

THE LIGHT OF EGYPT

The Strange Story of the ROSICRUCIANS

By Sri. Ramatherio



FOURTEENTH EDITION

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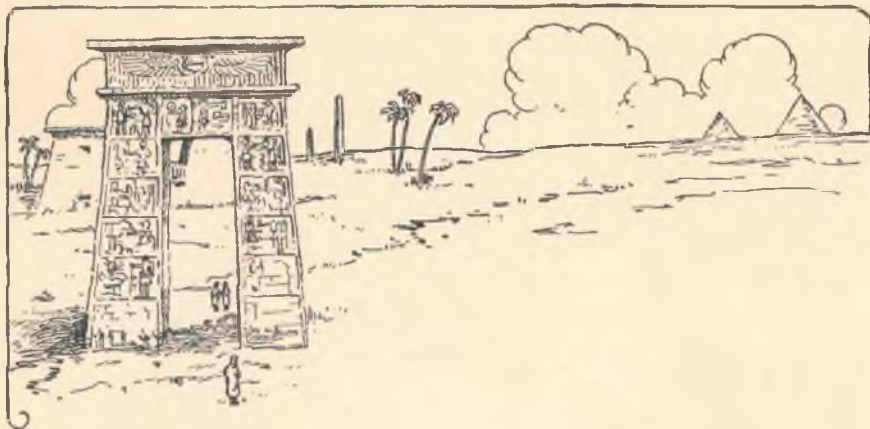
Supreme Grand Lodge

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SIR FRANCIS BACON, K.R.C.
IMPERATOR OF THE ROSICRUCIANS IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY
(A modern pen-sketch of the Great Philosopher)



A MESSAGE OF FELLOWSHIP AND HOPE

Have you ever felt that somewhere in the world there was one who could aid you in the problems that beset you, and whose fellowship would bring help, inspiration, and hope?

Thousands of men and women in every part of the world have realized this need in every year of history's past. It has been the universal call for fellowship, the common, human plea for sympathetic understanding and mutual help.

You have tasted of some of life's sweets, and you have found the bitterness in life. So it is with most of us. It is not true that there are more sorrows than joys in life, or more failures than victories. It is simply that we find so many ready to share in our happiness *and so few to share our worries.*

Have there not been times in your life—even very recently—when a simple explanation by one who knew, or a willingness to assist by one who was prepared, would have solved your problems or provided a key for practical use?

A FRIENDLY HELP

Your problems are those which have affected many, and many times have they been met and overcome. But no man or woman can cope with these things alone. *unaided and unadvised.* The wealthy and the unfortunate have found it advisable to seek guidance and dependable assistance in the protection of their interests; their means and their circumstances make this possible and necessary. The average man and woman, even of considerable education and training, cannot always command the *knowledge* and the *experience* necessary to bring immediate relief.

It does require *knowledge* and *experience*, and these give you a **POWER** that can conquer the obstacles before you.

All through the ages man has sought *direct* and *practical* advice or help in the time of his adversities. For this reason certain men became learned in the principles of nature and the laws of the universe which gave man the power to master the conditions that confronted him.

"Wise men," they were called; they were honored, respected, and beloved. They were credited by the superstitious with supernatural abilities. The thinking ones

soon found that these *wise men* were in possession of nothing more unusual than a true understanding of *man and his natural and spiritual powers*.

REMOVING YOUR FEARS

True knowledge becomes a great power in the hands of thinkers.

Real knowledge by man *about man* is, today, the greatest power any man can possess.

In your youth *you* feared things which you later came to recognize as harmless and really useful.

In your days of developing observation, you were puzzled by the unknown elements of life. It seemed to you that there were more elements of the *unknown* than of the *known*.

It is always the unknown in every day's activities that causes us worry, concern, perplexity, and even suffering. In years since your youth you have become well acquainted with things once unknown. Today you *know* them; you can see them, sense them, prepare for them, long before they approach your affairs.

Such knowledge is power; it is a power no one can take from you.

Are you fully prepared, however, to meet all the obstacles of life, and sweep them aside, or surmount them easily?

ARE YOU THE ONE ?

Statistics say that only one man in a thousand—only one woman in a thousand—is truly prepared to fight the game of life.

Life is a game. It is the most interesting, intense, serious game in the world. It is filled with so-called "chances"; and what man calls *luck* often seems to be the only help that the average person depends upon.

But—one in a thousand *knows better*. One in a thousand knows that *luck* and *chance* are misleading names for manifestations of certain definite laws. To those who do not know the laws, *all is chance*; even our birth, our place here on earth, our mission in life, our victory in transition.

Such persons are going through life, blind, unhappy, and unsuccessful. Even their temporary rises and good fortune in life simply add to their worries of the *unknown element* that may be willing to change everything for them.

It has always been so. Ages ago, in Egypt, the country which was the most advanced in all learning, in all arts and sciences, there were few wise men and women, the one in each thousand, and the multitudes of hopeless ones.

YOUR INHERITANCE

Man was not born to remain in ignorance. Knowledge is the Divine Heritage of all of God's creatures. The real *fall of man* has been his fall from *Infinite Wisdom*. "In ignorance of the law did man eat of the tree of false knowledge."

Your forbears—those men and women of the past whose blood flows in your veins—were inquirers and seekers for knowledge. Some of them probably contacted the great work of the master teachers, and learned how to be masters of their lives.

Tracing backward through the generations of man we find the same quest, the same dominating desire in the Soul of man—the desire to know *how* to master each problem of life and prevent the unforeseen, the unknown, and the weaknesses of the flesh, from subjecting him to their dictates.

You inherited at birth the Divine Heritage of Infinite Wisdom and unlimited mind power. What has become of it? What are you able to do with it? These are questions which have occupied the minds of men for a thousand years or more.

Has the question ever been answered? The successes in life which have been notable in all ages prove to us that thousands have found the answer and have risen above the conditions which enslave others.

MAN DISCOVERS SECRET

When, and where, did man begin to manifest his essential power over the kingdoms of mortal things? We can find traces of his conquering trait in the earliest achievements of civilization. But, we find the most definite form of mutual help for individual progress, in the first *arcane schools* of Egypt.

In that land of mystery and romance, ignorance and wisdom, tradition and innovation, thousands sought the *Light* that would lead them out of bondage into the freedom of self-reliance.

There in the midst of what was considered pagan darkness, the first *great Light* of man's Divine Powers burst forth in a private hall of a secluded Temple. The spirit of brotherhood and fellowship, of human sonship with God, and universal hope, was made manifest, and a movement was started for the betterment of man that has never ceased to carry on.

HELP WHEN YOU WANT IT

Just as *you* want to help when help seems futile; just as *you* want the power to cast aside the obstacles that stand between you and the realization of your desires; just as *you* want health, happiness, success in your undertakings, and the fellowship or advice of those who know just what to do; so, men and women in the centuries past wanted these things and sought for them.

In this way came about the formation of a great brotherhood, a great movement based upon fellowship and mutual co-operation. *Knowledge* and *Experience* were the tools with which the movement worked; love and human understanding were the forces which energized the labors.

How great is our need today for such a movement? The work started in these ancient times spread throughout the world and became the leading hand for millions of *men and women, proving the universal plea in every land. Today the Rosicrucians* continue their unbroken faith with all mankind and extend the hand of fellowship and service.

YOUR NEEDS AND MINE

You and I have common interests; for your sorrows as well as your joys, may come to me also. Your success in life and your peace and happiness determine whether you will help others in their struggle for the world's blessings, or whether you will become despondent, discouraged, and incapable of contributing to the world's great work.

Among the most necessary things in life are health and the *ability to change those conditions which limit our actions* or hold us in undesirable circumstances. Health, and the power to master our lives; this is my need, it is your need, it is the need of those dependent on you. Together must we strive to bring the same power to those who look to us for that wisdom which protects and creates.

WHY ARE WE HERE ?

Why are we here on earth, and what must be our real mission? Why are some so poor, in health, in worldly things, and in the ability to create? Not *luck* or *chance*

will explain the differences, and no form of philosophical belief will change the conditions we sense each hour of the day.

The mind of man—your mind and mine—is capable of unlimited thought and unmeasurable imagination. Mentally we can create the things we desire and the things we need, and it is possible to turn these mental images into concrete realities. We know that some are able to do this, why not you?

Life has taught us that man has conquered the worlds of his dreams in thousands of ways. Men who have been born poor have achieved fortunes, men who were disabled, or poor in health, have attained health and success. Men and women of lowly stations in life, by the sheer power of their wills, have risen to eminence and social recognition.

CHANGING YOUR LIFE

There is no secret about the methods which God and nature have provided for man to use. There is no miracle in the changing of a life of *want* to a life of *abundance*. Man's environment and circumstances are exactly what he *permits* them to be. A lack of knowledge of the laws, a lack of experience in the application of his *inner powers*, are the only barriers to mastership.

Only one in a thousand is efficiently using these powers. But, those thousands who are using them, and who have proved them to be dependable, have learned that by *sharing* their knowledge, through fellowship and mutual co-operation, a greater degree of success and happiness is attained.

Hence the foundation of the Rosicrucian movement, the brotherhood of seekers for *Light, Life, and Love*. "It was as though the voice of God spoke in the wilderness and infused a few of His creatures with His Infinite Wisdom and Divine Plans for the salvation of the races of men," writes one historian in telling of the foundation of the Arcane Schools of Truth in the land of Egypt. "Like the blinding flash in the midst of utter darkness," is the way another historian of Egyptian progress speaks of the movement started for the illumination of the minds of men.

"A halo of glory has surrounded the Rosicrucians," says Lord Bulwer Lytton in his books dealing with the unique movement, and "nothing has ever come into the lives of progressive men and women in the whole history of civilization that equals the nobleness and altruistic work of the Rosicrucians," says a modern writer of world events.

THE PRACTICAL WAY

In all the writings of eminent authors of histories, philosophical essays, world events, and humanitarian activities, we find exalted testimony to the goodness, *practical service*, and untiring efforts of the Rosicrucians. Novelists for many centuries have referred to their achievements, scientists have paid homage to the researches and findings of the workers in the Rosicrucian bodies, and newspapers and magazines have published long and enthusiastic accounts of the valued contributions made by the Rosicrucians to the welfare of mankind.

YOUR PROBLEMS IN LIFE

In the Proverbs we read, "With all thy getting, get *understanding*." We are also told, "understanding is a well-spring of life unto him that hath it."

It is true that our one big problem in life is to understand life, its purposes, and its complex situations.

We need not be learned in all the wisdom of the world, and in fact need not be worldly wise, to have real *understanding*.

Most of the problems that face us in life are serious because we cannot understand them. Life itself often seems beyond understanding to the person who has not become familiar with the simple fundamental truths.

The misfortunes that suddenly rise in the path of a happy career often seem associated with elements or conditions which appear to be beyond understanding. We seek to find *how* and *why* these sudden events occur, and even a little understanding of their causes, aids us in mastering them. It is when we cannot fathom the causes, cannot understand the principles involved, that we become enslaved by them and suffer.

The sudden loss of property, the unexpected rejection of solicited favors, the undesired collapse of a big business, like the crash of carefully built plans and hopes, leaves us perplexed, needing immediate advice, help, and dependable methods, for re-creating the former status of affairs.

WHEN YOUR PLANS FAIL

The continued frustration of every move to better our conditions, the lack of response to our petitions, the endless struggle to make ends meet when we deserve better things, cause us to wonder and ask: "What is *wrong* and why can we not *understand* the forces that are at work?"

"I can't *understand* it!" is the time old cry of mankind in all adversity. And, when understanding comes, there also comes an end of worry and a hopeful attitude that brings a power to accomplish the desires of life.

You may believe that there is a Divine part of you that is ever attuned with constructive forces and in loving consideration of your needs. Yet, other forces in the universe, other powers of a worldly nature, attack you, limit your fulfillment of plans, and hamper you in your ambitions. It seems almost impossible to *understand* why the *Divine Self* within cannot overcome the forces from without, and why the mind cannot over-rule the things of the flesh and the world.

COSMIC LAWS AFFECT YOU.

It was found, long ago, that man is affected by many principles and forces, operating according to laws, and easily understood, but which continue through life to influence his health, his mental efficiency, his natural tendencies and his reaction toward the events of life.

Man is a free agent in every sense of the word; he has the power to reason, judge, and come to a conclusion. He has the privilege to decide between two impulses, two desires, two methods—and act accordingly. He must abide by the results of his decision—but he has the freedom to decide. In this sense, is man a *free agent*; his ultimate accountability to God and man for his acts, does not alter the fact that he is *free to act*.

But, man is constantly being urged, tempted, impelled, and prodded to *impulses* from around him and from within his being. From without him come the impulses of the world and its illusory or transitory conditions; from without him come the more conservative, rational, dependable urges of the Cosmic Mind, and the *still, small voice*.

Like the pendulum of a clock, swinging from side to side, man's freedom to act vacillates in yielding to the urges from the world around him, to the urges from within. He is constantly faced with the question, "What shall I do? Which is best for me to do?"

CREATIVE FORCES WITHIN YOU

Within man there are constructive, creative forces always at work and always attuned with the most perfect wisdom of the Immortal Self. These forces must repair the damage done to the body, overcome the strains and stresses upon the mental system, and guide the indecision of man's mind in the right direction. From the natural forces operating throughout the universe certain harmonic vibrations, ethical energies, and vitalizing powers contact man's being and change the nature of his physical body or react upon his mental efficiency. This man is hourly a complex being, influenced by forces and potent principles of a serious and important nature.

Man must understand these things if he is to become a success in life *and use his freedom to act* in a wise manner. Man must either live completely in harmony with the forces *in* him and *around* him, or at variance with them. There is no middle course. Not if health, success, and happiness are to be attained.

Understanding of the natural, spiritual, and mental laws is the only means for mastership of life. There is no substitute for this understanding. College education, scientific training, great book learning, and other mental attainments, **DO NOT CONSTITUTE THE NECESSARY UNDERSTANDING.**

IT HAS BEEN PROVED

For hundreds of years the work of the Rosicrucians *has* proved that men and women graduates of universities, and men and women in the highest professional walks of life, are not better qualified to master their careers and attain complex control over the affairs of their lives, than those who have received just a common school education.

Intuition, for instance, is a natural, inherent, attribute of the inner-self, or the metaphysical part of man. It is highly developed in some, and almost dormant in others. And, despite the fact that it is one of the faculties which enables men and women to accomplish more vital changes in their lives than any other faculty, there is no college course of study, no scientific school of learning, that even *attempts* to develop and enlarge this faculty in man.

The ability to create mental images of things desired and to transmute these images into mental forces that will affect all our activities and bring them into harmonious realization, is another mental or psychic faculty of the inner-self that is tremendously active in every successful business man and woman, but it is not developed through college or scientific courses of study.

THESE POWERS ARE YOURS

Both *intuition and mental creation*, are faculties and processes given to man by Cosmic law, but the Rosicrucians learned long ago that these must be carefully developed and brought to a point of practical application like the faculties of seeing, hearing, and feeling.

"As a man thinketh, so is he," is a popular proverb; but, what shall he think, and how shall he think? These are the important points.

To think properly of the problems of life, and to think constructively in order to solve those problems, man **MUST UNDERSTAND** the nature of his being, the diversity of the faculties and functioning of the mental and metaphysical powers within him. He must know the natural laws of all creation, the spiritual laws which govern him, and the material laws which are meant to **SERVE** him and not **ENSLAVE** him.

Man must rise above his *fall through ignorance*, which made him subject to worldly limitations, sufferings, defeats, and constant changes, and become the master

of the worldly principles and captain of his ship on the seas of life. It can be done, has been done, and is being done by thousands who follow the Rosicrucian methods and accept the Rosicrucian hand of fellowship and service.

THE MYSTICS OF THE ORIENT

The Rosicrucian ideas originated, as we have said, in the oriental lands among the wise men and women who found through observation the effect on man of many of the natural and spiritual laws unknown to the masses. Private schools were established, and with true altruism and humanitarianism, the work was carried on to other lands.

Throughout the Christian era the Arcane Schools of the Brotherhood operated widely among the progressive minds, always leading them on to greater heights and contributing to the uplift of man in general.

History is replete with the incidents of the great work accomplished by the Essenes, the Therapeuti, the Nazarenes, and others who were actually branch organizations of the Great White Brotherhood of Rosicrucians. Manuscripts and records still preserved in foreign libraries show that in the eleventh and twelfth centuries A. D., the Rosicrucian movement was established in many parts of Europe and attracted world-wide attention.

EMINENT MEN APPROVE

In the sketches of the life work of eminent men of physiology, anatomy, surgery, medicine, chemistry, astronomy, biology, physics, and ontology, we find that those who made the greatest discoveries, or who outlined the most serviceable explanations of natural laws for man's betterment, were Rosicrucians. This is so noticeable that one modern historian says, "If we eliminate the contributions to man's mastership of himself and his conditions made by the Rosicrucians in the past, it would be equal to eliminating the contributions to art made by the devotees of religion, we would have very little left."

By the middle of the eighteenth century we find the Rosicrucian movement solidified into one international organization, permanently established in every civilized land, and having the most eminent leaders of man's progress as its heads. In England the famous leader of the advancement of knowledge, Sir Francis Bacon, was its chief executive; and under a plan evolved by him long before his passing, the work spread to America in 1694.

GREAT AMERICAN MEMBERS

In America, during the years 1694 to 1800, the work of the Rosicrucians had more direct bearing upon the founding of the American system of progressive living than any other institution. Its members, including Thomas Jefferson, were instrumental in bringing greater freedom to the American peoples, and such men as Benjamin Franklin, aided the Rosicrucians to spread their teachings into every home.

Eminent clergymen, priests, ministers of various denominations, educators and lecturers took up the high ideals of the Rosicrucian movement, and today the work in America, Canada, and Mexico, is perfectly organized in every large city or section of each state and province, all operating under one Charter granted by the International Council, and working in harmony with the official organization throughout the world.

THE TRUE ROSICRUCIANS

Therefore, there is today just ONE Rosicrucian movement throughout the world, operating as a unit, free from religious or political distinctions, and abiding by the

ancient rules which prohibit any form of commercialism, fanaticism, extravagance, or preposterous pretensions. Under one name, one symbol, and one guiding Council, the Rosicrucian movement is known today by its symbolical, abbreviated name, AMORC.

That there should be some forms of limitation, some pretenders, who would make use of the name and high repute of the movement, is regrettable. There are not many, and their existence may be taken as a compliment to the high regard in which the Rosicrucians have been held for so many centuries. The distinguishing feature between these pretending bodies and the *real* Rosicrucian organization is found in the fact that the AMORC bodies throughout the world do not sell their teachings, do not claim to have books teaching the arts and "secrets" of Rosicrucianism, and do not indulge in fortune-telling by astrology or crystal-gazing, and do not claim to have a personal leader who "discovered" the teachings and to whom allegiance and adoration must be given as a demigod.



Solving Your Problems

At some time into the lives of all men and women, there comes an urge to learn more about themselves and the Spiritual or Metaphysical laws which they have come to realize affect their Health, Happiness, and Success. Sometimes this desire for greater knowledge is brought about by a problem of health which has not yielded to ordinary methods of correction. Again, it may be unhappiness; but more often than not it is a problem of failure in the quest for the things which are necessary to comfort, convenience and security.

Most of us have applied to these problems all of the purely objective knowledge and intelligence which we have acquired over a period of years, yet without avail, therefore, there is left to us one other method—that is an appeal to the Spiritual or Metaphysical Laws of the Universe. We may be a devoted member of some church, or we may be a student of one of the many differing forms of psychology, philosophy, or metaphysical studies. In any case, it is to studies of this character that we must turn our thoughts for all learning and hope offered by the material world has become unresponsive and ineffective in producing the kind of results we earnestly seek.

As we cast about for the true and perfect methods of solving our difficulties we find it very hard to make a selection of the system which will unfold to our consciousness the wisdom and understanding we must have. In this connection, a suggestion may be given you which will be most helpful in coming to a conclusion either about the studies you are now pursuing or the instruction you may be contemplating as suiting your needs.

TRY THIS TEST

The first step to be taken is to analyze your needs with great care. This may be done by considering a number of questions and setting down the answers. This will give you an exact index to your particular requirements. If you will read the following questions carefully and then mentally set down the answer to each one you will quickly realize your own necessities:

Do you understand the Law responsible for the manifestation of health or sickness?

Are you entirely happy?

Do you understand the Law which governs happiness, peace, and prosperity?

Are you successful?

- Do you understand the Law of success?
Do you realize that all Laws of the material world are designated solely for the purpose of protecting the rights of all?
Do you realize that Spiritual Laws also exist which control and govern your every thought and act?
Do you realize that every thought entertained and every act committed must bring about certain definite and well-established results?
Do you realize that when your thoughts and acts are in conformity with Cosmic Laws that the results are Good, and that when they violate these same Laws, that the results will be otherwise?
Are your mental images, desires, and dominating longings brought into any form of realization?
Can you intuitively foresee and sense the right course to take in any action or plan?
Are you forced to submit to sudden changes in your life's work, or can you overcome situations as they arise?



MEMBERSHIP AT HOME

WHAT AMORC OFFERS YOU

Wherever you may live, and whatever may be your situation in life, the AMORC reaches out with a kindly offering and invites you to share in its great work.

While in some of the larger cities there are lodges and temples with classes and lectures conducted by various Masters on many nights of the week, there is the opportunity also for those living in any part of North America to receive the instructions and benefits of membership if attendance at a lodge is impossible or undesirable for *any reason*.

COMPLETE HOME STUDY

Those who wish to study at home at their convenience will find that the AMORC offers them all of the benefits of mental, spiritual, and metaphysical contact with thousands of other minds and Souls attuned to the same ideals and the same purposes. Physical contact and physical association is not necessary for mental, spiritual, and metaphysical growth, under the methods used by the AMORC, and which have proved so successful to study alone and privately develop their faculties and mental powers to a high degree.

A NEW PLAN FOR AMERICA

At one of the national conventions of the Order held in this country the Grand Master of New York presented a plan to the delegates for the establishment of a "National Lodge," which would invite correspondence members from any section of the North American jurisdiction who could not find it possible to attend the session of a local Lodge.

The proposal was discussed and voted upon and finally adopted. It permitted the Supreme Lodge of the Order for North America to establish what might be called an extension course of personal, private instruction in the teachings of the Order upon a distinctly unique basis. The plan required several years to evolve, and today this plan is being adopted in many foreign jurisdictions.

FASCINATING METHOD OF STUDY

This plan of private instruction at home is so unique and so new to this country that it must be explained so that it will not be compared to the so-called "correspondence courses" issued by correspondence schools in America, or the issuance of pamphlet lessons.

First of all, it was recognized at once that such lessons as were to be sent to nation-wide students **COULD NOT BE IN PRINTED PAMPHLETS**, for two excellent reasons: first, the time-honored injunction against any of the lessons of the Order in any land being issued in book form; secondly, the continued changes, improvements, amendments, and modern adaptation of the teachings, would prevent their preparation in text-book or printed form of any permanent nature.

It is common for a correspondence school to send its students a set of text-books accompanied by monthly printed reading lessons analyzing the various chapters of the text-books. Year after year the same instructions, the same books and pamphlets, are sent to the thousands of students. This is possible in presenting such subjects as Law, English, Mathematics, History, or some of the sciences. It would not do, could not do, in presenting the teachings of the Rosicrucians, for such teachings are continually improving in subject matter, application to human affairs, and relation to recent discoveries by the Master of the instruction.

HOW THE LESSONS ARE PREPARED

So the first principle insisted upon by the Imperator of the Order was that the lesson to be sent to the home study members must be specially made and prepared from month to month to keep them up to the minute with the findings, discoveries and elaborate experiments on the part of the highest workers in the Order in this country and in other lands. That meant tremendous work, great cost, and a staff of master teachers continually working upon the lessons.

It is because the Order is able to keep its members informed in advance of important matters, and give its members knowledge which outsiders cannot obtain, that it enables them to overcome obstacles, meet oncoming conditions, and prepare for future circumstances. The world outside of the Order is just now trying to discover and evolve certain principles regarding health, disease, and the prolonging of life, which Rosicrucians have known and practiced for centuries. The same can be said regarding new "discoveries" in the various methods of using the mind to attain success in life.

HOW THE LESSONS ARE ISSUED

Therefore, the Imperator appointed a staff to prepare and issue the private lessons for those members who would be admitted to the Home Study Classes.

Such members were to be **INVITED** to join by sending them, upon recommendation, an application blank. After the answers in this form were examined and an investigation made of the applicant's sincerity, he or she was to be notified to prepare for the preliminary, fundamental lessons. A plan was finally adopted, based upon an old system used by the early Rosicrucians, whereby such members arranged to use one part of some room—usually a sleeping room—as their "study corner" or private "Lodge corner." By the use of private instructions in typewritten, personal forms, the members prepare for the first surprising lessons. The many thousands in America today who have used these instructions—men and women of all walks of life from the highest positions in the country to humble workers in the home—have found the lessons, explanations, simple experiments, and practical tests, more fascinating and alluring each week than the best dramas or works of fiction.

NATURE OF THE LESSONS

Such lessons are not mere speculative statements or points of philosophy, but carefully written and edited explanations of laws, beginning with the fundamental and simple ones, worded in language which any can understand, and illustrated by analogies, examples, common references and every-day experiences. Then several experiments are given to be practiced at convenient times throughout the week. In this way, week after week, month after month, special lessons, always being revised and amended, are sent to each member covering the whole system of private Rosicrucian teachings, developing faculties and powers the members never realized they possessed.

ARRANGED IN EASY STEPS

The lessons are arranged in Grades or Degrees, like unto classes or grades in a school. There is no better way to spend an evening than by reading these fascinating lectures, lessons, and explanations. It is like having the heart and Soul of the REAL mysteries of life opened to you in a picturesque, intriguing manner.

At the close of each series of the first three grades of lectures there is a self-examination to be sent to the Master of the class so that he can see wherein you have succeeded or failed to grasp a clear understanding of each point and may send you additional information. These examinations are easily passed if the lectures have been properly read—not laboriously studied.



The Instructions

SUBJECTS TREATED IN THE LESSONS

It would be impossible to give an index to the subjects contained in the hundreds of lessons. Such an index would make a very large book and the reading of it would be of little value. However, we may briefly state that the following important subjects are covered in the various graded lessons sent to all correspondence members.

FIRST GRADE

Explanation of the dual forms of consciousness with which man has to deal; namely, the mortal, temporary, and unreliable objective consciousness and the Divine, positive, dependable Cosmic Consciousness; complete explanation of the functioning of the brain, the mind, spirit forces, and Soul in the human body; experiments and demonstrations easily made in connection with our daily affairs which prove the unreliability of objective consciousness, the mortal existence of matter, the delusions and illusions of our faculties, and the methods for development of intuition, and the proper attunement with true knowledge; the law of vibrations, thought forms, harmonies, rhythm, and other spiritual and mental forces and powers in the universe, proper thinking, and proper realization; fundamental principles of health and disease, and the alleviation of physical suffering; methods for using the Law of the Triangle, and other laws for the mastership of conditions and circumstances in our daily lives; experiments to prove and test various laws in our daily affairs so as to demonstrate mastership in connection with the material problems of life.

SECOND GRADE

Explanation of the ego, and its relationship to the highest principles and forces in the universe; what Jesus and the great Masters of the past taught and secretly revealed; the development of psychic centers and the aura; experiments with breathing and with mystical sounds, music, harmony, and Divine laws; the control of forces in the human body and around the human body through the proper use of mind; the various oriental principles and modern systems, including psychology, Christian Science, metaphysics and other spiritual principles in relationship to the fundamental laws of the universe; the duality of life, and its relationship to mental and spiritual power, proper living, proper diet, and proper mastership of conditions in the mind and body; experiments proving and testing the various laws, and the development of mental powers for the control of conditions which affect our daily affairs.

THIRD GRADE

The false illusions of matter, and the manner in which we may be deceived and affected by them; experiments in mental control and mental directing of physical and mental conditions: the vitality of life, its nature, and its use in the human body, and experiments for the control of it in many important matters of our existence; mental creative powers of man's mind, and experiments in using these; the false beliefs about black magic, hypnotism, and other misleading principles which really enslave men and the development of harmonious relationships with higher principles and powers; methods for instantly diagnosing inharmonious conditions in the body; methods for discovering the errors in the affairs of our daily lives which are preventing success and prosperity; methods and experiments in receiving Cosmic Illumination and the increasing of psychic attunement.

FOURTH AND HIGHER GRADES

From the Fourth Grade onward, the work is devoted to the personal affairs of the student and designed to instruct him in the most practical methods for meeting his daily problems and in mastering the situations of life as they arise. The lessons in each grade are filled with a review of all the teachings of a spiritual, mystical, metaphysical nature included in every other school or system of thought of ancient and modern times, which have proved to be good, and which are useful today. Nothing is left out of any of the graded teachings from any school or system which would be of help.. Step by step each law is fully explained, each principle plainly stated and illustrated, and methods for experiment, test, and application given in detail. The work is graded like a university course, but in each lesson are found practical things to do so that each member may benefit himself and his condition while mastering each law and principle.

Bear in mind that these subjects stated above are but a few of the hundreds, and each subject is treated in detail in many different lessons, from many different angles, and always with a practical application to our daily life and its problems. Nearly all of the subjects mentioned above, and many more like them, are treated as completely as though a separate book on the subject was included in the studies. The subjects of the various lessons review and include everything that was taught by the ancients, or is taught today in any and all of the other schools of metaphysical or spiritual thought.



A Weekly Lesson

The illustration above shows just how each weekly lesson is sent to each member. First, there are the personal letters—as many each week or month as are necessary to answer your questions and help you solve your personal problems. Intimate, precise facts are given in these letters, dictated by a number of experts who keep a careful record of your progress, your needs, and your desires.

Second, the weekly lecture. This lecture, containing a number of typewritten pages, is carefully prepared by the various teachers and graded so as to prepare you *step by step in the mastership of the Rosicrucian laws and principles*. Each lecture contains not only full explanation of laws which you wish to use in your personal affairs, but also experiments and tests whereby you can **PROVE** and **DEMONSTRATE** to yourself, the efficacy of the principles. This makes the lectures different from printed pamphlet lessons containing only theories and philosophical essays.

Third, whenever necessary, charts and diagrams of the laws and principles are sent with the lessons to help make every point clear, and to save the purchase of further reference charts.

THE TRUTH UNVEILED TO THE MEMBERS

Without avoiding the facts that should be revealed, without veiling the truths so that none can comprehend, and without flowery words or elegant oratory which leaves the student unacquainted with the fundamentals, the private, typewritten, specially prepared lessons of the AMORC are given to its members, its students, in a manner beyond description or realization unless one has lived with them for a few weeks and found the great changes, the wonderful powers that manifest in every affair of our earthly activities.

Remember, AMORC offers its carefully selected members not only the method and the plan of developing privately and effectively, but it offers its members all the advantages of association with those master minds of the laws of nature, who have held the reputation of being the most highly trained teachers, philosophers, scientists, and workers in the uplift of the race of man—the Members of the Order Rosae Crucis—the Brethren of the Rosy Cross.

NO COLLEGE EDUCATION NECESSARY

These interesting lessons begin with the very fundamentals of nature's laws as they relate to man and the universe, and explain and make plain all men's secret powers, possibilities, and potential activities. The lessons are carefully graded. No college, academic, or even high school education is necessary to understand the lessons, for they have been prepared by some of the best educators in various lands for the purpose of meeting the general mind.

NO MEMORIZING REQUIRED

Various educational boards have said that the system employed by AMORC in teaching and instructing is the ideal system, for it does not require memorizing, and through the examples, illustrations, and experiments used the student comprehends and remembers without the least effort. Mere concentration upon words being read and a few moments' meditation upon each principle or law makes them stand out in the mind and consciousness for all time.

MASTERY AT EACH STEP

There never was and never will be a more systematic, a more detailed and complete course of personal-development study than this. The student becomes a master of certain laws and principles each week and before the first few months have passed he no longer desires to hurry and goes no more rapidly than the system provides. It is not like a course of study which must be entirely finished before it may be put into practical operation. Most of our members discover the true value and efficiency of the work after the first month of reading and experiment, and derive help from the very first lessons.

SIMPLICITY, SYSTEM, PRIVACY

The graded lessons are mailed in sealed envelopes complete with every aid, plan, suggestion or illustration necessary. Lessons are mailed each week with a system and regularity that is pleasing and dependable. Others need not know what you are studying or what you are associated with unless you desire to interest them.



A Sample Lesson

To give you an idea of how the various important laws and principles are explained and how they help each member of the organization to use this knowledge in understanding and mastering the situation and conditions arising in everyday life, we outline, herewith, a sample lesson typical of the many that are sent out weekly to every member of the organization. The following specimen lesson is based upon one that is sent early in the first grade of instruction and was selected because of the present day discussion throughout the world regarding the precise meaning of *Soul, body, and spirit*.

Please bear in mind that such a lesson as the one outlined below is received by the members in a sealed envelope, in typewritten form, and is read in the privacy of the member's home-study room. The lesson, consisting of many pages, is so worded that it is like a personal talk by the Master of the class to the student. It is easy to read, interesting and fascinating in its mannerism of speech, attractive in its arousing of many thoughts and ideas, and at the same time it establishes an attunement between the student, the teacher, and the thousands of other students who are studying similar lessons at the same time in all parts of the country. The lesson given herewith is very greatly condensed, and is merely an *outline* so that you may see the subject matter which is covered in such a typical lesson.



The subject for tonight's discussion touches upon one of the very fundamental principles which you must understand if you are going to be properly conscious of your relationship to all other living beings and of your relationship to the universe and the various forces, energies, and laws operating in this universe.

We have been taught in many doctrines and schools that we should lose ourselves in the thought that we are *at one* with all in the universe and *at one* with God. This statement is too broad to be either of service or benefit to the average person and is very apt to lead the devoted student to think that he must lose all personality and all individuality of character, and be as similar and like unto all other creatures as one blade in a great lawn is like all the other blades of grass. This is contrary to the scheme of things in the universe, for whether we accept the idea of some materialistic scientists that the law of the "survival of the fittest" is true or not, the fact remains that the development of character and the development of those distinct traits of personality and individuality which God and nature have given us, is really the great scheme of life and the one thing that will make man greater and more useful in this world. Artists must become better artists, musicians must become better musicians, men and women with inventive talent must be developed into inventors, men and women who have mechanical, electrical, medical, or other tastes and talents, must be encouraged and strengthened in those things to such a degree that they become distinctly different from those who do not have such talents. Those who are thinkers and can utilize mental powers and abilities to create and to achieve great accomplishments must be strengthened in those abilities and become different from those other useful persons in the world who are creators with the hands and makers of material things in a physical way.

Some philosophical schools or teachers say briefly that since all of us have the same Divine essence within us, we are essentially alike. That is equivalent to saying since the sun shines on one half of the world at the same time, all of the people, and all of the lands, on that half of the world are enjoying the same degree and the same amount of brilliancy, heat, and quality of sunlight. Anyone who has been on the top of the Alps in the month of June and has then journeyed through Italy and across the Mediterranean to Alexandria and through Egypt to Luxor during the same month will realize that the sunlight, sun heat, and sun vitality are not the same in the different cities or localities visited during the same month. Even in America the moving picture industry has discovered that the sunlight is different on the Pacific coast than it is on the Atlantic coast, on any day in any month of the year. You may argue that at their source and in their true nature the sunlight, sun heat, and sun vitality are the same everywhere on the same day, and that the differences we notice are due to local conditions which affect the light, the heat, and the vitality of the sun rays.

Let us accept this as being true; but it only proves the argument we are making; namely, that while the Divine essence in us may be the same in its source and in its nature, it does manifest differently in each one of us, due to the local physical conditions of our mentality and our bodies. Therefore, there is a difference in the manner in which the Soul manifests what we call a *personality* or distinct *character* for each living being. Nothing would be gained by forcing an artificial change of conditions in each one of us to make each one of us alike. That would be the ruination of civilization, because it would be the ruination of individual efforts, individual accomplishments and individual achievements.

Let us show you, now, in our lesson for tonight how the Rosicrucians have understood the true principles of this matter for many ages. Tonight we are going to take up the first principle of what is called the "Rosicrucian Ontology." The word Ontology means *science of being*. There have been only a few books written in the past centuries dealing with this very important subject. And the few that have been written have been so complicated, so involved, and so difficult to understand that only a few of the learned scientists and philosophers have mastered the subject. But here again we find that the Rosicrucians have a very happy and simple method for revealing the great truths in a manner easily understood. The "Rosicrucian Ontology" starts with the fundamental principle, or fundamental statement, that we happen to find used in the Christian Bible but which was used in other sacred or mystical writings long before the Christian Bible was compiled or arranged. The Jewish teachers used this ancient statement from the ancient writings, and that is how it came to be included in the Old Testament section of the Bible.

This fundamental principle says that, "God formed man out of the dust of the earth and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living Soul." Now, to properly analyze this statement in a manner in which you may never have thought of before, we want you to pay very strict attention to the exact words in the statement quoted. It says in the first place that God created man out of the DUST of the earth. This statement was written by the ancient scientists, wise men, and experimenters, of Egypt and the Orient who had carefully studied man's body in its chemical and physical nature and knew all we know today about diets, biological principles, human chemistry, and similar subjects. They knew the statement to be absolutely true. Man's physical body is composed of the earthly elements or the dust of the earth. Before man's physical body is born, the little unborn body is being composed of chemical elements from the food and liquids digested by the mother. After birth the physical body of man continues to change month by month, hour by hour, as a result of the things he eats and drinks. The entire part of man's physical body has been chemically analyzed and found to be composed of only a few chemical elements which are found in the earth and are part of the earth's substances. Therefore, man's body was and still is composed of the dust and clay of material elements of the earth. Now, notice the second part of the statement we quoted above. It says that after this physical body had been formed God added a second part, or nature added a second part, to the body, which is called the *breath of life*. In other words, a new form or additional form of vitality had to be added to the physical body and it is called the "breath of life" because it was found by the ancients and is known to the scientists today that this vitality comes into the body only through breathing. But, notice that although there are two parts to the body, the physical, earthly part and the vital force, man became a "living Soul" and not a living body. In other words, the combination of vitality and physical body did not make a living body but a living Soul. If we take a lot of iron and copper wire and form it into a piece of machinery

and then add the vital force of electricity to it, we do not produce a living machine but a motor. In other words, the emphasis is given to the most important thing that results from adding the vitality to the piece of machinery. The same is true about man's existence. Man is not a living body, or a living being, or a mass of living earthly elements, but a living Soul. He may be dual in nature, composed of body and Soul, but while they are united here on the earth plane, the important part of man is the Soul; and the body is merely a secondary part. We might say the same thing about a home. The important part of the home is not the walls, but the occupants and the personality of the persons that live within the walls. Therefore, we see that man is not only dual, but that in all of our thinking, and all of our planning, and in all of our considerations of man and for man, we should keep in mind that man is a *living Soul*.

(Here follows a long explanation of the nature of the Soul, the Soul essence, and how the Soul comes into the body through the process of breathing.)

The matter which composes man's physical body is also alive with a vitality or an essence that is separate from the Soul. There is vitality in rocks, in trees, in leaves, and in soil. When a seed that is dry and lifeless is planted in the soil and comes in contact with moisture, heat, and other vital forces there, it bursts into life. The vitality that it gets from the soil is not *soul essence* but a vitality that is in *all matter everywhere*. This vitality the ancients called *spirit* and it is called spirit in all of our Rosicrucian teachings today. The word *spirit*, in its original meaning, has nothing to do with Soul, or ghosts, or the Divine part of man, or with God's consciousness, except that God's consciousness is in everything. The word *spirit* simply means an invisible vitality that is in all matter throughout the universe. Therefore, *spirit* is in man's body and the earthly elements that composed his body before the Soul was breathed into it. We can see that man's body by itself is composed of earthly elements and spirit. This gives us a different understanding of matter and makes matter itself dual in composition.

(Here follows a long explanation showing how *spirit in all matter* is the vitality that keeps it active, keeps it growing, and is responsible for the difference between a rose and an ear of corn, a blade of grass and a thistle. An explanation is also given as to how spirit is responsible for the colors in nature, and for health and disease in the physical body, for harmony, and for other conditions with which man has to deal.)

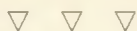
Now we have man as a combination of three elements: matter in its material form and nature, and spirit with its vitalizing effect upon matter to keep it growing, keep it healthy, and to help it to reproduce itself; and, lastly, the Soul in the body of man to act as a guide, a teacher, and a creative power to enable man to do the great things in life that God and nature intended man to do.

(Here follows a long explanation telling the students why the Soul has such great wisdom and knowledge and what creative powers it gives man, and why a Soul is in man's body. This enables the student to realize at once that by developing the Soul's powers and faculties and permitting them to function as they should, he will turn his physical body into an instrument to serve the Soul in becoming a *masterful* creator or producer in the affairs of life. The lesson then ends with a number of *practical experiments* and things to do which will help in the development of the Soul's faculties and will help the student to be more successful in certain things during the week, associated with the work and daily activities of his usual routine in a very practical manner.)



As we have said, the foregoing is just an outline of one of the many weekly lectures, each one of them ending with practical benefits and helps; and each one giving

the student more real food for thought and more real help in the process of mastership and development of his own personality and character than will be found in many books. Note how simple and complete each statement is and how easy it is to understand some of the principles and laws which other schools have made very difficult and very profound, and which many persons have never been able to understand.



The Way to Power

A LODGE AT HOME

Members are asked to reserve part of one night of the week to be their "Lodge night" at home. Whether it be every Wednesday night, every Thursday night, or every Friday night, thousands of other members will be studying, practicing and experimenting in attunement with you. We prefer that each member select an early or late part of Thursday evening for his or her Lodge night at home; for this is the Rosicrucian Night throughout the world and it means greater power through the multitudes who are thusly attuned. But any other evening will do in case you find it necessary on certain occasions to change your selected weekly Lodge night at home, or in the privacy of a room elsewhere.

TIME REQUIRED FOR STUDY

As stated above, we recommend that each member select one evening of the week for a definite study evening. On that evening, one hour to one hour and thirty minutes is sufficient time for the reading of the new lesson, the testing of the new principles, and a complete understanding of the work for the week. Then throughout the following days in spare moments while resting, walking, riding, or even during the busy hours of work, the member can test the new principles in connection with the many incidents of daily life and the solving of serious, personal, problems. In this way the old principles of the previous weeks, and the new ones, are constantly applied and used and made more familiar. Such testing and application of the principles and laws do not interfere with any of your daily affairs but actually help you to make the day more successful and profitable in whatever you are trying to accomplish.

Whether you are traveling or always at home, the one study period for a careful reading of the new lesson each week is easily arranged; many thousands of students have proved this to be so during the past twenty years. It is the most valuable hour or two they spend in each week, as they themselves voluntarily write us.

You do not have to carry your lesson around with you, for just reading it once, carefully, will fill your mind with the fascinating facts, and dozens of times each day certain incidents of your activities, at home or in the business world, will remind you of some law or principle which you can use at once to excellent and surprising advantage.

STUDENT'S PROGRESS GIVEN PERSONAL ATTENTION

Soon after passing through the preliminary and foundation lessons which enable the member to perform many remarkable demonstrations in his daily affairs, his standing is passed upon by many special instructors in consultation with the Master who has been directing his studies. If the member is making the proper progress, he is assigned to a special high teacher for personal guidance thereafter.

From that time onward the lessons sent to the member each week have a personal touch. The member not only receives special personal letters from his teacher, but the correspondence between them on points of special knowledge, problems in his life and helps required by the member.

PERSONAL WELFARE SERVICE

Letters and telegrams come daily to headquarters from students to their teachers here asking for immediate and special help in illness, business problems, help for others, and guidance in times of perplexity. Such personal help sent at once is one of the remarkable points of service rendered by the Order to its members, and without any fees for such service.

In this way the "National Lodge" permits men and women in all walks of life, and with just ordinary school education, to have the full advantage of Rosicrucian membership regardless of where they live.

ATTAINING HEALTH, PROSPERITY, HAPPINESS

These three elements are God's privilege to man—as a gift. But man knows not how to accept that which is offered. God and nature provide for man being well born—when the parents live as nature seeks to instruct—and from the moment of birth HEALTH, not disease, is man's most natural endowment from all the forces and elements of the universe.

PROSPERITY, too, is a natural acquisition, conforming to all the ethical, spiritual, and beneficent laws of the universe. God made man in His own image, with the same faculties for perception, retention, and reconstruction which vitalize the creative powers of the universe. All nature prospers and enjoys the abundance of all that exists, because nature is in harmony with the creative principle. Man alone, the highest creation of all, falls short of his rightful and privileged possessions because he does not always know how to live in harmony with all that creates, masters, controls, attracts, and retains.

Prosperity is the result of attraction, poverty is the perfect manifestation of repulsion and negation. Not only is it true that man is as he thinks, but he enjoys and possesses that which he attracts. Laboring to earn that which one desires is not the only application of the law of demand, command, and supply; it is merely substituting man's crude method of exchanging labor for life's essentials. To deserve, either through labor, worthiness, sincerity of purpose, goodness of motive, or altruism of intention, is *but the first step. The next step is to attract to one's self that which is desired, and such attraction on the part of the man is only possible when the inner self is permitted to function, to manifest and direct the forces of the outer self.*

Just as the flower bends its body toward the sun, that it may more efficiently attract the sunlight; just as the multi-colored pansy lifts its head from the leaves of green to attract the admiration and attention of the passersby; so must the inner man, the mind within the Soul, the heart within the self, *lift itself above and beyond the commonplace of life and attract, demand, and draw unto itself the abundance of this life, the riches of existence and the wealth of the universe.*

Prosperity in material things is happiness, health, power to direct, power to control, power to will and become; assuring success of venture, attainment of ambitions, and the blotting out of all unhappiness, ill-health, and misfortune. This prosperity is man's rightful, divine privilege, and naught but man's ignorance of laws and principles, misguided belief in the falsities of limiting creeds and dogmas keep him from being PROSPEROUS in every sense of the world.

THE ROSICRUCIAN WAY

Know the laws and principles! Study nature's secret teachings! Master fate's decrees which operate only with the unprepared, the undeveloped, and the unknowing. Attune yourself with those who are successful and happy. Co-operate with nature's laws and revel in the power that comes into your home, office, or place of pleasure and meditation!

The successful man dominates the situations as they arise, directs with dynamic mind the course of his life in home, business, and social affairs through knowing the laws that make possible a release of his inner powers and metaphysical abilities.

The brilliant woman is the woman who knows her possibilities, her dormant faculties and magnetic, mental strength, and uses every personal, subconscious, potent factor of her existence, to raise herself to the supreme mastership of worldly matters.

Sitting in one's home, carefully examining the simple, PRIVATE lessons and testing the simple laws, one by one, is the process offered by the AMORC to those who seek this unusual method—more efficient than the reading of books which dare not tell the facts, which never contain nature's secret laws, and which are sold for any price you are willing to pay.

With lessons graded for easy mastership, arranged in weekly subjects and experiences, made practical with principles and laws to use every day and in every way—this is the system the AMORC uses to help those who would make their home a sanctum of attainment, a home of private instruction, a place of uplift, development and mastership.

NON-SECTARIAN AND TOLERANT

The AMORC is absolutely non-sectarian in its teachings and practices, and free from sex and race limitations. It recognizes the *universality* of the brotherhood of mankind. It takes cognizance of the fact that we are NOT at all created alike except in Soul essence and Divine Consciousness; but this very exception is the keynote of its broad, tolerant, and sympathetic operations.

With a universal brotherhood which has its devout students and workers also in England, France, Germany, Holland, China, Japan, India, Persia, and other countries, with sincere and enthusiastic men and women in countries of every creed and race, and with every form of creed or religious belief, sectarian teachings would be impossible. Any system of metaphysical, mystical teaching based upon sectarian principles *cannot be universal* and cannot, therefore, be *Rosicrucian* in spirit.

A *firm conviction* of the existence of a Supreme Being, Great Architect, Divine Mind, or Omnipotent intelligence, is *absolutely necessary*, however, on the part of any applicant for membership in the AMORC.

WHO MAY UNITE WITH AMORC BY INVITATION

The portals of AMORC are open to any man or woman over eighteen years of age, of any race or any religious belief, being free from allegiance to any semi-political despot or organization which limits the freedom of man's mind and inner development. Those who know that there is a Divine Mind ruling the universe, who are clean in thinking and living, have never been guilty of treason in any country, nor engaged in any unlawful occupation, are eligible to full membership in the AMORC, by invitation.

WHO MAY NOT UNITE WITH AMORC

The portals of AMORC are closed to infidels, atheists, agnostics, fanatics of any kind, drones, political conspirators, objectors to law and order, bigots, the insincere,

the frivolous, doubters, idle investigators, "conscientious" (?) objectors to defending their country or flag in times of emergency or Government call, those seeking to buy power of influence with money, or those whose moral code is weak or negligible. All these, or any one of them, cannot unite with AMORC, regardless of recommendations or inducements of any kind.

WHAT THE AMORC DOES NOT DEMAND

The AMORC is not a body of fanatics or extremists of any kind or class. It has in its ranks men and women of every school of therapeutics, including, for instance, professors and international authorities on all of the subjects of medicine, chemistry, botany, physiology, physics, and allied sciences. It has members in every art, profession, trade, business, hobby, and avocation.

No demand is made upon its members that they adopt any change in religion, business or social matters, except those which each member finds are best for his or her individual advancement.



Rosicrucian Authority

THE TRUE ORGANIZATION

Many persons believe that the word "Rosicrucian" is a generic word that may be applied to any system of instruction or method of spiritual development that is unique or beyond the common-place. This wrong belief is responsible for a number of small movements in various parts of the world composed of men and women studying various arcane philosophies calling themselves "Rosicrucian students."

There is but *one* true Rosicrucian organization throughout the world, whose founders invented the word "Rosicrucian" as a definition of their original symbol, consisting of the Rose on the Cross. These founders have perpetuated the true Rosicrucian organization through all ages by insisting that each successive Master or Grand Master and Imperator of each branch of the organization shall be a blood descendant by transfusion of the original founders. Thus the original organization has perpetuated itself in all lands and has retained its secret archives and preserved its teachings exclusively for its members, and has successfully prevented any of its real teachings and instructions from ever being printed or issued in public books, or sold by publishing companies or groups not chartered and sponsored by the true organization.

Regardless of the claims made by Rosicrucian societies, fellowships, or publishing companies, which use a name that is different from the true name of the organization and use a symbol that is slightly different from the true symbol, the fact remains that the genuine Rosicrucian organization throughout the world has only *one* headquarters in each country, and all of these are operated under a universal or International Supreme Council, composed of the high officers in every land, and maintaining an International Secretary and headquarters in Europe near the location of the original European foundation.

Unless any Rosicrucian movement is an adherent to, or a member of, the International Supreme Council and has on its official documents the International seal, the group or organization is not teaching the true Rosicrucian instructions, nor has it access to the wonderful archives and libraries or secret and rare manuscripts preserved and added to since antiquity.

THE INTERNATIONAL NAME

The Order uses the same old ancient name that is found in the oldest records. That name, in its complete Latin form, is:

Antiquae Arcanae Ordinis Rosae Rubae et Aureae Crucis.

Translations and abbreviations of this name are used in the various jurisdictions to meet the requirements of the local tongue. In America, and some other English-speaking lands, the name is shortened to Ancient, Mystical Order Rosae Crucis. This form retains the ancient Latin words *Rosae Crucis*, which mean; of the *Rosy Cross*. For the sake of veiling the full name the initials of the short name are used, as: A. M. O. R. C. or AMORC. Even in some Latin countries we have the Spanish form of the names thus: *Antigua y Mystica Orden Rosae Crucis*, giving us the initials again of AMORC. In some other lands the complete name is used or abbreviated to A. A. Ordinis Rosae A. A. Crucis, or AAORROC, or "A. A. O." or "A. O." However, such abbreviations are used only when public papers or other matters are to be veiled, but not in connection with official documents. And, always, the symbol of the Order is a cross with one red rose in its center. The use of a number of roses on various crosses or around a cross, does not make the official, ancient emblem. Such modifications indicate that the person or group of persons using them are *not connected* with the above Order—The AMORC.

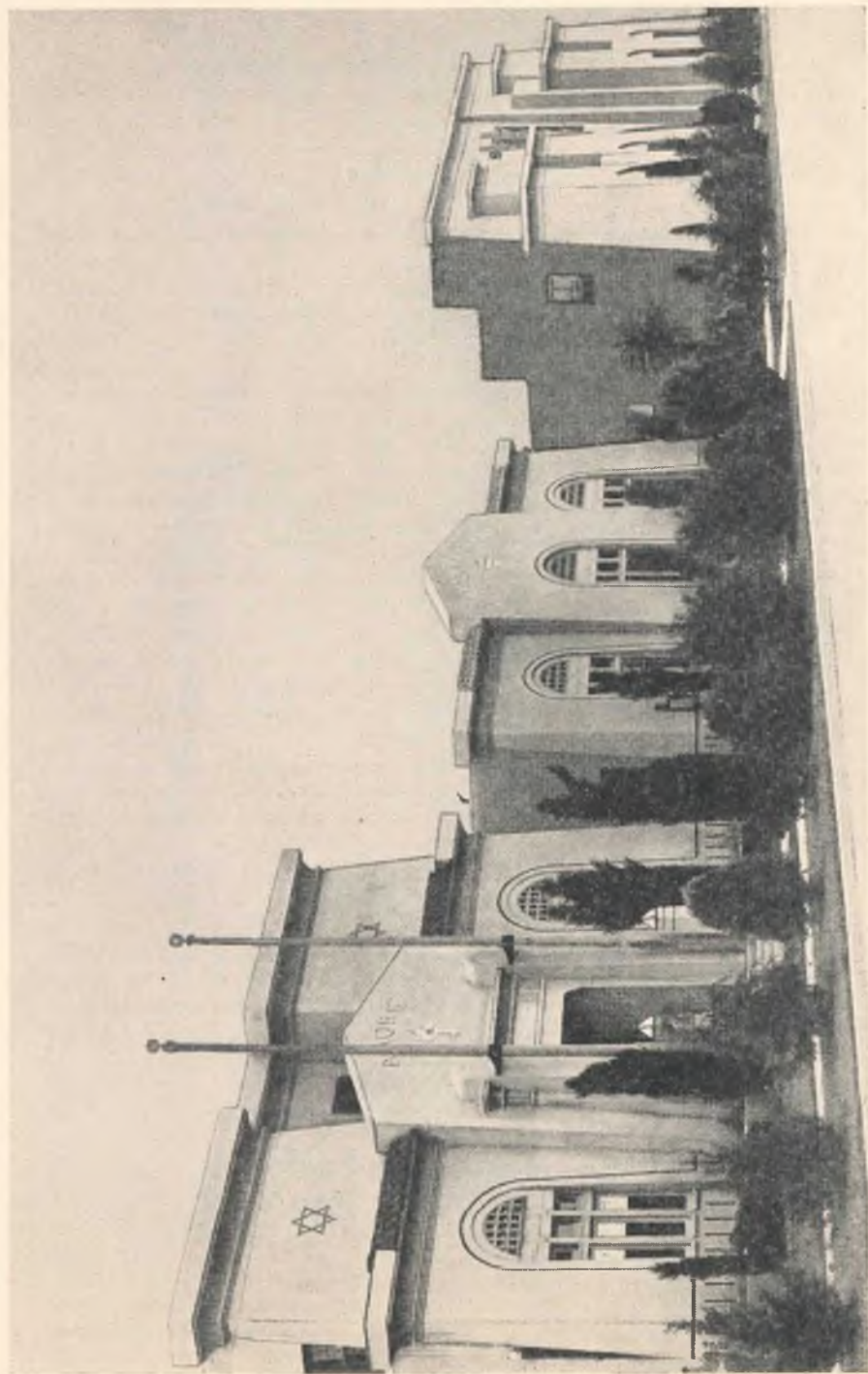
The Order of the Rosy Cross (Latin, *Rosae Crucis*), as the organization has been officially known for so many centuries, derived its name from the early symbol of the society.

The symbol is composed of a cross with a red rose in its center. A great many persons believe that the cross as a symbol had its origin in the early day of Christianity. That is a mistake. It can be found on the walls of tombs and temples in Egypt, and may be seen on the two obelisks that were sent from Heliopolis to London and New York City. The cross has always had several meanings, closely related. To the mystics of Egypt or the Orient who were the first to use it, it meant man's body in either a posture of salutation to the rising sun (with arms held out in horizontal position) or man's body *being crucified* by the labors, trials, tests and sufferings of life.

The rose was considered symbolical of the inner consciousness, the spirit, the SOUL of man. The fact that the rose gradually opened from a tightly closed bud into full bloom and expression, and then slowly faded, drooped and passed out of sight, made itself suggestive of the Soul of man which comes into the youthful body imprisoned, slowly evolves to manifestation and beauty, and slowly weakens in its expression until it seems to be no more. The evolution of the rose seemed to typify the evolution of man's Soul. Years of observation convinced these sages that the tests and trials of life, the experiences, lessons learned and suffering endured, contributed to the evolution of the Soul; to them it seemed that the Soul of man was evolving through the experiences of the body. Since the cross had ever been to them the symbol of the body of man in its suffering, they added the rose to the cross and created the symbol which has but one explanation. That is:

The Rose (Soul) evolves and gains beauty and fragrance
while being crucified upon the Cross (the body).

From this symbol and the term Rosy Cross, we have the term Rosicrucian as the English form of the name of the organization which now exists in every civilized land. Through the experience of life man's Soul and understanding evolves; through the united experiences of thousands of members in one brotherhood the Soul of the group of persons or even of a national affair.



SUPREME TEMPLE, EGYPTIAN MUSEUM, LIBRARY AND FRANCIS BACON AUDITORIUM
These are but a few of the Buildings at the National Headquarters, Rosicrucian Park, San Jose, California

That is the explanation of the symbol and the name. It is age-old, honored, respected, and glorified in every clime, and in its name has man achieved and succeeded beyond his fondest dreams.

THE PRESENT AMERICAN ORGANIZATION

The year 1909 was a very important year in the activities of many Rosicrucian jurisdictions, and in the history of many metaphysical organizations. To the Rosicrucians it was the year of *new birth*.

For several years prior to 1909 many men, and several women, of profound metaphysical training and preparation journeyed to Europe, and in either France or England, received Initiation into the Rosicrucian Order to enable them to assist in the newer activities for America.

Two characters stand out in the history of the present American organization. One of these is Mrs. Col. May Banks-Stacey, a descendant of the D'Arcys of France, and through blood relationship with the nobility of England, a high Initiate of the oldest Rosicrucian organization of London and Paris. She was also an initiate of the Order in India, and was appointed an American Legate of the Indian Jurisdiction.

The other is Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, formerly President for many years of the New York Institute for Psychical Research, editor of several metaphysical magazines, and a co-worker with Elbert (Fra) Hubbard of Roycroft fame, and Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox, both of whom were desirous of helping in the Rosicrucian work, and rendered unusual services.

Dr. Lewis went to France in the summer of 1909, and after consultation with the Supreme Master of the French Jurisdiction, was placed under the direction of the European Supreme Council, whose sessions finally agreed to the plans for America, and authorized the French Jurisdiction to sponsor them.

Dr. Lewis returned from Europe and began at once his official activities. In the winter of 1909 he held conferences with a number of those who had been initiated abroad, and who were familiar with the rules and regulations of the foreign jurisdictions and acquainted with the Supreme Officers.



In the summer of 1916 the work of the Order had spread so rapidly in America, and so many new branches were in operation, that a national convention of all officers and delegates was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for one week. At this convention the principal officers of every American branch and the delegates from every state were present. Sessions were held during the day and evening with lectures, demonstrations, and discussions.

It was at this great convention that a committee composed of leading characters in many other fraternal organizations, devoted their time to a study of the national constitution of the new Order as it had been worked out by the supreme officers in the years preceding. On the last day of the convention the committee read the proposed constitution and it was adopted, paragraph by paragraph, by the delegates assembled. Other matters of great importance to the Order were definitely settled at this convention, and at the one held in New York in the summer of 1918.

THE GREAT WORK TODAY

The North American continent constitutes the largest of all the jurisdictions of the Rosicrucians which operate throughout the world under the name of AMORC. In the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the dependencies of the United States,

there are College, University, and Lodge Branches, as well as study groups in every important city and town, with many reading rooms and study halls always open to those who are associated with the work. National conventions have been held in the United States, and hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles have appeared in the public press, within the last twenty years, referring to the unusual features offered by the Rosicrucian system of education and evolution.



How You May Become a Member

READ VERY CAREFULLY

WHAT MEMBERSHIP MEANS

Membership in the AMORC means all that is included in most other fraternities, plus many features not offered by any other.

Fraternal membership has so many values that it has been popular for ages. Both men and women of the present day are rapidly filling the ranks of hundreds of associations solely because of the personal, direct and indirect, benefits to be derived. Perhaps this desire for alliance and association with *others of like mind* is born of the human tendency toward the formation of clans, which tendency is responsible for the building of hamlets, towns, cities, countries, and nations.

Membership in the AMORC means that each member is affiliated with a large and *increasing body* of progressive men and women whose sole purpose in life centers around the desire to advance, succeed, and become unusually contented with the building of a better life and the enjoyment of the rich blessings of life.

Each member is part of the *great work*. The work is to master the obstacles in life and make the world better for the individual. Each member, therefore, is kept in contact with all the progressive methods for bringing about such results.

In other words, each member is kept informed through his or her Lodge, of all the information, advice, and help that the Order possesses which will help them in their personal affairs. Through correspondence, through the monthly magazine, *The Rosicrucian Digest*, and through contact with members, unusual help is offered by those who have had all kinds of experiences in life and are ready to help others to master similar ones.

In traveling from city to city, in planning large or small affairs of life, in seeking to improve one's business or improve the home life, and in thousands of other affairs, the association with organization offers aid and advice.

THE FREE INSTRUCTIONS AND LESSONS

In addition to all the other benefits, the AMORC offers to its members a special help. This is its graded course of instruction. The AMORC is not a correspondence school. Its lessons and private instructions are not for sale on any basis. They are given freely to those who desire them. Not all members are pursuing the courses of instruction; for many of them have been through the grades, have long since completed the regular courses of study and are not on the student lists at all. They retain their active membership in AMORC because of the very benefits to be derived from association and intimate contact with the Order.

INVITATION TO BECOME MEMBER

Those to whom this book is sent receive a letter usually inviting them to become a *Member of the Order*. None are invited to become mere *students* of a course of instruction. As a *member* of the Order you are entitled to every benefit of *any kind* the Order has to offer and which it may add in the future.

By filling out the enclosed application form—which should accompany this book—you accept our invitation to unite with us. That application will be examined by a Committee and passed upon. If for any reason you cannot be accepted you will be notified. Otherwise, you will be accepted and a formal notice sent.

BECOMING A STUDENT

When an application appears to be acceptable, it is turned over to one of the Class Masters and Secretaries for personal attention.

SECOND, the applicant is immediately notified of the acceptance and is sent without any delay the preliminary Secret Mandamus Number One, which contains valuable information, enabling the applicant to immediately attune himself and relate himself with certain fundamental principles of the organization. While the applicant is studying this very important, private document, the Master of his class and certain scribes of the Order make further investigations to determine how best to proceed with the applicant in order to give him or her the very best instruction and personal help. This results in a Second Mandamus sent to the applicant the second week and other similar private documents are sent each week for six weeks, thereby giving the new member an excellent foundation for personal development and experience with important laws and Cosmic principles.

THIRD, the applicant also receives a Membership Identification Card, number, and certain signs and words as he advances, whereby he becomes recognized as an initiated member of the organization.

FOURTH, thereafter he receives weekly the specially prepared private instructions, lectures, and lessons, with daily and weekly experiments and exercises which enable him to master each step easily and properly. The lessons and lectures each week require a part of one evening of the week for study or reading (there being nothing to memorize—everything remains in the mind through the unique method used by the Rosicrucians to teach its laws), and the exercises and experiments require only a few minutes each night, morning or noontime, at the members convenience. These exercises and experiments develop certain faculties from the very first lessons.

FIFTH, the lessons relate to life's immediate problems as well as the future needs of the member. They help the members to master the obstacles and overcome conditions from the very start. Not vague theories, no speculations about conditions in the "etheral realms" that have no bearing upon our present life, but laws and principles that men and women must use here and now in very practical ways.

SIXTH, the monthly private magazine, called "The Rosicrucian Digest," is sent to each member each month without additional fee. It contains special instructions and lessons on general life problems, and the questions and answers relating to new principles as well as reports from other members and articles by leading persons in the country on what the Rosicrucian Order is doing for them.

SEVENTH, each member, regardless of the study course, is entitled to the many departmental services of the Order, which includes help by correspondence and through our metaphysical methods, as well as additional information by mail on points in the lectures, aid in health or related matters, without any additional fees.

EIGHTH, the privilege of meeting with other members in the same locality as soon as a certain stage of the work is reached where the members can come together once a week in our own Temple in various cities, or in special meeting places for mutual discussion and help.

The graded, systematic lessons, lectures and experiments continue week after week with special helps to make each member proficient, until the member completes the first grade.

From this point onward the member may proceed with the higher lessons grade after grade through all the grades of the Work. Thus the course of study is as complete as any offered by the largest universities so far as length of time and devotion to development are concerned.



Fees and Dues

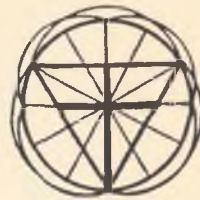
The Order is strictly a brotherhood operating as do all other fraternities in the world. Membership in the Rosicrucian Order carries with it the many benefits *distinct to all fraternities* and many others quite unique. Like unto all fraternities there are membership dues, payable monthly. And, there is a nominal "registration fee." This fee and the monthly dues of a small amount are the contributions on the part of members to the general operating funds of the Order, and take care of its propaganda expenses, its building funds, national and international humanitarian activities, and its donations to many scientific expeditions and methods of research and investigation. Such fees and dues have nothing to do with the source of instruction offered to members.

In addition to the general activities of the Order, the Rosicrucians conduct the courses as outlined on previous pages. These courses of study are given *freely* and without charge or fees of any kind to members of the Order. Therefore we wish you to keep in mind that the study and instruction work is a separate and distinct feature of the Order, *not found in any other fraternal organization*, and for which our members do not pay.

The Supreme Council has purposely made the "Registration Fee" very nominal. It is five dollars, payable with the application. The monthly dues are two dollars, payable on the first of each month. These fees include all the benefits of the Order's activities. There are no other fees or assessments, or books which *must be purchased* in order to study, and no limitations to the degree of advancement that members may make in their studies. The monthly magazine, "The Rosicrucian Digest," is also given free to all members who are taking the course of study by correspondence from the Supreme Lodge.

The monthly dues are to be paid by members only so long as they desire to retain active membership in the Order. Freely you may unite with AMORC—freely you may withdraw at any time.

SOME ROSICRUCIAN SYMBOLS

THE EGYPTIAN
CARTOUCHETHE R. C.
TRIANGLETHE
ROSY CROSSSEAL OF THE
SUPREME COUNCIL

In all recent international conventions or Council sessions held in foreign lands, the AMORC of America has been invited to participate with the other AMORC Jurisdictions, and the American AMORC is the only Rosicrucian organization in America ever invited to have a part in these sessions.

Today the AMORC in many lands is operating in a new cycle and in close affiliation and co-operation, and the American branch is an inseparable part of this unique body of Rosicrucian workers.



Final Instructions

 VERY IMPORTANT

There are several ways in which this book may have come into your hands. The book is intended to be a private one, carefully and discreetly distributed to only those who seem to be worthy of admission into the Order.

It may have been handed to you by someone who wishes you to realize that there is something in life that may answer your desires and end your quest. It may have been passed along to you by a friend or acquaintance who feels that it will arouse an inquiry in your mind. Therefore, there may be no application blank or letter of invitation with the book, and in that case if you feel interested you should write at once to the Supreme Secretary and ask for an application form. If your inquiry appears to be sincere the Secretary will invite you to file an application with him.

On the other hand, you may have written to headquarters for this book and it may have come to you by mail or otherwise, accompanied by a letter and an Application Blank. In such a case the letter will invite you to become a member. It is a direct invitation issued after your request has been properly considered.

HOW TO PROCEED

FIRST: Fill out the Application Blank very carefully. Bear in mind that YOU ARE BEING INVITED and not solicited in the ordinary way as with schools or some other movement.

Therefore, DO NOT LAY THIS INVITATION ASIDE without writing a letter to the Supreme Secretary and telling him just what you expect to do. The safest way is to send your Application Blank at once and make sure of your membership before the privilege is automatically withdrawn.

SECOND: Having answered all the questions in the Application Blank, sign it properly and enclose with it the Registration Fee of Five Dollars. If for any reason you cannot enclose the Registration Fee at once, be sure to send the Application Blank and state *why you do not enclose the Fee*. Your application in such a case will be passed upon and you will be notified of your admission or rejection. The prepayment of the Fee **WILL SAVE YOU MUCH TIME** in starting with the studies and immediate benefits of the various welfare departments.

THIRD: Mail your Application Blank and Registration Fee promptly to the Supreme Secretary. Register your letter if it contains cash, and if you send a check or money order make it payable to **AMORC FUNDS**.

Acknowledgement should reach you within ten days or less. If you do not hear from the Secretary in that time, write him in detail. If your application is rejected for any reason whatsoever your Registration Fee will be returned to you with a frank explanation.



ADDRESS ALL MAIL TO

Rosicrucian Brotherhood AMORC

ROSICRUCIAN PARK, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Long Distance Telephones: Ballard 8295, 8296

International Cable Address: "AMORCO"

Radio Station 6KZ

AMORC Directory

The following national and international branches of the Rosicrucian Order throughout the world are affiliated with the International Fraternity known from antiquity as *ANTIQUAE ARCANAE ORDINIS ROSAE RUBEAE ET AUREAE CRUCIS*. The organization is not affiliated or connected in any way with any other society or with any cult or movement.

THE NORTH AMERICAN JURISDICTION

(Including the United States, Dominion of Canada, Alaska, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Republic of Panama, the West Indies, Lower California, and all land under the protection of the United States of America.)

Dr. H. Spencer Lewis, F. R. C.
Dean of the University and Imperator of the Order
 Ralph M. Lewis, F. R. C.Supreme Grand Secretary
 Charles Dana Dean, F. R. C.National Grand Master
 Dr. Arthur B. Bell, F. R. C.Director of the Welfare Department
 A. Leon Batchelor, F. R. C.Director of Correspondence
 Harry L. Shibley, F. R. C.Director of the Editorial Department

Divisional Secretaries with Grand Lodges of the Order are located in: New York City; Boston, Massachusetts; Waterbury, Connecticut; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Tampa, Florida; San Antonio, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; San Francisco, California; Vancouver, Canada; St. Louis, Missouri; Washington, D. C., and other cities.

Spanish-American Section, conducting the work of the Order in English and Spanish, includes the Latin-American countries of North and South America, with headquarters in Puerto Rico, and Grand Lodges in Mexico and other countries.

Chartered Branches exist in nearly every large city of the United States.

FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS

Grand Lodges and their Branches are in active operation in all civilized lands, the most important Grand Lodges being located in England, Denmark, Holland, France, Germany, Austria, Russia, China, Japan, East Indies, Australia, Switzerland, and India.

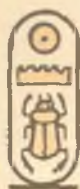
The College of the Order in the Orient is located in India.

Public Lectures and Free Reading Rooms

are to be found in many of the larger cities of the East and West in the United States. Addresses will be given upon application.

To reach the Administration Halls and Supreme Lodges of the Order in North America, address all mail as follows:

AMORC, Rosicrucian Park, San Jose, California



THE
LIGHT
OF
EGYPT



Registered U. S. Patent Office

The matter contained in this book is officially issued through the Supreme Council of AMORC under the protection of the above emblem, as are all the sealed, secret and private lectures, lessons, diagrams, dissertations, scientific postulations, philosophical discourses, and academic studies of the Fraternity. The above Symbols were duly registered solely for the protection of the work of the Rosicrucian Order in North America, and the AMORC is the only Rosicrucian organization authorized to use this Registered imprint and symbols in the United States.