

# The Philosophical Research Society, Inc.

3910 Los Feliz Blvd. - Los Angeles, Calif. 90027 - 663-2167

MANLY P. HALL  
President - Founder



HENRY L. DRAKE  
Vice-President

## CONTRIBUTORS' BULLETIN - December 1970

Dear Friends:

In December the exhibit in our Library is devoted to religious art on postage stamps. The sale of stamps for collectors has become a major industry in many countries, and we would like to mention one which derives twenty-five percent of its income from its beautifully designed and highly decorative stamps. This is the Principality of Liechtenstein. This little nation, which is not quite as large as the District of Columbia, is an hereditary monarchy. The reigning Prince is Franz Joseph II, but the legislative power rests in a Diet made up of fifteen members, who are elected by popular vote every four years. Liechtenstein has an area of sixty-two square miles and a population of approximately twenty thousand. The capital city is Vaduz. Liechtenstein is separated by the Rhine from the Swiss Canton of St. Gallen, and is mostly mountainous, except for a small strip along the Rhine River. The population is largely German. Religion is dominantly Roman Catholic, and the people are mainly agriculturists. Among manufacturing activities are cotton and leather goods and false teeth. Most of the income of Liechtenstein is derived from taxes and the sale of postage stamps. The Principality originally formed part of the Holy Roman Empire and later was included in the Rhine Confederation, after which it was closely associated with Germany. It gained political independence in 1866, and the people enjoy universal suffrage. There was a standing army, but this was abolished in 1868, and the Principality continues to flourish because it is useful to all concerned.

About thirty percent of the population of Liechtenstein consists of foreign workers who have become members of the permanent resident population. They are employed in farming or in the more than forty factories, most of which are highly successful. The annual budget of the Principality is somewhat over \$2,000,000.00 a year. The tax rate is very low and a number of foreign corporations have their headquarters in Liechtenstein.

While we were in Southern Germany last July, my wife's family drove us from Ravensburg to Vaduz. It was a delightful ride along the shore of Lake Constance, with a brief stopover in Austria. Vaduz is a beautiful community, immaculately clean, bright and modern. The border officials are dressed in handsome white uniforms, with brass buttons and trimmings. In the midst of the town is a lovely church (Laurenziuskirche), with a tall and slender spire.



The Castle of Vaduz, the official residence of the ruler of the Principality, stands in quiet grandeur on the crest of a low hill overlooking the city and the countryside. The castle is framed with mountain peaks, around which clouds gather in the late afternoon. The general atmosphere is peaceful and everyone appears to be busy and contented. The Prince of Liechtenstein owns a fabulous collection of original paintings by Rembrandt. The gallery is normally open to the public, but unfortunately it was closed at the time of our visit. Even without this inducement, however, the trip was more than worthwhile. There is a certain timelessness in the atmosphere in Southern Germany, and the coun-

tries that border upon Lake Constance and the Rhine. The tempo of life is decidedly slower. There is time for leisure and courtesy. The people expect to work their fields as their parents did before them. Most of the artificial pressure which is debilitating major countries is absent along the foothills of the Alps. There is no smog in Liechtenstein.

The rapidly changing attitude of the public in general toward our younger brothers of the animal kingdom is a most happy circumstance. Conservationists are doing everything possible to prevent the hunting of rare animals for their pelts, tusks and flesh. More than a hundred species have become extinct in the last century, and there are many who feel that this is dangerous to the balance of nature. Various animal sanctuaries have been established in strategic areas and a highly trained personnel is guarding the health and very survival of threatened species. The program is receiving a great deal of publicity on television, and in the Los Angeles area there are several programs weekly dealing with the conservation of wildlife. There is even a growing indication of a deeper sense of kinship between man and the non-human creatures around him. Even among the 800 zoos there has been a tremendous amount of progress and improvement. The animals are provided with appropriate range land and the small cage with its needless confinement will soon be a thing of the past.

A new type of sport is becoming increasingly fashionable. This is "hunting with a camera." Instead of destroying the animal, we seek to keep a pictorial record of its way of life. Prize photographs of rare species are trophies accumulated without destruction. We can all cooperate to some degree with this valuable humanitarian enterprise by refraining from purchasing articles made from the skins of endangered species. With the present development of synthetic fabrics, nearly any type of fur or leather can be imitated, and the need to hunt animals to meet public demand no longer actually exists. It is far more important to appreciate the living creature than to place a high value upon its fur.

It is nice to realize that there is a substantial increase of popular interest in the celebration of Christmas. The little flurry of atheism, which seemed for a moment to be gaining momentum, has for the most part subsided. We note also that the type of Christmas shopping is changing. There is a greater desire to share some type of religious experience with friends and family. For several years religious Christmas cards have been both uninspired and uninspiring. Designs have been trite and emphasis has been upon secular subjects. In fact some of the cards were in rather poor taste. This year many card manufacturers have designed extremely beautiful and significant cards, booklets, favors and souvenirs for the Christmas season. There is also a change



in merchandizing. Toys associated with warfare have lost popularity, and many dealers no longer manufacture them. The emphasis is upon space conquest and educational subjects, which will assist young people along the road to learning. Dolls have suddenly become extremely popular. Many of them are animated by electric batteries and come very close in appearance to actual children. There has also been a heavy run on kitchen equipment (reduced in size) for little girls. These changes seem to suggest more concern on the part of parents and a tendency for small children to be recognized as members of a cooperating family. It is good for us to restore some of the fantasy that made life far more meaningful to our ancestors. Disillusionment is producing no constructive results. Therefore, it seems entirely proper that we should restore a way of life much richer in spiritual overtones.

It has been our personal experience that an increasing number of our friends and well-wishers are buying good books as Christmas presents for their friends. Also, there is a definite effort to select an appropriate volume or a meaningful gift. Folks are asking themselves how they can contribute something to the peace of mind of those around them. Some may say that this evident selectivity is due to economic pressures. It seems to me, however, that many are maturing more rapidly as the result of widespread insecurity and confusion. Problems are already beginning to pay off in terms of increasing thoughtfulness. We certainly hope that all of you will experience something of the encouragement which we have experienced. We have all grown in the last year, and if we can maintain an inward grace of spirit, we also may see a star of hope breaking through the clouds of our anxieties. Let us follow this star like the Wise Men of old, for it can lead to a new birth of truth in the world and in our own hearts.

Always most sincerely,

*Manly P. Hall*

**SPECIAL NOTICE  
FROM OUR BOOK DEPARTMENT**

A number of important and scholarly volumes in our fields of interest are now available in attractive and accurate reprints. Most of those listed here are included in Mr. Hall's list of recommended reading and have long been rare and out of print. To these have been added selected works by outstanding modern authors. The Contributors' Bulletin will list additional works in future issues. Be sure to read this page carefully:

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Retail</u>
Knowledge of the Higher Worlds and Its Attainment	Rudolf Steiner	4.50
Lights on the Tantra	M. P. Pandit	2.00
The Lively Art of Ink Painting	Agura	4.95
The Lost Books of the Bible and the Forgotten Books of Eden	Intro. Frank Crane	2.95
A Lost Civilization	Walter Heissig	6.95
Lost Years of Jesus	C. Potter	5.00
Love Against Hate	K. Menninger (paper)	2.25
The Luscher Color Test	Transl. Ian Scott	6.95
Lore and Lure of Outer Space	Lehner	7.95
The Light of Asia	Sir Edward Arnold (p.)	1.25
The Nation's Voice	Gandhi	1.50
Natural Meditation	Philipp Dessauer	3.50
New Knowledge in Human Value	A. Maslow	7.00
Net of Fire Flies	Stewart	5.50
The New Waite's Compendium of Natal Astrology	C. Evans	4.00
Nymphs of the Valley	K. Gibran	4.50
Non-Violence in Peace & War, Vol. I & II.	Gandhi	5.00
Nostradamus, Oracles of	Ward	2.45
The Odic Force	K. Von Reichenbach	5.00
O-E Yama (Children's)	Seiku Shinoya	3.25
Of the Nature of Things	Lucretius (paper)	1.50
Old Tales of Japan	Yuri Yosuda	3.75
On Becoming a Person	Carl L. Rogers	8.50
Once Around the Sun (Children)	Elsa-B Titchenell	1.75
On the Nature of the Psyche	Carl Jung (paper)	2.95
On Religion	David Hume (paper)	2.50
On Yoga	Sri Aurobindo	6.00
Origin & Properties of the Human Aura, The	Oscar Bagnall	5.00
Origin of the Species, The	C. Darwin	2.45
Origin of the Zodiac, The	Rupert Gledow	6.00
Orpheus	G.S.R. Mead	6.50
Osiris	E. A. Budge	15.00
Outline of Classical Literature	H. J. Rose (paper)	1.65
Outlines of the History of Greek Philosophy	E. Zeller	2.50
Oriental Fortune Telling	Jimmei Shimano	2.95

These books may be ordered directly from The Philosophical Research Society, Inc., (address on first page). Please add 25¢ for handling on orders of less than \$5.00. Sales tax should be included by California residents. (Prices are subject to change).