

SPIRITUAL VIBRATIONS

by

H. P. BLAVATSKY

through

Arthur A. Ford as Medium

to

The Open Circle

The Open Circle is indebted to Amador Botello for
the Cover Emblem of The Chart of Genesis.

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Truth may sometimes be broken into many bits so that those that seek to find the truth do not understand the full import of that which has been given.

*H. P. B.
July 8, 1926.*

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FOREWORD

These talks were given by the Beloved Teacher, known as H. P. Blavatsky, from the Inspirational Plane, thru the instrumentality of Arthur A. Ford, to members of The Open Circle.

These members recognize H. P. B. as the guiding spirit behind this Association.

Arthur A. Ford is the second vehicle thru whom H. P. B. has come to those, her pupils of The Open Circle.

The Preface explains her plan for this book.

There have been but few corrections of the text as the entire work has been taken down verbatim by an expert stenographer whose notes are available for reference. The text has been re-submitted to H. P. B. for approval and acceptance.

It is the belief of many of her students that, her words as given may throw light upon many perplexing problems now puzzling the minds of devoted followers in what she is pleased to call her "Order."

THE OPEN CIRCLE,

Amador Botello,

Secretary.

PREFACE

Most of my work in the past has been ambiguous and out of the reach of the ordinary man. This book will not interest the advanced students, except as a convenient handbook, but it will be of inestimable value to the beginner and to the average individual who could not understand more involved discussions of vibration with all the references to sacred and profane history.

A series of short concise monographs is what I want and is what people are waiting for and that is what I am trying to give. Sometimes it seems to me that the smaller the book the greater its appeal, because the average individual of today does not have time nor the inclination to wade through vast tomes.

Try to sell those volumes of *Isis Unveiled* and the *Secret Doctrine* to the average individual and he will be frightened to death, but if he can acquire the gist of them in small volumes, which he can stick in his pocket and read on the subway, he will be glad to do so.

Instructions:

Do not allow the criticism from some who follow after my Order to stay your hand. You will bring about your ears a veritable deluge of criticism.

I did not intend—it was never my thought that we

should neglect the Astral or escape things which come to us.

Some of my followers have forgotten the source of that which they preach, the method by which it was given. This will have the blessed result of healing and bringing a remnant of them back to the proper channel.

Do not forget what I said to you the third night you sat after the Association was formed—when I promised that every word to you should have my personal attention. Did I keep that promise? Indeed it has been kept. Do not fear.

I shall try to give five hundred words each time until the work is finished supplementing and enlarging much that has been written before, to prepare the novitiate for the unselfish guidance and control of the altruistic planes.

For a long time there has been a plan which I have not been able to further on account of not having the coöperation which I needed.

Some of those to whom I have bequeathed the task of carrying out those purposes which have been revealed to us in the Secret Retreat are failing miserably to maintain all of the high standards which we had established and so these sources of inspiration seemed closed for the moment.

Closed not because the ceaseless train of love had ceased to function, but because the earthen vessels into which we sought to direct the currents of healing and wisdom were drained and of no use to us. But we are

VII.

entering that cycle towards which all men have been moving with uncertain tread—that cycle that is to be ushered in by a consummation of the movements which herald understanding.

I glimpsed vaguely in my youth the truth which later we sought to establish but I did not then know that mankind or the chief race of men were moving from the planes of the senses to the planes of understanding.

I did not know at the beginning of my study that before the higher self should be liberated man would have conquered the physical universe and disposed of those problems—problems of existence on the Physical Plane.

It was not clear to me that mankind must overcome FEAR and TERROR physically before the higher self could be free.

Those problems which have baffled the wisest of every nation, those problems inherent in physical conditions surrounding the race—the fear of elemental forces, the bondage of age old superstitions, the chains of prejudice, woven in the looms of static institutions and given divine sanction by those who had never understood the meaning of truth, must be conquered for those are the things that must perish.

VIII.

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER

July 15, 1926.

No man will ever completely grasp the law of being until he realizes that everything radiates an influence upon its surroundings which in turn respond by radiating similar influences.

This is true of man; it is true of animals; it is true of birds; it is true even of rocks and trees. Everything is vibration and everything expresses itself in varying degrees of vibration.

(What I will give now must go out as a primary textbook for those who are seeking to find the truth behind the phenomena.

I have been constantly accused of being too technical, too difficult to understand. Perhaps there is some justice in that accusation.

If I recognize the limitations of others, and if I am to lift those limitations, I must lead them step by step into understanding.

For that reason I want to make very clear the nature of influence, the character of influence and the purpose of influence as it acts, from those five planes of consciousness which transcend the Astral and the Physical, and as it descends upon those still on the Earth Plane.

If the reader is familiar with my work, if he has been

faithful with the study of my work, he will understand what I am saying here.)

Everything, as I said in the beginning, radiates an influence for good. That which is termed evil influence is the result of the failure on the part of the individual to understand the nature of radiation, and therefore he fails to harmonize with the influence directed upon him.

The influences bearing upon one from animate and inanimate objects are not always perceptible to the physical senses. And so the forces operating from the Astral Plane and from those finer and more subtle worlds, which interpenetrate all planes are unseen.

One can sense the heat which radiates from the furnace or from the sun, but one cannot always sense the heat radiating from one's self.

Yet if one places his hand against one of those delicately adjusted instruments which have been invented for the purpose of registering body emanations one will discover that he is radiating heat as surely as the sun.

Vibrations are given in varying degrees, but nothing that is essential or necessary to life on one plane is withheld from the planes below that plane. It is merely given in different form.

One says that the rose is fragrant because he can smell the fragrance thru the function of the senses. (I do not like the way that sounds).

The rose is fragrant because one can sense the fra-

grance. One thinks the grass is not fragrant because one cannot sense the fragrance.

That there is a fragrance arising from the grass, just as surely as from the rose, is a fact. It is only that one has not learned to distinguish that fragrance, because one is depending upon his physical senses only, forgetting that the principle promulgated by St. Paul to the effect that "Spiritual things are spiritually discerned" applies even to such seemingly trivial matters as a sense of radiation from inanimate objects.

What I would prove is the statement of a fundamental principle which applies to all life and which expresses itself with increased rates of vibration on every plane above the one on which humanity now manifests.

Note: (The purpose in giving this is to prepare one for that definite instruction which I wish to give as to how one can move from one plane of consciousness to another plane and contact the Masters who control affairs on those planes).

(Q): How do the Planets influence the Earth Plane?

H. P. B.: It is not the planets or their proximity to earth that counts so much. The planets do not control conditions, they simply make it possible for a certain influence to vibrate at higher rates.

It is like the clock. The time is before the clock and after the clock and that is like the planets. They do not control conditions, they simply mark off the

periods.

A period is at hand when the ancient philosophy of Astrology will supply the explanation of some of the phenomena that are now current. That is the phenomena that are being utilized by those in spirit to accomplish their purpose. It could not happen except for the conditions of the planets—that is, certain positions of them that have taken place in the heavens.

(Q): Can you give us the instructions that you mentioned as having been given in other languages?

H. P. B.: My work is universal and I have to come wherever there is an opening.

There are many streams which will converge in one ocean of truth. It will lead to a unity that does not now exist. It seems it must come thru the contact of one people with another.

It must not be thought that the streams of instruction and the channels of contact with the Masters of Old have been closed because a few leaders have passed into the spirit and because there is stagnation in my movement.

An explosion is needed that will cleanse the air and certain valiant ones will lie prostrate on the field wondering how they arrived there.

Instruments are to be used. One should not become impatient because one cannot govern the Astral Plane from the Earth side any more than I can the Buddhic.

With everything over here it is necessary to use

mediums to tap the higher forces. One should go into the higher planes in order to understand what a time I have reaching them. One must go forward, not backward.

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER

(Continued)

July 29, 1926

I was speaking about the law of vibration and the corresponding law controlling the destiny of man in his present stage of vibration.

The race is concerned at present with but three planes of consciousness, because the race as a whole is tapping but three sources of inspiration: the Physical, from which all are controlled because all are obliged to live in the Physical; the Astral, the plane from which one's loved ones return to give their personal messages; and the plane upon which they are seeking liberation, the Mental.

Tonight I want to carry all to this plane on which the rate of vibration is so high that it is furnishing the inspiration for all progressive movements. I am referring to the Mental Plane which is the highest plane one can grasp while still on the Earth, the plane in which many have stayed each time during their visits to this side before returning to take up a body and solve their problems on the Earth Plane.

Every one is familiar with the things that occur on the Mental Plane, but it is only in the moment of inspiration that all material considerations are laid aside,

in which moment it is possible for us, the Teachers, to reach one in that close inner contact for we work from this plane. At this time one understands the source of his inspiration and realizes those things that have been revealed to him on his visits to the Mental Plane.

I am speaking of this because I am trying to give a message concerning the source of all those movements working thru humanity which desire to lift the race out of bondage and guide the feet onto the path and lead man to the point of Realization.

Those who have studied my previous works and the works of those who have developed in the Court and written down their studies for others, will remember that each planet has its planes surrounding it. Each globe has its own atmosphere and that is true of the Mental Plane.

Do not make the mistake of supposing that when I move from the Mental Plane thru the Astral into the Physical for the moment, that I have changed my location.

It is not necessary for one to change location or make any movement in time or space in order to move from one plane to another. It is a matter of consciousness. When one still in the physical body has developed to the point that he can escape and take these short trips into the higher spheres, he will realize the truth of what I am speaking tonight.

It is only the developed one, the one who has sat

at the feet of the Masters who is able to function in the mental while still using the physical vehicle, but do not forget that as one moves while in a physical vehicle into the Astral one has to have a vehicle corresponding to the Astral vibration; as one moves from the Mental into the next plane above, one has to have a vehicle corresponding to that even more highly refined vibration. As one moves into the Nirvanic Plane one has there, of course, the highest rate of vibration therefore the most highly refined vehicle is necessary for the expression of one's activities.

Now what I am speaking on tonight is the source of inspiration which working thru humanity, is lifting humanity to that place toward which it has been progressing. But it has been held back as the discoveries of natural resources and physical laws have been misused because these things were revealed thru misguided instruments, teachers from this side before the time appointed, giving to man knowledge he was not prepared to use.

From the beginning it was recognized that before man should utilize all resources and understand physical laws to the fullest extent, he should have developed a corresponding nature according to Spiritual Law.

That accounts for the chaotic condition of humanity at the present time. It also accounts for the coming very soon of one who will make a clean sweep of all earthly organizations, existing institutions and govern-

ments and who will place in the hearts and minds of men a principle which shall enable the race to transcend racial and national boundaries.

The spiritual law comes to the Earth Plane thru the Astral which comprises that great organization of discarnate souls who have recently come over. Now these souls are able to view with a larger vision their interest in these earthly organizations, their devotion to these existing institutions, and their loyalty to mankind. That spiritual law contacting these spirits works in accordance with divine purpose towards the end which has been ordained. There is not an hour when one is not influenced from the Mental Plane whence this great spiritual force springs.

It is only the races who are very low, only the people who are very undeveloped, only the individuals who are mentally and spiritually dwarfed who are controlled always from the Astral.

It is only the man who is spiritually handicapped who is content to function always on the plane of the Astral and receive his instructions and guidance from Astral-bound spirits.

They are not to be rejected, certainly they are not to be despised because they belong to one but unless one transcend that and tap the source of higher inspiration he will not be able to recognize the Teacher when he comes and have an opportunity to be a part of this plan of redemption.

That is why all over the world today similar groups are being instructed by the Masters as this group is being instructed thru its teachers, in order that each one may be prepared. And it will not take so long as seven years to make all ready, if the students profit by the experience of those who have travelled along the trail and finally found the goal.

Note: (That is what I wanted to give to finish the introductory chapter. It will have to be revised and polished, as my work always was. But that is the message. I give those who are capable of doing so, permission to change the form or the diction, or to do anything that seems desirable with anything I have given here, so long as the principles I have set forth are not violated nor the message itself changed).

I want each one to think and meditate on that because some of the things which I have spoken tonight have a direct bearing on events which will come to a culmination in a very short time in accordance with a prophecy I made last week. Is it remembered? *The prophecy follows: The next three months will be a period of severe trial, persecution, ridicule, and death. Everything pertaining to the human race will move in cycles of three for the next three years, i. e., three days, three weeks, three months, three years.*

The reason for that is apparent to those who understand. Three impostors will rise to fight that which was given forty years ago. Three branches will break from the original trunk.

Three years! They will fall like rotten withered lumber

from a tree after the blast has struck to the very heart, but the root, with care and tender love will grow again into a stout tree, beneath whose branches the peoples of earth will find rest. And all this is true because I have given it to you as I have received it from my Teachers Who have a mighty plan to unfold. The period ends, the day dawns, earth awakens! Not one shall pass from this group into spirit until all these things are done.

(Q): I thought that the Great Teacher would not come until the last quarter of the century. Has there been a change?

H. P. B.: No, but there are many here who will be waiting for him in the last quarter of the century. But his preparation begins before he makes his appearance.

There are many mistakes in the Secret Doctrine which can be corrected, many things which I wrote that were not quite clear to me that now I understand a little more clearly.

I am some day going to correct, or modify rather, several things that I wrote at that time. Always there is danger in translating, always the possibility that one will not catch the spirit and exact meaning of the original writer, and remember that I was very new in the language in which I was writing.

(Q): (In reference to some work delegated to one of the group.) Should it be done this week-end, the aspects are very bad on Sunday?

H. P. B.: You are speaking of the stars. It is a matter of choice for you. You are going to accomplish a pur-

pose, the stars do not work against a divine purpose. It is very weak of you to think it is necessary to await good aspects. Your own mental attitude will determine the degree of success which you obtain. If it frightens you and you are used to working under the stars do not go.

(Q): Oh, H. P. B.! If it is the time, they are then an indication of many of the things that are to be overcome?

H. P. B.: There are many things to be overcome.

MISCONCEPTIONS

August 5, 1926

I will take up the line of thought where I left off last week.

I wish to warn all against certain misconceptions regarding vibration which must be avoided if one is to understand the effect of vibratory influence on the Mental Plane working thru the Astral and expending itself in a multitude of ways on the Physical Plane.

Do not forget that every globe in the system of which this globe is but part of a chain, has also a system of planets and planes above it, one after another corresponding to those of consciousness thru which one is now manifesting. But there is no possibility of communication between the various globes so long as one is manifesting on any one of the four planes below the Buddhic.

Each plane interpenetrates the one below it and runs for some distance into the one above, so that there is no definite line of demarcation.

Time and space do not exist on the Mental Plane. That which appears as today and that which is promised for tomorrow are already complete on the Mental because there is no time element.

During my study and investigation, while still in

the body, I reached a point from which I could see for myself many of those things which are now so easy for me to behold and understand and interpret.

Many of those things which I saw on the few occasions when I came into the Astral and came into contact with the Great Teachers I did not understand for the simple reason that in going back into the physical I lost part of that power to grasp intelligently the Astral which belongs in some degree to the Mental Plane. Following that which had been given and that which I had seen, I was able to formulate certain principles as I had the instruction of the Master Who led me on the few journeys I made into the higher realms. Now I am able to go back and make clear in my mind those things which were vague in the beginning.

I want everyone to bear in mind that it is just as difficult for me to make the transition to higher planes as it is for one here to move into the Astral because each plane has its own vehicle corresponding to that plane and one has to free himself from that particular vehicle in which he is and utilize a vehicle adapted to the plane upon which he wishes to function.

Now one is always moving from one point to another point, one is always taking the next step. On the Mental I came into contact with the Teachers Who revealed to me what I wanted to know.

For those in higher planes to move is a change in consciousness only.

Those from the Mental Plane appearing on the Earth Plane today are the souls of the spirits of Great Ones Who have been over sufficiently long to be able to be free from contact with the Earth or Astral by choice. They come back to help. That rules out the possibility of anyone who has recently come over, however great he may have been on the Earth Plane, being able to come back and assist in the building and advancement of man. If such an one comes back from the Astral Plane he is not equipped to take his place among the men who are building the destiny of nations and who are changing the complexion of earth.

That is what I meant when I said one must guard against misconceptions, in the circles where one is receiving messages from discarnate entities who do not realize that they have not attained to the state of consciousness which permits them to speak concerning these altruistic movements. These entities are peculiarly under the guidance of the Astral Plane so it would be impossible to assign such a very important part in universal movements to them.

Only movements which are dearest to him while on the Earth Plane would hold his genuine interest from the Astral and if thru him they have a universal reality in them it is because they were placed there while he was present on the Earth Plane. He would not have anything to do with it otherwise. Everything went on with him; for remember that those astrals are always

limited to their physical interests and they will not be able to play an important part in the advancement of nations until they move from the Astral to the Mental, which is the plane which is used to further the ends for the coming of the Great One.

Do I make myself clear?

I am speaking in simple terms because I am addressing this to those who are not used to understanding Universal terms. I am speaking for those who have no teachers. I am trying to do this for those who have no time for abstract principles. For I find from this point that it is always these people who have need of this. And so far it is the initiate to whom I have preached rather than to the crowd. I have been cold and cruel. Not intentionally, but because I did not understand the outcast, the multitude who are the leaven, who are to be redeemed. I made a mistake.

The Great Ones who have come from time to time have always spoken to the mob and have spoken a language of the homeless and the lost.

The reader will find that after I have gone beyond this, it will be clearer and I want to make plain the cardinal principles of the movement, so that even a child of tender years will understand.

(Q): Will H. P. B. state what she thinks of Krishna-Murti?

H. P. B.: Sincere but handicapped; promising but not ready; a bud crushed before the petals are opened: a

flower blooming out of season.

A desire to hasten the processes of evolution has worked to wreck what might otherwise have been a mighty voice.

He himself is highly developed but his development has been forced by those on the Earth Plane.

Receive him with love when he comes because to many he will be what their understanding conceives him to be. He can do no harm to those who understand him; he can help those who do not yet grasp the whole of the truth.

Christ still lives and waits.

VIBRATIONS FROM INANIMATE OBJECTS

August 12, 1926

(A thunder storm breaks during this meeting and lasts until the end.)

Fletcher, Mr. Ford's control or guide explained that it is very hard to come when it is raining. He said it would not make it any easier to close the window and added that "they don't have rain up there. There are, however, all kinds of psychic and atmospheric disturbances even in the astral. There are now a lot of elementals; they are always around when it is storming."

Next he said, "H. P. B. is here, but it is very, very hard for her to come. She will not come thru just yet. I think I am all right now but we have to have the vibration lifted to where H. P. B. can come thru. Right now the circumstances are very unfavorable for her. She says people have come far, very, very, far, to smash things, not only on the other side but here also. Again she says, she came on the wings of a storm and she passed out on the wings of a storm and she is coming back to raise a greater storm than ever."

Fletcher explains that he does not himself see so clearly now. "It is difficult to understand the terrible conditions under which we have to work a night like this. On the radio even, it does not go so well. One seems

almost to have something and then it is gone.”

One member remarks about being protected from the rain, to which Fletcher replies that, “roofs do not mean a thing to us over here. One could take the roof off and it would not make any difference to me. The strangest thing I had to learn when I came over was that I could go thru things. I took a long time to learn that because I did not realize it. The rain does not get in the way, but it breaks the vibration.

Conversation over here is all mental. To get in touch with somebody, I see them, but when I want to get to the Earth Plane there is a blur. For the mental vibration I have to go out into the atmosphere.

When one speaks to us from the Earth Plane we pay no attention to the sound, but we listen to the thought that has been formed and the farther we go away from the Earth Plane, the easier it is for us to get away from sound. That is the reason it does not matter whether one speaks or not.

The rain does not exist so far as we are concerned. But it is—what is it called—when one is talking over the telephone and something goes buzz? I am talking all right myself, but if we try to get a message thru somebody else we have trouble. What is the difference between static and dynamic?”

Two members stated respectively that: dynamic is simply a form of gyratory motion or kinetic energy.

Finally Fletcher says: I feel I must apologize to

you for tonight, but I cannot control the elements. People must learn that we can not turn on this spiritual truth like water from a spigot.

(Q): Will you explain to the group how we call H. P. B.?

Fletcher: Everywhere that there is a psychic centre it is like a light house and the medie is always like a very great light that can be seen. It is like a light with the globe taken off. When the Spirits see that, they come thru. When a group is gathered together, the forces come because of the fact that a centre of attraction has been created which brings them. No matter how far away the entities are, they can see. Tonight all the spirits can see the light. They tell me there are 12,000 circles all over the world and each has a light like a star. When one is in the other world and looks down to the earth it is always like looking up at heaven from earth at night and seeing the stars and one is drawn by the light of vibration to the place belonging to one. It seems the higher the thought, the higher the entities that are attracted. H. P. B. comes here because H. P. B. is liked by the people here. A thought form is built up.

(Q): Is this thought form like a group deva?

Fletcher: Yes. It does not provide a channel. It is only like a flag that is put out.

(Q): Would it take on a color?

Fletcher: Yes. One can always tell a medium because the light that is around him is much bluer. The one who

is the medium has a very bright blue.

I think I will go now and see if the Madame can come.

H. P. B.: There was a time when I could transcend all physical law and violate all the principles of the physical universe but as I progressed I have ceased to manifest either in the astral or physical. I find it almost impossible to deal with physical elements.

My work now is thru channels of inspiration. Therefore, I ask patience. I will do the best I can under the circumstances. Know that behind all physical law is One Great Reality.

(At the conclusion of this sentence there is a clap of thunder).

One needs an understanding of that Great Reality to solve satisfactorily the problems of the Physical and the Astral.

(This is being dictated by one member from H. P. B.'s whispers thru the medium). I am sorry this has to be dictated so badly. I cannot seem to gather strength to speak with my—shall I say it?—customary verbosity. I have been accused of being both verbose and abstruse. Perhaps I am guilty of being obtuse. I have reached a place where I can add many terms to the charges placed against me and still get a laugh at them.—(Believe me I shall give the grand ha ha to—). Ambition and self-glorification have ever been the twin-demons. Humility is the hand-maiden to Consecration.

Only those who are humble may hope to learn that which requires understanding both in the heart and head.

Now I want to give as best I can something pertaining to Inanimate Objects.

I want to explain something about the radiations or vibrations emanating from inanimate objects. One has been taught that every living organism vibrates at a certain rate which corresponds to the plane of consciousness in which it is manifesting at that time. But it must be remembered that inanimate objects are also vibrating in a vast complexity of ways.

One should remember that inanimate objects absorb and radiate in a striking manner the affections and emotions of the living animate ego.

This chapter is to deal with the vibrations from inanimate objects and to explain how from the Mental Plane we use inanimate objects as instruments. It is a new interpretation of an old law.

VIBRATIONS FROM INANIMATE OBJECTS

(Continued)

August 19, 1926

Every student of the occult understands that human beings are constantly radiating a complex set of influence in a very definite fashion upon those whom they have contacted.

This is no less true of inanimate objects, but is quite often ignored. You know that certain places produce a peculiar effect upon one. One spot may cause one to feel gloomy and upset and another happy and uplifted. Schools, churches, prisons, hospitals, homes, public buildings of every type radiate a very definite influence, corresponding in reality to the thought and activity expressed therein.

To the ordinary individual, the undeveloped individual, this means nothing. To the developed student an understanding of this law means the solution to many varied and complex problems of human life.

Students have been taught that the vegetable, mineral and animal kingdoms radiate their own vibrations, but what has perhaps not been understood is that these various forms of life are capable of absorbing, retaining and pouring out vibrations on the human beings who have contacted them.

While in the body I delighted to visit the great cathedrals of Europe and among the beautiful experiences which I cherish now, and understand, are those feelings of reverent awe and devotion which I experienced when in the presence of these monuments to the faith and devotion of those who toiled that God, or their conception of God might be properly honored.

When one contrasts, when one compares his emotions as he stands in one of these great cathedrals which took centuries in the building, with the emotions that arise in one's heart as he stands in an American cathedral, which has arisen over night, he will understand what I mean, when I say that every stone and every piece of marble and every tiny bit of delicately wrought glass which has gone into the building of these great cathedrals has absorbed the devotion and sublime faith of the builder.

While, if one stands in the cathedral which rises in one's own American city, one experiences few of these emotions and such as are experienced come because of the sincere faith and piety of those who have worshiped there.

The men who have built it have contributed nothing but the fact of worldly gain and gross materialism to it.

I mention that by way of illustrating the fact that law decrees that every object one handles absorbs one's thought and becomes an agency, or better an agent for

the projection of one's own mental processes.

I simply use the cathedral by way of illustration. It applies to every object handled in ordinary use by men and women.

That is the secret of psychometric power, and when one is sufficiently developed and one's understanding of occultism is more advanced, one will be able to use this knowledge in every day affairs.

What I want to say is this: that every individual who has lived upon the earth has projected himself into the inanimate objects with which he has worked.

If a man works at a task with bitterness in his heart, the very tool will become an instrument of hate.

A good example is to be found today in those parts of Europe which were used for battlefields. The very stones in the fences, the trees themselves and the implements on the farms, all of which absorbed the hatred and the warlike spirit of the great armies battling there, are causing animosity, superstition and hatred among the peasants who seek the rehabilitating of the farms; and that accounts for the chaos and the sorrow in the countrysides of France today.

The same thing applies everywhere. In America the great foundries and ship-building yards became charged with the spirit of militarism and today they have become centers of discord; and industrial strife finds inspiration there.

That accounts for the trying days thru which you

have recently passed. And it is only as great souls seeking to foster and bring a spirit of goodwill and peace into these centers, are able to overcome the law of vibration and charge the surroundings with their own spirit that these conditions may be lifted.

If one will notice in these great cities that the under-world finds itself revolving around those centers given to the manufacture of things which are of no value to humanity but which find a market because of human greed and selfishness one will realize that the very nature of crime is determined by the radiation of the surroundings in which the crime is committed. For instance, in crime committed in the neighborhood of a slaughterhouse it partakes of the nature of the slaughtering of beasts.

This is a condition which has been marked by keen students both in the occult and in criminology.

In everyone's activity whether it is good or bad, one is constantly tempered by the radiations of those things which surround him, therefore, if he is to do his best work and if the resources of his activity are to be in accordance with his own nature, he must surround himself with things that are charged with the same spirit. Otherwise one will find constant strife and compromise of an unconscious nature.

If it is remembered that nearly everyone has found it impossible to give utterance to a kind word or to express a generous sentiment in the presence of certain

people in certain surroundings—it should be explained that this is, because one is just incapable of radiating these influences in that place; it is because one's own nature is tempered and often overpowered by the united radiations of many lower agencies there—am I making myself clear?

I am trying in a very simple manner to explain to the novice why he is in a constant state of flux, insofar as his genuine aspirations and desires for good are concerned; why he must understand this law in order to close himself against lower radiations.

(I will conclude this chapter next time. Good-night.)

(Q): H. P. B. says in the Secret Doctrine that the next Great Teacher will not come until the last quarter of the century, does she not?

H. P. B.: I have made this clear. I have discussed this very point. Is it not remembered?—Krishnaji might have been allowed to develop and come back as a vehicle. Now it is problematical. It depends upon his dedication and whether excarnate Masters are incarnate leaders.

It is a test for him. Do not reject that which is given thru him, for though he is not the one, he is an instrument thru which the race may receive the highest it is possible to give at the present moment.

He is worthy, but I want to stress the point I made before, that his usefulness to the world and to the Masters will depend upon whether he inclines his ear to the Master or fastens his eyes on the beauty and power

of the world. It is the temptation of Jesus over again.

The Theosophical Movement has been cursed with very ambitious leaders from the beginning, and some were so afraid that they would not be on hand when the Teacher came, that they did not consider that the world would ever again provide a person qualified to present the Teacher. So Ego triumphs over principle.

Alcyone will make a vital contribution if A. B. can realize the dignity of her position and stifle that worldly ambition. I have never questioned her loyalty, but her ambitions are quite often questionable. Will that answer your question?

(Q): Thank you very much, H. P. B. May I ask if A. B. gets direct teaching herself?

H. P. B.: From her own teachers, but she has absolutely refused to open the way for me because there was one act which placed a barrier between us. I am willing to forget but she has avoided me; she will not look into my face. I refer to the volume which was so grievously violated.

VIBRATIONS FROM INANIMATE OBJECTS **(Concluded)**

September 16, 1926

The first half of this subject is devoted to an explanation of the vibratory influence of inanimate objects and of that complex and sometimes weird state of consciousness in which one finds himself enmeshed because he has consciously, or perhaps because of human need or ambition, allowed himself to be brought into certain surroundings and into vibratory influences from lower sources than those to which he is accustomed.

An understanding of the law of vibration, insofar as it applies to inanimate objects, explains why those, who, in the Divine Economy, have control over earthly things, allow the returning ego to select the environment into which he shall return.

No one understands quite so well the particular needs of the individual as that individual himself, when he is able to look at himself as a whole and see himself clearly, as one can on these frequent journeys into the higher planes. But that which is revealed concerning one's own nature, the needs, the environment the mentality, (all those elements which are combined to make it necessary that that individual return for another incarnation) is hidden from the individual, is veiled

from his consciousness when he does return. Because if one vibrating at the rate of earth, subject to earth conditions, were able to see himself wholly and understand himself completely he would not have sufficient courage to battle through to the ultimate goal. That is why when the ego returns to earth, he does not remember the experiences or the information and knowledge which has been given to him on this side in the various planes of consciousness, except momentarily when he contacts an individual or an object which in certain respects corresponds to an experience which he himself has had in the higher spheres.

Then he has that momentary flash of understanding and seems to know instantly that he has gone through this experience before and that it is a part of him. That is an explanation of one's momentary flashes of insight.

Always one responds to vibration. Always in one there is some vibratory response to the highest vibration, as well as to the lowest.

That is why when one goes into the cathedral where devotion, faith and belief are exemplified so far as it is possible for earthly creatures to experience this impression of the highest, one instantly responds to this; because in some time in one's own experience one has moved for a while in a vibration which was always keyed up to that particular pitch. And so going back one will instantly respond.

Going into museums one will contemplate systems of art in the form of paintings, pottery, carvings, statuary, various creations of the human mind which have been gathered together from every part of the world; from among the five races now existing upon the earth; to say nothing of the Sixth Race, that is now begun, and is therefore, not able to contribute much to these museums; coming into contact with these creations, one will sometimes recoil and turn away with a sense of boredom.

This is because much of the art which holds the world's attention as having value from the artistic standpoint, was created by a people and amid surroundings vibrating at a lower rate than the vibration in which one now happens to move and because there are not many who manifest interest in spiritual things who vibrate below the fifth rate of vibration as applied to the races. And most of them, and particularly the younger ones of them are vibrating at a higher rate because they belong to that new race which is destined to prepare the way for the Great World Teacher.

When He comes, one will recognize Him because one will vibrate in unison with Him.

The reason why some here tonight did not catch the spirit of Krishnaji was simply because there are some here who have not incarnated in the Sixth Race, and because the Sixth Race as a whole has not developed as yet to receive the Great World Teachers, and he

himself has not vibrated at that rate which will characterize the World Teacher when He comes.

(Note: That will explain the great veil over the T. S. Convention which some felt because some had sufficient understanding which was not extended to all present.)

I do not seek to minimize the value of Krishnaji, or A. C., as he is known to us here. Because he is the greatest soul vibrating on the earth plane, but he has not advanced sufficiently to vibrate at a rate to make him the leader of the Sixth Race.

(Q): Could the members of the Convention have helped A. C. obtain that power of vibration?

H. P. B.: They could not. He was vibrating at a higher rate than those present.

He is like a blossom blooming out of season. Had he been allowed to go thru this, make his journey on the higher plane and then return, he could have reached a point where he would have been a vehicle for the World Teacher. It was the devotion of those present which made it hard because he was striving to vibrate in unison with thousands. He was not accustomed to satisfy the demand of those who believed he was the Great Teacher.

(Q): If the members had appreciated a little more what he was giving, could they not have helped him in that sense?

H. P. B.: When one strives to do something that is not a part of one, one creates confusion. If they had been

able to vibrate in terms of the race to which they belong then he could have given them a great deal. As it was they forced themselves, literally, into the higher rate of vibration.

(Q): Could he have received it thru the devotion?

H. P. B.: Only as that devotion compels one to follow the path and evade no step of the path. The path is long and sometimes hard, but the path has been marked by the Masters.

They are trying to jump a few steps on the path and when one seeks to do that one makes trouble.

The whole system is very wrong not the endeavor. The devotion manifested was not misdirected. A. C. is or was not wanting for that.

It is only thru misunderstanding and undue haste on the part of those on the earth that he was held on the path. While those on the earth sought to avoid certain steps, it caused great mental and spiritual confusion. Their devotion has not been at fault; their ambition is the trouble. Now do you understand?

A. C. will yet become the vehicle if the members do not insist upon A. C.'s doing things before their time.

(Q): Will that be in this incarnation?

H. P. B.: No. By that time the Sixth Race which is now in its infancy, and which does not number many people above the age of 30, will have advanced to the point where they will have an understanding necessary to receive him.

It is no accident that the majority of psychics in the world today, and those who are being used as instruments, are young people; it is inevitable. It is in accordance with the plan of the ages, and the majority of instruments who are above the age of 55 and 60 today are concerned only with the Astral and have never gone beyond that except momentarily.

(Q): Do you mean they themselves or those who use the instruments?

H. P. B.: I mean they do not belong to the class of psychics who can attract the higher forces. The New Race, the Sixth Race, is to be the psychic race and that race is in its infancy. There have been members of it for the past four or five hundred years, but they appear only occasionally.

(Q): Is it the beginning of the Aquarian Age?

H. P. B.: Yes, but it is not open. An age cannot be opened nor can a period be reached in the progress of the human family until a group has been prepared.

We are constantly compelled on this side to work thru individuals.

I am coming into a very involved problem tonight, but we are carrying out to a logical conclusion the previous chapter.

If one go into the great libraries, one will instantly react in one of two ways. One will experience a sense of futility or one will be clearly responsive to the great souls whose work is incorporated in the books on the

shelves.

If one feel a sense of futility, it indicates that he has not in his progress so far attained to the Mental Plane and therefore cannot vibrate so high and cannot coöperate with those who work through the Mental Plane.

But if one take from the shelf a volume that is too profound for one to understand, and yet there is something in him that will make him want to understand, it indicates that he has been on the Mental Plane a short time only—and therefore not sufficiently developed in that vibration to respond fully to the inspiration.

An understanding of the law of vibration will clear up many problems for everyone, will clarify much that is confusing, will lift one's mind from the contemplation of earthly and temporary things to a contemplation of those things which are higher and more spiritual.

An understanding of the law of vibration will enable one to labor intelligently because it will make one understand that one chose his place in life, and if he escape the bondage of his environment, it will mean he has conquered it and so he will be able to move on.

If one be held in an unpleasant condition, if one be thwarted, he will understand that he is simply solving a problem that he created for himself and he will know that somewhere he will reach a solution and will be done with that particular sorrow.

An understanding of the law of vibration will turn

the darkest night into day and fill one's heart with light and song and music when there is sorrow all around one; and it will lift one up when those who do not understand are imprisoned in the darkness of earth.

THE INFLUENCE UPON THE LIVING EGO OF ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS

September 23, 1926

The difficulties appear great but it seems that the atmospheric conditions tonight are created especially to illustrate that upon which I wish to speak.

I intend to talk about the influence upon the living ego of those atmospheric conditions peculiar to earth and to show how everyone is influenced in a very definite way in his progress, by the vibration given off from this great living earth.

If one has delved deeply into occult sciences, one will already have realized that the earth is but a body in which a nature spirit of a lower order is manifesting and seeking to work out his own destination. I do not mean that this entity is an adept or angel who belongs to a low order, but a gigantic nature spirit who lives and expresses himself through this particular globe as a part of his progress through the various globes of the planetary chains toward that higher group into which he will eventually merge and from which he will emerge as a human soul.

Remember that everyone has passed through these lower orders before he changed to the status of what some are pleased to call a human spirit.

Remember that the law of vibration is but one explanation of the vibration emanating from this great living organism—earth.

If one will compare the violent atmospheric disturbances peculiar to earth, he will find that they have a counterpart in the emotional storms through which everyone passes, every emotional state of the human ego has its source on the Astral or higher planes.

The same is true of earth.

It has its Astral and what corresponds to the Mental Plane operating in accordance with the laws which obtain in these lower states of consciousness. A great storm, for instance, may be but a conscious reaction of the earth spirit to some astral condition and as he reacts, he naturally disturbs the aura surrounding him and everything and every person coming into that aura is thereby disturbed and reacts to this condition. (I am trying to make this very clear because I know to some here I am advancing new theories tonight and making statements that seem on the surface rather ridiculous; but all during my earth life, I was accused of this very same thing, so why should I be exempt now?)

An understanding of this law and the realization that the earth on which one lives is a great living organism, will explain many of the catastrophies to which the human family has been subjected.

One cannot expect that this great nature spirit inhabiting the earth should understand the nature of

these millions of tiny microbes fastened like parasites upon him, and therefore when he, because of what corresponds to a nervous condition, becomes impatient with certain of these groups, he acts on impulse and disturbs great numbers of them in some violent way, such as an earthquake, a storm, a flood, a famine, or by some other means corresponding in method to the same manner in which one would cleanse one's body of parasites.

There are certain natures who feel in tune, or in harmony with a storm for instance, and who sense a freedom and an exhilaration when the elements are in revolt and even when the earth is seeking to disturb that very ego. This is because as I explained in the last chapter, there has been a point in one's experience when one vibrated at that exact rate at which the earth is vibrating. At that moment, therefore, one feels the sense of harmony and complete union with the elements.

It has been so long since I vibrated at that particular rate manifesting tonight on the earth, that it is very difficult for me even to get through at all and I find it extremely hard to control the vocal chords because at that period in my development I was not using vocal chords, therefore there is nothing in my experience to warrant my thinking that I can do so.

It is only the accumulated knowledge that has come to me since which makes me understand that a higher rate of vibration may always overcome, if properly ex-

pressed, a lower rate of vibration. By that I mean, there will come a time when the human ego or a sufficient number of them have passed through all these experiences and have realized also the calm and peace of the Nirvanic Plane, when they will be able to work in unison to overcome and to control definitely all atmospheric conditions.

Already the men of science are barometers pointing in that direction.

I want to take up the thread next time and carry the subject on and show how one is influenced by Earth conditions in the particular affairs of his life, because as I promised in the beginning this is to be a study in vibratory influences of the planets and I believe the place at which to begin is the globe on which one lives. (That will be all by way of a lesson tonight).

(Q): H. P. B., is it in line to ask about the Florida disaster, or not?

H. P. B.: I thought of that, but I did not include it here, and yet it is an incident of great importance. That was caused by the material thoughts centering in one particular spot, which attracted a destructive group of nature spirits who might as well have passed by the place, except for the law of attraction.

All these hurricanes and storms have their origin at sea where the nature spirits and elements are found in the greatest number and where they have their greatest freedom.

They are strongest when they gather in great groups and become a mob, so to speak and the intensity of the storm depends upon the number of them and the state of that which corresponds to the consciousness on the part of those making up the group of nature spirits.

They are not destructive nor unfriendly, they are simply like a group of children at play and not recognizing the human ego any more than a child would recognize an ant underfoot, they simply sweep over him.

But the law of attraction holds, and if there is a great deal of material thought, and if there are a large number of people vibrating at a low and earthly rate of vibration, and if their thoughts are centered on the earth as such it is perfectly natural that they would attract these elementals which belong to the earth as such. It is the inevitable result of the realty boom and the absolute concentration of practically every mind there upon the earth as earth.

H. P. B.: continued with another example.

Last night there were a great group of these nature spirits following the wake of the boat because they were able to see a great light, which they recognized as having some connection with them, but which they could not understand. Therefore, they followed on to see what it was. Are there any questions?

(Q): What was the light?

H. P. B.: Well, I was there. I happened to be one of them. Here is the point: They, the nature spirits are not em-

bodied, therefore it is as though they were a very small child, an entity. They are the same stuff in so far as appearance is concerned. That is, I am speaking of the disembodied spirit of a child.

(Q): Were the lights seen around the boat a number of nature spirits?

H. P. B.: Yes. A group of them together were enabled to form a light, their auras combining. Just as when one sees a materialized spirit, it takes not only a large group on the earth plane, but a large host on this side to give the strength necessary to build up a visible form.

(Q): That is the same form as a deva of a group?

H. P. B.: Yes. There is no limit to what a man or woman manifesting in a body, if he be loyal to those on this side who are able to lead him, may do, if he be willing to trust, and not use his own judgment in carrying out the instructions which are given to him.

Dedication and loyalty are the requisites for any great gift of spiritual insight. How can anyone expect one of us here, controlled by the larger group to whom we are responsible, to return through all this mess of the astral and teach people? How can one expect, I say, that we will waste time and strength trying to work through a disloyal instrument, one on whom we do not know when we can place our finger? If we find an instrument who is loyal and upon whom we can depend no sacrifice is too great for us; but not for a moment will an intelligent one over here try to force himself upon

anyone.

Those on the Astral are anxious to get back at any price, but remember the masters and teachers are not on the Astral. That is why so many people who start out with high promise and a great gift are suddenly bereft of competent guides simply because of disloyalty and a lack of moral stamina in themselves. They can always reach the Astral but they will make no contribution to the Race.

(Q): With reference to those trying to serve—if they do not comprehend their directions with sufficient quickness, are there conditions brought to bear which force the situation?

H. P. B.: If they have been chosen for a particular work; but remember this, we always recognize human frailty and the possibility of misunderstanding.

INFLUENCES OF PEOPLE AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS GROUPS

September 30, 1926

(Note: H. P. B.: They referred to me as the Light-bringer of the 19th Century. I can well refer to Fletcher, Mr. Ford's guide, as the Path-finder for that Light-bringer. He is very clever at breaking his way and clearing the path until the Brothers are able to form a protecting circle.

(Q): Is it possible, H. P. B., that this group is strong enough to attract such obstructing entities?

H. P. B.: Yes. Whenever there is a new idea born or given to the world, immediately all established ideas and customs are in arms against it. And if one realize that all conventions, ideas, customs and forms have their own astral form one can understand the antagonism which we have to overcome. But it is only through the giving of new ideas, the establishing of a new light, the uncovering of those things which are hidden that mankind has been able to progress even as far as it has, and that is not so much).

Tonight I want to talk about another and far more subtle form of influence than that about which I spoke last week.

I am leading the students step by step from their

immediate surroundings. An understanding of the vibrations emanating from these surroundings is necessary. I am leading from that environment, out into the larger sphere of planetary influences.

Tonight I am to discuss the influences upon one, through the law of vibration, of people as individuals and as groups. Nowhere more than in Occult Science is it true that evil companions corrupt good manners. It has been said that men are judged by their friends. I wish to emphasize the far greater truth that men are made and unmade by their associates.

One understands enough of the law of vibration through a study of the preceding chapters to know that man, as the highest expression of consciousness manifesting on the Physical Plane, using a physical vehicle, is capable of contacting through his higher mind those planes of thought or consciousness in which he has dwelt temporarily on other journeys between incarnations into the highest spheres.

A man cannot afford so long as he can do so without sacrificing principle, to make an enemy or incur the hatred of any man.

Because as soon as he has an enemy, whether he regard it of importance personally or not, he becomes a focal point for all hatred and bitterness and revengeful spirits which, originating in the lower mind and directed at him, are able to break down his resistance, however strong, and to enter somewhere and find expression in

his most vulnerable spot.

A man dealing with a large group of people in the capacity of leader, can well afford to be diplomatic, even at the cost of truth, in order to keep the goodwill and the regard of those who are following him. This applies to politicians, teachers, and leaders in any realm of thought in human activity. Remember that whether the followers understand the larger affairs or not, whether they enter into them completely does not matter so long as they are loyal to the leader. If they are strengthening him and holding up his hands because of their thoughts of goodwill and love which they send in his direction they help whether they are conscious of it or not. The same is true if conditions are reversed. Many a great leader has fallen because he did not have the goodwill of his followers even though he held them in subjection through fear.

The law also operates with people whom one does not know and for whom one does not feel any responsibility. They are constantly casting off thoughts of every nature which are floating about and which when contacting similar thought give it strength and intensify it. So if this little group is sending out a thought of hatred and prejudice, that is immediately strengthened by the prejudice and hatred which, emanating from the lower mind of every living person is practically waiting only to make a contact.

When this happens one has a strengthened vibration

which has no personal element in it, but which because it contacts that of the directed feeling that of itself might not be sufficiently forceful to injure, enables it then to harm.

An understanding of this law will account for the failure, or apparent failure, of many of the generous, altruistic movements of the time. The spirit of discontent and the thought of restlessness in the minds of the majority of mankind form a vivid background which greatly minimizes the more generous impulses emanating from those smaller groups who are influenced by a higher mind. Do I make myself clear?

Remember that a student of the occult is not only responsible for what he teaches, but he is also responsible for the use made of that teaching by the pupil. That is why in the East the pupils are compelled to live in close association with the Master. Because bathing in his aura, they are as separate individuals able to catch his spirit and then they can rise above any emanation of the lower mind. That is why those who are in the West, chosen for higher purposes, are carried in moments of unconsciousness, such as sleep, or trance, into the Sacred Retreats, in order that they may rest awhile in the aura of the Master, thence returning to their bodies. They are able to vibrate at a higher rate and give out a more unselfish spirit than they could have done without this experience.

INFLUENCES OF PEOPLE AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS GROUPS (Continued)

October 7, 1926

There are times when buffeted by adverse circumstances, driven by forces within and forces without, torn between desire and doubt, times when the ego, manifesting in the body, is glad to reflect that, however he may be baffled in his attempt to speak the truth, thought is free. Because that is a perfectly human refuge, it is necessary that I warn you against depending upon it as a universal truth.

Thought is not free. Thought has limitations in every direction. Thought is modified by a religious ratio, as well as by political and other circumstances. One's thought and one's action may seem to be the free expression of one's self, but the student of occultism will never be deceived by this apparent truth. He will understand that the purpose of this work cannot be thwarted by those thoughts which come to him unsought from unknown sources.

Man is not a free thinker until he has developed the soul-life, or the psychic faculty to the point that he is able to rise above the physical and earthly, and manifest in the higher vibration of the mental. Thought is free on the Mental or Thought Plane, but as it is given

through intermediaries, it is poured into well-defined channels.

Last week we discussed vibratory influences of the people with whom we come into contact. Now we are discussing the one weapon which those very people, as individuals or groups can use against us.

A thought is a thing, tangible and real, capable of being seen and photographed, and to the sensitive individual thought may appear as a physical instrument inflicting pain through contact. It is very necessary therefore that the student of occultism shall keep himself free from all groups expressing prejudice and bigotry which have no foundation in fact. By that I mean that the highest development of the individual is possible only when he rises thru psychic development to the plane of consciousness where he is able to look down upon all groups and see each group as it really is.

A group observed from above takes on a very different aspect from that which appears when surveyed from beneath because prejudice and limitation of any sort is an emanation of a lower mind and can only be sent through the use of the lower mind. St. Paul said that "Spiritual things are spiritually discerned" and then he tells us later that he was caught up to a high plane where visions and understanding were vouchsafed to him. He spoke of the third heaven, by which he meant the Mental Plane. And he writes that things never appeared the same to him again. It was after this ex-

perience that he wrote those remarkable words "Now we see thru a glass darkly"—that is thru the lower mind—"but then face to face."

The student of occultism learns early in his development how dangerous are the thoughts of those who dwell constantly on the plane of the Astral, for here they open themselves to every sort of prejudice and misconception. He remembers this fundamental fact that it is on the Astral Plane that all ideas are formed; these being free insofar as time and space are concerned are able to influence large groups and drive them like a herd of cattle toward certain destruction. So he is very careful to keep always about him a circle which is sufficiently developed to block effectually the attempt of earthbound entities to control him, except when he wills so to be controlled.

I am giving this by way of preparing the students' minds for the fundamental principle, the principle which I wish to give tonight, that is that truth, whether it comes from those in the body or from the Astral, is not to be trusted unless tested by higher consciousness, a consciousness so in tune with the Mental that it will instantly recognize the false and know how to reject it.

One is flooded upon constantly from both the Physical and the Astral by the mighty power of religious prejudice; dogmatic emanations are poured into one's consciousness ceaselessly. It is a part of the plan of those who wish to keep the hidden side of things from the hungry eyes of humanity.

It is only the student who has reached a really high understanding of occultism who is able successfully to walk unscathed thru the cloud of religious prejudice and persecution, which, beginning as a thought in the mind of one used as an instrument of destruction, combines with similar thought to build a veritable wall across the path chosen by those who seek light. It is only as one learns to close himself to this by the invocation of higher intelligences, the Masters, who are able to disburse the clouds of thought, that one will be able to retain his spiritual balance.

Long, long ago I replied to those who abused me for my teachings: "I expect abuse and slander; I greet with a smile of silent contempt all abuse." But I could not say that before I had penetrated the Sacred Retreat and learned for myself how I might be protected from the same abuse and slander. And now if I want to teach those dedicated to me how they may also escape those adverse thoughts, it is a part of the commission entrusted to me by the Masters in White.

It is not necessary to discuss political thought, except to say that as a student of occultism attains a higher point of vantage, he is not so interested in the schemes and plots of governments and is not necessarily affected by them, unless he chooses to project himself into these controversies.

Political life is constant strife and turmoil and chaos. No one of a sensitive nature or with a highly developed

consciousness, can take part in it. The intrigues and the petty thieving which distinguish the American body-politic are the inevitable result of allowing, since the inception of this government, those of low development, those who exercise only the lower mind to hold the reins of government, so all the power of government is on the side of clogging. This has always been true and always will be true.

The fine idealism and the dream of democracy which characterized this government in the beginning and which promises so much for present day Russia in America gave way to the lower and in Russia will soon be modified by the lower mind emanations of those who want material comfort in this incarnation.

Constantly then one is flooded upon by groups working at cross purposes and the only escape is to develop the faculty of rising above it. That is an experience everyone may have with a little thought and time. Since one must live in association with his fellows, one must learn to protect himself against ignorance which, taking thought form, seeks to nullify every generous effort.

I said in the beginning, thought is not free, except for those who are themselves free from thought. Are there any questions?

(Q): How can one free himself and rise above these conditions?

H. P. B.: By the study and understanding of occult law and the expansion of his psychic faculty.

(Q): What is recommended for the study of occult law?

H. P. B.: There are two paths of mental development. On the one path one stimulates his mental self or vehicle if he profit by the study of the best thought of those who have the right to speak, and by accepting truth which has been revealed by those chosen in every age to express truth. The other path is to develop the faculty of leaving this behind by the deliberate will to rise above it. That is what the instrument does, whether it is a conscious or unconscious expression of the psychic self. Both ways are open. The wiser path is that of discipleship, in which one learns the meaning of life and the destiny of himself, and recognizing the truth, refuses to admit anything not in harmony with truth. That is the only answer I can give. I admit it is a hard job.

(Q): Please speak of the difference between Col. House's and Wilson's development.

H. P. B.: House is a great psychic controlled from the Mental. Wilson was a great psychic controlled from the Astral. That is why Wilson was safe as long as he consulted House.

The letters between Wilson and House will bear great study. I will tell you why Wilson was controlled from the Astral, because he was in contact unconsciously of course, with politicians who had just passed on, and who, recognizing him as a physical instrument, sought from their limited Astral view to do the best thing pos-

sible for their respective countries, thus the League of Nations. The failure of Wilson physically, mentally as well as spiritually came because he listened to the promptings from the Astral, which in themselves were good, but which could not be understood completely, except as interpreted by House. House had a larger understanding because controlled from the Mental.

COMMENT: House worked always from behind unrecognized as far as title and honor was concerned. Did he know he was a medium?

H. P. B.: Yes. House has studied the occult very seriously.

(Q): With relation to this government, is there any hope that citizens of U. S. can come to recognize greatness and select Real Leaders by popular vote?

H. P. B.: It is very doubtful until the Sixth Race has developed sufficiently to control thought as it will eventually. When the Sixth Race comes, a group sufficiently large will have this influence on the body politic as upon other movements.

(Q): Was Lincoln controlled from the Mental Plane?

H. P. B.: He was not only a great psychic himself, but he recognized the forces and wrote the Emancipation Proclamation at the instigation and dedication of a great spirit speaking thru a Mental Medium.

(Q): Is that the one who died recently?

H. P. B.: Yes. For apparent reasons, of course it could not be publicly known. Nancy Hanks lived always a

Spiritualist. Lincoln himself had come into contact with the Fox sisters early in his life.

(Q): Is this the proper time to ask what is meant when it is said "Russia is England's understudy?"

H. P. B.: Yes, because Russia is working out a form of government, which will eventually be modeled after the British Empire, which is the greatest expression of democracy in the world today, far surpassing this American democracy, because there is no such thing as democracy in America today. There is here a republican form of government, but it does not have the democratic idea. England has a more democratic ideal, because she recognizes those whom the world has been pleased to recognize as intelligent and gives them their proper place, at the same time giving to the aristocracy the right to express itself.

The American form of government is not democratic, because there is a caste prejudice, which refuses to recognize nobility. Democracy recognizes all classes and seeks to enable each class to live and develop in accordance with divine law.

Russia will recognize her now—despised nobility and will allow them their proper place, because nobility in the beginning was created in recognition of superior intellect and was set aside as worthy of recognition by its fellows because an individual was a more highly developed soul than those about him.

Russia will be a democracy because she will recognize

this, at the same time refusing to allow that very individual to rule the mass despotically.

One of the outstanding mistakes of the American republicanism is the insane refusal of the petty politicians to recognize the greatest experiment in democracy which the world has ever known. I speak of my own beloved Russia.

(Q): Is the United States of Europe a possible thing?

H. P. B.: I do not think so now. It will come when the Sixth Race appears sufficiently strong. It is a part of the plan. There is a plan for the nations as well as for the individuals.

INFLUENCES FROM ASTRAL GROUPS.

October 11, 1926.

Last week I discussed the influences directed against the individual because of his contact with groups of people. Tonight I wish to go one step higher in the scheme which we are unfolding and discuss the influences of a group, working together from the Astral in order to finish certain tasks on earth; tasks in which the individuals comprising the group may have been severally interested while on earth.

Contacting the Astral is the easiest, and therefore the most dangerous of all psychic reachings after truth. It is so not because those in the Astral have a deliberate will to harm, but because when they are earthbound after so-called death they seem always to have a consciousness that they are free, therefore they are irresponsible and treacherous in many of their contacts.

This becomes very clear when we remember that the individual coming into the Astral, which is the first step from the Physical, brings with him all his prejudices, opinions and attitudes. He is, insofar as his character is concerned, the same individual who yesterday walked and talked with men.

The law of attraction, which binds individuals together, forming a group of them by a group conscious-

ness while on Earth, operates to draw these same individuals together when they are on the Astral. Therefore, the very movements on Earth in which they were the most deeply interested, are strengthened by any activity of the corresponding group in the Astral. As the Astral group becomes larger, for it is inevitable with the passing of time that the group on Earth become smaller, this Astral group becomes more assertive and therefore more dangerous.

This is inevitable unless the influence from the Astral group be balanced or modified by a larger understanding emanating from those who have passed from this group into the Mental and are therefore interested in rectifying some of the errors which they may have committed thru ignorance.

An understanding of this law will account for many of the sudden changes in policy on the part of some of the very religions in which many may be interested as members.

Certainly this is true of the T. S. and in a large measure it is true of the spiritualistic movement. You will see everywhere today a lifting of these movements into a larger sphere of activity, a motivating of policy, and a lowering of artificial barriers, which is the inevitable result of those who have passed from the Astral to the Mental and now seek to pour a larger truth into the very mold which they themselves helped to fashion. And to pour new wine into old skins is always dangerous and

requires caution.

Insofar as the individual is concerned he is liable to be driven irresponsibly into a certain activity if he does not know how to close the door against these groups from the Astral. For they seek to draw into the corresponding group on Earth individuals who may be easily influenced, thereby making wider the door thru which their influence may enter the Earth groups.

That is why there is all over the world today a turning back to the Roman Church on the part of individuals, a tendency to leave the Protestant communities and return to the Mother Fold. This is because the Roman Church, having a larger group on Earth, has also a larger group on the Astral; and the hunger for the mystical, which is finding expression in the lives of so many individuals affords an opportunity on the part of the Astral group to turn the individuals on earth into a path leading eventually to Rome. I use that by way of an illustration.

The same is true of the political parties, the Protestant communities, and in a small way, true of the esoteric groups.

Any small group on earth, having understood something of the mysteries of life and having studied the hidden side of things, does not generally tarry in the Astral. If any member does, he has the contact with the Masters Whom he may have consciously contacted while in the body. A process of elimination is going on and

these Earth groups as they become smaller, become stronger because they rule out those who, because they are not ready to advance mentally, thru a lack of understanding are compelled to drop out when they pass on.

The student of esotericism, when he passes from the body, practically jumps the Astral and begins his work on the higher plane. If that were not true, he could not have been a member of an esoteric group on Earth.

The very fact that he responded to esoteric or occult science reveals that in his previous passages into the higher plane he had been refined or purified sufficiently so that when he returned to the body, it was for the purpose of lifting the consciousness of his fellows.

There is an age in the far-distant future when the Astral will be populated largely by animals. The human family will have refined itself sufficiently to have lost all contact with the Astral.

That will then be the Golden Age toward which prophets and seers have looked with hungry eyes and died without beholding. Good night.

AS A MAN THINKETH SO IS HE.

October 14, 1926.

Nowhere is it more true, than in occultism, that as a man thinketh so is he.

I have discussed the influences emanating from objects animate and inanimate which modify one's own life stream.

Tonight I want to speak of those influences which have their beginning or source within one and which, finding outward expression, serve to build for one an aura, very pleasant to look upon, but repugnant to a sensitive person. It is true that those on earth live largely on the Emotional Plane, and the astral self, or body, is the emotional body, which has been built thru emotional expressions of the individual while in the flesh.

That is the reason the appetites and the passions, the hatreds and the loves, of an individual continue to manifest when he passes into the Astral and that accounts for the corresponding nature of the messages coming from the Astral.

They are generally just what one would expect from the spirit purporting to speak. If they were not, they would have no value, for one would not be able to determine their source unless the entity express himself in the customary fashion.

But remember that that far subtler force emanating in the form of thought builds around one, while he is still in the body, a shell, which the clairvoyant has come to term the aura.

It is because this aura is characteristic of the thought and mental processes of the individual that the clairvoyant is able to give a fairly accurate analysis of the individual's character. Because every action has its beginning in thought and that thought becomes a component part of the aura and though the emotion once expressed may be forgot, the source can never be destroyed.

So it should be understood that of all the forces or influences beating in upon one, none are more fraught with consequences good or bad than those which emanate from one's own mind.

It is the mental self, or aura, which is able to traverse the Astral and express itself upon the Mental. And the degree of attachment in the Mental Plane, is determined by the quality of one's thought.

As the law of attraction obtains in the Mental, as well as in the Physical and Astral, the thought emanating from one's mind and building this cloud-like substance (or aura) about one will attract to itself from the Astral Plane thoughts of a corresponding nature, just as surely, and as effectively as it attracts thoughts of a like nature from the other minds on Earth.

So one will understand the necessity of living always on the high Mental Plane and willing that no thought

that is base or material in its nature shall become sufficiently active in one to find a place in the aura.

The only protection one has in the beginning is that until that thought takes concrete form in objective expression, it does not find its place in the aura. It has to be given out through physical agencies, such as the hands or the tongue before it becomes sufficiently strong to find its place in the scheme.

Then, once having done that one has set in motion an objective thought in the form of some creation that may be good or bad. But one has as mental counterpart the same thing, which becomes a part of his aura or astral self for all eternity.

The student of occultism learns this truth very early on the path and seeks to think in terms of self abnegation, that is to rise above those things which frankly speaking, are calculated to generate thoughts of an obscene or a violent nature.

It is only as one develops the quality of unconsciousness insofar as the lower elements of mind are concerned, that he is able to cleanse his aura.

I do not mean to say that a developed student or a dedicated disciple cannot change his astral self. He can.

But as he changes his mental self thru the exercise of his higher mind he simply shuts out as errors from his aura those old creations of his mind.

Some day he will have to deal with them but justice has decreed that he can successfully rise above them

while still in the body and build a mental self so strong, powerful and protective that it will be able to dominate the lower and finally destroy it, as every strong instrument is capable of destroying the weaker.

I have dwelt here on the power of thought and I have emphasized the danger of wrong thinking; not because I take the fatalistic standpoint too strictly; but from the viewpoint of the higher occultism thought is a force and force is vibration and vibration has its color. Each vibration giving or taking a color which is determined by the rate of the vibration.

Vibration is energy and energy is the final element of all things. Everything that is animate or inanimate may be reduced to energy or vibration. The two terms are synonymous as used here.

Since vibration is determined by thought and can be controlled by thought; since thought is determined, as we studied in the last chapter, from the highest spheres, (no man "thinking as he pleases" but "each man thinking as he must" in order to manifest as he should in a particular environment in which he is placed) thought finally becomes God—that Supreme Intelligence which ordains that the lesser shall be in harmony or be destroyed.

So in conclusion, let me say that all the purpose of that larger understanding, which is life, is, that one must not allow thoughts of hatred, incarnate or discarnate or any thought that is not in harmony with

that perfect scheme, of which one is a part, to enter one's mind and find expression objectively.

I am quite aware that one may think under the influence of those on Earth and those on the other planes, who are still battling with a badly constructed mental self. In this way one is led into thoughts of these very things which I have diagnosed as unworthy a student of occultism. But let these thoughts die aborning. Do not give expression to them by word or deed for in that very moment one is compelled to add to his mental luggage, impedimenta which has no value and which may become dangerous when he needs to be free.

Remember also that however these thoughts may be inspired, so long as they are not expressed, the purpose is defeated of those who seek to influence and one keeps himself clear for those higher thoughts which cannot enter an aura burdened with the lower.

There is a constant battle between the lower mind, the individual forces on the Earth and in the Astral, and the higher mind seeking to manifest from the Mental Plane.

This battle is as old as the race; it is a part of the education of the race.

The secret of every Karma lies with the higher, else would that Great, Supreme Intelligence Whom some call God, be defeated.

The powers of darkness are elementals using the lower mind.

The children of light are those who have learned to use the higher mind.

The only worth-while result in the study of occultism, the only achievement justifying the Teacher's journey on the path, is the ability always to exercise the higher mind and thus cleanse the aura, which was built into the mental self in days of ignorance.

That is all.

(Q): Do not certain thoughts coming into the Aura cloud it?

H. P. B.: Yes. But if one has learned to exercise the higher mind, he cannot admit them. Because just as oil will not mix with water, so these adverse thoughts directed at one will not mix with the higher thought, which has been expressed, and has therefore become a part of one's aura.

One's own protection is, as I said in another part of the notes, to think so highly that lower thoughts will drop from one like water from the back of a duck. A thought can only assimilate with another thought of similar nature.

(Q): Can thoughts sent to one affect him so that he feels debilitated?

H. P. B.: Well they may not necessarily be bad thoughts. They may be only calls for help.

(Q): This talk seemed to imply that people are able to exercise mentally earlier than I had imagined. I thought most people who believed they were thinking (abstractly)

were merely feeling.

H. P. B.: That is practically right, but I said it was possible for those who are developed to do that. But emphasize the word Developed.

Now a great many psychics or mediums think they are very highly developed because they are able to contact the Astral where, as a matter of fact, that very contact will debilitate them physically because an emotional expression finding an emotional outlet from the Astral will always debilitate the physical.

An emotional storm always leaves one gasping for breath.

The only medium who can successfully deal with those on the Astral is the one who can at will transcend the Astral and therefore be stronger than any entity coming through.

Remember in the development classes as one seeks to develop mediumship, that if one ask for mental and psychic development, he will get astral or emotional development also but it will not be permanent. It will be like an instrument which one will use, whereas if one ask only that he may contact the Astral, he will be the instrument and the astral will be the master and no one has a right to be mastered from the Astral.

No one has any right to be mastered by anyone lower than those from the Mental Plane.

It is simply the case of a larger controlling a smaller. The time has come, my dear Chelas, when every individual

who has the gift of mediumship in any degree, should seek to develop it as best he can, in accordance with the principles which I have set forth.

When he is given the psychic gift in a degree sufficient to become useful to others and refuses to use it, he must inevitably be wrecked in body and soul, not because of a spirit of vengeance that demands that, but because contending forces will rend him piece by piece. He himself will not be strong enough to withstand the constant battle of contending forces seeking to use him on this side. By way of illustrating this—take the half million insane people in America.

One of the most distressing things I went through in my last incarnation was to have the psychic gift and not be understood. It is stronger than lust or any other passion which sears and burns the souls of men; stronger because it is a lever which the whole Astral World is seeking to use.

One may battle with his own nature successfully, but to have to battle with a million entities like his is a hopeless fight.

(Q): Did you realize this to a great degree and thus take the stand you did on Spiritualism?

H. P. B.: Spiritualism was different at that time. Spiritualism was at that time a matter of psychic phenomena, a definite invitation to elementals.

Spiritualism has changed under the direction of the Masters and has become the one method by which the

Great Enlightened Ones on this side hope to implant supreme truth and larger wisdom in the human race.

THE ASTRAL GROUP THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY LIFE FAILURES.

October 28, 1926.

The student of the occult or the one who has given himself to systematic research becomes inevitably a Romanticist. He is dealing with a dream. He is searching for an explanation. He is seeking behind the objective in order to understand the reality.

The first step is well understood and has been outlined.

Tonight I want to speak about the vibrations which come from one particular group in the Astral. This subject I have reserved for a separate chapter because it is of sufficient importance to stand out clearly. It is the activity of this group to which can be credited many of the failures in life.

This group is comprised of those in the Astral who have attained a very high degree of development in the past and who have practically stood still for a long time because although they were highly evolved they at the same time deliberately chose something not in accordance with the plans for them.

This group is becoming larger all the time. It is recruited really from the ranks of those to whom men have entrusted high enterprises because their superior

ability is recognized.

Superior ability, the student knows, is always a result of a high development or to put it another way it is the result of many incarnations.

Unfortunately, from among these older souls there are those who deliberately yield themselves to a control or to an influence that is lower than the one to which they vibrate customarily, thereby they stultify their powers and lose the gift which was theirs in the beginning.

This group in the Astral is vibrating at a lower rate than the younger spirit coming over from Earth, because the members of the group are in darkness having shut-off the light thru deliberate indulgences while on Earth. Whereas the new spirit coming over suddenly finds himself in a light similar to that of Earth; in fact in all respects he finds things very similar to those he knew on Earth.

But those blessed with spiritual gifts who have chosen to indulge themselves either thru ignorance or thru the enjoyment of some weakening or debilitating force in their life-stream, have failed to encounter the old familiar conditions; they have returned into darkness for the simple reason that the mental self returns to the higher plane separating definitely from the astral, thereby leaving the astral in a condition corresponding to that of an idiot on Earth—a shell without intelligence.

To make this clear, I may say that those who enter

the Astral customarily retain all the other vehicles until the astral vehicle is sloughed off much as the physical has been. They go higher as soon as all the astral is sloughed off even if this happens in the very beginning of their sojourn in the Astral for the vehicles remain in the respective places. In other words the various bodies are composed of matter drawn from the several planes in order that man can function on each plane accordingly. Man requires a physical body to express on Earth, an emotional body in order to feel and a body composed of mental matter to enable him to think.

When he leaves his physical body behind thru what is called death he has still his astral or emotional as well as his mental bodies.

As the Astral conditions are next to the Physical in relative density or vibration he functions naturally thru the astral body after leaving the physical.

In a case such as has been discussed in this chapter where the soul is highly developed but where in the Earth expression it was obliged to leave the person to succumb to his lower emotions to a great extent, the moment the cord of life was severed the soul as such would pull away instantly to its own on the higher Mental Plane.

Then you have the astral shell or body left on the Astral with a sufficient amount of the energy which had naturally been drawn from the soul's forces, because it has not been long separated from its higher self.

This shell floats about with sufficient intelligence to direct its movement but without sufficient intelligence to manifest in a way helpful to itself or to others. Thus you have what are known in the Astral as hulks (I have to use that term here).

Now here is the important point, the very crux of the problem, so far as the student is concerned: these very hulks retain a sufficient memory of their activity on Earth, to reach out to others engaged in a similar activity because these people are vibrating at that rate to which they were accustomed when on Earth. These hulks are very dangerous to them because that which goes lower always exercises a pull downward on those who were above.

Therefore, it is very likely that the highly sensitive individual, unless he has learned to protect himself, will find at certain times, that thoughts suggesting every form of vice will seize him with overwhelming power and seek to destroy him. He will generally give himself to these things because of the very fact that he is so sensitive and he thinks he is doing it of himself and because of himself, when, as a matter of fact, it is simply the energy or vibration emanating from these hulks who vibrate in the same rate with him or who have allowed that vibration to come up from the Astral, simply thereby drawing to him all the thoughts and the vices which belong to the astrals who have already been left behind.

Therefore these hulks moving among these discarnate

shells, with nothing but the evil which has fallen there, send that back and send it back very easily because they vibrate at such a rapid rate.

The only good thing about these hulks is that they are not able to manifest very long. So long as the strength, which is constantly becoming weaker, retains any memory of its work on Earth, it can be dangerous, but that memory does not persist very long, a few years, as time is reckoned here, very seldom more than a dozen, when they are no longer able to manifest.

I speak that way tonight, because here in this great city there are a great many people who are failing simply because they are vibrating at the rate of genius. These thru pressure from the earth side, pressure of a material nature, have become discouraged and thereby they have weakened every protection and permitted to be attached to them the emanations from those lower, or those hulks who have gone the path of destruction.

That is why it is very hard for the genius to live a moral life; that is why it is very difficult for the genius to conform to normal standards and to conduct himself in a manner pleasing to less highly developed people.

The more highly developed one is thru incarnations (and development always comes in that manner)—the more highly developed one is, the more liable he is to give himself to every form of what the world calls sin.

It is because he is so far from that naturally that he does not take the trouble to build a protective shell for

himself. Realizing instinctively that he vibrates at a higher rate than the average, he is apt to disdain average standards, thereby opening a door for these emanations of other people who had the same ideals and because of that very error have fallen into the tricks of the Astral.

Next week I am going to finish this little book by showing how to build protective shells against all the vibrations which we have discussed.

(Q): Is there not another way of accounting for the behavior of the genius? Might it not be that these people have gone so high that they fall proportionally?

H. P. B.: Yes.

(Q): The real people have gone to the Astral?

H. P. B.: Yes, but I am talking about those whose shells are in the Astral because they retained a sufficient amount of the memory there.

(Q): Has the real man gone on?

H. P. B.: Yes. No one ever leaves a shell without leaving that shell some memory. It takes a little time always for that to die out. It is not real. It is more dangerous because if the real man were there, he would be able to control the situation.

That is why it is always dangerous to call back from the Astral anyone who was a genius on Earth, unless one test him thoroughly. The returning genius is really the cause of the world's contempt for Spiritualism. The mediums who call all the spirits of the great ones that are gone, are often contacting these astral shells

which are being used by masquerading entities. If they have come over recently, the mediums are simply arousing that force which is resident in him and which may really come from the group about which I was speaking tonight. However, the invocation of the Christ Force or Spirit and the other test is a protection.

Do not call back a genius unless he has been over here long enough to have outgrown the astral vehicle or unless he is able to prove himself.

It is a karmic problem. These spirits have to go back and reincarnate in a lower environment and have to work thru a great many conditions thru which they had already passed. It is possible, and often it is the case that one has to retrace, retrace and retrace thru incarnations.

(Q): It works out eventually for good?

H. P. B.: I am speaking of those who on Earth, have led self-centered lives, because it is thru the earth-problems that one creates his karma and solves his problems because it is on Earth only that one is expressing objectively.

It is on Earth only that one can create or solve a problem. It is only as one manifests in the physical that one is permitted to create karma. Therefore it is only thru manifesting on the Physical that one is able to help another to overcome.

(Q): A genius has in the past lived more intensely, or vibrates at a higher rate; in that way the swing from

the greater height would carry him to the corresponding depth?

H. P. B.: He has had a wider plane of experience. His problem is generally due to the fact that he is in touch with the higher forces and has refused to recognize them, thereby shutting off the source of his real power. That is the answer to and the explanation of the problem.

HOW TO BUILD PROTECTIVE SHELLS.

November 4, 1926.

In the preceding chapters I have discussed vibration and the influence which groups in the Astral are able to exercise over similar groups on Earth.

I have discussed vibration from every practical standpoint in order that the student might understand the danger in which he stood unless he developed the power of protecting himself against these thought forms emanating from sources both low and high.

There are many ways of protecting one's self. The two most practical methods are consequently the two which I wish to discuss here:

In the first place, the serious student who understands occult law may build a protective shell by means of which he will be able to shut out vibration which he does not wish to accept.

This is not the best way. Nor is it the safest way, for a shell which is strong enough to shut out vibration coming from a certain source outside one's self, may also retain vibrations which it were better to dissipate.

In building a protective shell, one must always remember to build on three planes of consciousness. If he is to combat successfully these forces he must build; an etheric shell to protect the physical, an astral shell

to protect the astral and a mental shell to protect the mental.

To build an etheric shell may protect one temporarily in the ordinary physical contacts, but it affords no protection when the individual falls asleep, or for any other reason loses control of his physical self. This method involves a conscious scheme of concentration, a definite willing of physical energy.

In certain well defined channels one can thru concentration build an etheric shell which will protect him from contagious diseases. I use that by way of illustration, but as I suggested, any shell which will shut out a vibration will retain the same. Therefore in building an etheric shell remember always to leave one outlet. By that I mean that since the etheric shell is simply an emanation of mental power, directed there in ovoid form about the entire body or about a part of the body, one can leave in one particular spot an opening in the ovoid. Thru this opening one is able, by an exercise of this same will power, to discard those vibrations which are purely mental and which cannot exercise an unhealthy effect on another individual by being discarded. They simply fall of their own weight and are dead so far as the power is concerned.

In building an etheric, one is able to protect himself from the thought forms directed consciously toward him by his enemies. He will be able, to put it another way, to shut out those thought forms made up of hatred and

greed and a hundred other emanations of the lower mind, which are simply drifting about like clouds waiting to attach themselves to similar thought forms wherever they are to be found.

That is the first and by far the most practical result of building an etheric shell.

In the second place one protects himself from those individuals, of whom there are a great many more than one might suspect, who unconsciously absorb vital power and energy from stronger personalities like a sponge soaking up one's vitality and draining one of strength.

There are perhaps in a group of one hundred people at least ten more or less developed vampires. The fact that they are unconscious of this tendency or lack of development makes them of more danger to the individual who has developed and has not protected himself.

So long as they confine themselves to absorbing that vibration, white vibration, which is mental, but unconsciously thrown off from the individual, they cannot harm one, but the vampire type, not being conscious of his tendency, is not able to discriminate, therefore he takes from one all that he possibly can and makes no return.

By building then an etheric shell one definitely shuts in the energy which might otherwise be drawn from one.

When one begins to build the astral shell, he moves into a more subtle phase, for here one deals with the passions and emotions and one must build a shell of an

emotional nature. By that I mean that whereas one's etheric or physical self is protected by a shell built thru concentration or of will power, one's astral shell is built by feeling, that is by meditation and by quietly allowing one's self to drift away from concentrated thought into a more negative state.

By way of illustrating, as one goes to sleep at night, one leaves his etheric shell protecting his physical body; now while his emotional or astral shell, protecting the astral self, is able to protect it, it does not allow thru the law of vibration sufficient contact with the etheric shell to enable one to return instantly, should anyone attempt to harm the physical body.

Again if one makes the mistake of building an astral and not building an etheric shell at the same time, one has a strange problem in that he is protected only when he is unconscious so far as his physical self is concerned.

His astral shell protects him from the same dangers of the Astral Plane as the etheric shell does on the Physical.

Then on the Mental, or perhaps it might be better to say the Spiritual for when one has begun to build his mental shells he touches the higher source of power he builds a shell that is not visible to the clairvoyant even.

A clairvoyant can see the mental self only when it is within the astral or the etheric.

One is now dealing with a spiritual reality and one

can build his mental shell for the protection of his mental or spiritual life only thru consciously contacting ex-carnate or discarnate (whichever is the better word to use there) individuals, which are able to provide one with a protecting force. That is why the student of the occult, or the developed psychic, is the only individual who is able to shut out from himself vibrations emanating from the Mental Plane or coming at him from those on the Earth Plane who are sufficiently developed to use black magic if they choose to do so.

The foregoing methods, as I said in the beginning, can protect one in a measure, but there is another protection, one more worthy of the student. That is to rise sufficiently to a plane of unselfish and devoted service to his fellows, sending out thru him, from himself, vibrations of love, goodwill and kindness, so rapidly and so fully that it is like a flood sweeping everything in front of him. One can be protected sufficiently by the building of shells. One may be protected unselfishly and at the same time protect a multitude of others by sending out from the center of his being these waves of love, this Christ Spirit, in such a manner that anything less developed must inevitably fall before it.

That is the glorious way, the way of the adept, the way of those Masters Who are free to go and find peace and final absorption into the infinite, but Who choose, because of this very principle, to remain in contact in order that They may be helpers to those on earth who

have caught that same spirit and are willing to manifest this love.

To each—each and everyone—in this class, and to those who shall read these pages, I recommend the protection of love.

Become a veritable fountain, flowing forth in every direction, cleansing and purifying every unclean element which finds expression in the social body.

Thus will one protect himself at the same time protecting those weaker brothers who might otherwise thru ignorance be destroyed.

That is the way of the Masters. It is my way. It must become the way of mankind, the Christ Spirit actively at work.