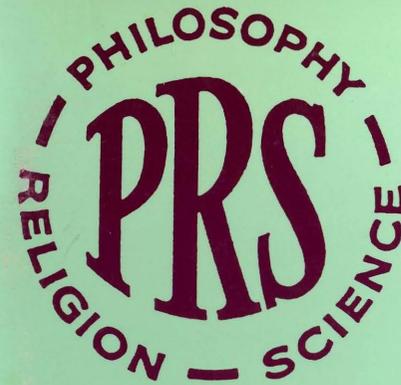


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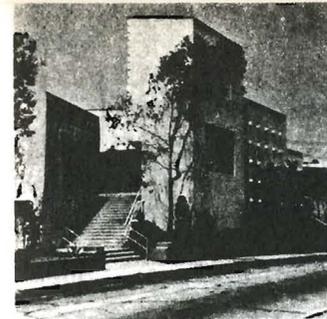
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Most of the reproductions of the early books, manuscripts, and objects of art which appear in this magazine are from originals in the collection of the Philosophical Research Society.

About the Cover: Hercules Taking the Heavenly Sphere from Atlas, *Les images ou tableaux de Philostrate*, Paris, 1615.



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OUR PLANET NEEDS A HEALTH PROGRAM

Genteel ladies of the nineteenth century were prone to discuss their symptoms. These were vague variations indicating unknown possibilities of minor physical ailments. In those days even the medical diagnosis had a tendency to be vague, and it was customary to assume that things would right themselves in due time. The political climate was extremely changeable, and great discussions seldom led to stressful consequences. The prevailing uneasiness did not often interfere with the broad patterns of living. It was useful, however, to scatter anxieties by the generous dispensing of spring tonics. Sulphur and molasses were a strong defense against lassitude, and a spring cleaning improved the atmosphere of the home.

Scarcely a day went by that did not interfere with the simple joys of Victorian tranquility. When my Grandmother was suffering from la grippe, the news spread rapidly—and trusty remedies were in order. If a pain lasted for several days, folks would say, “Something must be done about it.” The family physician was called in, bringing with him an atmosphere of majestic sufficiency. Most ailments received only local notice. Books on health were few; and the vast complex of pharmaceutical houses had not developed to provide remedies for all ailments, real or imaginary. One thing was certain,

however, when a person suffered discomforts something had to be done about it. No one wished to ache or shiver or find their bodies wracked with ailments. It is different, though, when Mother Earth gets sick. It has been suffering for ages, and it is assumed that miseries must be expected and endured.

The Egyptian physician of 3,000 B. C. classified diseases under three headings. He declared that certain disorders of the flesh could be cured in a reasonable length of time. These symptoms and their consequences were, therefore, catalogued as type one. Experience had shown that in most cases medical treatment would be adequate. The second type of sickness is more difficult and taxes the knowledge of the practitioner. The Egyptian physician said that he would strive to find a proper remedy, but the ends were uncertain. The third and last type of physical infirmities was simply listed as incurable and must be endured.

In China the medical practitioner did not enjoy the complete confidence of the patient, especially if it was a lady. Physical examination was impossible, and the doctor carried around with him a little miniature ivory figure of the female body covered with various markings and symbols. The sick person pointed out on the ivory figure where the pain was, and the doctor prescribed accordingly.

Perhaps what we need today is a science of political medicine which can be compiled from tens of thousands of case histories, checked and rechecked by observation and experience, and, in a sense at least, be autodiagnosable. If a person has a sour stomach or an outbreak of shingles, treatment is immediate and continues as long as necessary. If a planet suffers from an obviously dangerous ailment, it is ignored for thousands of years—and there is no intelligent treatment. There is no misfortune that occurs to a planet and the creatures inhabiting it that cannot be successfully treated and, in most cases, completely cured.

Mother Earth has an excellent basic physique. It is sustained by universal energy, as has been observed by countless scientists and philosophers. The mid-Victorian lady often liked to appear delicate. If she ailed just a little, there was additional sympathy for her needs and anxieties about her constitution.

The earth is in trouble, not because of the forces and powers that fashioned it but from the constant abuse to which it has been subjected for ages. All the living creatures that inhabit the earth have been wisely adapted to the needs of the environment. Consider for a moment war as a type of a common cold. It is contagious and possibly infectious. It may begin with sniffles and end with the destruction of a civilization. It causes infinite suffering, frustrates all significant projects, breaks every rule, human and divine, and is allowed to run its course to the destruction of all concerned. Where an evil exists and the correction of that evil is obviously available why should the remedy never be applied? A cold may drift into flu and take on the seriousness of influenza or pneumonia. The world is in large part made up of persons who will take remedies for common infections but will do nothing to correct a plague infinitely more terrible than that which took millions of lives in Europe and Asia between the thirteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Chronic indigestion results from bad eating habits. When the stomach starts aching, pain causes a minor curtailment of indigestibles. The Medes and the Persians suffered from a strain of political indigestion, passed it on to the Greeks and Romans, from whom it was bestowed upon the Renaissance, and then it was handed on to the present century with no major remedy in sight. Yet, there is nothing about political misconduct that is doomed to prove fatal. There are many persons who are fully aware of what is necessary; but it is a little like indigestion because a cure would interfere with average eating habits—which, in turn, would strike a mortal wound in current dietetic practices and the distribution of junk foods.

Today, a world in which we should be enjoying the wisdom of a hundred ages is dying or threatened by enforced ignorance. There is no reason to doubt that we could properly educate our children if we actually wanted them to learn the facts of life. We know that crime will exist until the causes are corrected, so a psychology of life is perpetuated which can never produce anything except trouble—and we are aware of this.

With the narcotic problem decisive action has been a little late, because there was no intention of curing it unless it became incurable.

In order to make sure that the narcotic traffic will not be permitted to die in its own misery, it is constantly protected both by the producer and the consumer through the building of a wall of hard cash. Most social evils would lose their powers if their funds were sharply reduced.

Is there a cure for smog? There is a cure for every mistake resulting from human ignorance and perversity. The problem is that the alcoholic would rather die than stop drinking, and the cocaine addict wants to be the master of the universe for a few minutes before he disappears from his realms of fantasy. When appetites become so exaggerated that gratifying them threatens survival, it is time to face the hard facts.

How did it all start? Prehuman beings huddled in caves and finally came out and took a look at the world around them. They failed, however, to explore the world within themselves. You can know all things; but, if you do not know your own origin, destiny, and purpose, your ignorance remains the dictator of your destiny.

It has been said that the great Earth Mother has shaken countless civilizations from her back. There is a protecting power within ourselves which can rise to meet the challenge of our ignorance. Nature does not destroy itself, and the few regions that remain in at least a seminatural condition are not exploited except when man moves in. Efforts to hazard universal laws have always proven a grave mistake. We survive by obeying the laws of our kind.

The prevailing situation has gradually developed into a Gordian knot. Tangle has been added to tangle, mistakes have been multiplied and been accepted as realities, and nearly every phase of human life is involved in a deterioration tragic to behold; but it is not given that the great plan of universal life can be destroyed by creatures who have catered to their own notions so long that they believe the lies they tell to themselves and each other.

In this world what is important? Propagation brings in streams of incarnating souls, who are "few of years and of many troubles." Conspiracies are created, but their originators do not even live long enough to contemplate the results. A lifetime is spent gathering worldly goods, paying taxes on possessions that are never possessed,

and exhausting the surplus gratifying appetites that destroy the fool's paradise about which the self-deluded are so proud. The statement is perfectly true, "What fools these mortals be," and, sad to say, the most affluent and respected institutions of learning we have established seldom impel us to correct faults or strengthen virtues.

Nature intended that all its creations should be equipped with the potentials of intelligence and integrity. Unfortunately, the physical environment overinfluences the infant from the moment of birth or even before it is born. Civilization—as we know it—is a destroyer of values, rather than the protector of ideals and dedication to right purposes and projects. Consequently, the infant has little opportunity to express its inner potentials. It would seem that the young child is drowned in a sea of troubles before it can express the higher aspects of its nature. In fact, it is a mistake to pass judgment upon any generation as better than another because the untutored mind is contaminated before it is incorporated into our social structure.

The heavy atmosphere of selfishness, self-interest, and self-destruction begins with the first breath. We all know this, but there are very few who are strong enough to go against the tides of false knowledge passed off as genuine enlightenment. Today's music gives us some understanding of present conditions. The primitive rhythms which have descended from antiquity may seem strange to modern ears, but there is a certain inspirational quality that is meaningful to those who accept and understand the principles which originated in the pulsebeat of the human heart or other physiological pressures of bodily tensions.

Probably the safest forms of music are simple melodies and rhythms which quiet the emotions and bring peace to the mind. It is true that the labors of classical composers are not widely appreciated. Great music is pleasing only to those who value a profound beauty which uplifts the spirit of the listener and are able to recognize the extraordinary skill of the orchestration and the inspired genius of the composers. In this country music was originally religious or recreational. The church choir got together the best voices of the community, and family gatherings around the old upright piano were a continuing source of mutual contentment.

Gradually, the discords of aboriginal songs and instrumental productions began to gain popularity because of the emotional tension which they created. The stress factor in jazz and hard rock transformed sound into a tonal menace to the integration of the human personality. It is not appropriate that civilized people should revert to primitive rhythms that might be suited to denizens of the Stone Age. Cultivating negative habits interrupts the growth of the human being and degrades those who fall victim to retrogressive dissonances.

How does it happen that young people in particular are profoundly disturbed by the negative emotions generated by a kind of intoxication through the perversion of sound? There should be healthy outlets for adolescent emotions. The classic theater is better because of the emphasis upon discipline. Those who wish to raise the dance to the dignity of a great art must work diligently to control not only the body but the mind, as well. At the moment, there is a major renaissance in the dance systems of various countries; and it has already been demonstrated that this art can contribute a great deal to better understanding between the various religious, ethnic, and social groups that belong to the aesthetic traditions which form part of mankind's cultural and spiritual heritage.

Why then has there been created a contemporary pattern of discordancies which are not only unpleasant but unhealthy? It would seem that appreciation for tonal beauty does not exist for many people at present. To accept the tonal catastrophe known as modern rock music corruptions of sound are perpetrated that are dangerous to both health and morality. Many literally become addicts dedicated to tonal patterns which can inflict serious and permanent injury. By degrees there occurs a destruction of the internal censorship which was intended to protect the inner life from the tragic discords in what passes for modern music. As in all other compromises with integrity, the original purpose of art has been lost.

There has been a gradual lowering of aesthetic standards especially in the present century. The desire to restore a useful and workable civilization is rapidly fading out. Generations are born which have known very little peace or honesty or kindness. Many no longer look

forward to a career and a substantial retirement when their days of labor have ended.

We all look forward toward better times but do not do much to improve ourselves or the world's society. Some now simply take it for granted that they will continue annoyed, discontented, and endangered as long as they remain here. Once a bad habit takes over the will power necessary to correct it gradually diminishes, and another life is ruined. There is no reasonable way that we can reform humanity by legislation. It seems impossible that the present trend can be altered without an act of Providence. If this is true, then the corrections required will be allotted—but under more painful circumstances. Nature has no intention of permitting humanity to die.

At the present time, humanity is in the most severe crisis recorded in the histories of the world. If we go on as we are, we could theoretically depopulate the planet; but this is not nature's plan or purpose. It is a direct result of human corruption and the gradual failure of the mental processes which has made possible the reasonable interpretation of available facts. Nature, however, does not operate that way. The purpose of experience is not to destroy the human race, though nations continue to damage each other, securities of all kinds fade away, the financial future is too bleak to contemplate, and in the midst of it all there are attempts to discover how to perpetuate indefinitely the miseries which are now accepted as normal.

If the truth were known, many would rather accept the afflictions which now plague them than attempt a reformation which might end in a dreary honesty which few wish to contemplate. What a large number of people really want is to do what they please without fear of punishment in a world which is generally assumed to be the perfect environment for growing humankind. The gambler still wishes to place his bets, as long as there is a million to one chance that he can win.

We might ask one of the leaders of modern times, "How should we begin the noble labor?" In almost any direction one can turn the elements of world affairs are so interlocked that very little can now be done to change things for the better.

Somewhere in the course of ages there has come an acceptance of the false conclusion that private careers can continue to be built in an environment that is intended solely for the advancement of all people in their various estates and purposes. In other words, we must rise together to new heights or fall in a structure in which there is no hope of survival. We can no longer become successful in a situation in which success is impossible. The number of people in the world frightens us as we approach six billion. It is, therefore, likely that there are still too many people happy to live beyond their means or build their wealth in an atmosphere of abject poverty. It is strange that so many of us will die for our opinions but would never think of sacrificing life for the preservation of principles.

Another problem that is more or less a throwback to ancient times is the fascination for human destruction. Down through the ages wars, great and small, have always appeared as mutilations on the pages of history. At one time there may be several great wars and in other periods a single conflict, but either way millions suffer and die. The dead can no longer complain, and the living divide the spoils. Human life is not very valuable these days; and, if we do not value the survival of others, we cannot expect much consideration for our own survival. We read of a village where a petty dictator has exterminated half the population; and in the same paper there are pictures of marching legions, hundreds of thousands ready to die who have not actually lived. If we do not value the life of our neighbor, why should we really be jealous of his possessions? Many are content to believe that half of the infants now being born into the world will die from the public crime of war or the private crime of mob violence. Thinking about these things, some are despondent and inclined to take refuge in small escape mechanisms. After reading the accounts of genuine crimes in the daily press, the public is offered on television horror films to take their minds off of the possibility that they may become the next victims of one kind of hatred or another.

Now let us think for a moment of architecture. Most of us have traveled some or watched period films on television. One of the beauties of the past has been the graceful inspired forms of great houses. The dignified residences of the landed gentry set in color-

ful gardens are in some way an invitation to serenity. Of course, many do not have such houses and may be a little jealous; but many of these great estates are now owned by the public. The beauty of the Greek columns, the spires of great cathedrals and their stained glass windows, and even the old inns with their quaint wooden sidings seem to agree with a quietude and a security which we no longer enjoy. In America particularly the pleasant houses of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are fading away. They are being torn down; and in their places stand condominiums, rows of boxes with barely space to park a car between them. There is not one touch of beauty but all utility; and, if some fantastic project allows a little artistry, it is apt to be so contemporary that it resembles a stack of scrap metal or stones. Our public buildings look like banks, while some of our modern buildings resemble stock exchanges—and others are suspended in a futuristic atmosphere that brings neither comfort or inspiration.

The Greeks emphasized that the city beautiful must be preserved. It must always bear witness to the good in man—his hopes, his dreams, and his aspirations. Instead of that, the modern environment is a cluttered assortment of the bad and the indifferent. The great building which has cost millions casts its long shadow over squalor and despair. The city is a collective symbol of the chaos which dominates the inner life of so many people.

Not long ago, I dropped in to a recently finished church. It was an expensive building, and the materials were costly and somewhat overdone. The structure as a whole, however, resembled the senate chamber of a small country; and in an atmosphere completely void of inspiration it was hoped that man might strengthen his faith by admiring a product of materialism.

We now see special trips on television into the homes of the rich and famous and, occasionally, the infamous. There is no doubt in the world that large numbers of persons wish devoutly that they could live in such mansions and that wealth would bring them peace and freedom from responsibility. Nowhere was the simple, gentle feeling of home dominant in these houses. Most of them would pass as lobbies of expensive hotels. By perceptible stages the things that

make for real growth and permanence are disappearing from our institutions. People are still expected to moralize these things, but their moralities have gone asleep. It is all part of the great struggle from the cradle to the grave and is certainly not the original design of the Supreme Power that orders the world.

One of the simplest of these little problems is the restaurant. Here in Los Angeles there used to be a small French café. The patrons were seated at long tables, and the common items were spread out with a pitcher of red wine at one end and white wine at the other with hors d'oeuvres and bread and rolls in various forms in between. The food was simple with two or three desserts, and the food was edible. In the old days it all cost a dollar, but I seem to remember that it got up into the two dollar range before it disappeared from my lifestyle.

Eating has become one of the prevailing tragedies of the day. It is perfectly possible to spend forty or fifty dollars for a dinner with special dishes, each one more indigestible than what went before. It has come about that when it was no longer known what to do with money it was decided to eat—which gives some idea of how really unimportant wealth can be. It does not make much difference which way you turn—extravagance reigns supreme. Fabulous salaries evaporate. Few people actually enjoy anything, but extravagant eating habits work a serious hardship upon the human body which must often cope with the neurosis of its owner.

The meal itself is often a gastronomical disaster. The winners and diners are actually contributing to dyspepsia and an early death. Epicurism was for centuries associated with the aristocracy and the leisure class. Today there is a gross imitation of the bon vivant's tastes without the former cultivated refinements; but in each of these circumstances there has been a very definite contribution to ill health.

Sandwich shops and short order cafes have a great fascination, but very few of the diners actually know what they are eating. It is only in recent years that the American people generally are taking lessons in wiser eating and the more sensible preparation of foods. It is sad indeed that prosperity undermines the very security with which the concept is identified. On this subject most of the world

is guilty of ignorance and indifference, but less up-to-date national and racial groups enjoy better health by clinging to their traditional diets.

To say that these types of things can never be changed, that common sense can never return, and that the brotherhood of man is gone forever is simply not true. The time will come when we will all sit down to a simple meal, because as populations increase that is all that will be available. The simple life will come back by either intent or accident. Instead of being demoralized by shrinking extravagance, perhaps the human being can begin to live and grow as nature and nature's God intended.



Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us.

—Anonymous

By gnawing through a dyke, even a rat may drown a nation.

—Edmund Burke

The excesses of our youth are drafts upon our old age, payable with interest, about thirty years after date.

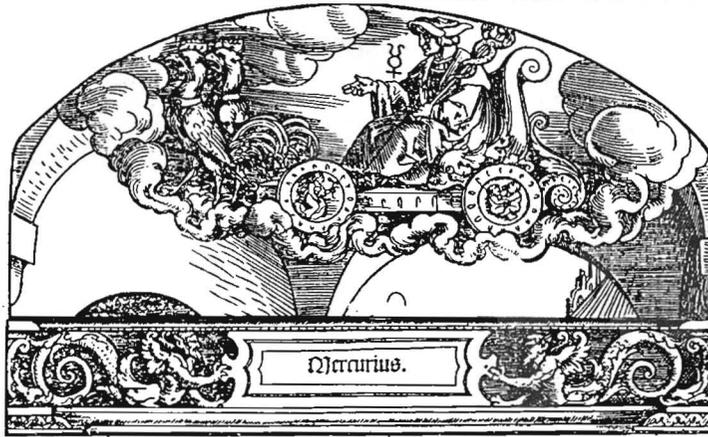
—Caleb C. Colton

The smattering I have of the Philosopher's Stone . . . hath taught me a great deal of divinity.

—Sir Thomas Browne

Real philosophy seeks rather to solve than to deny. When we hear, everyday, the small pretenders of science talk of the absurdities of alchemy, and the dream of the Philosopher's Stone, a more erudite knowledge is aware that by alchemists the greatest discoveries in science have been made, and much which still seems abstruse, had we the key to the mystic phraseology they were compelled to adopt, might open the way to yet more noble acquisitions.

—Edward George Bulwer-Lytton



NATIONAL TRENDS FOR 1990 (Lecture Delivered January 21, 1990)

The ruler of the horoscope of the United States for 1990 is Mercury, and the astrological keywords of this planet relate to communication, transportation, education, and minor crimes. The chart would indicate that the mentality of the American people will be under considerable stress. World conditions and national reactions to both domestic and international affairs will result in increased intellectual anxiety. This is due to the constant stream of accounts carried in the media relating to the insecurity of individual personal affairs and the deterioration of the environment.

Communication is the principal means of sharing information or rumors and propaganda. At the present time, average citizens have lost confidence in the broadcasting of news. It is taken for granted that many stories are little better than sensationalism or deliberately misleading. Possibly the most important source of prevailing beliefs and attitudes is television, which is not only highly conditioned but also promotes programming largely responsible for the prevailing mental conflict. At a time when it is urgent that we secure the best possible information on a variety of social issues we are indoctrinated

with bad news and very few remedial recommendations. In these crucial times we need genuine inspiration and courage to support our highest ideals and convictions.

The transportation aspects, symbolized by the ancient classical god Mercury with wings on his heels, are far from inspiring. Congestion is creating an inoperable situation, not only in America but in most foreign countries. A friend of mine who travels extensively said to me one day, "If you think traffic in Los Angeles is difficult, you should see what is happening in Mexico City, Teheran, and Tokyo." There is also an increasing number of airplane disasters, some of which may be due to sabotage but are partly the result of inadequate maintenance. Another proof of stressful thinking is the annual process of high pressure campaigns to invite the sale of cars when there is no place to park them.

Train service is becoming popular again, and various means must be found to conserve fuel and materials. In some of the communized countries practically all traffic is moved by means of bicycles, and in Japan they were used for many years to deliver grand pianos.

Education is a natural keyword for the planet Mercury, and in astrology it is assigned to schooling up to and through high school. Here anxieties come very close to the surface. Educational politics seem to forbid moral instruction or ethical inspiration. The need for thinking constructively is obvious in every part of life; but there is endless contention, and we are required to teach a curriculum which should have been obsolete in 1920. Gangsterism in the schoolyard is a constant cause of concern. Instructors are often in physical danger, and students are not equipped to face the problems of maturity with either courage or integrity.

All of these unfortunate circumstances are clearly indicated in the national chart for 1990. The country is going to be faced with the urgent need for basic thinking and common sense. Two areas which will require genuine thoughtfulness are employment and the public health. At this point we will consider them only in relation to their contributions to psychic stress. No adequate program is available for a long-range plan to protect wage earners. Much of our ingenuity appears in the form of laborsaving devices. Population is

increasing; many basic materials are in short supply; and marketing is becoming more deeply involved in politics every day.

The health factor is probably the key to Mercury's contributions to the national dilemma of the year. When the physical body becomes toxic, serious illness is never far away. Toxic wastes may come from improper nutrition or dissipation—or, again, extreme fatigue. Stress slowly undermines health and reduces the defense mechanisms which contribute to health. Nearly every intemperance which we have inherited from antiquity and many recent additions to the list weaken the physical constitution—which, in turn, lowers mental health and builds up toxins.

A nation that does not live in reasonable harmony with natural laws is bound to get into trouble; and, if a proper remedy is not found, the nation will perish. Intemperances, immoralities, and unreasonable ambition are all working against the survival of any nation that does not find a proper cure and apply it promptly. We wonder about broken homes, but they may be only a by-product of stress or emotional fatigue. The human being must live in a world of balance and proportion and protect the normal functions of his body, or stress will finally destroy him and his environment. With these thoughts in mind we can understand how the chart of the year is a kind of revelation of the motivations which dominate the year.

It would seem that we may come through the year economically better than might be expected. There is protection for greater reforms in speculation, investments, and the expansion of legitimate projects. At the same time, several exposés will reveal corruption in international banking and the providing of financial support to dictators and tyrants. There could be abuses resulting from a wave of opportunists. There will be a tendency to be rather more conservative in foreign investments; but it would seem that the country will be increasingly conservative, protecting business within the country and limiting funds going abroad.

Some constructive changes in the educational field are indicated. The trend toward idealism may reach the public schools but will meet with concerted opposition. The only way in which this long-neglected subject can be properly aired is by a complete renovation that can

resist the adverse pressures of minority groups.

The press could have a mixed year. There will be a tendency for newspapers and magazines to be in difficulties—first, because of the remarkable proliferation of such journals, and also television is taking over the major fields of journalism. Computerization falls under this heading and is certainly destined to transform many departments of business and learning which have remained static for years, even centuries. It presents itself in a benevolent form, but without some type of proper regulation it could be a menace to the survival of human society. Already attempts have been made, some of them successfully, which demonstrate that corruption and confusion are potentials in this amazing instrument.

Travel has a mixed year. There are areas where the hazards due to the political situation will discourage tourism. There will be more travel within the country, but it may prove that roadbeds have been neglected or damaged by heavy traffic. We must also remember that as stress builds up in the motorist his car can become an instrument of destruction. There should be more travel to Canada and all British protectorates which are convenient, and these regions will be popular, unless the instinct to exploit becomes too strong.

There is significant emphasis on housing and low-priced dwellings for those with moderate salaries. Fearful concern over landfills and dangerous chemical wastes is noted. There could be minor recessions in land values and instances of troubles over escrows and clouded titles. This is not a good year to speculate on expensive properties, as the emphasis is clearly in favor of rural or suburban land or structures inspired by projects for reducing inner city congestion. In this astrological area of the chart there is improvement for retired persons, better medical facilities, and extensive investigation of reports which might indicate unscrupulous transactions involving health. Farming will be more profitable, and an increasing drift of city dwellers away from urban congestion to a less stressful environment will be noted. In some districts smog and excessive traffic will motivate efforts for a lifestyle more conducive to personal well-being.

The problems of young people are among the major concerns

of the year. With four malifics in the fifth house it becomes evident that violence and serious crime can cause widespread alarm. It is clear that there is a general revolt in the making, but the remedies that have been advanced have proven inadequate. The long-range solution rests with the educational facilities, but in the meantime parents must become more aware of their responsibilities to the public in general and their children in particular. Every effort that has been made in recent years to improve the morality and ethics of the young has been frustrated largely by members of the adult generation. It is evident that parents must be held responsible for the conduct of their offspring. There is also a great need for improvements in the popular interests and activities of teenagers.

A clear indication of further corruption of the environment is present. Strenuous means must be used to prevent the destruction of animals and birds. It is a mistake to assume that these creatures serve no useful purpose. They are actually key factors in preserving a balance of nature indispensable to human beings. There is some religious emphasis in this part of the chart and a marked degree of danger arising from conflicts of sects and creeds. Liberal religious movements will become involved with the problems of young people, and this may prove valuable. An atheist is never entirely healthy. There is something missing from those who do not have some foundations in faith and a determination to improve personal discipline. High winds, heavy rain, impoverishment of soil, and fires complicate the situation. The narcotics problem remains unsolved.

The public health may cause a large amount of concern. The years of indifference have undermined the constitutions of American people in most of the age groups. There is increasing interest in proper exercise and nutrition, but it tends to be too little and too late—largely due to a widespread apathy and further enervated by glamorous publicity. Moderate living and thinking have lost their appeal. Inadequate nutrition is emphasized, and the disintegration of a large number of homes adds to further distress from bad eating habits due to the prevailing frustrations. More and more many people live on packaged goods or short orders and fill in with indigestibles. As more individuals—both young or old—select their food without a moment's

consideration for the actual needs of the body, they will continue to dig their graves with their teeth. It is not an epidemic that subverts health this year but the inclination of individuals to function largely on junk foods or stimulants to obscure normal hunger. It is not a healthy year, but those who live wisely and moderately have not too much to worry about in this department. Social diseases will probably reach epidemic proportions; and, as the code of moral conduct disintegrates, the suicide rate will increase.

Problems of employment come into focus and result in minor political upheavals. Possible accidents in places of employment are shown. Large corporations will be more careful in the engagement of workers, due to health risks and difficulties of transportation and housing.

Computerization may begin to affect employment. Those desiring advancement in their jobs are warned of the importance of special training to compete with younger persons. The situation will not be critical but may cause some uneasiness.

It does not seem likely that the United States will be involved in a war in 1990. There is, however, a certain danger in taking sides in the squabbles of smaller countries. It will be necessary, also, to consider the financial drain which is becoming heavier every day. In many instances funds loaned to help regions under dictatorial regimes will never be recovered. Within this area elaborate reforms of the legal structure are pending. There will be greater emphasis on the rights of the states to handle local conditions more effectively without federal involvement.

The national debt has climbed too rapidly, and the combust of Mercury and the sun indicates that older persons in particular should conserve energy resources and keep out of hazardous situations. It is important that elderly persons also guard against unnecessary drugs or habit-forming beverages. The nervous system is under pressure; divorces will be more common; and many families will develop unpleasant feuds. There will be some danger of loss, and those of moderate means should not speculate this year. Persons in all age groups may have worries involving material insecurity. The suicide rate may be slightly higher, and efforts to limit the illegal use of

drugs will be only moderately successful. The combust of Mercury and the sun may also afflict those living alone, and they are strongly advised to cultivate new associates or develop hobbies or learning interests. There could be further scandals involving religion, especially in recently developed sects.

Higher education has many worries. The chart is somewhat protective, but the need for a general reformation of objectives and the best way of attaining them may prove disturbing for many years to come. Advanced education in general is suffering from a bad press. There has been very little constructive change in the curriculum during the last fifty years. On the other hand, there has been much dissatisfaction on the scholastic level. The time is coming when graduates in higher science must compete with the very instruments they are creating. They are investing themselves toward bankruptcy. There must be greater emphasis upon practice and less upon theory. We have known for some time the nature of the problems which beset us, but we are not developing practical remedies. Progress should no longer be reported in an historical context. It should lead the way to a high moral and ethical platform to meet the challenge of developing mankind.

Western religion is also struggling to preserve the status quo, and it has contributed very little to strengthen human well-being since the Protestant Reformation. One group appreciates the value of idealism, and the other is drifting toward gullibility. This section of the horoscope includes secular attempts to strengthen the conduct of nominally religious persons. This may prove mildly helpful but is not solutional. We have had the Ten Commandments for over two thousand years, and it is about time for us to try living them as a practical solution of humanity's oldest problem—the struggle between right and wrong.

The political structure is under some affliction this year. Leadership is not strong and is hesitant to make firm decisions on such matters as armament, conservation of natural resources, and the curtailment of international credits and investments. There are pronounced differences of opinion among the elected officials, and there is very little likelihood that the party in power will be able to

dominate congress. There is particular prominence given to the press and other news media, and further scandals will probably surface in the spring. The health of leaders is under affliction, and several important personalities will retire or pass on.

Efforts to stabilize the financial situation will not be successful. There is some physical danger to public officials, and travel should be curtailed as much as possible. With international negotiations there are certain dangers, and there is warning that the United States might be unwisely involved in the political changes in Europe. Generally speaking, however, minor blunders will not have any long-range consequences.

It would seem that the United States will be called upon to assist in the establishment of new governments in Africa, South and Central America, and the Near East. Some scandals may arise over patents and violations of the written or unwritten rules of commerce. Several important scientific experiments may end tragically. Among foreign powers the United States may be increasingly popular, and international conferences could be strongly influenced by American opinions. A heavy economic emergency may threaten, but it will be averted by a major change in speculation and investment practices. A prominent woman may pass on but leave an enduring reputation for achievement in the field of family planning. There is positive emphasis in artistic endeavors and an unexpected improvement in the quality of theatrical and television productions.

A number of trends will partly emerge, but the major consequences will be more obvious in future years. In this problem the twelfth house of the annual chart emphasizes the social aspects of the healing arts. One important happening will be a considerable survey of Medicare matters. There will be notable exploration into the costs of medical care, the charges for hospitalization, and the condition of retirement homes. We are not expected to be our brother's keeper, but it is time that a little kindness and concern should be available without formidable charges. There may be limits placed upon the cost of medication; and nearly all professional services, medical and legal, will be under scrutiny. Even dubious religious organizations may have to prove their charitable responsibility.

Natural methods of treatment, nutrition, and health counseling will increase. It is still possible that the government will decide the proper charges for unusual medical services. Financial benefits for retired persons are likely to be increased or costs reduced. Under this same heading are penal institutions. The trend toward sentencing first offenders to services for the community, instead of incarceration, will spread. There should be comparatively little espionage or sabotage on the political level, but in the realms of organized crime danger to the private citizen increases.

Eclipses could contribute to health difficulties. The first of the year and in the late summer there will be health hazards to those Americans traveling in foreign countries. The spring could also intensify drug smuggling and result in major offenses. A serious stress period is noted in early fall, and in August and September there could be labor disputes and strikes. Throughout the entire year various groups could be nursing their dissatisfactions, but the atmosphere is not conducive to any long labor disputes.

For the city of Boston there could be a financial bind, and several major projects that are not regarded as critical may have to be suspended. Heavy colds and respiratory ailments could reach serious dimensions in the early winter. For Washington, D.C. there will be a great number of conferences and public meetings, and leaders from all parts of the world will be more numerous than usual. Interracial stress is noted and a general increase in the distribution of narcotics. There could be some measure of friction between the executive branch of the government and the media, and the privileges of the press could be restricted. San Diego could have climatic difficulties; but business will be brisk, and this city should have a prosperous year with some housing complications. Chicago seems to have an extremely good year financially and culturally with emphasis upon the arts and quite an upsurge in religion. Communities around Chicago will also enjoy greater prosperity, and land values could rise substantially. New York City may run into some complications. The aspects are not too fortunate, and rumors of corruption will prove further embarrassing. There could be heavy expenses in updating public utilities, which are in need of attention. A bad accident could

occur in one of the airports. Stress and tension will strengthen the tendency for the population of New York City to decrease. Los Angeles will suffer from climatic conditions and problems resulting from racial, religious and cultural misunderstandings. The water problem could become serious in the summer months, and both theatrical and television investments will prove unprofitable. The beach cities around Los Angeles could be involved in a health problem likely to produce great harm or danger, and Catalina is under planetary affliction.



EGYPTIAN LITERARY ODDITY

The temple of Rameses III at Thebes houses the largest "book" in the world. It is chiseled on two walls, and the width of its "pages" is one hundred and thirty-eight feet.

—H. Blumenthal, *Bookmen's Bedlam*

In proportion as we live it we shall make it possible for others . . . In proportion as our lives are its preachers will the sermon take effect on the hearts of men.

—Annie Besant

To be a philosopher is not merely to have subtle thoughts but so to love wisdom as to live according to its dictates.

—Henry David Thoreau

The first business of a philosopher is to part with self-conceit.

—Epictetus

Science and religion no more contradict each other than light and electricity.

—William Hiram Foulkes

Love looks through a telescope; envy through a microscope.

—Henry Wheeler Shaw



WORLD TRENDS FOR 1990
(Lecture Delivered January 7, 1990)

The ruler of the world chart for 1990 is the strong, fixed sign of Scorpio. It strengthens resolution, intensifies dedication, and causes those born under it to give special attention to their own needs, projects, and convictions. As ruler of the world, it will intensify the struggle for the liberation of mind and body from the tyrannies of political or economic despotism. We may expect, therefore, upsurges of nationalism in many parts of the world. Usually, Scorpio attains its ends without violence; but, if all measures fail, it can lead to revolution or public demonstrations.

By its placement and aspects it also supports the influences of Pluto, which some astrologers believe is the ruler of the nocturnal house of Scorpio. From Pluto there are strong constructive influences involving therapeutic advancements in the treatment of psychological ailments and greater control over the spread of narcotics addiction. All in all, the chart indicates greater participation in the legal problems of nations and opposition to the ambitions of tyranny, especially militarism.

Financial conditions for 1990 may suffer from overoptimism in money matters. This could lead to minor recessions and will certainly curtail military expenditures in most countries. It is becoming obvious that military spending will never pay off because armament becomes obsolete before the bill can be paid. There will also be renewed interest in private enterprise and the development of new areas of self-employment. Even if there is some sag in world trade, by the end of the year things should even off without a serious inflation.

The public mind virtually defies analysis. There is deep resentment against misrepresentation in advertising, and most branches of the media are in need of a general reformation. The confusion in this area will affect television, the theater, newspapers, news releases over television and radio, and a variety of publications disclosing unethical procedures. International control of television advertising and computerization may be effective before the end of the year.

In this segment also is education, and from the chart it would indicate considerable stress and conflict, especially in the late fall. The effort to control the thinking of the young and the popular determination to perpetuate prevailing policies which are obviously inadequate may result in widespread mutiny. It is time for the public school system to lead progress, instead of retarding it with desperate determination.

In this department there is also emphasis on transportation signified by six planets in the third house. Even on the horoscope this cluster somewhat resembles daily conditions on the freeways. The system of public transportation is opposed by several factors, one of which is psychological. Car owners wish to drive when they please, where they please, and do not wish to have this privilege restricted. An unnoticed, but powerful factor, is the gradual exhaustion of our petroleum supply. Civic transportation is stressed, and the decentralizing of urban industry could prove helpful. There should also be some curbing of the sale of cars. Perhaps it should be necessary to turn an auto in when purchasing a new car—the turned-in vehicle not to be resold but its useful parts reconditioned

for future yearly models. Travel will be more hazardous, and in many cases poor workmanship or deficient maintenance will cause serious loss of life. The chart is accident prone; and unnecessary travel should be restricted, especially next fall and winter.

Housing is under definite planetary stress. It is not only insufficient but subject to neglect. The maintenance of homes, or even apartments, reveals a general disregard for living quarters. Housing is not keeping up with the need, and exploitation is rampant. There is, however, a trend toward suburban living, or "back to the farm." This will increase—and, while there will be inconveniences, the public health will improve. Living conditions will be threatened by atmospheric pollution, and this will increase in the areas around every large city. In most cases urbanization is dangerous to health, happiness, and emotional stability. There will be more attention to housing in colder temperatures, which has in the past been generally ignored. For older persons retirement communities are gaining importance, but this should be a last resort because the incentives for healthy living are markedly reduced by such segregation.

Young people of the world are dramatized symbolically in the chart for 1990 by a combust of Mercury and the sun, which indicates an eclipse of common sense. Mercury rules the lower mental faculties, such as those most useful in one's social existence. By degrees younger people are wasting themselves in the vain effort to have fun. We have long boasted of our educational system, but it is now functioning as an almost complete failure. The house of the chart allotted to young people is also called "the house of idealism." It is the segment of the chart which supports morality, idealism, and the cultivation of internal values. Incidentally, this house governs, as well, pets and domesticated animals. In art the emphasis is upon pure beauty, and in music essential harmony and pleasant rhythms predominate. Young people born with the sun in the fifth house become leaders of constructive movements and protectors of innocence and honesty. It could well be that a number of teenagers in all countries will unite to save themselves from the corruptions that are endangering their futures as constructive members of society. Youth movements may gain strength this year and contribute to the

improvement of the older generation.

The world health is damaged by the prevailing stress, and in some countries violent outbreaks may result in deaths of young people. It looks, however, as though the world press will circulate information that will help to protect young people from the savagery of ambitious militarists and dictators. Among sensitive areas in the world effort to combat sickness there may be a serious epidemic of sinus trouble. This could result in the discovery of the deadly consequences of air pollution. A daily newspaper recently stated that a spray necessary to protect agriculture might take the paint off your automobile but would not be harmful to you! It seems to me that this calls for further research.

Heavy stress and tension and a tendency for negative thinking can bring about chronic diseases that require special psychological assistance. The best answer is to vacation in rural areas, reduce smoking, and strengthen the diet with green vegetables. The problem of AIDS may worsen for the present, but some progress will be achieved in reducing drug addiction.

Labor and employment may have a mixed year. We are forever inventing laborsaving devices and can see no reason why this should account for unemployment. The most sophisticated countries are also at loss to consider why manufacturing their commodities in low-wage countries should work a hardship on their workers. There could be some strikes or labor agitations; and, as an example, women's organizations may take a prominent part in demonstrating for better working conditions. I do not think that unemployment will be high, as years of neglect suggest widespread reconstruction; and a series of natural disasters—or those resulting from military destruction—could keep most countries busy for many years to come.

There is always the consideration of wars and revolutions. The ruler of the chart is militaristic; but the seventh house is assigned to Venus, which suggests arbitration and nonviolent solutions to urgent matters. In the chart Mars and Venus are in conjunction, which might well mean that stress will be softened by merciful intercessions. It does not seem that a major war is likely, and as the year progresses local occurrences will probably take precedence over national and

international affairs. There could be a considerable increase in lawsuits covering political crimes and economic misrepresentations. Many countries will modify their legal codes, and the trend will be toward a one-world system. International litigations will arise intended to prevent countries buying their way into other nations. There will also be a general tendency to simplify the existing legal codes and to try international crimes by an international court. New methods of settling offenses out of court will gain favor among most nations. Political litigation is likely to increase this year.

The economic situation for 1990 is best described as a snarl of disorganized factors. Many creditors will have difficulty in ever being repaid. International investments are subject to shady dealings, and collateral is adversely affected by strikes, revolutions, and related factors. The death rate will be higher because of natural disasters and a variety of minor military activities. Suicides may be somewhat more numerous due to involvement in narcotics.

A curious note often associated with the planet Mercury has to do with *memento mori*—celebrations and memorials for the dead. At this time impressive testimonials prepared for the various dictators by themselves will likely be torn down and replaced by a different type of distinguished citizen. Leaders in power as puppets for more powerful nations will be forced out of office. Even small nations will demand complete autonomy, and for the most part useful reforms will follow.

It is interesting that the house of the horoscope which is assigned to higher learning is also the significator of religion. The ancient astrologers regarded these two departments of human thinking to be inseparable. To summarize, higher education will be in trouble, and much of its traditional prestige will not survive the needs of changing times. Slowly, but surely, materialism is losing favor even in higher academic circles. There has been a recent study of the importance of ethics in politics, and idealism is influencing changes in most parts of the world. Philosophy gains in popularity, and the legal profession will be in trouble because of several outstanding incidents involving lack of integrity. Religious sectarianism is also weakening, and creedal beliefs in all countries will become more

liberal and tolerant. Commerce is under some affliction, and travel in general is becoming too expensive with uncertain schedules. In this area of the chart there are a number of constructive changes. There is strong improvement in the arts, and public appreciation for aesthetics in general heralds better times.

The next segment to be considered is government, and at this time there is increasing resentment of strong leadership and simultaneously disapproval of weak governments. In 1990 all heads of state, kings, presidents, dictators, and duly elected leaders will be under adverse aspects. There are too many opportunists in the world of politics, and several scandals are likely to surface in 1990. International credit is endangered largely because of the vast investments in weaponry and the increasing danger of air and water pollution.

This area also involves celebrities and the difficulty resulting from glamorizing persons in the fields of sports and theater. The public is beginning to recognize that there should be thoughtfulness and due consideration in electing public officials. Conditions in this bracket will improve somewhat, but there may be two or three disastrous scandals that could rock a nation to its foundations. The health of the leaders is also threatened.

The tenth house can represent aristocracy, which is generally out of favor at the moment. In politics the sun is associated with celebrities and the moon with the proletariat; and, as both luminaries are afflicted this year, no immediate solution is in sight for troubles which have already endured for more than five thousand years. Dissipation is afflicting many celebrities, and as time passes it will become obvious that moral corrosion is adversely affecting the foundations of our national freedom and international rights and privileges.

Most political systems have parliaments, senates, or chambers of deputies through which the public is governed. Appropriate changes must be made to prevent party politics from usurping all of the legislative functions. This will be one of the major improvements which we hope will preserve the concept of a commonwealth. Political strife will burden more countries and result in revolts and

other disorders which can lead to human suffering and violence. In substance, all leaders are vulnerable this year; and, if they are not afflicted in their careers, they are liable to suffer with serious health problems involving the heart and the blood circulation. Most public personalities elected to office since World War II are becoming obsolete either from age or inability to meet the challenge of intensive change.

I think we can predict with certainty major changes in health programs. Obviously, in small countries extensive improvement must be attained slowly. In major countries programs will be set up to prevent exploitation in the healing arts. It is possible that socialized medicine will dominate in progressive countries. It will prove easier to reduce the cost of services for those of restricted means. It is possible that the ancient concept that all physicians should be priests of the sacred rites may suggest a solution. There will be changes and reforms in penal institutions. To meet the high crime rate a means should be found so that criminals can become self-employed or employed by the state for the period of their incarceration.

The rate of crime generally is apt to rise, and the underworld of narcotics will have increasing influence. Most countries have their own pet vices, and the planetary influences will strengthen these moral infirmities. Espionage, sabotage, and connected activities will probably diminish. They will still exist, but their influence upon the destiny of nations is marginal for the present.

One area that presents unusual complications is that this house of the chart is also concerned with mysticism and esoteric religions. With the ruler of the house heavily afflicted we are apt to have an outbreak of malpractice. Mystical ideals will be used to advance personal selfishness and gain. Gradually, this may worsen until it becomes a resurgence of sorcery. This is one area in which lack of ethics can destroy both the black magician and his victim. When virtue fails upon the earth, universal laws take over. At the moment, this is not a pleasant prospect; but in the end integrity must prevail on every level of human functioning.

In general, therefore, the world chart indicates clearly that delinquency threatens the security of all nations and all individuals. We

must face this as a personal challenge. Time has proven that when persons or nations allow themselves to drift complacently there has been no incident in which anyone has drifted into perfection. Indifference always lowers standards and opens the way to major disaster.

We will now discuss briefly the effects of the planetary trends upon the various nations of the world. It should be understood that no country can go contrary to the chart of the year, but it can emphasize the strong aspects for good or it can drift along and fall into the negative interpretations of the annual chart.

AFRICA

This vast area is confronted by the continuing stress of racial conflict, but there are a number of constructive indications. The planetary ruler is besieged by Neptune and Saturn, but much of the trouble is gradually subsiding. There should be a happy ending in most of the African countries, and it can be hastened by peaceful negotiations or delayed by prejudice and intolerance. There may be an important discovery leading to mineral rights in Africa this year.

EGYPT For this area there should be a favorable press. Travel and tourism are emphasized, and it is possible that another important discovery in the area of Memphis could result in worldwide publicity. The government would like to be moderate, and as a Moslem country it has avoided fanaticism and violence. It seems that it will continue to do so, even though there may be a wave of tension in May or June. There is a promise of progressive measures, improvements in housing, sanitation, and nutrition. Financial conditions should improve, and foreign investments could be profitable.

ETHIOPIA This country is still in difficulties. It is plagued with internal dissension and ambitious leaders determined to gain their ends, even if it means a reign of terror. Fortunately, there seems to be an intervening agency in the picture. A group or commission may succeed in breaking through the isolation. There is religious trouble, and difficult climatic occurrences may result in a minor outbreak of parasite infections. Archaeological and anthropological

discoveries in Southern Ethiopia may focus attention on this isolated land. The country is suffering from the conflicts of ambitious feudal leaders. A strong personality could arise this year to make clear the importance of religion to the survival of Ethiopia.

LIBERIA In Liberia there is strong emphasis on education, religion, and commerce. There could be a major change in the constitutional laws of the country, and Liberia should carefully abstain from involvements in African political conflicts. Shipping under the Liberian flag must be watched attentively to avoid the danger of involvement of that country in the narcotics traffic.

MOROCCO This is an active year for the Moroccans. They are strongly under the influence of Pluto, which could inspire spiritual values and reinforce bonds with neighboring states. The government is assisted by a fortunate financial arrangement. Young people will be restless and leave the country. The head of state is personally afflicted, but he should survive. A definite involvement of religion and education is indicated, and women become more active in politics and industry.

THE BALKAN COUNTRIES

ALBANIA AND BULGARIA The Balkan countries as a group are under the influence of Pisces. The combust of Mercury with the sun exercises a confusing influence, and tensions will arise which may require patience and nonmilitant procedures. The ruler of this block would indicate a bitter internal struggle, as well as communistic pressures. The trend is towards the membership of these countries in a Balkan federation. Adverse weather conditions threaten, and there may be a food shortage in the fall. Young people will attempt to be constructive but are subject to unfortunate indoctrination. Pluto will exercise considerable influence and will protect these countries in their hour of need.

GREECE Greece is very well-aspected this year. Tourism could be good, and there is emphasis upon archaeology and the arts—

both ancient and modern. There is a certain anxiety, however, because Greece is located in a stress-ridden area—and its best course is to remain aloof, if possible. Greek family life continues to be protected, but young people are losing the mystical aspects of their religion and forgetting their philosophical heritage. The Greek church will be more active and lead an educational program to blend ancient and modern schools of thought to be useful in the coming century.

HUNGARY In 1990 the Hungarians would be wise to refrain as far as possible from entanglements in the present European crisis. There seems no doubt that the country will ultimately win complete independence; and, in a sense at least, the real battle has already been won. All in all, the country should have a good year. Pluto is protecting Hungarian leadership, but it will be advisable to refrain from coming into open conflict with Russia or its satellites. Hungarians should benefit from the outcome but not participate in these constraining planetary influences. Health seems good, but air pollution threatens most of Eastern Europe.

ROMANIA This country occupies a constructive place in the Balkan power structure. It should refrain from active participation in any form of European politics at the present time. The Romanians should strengthen their trade relationships, train their young people for future leadership, cultivate the arts—especially music—and settle down to a period of watchful waiting. Stress and tension arising from conflicts will be detrimental to major objectives. Employment may be spotty, but no emergency can be foreseen at the moment. There is some compelling pressure on sports, which could serve as a convenient way to mingle interests with Western Europe.

TURKEY In this country Christianity is in close contact with Islam. For years a truce was maintained, but there is now the possibility of improving this relationship. Turkey is sufficiently Westernized to transcend creedal conflicts. The government is protected and in terms of merchandising depends on its position between Europe and Asia. The Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Greek Orthodox Church

is in Istanbul, and its position has been hazardous until a few years ago. Christianity and Islam should probably stand together against the danger of atheism in Europe. As usual this year, there is strong emphasis upon mysticism and the education of children by a system with religious overtones. There is a possibility of a political crime in or near Turkey.

YUGOSLAVIA In this country the emphasis is upon education, religion, travel, and the cultivation of the arts. There should be a stability in the country which can transcend political pressure and tension. There is a militaristic spirit but very little to be gained by any form of violence. The moon is between Neptune and Saturn and in close conjunction. This would also warn of natural emergencies, climatic difficulties, unseasonal weather, and seismic occurrences. With so many symptoms it very often happens that negative aspects lose most of their power. A strong patriotism may arise and help memories of conditions following immediately after World War II. An outbreak of crime is possible this year, and the narcotics problem may be keenly felt in Yugoslavia. In the meantime, the people of the country will find new sources of friendship, understanding, and cooperation. Private business and trade will increase; but there are pressures to health, especially arthritis, rheumatism, and accidents to the legs and feet. With care and caution the Yugoslavs may make a major step forward, not only for national freedom but of advancement to enduring peace and security.

EUROPE

AUSTRIA The astrological trends for Austria indicate a comparatively pleasant year. The people will enjoy the prevailing privileges and are concerned principally with the perpetuation of their cultural traditions. Under the surface there is stress and considerable pressure, but the energy will be directed towards the improvement of the country. Historical monuments may be restored, shops will have an excellent stock, and cafés will be well-attended. There will be a watchful awareness, however; and Austrians will probably enjoy music and art and try to avoid political involvements.

Considerable new building will appear in due time, and education requires some updating. Tourist trade will find Austria more accessible than many parts of Europe. Health matters and facilities for the care of the aged are given prominence.

BELGIUM Here the emphasis is upon economics. The country is well-protected astrologically, but there could be a health problem in the ruling family. Expositions, conventions, and exhibitions of products will intrigue a large assortment of buyers. There is much importance placed upon religion, and the government will be viewed with increasing respect. This is a good year for wine. There could be a health problem and a mild epidemic affecting digestion and excretion. The people will become more health conscious, which may disturb the café society. The Belgians are biding their time and will play an increasingly important part in international politics.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1990 will be a critical year for the Czechoslovakians. The people in general are under a heavy influence from Pluto, which is often assigned as co-ruler of Scorpio—the natural planetary significator of Czechoslovakia. Mars, the ruler of this country, is in a cluster of six planets; and this will have a tendency to cause a variety of social, economic, and political problems mingled with the stress and tension of surrounding countries. There may be some violence in the pattern for the year, but it will appear that the Czechs will regain their political freedom within the next year or two. A new kind of democracy is developing in Europe by which prosperity is linked to individual or collective independence without falling into some pattern of exploitation. Health is rather fair, religion is stressed, and the standard of living rises. Adverse climatic conditions may limit progress slightly, but the Czech resolution will prove most rewarding.

FRANCE Leo, the astrological ruler of France, is in the midheaven of the world chart for 1990; but there is a curious conjunction of the Part of Fortune with the south node of the moon. This conjunction is also in Leo, and the government is not secure. The special emphasis

seems to be upon labor troubles and financial limitations. France will suffer from the upheaval throughout Europe. Strikes are possible, and the cost of living could rise substantially. The narcotics situation could move in upon the French, and moral issues cause concern. The French film industry will produce two or three motion pictures which will receive international acclaim. The French art colony will outgrow its ultramodernism and produce works of merit with strong inspirational qualities. Those dabbling in the French stock exchange should be cautious. Crime will increase, especially forgery, petty thievery, and corruptions in legal processes.

EAST GERMANY Recent happenings have received adequate coverage from the press. The wall dividing the two Germanies was over eight hundred miles long and was only surpassed by the Great Wall of China. East Germany is under Capricorn, and in the chart for 1990 Capricorn is on the cusp of the third house and extends from the sixth degree of Capricorn to the fifteenth degree of Aquarius. In this span there are six planets, three in Capricorn and three in Aquarius. This grouping includes all of the difficult planets except Pluto. Here, grouped together, are Uranus, Neptune, the moon, Saturn, Mars, and Venus. From this it is likely that the planetary configurations will have chain reactions and could ultimately change the political face of Europe. East Germany is more conservative and patient than West Germany, which comes under Aquarius—a dynamic sign, imaginative, and given to innovations. The ultimate reunion of divided Germanies will bring lasting prosperity to the German nation.

WEST GERMANY Naturally a lighthearted region, I personally found the southern part of West Germany especially most attractive and picturesque. North Germany, as it is called, was industrial and with Prussian inclinations; but this was only an appearance. Actually, if reunited, Germany could be and should be one of the best stabilizing forces in Europe's political economy. The West Germans are likely to have some political difficulties. Stress will be greater and problems more complicated. In West Germany there could be a finan-

cial crisis which will require very careful planning. Complications will arise in labor. The Germans will distinguish themselves in sports, and various types of physical culture will be conducive to the morale of the younger generation. There may also be noteworthy religious revival in Southern Germany. The needs of small children in the development of their constructive characteristics will come sharply into focus. This will be a productive but very complicated year; and many of the benefits will not be fully recognized for some time.

GREAT BRITAIN It would appear that the English people are facing what they sometimes call "a sticky wicket." Here politics will prove extremely annoying, and many treasured traditions are likely to fall by the way. The royal family is under some affliction, but a member thereof is apt to exhibit much courage and executive ability. There are also health indications affecting the monarch and her immediate family. Old stress and tension, which has subsided for several years, could spring up again. There is anxiety in the "Lords" and upsets in the "Commons." The whole world is desperately concerned with what it has pleased to call "independence." Small political units incapable of self-government or the protection of free institutions are still demanding autonomy. This will appear as an annoying factor in the British Commonwealth of Nations. Where a compatible group of social units decide to cling to each other they are wiser, safer, and more prosperous. Agitations on the continent will react strongly in the British economic system. Government should be especially careful in protecting its administrators. There is an aspect which could suggest assassination, and the British foreign service should protect itself as its first practical duty. There is a rise of religious fervor in England and Northern Ireland. Storms endanger British shipping, and the country which suffered from soft coal smog for centuries will now face water pollution and the problem of handling nuclear waste. The tunnel which connects England with the coast of Europe has been delayed after some progress. The planets suggest to proceed with caution because unexpected complications will arise which might cost human life. With their usual reactions to stress the English will survive with some changes in habits and policies.

IRELAND This year could improve the relationships between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The emphasis is upon the reformation of the legal structure of the Republic of Ireland. Constructive arbitration and a recognition of the importance of cooperation could result in closer religious and cultural relationships. There will be greater prosperity, and economic considerations may contribute to a temperate atmosphere and increased cultural interchange. Stress on the continent inspires additional efforts to achieve peace at home. There are also constructive changes in the school system.

ITALY This is an important year for Italy and Vatican City. The policies are more stable, liberal, and progressive. There will be a general housecleaning in the political system. Financial situations improve, and there will be concentration upon art, music, and culture generally. The Italians will take increasing interest in the preservation of their artistic heritage. International assistance may help to preserve Venice from the ravages of time and the Adriatic Sea. Religious tolerance is noticeable, and the church and state will cooperate in supporting the industries of the country. Business should be rather brisk, accentuating transportation, communication, and commerce. Reclamation works could help to maintain agriculture, but Southern Italy must beware of storms and seismic disturbances. Vatican City may become a major center of the European money market. There may be some political commotion, but it will not gain much momentum in 1990.

NETHERLANDS The Netherlands is under the rulership of Cancer, and this year this luminary is besieged by Neptune and Saturn. This warns of storms and accidents in transportation with particular significance in the area of shipping. The ruling family must be careful to avoid accidents in their places of residence. Present conditions in European politics will contribute to the security of the Netherlands. Business and trade should be brisk, and there could be advancements in science, philosophy, and religion. The eclipse of the sun on July 22 threatens to take a prominent person who has contributed to cooperation between church and state. The battle between the

Netherlands and the sea continues, but this year some natural hazards are overcome. The economic condition remains firm.

POLAND Poland has been much in the public eye in recent months, and throughout this year the emphasis upon labor continues. Soon after the first of the year there is an eclipse of the sun which could work a serious hardship upon the leader or leading group dedicated to political freedom. There are some health warnings involving old buildings that are not safe and factories engaged in the manufacture of weaponry or heavy machinery. A tendency to violence would be a mistake; and arbitrations are spotty, but progress will be made. An important circumstance which will advance the cause of labor will probably take place in Danzig. Stress and tension will be injurious to health, and the blood circulation could be a basic systemic cause of psychological outbreaks.

PORTUGAL Portugal is ruled by Pisces, which is appropriate to those who go down to the sea in ships. There may be some atmospheric phenomenon that is dangerous to shipping and a tendency of young people to seek less hazardous employment. Every effort should also be made to protect the younger generation from moral deterioration. There is some political tension which could contribute to internal unrest. There are improvements in educational facilities likely to prove protective and resulting in an upsurge in religion probably useful for the next year or two. The Portuguese will become more active in merchandising and manufacturing many articles for which there is a good market in Spain and beyond. Trade relations with the United States are likely to be strengthened.

SPAIN The stars over Spain strongly recommend thrift and economy in 1990. There could be a serious financial condition arise in the country which could result in a rise of resentment against the political structure. Religion will be important in Spain for the next several years. These naturally mystically inclined people will become involved in mysterious happenings which will have a lasting constructive result. Important changes in education will present unusual situa-

tions. The great universities of ancient Spain have descended to the present in quiet dignity. A kind of mysticism developing throughout the country will influence the schools of higher education. This will help to restore a better balance of learning throughout Europe. The dramatic arts are underscored, and various folk articles will become popular for export. A number of political exiles may settle in Spain, enriching the country. Transportational facilities are not up to standard, and the accident rate is high. The climate is somewhat against the Spaniards, but ambition will ultimately prevail.

SWITZERLAND This year it is advisable for Switzerland to be especially friendly to peoples of other nations. This country remains a comparatively stable center for international financing. It is also strategically located, sufficiently aloof to preserve its own identity, but popular for its natural setting and its rich heritage of folklore. There may be some reversals which will worry the Swiss. The combust of Mercury and the sun gravitates against the continuance of secret bank accounts. Heavy weather may affect winter sports, and a serious avalanche is possible. The average Swiss citizen will continue to enjoy the natural beauties of his environment but must also watch carefully his own investments. The financial situation is a little shaky this year.

U.S.S.R. Most of the communist states are strongly under the influence of Virgo, which in astrology governs employment and labor. This year the government of Russia is under heavy planetary affliction. There is danger of a serious dilemma if Russia attempts to force its domination on its satellite countries. There is also a strong opportunity to win the friendship and cooperation of other nations if it will follow a course of gradual acceptance of the rights of smaller countries to live according to the convictions which they hold sacred. It is apparent and well-supported by planetary influence that the whole European continent is under pressure for change. Atheism is a lost cause, and autocracy under any name is contrary to the universal laws that govern mankind. An almost providential situation has arisen, and most of the astrological testimonies point towards

a new way of life as the final answer to all forms of autocracy. For the next several years planetary positions are setting up a concept of human enterprise in which, by remaining separate, everything is endangered; but with honest and honorable cooperation the future is secure for an indefinite period of time. Pluto is going to play an important part as an alchemical agent of transmutation and transformation. It can take all that has gone before and bring it to perfection. If the alchemist is not a dedicated person, the complex political, economical, and sociological situation will continue on its own way and endanger the survival of civilization. This is indeed a critical year for Russia.

THE SCANDINAVIAN BLOC

In 1990 the Scandinavian countries may have difficulties with labor, housing, and health. There is also an accident factor involving railways and motor cars. Something of special importance arises in the educational field which has far-reaching effects in updating social and ethical instruction.

THE NEAR EAST

Strange as it may seem, both Iran and Israel are under the rulership of the fixed sign of Taurus. For some time now both countries have been unmoved by the shifting patterns of political circumstances. For Iran there seems to be a tendency to arbitrate existing difficulties, but Israel is so small that it is difficult for the Israelis to sacrifice the lands which they occupy. Foreign mediation will help to pacify both countries, and a trade agreement with modifications and financial support could reduce the existing pressures. The religious issue is hard to solve, and most of the aspects for the year center on this factor. Minor military interventions are likely but not the danger of a major conflict. Iran liberalizes somewhat from within itself, and Israel may make conciliatory moves. There is some financial stress, but both countries will receive a sizable amount of help in the second half of the year.

THE FAR EAST

AFGHANISTAN Internal dissensions burden this country and may result in outbreaks of violence or a civil war. This is not as much due to religion as to ambitious leaders seeking power. The pressures may continue throughout the year, but the tendency is to maintain a more or less constitutional type of government. There is also financial stress and unemployment in the larger communities. Health is afflicted, but in the second half of 1990 there will be a marked improvement in living conditions. Afghanistan has passed through most of its troubles, and more normal conditions will come as a pleasant relief.

BURMA There are some improvements for this country which has long been under serious affliction. In spite of persecution, Buddhism of the Southern School has survived; and Burma is beginning to moderate the political extremes. Tourism is being reopened, and native industries are being revived and expanded. Some negative pressures continue to distress the Burmese people, but a spirit of hope is in the air.

INDIA For some years the republic of India has adjusted admirably to the challenge of progress. Some mistakes have been made; and personal ambitions have, on occasion, impeded progress. This is a critical year for India. The existing government is losing control, and the country is still in a state of social disunity. The feudal system continues beneath the surface, and inducements for the compromise of morality and ethics are numerous and strong. There will be further tension between India and China, and racial and national traditions gravitate against national unity. It could well be that this vast region with its numerous cultures, religions, languages, and classes will result in permanent political divisions. At the same time, the arts become prominent, India enters into an era of television, and computerization and Westernization continue in full force. Some Russian influence is resented, matters in Sri Lanka smooth out to a great extent, education is stressed, and corruption in leadership is faced with determination. Outbreaks of epidemical diseases will cause a

temporary emergency. Mystical beliefs become widespread, and materialism has few followers. Hindu/Moslem relations seem to decidedly improve, and minor mystical sects attract many young people. Transportation is inadequate, and accidents in travel are blamed upon lack of proper maintenance. Indian women become more prominent in executive positions.

INDONESIA Countries under the rulership of Libra are frequently afflicted with unjust laws and corrupt officials. This year Indonesia could have some internal dissension, and the average citizen will feel that he is victimized by avaricious leaders. Funds may mysteriously disappear, and improvements in living conditions long promised will be slow in appearing. It would seem that a highly specialized group should administer foreign investments. Climatic problems may interfere with health and education programs. Religion seems to be protected.

INDOCHINA

The Khmer Republic, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam are all under the rulership of Libra; and what is needed is less politics and more security. These countries have a long history as separate states seeking their own advantage or as friendly neighbors. Many atrocities have been committed in the Khmer Republic, Laos, and Vietnam. Thailand, however, has survived as a progressive kingdom under Buddhist religious leadership. There could be another outbreak of violence in the areas under communist domination, and in this Eastern region the desire for self-government is strong. On the good side there is promise of practical help for the natives of these areas. Progress is slipping in and building the foundations of self-assurance. There is some uncertainty in Thailand, partly due to refugees and circumstances actually outside the boundaries of the Thai state. Although the government is somewhat reactionary in this generation of constant innovations, I think it will endure for a time yet because of its religious leadership and its strong traditional background. There could be loss in agriculture and epidemics due to improper nutrition. Otherwise, conditions are as usual.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA The present regime has been able to survive for a number of years without serious dissensions because the people themselves have little knowledge of conditions outside their own country. The world's largest political unit survives principally by intimidation. Things are changing, however. Most of the leaders of Mao's revolution are no longer in power, and the little red book which sold well twenty years ago is seldom read today. China is especially formidable because of the millions of men it could put into the field in case of war. This is gradually changing, however, and the Chinese communist party is in for a variety of disturbances. A powerful struggle for domination will emerge, and the demand for better living conditions is gaining in strength. Most of the communist government has failed to improve the state of the masses. This is certain to prove their undoing in the end. As technical skills gain importance, the minds of the people rise to a higher level of inquiry and demand. The younger generation in China, including those most benefited by education, are demanding opportunities to improve themselves and their associates. A kind of secret society, a remedial agency popular in China for centuries, will come into prominence and force major reforms in government. In the meantime, the distant provinces will increase their demands for autonomy. China is such a large area in size and population that it must and will ultimately be divided, perhaps like the Five Provinces of old time, so that each area could work out its own destiny. Stirrings of this need in various parts of China are already being strengthened by an increasing knowledge of living conditions in the outside world.

TAIWAN This very industrious country is proving to the whole world the value of dedicated cooperation. While it is true that there will always be differences of opinion, Taiwan (originally the Island of Formosa) has flourished like the green bay tree. Even though its future is a little uncertain, there is a good probability that it will survive as a political entity for some years. Some differences of opinion are noticeable in the governing group, but it is not likely that this will reach serious proportions in the next year or two. Taiwan proves conclusively that a nominally Buddhist country still has the

stamina to survive in a capitalistic or atheistic environment. A leader of the country may drop out, and his successor may prove unsuited for leadership. Subversive actions of one kind or another will arise; but in a serious emergency Taiwan will have strong support from other countries, probably including Japan.

JAPAN The stars over Japan seem to forecast the internal problems of the country. There are tensions which will arise in government and a certain amount of conflict among political segments. Japan is in a period of transition, and the new ruler is not as strongly supported by tradition as his father. A kind of modernization is developing among the people. Old ways are changing rapidly, and every department of national life is being transformed. Young people are restless, and religious beliefs are not as strong as in the past. Economic expansion continues, but there is now also a focusing on national defense and a great deal of anxiety about policies on the mainland. Japan may also take more interest in the affairs of India. There are some health difficulties involving dissipation and accidents in industry. The expansion of the country's economic program may prove valuable, although at the moment it could be the cause of some anxiety. The cost of living continues to rise, endangering the elaborate parks and religious land—especially the expansive properties of Shintoism and Buddhism. General conditions are uneasy but not too stressful.

NORTH KOREA North Korea may be subject to sudden and unexpected changes in government and economics. There is general restlessness, and—as is often the case—leadership is arbitrary and disregards the rights and privileges of its citizens.

SOUTH KOREA This area will be under some pressure because its rapid growth is an embarrassment to the North Koreans. Progress is distinguished by better living conditions, more thoughtful city planning, and the strengthening of trade relations with Europe and America. The South Koreans are a self-disciplined people with quiet determination which will serve them well. It is always easier to pro-

tect the state or country which is already self-disciplined. Religious values are strong, and there is marked improvement in the estate of women. South Korea should be reasonably secure because it avoids hazardous ambitions and is protective of home and family. Climatic conditions could be unfavorable, especially affecting agriculture.

LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

Most of Central America is under Cancer. Naturally, the area should be emotional and insecure politically. This year foreign intervention will be more strongly emphasized. The best answer will be the establishment of a Central American Federation under the protection of some international group. Revolutions and petty social disturbances will continue, but change of leadership will improve conditions for one or two of the involved countries. Rebuilding processes will take considerable time, effort, and money and will occupy Central America for the next year or two. There is also notable progress in education, even though military and political disturbances are given most space in world reports. While things will not mend, I think they will get better; and some younger patriots who have been educated abroad will return home or exercise a constructive force. Natural hazards are possible but will not affect principal considerations. The United States will have some involvement in this area for most of the year.

MEXICO This should be an important year for our neighbor across the border. The combust of Mercury and the sun might result in overconfidence and impractical plans and policies. Even so, agriculture will be favored, tourism will be good, education will be advanced, and religion will be invigorated. Recent pressures and reverses will be less troublesome, and Mexico is headed in the direction of substantial expansion. Arts and crafts are given prominence, and more foreigners will move into Mexico to escape the turmoil afflicting many smaller countries. Valuable mineral resources could contribute to prosperity, and concerted efforts bring a higher standard of living. Dramatic arts and music will bring Mexico into the international entertainment field. There may be climatic disturbances

in areas along the Gulf of Mexico, and the country can benefit from an honest government.

SOUTH AMERICA For South America things will be as usual. Brazil is under some planetary afflictions. There will be greater inroads into the almost unknown hinterland of Brazil. By degrees its resources will be exploited, but there will also be new discoveries which will be of great advantage to the country. This is one of the few nations where it is still possible to plan a future. Brazil seems to be one of the countries strategically appropriate to the problems of the twenty-first century. Religion flourishes and major changes in the social life of the Brazilians will receive international recognition. The arts will expand, and there will be some important ecological publications originating in this country. Efforts to create revolutionary disturbances will be blocked before they can cause serious damage.

Argentina seems to have a new dictatorship in the making. Conditions in the Argentine could cause international uneasiness. The financial condition of the country will be unstable the first half of the year. An unwise experiment may be attempted but proves detrimental. Morality and ethics must be protected, and there is a tendency for the Argentine aristocracy to become over-ambitious, causing some social unrest.

Venezuela may set a good example and profit therefrom. Peru is restless, and the more or less segregated dwellers in the far Andes may produce a hero—someone who can lead them to the mainstream of South American civilization. Most of the countries on the north coastal areas of South America may have to continue to struggle against the narcotic empire, and some violence may break out in Colombia or Bolivia. The only actual solution is to educate the victims of this drug epidemic.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Here the emphasis is on public relations, by which we can understand an expansion of trade and cultural convictions, the arts, and education. Finances must be watched closely, due to the uncertainties

in the international financial situation. Some kind of mining operation involving the recently developing interest in the vibrations of precious substances could be involved in a major discovery of mineral wealth in Australia. Relations with the British Commonwealth group may be a little strained; and it is better not to disturb the status quo. For New Zealand there could be some type of volcanic activity, but for the most part traditional patterns and policies will be protected this year.

CANADA

In 1990 Canada seems inclined to live quietly. In the spring a wave of excitement may pass through the country, but the effect will subside rapidly. A variety of political issues may arise and new laws be enacted to protect the country against refugees from various other countries. One situation will bring Canada and the United States into a closer relationship. Some negative pressures between the two countries will probably cease. They have too much in common. The intense search for mineral resources may result in discoveries of great value to British Columbia. Laws for the protection of environments will be strictly enforced, and conservationists will be successful in several problems protecting Canada. Housing may be of some urgency, being especially important. Eastern Canada, though not overly reconciled on religious matters, should make special advancements in education and various welfare projects. If a good start is made in this direction, Western Canada will strongly approve. There could be heavy storms through the Hudson Bay area with some damage and a small loss of life. The Indian tribes of Western Canada are especially favored, and new publications may center attention upon exceptional strides they have made to the advancement and perpetuation of their skills and artistry. Canada's financial condition is reasonably secure.



Nothing can bring you peace but yourself; nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

ENERGY

All living things depend upon energy for their existence. The ancients traced the energy source to the sun, which they designated the giver of life and the protector of living things. There has been considerable scientific research bearing upon the subject of the mysterious vitality which exists everywhere and in everything. The Rosicrucians and alchemists accepted the idea that energy, as we know it, originated in the solar globe itself or is focused there from some still more distant source.

The rays of the sun are the sources for life, heat, and growth of all creatures that inhabit the planet; but in my own investigations I have come upon an interesting particular. While most of the sun's rays come directly to our planet, certain parts of the solar energy descend first upon the moon and then continue on to the earth. There seems some possibility that this latter energy picked up lunar vibrations and may be the source of fecundation or the perpetuation of species. Some of the early anatomists believed that the spleen was the gateway through which the solar energy penetrated the auric egg and became available for the maintenance of every function of every cell in the human corporeal constitution. This would more or less be sustained by the finding of Dr. Kilner in his study of the human atmosphere. It is noticeable that damage to the spleen is often fatal, and in the days of magic and sorcery various symbols were placed over the spleen to protect it from evil forces.

Every once in awhile I get a rather pathetic letter which explains to me why an individual is profoundly negative, weak and debilitated, tired and sorrowful, and utterly dependent upon outside assistance. I do not mean a patient hospitalized by a disastrous infirmity but the one who is forever worn out without having carried on any active career. In other words, such an individual has very low vitality. For this person the vital rays of the sun have contributed little to useful living.

To explain this peculiarity what we must try to discover is why the solar energy everywhere equally diffused appears to be unavailable to occasional individuals. The real answer is that some persons exhaust their energy supply more rapidly than others. Energy is used on all planes of human activity, but it has seldom occurred to an individual to realize that moods, attitudes, emotional occurrences, and mental stress use up far more of the individual's energy allotment than we are inclined to imagine. A fit of anger that lasts only a few minutes can result in a serious loss of energy potential. Grievances and feuds, plots and schemes, self-pity, worry, and frustrated emotions are the great wasters. After several hours of self-pity, the victim may so deplete his energy resources that he has a spell of illness, a bad headache, or a gastrointestinal upset. He will blame this upon the causes of his irritation, but actually they are the direct result of lack of self-discipline.

We must add, however, that the provocations for energy exhaustion are more prevalent than ever before. We are wasting solar energy in the same way that we deplete all other natural resources. Some day we may be without fuel and at the same time try to exist in the thin atmosphere of continual solar exhaustion. If this goes on, the planet will be uninhabitable and even a blade of grass will not have enough energy to grow.

As the disposition begins to sag and there are symptoms that there is not enough energy supply to keep the individual in a reasonably healthy condition, he begins to search for something to help him recover from what he regards as burdens too heavy for flesh to bear. He may try cigarettes to pacify the nerves or alcohol to bring cheer at the end of a grueling day. It is possible to assume that the sufferer is a victim of malnutrition. He needs more rich food and does not realize that trying to digest this sacrifices more of his dwindling energy supply. If the condition does not improve, he can always have a chat with his doctor. The medical man may be worn out himself listening to the sad stories of depressed patients who have broken every law of God and man and expect to feel well.

The physician could recommend a vacation and prescribe a new formula which has a tendency to increase optimism. There can be

a brief improvement, due largely to respect for the physician. In time, however, lassitude will return and become a part of the disposition—which, in turn, is soon hard to live with.

This leads to a rather more difficult social situation. The weak and dispirited person begins to look around for some ray of hope or an optimistic individual to lean on. We begin to choose our friends for the things they do for us, the errands they perform on our behalf, and an overflowing supply of pity. In a home relationship the energy depleted individual literally vampirizes one who has abundant energy. Unfortunately, however, it is possible to survive for a time at least on the vital resources of close friends or relations. This situation is sometimes referred to as psychological cannibalism. There is no visible evidence that we are living on the lifeblood of someone else, but often symptoms develop which even strangers recognize as this kind of dependency.

As it is quite customary to impose upon other people, very little is made of this psychological dependency upon the energy of another person. When it occurs, though, the pleasure of being cared for to an unreasonable degree has a heavy penalty which very few wish to accept. I have seen several cases in which the stronger person is completely destroyed by an unreasonable dependency of a friend or relative. Mother/daughter relationships can reach this point of tragedy. It becomes rather a source of gratification to so dominate another person that they will dedicate their entire lifetime to the whimsies or eternal complaining of an associate who has humored himself into a serious illness.

The energy factor is deeply involved in the conceiving and bearing of a child. Much of the trouble originates in the early months of the pregnancy. The expectant mother is required by nature to go through one of the most powerful and difficult tests of character. There is always some trauma, but the wonderful psychic joy of a new soul coming into birth seems to meet the situation in most normal cases.

Each person has his own magnetic field, and conception cannot take place unless the auric fields unite and overlap. The overlapping of these two magnetic fields is represented in religious art by

the vesica piscis, an aureole comprised of two arcs of circles. The symbolic form is that of a boat, and it is the ship of life referred to as the body of a church or cathedral. The word *nave* itself suggests a boat. Conception occurs in a kind of neutral field resulting from the overlapping of the positive and negative areas of auric energy. Various abnormalities arising at irregular intervals result from failure of the energy fields to create a zone of neutral energy.

When conception occurs, the magnetic fields of the parents separate again—except in the area of the former vesica piscis, which continues to surround and permeate the embryo. In due course, the incarnating entity begins to establish its own magnetic field; but for the first several months the energies of the parental fields dominate. It is in this time period that there is a transmission of resemblances between the parents and the child. Physical likeness is carried across together with a number of temperamental characteristics.

The severance between the magnetic fields of parents and child is not complete until the severance of the umbilical cord. At that time the incoming entity takes full control of its own magnetic field but may be comparatively unaware of its new separate existence. In some cases, however, sensitivity between parent and child may continue up to adolescence; and under special stress psychic experiences based upon the birth phenomena can arise in later life.

The new magnetic field was described by ancient philosophers as a kind of transparent envelope, spherical or elliptical, which extends from one to three feet from the physical body in all directions. The field in the normal adult is in itself transparent; but, when the higher vehicles of the personality begin to take over, various colors will arise and certain abstract shapes can appear and disappear with intensities of emotion or thought.

The north pole of the magnetic field of the human being and all other members of this world structure is at the northern end of the field. It is here that the vital energy to support the energy requirements of the human being is carried in the solar ray; and, having circulated throughout the magnetic field—recharging every part of it, it gathers up material no longer useful and disposes of it at the south pole at the bottom of the energy field. It is a mistake to assume

that this phenomena has never been examined. There have been many cases of magnetism which are undeniable, and several of the peculiarities of energy diffusion have been checked by the use of high frequency electricity. My old friend, Dr. Frederick Finch Strong, the co-discoverer of the violet ray, made numerous personal demonstrations of magnetism and electric currents before professional groups.

In the mature human being the magnetic field, or energy body of the human being, is a general protection against physical ailments and metaphysical pressures and conflicts. Debility, if genuine, is the decrease of available vital energy through some impairment of its circuits. There may be a factor here that has not been generally considered. Excessive atmospheric pollution and the addition of rates of vibration inharmonic to the energy waves could affect the vital resources of all forms of life dependent upon solar power for their normal function.

It has been noted that alcohol, narcotics, and nicotine can adversely affect the magnetic field. This area is much in need of further study. It is also to be noted that solar energy may differ in some degree in various parts of the earth. Mountain peaks, such as the Himalayas, have created modifications for those dwelling in very high altitudes. Traditionally, the extrasensory perception band becomes more acute in high altitudes. There can be no doubt that nuclear warfare could endanger the earth's water supply. Nature, however, is very protective and defends in every way possible the perpetuation of the forms which it has brought forth.

Every action of life must receive the blessing of properly controlled energy, or it can never fulfill its appointed destiny. We are all concerned by the increasingly rapid energy depletion. The energy of life is pure and evenly distributed to every living thing according to all its needs in every aspect of its existence. There is a kind of built-in defense which protects this energy. It enjoys or accepts constructively a reasonable amount of happiness and rejoices at its own usefulness. On the opposite end there is room for sadness, as when a good friend passes on or a child faces tragedy. All reasonable or natural dilemmas can express themselves without any permanent

injury to the energy supply.

There is, however, a heavy penalty for breaking the rules of life energy. It may seem for a time that we are making our own lives easier at the expense of someone else; but we should always remember that each individual's energy is accounted for, and each in his own time must face the consequences of his own conduct. We would probably have better dispositions if we lived by a code appropriate to our energy resources. The issue is not a universal reformation but a quiet reorganization of our own standard of values. Very few persons like someone with a bad disposition; and, although they may seem solicitous, they are hoping that someone else will come along with better manners.

The classic philosophers made a point of the interrelationship between disposition and health. They underlined and supported their opinions with excellent factual references. They believed in the good disposition as an appropriate vestment for an enlightened soul. There is no time or place in this world for negative expenditure of the basic materials from which our personalities are fashioned. We must control ourselves, or our mistakes will catch up with us.

When we try to be happy without growing and deserving a better destiny, we simply steal—or try to steal—the happiness of others. We wish to take their energy or live their lives without earning a better future. What we are trying to accomplish is a rich reward we have not earned. This is contrary to Divine and natural law. Our mistakes either continue to burden us or we learn to outgrow them. If we outgrow them, the energy resources are normalized in ourselves and we can look forward to a better future.

As there is living energy in our bodies and in space, so there are manufactured energies such as fuel and all of the protections that enlightened civilization has bestowed. International peace, freedom from crime, and the brotherhood of man are built and supported by energy; and, if we fail to use these accomplishments as they were intended, we burden the earth with tragedy and disaster. The law of karma works especially through the energy allotments—the way in which they are employed and the accompanying presence or lack of respect for them.

The esoteric tradition presents difficulties for which no generally acceptable solution is available. These points, therefore, are presented to suggest further exploration. The sun is the light and life-giver of the solar system. That it is real and efficient no one can really doubt. The sun is a star, while planets are prenatal bodies. They are embryos depending for existence upon the magnetic field of the sun within which they were created and by means of which they endure. As far as we are concerned, we seem to be individuals living on an individual body in space and moving about a still greater individual body which we call the sun. Actually, the human being and the planet are both embryos, living because of an invisible umbilical cord through which we attain the life and energy from the sun by which we maintain our existence. If it seems incredible that one solar power can maintain an infinite number of living creatures, we need only examine our own bodies with their magnificent regimentation of parts.

We find that the mature human being, as he is represented in the mystical diagrams of Jacob Boehme, appears as a luminous figure standing within a shining globe which must enclose us as long as we live. This globe is our most immediate home. It preserves us, so we must protect it. Many people neglect the house in which they live, which is a sad mistake; but to neglect the energy field upon which we depend for existence itself is a more serious blunder.

The physical body is not a single entity. Each organ has inalienable rights. The stomach can be wiser than the human being who feeds it. Every possible care should be taken to protect energy. Some of the ways we can protect it is by avoiding exhaustion, in which we overtax resources, or by refraining from various indulgences which corrupt the normal functions of the human body. It is difficult to imagine that the individual's stomach is a substation for solar energy. Antiquity made a great point of the human being understanding himself—for lack of that understanding permits him to commit involuntary suicide. It is this same life energy which together we venerate and share. It is pleasing to reverentially acknowledge the source of our vitality but mandatory to keep the rules of right use.

To recapitulate, solar energy which flows from the sun to the earth

has one peculiarity which is generally ignored. Between the sun and the earth is the moon, which is no longer the recipient of the solar power. This helps to demonstrate that the sun does not inevitably vitalize forms. When their lives are finished, it can permit them to die. There are many mysteries here, and by one of them we learn that some of the rays of the sun which descend upon the earth make a detour, pausing to be reflected from the moon. As a result of this, the solar energy enters into the human body, dividing into creative energy, protective energy, and disintegrative energy. All of these are living processes essential to the balance of life forces. The various aspects between the sun and moon are responsible, at least in part, for the infinite diversity of the expression of energy on our planet.

Energy, therefore, becomes available to keep us healthy, energize our search for knowledge, and contemplate the infinite future which we must all face in due time. Every step of the way is vitalized. Everything we do is a manifestation of the power to do; and it all originates in the sun, the light of which shines down upon us in the daytime. While it is dark at night, we have to remember that there are alternations of life and rest in all forms that have not become complete living entities. Moons and earths have variations of light, but the sun shines both day and night—as the Egyptians carefully noted as they steered their ship of existence against the unknown distances of eternity.



What is the best government—that which teaches us to govern ourselves.
—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The world is a comedy to those who think; a tragedy to those who feel.
—Horace Walpole

It is better either to be silent, or to say things of more value than silence. Sooner throw a pearl at hazard than an idle or useless word; and do not say a little in many words but a great deal in a few.

—Pythagoras

THE PLACEBO NEVER DIES

When I was a small boy, our family doctor always carried with him little packets of white powder and gave very definite instructions about when and how the powders were to be administered. His reputation as a healer spread far and wide. Later, I learned from a knowing soul that this magic powder was a placebo. It had no medical value whatsoever but originated in something immediately available like flour, powdered sugar, or salt. It was an infallible remedy; and, furthermore, there was no need to go to a druggist to have the placebo concocted professionally. Times have changed, but there are still a considerable number of remedies that have no healing power but are great confidence builders. In the old days very little actual money was saved or lost, but it is all different now.

We will probably never know the actual compounds or contents of rare or remarkable remedies that are distributed discreetly to all classes of modern society. Now a placebo must have an appropriate reputation. It was discovered in some wilderness, on the heights of mountains, or in the depths of valleys. It was known to primitive people in that locality for thousands of years, but the secret was never revealed until a wandering traveler had his life saved by one of these philters. Snatched from the grave by this extraordinary medication, the recovered wayfarer heartily endorses the cure to folks for whom it has—here and there—become available in small quantities; but, because it has not been approved by the American Medical Association, it must be purchased in some foreign country.

A neighbor was the fortunate recipient of this secret precious substance. A number of ailments that were threatening survival vanished after the first bottle. Naturally, the listener had need for a similar miraculous pill which was also available for hypodermic injections. Eventually, the wonder drug circled the entire earth, but as far as could be learned its healing qualities slowly faded away.

There had never been any medicinal properties, but faith in the unknown is strong and lasts for awhile.

This is a more or less conservative example, and in a short time one can pass into the larger realm of faith healing. All kinds of charms, medals, secret formulas, conjurations, and mystic rites are widely circulated today. We study this problem carefully until sometimes we are not really sure that our suspicions are actually correct. We may begin to wonder about the hidden properties of common substances. Perhaps the sea shell does contain some substance which has curative properties. On every hand we are tempted to experiment with forms of healing that were never known before. Paracelsus, for example, gave the world remedies that were not even known before his time and are still rejected by most practitioners but provide assistance to dedicated believers. In the world of esoteric remedies used by sorcerers of old many have continued to exist to modern times and may even survive considerable laboratory testings. Healing is changing considerably, but in these later days we sometimes witness revivals of magical medicine.

Most types of placebos belong in the area of suggestion therapy. They all testify to the healing power of constructive thinking. They bestow confidence or convince a patient that he is in the presence of an important remedy of some kind. Religion has provided prayer as a powerful expression of faith. The Scriptures tell us that believing, if sincere, can result in miraculous changes when illness otherwise does not respond to medical assistance. In Early Christianity and up until the present in some branches of the Christian faith relics have been important factors in the recovery of the sick. It certainly helps to take a positive attitude when facing problems, physical or psychological.

Henri Stephen in his book *A World of Wonders*, London, 1607, gives considerable space to the healing power of relics. Some sanctified items transcend credibility but have long records of practical value. Stephen is naturally suspicious of the wonders found in theological writings. He is skeptical about the medicinal values associated with the bones of saints and mentions a case in which a relic gradually deteriorated and was finally replaced by a more

presentable substitute. The conclusion seems to be, however, that it is better for all concerned to accept the miracles wrought by faith than to be among the scoffers. Positive attitudes are always more beneficial than doubts and suspicions, and even today metaphysical healing is widely practiced and is credited as proving effective in cases where scientific procedures have failed. During ancient times, when medicine was dominated by superstition, the patient depended on prayer and magic. The New Testament definitely emphasizes faith as a remedy against bodily ills.

While the average person is likely to assume that many popular beliefs could not have much therapeutic value, contemporary emergencies have produced a number of therapies based upon extreme examples of faith. Years ago a mystical teacher taught a group of devout disciples that she had the secret of eternal physical life. She developed a considerable following but ultimately passed on. Her followers refused to believe that she was dead. They meditated and prayed for three days and nights but were forced to cease their efforts when the body began to deteriorate. Several of the survivors died of broken hearts and disillusionment because of this episode. In New York City I visited the hospital where a distinguished faith healer was dying of cancer. He was not afraid of death, but the disgrace of being forced to admit that he could not save himself contributed to the miseries of transition to the world beyond the grave.

I have checked many incidents where impossible promises were made and have failed. On the other hand, I have seen cases in which apparent miracles actually occurred. A person finding a new treatment for an otherwise incurable ailment has recovered and therefore brought great publicity to the remedy involved. There is something inside the individual that may, under unusual conditions, produce what appears to be a complete miracle. The classical incident of this is the woman in a wheelchair who had been paralyzed for many years. She saw her grandchild fall into a swimming pool. Instantly, she walked for the first time in almost ten years, dived into the pool, rescued the child, and from that time on was able to walk without any mechanical assistance. This same type of thing has occurred at Lourdes and to some measure in many smaller churches where

a faith healer has accomplished amazing results. The answer must lie within the person who is able under certain provocation or condition to restore bodily functions that have apparently been hopelessly impaired.

We have usually considered placebos as phantom drugs and that any effect is due to faith alone, or a mixture of hope and determination. This is not actually the case, however. Coue's famous formula, "Day by day in every way I am getting better and better," swept America in the early twenties. The lame, the halt, and the blind gained new confidence; and reports of improvement continued to inspire the use of these simple words. The formula was certainly a placebo.

An unknown pharmaceutical house announces a cure for migraines. The neighbor next door has taken this remedy and is vastly improved, so another sufferer decides to take it also and nothing happens. A somewhat similar situation is built up by negative advertising. A member of the public is told that a certain remedy is being persecuted by the AMA and determines to take the remedy regardless of consequence.

Recent developments in the world of science plus a number of mysterious contributions from religious groups may lead the public to a new evaluation of the placebo. It is now generally suspected that all physical objects have magnetic fields and radiate various types of energy. It was probably the Greeks who first recognized the peculiar fragrance associated with garlic. For centuries this has been accepted as important in the protection of health in this world and in the exorcising of evil spirits from other spheres.

There is an increasing awareness that several kinds of energies are available for the treatment of physical illnesses and psychological disorders. The Egyptians, for example, attributed medicinal value to the symmetrical geometric solids. Pyramids, cubes, octagons, and dodecahedrons were exhibited in special rooms of the temples where people could come, sit quietly, and gaze upon the different harmoniously proportioned forms. Shapes have virtue of their own; and, taken in through the eyes, these balanced forms helped to overcome hysterias, morbid fears, and revengeful instincts. But the question

arises naturally, do shapes have vibrations peculiar to them, and do these taken in through the eyes have curative or destructive reactions on the brain? Some exploration is now being made in this field—but is, as yet, inadequate.

Among the pioneers in this area of research were Paracelsus, Robert Fludd, and Athanasius Kircher. The most common visible or tangible source of magnetic influences in the physical world are sounds, sight, taste, hearing, and touch. In other words, all the channels associated with the sensory perceptions receive impulses which stimulate reaction. Things seen, for example, to be beautiful or deformed, inspiring or depressing we can learn clearly from television, where both sound and sight combine to over-influence viewers. What is this over-influencing factor? We know that the eyes accept rates of vibration, and the picture on the screen does not enter the brain in the form we see it on the screen but as a complicated mass of vibrations which must be sorted out and reorganized before they can be seen. The same is equally true of sounds, and it is now suspected that every sound is associated with a complicated series of energy patterns which affect all other sensory perception. Things seen emit sound, whether we hear it or not. Things tasted have vibratory patterns which affect hearing, although we are not consciously aware of such factors.

The healing power of music has been recognized throughout the world, and from antiquity to the present day its therapeutic value can be either religious or secular. Most of the faiths which have endured include hymns or instrumental music in sacred services, rituals, or sacraments. The Greeks approached the subject scientifically. They divided the field of music under several different headings and declared certain melodies to be harmonies indispensable to the refinement of human life. Two references occur of occasions in which, first, the striking of a musical chord prevented murder and, second, a Pythagorean prevented a love-sick young Grecian from burning down the house of the lady who jilted him. There are accounts that Enrico Caruso was able to agitate the chandeliers in the Metropolitan Opera House with his voice and could shatter goblets by singing certain notes. Most of the troubadours, minstrels,

and other entertainers of medieval Europe were apparently fully aware of the influence of sound; and melodic sequences neutralized physical pain and calmed the grief stricken. Harmonic sound patterns were once the only anesthetics used by dentists when extracting teeth.

Considerable information is now available on the destructive power of inharmonic vibrations. Psychologists in many fields have warned their clients that rock music endangers the health of adult listeners and may be contributing to juvenile delinquency. In Southern Italy a form of dancing called the tarantella has saved many a life. If a person is bitten by a tarantula, strenuous dancing is still regarded as the best remedy. The intoning of mantras, chanting, or congregational singing—if performed over a lifetime—alters disposition and neutralizes a variety of neurotic pressures.

The modern world is a vast noise-laden environment. Many persons are the victims of sound sequences that affect the nervous system from the cradle to the grave. Discordant noises can affect the psychological integration of city dwellers, and society is beginning to realize that it is as easy to be drowned in sound as in water. Some of the classical civilizations considered unnecessary noise to be a criminal offense and any form of dissonance as at least a misdemeanor. As we improve the rules governing human relationships, we often live longer; but much of the reclaimed time is contributing to miseries and sorrows. The ancients taught that music was a gift bestowed by the gods in order that contentment and peace might triumph throughout the world. Unfortunately, many human beings lack the sensitivity to protect themselves from the damages caused by the discords of undisciplined sounds often referred to as noise.

As surely as effects follow their causes, the concords of inspired song or instrumental music were conducive to the advance of civilization and the ennoblement of human character. Music therapy was known to the ancients but is receiving scanty attention in the modern world.

Fumigations, more frequently referred to as smells, are also important contributions to the happiness or miseries of mortal existence. Nearly all religions have used incense or pleasantly perfumed plants in their ritual observances. The Chinese went a little

further and regarded cooking as one of the most common means for the dissemination of unusual aromas. Incidentally, various nationalities develop their own preferences in matters of taste, appearance, and the smell of food cooking. To this specialization the Chinese add the textures of things they eat. There is great pleasure in the crisp quality of certain foods or the lingering texture of some soft nutrient. If the flavor satisfies the stress-ridden appetite, it contributes to a healthy diet and the proper digestion of the food. We do not think of the meal itself as a medication, nor as a cause of joy or suffering; but to the sophisticated Asiatic these more subtle factors are ingredients promoting good digestion.

Under this same heading must be considered the factor of heat and cold. Actually, however, foods change their flavoring with their temperature; and the person dining alters flavors by his temperament and his passing moods. It was long regarded in the Far East as a danger to health or even life for a person to eat while worried, grief stricken, or angry.

The prevailing atmosphere, as such, has much to do with health and also provides many clues to unfortunate mental or emotional attitudes. Most people like to live in a congenial environment. By this they mean that they want to be in surroundings which express some secret aspect of themselves. The furnishings of a cluttered home can be a negative force furthering mental, emotional, or physical ailments. There is really no excuse for most modern decor. It indicates that there is no victory of consciousness over its surroundings. On the other hand, if the evolving human soul outgrows the physical symbolism of its own past, we observe that the mind is released from walls built by former thoughts and habits. Nearly everything that we have tells something about what we are. When we surround ourselves with old familiar objects, these tie the personality to the joys and sorrows of the past.

We have already mentioned something about dancing, but this should be considerably expanded. Graceful and rhythmic motions of the body disciplined by an appropriate musical form are an excellent mental and emotional exercise. The tribal dancing of primitive people becomes an integral part of life and growth; but, like

calisthenics, the dance must be rhythmic and artistic. In the Hawaiian Islands dance was a form of poetry concerned particularly with the legendry and lore of the people. All physical activity within reason and propriety relaxes tension and assists harmonic attitudes of thought and emotion. I remember distinctly an elderly lady who belonged to a group which involved dancing as a religious ritual. I met her on the street several times, and greeting consisted in a small section of a waltz accompanied by a bright smile. It was her moral duty to express harmony in all relationships, and the most simple are the harmonic rhythms of the body.

A new hat or an attractive pair of shoes can be a remedy for the world's ills. Many persons, when they feel depressed, go shopping and usually return in a better mood. One lady told me that by shopping she saved considerable money which had formerly been spent on drugs or doctor's fees. With clothing another dimension is added to the list of psychological remedies, and this is color. It has long been held that white and black are not colors. They merely represent day and night or light and darkness. The rest of the spectrum provides a means of nourishing the soul with concords which improve appetite, relax the mind, and contribute to dreamless sleep.

The choice of color is both diagnostic and prognostic. Nearly all confirmed pessimists choose dark colored clothing. It more or less fits into a gloomy personality. Children, by way of contrast, usually favor light colors; and, as they grow older, it helps them to experience the brightness implied by their garments. If a person suffers from certain ailments, color can be an ingenious way to build up dispositional assets and relax away from personal liabilities. Depression calls for light blue, orange, and beige. An unruly temper will go well with light green or lavender. A belligerent individual should not wear red but sometimes feels better with light yellow or tan. Those confused should not wear mixed colors or fabrics with intricate designs, whereas those who have helpless moods and cannot escape from their own negative thinking respond well to varicolored clothing with large areas reminiscent of Joseph's coat of many colors. Sometimes one will instinctively choose an appropriate escape from the doldrums and can feel as though there has

been a constructive change in the affairs of the moment.

As it becomes evident that the human mind can react positively to a placebo, it must become equally obvious that it can be negatively affected by adverse conditioning. It is now generally realized that black magic is largely a malicious misuse of the placebo principle. To believe firmly in the reality of good strengthens character; and, conversely, the acceptance of malevolent concepts bearing upon life and the degrading power of evil leads to the demoralization of the mental process. There is no question that the entire history of demonology and witchcraft bears witness to the corruptions of the mental faculties.

A good example of this problem is the Votan cult, which is still prevalent in the Latin West Indies. Even "Anglos" who live in these islands are often intimidated by the native rituals and reports of sanguinary rites. The church has found it impossible to rescue terrified natives from the sorceries of the mamalois and papalois, who hold their victims in slavery by imaginary spells and fears. Actually, much of the contemporary voodoo sorcery came originally from Spain and Italy. It has been implied that Catherine de' Medici had the pleasant habit of fashioning dolls to resemble her enemies, and through the invoking of spirits gained power over the living man or woman whom she wished to destroy. Supposedly, the secret link was that the doll had something belonging to the living victim—sometimes a fragment of clothing or material attached to the miniature figure. By slowly demolishing the doll the sorcerer caused the intended victim to suffer and die. This sounds rather superstitious, and we might assume that such beliefs belong to the past. Actually, however, during the years between 1920 and 1950 there was a serious outbreak of black magic in East Los Angeles which included the use of dolls.

According to report, various magnetized trinkets were extremely popular in New York—especially Harlem. Several persons afraid that they were under a hex actually came to me for help. An elderly South American woman, who was devoutly religious, was becoming deformed by arthritis—and her doctor was unable to find a remedy. She confided to me that for years a neighbor had been casting

spells upon her to get control of her house. There was no possible way of convincing her that she was not the victim of malicious magnetic forces. It also seemed that witchcraft complicated the situation, adding to the misery of an innocent old lady.

In the area around Santa Fe, New Mexico most small communities believed firmly in witchcraft. In that area a witch is called a "bruja," and the neighbors place religious images and symbols in various rooms of their houses to counteract her malicious influences. It was believed, and probably still is, that a bruja could take on the body of a wolf or an owl. Normally, brujas can be recognized by the fact that each of their eyes are a different color. These beliefs, to various degrees, have drifted into the Indian community—which has its own explanation for the causes and consequences of witchcraft.

Legends abound in the native communities along the Rio Grande. A man is disturbed by the hooting of an owl. Finally he gets out his old rifle and shoots the bird, which flaps away with a damaged wing. The next morning the local bruja has her arm in a sling and refuses to discuss the cause of her disability. Another Spanish-American was cursed by a bruja, who told him that on a certain day he would die. With a mixture of hope and fear, he entered the local hospital and made arrangements for constant care on the fatal day. He was in perfect health, and the doctors laughed at him; but at the exact time predicted he passed away in his sleep.

There are a number of modern groups which have dabbled in the negative aspects of the placebo concept. One person I knew who wished to resign from a certain organization was warned that he would be punished for disloyalty. In one way or another he suffered for several years, and it was only after he had conquered the fear in himself that his peace of mind was restored. The most natural solution to these unhappy occurrences, and they are numerous, is the realization that anxiety can take over the mind and cause the fulfillment of some natural apprehension. This process has caused distress among the gullible for thousands of years. So now we have a pill which restores internal tranquility, and a less advanced part of society has a bear's claw which brings back the courage which has been undermined by the hazards of the wilderness with its

numerous insecurities. Even today science has difficulty in assigning the proper remedy for some disorders of the flesh.

When I was young, there was an American Indian who gained great recognition for his healing powers. His practice, which was tolerated in those days before the American Medical Association became so formidable, was largely among white farmers in small towns. One unconvinced landowner said to me, "That old Indian dresses funny, looks funny, and does funny things. That's why people get well. He just fools them." The Indian in question was a walking placebo, far more impressive than the local physician who wandered about in a wrinkled business suit.

There may be more to all this than is first apparent. A new school of medicine is building up which believes that sickness is often only the victory of stress over function. A good disposition is probably the most powerful of all placebos. The body is a nation made up of millions of living parts—all dependent upon the ruling power which controls the bodily functions. A person with a difficult disposition is gradually wearing down his allotted quota of vital energy. In a nation a bad government may end in revolution; and this, in turn, can lead to tyranny and the complete collapse of integrity. If the mind is a dictator, a revolt of some kind is inevitable. We think of politics as a dilemma of society, but in reality it is very much like an illness in the human body. A selfish, self-centered, and stupid leader can endanger a nation; and when characteristics of this type develop in the *Homo sapiens* pain and misery are inevitable. We resent rules because they interfere with our desires, our appetites, or our ambitions; but without a proper code of conduct the body finally turns and rebels against the sovereignty of an undisciplined mind.

In the case of an individual the placebo helps to restore the sovereignty of law and order in the bodily commonwealth. There are various ways in which lost confidence can be restored. We can outgrow our mistakes and unite our resources to restore faith in God, nature, or ourselves. If, however, we wait a little while, the effect of the placebo generally lessens until it fades away; and we are back in our slough of despond. Once we have relief we must realize that

we have been given a temporary freedom from stress in order to strengthen our integrities or correct habits which impair the superior parts of ourselves. We should not be disillusioned that we can be cured of any defect of character by a pill, a powder, or a capsule. Except for the inevitable encroachments of age, we can make every period in physical existence more desirable and comfortable.

We learn that the unstable person is most easily attracted to alcohol, narcotics, or any other intemperance that may be available. If a little flour in a capsule brings relief to some discomfort of the flesh, it testifies that this relief is actually possible without the placebo, Greater faith in yourself will carry on where the placebo leaves off. In fact, nearly all religion is a kind of bread pill. It strengthens incentives but does not perfect them. It relieves pain but does not correct the cause. It can make grief bearable and anxieties endurable; but the real answer is the reorganization of a life pattern, so that it can protect the individual from the intemperances of himself. While aspirin is actually a drug, in the long run it is a placebo. It cures nothing but temporarily reduces uncomfortable symptoms. Efficiency is best sustained by moderation in all things and the full realization that health and happiness are in our own keeping.

In everything we do we are revealing some aspect of temperament or character. Quite often we cure our own depressions and forgive our enemies simply because we can achieve an internal victory over some external annoyance or disappointment. It would seem, therefore, that we live forever in the presence of our own abilities and debilities; and perhaps this is best expressed through prayer.

Under some pressure that seems too heavy to be borne with a good spirit the individual takes refuge in his religion or inward conviction. Religion cannot be regarded simply as a placebo, but it is one of the greatest available ways to cause a small miracle within ourselves which may ultimately extend into the environment. We have been taught that if we sincerely seek guidance in a difficult situation or in time of stress and pain the help will come if we are sincere and honorable in our intentions. Somewhere in the depth

of ourselves there is a level of awareness which sustains our belief in the availability of Divine help. We may know that we do not deserve it, but anxiety is a sort of confession which brings to our attention values which we have chosen to ignore. Even the materialist in an extremity may have an upsurge of spiritual realization. When we are alone, we lack the strength to correct our own mistakes; but the presence of a Divine Power reminds us that we are never alone. We are lonely because we have closed out the best part of our own life. We have become so completely enmeshed in our physical uncertainties that we have lost the realization that there is no fatal condition which cannot be neutralized by realization of the integrity of Divine and natural law. Life is truly the ever-present help in time of need, and to know this makes possible peace of mind and health of body.

Sometimes our victory over adversity may seem to come from some depth within ourselves or be brought to us by a friend, recommended by our physician, explained to us by a psychiatrist, or revived by our clergyman. There is a moment, however, when it is factual beyond doubt that some mysterious remedy, not to be found in the chemist's shop or a mortal environment, has given us a new lease on life. Whether it be a good book or a bread pill is of little importance, but when we trust in something beyond ourselves we have a new strength because we are experiencing a miracle of spiritual alchemy.



Cultivation to the mind is as necessary as food to the body.

—Cicero

It is a little learning, and but a little, which makes men conclude hastily—
Experience and humility teach modesty and fear.

—Jeremy Taylor

The only way to have a friend is to be one.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson



Happenings at Headquarters



Sunday, November 5, 1989 at 2:30 P.M. there was a special celebration at PRS Headquarters. On this occasion the Diamond Jubilee edition of Manly P. Hall's world-famous book, *The Secret Teachings of All Ages*, had been in continuous publication for sixty years. Very few living authors can attend the diamond jubilee of one of their books. For the event Manly P. Hall autographed many copies of the Collector's and Diamond Jubilee editions. It was a most festive occasion, including traditional refreshments. In the Library a number of the original paintings prepared for this work by J. Augustus Knapp were exhibited, and printed copies of the pictures were also available.

Dr. Karan Singh was inducted into the Union Cabinet by Mrs. Indira Gandhi as minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation—and in 1979 he became minister of Education and Culture and holds the honorary rank of major general in the Indian Army. Author of several books, including a work on Sri Aurobindo, Dr. Singh has traveled extensively—and his wife is an eminent social worker devoting much time and energy to mentally retarded children. A friend in India gave Dr. Singh one of Mr. Hall's books; and, on his way to his official post of ambassador to the United States from the Republic of India, he visited the PRS and met Mr. and Mrs. Hall in their home.

On the evening of February 6, 1990 forty members of the Friends of the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies met at PRS. At the request of Dr. Michael J. B. Allen, director of the Center and widely recognized as the foremost authority on the Italian Renaissance Platonist Marsilio Ficino, Basil W. R. Jenkins spoke to the gathering on the PRS Library and some of its Renaissance



View of PRS courtyard during diamond jubilee book signing celebration.



Manly P. Hall and Dr. Karan Singh, ambassador to the United States from the Republic of India.

holdings. Basil W. R. Jenkins, PRS associate editor and curator of the PRS Collection, has held two research associateships as a doctoral student in the Center with the eminent professor of Greek patristic philosophy and Byzantine intellectual history, Dr. M. V. Anastos, head of the Harvard Theological Library. Basil Jenkins' publication, *The Greek Ethos*, was co-published by the UCLA Center and contains a foreword by his friend and teacher, the Hon. Sir Steven Runciman. The evening was concluded with an outstanding lecture on medieval philosophy by Dr. Brian Copenhaver, dean of Humanities at the University of California, Riverside.



The reading of all good books is indeed like a conversation with the noblest men of past centuries . . . in which they reveal to us none but the best of their thoughts.

—René Descartes

ON A MIRROR

A mirror has been well-defined
An emblem of a thoughtful mind;
For, look upon it when you will,
You find it reflecting still.

—Anonymous

ON LAW AND PHYSIC

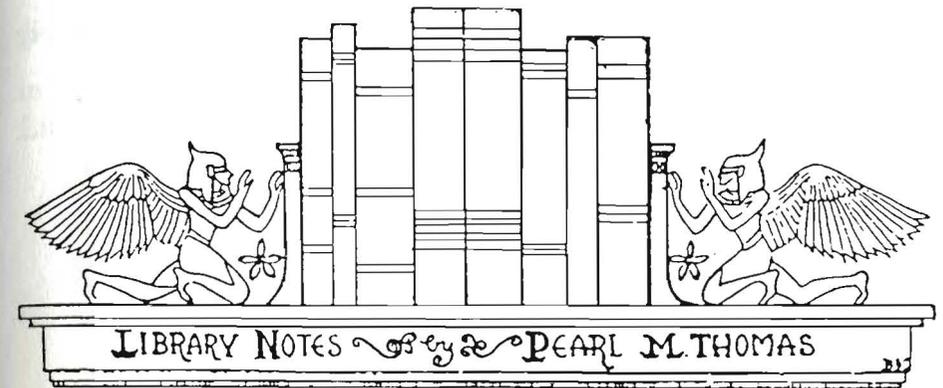
Physic brings health, and Law promotion,
To followers able, apt, and pliant,
But very seldom, I've a notion,
Either to patient or to client.

—From the Latin of John Owen

Engraved on the collar of a dog belonging to Frederick, Prince of Wales, resident of Kew House:

I am his Highness' at Kew;
Pray tell me, sir, whose dog are you?

—Alexander Pope



SOME WONDERFUL LETTERS

Part III

This third and last part of "Some Wonderful Letters" has caused me to realize how little I have been able to include of the wealth of information that Dan Newell related from his father "Eddie" Newell's journals. Incidentally, in addition to this fascinating firsthand material, I own two books devoted to the famous Gump Store on Post Street in San Francisco. Each of these works makes good use of Eddie Newell's experiences and recounts many episodes featuring D. E. Newell. The indexes in both Carol Green Wilson's book *Gump's Treasure Trade* (Thomas Y. Crowell, N.Y., 1963) and Richard Gump's *Jade, Stone of Heaven* (Doubleday, N.Y., 1962) indicate considerable space has been allotted to stories told by the first Oriental buyer and general manager of the store, D. E. Newell.

The following is one of the many incidents expounded in Eddie Newell's very complete journals which he kept through the years. Eddie Newell began his trips to both China and Japan in 1905. D. E. Newell apparently always had a capacity for being in the "right place at the right time." As an example:

"He sailed to Japan in 1905 as a commercial buyer of fine art. On the boat he befriended a young Japanese who was returning home after graduating from Harvard and who

was a member of a very prominent family. They were both about the same age and became fast friends. To help my father he obtained letters of introduction from several cabinet members which opened doors not available to the average commercial buyer. Being personally conducted by the governor of the province gave him great face and vitally important business contacts—and, most importantly, he was privileged to see the finest art collections in all of Japan.”

Eddie had a particular affection for Kyoto and found the people there the most charming anywhere in Japan. Kyoto soon became the buying center for Gump’s for the whole of Japan. When there, Newell stayed at the Miyaka Hotel—located on a beautiful elevation and completely Japanese in style. The manager at the hotel had great affection for D. E. Newell and saw that his guest fared well. On one occasion Newell was obviously very tired—so, after he had retired to his quarters, the manager came to the door; and with him was a blind masseur, one of the celebrated blind masseurs of Japan. Newell went to bed, and the man worked on his feet. Twelve hours later he awakened after a sound sleep feeling like a new person.

These Japanese masseurs have been famous for many years and belong to guilds in which they are trained in their work. One of the interesting ukiyo-ye woodblock prints in Hiroshige’s “Fifty-Three Stations of the Tokaido” shows a typical inn scene where several guests are ready for a blind masseur (shown kneeling in the doorway) to restore their spirits after a long walk on the Tokaido Road.

Most of the remaining accounts in this article are taken directly from the copious notes of D. E. Newell, who started his journals in about 1905. Some of these, as mentioned above, have been printed before in books about the Gump store; but there are many gaps requiring fuller details. (Mr. Hall was so right when he suggested strongly that my friend, Dan Newell, should publish these notes.) Dan insisted that the notes belong to me and are totally at my disposal. All of the indented sections that follow are from journals of D. E. Newell in the care of his son, Dan Newell.

In China Gump’s dealt with dependable agents—Deacon and Co.

in Canton and Jedlika and Rousseau in Central and North China. Liu was their crown jewel in Peking.

“In Japan they had Strauss & Co. as their agents in Kobe. Their *banto* was Nishimura, who was a very good-natured Japanese, exceedingly intelligent, and meticulously careful in writing his order copies. Dad had him on every trip he made to Japan and could not remember a single mistake he ever made. Like Liu in Peking, he was a jewel.

“In those days foreign buyers seldom traveled to the source of supply but collected their purchases in Yokohama, Kyoto, Kobe, and Tokyo. The jobbers supplied them, as the original makers were scattered all over Japan. It was easier to buy in the big centers where things were made easy with good hotels and comfortable living. If you went to the native sources, it meant travel in slow narrow gauge trains, eating Japanese food, and living in Japanese inns.

“His previous experiences scouting all over the country helped him to know original sources of supply, which meant lower prices and other advantages. The Japanese jobbers sent their own representatives to buy the merchandise for the foreign buyers and often overlooked some of the most attractive pieces. Dad made up his mind in the beginning to go to original sources. Even Nishimura was a stranger to these places, and he thoroughly enjoyed going to new places never visited by foreign buyers. Of course, it took longer; but, as Gump’s paid all expenses, he never complained.

“I recall Dad telling me that one type of import to this country during the first fifteen years of this century was embroidered Japanese pictures and screens. This was a period when people marvelled at the skill of the Oriental, rather than artistic value. He said, looking back to the first years and in the light of our taste today, the average person had little taste—and Japanese and Chinese art works were classified as curios.

“Dad told of one art dealer in Osaka who handled only

top flight antiques, and his clientele were all Japanese collectors. He and Nishimura called on him and spent a very profitable afternoon, as he was a real expert on both Japanese and Chinese things. They bought a couple of very fine Japanese lacquer boxes. Dad said he had his first introduction to the top quality Chinese jades. The dealer had two pure white translucent jade vases, about twelve inches high, which were sent to the Shogun of Japan from the Emperor Ch'ien Lung in the eighteenth century. They were superbly carved in a design copied from bronzes of the Chou Dynasty. These vases gave him the key to be able to judge jade of top quality in future buying. A. H. (Gump) knew he had a treasure here.

"I would like to relate two stories which are hard to believe, and probably any professional buyer would say he was making up a good story. However, this was at a time when Gump's were the biggest buyers of old *kesas* or Japanese priests' robes. One man in Kyoto had the finest collection and was very straight. (The conversations were put down in his notes verbatim). Dad was looking through the collections asking prices of each one and buying the most attractive ones. There were two that he considered quite a bit above the market, and he questioned the price. 'Sometimes my buyer pay too much,' was the dealer's reply. Then he made Dad an unbelievable offer, 'Newell-san, you know the market price as well as I do. So, from now on, you make the price—and I accept them!' Dad was extremely careful to be fair, and they went on for many years to their mutual satisfaction.

"He said the best asset a buyer could have was to be personal friends with the dealers. This took time; but he found the dealers, for the most part, to be very friendly and also full of fun.

"The arrangement he had with the brocaded *kesas* started him to thinking. About a week later they had a dinner with ten of the most important dealers in Kyoto. Dad

then made the following proposal to them: 'You gentlemen have no idea what a blessing it is to get back to a beautiful and clean country and friendly people to deal with . . . I wonder if you could not cooperate in making my buying a little easier. Suppose you give me your last price first. If the price is such that we can make a reasonable profit at home, I will take it immediately. If the price is so high we cannot sell it, I will leave it and make no counter-offer.'

"They all seemed surprised and also interested with some skepticism. Of course, the word of this very un-Oriental proposal went all over Japan immediately. A few of them in Kyoto tried him out, but he stuck to his guns. If the price was too high, he told them politely that they probably had to pay a big price for it, but for Gump's market it was too high. If the price was right, he bought it immediately. It really worked! If he thought of too big a profit, he knew that Dad would not buy it and had no further chance of a sale to him. In Peking nobody would believe such a proposition. They would have given him the big horselaugh. Half their fun is the day-to-day haggling."

In the early 1900s in Japan D. E. Newell came across many items, particularly brasses, which were not especially good-looking—but they were showy, and all the jobbers carried them. Newell discovered that these brasses were made rather nearby, so he had Nishimura write to the town and declare that the two of them would be visiting at a certain time. He was the first foreigner the townspeople had ever seen! Practically every shop sent representatives to greet them at the depot. During the three days they spent there, they visited all of the brass and lacquer shops during the daytime; and each evening they were honored guests at elaborate dinner parties. As it turned out, the parties cost the shopkeepers twice as much as they took in on that particular trip. But they all had lots of fun playing games, telling jokes, and imbibing in no end of the tiny cups of sake. At that time in the outlying areas of Japan the people all wore their

native costumes. By shopping in these outlying areas Newell was often able to acquire beautiful items for Gump's, which helped immeasurably to establish its reputation as an outstanding store for Oriental artifacts. Dan's notes from his father's experiences in purchasing for Gump's continue:

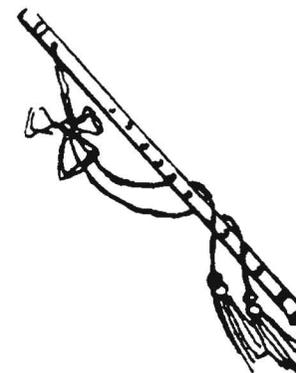
"Dad said he never remembered having a buying plan. His sole criteria was: Is it good-looking? Will people continue to appreciate it in after years? He never bought in lots but picked out each piece individually. Perhaps he had a sixth sense in place of intimate knowledge. He said as the years progressed his taste changed—and he became more critical. This, however, was a slow process; and, as there was no standard, he had to be extremely careful not to go too fast. He said that you always have to remember that your customers were where you started from. If you had perfect taste in those days and bought accordingly, you would probably have gone broke."

I mentioned in the last paragraph that Newell never bought in lots. However, in those early days of buying—at a small bronze shop in Kyoto—he found a lovely little lotus bowl for flowers. The price was ten yen. Newell asked the proprietor what he would charge for a dozen. This came as somewhat of a shock and called for a conference with the owner's wife. He worked out the price on his trusty abacus and announced it would be one hundred and fifty yen. Then it was Newell's turn to be surprised. The proprietor explained he would enjoy doing one but would probably be bored if he had to do twelve. Besides, if the customer wanted it so badly, he should have been willing to pay more. Somehow that makes a certain amount of sense to me.

Now to get back to Dan:

"Dad felt the Oriental buyer must have the qualities of good manners and endless patience with a friendly feeling for other nationalities."

In another letter Dan observed about his dad:



The flute is one of the eight Taoist emblems.

"He was an accomplished flutist and took his flute along on all his trips. There were many times when he would get together with a small group in foreign lands to make the long evenings more enjoyable. He was my father, yes, but he was also an individual of many and varied experiences. I write of him without proprietary feelings."

Late during 1987, Dan related to me that he was going to have to give up referring to his dad's journals . . . he needed time to pursue them further. So, we carried on lively correspondence on many subjects . . . we each were struggling with new typewriters that required a great deal of reference to instruction sheets. In other letters Dan described his interest in gardening, following the precepts of Rudolf Steiner and his method of bio-dynamic farming. It was quite obvious that success was his—his friends and neighbors profited by his experiments in raising both vegetables and flowers. He often spoke with great warmth of the area where he lived, since there was a real community feeling there between neighbors.

Then, of a sudden, Dan regaled me with various books he was reading. In one instance he dedicated three full typewritten pages to the book *The Empire of the Steppes, A History of Central Asia* (Rutgers University Press) by René Grousset. In this book the author

shows Jenghiz Khan from a totally different point of view than we usually encounter from history. Dan considered him one of the most interesting figures in history. Then Dan went on to Le Plongeon's *Origin of the Egyptians*, for which Manly P. Hall did an introductory preface. He further added that he was grateful that Mr. Hall had decided to publish this volume.

Several letters later, with discussions about various things—including his great affection for his American Indian friends—Dan mentioned in passing that he was struggling with rheumatoid arthritis, a nuisance, but, then “what the heck.” He was living with it. When I wrote next and asked him how he was coming with the arthritis, he informed me that the arthritis was in submission only to be supplanted by lung cancer. Then everything moved fast. He was having treatment five times a week, loved the clinic and the staff, and found meaningful relations with many there. He added:

“There are so many good ‘vibes’ at that treatment center, and the whole staff is so kind and understanding. Without exception every patient I have seen is upbeat and cheerful—no matter how serious their problem. (Speaks well for the human spirit, does it not?)”

About a month after I had talked with him on the phone one of our PRS staff members, Esther Engler, who was before her retirement the PRS bookkeeper for twenty-seven years, called me for the name of my good correspondent from Northern California. I told her. Then she had to tell me that his copy of the *PRS Journal* had been returned marked “Deceased.” I had sent him a birthday card, and in a couple of days it came back with the U.S. Government stamp: RETURN TO SENDER. MOVED—LEFT NO ADDRESS. How Dan would have chuckled about that.

Dan and I had never met. I never seriously felt that we would. It might have spoiled the friendship which was carried on in letters which actually began in 1979 when the “Friends of the Library” was first started. Mr. Newell (as I knew him then) responded at the very beginning with a generous monthly donation, which was followed in January of 1980 with a larger contribution. This donation

came so regularly on the seventeenth of each month that my reaction was simply: “Mr. Newell’s donation is here, so it must be the seventeenth!”

In August of 1988 I had been invited to talk before the Marin County PRS Study Group, a very enterprising group of thoughtful people who were friends and associates of the leader, Margo Margosian. While in San Rafael, I phoned Dan Newell, who lived about forty miles away and had a wonderful chat with him. He had an excellent voice and was just as delightful on the phone as in his various letters. I asked him some questions that I had never quite had the nerve to ask in a letter, and he said he would answer these in his next correspondence. And he did.

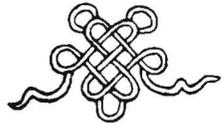
Dan’s great affection for both of his parents reveals much about himself. He had very definite ideas and ideals, but they were always constructive and kindly disposed. Obviously, he had a very even disposition.

For one thing, Dan was not normally a joiner—but he was extremely active in Freemasonry, was a past master of his Masonic Blue Lodge, and for ten years carried on the responsibility of being officer’s coach, which he called a “. . . most rewarding experience. To work with such a diversity of personalities, to establish rapport with a candidate in order to pass along what he was required to learn, was to call upon every bit of insight that I possessed.”

At this point, I wish to quote again from Dan Newell:

“I have a little silver box passed on to me which was inscribed on the front, ‘Daniel Newell from the Telegraph Compositors.’ And on the back is the date, 1855. Inside is a little card on which is written with a steel pen, ‘To my grandson, Daniel Polk Newell—Christmas, 1914.’ On the reverse side of the card is written, ‘Daniel Newell was my father, one of God’s own gentlemen—capable—modest, may you grow up to be like him!’”

Daniel Newell had two remarkable role-models to emulate, and he followed through with distinction. I have been blessed to know such a splendid individual.



It is not because jade is rare that it is so highly valued. It is because, ever since the olden days, wise men have seen in jade all the different virtues. It is soft, smooth and shining, like kindness; it is hard, fine and strong, like intelligence; its edges seem sharp but do not cut, like justice; it hangs down to the ground, like humility; when struck it gives a clear, ringing sound, like music; the stains in it, which are not hidden and which add to its beauty, are like truthfulness; its brightness is like Heaven, while its firm substance, born of the mountains and the waters, is like the Earth. The Book of Poetry says, 'When I think of a wise man, he seems like jade.' That is why wise men love jade.

—Confucius

(Quoted from Carol Green Wilson,
Gump's Treasure Trade—A Story of San Francisco)



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