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BEHOLD, I GIVE



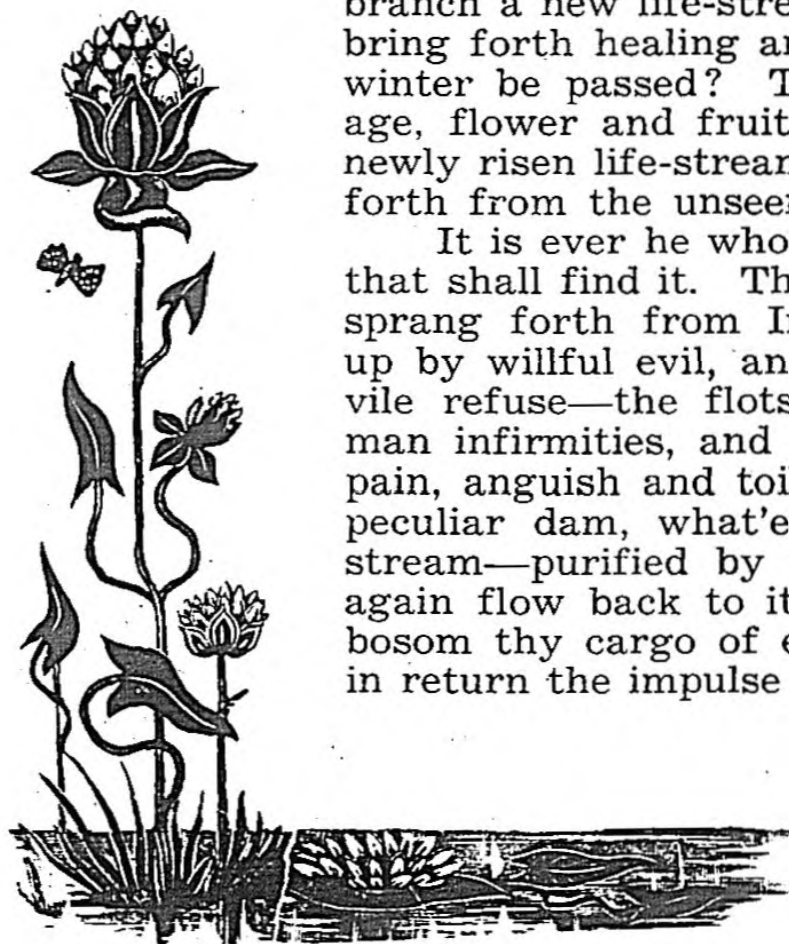
UNTO THEE A KEY

THE NEW BIRTH

Let not weariness of flesh or travail of Soul plunge you into sloughs of despair or discouragement. Ye cannot yet behold the dawn of new life—the fruition of your long travail.

Know ye not that the spiritual man cometh to birth in the silence, coldness and darkness of the Soul's mid-winter, as doth the new life of the tree, which seemeth cold and dead, whilst within the shelter of trunk and branch a new life-stream is rising, which shall bring forth healing and beauty when the long winter be passed? Think ye the future foliage, flower and fruit have knowledge of the newly risen life-stream which is to bring them forth from the unseen, the Unmanifest?

It is ever he who is willing to lose his life that shall find it. The pure life-stream which sprang forth from Infinity may be dammed up by willful evil, and made a receptacle for vile refuse—the flotsam and jetsam—of human infirmities, and can only be clarified by pain, anguish and toil. Tear down thine own peculiar dam, what'er it cost thee, that the stream—purified by toil and suffering—may again flow back to its source, bearing on its bosom thy cargo of experience, and receiving in return the impulse to New Life, New Birth.



THE TEMPLE ARTISAN

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EDITORIAL MIRROR

Jesus said, "Consider the lilies of the field how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin, and yet . . . Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." And when man so considers them, standing there in bounteous nature, wrapped in pure beauty; apart from man's worries, his struggles for material gain, or his hunger of soul for the Spirit that is God—he may assume as many a soul has done, that all one has to do to reach that Spirit of Truth and Beauty and to reward himself with wealth unbounded is to **take**.

But how does the lily grow? It comes with its whiteness, its purity, beauty and perfume up through the muddy earth. And every springtime it renews its resurrection from a body buried in the shapeless clay, rained on and lying in darkness. And out of this soggy earth the lily must build, for all it is it has become through ages of evolvment. It is thus by perfection of obedience to law grown into pure beauty, nurtured by earth, fathered by Love.

And as with the lily so with man. He must go downward and then learn how to go inward, transmuting, transforming, transcending until, in perfection of obedience to Law, he can **take** and use and become. He has paid the price. And in this struggle two paths are involved, one leading to ambition for power, and the other is "The Path of the Christs," and for a short way they run side by side, but there is a point where they cross, "And he who has chosen the path of ambition, who is dominated by an ever-increasing thirst for power, must eventually be swallowed up in the whirlpool created by those desires and go downward to unconsciousness."

However, over against this extinction, or near extinction, stands the beautiful assurance that "Within the heart of every normal human being lies hidden the door that leads to The Temple Gates," the Temple of God in his own soul. "He who will knock at that door by earnest desire, walk into the silence and listen, will hear the answer to his every question, so far as that question leads to the soul's immediate needs." "But here as elsewhere our desires are granted only when they no longer control us but are controlled by us."

"The disciple having reached the true child state; having learned that Love is Law and Law is Love, having yielded in

glad obedience to that Law and become identified with that Love, has one final injunction given him: 'Be still and know that I am God.' Body be still, Soul know that I, Spirit, Higher Self, am God."

Then he can understand the lily.

W.

RESURRECTION STILLNESS

For resurrection stillness,
There's resurrection power,
And prayer and praise of trusting
May glorify each hour.

Our common days are holy,
And years an Easter-tide
For those who with the Risen One
In risen life abide.

Then let His true love fold thee,
Keep silent at His word,
Be still, and He shall mold thee,
Oh, rest thee in the Lord!

"MY FATHER"

When the storm center of thy life is stirred to its focal point and thy whole being is dissolved in the mighty thought waves which sweep unchecked to the boundaries set by thine own soul; when from amidst the roar and tumult of thy clashing thoughts there comes a low, gasping, shuddering, "Father, hear me, save me," thinkest thou thy Father will fail to recognize the tones of thy voice amidst the myriad voices assailing His ears and so will pass thee by unheeding? Ah, thou little knowest: Could thy mother's ear be deceived in the voice of her child? Would it matter to her what name thou gavest to her? Whether thou criest in pain or in joy? Would not soul reach soul unhampered by other earthly sounds at the first sound of thy voice?

Then why shouldst thou doubt that thy Father is more able to hear the voice of His child, whether thou callest Him Jehovah or God, Zeus or Jupiter?

The name thou now bearest will die with thee, but thine own name, thy true name, is graven on the hands and in the heart of thy Father in Heaven; and though thy Father's Name has never passed the lips of mortal man, That Name is graven in thine own heart, and that heart, unconsciously mayhap to thee, cries out That Name when it prompts thee to say "My Father."



TO THE BUILDERS OF THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE MASTER MASON.

Greeting to you, workmen and apprentices, on this year of your labors.

The completed plan of the now rising Temple is graven within the heart of every mason and apprentice.

Every stone must be laid according to that plan or the whole edifice will be out of alignment.

Every stone must be cut by the chisel of the Spiritual Will, and must be laid in mortar mixed with the blood and sweat of the working masons.

As Master Mason, it is my duty to observe what manner of work goes into the construction of The Temple, what is the character of the building material, what the consistency of the mortar.

But in these opening days of the yearly cycle I am going to place my duties, in that respect, upon each individual workman, and to ask that each one turn the slide of the lamp of Intuition which opens upon his or her personality and search for flaws in the stones, errors in alignment, verify choice of material, and make final application of principle to all matters requiring adjustment.

I ask you to set your lower selves before the Judgment Bar of your own Higher Selves, and to demand an accounting for the valuables entrusted to that lower self by the Great White Lodge.

I ask you to demand, as a right, an answer to the following questions:

"Just what is the nature of the material you have built into The Temple of The People throughout the past year? Does it partake of the nature of Wisdom, Justice, Generosity, Charity, or of Ignorance, Injustice, Niggardliness, and Hypocrisy?"

Believe me! Upon the character of the judgment rendered, and the execution of the decrees of that judgment will depend your rise or fall in the scale of life as the days pass to the end of the year just opening.

In all tenderness and compassion, your fellow workman in the building of the Grand Temple,

Hilarion

SELF-DECEPTION

Temple Teachings, Open Series. Lesson No. 191

The man who chooses from a statement of facts, or the expressed opinions of another man only those features of the same which will minister to his own vanity or otherwise favorably affect his personal opinion of himself, and rejects in toto those which are to his discredit, will inevitably fail of success in all the great purposes of life. Even the harshest

honest critic can scarcely fail to estimate more fairly the motives and effects of a man's act than can the man himself.

Exactly as the reliable art critic must stand away from the picture, the musical instrument, the voice, the piece of sculpture, in order to form a fair estimate of the value of the work of the artist, so the honest critic of his own acts or those of another human being must stand away from the point of action. He cannot come too close in sympathy or affection for others without becoming more or less identified with the personal opinions of those others. His estimate of the motives and effects of an act indulged in by those others, whatever its nature, will be more or less modified. Distance is essential to impartial judgment; so the man who would conquer his own limitations and win a victory over inhibiting conditions must be temperate minded enough to weigh carefully the expressed opinions of others regarding his acts, however invidious those opinions may appear to be.

How can any man protect himself from the wiles of the female who reduces herself to a seeming nonentity in his company, pouts and weeps over the cruelty of other men and women, while her tongue carries the sting of a viper when out of his presence, if he has over-valued his own power of discrimination and so cannot accept the estimate other men place on the character of the woman?

How can a woman protect herself from the vile machinations of the man who, to gain his own ends, pretends to credit her with all the virtues, graces and attributes of a goddess, if she has allowed herself to be convinced that she possesses all those attributes and is therefore a sorely misunderstood martyr to the false opinions of others, when in fact those others may be endeavoring to protect her by their honest criticism of her weakness and gullibility?

How can a nation protect itself if its people will not heed the warning given by a friendly power in relation to the approach of a dangerous enemy; and refuse to do so for the reason that in their self-sufficiency they cannot conceive of the necessity for armament and defensive maneuvers?

There are all degrees of self-deception between the extremes I have mentioned, and some one of these degrees fits every man and woman in the world. The closer one clings to his own individual degree of self-deception, however slight it may be, the surer will it lead him into pitfalls from which it may take him many incarnations to extricate himself. The more conceited, the vainer the possessor of the particular aspect of self-deception he has cultivated, the more persistently and emphatically will he deny the existence of such weakness in his character.

You may say, "If that be true, how then is one to become enlightened? How overcome such a limiting defect?" It will not be an easy task. It has been built up into a monstrosity by

the "little things," the minutiae of over-appreciation, through many lives, and, as is the case with other personal defects, it must be torn down and removed by steady, persistent effort. It is the most subtle, the deepest seated characteristic of human nature, and the heart will bleed when it is removed. But if it is the greatest hindrance to all power and development, the soul, the observer of all the fluctuating phenomena of life, should be ready and willing to bear the testing force.

So, however deeply it may sink into the consciousness, whatever the hurt to pride, self-esteem or reputation, take the blow straight between the eyes, whether it comes from friend or enemy, if it be in the form of a personal criticism, and set yourself to find out what it is in you that has been hurt, and to what extent you deserve the criticism.

You will never convince your friend that he has been unjust, by argument, or your enemy that he has been wrong, by a return blow. There will be but one way to do either, that is, to rid your aura of the rubbish, whatever degree of that rubbish you may have fostered, and so become in fact the conqueror over the elementary force which now rules mankind, instead of its protector as you now are.

H—

THE CAUSE OF FAILURE

Temple Teachings. Open Series. Lesson No. 244

How many of your number have ever fathomed the underlying cause of some individual, family, or national effort to thwart the execution of any commonly accepted social or religious custom or law?

How many realize the futility of pitting your individual, feeble will and desire against cosmic or national Will and Desire?

You may be able to convince yourself that you are entirely in the right, and that the great majority are in the wrong, if so be you are involved in a controversy where such a question is called up; but you know you are merely trying to deceive yourself and others if you attempt to justify some personal social or religious offense by loudly claiming the right of the individual soul to "lead its own life in its own way," regardless of the effects of its action upon others.

You know that the soul impulse of the great majority—that interior force sometimes designated "the public conscience"—working for the greatest good of the human race, has been evolved by means of the blood and the sweat of uncounted millions of human beings—your own forebears—men and women who have gone down into the depths of hell, and who finally crawled out of those depths, shorn of everything that had formerly been held precious in their sight, and who,

because of what they had suffered, had been made ready to stand at the foot of the cross of sacrifice, with arms extended in pleading to their descendants—to you and to me—that we spare ourselves and those that will follow us the needless stain, the perfectly avoidable agony, that surely results from contemned and broken law.

When one realizes that he must pass in review before all these "souls crucified," as a rebel against established law and order, on his way to the commission of some act, which if indulged could only momentarily satisfy the changeable part of his lower nature—some impulsive act induced by the opinion he is holding at the moment—it is evident the underlying cause for the commission of that act is something deeper than the revolt against seeming injustice and wrong; and that cause lies at the base of his human nature.

There is much said in these days regarding "the rights of man," and the "Free Soul." My children, there is no such thing or creature in the Universe as a free soul, and there never has been, or ever will be such a soul. Back of all desire or demand for freedom, in the case of every normal human being, there is a still deeper desire, or more correctly speaking, a deeper aspiration—a louder cry for a personal recognition of and a closer unity with God—the Over Soul; a desire to combine individual strength with the energy generated by others, for a definite purpose, and we never can reach such unity as we desire while we willingly tread under foot the rights of the companion souls who are struggling along the path, it may be with us, crying to us to sustain them in their hour of peril.

We never can reach conscious unity with all souls until our feet are firmly fixed on the sacrificial stone at the foot of the Altar of Crucifixion; and I say emphatically, from the depths of whatever knowledge and experience I have gained with the human race, that not a single well developed, mature soul can truthfully deny its knowledge of its responsibility for others, when it bravely faces itself in the silence of its own divinity, however much it may desire to do so.

It knows that as long as another fragment of itself is liable to be worsted in the great fight, by anything it individually has done or left undone, or may do, that sacrificial stone will stand silently pleading for a victim, and until that victim, itself, is ready, its way to the throne of power is blocked.

Undertand me, I speak not of such instances as those which occur when awakened conscience arouses the desire of a nation or a body of people for justice, and, from the demand wrought out from a divine impulse, there arises an overwhelming determination to right a national or social wrong, to free a slave, to overcome the soul-killing, life-sapping lethargy, which sometimes seizes upon a whole people.

I speak of the selfish or corrupting desire of one or more people to overrule some long established, wise, beneficent purpose

or law of a nation or race, and when unlicensed, unlimited freedom for one means abject slavery or unnecessary woe for others, who are to come after them.

If you will seek out the basic reality, the fundamental law, upon which even the most corrupt nation or race was founded, you would find that law true to nature, and to nature's God.

Had it not been so, the nation or race could not have existed for a single century; and only in accordance with a certain measure of obedience to that law, even though such obedience were rendered by a limited number, could that nation or race have any true and normal sustained growth. You find this exemplified in the legend of the destruction of Gomorrah. Could even one righteous man have been found in the city it might have been saved from destruction.

When the demand for such a one comes from God, think well, if you are tempted to teach that any man has the right to overrule the laws and customs of his people for his self-interest, lest you urge on a day in which there could not be a single righteous, law-abiding man left in any body of which you are a part, and that body be doomed thereby.

True it is that "in freedom lies thy strength," but that freedom is the release of the soul from the ancient bondage of the lower self.

Having paid the price demanded by the Higher Self, by perfect obedience to the Law it has previously broken, the soul is free indeed, free of all things save the Law; and having become one with the Law, through that perfect obedience, it is its own lawmaker thereafter.

December, 1909

H— 

EXCERPTS FROM BLUE STAR'S ADDRESS TO THE TEMPLE CONVENTION 1910

No greater curse rests upon the earth today, than the growing demand for personal freedom from all restraining influences, all moral law and order. No words of mine can begin to outline the inevitable results of the same, for with the reaction which will come as surely as day follows night, a greater slavery will follow, the signs of which are even now showing.

All the forces of the White Lodge are directed towards the development of Unity. This is evident in national, in religious, in business affairs. We are one entity, and everything that works for division works for incarnate evil. If, as generally accepted, the great fight of man is with his lower nature, his lower desires and attributes, if he must kill out selfishness, inhumanity, cruelty, etc., in order to gain higher attributes, how is it possible for him to kill them if, in order to gain what he believes is freedom, he must ride rough-shod over all the finer qualities of his nature. For in nine cases out of ten the liberty demanded is simply license to carry out selfish desire at any cost.

I do not wish to put myself on record as advocating servile submission to any wrong conditions, nor do I wish to condone offenses of any character for the sake of peace. I believe as much harm can be done in this way as in any other. But I am advocating active, positive effort to remedy wrong conditions in the right way. The only way by which wrong conditions can be remedied is by personal sacrifice of selfish instincts, for the good of the whole, right education and obedience to law and order.

THE STILL SMALL VOICE

Temple Teachings. Open Series. Lesson No. 243.

The still small voice, wherein alone may man hear the speech of God, can only be heard at the neutral center of sound. The positive pole of sound is loud and large; the negative pole is silence. As the positive decreases in volume as it nears the center, so the negative increases. When they meet at a given point one strives to overcome the other, and as a result of the struggle there is manifested something infinitely higher in the realm of sound.

The stillness and smallness indicate equilibrium, peace. On the battleground of life is born the Androgyne. So it is in all aspects of life, spiritual and material. Love is the greatest thing in life because it comprises, compounds and correlates all lesser things. In the battle between love (passion) and hate in the mind of man something higher than either the love or hate of the physical plane is born, namely, Compassion, Understanding. In the struggle between sunlight and darkness are born the dawn and the twilight hours of Peace and Beauty. In the stress of battle between good and evil is born the power of Renunciation, the most difficult power to attain. In the battle between pleasure and pain is born Endurance.

So through all the aspects, attributes, qualities, energies in or out of manifested life on the planes of matter and force, it is in the neutral center, the place of peace, the point of equilibrium—the Dawn, the point of Renunciation, that we shall find God; never at either end where noise, confusion, dissatisfaction or silent non-being, disintegration and disruption occur. So while man may be a microcosm of God, he is an epitome of the ends of all the above mentioned aspects, attributes, qualities and forces—a battleground wherein is being fought out to a finish the battle of the ages. When he has established the neutral center of all these aspects, attributes, qualities and forces in himself, he enters the Macrocosm—where God alone dwells.

Hilarion

HUMANITY

As shine the stars set in my kingly crown, the crown which

my desire has welded of my conquest of the Dragon of Illusion, and studded with the jewels of thy sacrifice, so shalt thou, the prince, the heir to all my universe of riches, shine in that great day when all mine own shall come to me to feast with me on viands all the ages gone have grown from seed sown in my body and watered by my deep compassion.

As vast as is my kingdom, even so is vast the love which sheltered and protected, conceived and bore thee, son of mine, the fiery essence of that love which clothes thee, as thou art clothed, with woven garment, clinging close about thy form—the love that all the waters of the misty deeps can never quench; the love which grows like to the Tree of Life whose topmost branches touch the skies, with every day of every age that thou hast passed in battle with the powers of Hell.

Then canst thou doubt my purpose, scorn my messenger when every tree and flower and living thing points all unerringly to thought for thee, or strive to find some other way to reach the rest and bliss thy soul desires?

The poignant grief, the agony of spirit rising like the ocean's waves within thy heart, drawing from thy tensioned lips the cry "My Father," pave the way and flood the mile-stones with a light supernal, that thou shalt not be hindered when thy face is turned towards me, thy back upon the fleshly things that strew thy way and stay thy feet.

Yea, even more, for thou shalt be my Crown, my Kingdom and MY ALL. Lo: I shall live in thee, as thou in Me when dawns that other Day.



Blavatsky Department

This department will be confined to the teachings of H. P. Blavatsky. In it will be published, so far as possible, the views expressed by H. P. B. on any given subject. Our readers are requested to send in any questions on any subject which they wish to have elucidated, and we will endeavor to search through the writings of H. P. B. and publish her teachings on such subjects.

THE COMING NEW RACE

The Human Races are born one from the other, grow, develop, become old and die. Their sub-races and nations follow the same rule. If your all-denying Modern Science and so-called Philosophy do not contest that the human family is composed of a variety of well-defined types and races, it is only because the fact is undeniable; no one would say that there was no external difference between an Englishman, an African Negro and a Japanese or Chinaman. On the other hand, it is formally denied by most Naturalists that **mixed** human races, i. e., the seeds for entirely new races, are any longer formed in our days, although indeed the latter is maintained on good grounds by De

Quatrefages and some others.*

Nevertheless our general proposition will not be accepted. It will be said that whatever forms man has passed through in the long pre-historic past there are no more changes for him—save certain variations, as at present—in the future. Hence that our Sixth and Seventh Root-Races are fictions.

To this it is again answered: How do you know? Your experience is limited to a few thousand years, to less than a day in the whole age of Humanity and to the present types of the actual continents and isles of our Fifth Race. How can you tell what will or will not be? Meanwhile, such is the prophecy of the Secret Books and their not uncertain statements.

Since the beginning of the Atlantean Races many million years have passed, yet we find the last of the Atlanteans still mixed up with the Aryan element, 11,000 years ago. This shows the enormous overlapping of one Race over the Race which succeeds it, though in characters and external type the elder loses its characteristics, and assumes the new features of the younger Race. This is proved in all the formations of mixed human races. Now, Occult Philosophy teaches that even now, under our very eyes, the new Race and races are preparing to be formed, and that it is in America that the transformation will take place, and has already silently commenced.

Pure Anglo-Saxons hardly three hundred years ago, the Americans of the United States have already become a nation apart, and, owing to a strong admixture of various nationalities and inter-marriage, almost a race *sui generis*, not only mentally, but also physically. To quote from De Quatrefages:

Every mixed race, when uniform and settled, has been able to play the part of a primary race in fresh crossings. Mankind, in its present state, has thus been formed, certainly for the greatest part, by the successive crossing of a number of races at present undetermined.

Thus the Americans have become in only three centuries a "primary race," temporarily, before becoming a race apart, and strongly separated from all other now existing races. They are, in short, the germs of the sixth sub-race, and in some few hundred years more, will become most decidedly the pioneers of that race which must succeed to the present European or fifth sub-race, in all its new characteristics. After this, in about 25,000 years, they will launch into preparations for the seventh sub-race; until, in consequence of cataclysms—the first series of those which must one day destroy Europe, and still later the whole Aryan Race (and thus affect both Americas), as also most of the lands directly connected with the confines of our continent and isles—the Sixth Root-Race will have appeared on the stage of our Round. When shall this be? Who knows save

*It must be remembered that H. P. B. wrote the above more than half a century ago. Most anthropologists today take the position that there is at present no such thing as a pure race, all being more or less mixed. Many of them are inclined to believe that further mixture in the future will tend toward the development of a single world-wide type. Ed. Note.

the great Masters of Wisdom, perchance, and they are as silent upon the subject as the snow-capped peaks that tower above them. All we know is, that it will silently come into existence; so silently, indeed, that for long milleniums will its pioneers—the peculiar children who will grow into peculiar men and women—be regarded as anomalous *lusus naturae*, abnormal oddities physically and mentally. Then, as they increase, and their numbers become with every age greater, one day they will awake to find themselves in a majority. Then the present men will begin to be regarded as exceptional mongrels, until they die out in their turn in civilized lands, surviving only in small groups on islands—the mountain peaks of today—where they will vegetate, degenerate, and finally die out, perhaps millions of years hence, as the Aztecs have, as the Nyam-Nyam and the dwarfish Moola Koorumba of the Nilghiri Hills are dying. All these are the remnants of once mighty races, the recollection of whose existence has entirely died out of the remembrance of modern generations, just as we shall vanish from the memory of the Sixth Race Humanity. The Fifth will overlap the Sixth Race for many hundreds of milleniums, changing with it more slowly than its new successor, still changing in stature, general physique, and mentality, just as the Fourth overlapped our Aryan Race, and the Third overlapped the Atlanteans.

This process of preparation for the Sixth great Race must last throughout the whole sixth and seventh sub-races. But the **last** remnants of the Fifth Continent will not disappear until some time after the birth of the **new** Race; when another and **new** dwelling, the Sixth Continent, will have appeared above the **new** waters on the face of the Globe, so as to receive the new stranger. To it also will emigrate and there will settle all those who will be fortunate enough to escape the general disaster. When this shall be—as just said—it is not for the writer to know. Only, as Nature no more proceeds by sudden jumps and starts than man changes suddenly from a child into a mature man, the final cataclysm will be preceded by many smaller submersions and destructions both by wave and volcanic fires. The exultant pulse will beat high in the heart of the race now in the American zone, but there will be no more Americans when the Sixth Race commences; no more, in fact, than Europeans; for they will have now become a **new Race, and many new nations**. Yet the Fifth will not die, but will survive for a while; overlapping the new Race for many hundred thousands of years to come, it will, as we have just said, become transformed with it more slowly than its new successor—still getting entirely altered in mentality, general physique, and stature. Mankind will not grow again into giant bodies as in the case of the Lemurians and the Atlanteans; because while the evolution of the Fourth Race led the latter down to the very bottom of materiality in its physical development, the present Race is on

its ascending arc; and the Sixth will be rapidly growing out of its bonds of matter, and even of flesh.

Thus it is the mankind of the New World, the senior by far of our Old one—a fact men had also forgotten—Patala (the Antipodes, or the Nether World, as America is called in India), whose mission and Karma it is, to sow the seeds for a forthcoming, grander, and far more glorious Race than any of those we know of at present. The Cycles of Matter will be succeeded by Cycles of Spirituality and a fully developed mind. On the law of parallel history and races, the majority of the future mankind will be composed of glorious Adepts. Humanity is the child of Cyclic Destiny, and not one of the Units can escape its unconscious mission, or get rid of the burden of its cooperative work with Nature. Thus will Mankind, race after race, perform its appointed Cyclic Pilgrimage. Climates will, and have already begun to, change, each Tropical Year after the other dropping one sub-race, but only to beget another higher race on the ascending cycle; while a series of other less favored groups—the failures of Nature—will, like some individual men, vanish from the human family without even leaving a trace behind.

Such is the course of Nature under the sway of Karmic Law; of Ever-present and Ever-becoming Nature. For, in the words of a Sage, known only to a few Occultists:

“The Present is the child of the Past; the Future, the begotten of the Present. And yet, O present moment! knowest thou not that thou hast no parent, nor canst thou have a child; that thou art ever begetting but thyself? Before thou hast even begun to say, ‘I am the progeny of the departed moment, the child of the past,’ thou hast become that past itself. Before thou utterest the last syllable, behold! thou art no more the Present but verily that Future. Thus, are the Past, the Present, and the Future the Ever-living Trinity in One—the Mahamaya of the Absolute IS.”

TEMPLE BUILDERS DEPARTMENT

Alice in Wonderland. Lesson No. 243.

The Temple Builders at Halcyon are busily at work on the play “Alice in Wonderland” which they will present in Hiawatha Lodge on Wednesday of the Convention week, the day set aside for the children’s social entertainment of the Convention group. The same play was given last year, but this time several new scenes and characters have been added.

At one of their recent rehearsals the Builders talked over the real meaning of “Alice in Wonderland.” They know that in the Temple we are all trying to find the inner meanings of things; and so we tried together to find the inner truth hidden in the apparent nonsense lines of Lewis Carroll’s story, a story written many years ago and loved by children the world over, even after their hair has become gray and their cheeks wrinkled.

The story begins when Alice dreams that she goes down a rabbit hole and finds herself in a weird land where she meets all kinds of strange and comical creatures. This brought up the subject of dreams, and the children decided that the rabbit hole was really the inside of Alice's own head. The outlandish creatures of her dreams were her mixed up ideas, imaginings, and memories which had been carelessly shoved into the storehouse of her mind. These creatures of her imagination believed themselves to be real in her dream and Alice herself thought they were. In that way they fooled her and at times were very rude and insulting. In the last scene, they even conducted a court trial in which Alice was ordered beheaded.

But then, suddenly, she saw these dream characters for what they were. When the Queen of Hearts shouted, "Off with her head!" Alice replied with great dignity, "Nonsense! Why you are nothing but a pack of cards!" As soon as she saw them in the true light, they themselves faded into nothingness and Alice awakened from her dream.

The Builders were then asked what it was in Alice that gave her power over these creatures—the symbols of her own strange thoughts and imaginings, and they decided that it was Alice's Higher Self, her real Self which could discover and destroy all that was unreal, and was able to awaken her from her dream, just as our own Higher Self can free each one of us from all that is unreal and untrue.

After our little talk we all felt that we understood better the meaning of our play. We thought that we caught a glimpse of the truth that had made this story so dearly beloved by young and old. And, understanding, we hope to be able to convey this message of truth to all who come to see the play.

THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL TEMPLE CONVENTION AT HALCYON

will begin Sunday, August 4, and continue through Thursday, August 8. There will be a preliminary social gathering in Hiawatha Lodge on Saturday evening, August 3, at 8 p. m., when the program of the Convention will be given out.

On Sunday the noonday Healing Meditation will be held at 12 M., and the opening meeting of the Convention will come at 3 p. m.

We trust that all Templars and friends who are able will attend the Convention in person; and we ask members at a distance who cannot be with us personally to be attuned in heart and spirit with the comrades assembled at the Center, especially during the meetings on Sunday, to partake of the high spiritual Lodge forces which flow through the Aura of The Temple into the world for the help and upliftment of humanity.

Let us remember that this is the season of the year when "The Great White Lodge in Convention assembled" weighs and

evaluates the deeds and Karma of the human race, its losses, its failures, and its gains, and out of a Cup of pure Gold pours into the suffering souls of humanity the forces of courage, brotherhood and true accomplishment. We stand at the gateways of great decisions to be made by the human race for its preservation and further advancement, empowered from inner realms by the Forces of the Avatar.

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES

Meetings and study classes of the Inner Orders, Outer Court and Open Square, the daily noonday Healing Meditation, and Temple Builders meetings have occurred regularly during the months of April and May.

On April 7 and May 5 the Feast of Fulfillment was celebrated, followed by the Devotional Service.

On Easter morning, April 21, the Temple Builders held their Easter service in the Temple. In the afternoon the Temple Choral Service and the Feast of Fulfillment were celebrated. The Temple Naming Ceremony was held for three Temple Builders, Susan Eloise Lentz, younger daughter of Mary Louise and Herbert Lentz, and Arthur Lee and Robert Rae Stagno, sons of Marguerite and Arthur Stagno.

In the afternoon services on April 14, Cethil Mallory spoke on "Standing Alone;" April 28, Joyce Hedin on "The World Mother;" on Mother's Day, May 15, Patricia Mallory spoke on "The Brooding Love of The Temple;" May 19, Lottie Ferguson on "Initiation;" May 26, Carolyn Forgostein on "Under The Temple Colors."

THE HELPING HAND

The Helping Hand Department wishes to make a special appeal to the membership of The Temple of The People for support and sustainment of this important department of the work. Its function is to provide the means for meeting the day by day needs of The Temple to keep the work going. This must be continuous in order to be effective. Whenever the contributions fall off there is a corresponding let down in the efficiency of the work with undue hardships on all concerned.

We deeply appreciate every effort you make to supply these urgent needs. Give from the heart, the Spirit responds with the gifts of God.

Send all Helping Hand communications, contributions, as well as dues, to **The Temple of The People direct.**

TEMPLE LITERATURE

We call attention to the Temple Books, Correspondence Courses and Pamphlets advertised inside the cover of the ARTISAN. "From the Mountain Top" is a revelation of Light, shining through messages from

Inner Spheres of transcendent truth and beauty. "The Coming Avatar" reveals the spiritual truth back of outer world conditions of this great age, and should be in the hands of all who seek the Truth. The Yellow and Red Folios contain messages from the Masters of the Great White Lodge, given through The Temple to humanity in 1926-1929.

HEALING MEDITATIONS AT THE TEMPLE CENTER

Through healing meditations and devotional meetings for years past, a powerful center of high spiritual forces has been created in the Blue Star Memorial Temple at Halcyon. We hold healing meditations daily at high noon (12 M., P. S. T.), sending out healing vibrations into the world, for the good of humanity. All who are interested may tune in at this hour to receive the healing forces and help a distressed world. Let us bear in mind that all the forces of Light are at our command if we sincerely ask for them for the good of all.

THE TEMPLE

To Those Who Seek Illumination:

1. Has a consciousness of the Avataric Forces working in the affairs of men and nations dawned upon you? If so, can you perceive the necessity of combining the known principles of Science, Religion, and Sociology for the establishment of righteous laws, thus helping to bring about an Era of Justice which offers equal opportunities to all who truly serve their fellow men?

2. Are you open to consideration of, and conviction concerning, the unalterable Law of Cause and Effect?

3. Have the fierce struggles between the spiritual and material—the seeming injustices and inequalities of life—roused within you a longing for conditions which reflect the beauty of spiritual truths in material forms that truly embody them?

4. Can you perceive that only by a return to a greater simplicity of life is it possible to weed out the fungus of false and fleeting ambition and plant the seed of a great and wise purpose, to serve in all loyalty and love the whole human race?

5. Can you accept the fact that the Omnipotent, Omnipresent Godhead can and does communicate consciously, by means of perfected men or Masters, with human beings who have correlated the higher with the lower self, when some great spiritual or national purpose is to be served; and that you, as a component part of that Godhead, are capable of evolving and correlating such senses or qualities in yourself by rightly directed effort, thereby becoming a link between the spiritual and the physical Man?

6. Are you great enough, spiritually, to extend the right hand of fellowship to every true aspirant for a better life, regardless of anything the past may have brought to such a one, understanding that the Law of Cause and Effect may place you, in the great tomorrow, in the same position your brother may have been forced into today?

If the foregoing questions are of sufficient interest to awaken response, and if you are prepared to sacrifice the time and effort required for entering into closer relationship with those who are trying to serve their fellow men intelligently, and worthily, write for further information to

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Halcyon, California

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