Religion, Education,
Social Structure, Politics.

SOCIAL STRUCTURE

BETTER PARENTS

By Mary Alice Hudson

It seems to me that in any consideration of work with children, we must logically consider the home first. The home and the parents, together, furnish the background for the life of the child; it is their privilege to feed the child emotionally and mentally as well as physically. If they are incapable, or through ignorance or thoughtlessness neglect to make the most of this opportunity, then the child must ever be the poorer.

Before we can begin to feed the child, we must know what he needs, what food his body demands to grow strong and stay healthy. It is the same way with the mind. The new psychology has come to recognize the relation of cause and effect and says it is as valid for human behavior, as for any other phenomenon in nature. We must give up the old conventional moral and religious interpretation of misconduct. A child's irritating behavior which parents so often totally misunderstand, is not due to sheer perversity or original sin, but rather to real intellectual and emotional weakness.

The early years of a child, the years from one until seven when he is building his ideals, are *most* important. We must try to lay a foundation that will make for future health, happiness and usefulness. We should seek to find and understand the forces that account for the fears, the tantrums and the other personality twists of the child. Dr. Miriam Van Waters says: "Every time we make an effort to really understand our children, as well as to love them, it may be we are deepening the groove in the common consciousness of mankind, along which runs the as yet dim conception that if we try to understand human beings we will know better how to help them, than by merely trying to wish them well sentimentally."

We hear so much about "Better Babies," but what we really need is "Better Parents" and then our babies will be better babies in the truest sense. It is a great privilege, but at the same time a grave responsibility to have a soul entrusted to our care, as parents. We can literally make or mar the child's whole life. If you are a parent, isn't this the greatest work that life can offer you, to help your child to grow into a useful man or woman, to help his evolution?

To be able to help at the proper time in the development of a child, whether he is our own or a public charge, we must prepare ourselves. No am-

ount of sentimental good will can take the place of knowledge. What do you know about the part heredity and environment play in a child's life? What do you know about the far-reaching possibilities of habit-forming in the first year of a child's life? Do you know anything of child psychology, or are you trying to mold a little life on a vague idea of what someone else did. Do you know that a young child may have a religious life, as real to him as any grown ups?

If you want to do some work for the Lord, if you want to help prepare the way for His coming and for His staying with us for a great many years, there is nothing that is more worthwhile or fascinating than children's work. If you have children at home, your opportunity is at hand to do real constructive work, lasting work. If you have no children and are interested, there are many, many children that need care, physically, emotionally, mentally, spiritually. There are so many types of work to be done and so few trained people to fill the places.

I shall be glad to answer questions about the field work, and about reference reading. If you have ideas, if you know of any helpful books connected with this work in any way, won't you share it with us? And when He comes, may we be able to feel that we have helped to prepare the way a bit and may it be well done!

A MODERN INQUISITION

Frankness is to be commended as a general thing, but there are not many health officers who dare to be as frank regarding their use of "fright and pressure" as agencies for promoting the use of their wares as was Dr. John P. Koehler, Commissioner of Health, in Milwaukee, Wis., in an article in the Wisconsin Medical Journal for November, 1925. The article was a discussion of the alleged smallpox epidemic in Milwaukee, and started with the premise that the biggest job of a health department has always been, and always will be, to "persuade" the "unprotected" people to be vaccinated—a premise which he explained, or rather amplified, by stating, "This we attempted to do in three ways: first by education; second, by *fright*; and third, by *pressure*."

In explaining his subject, moreover, Dr. Koehler can never be accused of beating around the bush. "During the months of March and April we tried education," he wrote, "and vaccinated only 62,000. During May we made use of fright and pressure, and vaccinated 223,000 people." But he was still not content, apparently, with the result, for he unhesitatingly declares that there were still too many who could neither be educated nor frightened into

vaccination. Hence he felt "justified in using all of the power a health officer has, and if that was not enough, to get more." And working from this standpoint, he quite naturally reasoned that, if fear will not accomplish so desirable an achievement as wholesale vaccination, why, then, put on the rack the people who dare to assert their right to individual determination in the matter of their own health measures, and stop their nonsensical opposition. For that is what the means next employed virtually amount to.

Listen. "We sent out a third letter to all employers requesting them to have all their employees vaccinated and at the same time informing them that if a smallpox case developed in their place of employment in the future we would consider their place of business a menace to the health of the community and very likely place the entire establishment under quarantine until it could be cleaned up and made safe for the public." The results of the means employed were stated succinctly, and doubtless with complete satisfaction to the health commissioner, in these two sentences:

"Putting the responsibility on the employer drove in thousands of antivaccinationists *who could better afford to get vaccinated than to lose their jobs.* All employers co-operated very bravely with this last request, *although in a few instances it was necessary to lay off old, reliable, and valuable employees.*"

It is needless, therefore, to point a moral in so obvious a case of extortion by terrorism. The people of the United States have a right to freedom of choice in healing as in religion. Hence those who attempt to usurp power to force an issue in the opposite direction are running counter to the stream of present-day progress, with the consequences which need only be awaited for a short time to become manifest to public view.

(Condensed from *The Christian Science Monitor*, February 18th, 1926. Italics by the editor of *The Server*.)

TIMES HAVE CHANGED

By Marie Saltus

About a hundred years ago, upon introducing a bill for the protection of animals in the British Parliament, Lord Erskine was both scorned and stoned. This treatment reflected the reactions of the people and the age.

With the passing of the Kali Yuga, at the beginning of our present century, one of the most noticeable changes was the awakening of the people to the rights of their younger fellow creatures. Slight at first and the work of the few, it has gradually gained strength and momentum.

Those, like myself, who have been active in animal rescue work from childhood, and who have worked with various societies the world over, have felt most keenly the indifference of their fellow men, and the efforts to make them recognize and realize

their duty toward their younger brothers, has been a difficult one. Apathy, indifference and lack of understanding on their part concerning the animals' place in the scheme of things have been responsible for this.

When, a few years ago, the Bide-A-Wee Home for Animals, 410 East Thirty Eighth Street, New York City, was started with a small donation of \$1000, and the announcement made that all animals admitted were to be saved and placed in homes, the cry went up that such a procedure was impractical, that it would not have the support of the public, as the influx of animals would be so much greater than the outgo, and that a few weeks' time would demonstrate its unfeasibility. It started with one room in the back of a stable, but the Home today owns a large fully equipped building, a farm of hundreds of acres on Long Island, and better than all, an endowment of over \$1,000,000, thus proving conclusively that a change has taken place in the public conscience. No animal has been destroyed, and homes are being found for 30,000 annually.

Stimulated by the success of this home, a Humane Animal Shelter on similar lines, was started in Washington, D. C., and this also, upon the same humane principle of saving life.

The New York Women's League for Animals which hitherto has been destroying large numbers of stray and unwanted pets, is now amending its bylaws so as to save and place in homes the major portion of them.

Ten years ago Anti-vivisectionists the world over, were working under an avalanche of ridicule, slander, verbal vitrol and other seemingly unmountable obstacles. The work in London, while distributed among various societies, made little headway, and the New York Anti-vivisection Society, although spending large sums of money, was unable to get any of its activities noticed by the press. Here, also, there has been a change, and a notable one. Dr. Walter H. Hadwen, acting on behalf of the London organizations, has been successful in repealing the compulsory vaccination act in England. In New York City, where the members of the Anti-vivisection societies were derided and insulted, a successful street campaign was carried on three years ago. Members spoke from motor cars at various squares in the city to hundreds of interested listeners, and secured thousands of names to a petition to exempt dogs from experimental purposes.

For writing an editorial on anti-vivisection for the Los Angeles Examiner in 1920, the late Edgar Saltus, although retained from headquarters for a series of special articles, was notified that his services were no longer required. Today, the California Anti-vivisection Society is strong enough to force the powers of evil to concerted effort against it, and is sending a caravan from place to place throughout the State of California to instruct the country people as to what vivisection really means.

As one travels from coast to coast, one is amazed at the number of animal shelters springing up in what were once the least promising centers, and with

them, the desire to save and not to destroy the lives of our little fellow creatures.

On the Atlantic Coast, Mrs. Minnie Maddern Fiske is driving home to the club women of the various cities the lesson of woman's thoughtless cruelty and vanity, with her anti-trapping crusade.

On the Pacific Coast, the Latham Foundation for Humane Education, made possible through the generosity of Milton Latham and his sister, Miss Edith Latham, is now introducing humane education into the public schools of California, and where a few years ago, the apathy of the educational department made this work all but impossible, their present active cooperation and the enthusiasm and interest of the children themselves, have been an encouragement and an inspiration to those in charge of the work.

From all this it is apparent that a strong current of ethical responsibility—a tidal wave, in fact—of conscious cooperation toward our younger brothers, is sweeping over the English speaking world.

To the casual observer, this sudden realization of man's responsibility to the animals must seem amazing, but to those who know and feel the imminence of the Great World Teacher and the giving of His message, this remarkable stimulus is easily understood, for the message He will bring will be given, not alone for the evolution of humanity, but for the emancipation and salvation of the animals from the tyranny and cruelty of mankind.

The far-reaching effects of this work cannot be estimated—this work in which there is so much to be done, and so few to do it. Each one, however, can do his bit, for among the various animal activities there is scope and place for every willing worker. We must never forget that each effort for the improvement and evolution of the animals, small though it may be, will lessen and make easier the work of those who will be in charge of the coming humanity, for the ideal before us is brotherhood—the Brotherhood of Life.

ANIMAL PROTECTION

Some time ago we discussed the question of trapping with its consequent cruelty, perpetrated for the sake of wearing furs. Some of our members have already joined the Anti-Steel Trap League, being glad of the opportunity of helping even one step forward this much needed campaign. Now, a "No Furs League" has, happily, been started which I hope every member will hasten to join. This league has no dues, no officers. All that is necessary to join it is to send one's name and address and the following pledge: "From henceforth, as a protest against the cruelty involved in the capture of fur-bearing animals by the steel trap, I will wear no furs." This should be sent to The "No Furs League," care *Our Dumb Animals*, 180 Longwood Ave., Boston, Mass.

If every woman, or even a sufficient number of women, would join this league, not only trapping, but all the other forms of cruelty involved in the

fur industry would be automatically stopped.

Bernice Banning.

WHAT IS SANITY?

In the same copy of a newspaper a correspondent noticed two articles, one about a man, from which we take these extracts, asking our readers to go through them and then carry on to the next paragraph where a moral is pointed:

Chicago, April 16.—In celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Johnny Appleseed, thirty-five Chicago civic and educational organizations will join tomorrow in an apple-tree planting ceremony in the forest preserves.

A booklet on the life of Jonathan Chapman (Johnny Appleseed) prepared by Dr. J. L. Himrod for the Chicago Historical Society, said:

"Johnny Appleseed at 17 left home to make his own way. At Pittsburgh Landing, Pa., in 1794, he established a farm and his first apple orchard.

"Caravans of pioneers were passing Pittsburgh Landing westward bound. Johnny Appleseed would give each family a package of apple seeds.

"He was regarded as gently deranged, or at least as queer.

"In 1806 Johnny Appleseed decided he would go west. He lashed two Indian dugouts together, piled them high with apple seeds, and drifted down the river to Marietta, O. There he established a nursery and began his missionary work.

"From farm to farm he would go planting new trees and caring for those already growing. He went some distance into Illinois, where on the St. Louis road, an orchard that Johnny Appleseed planted, still stands."

In 1847 Johnny Appleseed died in Fort Wayne, Ind. A small monument marks his grave there.

Johnny Appleseed was regarded as mad. He added to the fruits of the earth and earth's increase. He did good and no harm. Next to the account about him we have this paragraph:

"London, April 16.—Dr. W. E. Gye, who, with J.E. Barnard, recently won distinction for researches into the causes of cancer, was awarded the Walker prize by the Royal College of Surgeons. Although Gye's discoveries have not reached a stage for practical application, it was said that he had given great impetus to the fight against cancer. Gye succeeded in producing two fluids which, injected into an animal together, produced cancer."

Years pass, innumerable serums come and go, and the vast forces and influences which the doctors possess is turned down these cruel and wasteful channels, while they might be telling us how to live to be well. Of course there would not be so much ready money in that, and doctors are as much victims of our mad economic system as the rest of us. But when will we *all* be sane enough to regard the Johnny Appleseeds of the world as the real sane folk, and the poison-balancing Dr. Gyes as the queer folk?

Dr. J. Tissot, professor of general physiology at the Paris Natural History Museum, declared April 26th, that serums are a false trail for cancer cure

hunters. Of course! Broken down tissue is not restored by breaking down farther the very thing which would cure it—the blood stream. Cancer is a shock, fear, fatigue and wrong diet disease.

PRISON NOTES

Much has been said and written about the objection of the Labor Unions to the Prison made goods which are sold outside the Prison walls. Many of their objections are well founded. Large contracts are made by the State for commodities to be manufactured in the States Prison within a certain length of time and the Prisoners are worked long hours, and in many institutions do not receive any pay except in credits, on these contracts. This is especially true of the garment industry. We need manufacturing in our prisons, but we do not want to take industry away from the man outside the walls so that he has to commit a crime to obtain something to keep his family until he can find work. Some of the Eastern States have Unionized their trades inside the walls, giving a man the chance to learn the trade, and before leaving the prison, is given a Union Card. This card he presents at a Union of which he is a member and in this way finds work at once on being discharged or paroled, and the Union stands between him and the world until he is able to get his balance again in the outside world.

Manufacturing goods that can be used and interchanged in the States should be advised. It would save the taxpayers and give the man in prison an opportunity to earn and support himself as well as his family. There are many, many things that could be made for use in our State offices; say for instance the women prisoners in California wove rugs for the offices, hospitals, asylums, and all other institutions where floor coverings are used; you can see what a saving this would mean to the State. The prisoners of one State could manufacture an article and exchange with a near-by State, thus putting into practice the State Exchange System. This is being carried on in some states already.

In *Collier's Weekly* of April 17th there is a splendid article by William G. Shepherd, on *Father's in Jail*. The following quotation is taken from this article:

"The fathers of more than 100,000 boys and girls are for the most part idling away the years in our state penitentiaries. It costs \$375 a year of good tax money to keep a man in prison. It costs far more than that to support his family out of tax money. Why should a man be allowed to dodge work by going to jail? Lift the roof off most of our penitentiaries and you will have a birds-eye view of thousands of soft palms, of flabby human muscle, as unproductively active as a can of squirming angleworms. Why not make prisoners toil and pay their way with the rest of America?"

The article deals with the system used in the Stillwater Penitentiary in Minnesota where a man earns, not only his own way but helps to support his family. Warden J. J. Sullivan, speaking to Mr.

Shepherd, said: "Here in Minnesota we don't allow a home to be broken up if we can help it, no matter what the father does. Why should we have let this man off easily by killing him? He's earning money and it goes to his family. It'll keep going to his family for many years. We don't let a man dodge his duty to his wife and children by getting into our penitentiary."

(They do not use capital punishment in Minnesota). This article in *Collier's* is well worth reading; it is necessary that we become familiar with the different methods used, as out of the tried systems we can find valuable help. Also we should become acquainted with the other fellow's viewpoint. Mr. Shepherd does not look at the question just as we do, neither did Richard Washburn Child in his articles, *The Great American Scandal*, but we must know both sides; then, and only then can we help. Then only will we be able to answer the questions of the public minds when we are challenged; for we will be challenged, many times, and we must know our work, our plans and our argument for His WORK.

Texas is still growing a bit worse. I have an appeal from one of the officials, asking that personal letters be written by every member of our Order to the Governor, Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson, State Capitol, Austin, Texas, asking her to remedy the following conditions at once: drunken guards, bootlegging among the prisoners, the men not given sufficient clothing. I make this appeal in His Name, that every member of the Order in the United States get busy at once, and do this bit in His Name. It is not only Texas' problem, it is yours and mine. STAR MEMBERS AWAKE! These men are our younger brothers! We stand for BROTHERHOOD, but are we demonstrating it? Not only the prison workers, or secretaries, are asking to write to Mrs. Ferguson, but every member of the Order.

It is nearing the time for the annual convention of the Theosophical Society to be held in Chicago from August 28th to September 1st. I am planning to attend and I trust that as many of the Prison Welfare Workers as possible will be there, ready to present your state's problem, and to make suggestions as to the remedy of the existing conditions. If you cannot attend kindly see if someone in your Group or Theosophical Lodge will attend, and if so, kindly ask them to attend the Prison Welfare meetings for you, as your representative, and please let me know who is to take your place.

The personal contact with the workers will mean much to the work of the organization during the next year. This year we have been organizing, and learning how to work; next year we must WORK. We are assured of Mrs. Besant's presence at the Convention and it should mean a large attendance.

If you are having difficulty in your work, I will gladly help you. If you have been able to accomplish even a small thing, kindly report the same to me, as I wish to keep in close touch with your work.

Edith Lee Ruggles.

INTERNATIONALISM AND POLITICS

THE GREAT FEAR

Who thinks in clear terms about words like radical, communist, Socialist and the like? A great fear lies over this land about change. How curious! This nation was born of a revolution. I hope we shall never have another, but certainly if we bathe in fear we shall close our eyes to facts so long that when the inevitable readjustment comes, it will have to come with shock and strain of some sort or other. To be called a radical or socialist is a bit of a disgrace in some quarters. A radical only wants to get at the root of things and a socialist wants to see the socialization of the world proceed more rapidly. A communist thinks the world is fit to become completely democratic—which we in America pretend but do not practice—at once. He is mistaken, but he has a right to his views and their expression. The dangerous man is the Bolshevik who is by no means identical with the communist. The Bolshevik believes that it is the duty of the humanitarian communist to force communism upon a state with arms. He is as wrong as the reactionary who thinks the power of the State should be used to crush freedom of the individual to speak and teach new ideas.

But in the United States we are inclined to lump all these unsettled people together as "reds". How red was George Washington, in that case? Lincoln must have been scarlet, for he used the power of the State to destroy property, by forcibly freeing the slaves. A good job done in a bad way? Bolsheviks would use force to redistribute property; extreme reactionaries would use it to exploit property to individual selfish ends. Neither would permit of free discussion of fundamental issues, or free movement of groups opposed to them.

The matter is not only political, but religious, and educational and social. Laws in states forbidding the teaching of evolution are part of the Great Fear. It is pseudo-scientific in its consequences, this great fear. It is employed by health officers to increase vaccination and similar practices. It is social, in the form of fear of respectable opinion.

The antidote for the Great Fear is Truth and sound opinion. We must know about jails and economic conditions and international affairs, and since newspapers won't tell us, and popular magazines haven't the matter in due proportion, let us read books which help to free the mind.

F. K.

THE DECADENT WORLD

Is there anyone whose heart is not turned to the Riffs? How shameless and cold we Western races appear beside the dignity of Abdul Krim! All sportsmanship and fairplay and admiration of a fair and good fighter have been lost, not to say a just appreciation of the elementary rights of a free people. The action of Spain and France is a public scandal. What mouthings about peace and Leagues of Nations, with a cruel fastening upon a proud race at the very front door of the League! I can

think of no more contemptible enterprise. The British Empire has many records to face for good and ill, and there is no nation, including our own, which has a clean record. But have we ever before witnessed the world standing by while two powerful bullies, armed with every weapon of modern science, have assaulted a free and small people with such ruthless disregard of public opinion? Public opinion is dead. Our moral sense is so blunted that we have not even felt outraged that the Riffs have been denied Red Cross service. The world is a sort of a sleep-walking creature. The grind of daily life, the poisonous sweets of sensationalism, the paralysis of all moral sense which the war produced, the utter contempt of law as openly displayed in our own Government officials in action and word, the money lust of professional men, the cowardice of many clergymen, the debasing commercialism of the newspapers, our dull apathy towards the Orient and its virtues and rights, the top-heavy money system, the shameless sitting on the fence of public men, the steady encroachment of secret diplomacy, the Sadiatic employment of crime and sex in commercialized forms of art and the press, the steady brutalization of man by animal slaughter and torture—what a spectacle we present! It is these deeper causes which permit of the doings in the Riff. Only here and there a fearless and sane public man like Borah has the courage and the knowledge to take a high stand. The final solution, of course, rests not with men, but The Man.

The born reformer never seems able to enjoy his own morality unless he is exerting it in some way that makes other persons uncomfortable.

Don Marquis.

* * *

Just as a day well spent gives joyful sleep, so does life well employed give joyful death.

Leonardo da Vinci.

* * *

The only safe and sure way to destroy an enemy is to make him your friend.

* * *

The place to be happy is here, the time to be happy is now, the way to be happy is to make others so.

* * *

Rather put your shoulder to the wheel than your back to the wall.

* * *

There is only one thing should concern us—to find just the task that is ours and then, having found it, to do it with all of our God-given powers.

* * *

No profits reaps he, though he prays for years, who worships God and causes others' tears—*Sadi*.

Headquarters Notes

By F. K.

Recent *Servers* have been marked by many small mistakes. We regret these and intend amendment. Meantime some corrections are necessary.

The true address for Miss Wilson, Central Divisional Secretary (and *charge d'affaires* in regard to the MILLION EDITION of *At the Feet of the Master*), is Room 638, 11 South La Salle Street, Chicago.

I notice that I had advised a sum of \$2,600 given by Mrs. Morrison in the early Ojai developments. This should have been \$1,300. We passed a cheque for the first amount through our books, and shared it with another, at the request of the giver. Mrs. Morrison was as generous as the item suggested, but there were two beneficiaries.

The correct address for Miss Mary Alice Hudson, Child Welfare Field Secretary, is 220 Ridge Bldg., Kansas City, Missouri—*not Bridge*.

Other mistakes are mainly typographical, but none the less annoying to the careful reader. High pressure of work is small excuse for this.

* * *

We would like to call pointed attention to the advertisement of the Continental Travel Company on another page. One of our Star members, Mrs. Eleanor Hepburn Fisk, has been instrumental in having these special services detailed for us, and she informs me that Mr. Balbiano, with the company, will give special attention to Star members who are going to Ommen, as he is in deep sympathy with our work.

* * *

I have been asked whether the Star Groups should support prohibition. The Star officially supports only its general and declared objects, but Groups are urged to show their interests in problems of real life, *from the spiritual point of view*. Groups have lectures on wild life and our relation to nature and many topics of importance and general interest, but all this again is from the spiritual point of view. We are not naturalists or scientists or politicians, but people striving to re-orient the world.

I think Groups should take part in good work where they are unanimous, but even then unofficially. Consider vivisection and its products. I suppose the mass of Star members disapprove of vaccination and serums on broad religious grounds, agreeing with Mark Twain, who said he believed he was not interested in knowing whether any physical good came out of these things, because so much certain evil was evident on the face of them that no supposed good, if real, could outweigh it. That is to say, we who think with him take the ground that no man has any right to cut up or torture any animal. All that we have is the right to self defense. If people live sane lives with plenty of fresh air, exercise, rest, sleep, right food, proper baths (water, air, sun and earth), and so on, they have what they need. But there may be members who hold differently. They have a right to their views,

and where a group contains such a member or members, I suppose only individual work along animal protection lines would be possible. In any case such work is not official, although it may have mass sanction.

Let us therefore distinguish this carefully. Star members should discuss real problems of life with quiet insight. They should work together as persons in movements which help. But they must keep clearly before them the official objects of our work, as a Group.

* * *

Memphis Centre gets out regular postcard notices of its lectures. Do all groups have regular mailing lists like this? The penny postcard, neatly printed in dark blue, becomes a regular and welcome visitor at the houses of interested people.

* * *

Headquarters has now a regular staff, effective and unified. Occasional extra large jobs draw in regular workers from outside. I am advised that a Pasadena group of workers, Mr. Dornberger, Mrs. Towmier and Miss Pryers, have been assisting in this way for over four months. Really, we are befriended wonderfully. I mentioned last month how a visitor (Mrs. Clara Barry) left a memento of a desk chair and filing cabinet. Mr. Stone does not despair of finding some day on his desk a cashier's check for (say) a million dollars from anonymous sources. He says he would drop dead at anything more than a thousand coming in this way—but I give notice I am willing to risk Mr. Stone in this experiment at any time.

* * *

Members must have read with pleasure Mr. James Montgomery Flagg's tribute to Krishnaji in our last number. This and his pencil portrait are available from Headquarters at \$1 a dozen, and twenty cents apiece. This seems a disproportionate price for the single copies, but if we figure out the time and materials used to supply the single copy, it is reasonable. I think this little four page folder (which includes the Declaration of Principles) should be widely circulated.

* * *

A correspondent wrote to Headquarters the other day and said she had just finished reading an attack upon us and what had we to say in our own defense. Mr. Stone gave the right answer, which is that we are too busy doing what little good we can in the world to bother with "accusers of the brethren." If there are people who think they have to save the world from us and our fell designs, and have appointed themselves Cosmic Policemen, we can only cheer them on. But I wonder whether they realize the magnitude of the task of keeping order for the Universe? If we innocents engross their at-

tentions, how busy will they be when they have settled with us and purified the world to that extent, and then have still before them all the venality in politics, the stupidity in social life, the immoralities of private life, the cruelties in man kind and all that? Really, it seems a large order to be the Solar Dustman. Mostly, I perceive, such people raise the dust themselves, and then nearly kill themselves tidying up. It seems futile, but each to his own taste. Only don't expect us to like dust.

* * *

We print in this number a portrait of the Protector, Dr. Besant. Few portraits of her do justice. Souls are difficult to catch with lens and brush. We have some prints of this really good mood. Size sixteen by twenty inches, \$3.50 each, a dozen \$3.00 each, twenty five for \$2.50 each. Ten per cent extra for sepia.

* * *

Headquarters is being used for a self-denial party on May 26th. The guests will bring with them those things which they wish to offer as gifts. The program will be quite informal and varied. The idea might be copied by groups everywhere.

* * *

Mr. T. A. Netland writes from Room 27, Post-office, Oakland, California:

"In order that the Star members may know whom to employ in cases of illness, I would suggest that *The Server* and *The Herald* publish a directory of those physicians who are serving the Lord of Love in eliminating the use of narcotic drugs, alcohol, serums and toxins in their treatment of disease."

The columns of *The Server* are open to professional cards of this character.

* * *

ROLLING STONES, WHERE ARE YOU?

From time to time mail is returned on account of incorrect addresses. Will members kindly notify Headquarters when any change of address should be made. This applies particularly to subscribers to *The Herald of the Star*. Please, however, do not send in merely temporary addresses, as has happened in several cases. On account of the distance between Hollywood and the publishing house in England, where the *Herald* is mailed, it is important that the addresses given to Headquarters by subscribers be as permanent as possible, and also that prompt advice be given when changes are necessary.

One Sunday after the president had returned from church, where he had gone alone, Mrs. Coolidge inquired:

"Was the sermon good?"

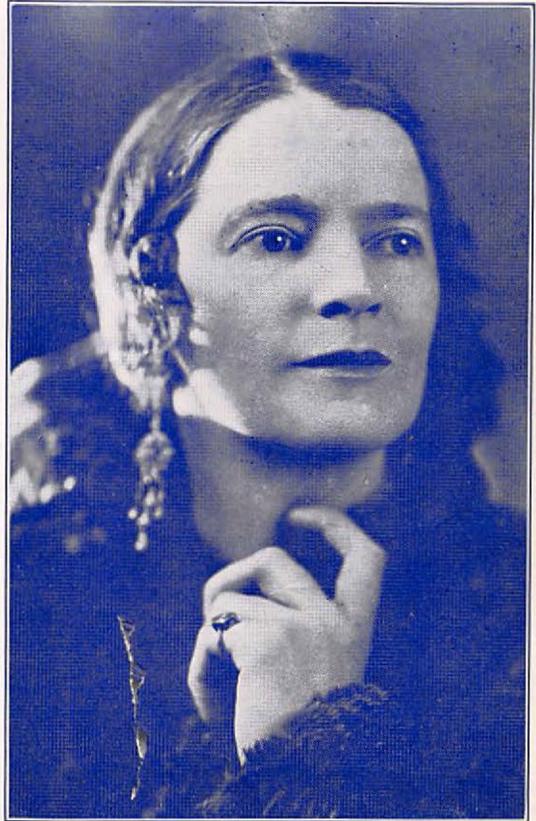
"Yes."

"What was it about?"

"Sin."

"What did the minister say?"

"He was against it."—Pathfinder.



MISS GRACCIO LEGGO HOULDER

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL STAR LECTURER

Miss Houlder includes in her lecture titles three attractive lantern slide lectures with these titles: *Australia, The Superman, and International Relationship; The Magic of Colour; The Return of the Lord of Love*. For engagements please address Miss Houlder, care Mrs. Alfred Sprague Palmer, 804 Pine Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

The body of
B. Franklin,
Printer,

Like the cover of an old book,
Its contents torn out

And stript of its lettering and gilding,
Lies here food for worms,

But the work shall not be wholly lost,
For it will, as he believed, appear once more,
In a new and more perfect edition,
Corrected and amended
By the Author.

Financial Items

The books of the Order in U. S. A. have been balanced and are being audited. A summary of the accounts will appear in our next issue. The following are merely the usual acknowledgments of gifts.

HEADQUARTERS FUND

Previously acknowledged	\$9792.56
Weirick, Mrs. M. E.	5.00
Besant Group, Cleveland	25.00
Herakles Group, San Francisco	5.00
Amounts under \$5.00	6.50

Total\$9804.06

The above is distributed as follows:

Eastern States	\$3011.48
Middle States	2319.53
Western States	4493.05

Total\$9804.06

To end of fiscal year May 1st, 1926.

GENERAL FUND

Previously reported	\$1263.57
January National Fund Collections	346.58
Hancock, Miss Louise	1.00
Casselberry, Ethel L	51.00
Biersach, Mrs. Alma	1.00
Mosher, Mr. and Mrs. Harry	2.00
McCormick, Mrs. Myrtle	40.00
Laing, Miss E. H.	8.63
Bracken, W. J.	20.00
Woods, Lillie	5.00
Mosher, Mr. H., Mrs. Harry	2.00
A Friend	8.83
Dillman, Mr. and Mrs. C. W.	20.00

As per fiscal statement of May 1, 1926.....\$1769.61

The above figures are divided as follows:

Eastern States	\$473.68
Central States	363.29
Western States	912.64

SCHOOL FUND

To May 7th, 1926

NOTES

Stephens, Mrs. Hannah B.	\$1000.00
Cox, Dr. W. W.	500.00
Jones, Mrs. Leila E.	500.00
Barry, Mrs. W. S.	500.00
Sellon, E. M.	500.00

GENERAL DONATIONS

Lurman, Miss Katherine	25.00
Clarke, Mrs. Frances E.	12.50
Gulick, Mrs. Alma Kunz	7.00
Hooper, Ellen S.	6.00
Banning, Miss Bernice	3.50
Reed, Miss Margaret	3.50

Total\$3057.00

INTERNATIONAL FUND

April 10, 1926, Crosby, Frances\$15.00

DONATIONS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION FUND

Since last report None

BLUE BAG FUND

Friend, A.85
Patch, Miss Bessie E.	10.13
Matthews, E. M.	1.55
Zimmers, Mabel K.	2.00
Lewandowski, Miss	3.25
Walters, Mr. William	1.00
Comstock, Mrs. Anna E.	3.65
Langworthy, Mrs. Helene W.	4.43
G. E. G.	1.55
Star Member	2.00
Bradford, Edna J.	30.00
McLean, Mrs. T.87
Alcyone Group, Pomona	3.78
Severance, Mrs. Clara M.	4.66
Pomona Group	9.55

\$79.27

ADVERTISING RATES

	Monthly	6 mos.	year
Eighth page	\$ 5	\$ 25	\$ 50
Quarter page	8	45	88
Half page	14	80	154
Full page	25	140	275

Our membership is now four thousand, having doubled in the last year. The list is select and announcements have effective drawing power.

CORRECTION

In the April *Server* a donation of \$4.12 to the International Fund was wrongly credited to Buffalo T. S. Lodge instead of Buffalo Star Group.

The MILLION EDITION IS READY!

“At the FEET of the MASTER”

The first run of the million edition of Mr. Krishnamurti's famous book, "At the Feet of the Master," will be ready for distribution beginning May 15th, 1926. Additional quantities will be printed as fast as the first order is exhausted. Let's exhaust the first hundred thousand in one month! And this be our motto: CASH WITH ORDER. With money in hand, we can continue to print "At the Feet of the Master" at the sensationally low price here quoted:

THE RETAIL PRICE IS 5 CENTS PER COPY

(5 cents per copy up to 100)

100 copies and over . . . 3½ cents each

All Star shipments will be made by Express,
charges collect, to any part of the country.

(The first announcement stated that the price would be three dollars per hundred copies. This was not based on the final estimate of cost of marketing edition. The three cent price is not practicable. Orders received previous to the date of appearance of this announcement will, however, be filled at originally announced price.)

HOW TO ORDER

Remit for full amount of quantity you are ordering, according to price given above, using check or government money order. Currency sent at owner's risk.

Make checks or money orders payable to: The Order of the Star in the East.

NOTE: Add 5 cents exchange above purchase price to checks outside Chicago and New York City.

WHERE TO ORDER

Send orders, with remittances, to:

The Order of the Star in the East

Room 638, Roanoke Building, 11 South LaSalle Street
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

THE STAR CONGRESS — 1926

Fifth International Congress of the Order
of the Star in the East

OMMEN, JULY 23 to JULY 30, 1926

By arrangements with the Holland America Line special tours will be made enabling Members to attend the Congress.

49 days—Leaving New York July 3—S. S. Rotterdam, Returning Aug. 21—S. S. Volendam. Visiting Holland, Germany, England, Belgium, France. Tourist Cabin accommodations \$395.00, inc. all expenses.

42 days—Leaving New York July 10, S. S. Ryndam, returning Aug. 21, S. S. Volendam. Visiting Holland, Germany, England, France. Tourist Cabin accommodations, \$345, including all expenses.

35 days—Leaving New York July 10, S. S. Ryndam, returning Aug. 14, S. S. Veendam. Visiting Holland, Germany, England, and France. Cabin accommodations \$275, including all expenses.

42 days—Leaving New York July 10, S. S. Ryndam, returning Aug. 21, S. S. Volendam. Visiting Holland, Germany, England and France. Cabin accommodations \$450, including all expenses.

ALL EXPENSES INCLUDED—With the exception of the stay at Ommen. The Camp management advises in *The Herald of the Star*, Vol. XV., March, 1926, issue, applications for accommodations should be made at once. No reservations can be accepted after June 15th. Congress price florins 30 (\$12) for 7 days including registration fee, board and lodging in tent. Hotel accommodations can be provided at small additional expense.

Write for detailed itineraries and apply for Membership and further information to

CONTINENTAL TRAVEL COMPANY

Authorized Steamship Agents—All lines
At Company Rates

239 Fifth Avenue, New York City
Paris — London — The Hague — Lucerne

THE UP STAIRS "LUCKY GEM"

JEWELRY SHOP

WATCHES DIAMONDS · SILVERWARE

For Less For Less For Less

Why not insure your friends happiness by gifts of talismanic birthday gems? Why not increase your own good fortune by wearing your own "LUCKY JEWEL?" For years I have made a special study of precious stones and their magnetic influence upon the individual—therefore I am qualified to advise you regarding your lucky gems. Prices very reasonable. Small stones in gold mountings as low as \$5.00. Semi-precious stones as low as \$3.00 per karat.

FREE PERSONAL ADVICE—COME UP
STAIRS AND SEE ME

EMMA C. FLEMING, 308 Broadway Central
Building, 424 S. Broadway
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MUSIC STUDENTS READ

I have devised a way to overcome ALL technical difficulties in music. **MAGICAL RESULTS!** No mechanical devices or exercises! No difficulty **UNCONQUERABLE!** A few moments' **STUDY** will accomplish more than hours and months of the old-fashioned "practicing." If you have a **FAVORITE PIECE** which you wish to master **QUICKLY AND PERFECTLY**, with **LITTLE EFFORT**, send me a copy of it together with **ONE DOLLAR** for a tryout lesson. A Chicago musician making big money got his start under this system. Address

FREDERIC LILLEBRIDGE
4128 West Pine Boulevard. St. Louis, Mo.

The Centipede was happy quite
Until the toad, for fun,
Said, "Pray which leg goes after which?"
This stirred his mind to such a pitch
He lay distracted in a ditch,
Considering how to run.