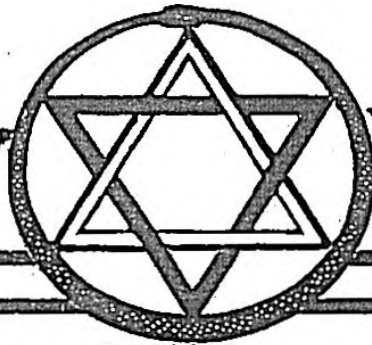




The Temple Artisan

Dec., 1946 - Jan., 1947

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Published bi-monthly at Halcyon, Calif.

THE TEMPLE

COSMICALLY The Temple of the People corresponds to the Temple of Humanity.

THE TEMPLE of Humanity consists of all humans who, having awakened into a knowledge of their own divinity, have undertaken to tread the Path, and of those who devote their lives to the unselfish service of mankind.

SPECIFICALLY The Temple of the People is one of the bodies or vehicles for the manifestation of the Avatar or Christos for the New Dispensation, the dawn of the New Civilization for the races of the earth. It was founded in New York State in the second cycle of the Great Lodge movement in November, 1898, by three Masters assisted by others for the laying of the mental, physical, and spiritual foundations of the coming Sixth Race.

THE OBJECTS of the Temple are:

First: To formulate the truths of religion as the fundamental factor in the evolution of the human race. And this does not mean the formulation of a creed.

Second: To set forth a philosophy of life that is in accord with natural and divine law.

Third: To promote the study of the sciences and the fundamental facts and laws upon which the sciences are based which will permit us to extend our belief and knowledge from what is known to the unknown.

Fourth: To promote the study and practice of Art on fundamental lines, showing that Art is in reality the application of knowledge to human good and welfare, and that the Christos can speak to humanity through Art as well as through any other fundamental line of manifestation.

Fifth: The promotion of a knowledge of true social science based on immutable law, showing the relationship between man and man, and man and God and nature. When these relationships are understood we will instinctively formulate and follow the law of true brotherhood.

RELIGION, SCIENCE, AND ECONOMICS, these are the foundation stones of The Temple. There can be no true religion without its scientific basis, and there can be no right economic system not based on a science that is religious and a religion that is scientific.

Address **THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE**, Halcyon, Calif.

(The Society of The Temple of the People is not responsible for any statement in this Magazine, unless made officially.)

The Temple Artisan

VOL. XLVII

December, 1946--January, 1947

Nos. 7, 8

BEHOLD, I GIVE



UNTO THEE A KEY

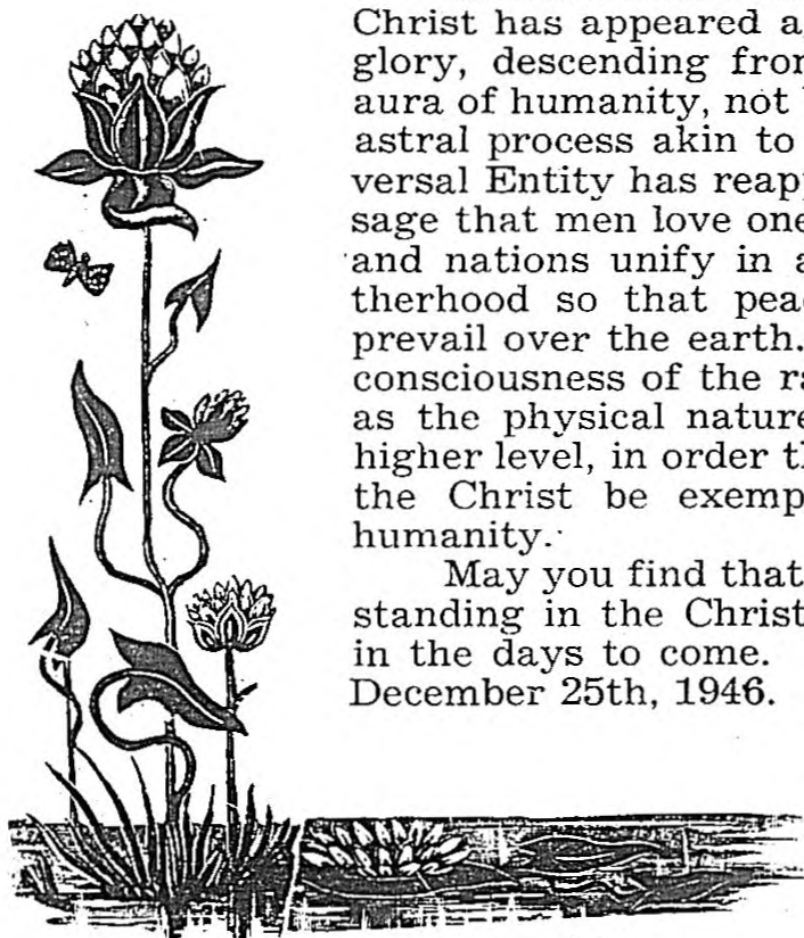
THE CHRIST'S MESSAGE

The Christ, descending from the heavenly kingdom of the Divine Father, came to earth, born of woman in a lowly manger, and brought to the world the great message that men love one another, so that peace and good will might prevail over the earth.

Down the centuries some few have carried the Christ's Message that men love one another to the people, while the many have pursued the path of selfishness and separateness, bringing sorrow and suffering to mankind.

In accordance with the Divine plan, the Christ has appeared again in great power and glory, descending from the Godhead into the aura of humanity, not born of woman but by an astral process akin to physical birth. This universal Entity has reappeared with a great message that men love one another; that the races and nations unify in a bond of universal brotherhood so that peace and blessedness may prevail over the earth. Thus will the spiritual consciousness of the races of the earth as well as the physical nature of man be raised to a higher level, in order that the great message of the Christ be exemplified in the hearts of humanity.

May you find that love and peace of understanding in the Christ's Message this day and in the days to come.
December 25th, 1946.



THE TEMPLE ARTISAN

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE
Entered as second-class matter July 1st, 1908, at Post Office, Halcyon, Calif.
Address all communications to THE TEMPLE ARTISAN, Halcyon, Calif.

THE EDITORIAL MIRROR

The Temple has been in existence for forty-eight years on the outer plane, under the direction and guidance of that great Soul, Master Hilarion, and other Masters of the Great White Brotherhood.

At its inception on November 15th, 1898, high spiritual forces were imparted to the group with a definite plan and purpose of universal scope based on the fundamental truths of life, the object being to form a nucleus through which the Lodge could work directly for establishing a true brotherhood of man on earth according to natural and divine law. The great and important announcement of the coming Avatar and His cosmical mission was given to the group.

Forty-eight years of concentrated effort along the directed lines have seen tremendous events come to pass affecting the whole human race.

A Lodge Center is founded on the fundamental principles of life. The formula for maintaining, sustaining and perpetuating such a Center includes: the ability of the disciple to be obedient to the law of centralization; the ability to work as a group; the ability to maintain human relationships understandingly; the ability to face oneself when real or fancied grievances arise,—adherence to principle dissolves any misunderstanding; the ability to suffer the consequences of the unassimilated forces in and about one as fermentation sets in and pledge fever runs high; the ability to endure as the dross of the lower nature burns out and the soul, purified, is able to do its part in sustaining the wall of protection guarding the central cell, the work and its mission.

Many have entered the Temple ranks since it was organized. The past leaders who pioneered the work held high the banner of the Lodge against every conceivable kind of attempt to block the path of the Light, thus paving the way for those who followed and enabling them to prove their ability to hold the line against the negative forces ever at work. It is a continual battle along the pathway that leads to spiritual illumination.

There are but few who remain after the sifting process of testing and cleansing has proven their right to continue working in the great cause. Those few who have held and now hold the inner line intact by their devotion, love and service keep the

nucleus alive, enabling the Lodge to use it according to Its plan and purpose. An impersonal attitude leaves the way clear for high forces to be transmitted to humanity.

Great was the opportunity for those who had earned the karmic right to become a part of the Temple movement, the right to work under the protection and guidance of that great Master Soul, Hilarion, and to carry out His cyclic mission of world-wide scope.

The Temple stands today unfaltering, firm and strong, high in purpose, true to its ideals, as a result of its continued effort along the constructive lines of the Lodge.

P.F.D.

WHAT IS LOVE?

Temple Teachings. Open Series. Lesson No. 116

You who maintain that love is dependent upon respect, you do not know, you never can know what love is, and therefore upon what it subsists, until your own head has been bowed low, your own soul dragged through the mire of the world's scorn for love's sake; nor can you understand why men and women will lay themselves on the funeral pyre of self scorn and self condemnation by the commission of acts they would condemn in others—acts which they know must come up before their own souls for recording—and all for love's sake.

In order to understand you must know something of the forces at work in and about you, must know something of the little lives which comprise those forces which are powerful enough to conquer everything but the spiritual will.

As a rule man does not know that he is putting himself in thrall to various distinct orders of life by his deeds—orders, the units of which are as real, as individual as is any other creature of nature's kingdoms. Ignorance of the exercise of his creative power in the interior realms of life often leaves him at the mercy of his own creations.

Non-recognition of this fact leaves him powerless to control such entities. His scorn of what he believes to be the superstitions of past ages, his absolute trust in the findings of modern science, are great hindrances to him. He does not perceive that the ancients took up the study of life from the point modern science has but just reached, and carried their investigations through fields of life the modern devotee is but just on the verge of discovering, and found that what are now termed degrees of force and energy are distinct orders of intelligent life, with governments and laws of their own, and that those infinitesimal lives are indissolubly united to all other orders of life, large or small.

Many a one will admit that an electrical storm exerts a pe-

culiar effect on him, depressing or exhilarating, as the case may be; but tell him that the effects he feels are due to direct contact with countless numbers of the fiery lives, the elementals, which every flash, every shimmering fold in the sky partly reveals, conscious creations that are incessantly beating, pounding on his nerves, and taking from or giving to them some measure of the fiery force that is their natural support, and you will evoke a smile of superiority from your listener.

You may have seen an immense flock of destructive birds light on an orchard or field of grain and leave it utterly bare, or a plague of insects pass over a large section of land, leaving it stripped of all green things. While the devastation is not so perceptible to the human eye, the passing over a race or nation of human beings of millions of the negative fiery elementals has a somewhat similar effect. There is inevitably a great loss of physical vitality and nerve force in the units of that race. The resisting power of the human will and mentality throws off the influence of these lesser lives to a greater degree, but there is always an appreciable loss of nerve force which must subsequently be made up, or the victim is so much the more subject to the action of any other inimical force.

These lesser lives are but one rank of soldiers among the countless legions engaged in the great battle of life. They are neither to be feared nor despised, but simply to be kept on their own side of the battle line.

They are as subject to the universal laws as is man, and are affected by the same influences. They are irresponsible and therefore soulless, and are subject to the will and mentality of higher orders of life. Many epidemics are caused by them. Terrific pressure is sometimes exerted by them on the nerves and grey matter of the brain by the conscious or unconscious ill will of a person. All this being true, is it not worthwhile to study them, and protect one's self from them when such protection is possible?

And this brings me back to my opening sentences. The higher any attribute or energy is in the scale of life the more powerful it is for good or ill, and the negative aspect of love evokes the cruelest, the most blinding, selfish, destructive phase of the fiery elemental lives in that scale.

The positive aspect of the same attribute is the reverse in all respects. The lesser lives which manifest as a result of the exercise of the positive aspect of love are tenacious, open eyed, selfless, and whatever be the object, thing or person that has excited the positive aspect of the attribute in the heart of a human being, there is a constant bombardment of these lesser lives, and therefore a continual increase in strength and power of those qualities which are peculiarly active in the lesser lives of the positive aspect of the attribute, so that the will and mentality of the lower man are under restraint.

The latter cannot break away from his subjection to the thing or person if he would. It is for this reason that the character, qualities, or limitations of the object, however unworthy, fail to affect the real issue.

When the resident force actuating those lesser lives is exhausted, either by time, or through the action of the awakened spiritual will and the soul is therefore freed from its thralldom, the power of that positive aspect of the great Love Principle is transferred from the one to the many, and the selfish satisfaction hitherto enjoyed in devotion to one object is increased many thousand fold.

It is then that the awakened soul knows what love is.

H—

CYCLIC CHANGES OF TEMPLE IMPORTANCE

This New Year of 1947 brings this group, The Temple of the People, to the threshold of a major changing cycle. The accumulation of the knowledge given to us in cycles past is the foundation upon which we are now building, and which will enable the continuation of the building of the structure into the grand and noble plan intended.

On the crest of this new cyclic wave new hopes, new possibilities, and great opportunities are and will be presented to each one of us individually. We are each given our individual load in the Temple work to carry, and as we perform our given duty with earnest desire, and without personal ambition or self importance, so will The Temple be enabled to pour out into the world the strength of the given force, and to further the Temple work at the center. According to our consecration to the work will our own rate of vibration be stepped up.

It is hard for us to realize just how important we are to the Master. We have no yardstick with which to measure these intricate workings, for each day we must offer ourselves anew, and not depend on past achievements. Through the myriad details of our daily lives is being distilled the essence of the gigantic forces we are dealing with in helping to build and hold this most powerful and magnetic center, not only for our own lifetime, but in perpetuity for ages to come. When we have fully grasped the magnitude of this vast program personal ambition drops away, and our life goal then is to truly dedicate ourselves unselfishly in time, means and labor to keep this center going at all costs to ourselves; and to work in harmony and unity in order to set this karmic pattern into motion as a reality on the outer plane, and to build this ideal into our everyday living and association with other members of our group.

In unified action and group endeavor there should be no

place for friction; differences of opinion should be used for constructive purposes. This would eliminate the domination of personal will which causes friction, such friction in turn causing an upset in the equilibrium of a sensitive center such as we have here in Halcyon.

This New Year and this New Cycle then mark the time for individual reckoning. Let us review our past, and pledge ourselves anew to improve in the perilous days to come.

With reference to cyclic changes of great importance in Temple history, the following articles, written by those well qualified to tell us, give us a glimpse of the courageous past of those who have gone before us in the Temple work. They outline our great responsibilities which we each shoulder in the Temple pattern and enable us to look with clearer vision forward into the New Cycle. The following quotations are taken from the address of our past Treasurer, Jane W. Dower, to the Convention of 1909:

"At some period in the life of every individual or organization there comes a time, if it would continue to go forward in the great march of life, when the soul steps forward in pre-eminent command, when the heart breaks down the barriers that dam the life current back upon itself, and the challenge rings cut clear and true in spirit tones of courage, love, and justice for exact retribution, obedience absolute, complete fulfillment; on the part of all things earthly in the strife of the soul to claim its own. In such a moment stand we today."

No longer can we tarry by the wayside. Let us listen to the Master's voice in this regard, as continued in the Treasurer's address:

"To whom goes the call? To all who will but listen. No longer can we parley with the enemy, no longer can we clasp hands with the betrayer without hearing the tolling of the bell that shall announce our own expulsion from The Temple of Truth, Love and Light. . . .

"The coming of the King in all His beauty and holiness has been proclaimed. Unto Him we must make offering or be ejected from out His Kingdom. Not by iron rod will He efface us, but by a Love that shall overwhelm us. Unto our souls must obedience be rendered, unto the Lord must all be given. . . . He who would serve worthily must first have found the Mount of Illumination. . . .

"A new cycle is before us, for which the die has been cast, the pattern designed, the cloth now being woven, the finished fabric to be handed to the Master for final passing.

"Naught remains for us to do but to choose the fashioning of our own individual robes according to the simplicity of the design, the delicacy of the material, and to see to it that we are royal enough to wear the ethereal vestments without destroying.

"To us is given the choosing of the Lines of the Robe,

whether they be made after the blood-stained pattern of Judas, or the Seamless Garment of the Savior. The Seamless Garment shall be our choice, O Father, for it says to us that, come what will from without or from within, The Temple shall ever have but One Home Call, One Love in Thee."

The deep spiritual significance of the before-said is enhanced and enlarged upon by the address of Red Star, Dr. William H. Dower, to the same Convention, from which the following excerpts are taken:

"Never was there a time in Temple history when a brighter day seemed about to dawn for the work and all connected therewith, but at the dawning we have found the adversary arrayed against the work to dispute its right to the fruits of what that New Cycle is to bring forth. . . . The cause back of this is the same old song, the same old story: ambition, self love, rule or ruin policy or some fancied grievance, until all sense of justice, truth, proportion becomes hopelessly obscured. As in the past these forces have been unable to prevail because of the sturdy and determined stand of loyal members, standing as a solid phalanx for the work, the Master, and on the principles involved. All honor be to those who have stood valiantly by their obligations and upheld the hands of those in charge of the Temple work, upholding by this the great law of principles as opposed to personality and personal opinion and ambition. The chief difficulty with those who fail and go out of the shine of the Lodge aura into the shadow is their inability to discriminate between mere opinion and philosophy. The Cosmos is built on justice—yet humanity generally in this stage of evolution has but a glimmering of what justice means, and it is rare indeed to find those who are able to look on all sides of a question and be just and impartial. Most people are swayed by feelings, fancies, and sentiment and all outer and superficial aspects as opposed to the just principles involved. The Temple as a Lodge Center must surely try all candidates on these lines, namely, whether they are acting from principle or from personality. Until one can align his action to, and act by, basic principles he is not prepared to come very close to any real Lodge Center of Light. The Master-Father has admonished us, 'Hold high the Banner of your House, let no earthly honor, no host of Hell trample it and you under the feet of your souls' oppressors.' Earthly honor is such a precious thing to the worldly-minded, but no true occultist ever attained who did not have to sacrifice that and more before he could pass the Dweller on the Threshold of personality, and enter the Chamber wherein dwells the Luminous One, the Eternal and Cosmic Self, the Augoeides of the Greeks—the Father in Heaven of Jesus. . . .

"Since the Headquarters have been on the Pacific Coast the character of the work has been changing gradually, in that the Center itself has absorbed our greatest energies in building

it up. . . . This has been absolutely necessary, however, for the center of anything is its vital point, and until the center is firmly established it cannot radiate the forces properly and strongly to the circumference. The battle therefore has been to build the Center strongly and well. As this is of vital importance to the Lodge, that They once more have a center and a body of trained and conscious chelas under Their direction, it is no wonder that our efforts to build have been attended with so much difficulty and that all the disintegrating forces of the cosmos are thrown against the Center to disrupt it, and to nullify the efforts of the Masters for this New Dispensation of Their Great Work."

In speaking of vows and obligations, Red Star continues, "There have been the usual number of cases of Pledge fever. . . . It is evident that all the Masters of the White Lodge, and all Its agents, chelas, and disciples could warn and warn against this inevitable law of occultism in vain, to prevent the germ of this disease getting into the system of all neophytes. It must be a karmic germ generated in the mighty past, and, as it is a part of the grade of matter in which we live and move and have our being, it must be met like the Dweller on the Threshold and be burned up in the fire of our aspiration while we learn to endure the blasts of feelings and swirling forces that the process precipitates. When Pledge fever rages in the system, vows and obligations taken, no matter how solemn, are as naught. Colored glasses are over the vision, dust in the eyes, the ears are over sensitive, the tongue is forked, the discrimination faculty is suspended in function, the mental poise lost, and general chaos reigns in the nature while the fever rages. New members are more quickly affected, though old members occasionally have an attack. . . . If members would get on top of their personalities and let the forces of faith and devotion work through them they would find they were hitched to a mighty engine that would pull them over all the bogs and bad places and they would come out triumphant and quickly. In other words, renunciation of personal desire is the medicine that the candidate must give himself, distilling this potent elixir from the winepress of his own soul's travail, and the consequent crushing of the personal elements of action and desire into the Silence of the White Spirit is the fruit of sacrifice from which the precious elixir is expressed.

"The Teachings given to The Temple up to the present time may be likened to seeds of truth sown which have germinated and grown thriftily, and of which there is an abundant great crop, but that crop has not been harvested as yet. In other words, the Truth of life and being, of man, his origin and destiny, the origin and destiny of worlds and all substance, as well as the relations of forces and souls to the cosmos and fellow souls have all been set forth and revealed; but, like the precious

grains or seed of a crop, all must be gathered in the proper way, in the proper receptacles, garnered and classified that we might really see the vast Lodge Treasure that has been put into our keeping. . . .

"Our duties are simple, just to go on and work and work and work. Work for the upbuilding of The Temple on earth. Work for humanity which is the real Temple. Work for the Great Lodge, helping to spread the Light of Truth over the wide earth for the upliftment of all creatures. Work to build up here at the Center an ideal settlement which shall be a beacon light to all who are seeking to live the spiritual life; not a life of ease, but a life of work and sacrifice, joying in the opportunity of giving and making ourselves a part of the great Wheel of Service.

"Said the Master very recently: 'The opening and closing of a ten-year cycle gives great opportunity to pledged disciples of the Lodge and brings great trial upon those who have misunderstood the opportunities of the previous ten-year cycle. Those who have passed from one degree into another, because of labor done and battles won during a preceding period, are in all respects in a more critical, more dangerous position than they have ever been in before, for the testing forces of the Lodge are brought to bear strongly upon them, and it is only one here and one there who pass beyond the first stage after admission to an Order. . . . Every time a pledge to the Lodge is broken there is a bar placed in the path of the disciple to the next degree, and he can go no further until he has made good that disobedience. Understand me, it is not through wrong done to me or to the White Lodge, it is the wrong done to the individual soul of the one who has broken that solemn obligation.' "

These admonitions are phrased in strong language by our leaders and by the Master of this group. We are in a high voltage spot on this earth, and we cannot trifle like little children. We are being urged to become aware of our great responsibility to mankind, and of the reasons for our being brought here to Halcyon.

In the following we quote from the Convention address of 1909, of our first Guardian in Chief, Francia A. LaDue, Blue Star, who brings us face to face with our responsibility in helping to save a world from destruction.

"As Guardian in Chief of The Temple of the People, I wish to extend a cordial greeting to all our Comrades assembled, . . . and to heartily thank our Comrades all for the willing assistance and co-operation that has made possible the carrying out of the details of the various changes occurring in the re-organization of the Temple work on the lines laid down by the Master.

"Many questions have arisen in the process of that re-organization that might have proven troublesome if the princi-

ples of brotherhood and harmony had not obtained, and I believe our ability to make such changes without engendering inharmony and misunderstanding proves that we have done much towards establishing the true principles of brotherhood and cooperation. According to explicit directions the lines of government have been more tightly drawn and the rules for the conduct of the various Orders of the Organization have been made more rigid.

“I find it necessary to quote from a recent interview with the Master which clearly defines our duty in regard to what must at all times be a very painful task. ‘Unless there can be drawn from this body the nucleus of which I have repeatedly spoken, our work for this cycle will fail of its ultimate object. Grave conditions are so rapidly precipitating all over the world that it has become all but impossible to gain and hold permanently a sufficient number of faithful, obedient chelas at any one point of the Cosmic Temple Star to accomplish our purpose. Had it not been so you would not now be facing so many serious problems.’

“He who reads correctly the standing Message on the inside cover of *The Temple Artisan*, entitled ‘The Temple,’ should have no difficulty in rightly determining the place and position of any Order of The Temple, the fundamental reasons for the selection of any individual for any position in such Order, the right to such position, or the duty of sustaining that one while in office by the collective body.

“First, it must be understood that the body as a whole is not an autonomous body. The Cosmic form, that is, the framework of the whole Cosmic body, is unalterable; it persists through a whole Manvantara, and upon identifying ourselves consciously with such a body we only ratify what has long since been determined by our own personal Karma. If we resign or are suspended or expelled from the body we simply step out from the point formerly held by us and the one next below us in the Cosmic scale moves up into the position, and in the latter case we go to the lower end of the scale. The form of the body is not altered in any way by our attitude.

“If we become incapacitated for duty through any other cause than that which would necessitate resignation, suspension, or expulsion, we retain the position, even though the next in order performs the duties of that position. . . . The officials who hold the temporary points of the Cosmic symbol, the Six-pointed Star with dot or small cross in the center, the permanent offices of which are held by the Masters, are appointed by the latter in person. The Guardian in Chief has the power to suspend from active service such an officer, but cannot remove him or her permanently from the position without direction from the Master to such effect.

"The degree of Initiates, permanent retainers of the Cosmic points in such a figure as has been referred to, that is, the star with six outer points and central point, or cross, all belong to the Degree of the Sexless Lords, those beings in whom the masculine and feminine principles have been combined and raised to a higher principle of life. Therefore, in order to perfectly symbolize the points of the Temple Star and so represent the present Spiritual Holders of those points, the official positions of the Board of Guardians of The Temple of the People should each be held jointly by neophytes, a man and his wife, if the relations of the latter are pure and true enough to warrant the same. Unfortunately such marriages are rare. As the neophytes now in training for the occupancy of like positions would be, as a rule, ineligible if held strictly to this rule, the official positions can only be held temporarily by an individual man or woman, assisted, as far as may be, by husband, wife or comrade, in the performance of exoteric duties.

"It must be understood that the seven positions, six points and the center, are represented and definitely indicated in each Order of The Temple, as well as in the body as a whole, though not designated by the same titles. . . . It depends upon the character and kind of service required during any particular period of time as to whether an entire masculine or feminine, or mixed board shall be appointed."

In the early years the Master worked daily through interviews and messages with the group, as a Father with his children. The disciples then were unprepared and untrained, and many members soon withdrew from The Temple, because the forces and training were too strong for them. The faithful ones with the vision stayed and built the foundation. All devoted Templars now are reaping the benefit of those who have bravely gone before them in the work, and stand with golden opportunities ahead in this New Cycle of 1947.

The following words, with reference to new cycles and New Year hopes written to the Convention of 1935 by Gold Star, our present Guardian in Chief, when she was Temple Treasurer, give us a beautiful key as we enter the new cycle:

"We have left the past year, placed it in the yesterdays, and here and now we stand facing tomorrow, a new Temple year. How are we going to face it? How are we going to use it? Let us courageously, devotedly, valiantly face our daily and hourly living and duties by standing close together, keeping close together, working close together, and holding fast The Temple's spiritual treasures, in deep reverence, and realize our Unity with each other and with all creatures."

The beautiful words of Blue Star's "Farewell" express what we each feel in our hearts today, as we say "farewell" to the old year and cycle and greet the incoming New:

FAREWELL

"Farewell to thee, thou passing year. Farewell to thee, each hour, each moment that remains, ere sounds the knell of Time's last passing bell, within whose high toned notes we catch the first sweet echoes of the coming year.

"Farewell to thee, thou day of beauty rare, when, all alive and quivering with joy, one heart first knew another heart had sent a messenger of thought in search for it, the only one which could respond to its own beat, and sun and earth were bathed with light and love.

"Farewell to thee, O weeks and months of patient toil; of sorrow past all telling; of pain which racked the soul and body of our best beloved till thoughts of death alone were welcome as we stood beside the tortured form all powerless to aid, until the test of stern endurance had been won and with it came release for our beloved one.

"Farewell to thee, O night wherein we lay hour after hour with widely opened eyes; eyes which sought in vain the inward spaces of the soul in search of God, of Truth and Verity, and only fell upon a boundless wall unpierced and dank and wet with all the tears that human eyes had ever shed through all the ages past.

"Farewell to thee, O morn on which we first awoke to knowledge of the real, the all-compelling power of faith, and on its star-besprinkled wings soared upward to the Throne of God and saw the saint, the sinner, side by side, both lost to all that hitherto had held them far apart, but basking now within the light which shone directly through those eyes which are too pure to see iniquity, and only could behold two leaves from out the judgment book,—leaves which bore the imprint of the Face of Christ.

"Farewell to thee, thou moments few when lust of flesh and eye held sway; when hate and all its demon brood broke down the bars so long and tediously built by stern repression and contempt of that which all unknown to us was testing out our innate purity of heart and mind,—our power of transmutation into precious gold of all the baser metals of the lower self.

"Farewell to thee, O days and hours, O weeks and months. O morns and nights and moments rare! Farewell to thee, past year, never more shall we behold thee, never more shall come the same vast opportunities which we now leave behind. They lie beyond, but thanks be unto thee, thou blessed angel, Hope, there soon will dawn the first bright day of all the glad New Year, and with its dawning Courage, Faith, and New-Born Love for humankind. So let the old year go, and only keep the wisdom won throughout its days of joy or pain, of war and peace, and we shall know

at last this new born year is pregnant with the seed of happiness and hope for all mankind."

P. M.

THE AVATARIC MANTRAM

"I will endeavor to realize the Presence of the Avatar.
as a living Power in my life."

Let all who feel and believe the truth of the advent of a Redeeming Cosmic Force repeat the above daily, constantly, to help build a matrix—heart center—through which the Christ Force will externalize in qualities of living power for the good of all humanity.

The Holy Presence is ever waiting to manifest in and through all who are prepared—in whom selfishness is being transmuted to self-less-ness and in whom the closed bud of a personal idea is unfolding to the blossom of the One Eternal Universal Self.

Keep clean your heart and mind, and the earnest endeavor to realize His Presence daily will assuredly help in the recognition of the Christ glimpsed in the bloom of a flower, the soft glow of the stars, the shine of kindly acts in daily life, or the spirit of Love impelling all humanity to ideals of true Brotherhood.

W.H.D.

TEMPLE BUILDERS DEPARTMENT

The Christ Light. Lesson No. 68

How many dear children have heard the story the angel sang to the listening shepherds so many years ago?

"Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ, the Lord!"

So many, many children have heard it, and how the child Christ, with its great wondering eyes, lay in the stable with its mother and the oxen, that we could not count them were we to try.

But how many children understand just what that story means? Let us see if we can find its true meaning.

How could it be, do you suppose, that one little child could come to all people in this wide world? How could it be that every one of us no matter who or where we are may look into those baby eyes, may see the holy light about its innocent face and know that every word of the angel's song is true, and that unto us a child is born, just as truly as it was given to the holy mother, father, and the gentle shepherds of long ago? Would

you like to know how that could be? Does it seem impossible to you?

Before you can understand you must quite forget to think about any little child that you may have ever known or seen and only think what it would mean to you to be a very, very little child yourself, and what would be the very first thing you would feel as you first opened your eyes upon this world with all its people and all the things around about them.

Perhaps you think you might be frightened, or that you might be lost in wonderment of everything you saw and just want to look and look and look.

Maybe you would feel that way after you had been awake a little while, but if you could make yourself still a little smaller and catch your very first thought, wouldn't it be more like this?

Oh, how very small I am, and oh, what love has been given to me, and oh, how I wish I could share it all with every one and everything I see!

And then, maybe, you would lie back and rest in your dear mother's arms and sleep a sweet sleep of peace and dream of the wondrous things you had seen, and how you could best share your love when you woke again.

If you can do all this, if you can imagine yourself so small that you would seem to yourself as nothing, then you will understand what the angel meant by bringing the good tidings to all people; for if you can do this every one else can do it also.

More than that will happen too. You will be able to see the Child itself, for you will have forgotten all about your own self and in every one you meet the baby eyes will look out upon you and say to you:

"Unto you is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

But maybe, even if you know these things to be true you will think they are very hard to do and that we cannot help thinking of ourselves sometimes.

You are right. It is very hard to forget ourselves, and not to want things for ourselves, and we can only learn to live for others by trying more and more each day, and that is what the Christ Child, that the angel told about, came to teach us.

He showed us how we could forget ourselves and learn to know Him by doing things for others. He told us that whenever we were gathered together as little children. He would be with us, as He was with the shepherds and the wise men of old when the star shone brightly overhead.

He comes to playing children when one gives his first choice to another. He comes to hungry boys when one gives his apple to his brother. He comes to little girls when they accomplish some difficult task or think some pure white thought.

He comes to the tiny seeds when they burst through their hard coverings and send out the first signs of life. He comes to the black soil when it forms itself into the bright shining crystals. He comes to the beautiful butterfly when it breaks the walls of its chrysalis and spreads its delicate wings for flight. He comes to the arching sky when the tender lights of morning dispel the darkness of night. He comes to all Nature whenever it opens its heart to Him.

He comes to you and to me and asks us to let Him enter, and whenever we give Him welcome and tell others of Him, His glory shines round about us.

As soon as all people welcome Him and make room in their hearts for Him the angel multitudes will sing again, praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men."

Reprint

J. W. D.

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES

On the first Sundays, December 1 and January 5, the Feast of Fulfillment and Devotional Service were celebrated. In the Sunday Service, December 8, Cethil Mallory's talk was on "Giants at Work." December 15, Joyce Hedin spoke on "The Christ Light." December 22, at 10:30, the Temple Builders held their Christmas meeting in The Temple, and during the afternoon service the Temple choir sang Christmas Carols. On Christmas Day, at 11 a.m., the Feast of Fulfillment was celebrated, and at 6 p.m. a Christmas dinner was served in Hiawatha Lodge. December 29, Patricia Mallory spoke on "Cyclic Changes of Temple Importance." This paper is printed on pp. 53-61 in this Artisan issue.

On New Year's Day, at 5 p.m., a dinner was served in Hiawatha Lodge. January 12, Herman Volz spoke on "Principles." On January 19, the birthday anniversary of Blue Star was commemorated in the Sunday Service. A paper of the Guardian-in-Chief dedicated to Blue Star was read by the Treasurer, Ebba Whitney, and Carolyn Forgostein's talk was dedicated to the life and work of Blue Star. January 26, Elmer Hedin spoke on "The Letter and the Spirit."

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 sustinment 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 letdown 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.

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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