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Spring 1986

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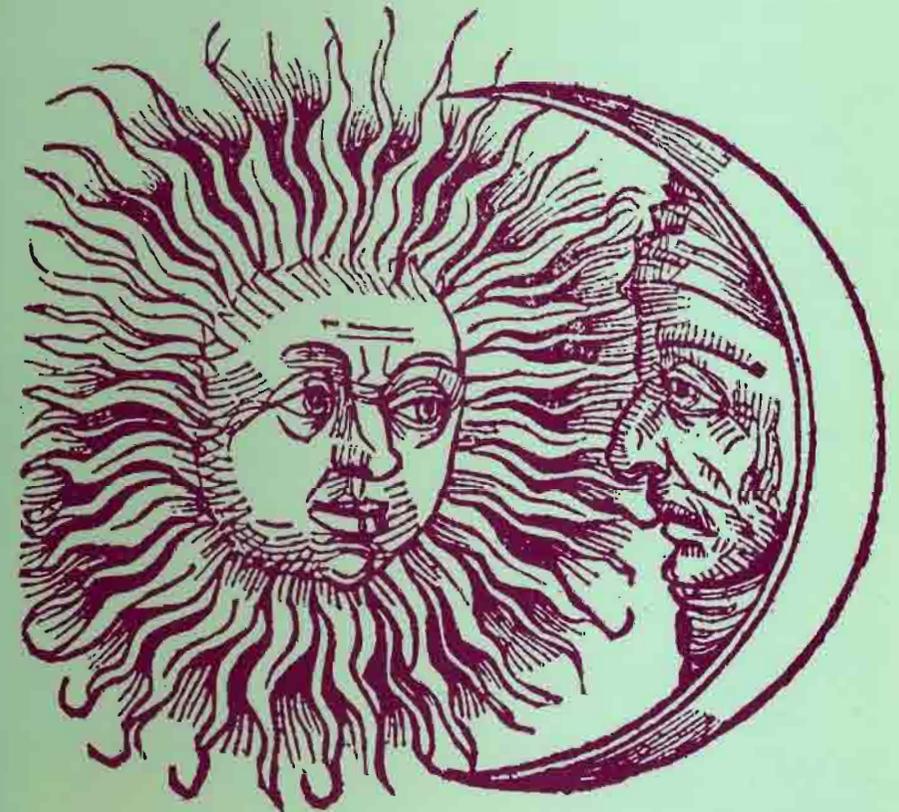
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Most of the reproductions of the early books, manuscripts, and objects of art which appear in this magazine are from originals in the collection of the Philosophical Research Society.

About the Cover: A symbol of an eclipse repeated frequently in the *Nuremberg Chronicle*, 1493. In the PRS Collection.

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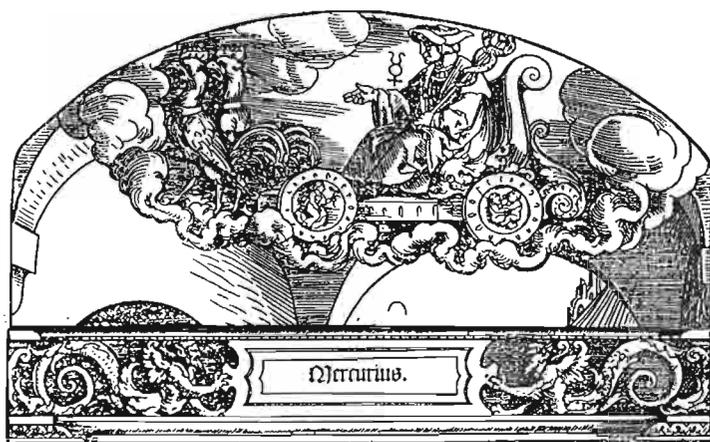
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NATIONAL TRENDS FOR 1986

(Lecture Delivered February 2, 1986)

According to the generally accepted system of mundane astrology, the zodiacal sign of Virgo is on the cusp of the first house in the annual chart for the United States. This position strongly influences the conditions of the country in 1986. Considering other factors involved and with Mercury retrograde, there would be considerable fumbling in the handling of national affairs. Extreme differences of opinion cause anxieties to the citizenry and the public mind is likely to drift into negative speculation. Almost every issue that arises will be contested and numerous small organizations are likely to arise and come into conflict with each other. Major changes will be difficult to implement and the media will contribute to the general confusion. Actually however, things will be considerably better than expected. The public mind is being disciplined, and it is becoming obvious that individuals will have to make personal contributions to the protection of national integrities. Common sense will guide the way to constructive changes in national life. There is emphasis upon advancements in science and the communications media.

Advertising will be curtailed, literary production is difficult to merchandise, and newspapers may have a hard time. It will be difficult to find suitable employees and computerization will lose much of its glamour. Local governments will be in some trouble



and misrepresentation of vital facts and issues will backfire upon the perpetrators. Efforts to curb crime in general will be supported by some and assailed by others as must be expected under a retrograde Mercury. The comet does not seem to have too much effect, but it might upset the balance of a restless religious situation. Exposés will be more frequent than usual and will be considered largely as news items. Rules governing personal behavior will be enforced and there will be further legislations bearing upon alcohol, tobacco, and the private ownership of deadly weapons. One of the keynotes of Mercury is change, and in the present instance some will feel that their securities are challenged, but apprehension about conditions as they are will contribute to improvement in character and judgment.

The effect of the eclipses on the conditions of the American people also requires special attention. There are four eclipses in 1986, two of the Sun and two of the Moon. There is a partial solar eclipse on April 9 in Aries, which is apt to increase anxiety over the national debt; the turmoil will probably extend through the rest of the year. There is a total eclipse of the Sun on October 3 in ten degrees of Libra. This again strongly recommends a reduction in national expenses and a curtailment of personal extravagances. The penny saved will gain value and importance. There is a total eclipse of the moon on April 24 in four degrees of Scorpio. This is con-

junct Pluto, again in the sign of wealth and investments. There is protection in this case and Jupiter, the ruler of the United States natal chart, comes to the rescue of imprudent investors. There is another eclipse of the Moon on October 17 in the twenty-fourth degree of Aries. Here, the pressure is upon moneys loaned to foreign powers and the over-financing of massive projects within the country.

Virgo is a very dedicated sign. One of its principal keywords is service and another is philanthropy. This year, the public mind should be sympathetic to the needs of the underprivileged. It cooperates in programs dealing with care of the sick, the aged, and the destitute. Virgos are very forgiving, do not hold grudges, and in 1986 there will be a widespread realization that we must all cooperate to solve the problems of the present generation. We can no longer be selfish, self-centered, or indifferent to the sufferings of our times. We may expect, therefore, a greater degree of giving and sharing than this country has seen for a long time. We have depended upon the government to support us when in reality the future of the country depends upon the dedicated and unselfish labors of average citizens. Communities must solve their own difficulties so far as this is possible; they must unite their efforts against abuses, intolerances, and delinquencies. It has been proven on countless occasions that government cannot legislate integrity, but each citizen can practice it for himself and unite with others of similar dedications. This year progress will depend upon the united effort of those who see what is needed and do what is necessary.

Ben Franklin once said, "Wilful waste results in woeful want." From the looks of the chart, this is an appropriate slogan for all who are concerned in matters of finance. The golden age of billionaires is coming to an end. Every day we read of deals, mergers, and investment pools which indicate an incredible lack of common sense. Popular persons in every level are overpaid and still seeking more. Public officials raise their own inflated salaries with unreasonable regularity and industry seems to have nothing on its mind but escalating profits. All of this finally must come from the lowly consumer who has been taught that he must accept exploitation as

part of the good life. With Pluto intimately associated with the finances of the nation, it is time to realize that wealth is not the principal reason for human existence. International banking, the stock exchange, and nearly every aspect of business which promises great rewards for small endeavors will be in trouble. Something may also be said about American wealth contributing to the armament of unfriendly nations.

While Pluto has a benevolent aspect to Jupiter, we must not overtax this auspicious symbolism. All in all, several neglected areas which could contribute to trouble must be considered. Labor disputes, arson, and inadequate maintenance can lead to difficulties involving railroads, air flights, buses, and even private cars. The tightening process has already begun through the enforcement of speed limits and the penalizing of drivers under alcohol or narcotics. Physical survival obviously requires more ethical conduct. Further reforms in the postal system are in order and postal rates on commercial advertising are likely to be raised. Traffic conditions will probably cause local restrictions on travel. Printing is badly overdone and censorship is likely to be strengthened against violence and pornography. The newspapers and popular journals may be in financial trouble and travel could be increasingly hazardous even within the country.

The stars support the rising suspicion that political preparations for the next national election are already underway. It is likely, however, that the plans may not proceed smoothly. Unexpected factors will arise which will be disconcerting to some potential candidates. The general public is likely to demand major improvements in the political structure. Agriculture is favored to some degree and agriculturists in general will be more prosperous and will receive considerable federal support. Weather is touchy. Early in the year there may be a shortage of water, but toward fall heavy rainfall is indicated for the Middle West and the Eastern seaboard. Dishonorable dealings over land, property rights, leases, and large housing projects will be exposed, and those guilty will find themselves in serious trouble. Mining is hazardous due to inadequate safety precautions, but there is a good probability that

a major disaster will be averted. Unreasonable profits on homes, apartments, and condominiums will result in popular indignation and prices will come down to some degree. The public in general will be suspicious of government, both national and local.

The birthrate is likely to be lower due in part to domestic insecurity and the escalating cost of family maintenance. Infant mortality will rise and sickness in small children may reach epidemic proportions. Theaters and places of amusement are not favored this year, and small off-Broadway productions have the best chance for survival. The standard of entertainment has fallen until it now caters to a nondescript audience. The same is true of television and radio. Here again, public objections may become more strenuous and force improvement. The educational system is in need of a major overhauling and the public should have a greater right to determine public school policies. Lotteries and gambling will simmer down until they are sustained mostly by a limited group of speculators. All exhibitions of excessive wealth and private extravagance are dangerous to the security of the country and should not be allowed. Television tours to the homes of the wealthy could result in something resembling the French Revolution—not immediately, but as poverty builds up and the number of refugees compounds. The diplomatic corps could be under a cloud as espionage becomes more prevalent. In substance, we must help to build a society in which our children can survive.

The next consideration is concerned with national armament and the funds that must be expended according to the present policy. The indications seem to be that sober thinking and common sense will gain in popularity. Because this is the year when the people will be heard from, it is likely that the armament race will slow down. The United States is not likely to invade other countries, and other more aggressive nations are bogged down with their own internal problems. A recess could be arranged and lift a heavy burden from the world's resources.

The public health should next be mentioned. With Jupiter strongly placed in this department of life, there could be continuing emphasis upon dieting, and the determination to overcome the

Jupiterian tendency. Health signifiers are not too bad, but the average person may develop nervous ailments, suffer from some insomnia, arthritis, and poor circulation. Fads and innovations may prove detrimental and fluoridated drinking water cannot be considered as safe. Unfortunately, however, the water without fluoridation is not always safe either. Practical filtering methods can help.

Labor organizations will have a better year, but they must be reasonable and realistic in their demands. A general lack of skilled labor works in favor of union organizations. Unorganized workers also benefit to some degree and the condition of refugee labor becomes considerably better. Important discoveries in the field of medicine will include an in-depth study of toxicity and an encouraging breakthrough in the treatment of leukemia.

American diplomacy will be more successful in the arbitration of difficulties in Latin America and the Near East. There will be considerable emphasis upon the needs of those financially underprivileged. Interested private groups will be successful in influencing leaders of both political parties. Conditions of the poor will be stressed by the Democratic party and several splinter groups. The United States will contribute strongly to the establishment of a lasting peace in the Middle East. There will be some restrictions on armament and an improvement in political and cultural relationships with several of the communist dominated countries. There seems to be no indication that the United States will be involved in a major war in 1986. Public opinion may contribute to the peaceful arbitration of difficulties in Latin America, Africa and the United Arab Emirates.

It would seem that there will be fewer marriages and more careful planning in establishing families. There may be a considerable increase of children in refugee families and those in the lower income brackets. Divorces will be fewer and more young people will live together without benefit of clergy. Foreign trade with Asia may be a little too brisk and result in more stringent tariff regulations. Women will become increasingly prominent on the executive level and racial minorities will have better employment opportunities.

Financial relations between the United States and foreign countries are liable to be causes for serious concern. As most international finance involves the United States to at least some degree, losses are almost inevitable and nearly all levels of American society will be affected. All business transactions should be conservative and "get rich quick" projects are not worth the risk. Diplomats from the United States will travel extensively and the national policy will be to tighten available funds without overthrowing constitutional governments. Efforts will be made also to strengthen patriotism and the importance of the American heritage. Books and films tracing the early development of the nation will be more numerous and in many areas ceremonies will be set up to celebrate important local personalities.

There are many important changes in popular education. The emphasis will shift from the planning of a profitable personal career to programs of public service and dedication to the security of the country. There will be much stronger emphasis on ethics, especially as misbehavior is more severely penalized. The age of rebellion is fading away and the younger generation is aware that the future of the country and of the civilized world is passing into their keeping. The legal system is streamlined and the courts will be less clogged. Organized crime will be more heavily penalized and there will be considerable success in limiting the distribution of narcotics. Long distance traffic is down, but travel within the country is increased partly as the result of an upsurge of patriotism. Prices in many areas will be lower and the entertainment field will respond to an increasing demand for more constructive and significant programs. There will be less vulgarity and profanity which is especially important because of the propaganda effect of films upon foreign viewers. Religion in general will gain in influence, but there is less emphasis upon sectarianism.

The higher brackets of government may experience a variety of uncertainties. Leaders will not agree on proper procedures and the public in general will feel that its legitimate requirements are not receiving proper attention. Scandals in high places undermine public confidence and there is a tendency to believe that the

governing should bear their share of the expenses that burden the governed. The news media has a disturbing effect upon legislators and it is probable that the high cost of government will lead to popular reforms. Several elder statesmen will probably drop out from natural causes and their successors will not follow in the footsteps of their predecessors. There is a rather slow, dull, and reluctant attitude in the Washington atmosphere. Plans for the campaign of 1988 have not resulted in any exciting innovations. The whole system is tired and sorely in need of a dynamic inspiration. Hero worship will continue, but the high cost of celebrities is no longer regarded as a proof of ability.

Governments below the federal level will be doing considerably better. States, cities, and counties may become somewhat entangled in lawsuits and difficulties due to conflict with the Supreme Court and financial institutions. The tendency is for private enterprises to become so powerful that they can function independently of the national administration. Many government functions will pass into the private enterprise system with considerable saving to both the producers and the consumers. Tax evasion is still a public scandal, but controls are being tightened in order that the burden should be equitably distributed. As more people become united in public service projects, private friendships are strengthened and the general atmosphere is more neighborly and cooperative. Merchants become more honest in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. Extravagant advertising, which misrepresents the quality of products, will be subject to greater censorship and will soon be revised. Local events will help to strengthen local policies. Smaller communities may have their own symphony orchestras and community theatres even though the talent is limited. Natural and inexpensive pleasures will contribute to peace of mind and bodily health. There is a bare possibility that something resembling the "good old times" might come back.

Organized crime has reached such flagrant proportions that the survival of the country has been hazarded. Supported by public approval, determined effort to break the power of the criminal underworld will produce outstanding results. Following the lead of

other countries, the United States is determined to cleanse the inside of the cup. This will result in strengthening the securities of private citizens and will also release public servants from the clutches of professional lawbreakers. Spying and counter-spying are among the most profitable professions at the present time. Securities may be strengthened and those in strategic positions will be under much closer surveillance. Even so, the ancient art of espionage will survive, but will be considerably less dangerous.

Under this heading also must be included the twilight zone of so-called legitimate exploitation. To overcharge for products or services is just as much of a crime as breaking and entering. Many institutions today, riding on a wave of national opulence, are gouging the public. As the financial situation tightens, it will be impossible to maintain inflated salaries and expenditures. This is the year when the public mind will do some thinking for itself. Mystical movements and unorthodox religious sects will increase and flourish. In many ways, this is a good situation, but only if it encourages mature thinking and high moral convictions. A number of old religious sects will be revived and contribute to the defense of honesty and common sense.

The heavy emphasis upon public responsibility for the advancement of national integrity will result in projects being undertaken by American cities. Solution of local emergencies and survival problems will be stressed. It seems appropriate, therefore, to mention a number of cities which have well advanced programs for civic improvement.

A very progressive influence in Boston will gain strong support, but will antagonize some entrenched conservatives. Boston's innovations will receive worldwide attention. There could be a major change in laws regulating marriage and divorce, liberalizing of the religious policies of the city, and women will become significantly more important in political, educational, and religious matters. Boston will also help to solve the emergencies confronting minority groups.

The year for Chicago is fortunate financially and the funding of necessary improvements will have public support. Several cases of

political corruption will be brought to the surface and dishonest officials will be subject to severe penalties. The Middle West in general is favored, which should react constructively upon the city of Chicago. There may be a recession in the Chicago banking and investment structures, but a recovery follows closely and prevents any serious damage. Housing will still be in short supply, but conditions will become better because of financial improvement of minority groups and a substantial rise in employment.

Los Angeles, including Hollywood, will experience a burst of enthusiasm for the better things of life. The media will react more idealistically to the news. There will be obvious reforms in the entertainment field and advertisers will demand an upgrading of television programs. A number of tightly maintained cartels will be broken up, new blood will have a chance, and Los Angeles will receive international recognition for its voluntary self-improvement. The city remains comparatively prosperous and a major disaster in the near future seems improbable. Health problems will require special attention and laws governing alcohol and narcotics will be rigidly enforced. Altogether the various changes will enjoy strong popular support.

New Orleans faces some difficulties and activism results in a powerful reaction from the public at large. Physical health problems will require attention and the city may overspend itself. There is some favor for arts and crafts, and a strong promotional campaign will attract numerous visitors. The main problem, however, will be to prevent the spread of subversive activity. There could be unseasonal weather with flooding and heavy wind storms.

Long Beach seems to get along reasonably well. Its financial condition is protected and the city gains increasing distinction in the arts, including both dramatic and graphic pursuits. There could be a little anxiety in the fall which delays housing, and the accident rate is somewhat higher. The airports in the area are under adverse aspects. Progressive educational programs meet considerable opposition, but with a few modifications will probably be adopted.

New York City will do considerable housecleaning this year. A

new leadership, or the rise of an influential group, will accomplish a great deal in combating organized crime. Those involved in the narcotic trade face an unpleasant awakening. Columbia University will make a major contribution toward a renovation of higher education which will react favorably upon high school teaching methods. There will be stronger emphasis on idealism. *important*

Philadelphia enjoys considerable astrological support in 1986. Financial conditions improve and persons appointed to official positions will prove beneficial and honorable in the fulfillment of their duties. Employment should improve and there are happenings in 1986 which will result in a favorable press. Some effort will be made to relieve downtown congestion and many families will move into suburbs or smaller neighboring communities. The historical importance of Philadelphia will be stressed and there will be a brisk tourism and emphasis upon early religious beliefs. Strengthening patriotic sentiments will reduce crime and inspire community cooperation.

San Francisco will be faced with unusual responsibilities. A serious attempt will be made to improve public morals and curtail delinquencies in the various age groups. Health problems are emphasized and there will be an increase in communicable diseases. Further efforts will be made to curb the importing of narcotics and an unfortunate incident, probably in one of the city parks, will result in a campaign to assure the good reputation which San Francisco has enjoyed for a number of years. *Watch* Accidents in transportation are also noted.

The capitol city of the United States seems to be involved in a variety of difficult situations. Nearly every effort at solution of current problems will result in antagonizing many of those who are loudly demanding basic changes in national policy. Pluto in Scorpio has a tendency to cause conspiracies over government costs and unjustified expenditures. Efforts to reduce government spending will annoy everyone except the average citizen. The political machine is already building toward the next election, but major difficulties will arise. Conditions in Washington will be upset and the possibility of anarchy and arson is clearly shown. The Supreme

Court may make several unpopular decisions resulting in strong public indignation. Many of these problems will not be obvious on the surface, but will be viewed with anxiety by the informed.

Climatic conditions for the year indicate a variety of weather in different parts of the country. The West Coast will have rather monotonous conditions which are predictable successfully by weather experts. The country generally will be rather dry with some precipitation along the eastern seaboard, but there will be storms in the Appalachians and a very severe winter in the north-east part of the country. The usual flooding in the Middle West can be taken for granted. Also, the humidity will be fairly high in the Southwest, but more strenuous efforts will be made to purify the air. Weather conditions adversely affect transportation, communication, and the public health. There may be minor earthquakes in thinly populated areas, and windstorms will seriously afflict the Middle West and the Southwest. Several large construction projects will be delayed or abandoned because they become hazardous to life or property. A link between nuclear research and weather may lead to the curtailment of nuclear experimentation. Accidents in mines or off-shore petroleum installations may occur. In all, the average citizen should live as quietly and conservatively as possible, keep up his insurance, and be satisfied that his home is in good repair.

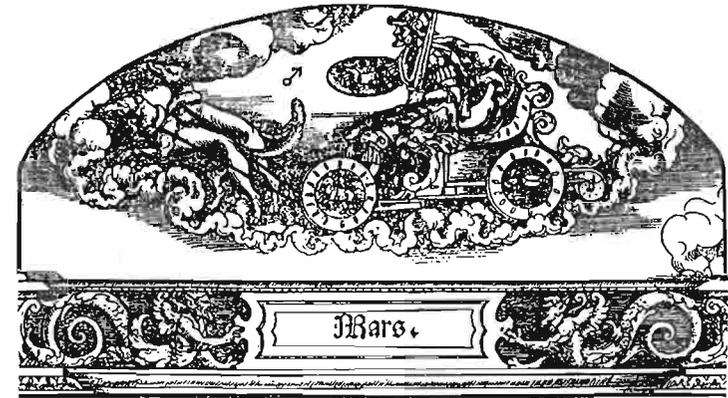
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Some have been so wedded to their riches that they have used all the means they could to take their wealth with them. Athenaeus reported of one, that at the hour of his death, he devoured many pieces of gold, and sewed the rest in his coat commanding that they should all be buried with him. Hermocrates, being loath that any man should enjoy his goods after him, made himself, by his will, heir to his own goods.

—Attributed to T. Grey.

Money is like manure, of very little use except to be spread.

—Francis Bacon



WORLD TRENDS FOR 1986

(Lecture Delivered on January 19, 1986)

The world chart for 1986 is most unusual, and it appears likely that it will be long remembered. Though complicated, it indicates clearly that many constructive forces are present in these troubled times. In the world chart, Mars would be traditionally considered the ruler of the year, but Pluto is strongly placed and will contribute a disciplining influence on the affairs of many nations. The Mars/Pluto configuration is definitely a formidable combination and a certain fatal necessity will influence the conducts of both the governing and the governed. For several years a major crisis has been building up and, in the presence of natural laws, personal ambitions cannot prevail.

Mars indicates an active and decisional sequence of events. Private citizens in most nations will challenge corruption in high places and major reforms will be implemented. Society itself will seek ways to correct its own mistakes and, if necessary, will instigate reforms to protect its own integrities from the corruptions which are destroying public morals. There will be intensified ef-

forts to curb narcotics, alcoholism, and other private intemperances. Mars will not wait with clumsy indifference to the pressing needs of average citizens.

Mars also is a planet of action and will not tolerate delays of policy. In this year's chart, Mars has a great deal of constructive support. It is not going to simply trigger a revolution, but it will stand firmly for a reformation. As the year advances, many levels of society will join a program to reduce the dangers of war, conserve natural resources, and protect average families from exploitation.

At this point, Pluto enters the picture with a firm reminder that wealth causes more problems than it can ever solve. Secret conspiracies will be brought to light and ulterior motives will no longer be condoned as in recent years. The millennium will not be in 1986—all problems will not be solved or all mistakes corrected. It will, however, tip the scales so that human beings will no longer be considered as expendable entities in a vast power struggle. The situation has been intensified by a gradual realization that the continuation of selfishness and self-centeredness can only end in a major world calamity. The operations of the law of cause and effect are among the basic keywords of Pluto. There is a retribitional factor which must be recognized if essential progress is to be possible.

Opinion making has long been the special privilege of an intelligentsia. The legislators, scientists, industrialists, economists, and the clergy have taken over the destiny of mankind. In each case, the prime objective has been the preservation of a dominant class that has seemed to believe that it was divinely ordained to be the ruler of the earth. The dominant motive in every instance is the increase of wealth over which Pluto exercises authority. It is now clearly obvious that this mental aristocracy is incapable of protecting either itself or the populations it is supposed to guide. The disillusionment began when Pluto entered Libra and its momentum has increased dramatically since it moved into Scorpio. To survive, or not to survive, this is now the question and the private citizens of many countries are becoming wiser than their leaders.

The power struggle will intensify, and those long accustomed to

advance their own fortunes at the expense of the public good are not going to favor a major change in the economic structure or the political policies. Pluto exposes corruptions and casts the light of integrity upon projects nurtured in darkness. Educators have disillusioned their own students; religious organizations are no longer willing to serve God with simple and honest teachings; the entertainment field is vice-ridden; and children growing up are deficient in moral insight. And over it all hangs the devastating danger of nuclear warfare. Everywhere human nature, with a basic desire for survival, is turning against the ambitions of tyrants, great or small. This is the world condition at the vernal equinox of 1986—a population fed up with deceit, tyranny, and exploitation is now ready to respond to the constructive influences of the stars in their courses.

The planetary patterns for this year's chart may be considered as unbalanced which is quite reasonable under the circumstances. To use the traditional keywords, we can assume that there is violence in the air with small groups sponsoring special causes. Most of these have simply further divided society and weakened a united front. With a retrograde Mercury, small thoughts are defended when greater issues need immediate attention. Pluto seems to bring psychotic pressures including confusion, discouragement, and disillusionment contributing to social unrest. It has long been suspected that Scorpio was the sign of the zodiac most closely associated with extra-sensory phenomena. While much of the effort in this direction is uncertain and conflicting, one thing is evident—the religious experience has now come directly into the personal lives of disturbed mortals. In one way or another, the trend is toward the recognition of a divine power, principal, or orders of beings which have established the eternal code for human relationships that cannot be disobeyed without tragic consequences. The individual cannot create a private universe for himself, governed by his own inclinations. He was fashioned to obey the immutable laws which he cannot violate without endangering his own survival. In other words, materialism is now broadly recognized as an error of the human mind. No matter how long or how enthusiastically we defend the products of false judgment, we can never

change in any way or degree the immutable rules that govern all things.

Throughout the world in 1986, there will be strong emphasis upon political housecleaning. Exposés of corruption in high places will stimulate broad programs of reform and major changes in international law. There is some danger to prominent persons who are reluctant to modify their attitudes or liberalize their policies. Discontent will spread into countries and nations which have previously remained aloof from social turmoil may be drawn in by circumstances beyond their control. Pluto indicates that the law of cause and effect will result in losses of powers, properties, or possessions for those who have advanced themselves by dishonorable or corrupt policies.

Financial institutions are apt to be in serious difficulties. The time has come in which monetary problems of various nations have reached a one-world dilemma. It seems to be the intent of an outraged providence to remind humanity for once and for all that any civilization that depends upon wealth for security has built its house upon sand. The budget can be balanced, but only if there is a major reformation in economic practices. The days in which each country had its own banking and investment policies have passed, and the positive trend is toward a world banking and investment system by which needs can be met without burdening individual countries with debts that can never be paid.

Transportation problems loom large on the horizon, especially where terrorism endangers travel. In this area there is considerable useful progress. Here again the trend is toward an internationalizing of both transportation and communication. Most major cities of the world are hopelessly bogged down with land, sea, and air traffic congestion and efforts to strengthen public facilities will meet with favorable response. A continuous increase in traffic accidents will result in the enforcement of appropriate ordinances. Automotive manufacturing throughout the world is in financial trouble and this will extend to various other major industries. Printing and the circulation of books, newspapers, and special journals will be less profitable to all concerned. Radio and tele-

vision news programs will be seriously overworked and the public will have less confidence in most information sources. The international telegraph, telephone, and postal services require major reforms to restrict private exploitation of public utilities. There is an encouraging note indicating that most countries will welcome a general reform in areas of communication.

Agricultural conditions seem to improve considerably in 1986. In a few localities harvests may be poor, but in general there will be a substantial surplus. Here again prosperity is dependent upon favorable climatic conditions. Included under this heading will be the development of new petroleum resources and major improvements in the production and distribution of nuclear power. Increasing congestion everywhere results in disputes over land and natural resources. Fear of seismic disturbances results in a major improvement in building codes. The sun and the moon symbolize the ins and outs in terms of politics. Throughout the world, the outs seem to be gaining influence, and in many countries the proletariat will gain at least minor victories over entrenched autocracies of one kind of another.

In most countries, the birthrate will be down due in part to national programs for limiting populations. Also there is emphasis on adjusting education to prevailing world needs. Enduring progress cannot be accomplished if the public school and university systems attempt to perpetuate the intellectual status quo.

In prevailing patterns of public need children must be inspired to think for themselves with appropriate academic support, but not scholastic domination. We may expect to see considerable upgrading in the curriculum and increased educational facilities for emerging nations. The school system should be internationalized, and not remain under the domination of local concepts. The entertainment field is tottering and must upgrade its productions or face bankruptcy. It has responsibilities which can no longer be ignored. There is also improvement in public morals. A number of embassies will be in trouble and espionage must be taken for granted, at least for the present.

Organized labor may have a rather disappointing year. Those

in countries functioning under a free enterprise system or in socialized states will suffer to some degree from world-wide economic debility. It will be wiser to be grateful for advances made in previous years and cooperate in every way possible to protect present employment. Labor generally should cling unto the ills it has, rather than flee to others that it knows not of . . . (with apologies to Hamlet).

The public health shows symptoms of wear and tear. Fads are becoming far too numerous and the assumption seems to be that by increasing vitality we can make a better adjustment to the problems of society. Among advanced nations, nervous ailments will be fashionable, but detrimental. The world is developing fears and anxieties which are channeled into private lives through the communications media.

As long as humanity worships wealth and fame, it will sicken day by day. One cheerful note, however, is timely. It seems to me that there will be no major war in 1986. It is beginning to dawn upon all classes of society that it is better to correct mistakes than face extinction. Small tyrants who live only to compete with each other will find little public support this coming year. There will also be a worldwide curtailment of armament.

Summit conferences and the like will be increasingly pleasant and congenial. The trend will definitely be toward the arbitration of differences and the cultivation of international friendships. The United Nations organizations will accumulate some prestige along the way and there will be numerous reports of heads of governments making goodwill tours. Naturally, such procedures will contribute to foreign trade, cultural exchanges, and the breaking down of political fences. Wherever and whenever possible, a good press will help to advance peaceful solutions to world problems.

Throughout the world, the condition of homes remains uncertain. There will be fewer marriages which, in turn, should cut down the number of divorces. Many persons today have no intention of assuming responsibility, but legislations might be introduced to protect the rights of children. The present trend is that both parents should be equally responsible for the support of

children born out of wedlock. In every walk of life recent years have favored the rights of women. This continues and gains further momentum, especially in the higher brackets of professional and executive careers. The citizens of the world are still struggling under the stress of international confusion, but considerable progress is actually being accomplished, though it may pass unnoticed.

Long range investments should be watched closely, and financial institutions have already extended themselves with more optimism than common sense. It is gradually becoming evident that most international debts are poor investments. It is very difficult to estimate death rates at this time. With accidents including air traffic becoming more numerous, natural disasters taking a heavy toll, epidemical ailments on the increase, and suicides becoming more common, statistics can be accepted only tentatively. Scientific advancements make important gains and the number of persons living to advanced years with reasonable efficiency is increasing. Unfortunately, however, many emerging countries have not solved the hazards of a high death rate. The indications are that deaths caused by political terrorism will be fewer. The enforcement of speed limits and heavier penalties for carelessness and major crimes will definitely have a constructive effect. Astrologically speaking, the probabilities of survival are better than they were last year. The deaths of famous persons may have long-range political implications and help to restore law and order in regions sorely afflicted by violence. The trend is again toward a cooperative united effort to protect the lives and securities of all human beings.

A major drift away from materialism toward idealism should be noticed in all fields of learning. Philosophy, which has been long neglected, will regain a good part of its ancient splendor. Reluctantly institutions of higher learning will emphasize the importance of moral training as a first line of defense against the encroachments of sterile intellectualism. Classical learning emphasizes idealism supported by basic integrities. Scientific institutions will share in this improvement and recognize the importance of exploring various aspects of extra-sensory perception and mystical reflection. Religion will be faced with the need for major decisions

as to the contributions it can make to the strengthening of social and family relationships. The need for a substantial cooperation between all the major faiths of mankind can no longer be denied or ignored.

International trade relations will be confronted with the pressing need for ethical directives. Commerce in general should improve and the third world is favored by the planetary configurations. Long-range communication and space exploration will develop, but will be subjected to arbitrary restrictions. The Supreme Court will have to reconsider a number of decisions which are contrary to the long-range needs of human society. There will be considerable emphasis upon international conferences and the determination to keep the peace will have increasing support from all classes.

Governments will have a tendency to stabilize. Experience is clearly demonstrating that a change of leadership is not likely to end in improvement unless there is a higher level of prospective leaders. There is some hazard to prominent officials, but anarchy will subside. There will be considerably less terrorism and an international organization will probably be formed to protect both citizens and institutions from wanton and irrational violence. Many countries will elect honorable candidates to public office and the international system of credits will function more efficiently. There may also be a notable increase of respect for celebrated persons who have set high examples of intelligence and trustworthiness. By the end of the year, anxieties are likely to subside in most parts of the world.

The lower echelons of government will be troubled with both confusion and conflict. Various groups within countries will struggle to maintain their own particular projects at all costs. Debates will become heated and small issues are likely to obscure larger purposes. Candidates of all kinds will struggle for public approval and the people in general will develop numerous negative suspicions. Doubts will dominate the field of political combat. On the other hand, the public trend will be to strengthen international friendships. Unfortunately, however, there will be a subtle propa-

ganda calculated to prevent international and interracial understanding. There could be a battle of the books, and in 1986, one must be very cautious in the selection of constructive literature. Ambitious leaders, recognizing that they are losing public confidence, may attempt military aggression, but in the end such moves will destroy the aggressors.

In 1986, most countries will be deeply involved with their internal affairs. It becomes more obvious that world order must begin with the general reformation on local levels. This means that matters such as medical care, hospitals, reformatories, charitable institutions, legal protection, and the rigid enforcement of constructive legislation and ethical laws are priorities. Racketeering, exploitation, and business policies which harm the private citizen will continue, and are likely to worsen.

The glamorous era of worldwide competition is coming to an end. This will cause some regrets, but universal rejoicing. Espionage is not especially productive, but is decidedly profitable to the media. Some type of control which will restrict the entertainment world from interfering with efforts to strengthen the relationships between countries, races, and the various levels of society, will come strongly into focus. The crime rate will be somewhat down, but much could be accomplished by nations uniting to protect their people against subversive organizations. The need for honesty will become increasingly evident and constructive change will receive general support.

There are four eclipses involved in the year 1986. The total eclipse of the Sun on April 24 may have far reaching consequences. While this eclipse may be considered as ominous, it is largely mitigated by a number of good aspects. Throughout the first half of the year there could be a widespread epidemic of terrorism and anarchy, which will backfire upon those who cause it. These eclipses can also contribute to natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, violent storms, and epidemical ailments. Here again, however, there is considerable protection which will restrict the magnitudes of all disasters.

Halley's comet is in the public mind, but there is no need for

great concern. It is a known fact that there are comets around most of the time. The old astrologers decided that comets have very little influence upon the destinies of individuals. They are more important in mundane affairs and Halley's return could cause some disturbance in the stock market and the investment field, especially for those desperately determined to make a quick profit. Historically comets have been associated with tribulations of leadership. They are said to warn that persons in high office, especially with inordinate ambitions, are vulnerable to disaster in the first half of 1986. Wherever glamour and fame raise up the ambitious, a comet can exercise a negative influence. The journey of Halley's comet could prove unfortunate in such matters as foreign loans that cannot be repaid, unemployment due to over-production, and a shrinking market for over-priced goods.

Climatic conditions will differ widely due to locational factors. We can only note that there are several indications of a heavy rainfall accompanied by flooding and some agricultural damage. Winter and Spring may be unusually cold and temperatures in the Summer will be higher than usual especially in Asia. Crops should be harvested promptly and infestation is likely to spread. Storms at sea will endanger shipping and air travel could be somewhat more dangerous than usual because of powerful air currents in higher altitudes.

In spite of the stress and pressure due to a strongly placed Pluto, there is good protection if serious emergencies should arise. The year could bring improved relationships between nations. We mention the principal countries in the following listing.

AFRICA

The indications for this vast area are encouraging. The quality of leadership in these countries will improve. Racial differences will subside in most of this area. There is a marked improvement in education and improved living conditions for children and the elderly. Religious interests will be strengthened and missionary efforts will expand and gain the support of the people. The public health receives special attention and there will be less subversive ac-

tivity. A pan-African movement will gain strength except in those countries bordering on the Mediterranean. In the less evolved areas there will be growing respect for indigenous African religious cults. The standard of living generally rises.

EGYPT This country will have a rather confusing and complicated year. All in all, however, there is very good protection and a popular government will emerge, probably in early Summer. The people will be responsive to progressive and idealistic leadership. There may be some difficulty between progressive and fundamentalist Moslem sects. The Egyptian people are not likely to side with Islamic fundamentalism. There should be some censorship on the news media which is likely to downgrade the Egyptian liberals. If radicalism arises, it will be subject to severe penalties. Valuable archaeological finds could result in efforts to smuggle valuable material out of the country. The popular mind in general should be amiable, and open to constructive changes.

ETHIOPIA The planetary trends of Ethiopia in 1986 will be substantially an extension of 1985. Basic factors continue to be complicated, but there are some new and hopeful signs. The population of the country will be less subject to internecine strife. Various small groups and factions become more cooperative. Health will be better and the religious influence of the Coptic Church will be increasingly obvious. Through a strange and mysterious circumstance, a new leader will arise and gain increasing support and popularity and improve the condition of the less privileged class. Defense against epidemical ailments will be provided by the use of sophisticated medications which have not been available up to this time. The people will still have their troubles, but there will be prevailing encouragement.

LIBERIA This little country founded on the principles of the United States will be under the same difficulties as the United States. There are some cheerful indications, however. Public opinion will contribute to a political and economic housecleaning.

More constructive leadership is indicated, the standard of living will rise, and women will have a larger part in public life. Funds will become available for the strengthening of the educational system, and there will be financial assistance from the United States and possibly France. Land values will increase and trade with other countries will be more brisk and profitable.

MOROCCO Things may be a little rough for Morocco this coming year. The government is insecure and religious disturbances could lead to open violence. A political conspiracy against this country may be attempted, but will not succeed. The heads of state must be extremely careful and some elder statesmen may pass on from natural causes. Tourism may be restricted by unfavorable public opinion. The death rate will be slightly higher due to epidemical outbreaks. Labor disputes are possible and secret societies could conspire against the national administration. It is worthy of note, however, that mysterious factors will support major efforts to improve and protect the country.

SOUTH AFRICA The motto of this country in 1986 will be "Peace at any price." Moderate attitudes will help to restore the prosperity of the region. The black people will make marked gains and a working cooperation with white leadership will be beneficial to all concerned. Major legal reforms will ease tension and there will be special emphasis on the distribution of land. Living conditions are improved by better housing, educational facilities for the young, and medical services. There should also be a substantial increase in wages for both labor and business organizations. Perhaps most of all, there will be better feeling and an honorable desire to work together for the collective good.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

The year is expansive for these regions and there could be an important discovery of metals or petroleum in the southern areas. Prosperity continues to survive the stress and strain of international finance. The political structure is better organized than

last year and the conservative factions have a slight edge when elections come along. It would be wise, however, to be prepared for natural hazards. Storms, fires, volcanic eruptions, and unseasonal climate are likely to cause some concern. New Zealand is more vulnerable than Australia in such matters. Industry improves, living conditions are adequate, young people are accepting greater discipline, and the accident rate is down. High finance will be in the air and industry looks forward to a more prosperous year. Differences with the mother country will subside also.

THE BALKAN COUNTRIES

The Balkan countries appear to be more sinned against than sinning. For centuries they have been overshadowed by powerful neighbors or ambitious warlords. At the present time, most of these countries are in the Soviet sphere of influence.

ALBANIA AND BULGARIA Conditions are a bit brighter for these two countries whose destinies are closely associated. The governments will be slightly more liberal and privileges of the citizens are increased accordingly. Travel outside of these countries will be easier, and tourism from other regions is encouraged. Imported goods will be available in stores and a considerable diversification of merchandise will enthruse local shoppers. Education will improve to some degree, but will be dominated by propaganda. Religious groups are tolerated and this will help to raise the morale of the people. Very little information is available relating to these countries, but it is safe to assume that the standard of living is rising.

GREECE The people of Greece in general are extremely fixed in their opinions and attitudes. They are much more likely to be concerned with their personal affairs than with the condition of the country. In 1986, the Greeks will find themselves in complicated international situations. Security is of first importance to all Grecians and this year is likely to be rugged. The Greeks may find themselves involved in the affairs of other countries and could be

brought to the brink of war or revolution. A crisis can be caused by the breaking down of extremely conservative patterns of Greek morality and ethics. Young people, strongly influenced by doings in the larger world, will militate against family ties and the pronouncements of the Greek Orthodox Church. The Moslem minority could also be heard from in a rather unpleasant way. The government is fragile, but with care can last through the year. Commercial enterprises will be increasingly profitable, but might result in public disturbances. In the Spring months there could be a strong revival of the arts and a gradual increasing interest in the cultural heritage for which Greece has always been admired. Further earthquakes are possible, but the major loss comes from the deterioration of ancient monuments as a result of atmospheric pollution.

HUNGARY The Hungarians, who are among the most patriotic of all people, have several constructive aspects operating in 1986. Much of the activity relates to economics, investments, the expansion of manufacturing, and the distribution of goods. The people of this country have settled down and accept the communism that has been thrust upon them. They simply choose to ignore conditions which cannot be changed and, all in all, appear as happy as is possible to the Hungarian nature. Living conditions improve, there is strong emphasis upon housing, and a few stray experiments in limited capitalism. A considerable amount of available funds will be used to modernize living facilities and restore public structures which attract tourists. There is a narcotics problem developing and radical organizations have maintained considerable strength. Health problems are likely, accidents will be on the increase, and incidents of vandalism and terrorism will require constant vigilance. The arts are emphasized and there might be important contributions to health research.

ROMANIA There will be considerable emphasis upon this country which will establish important precedents in socialistic leadership. There is strong emphasis upon religion and Pope John Paul

II is likely to take considerable interest in this country. There can be a period of unemployment in the Spring, but the recovery will be reasonably rapid. Accidents in heavy industry, mines, and inland waterways cause concern. Provisions for the elderly win general approval and a kind of social security system will arise and be strengthened by popular approval. There is some danger to prominent members of the governing body and scandals concerning them will be severely dealt with. Climatic conditions will include drought in agricultural regions and heavy storms in mountains and outlying provinces. Old customs will be revived and there will be books possibly published outside the country, discussing the Romanian way of life.

TURKEY Turkey will be subject to confusion and frustration. A number of unpopular laws will be enacted and prove impossible to implement. Turkey is trying desperately to protect itself against the upsurge of reactionary Moslemism. There is danger that the conflict between the sects of the Islamic faith will spread into Turkey and endanger a tolerant government which desires to be left in peace. Asiatic Turkey will be difficult to manage constructively and there is always danger of Russia becoming involved in the prevailing uncertainty. Conditions may clarify to some degree in early Fall, but activism is likely in Spring and early Summer. Health indications are not good and food poisoning could require a thorough investigation of agricultural methods and food processing. Education does not have a good year, but the trades are likely to make financial gains.

YUGOSLAVIA This country is faced with the reorganization of its government. Although severely hampered by communist control, the people are still progressive thinkers and will take advantage of even the smallest opportunity to extend their privileges. The ghost of President Tito still wanders about the country and a cult favoring his methods survives awaiting opportunity to revive Tito's own private type of socialism. The influence of Yugoslavia on other members of the Balkan group is considerable. The

general tone for the year will be progressive and efforts to infiltrate the country with activists and other troublemakers will be unsuccessful. Religion will continue to exert a protecting force and ties with outside nations will be strengthened.

EUROPE

AUSTRIA As a people, the Austrians are by nature optimistic and conscious of their cultural heritage. They can enjoy themselves under the slightest provocation and this year will be reasonably pleasant. Emphasis will be upon improving, as far as is possible, the conditions of average citizens. The fine arts are especially favored and several painters will receive distinction in the art community of the world. The standard of living should rise with emphasis upon facilities for the aged, provision for the unemployed, and care for children. The monetary situation improves, health indications are favorable, and tourism will be profitable. Flood damage and water pollution may cause concern. The government is under affliction and there is sickness or death to officials in high places. There could be an emergency involving alcoholism and narcotics addiction.

BELGIUM This year is not especially favorable for the Belgian people. There could be sickness and possibly a death in the royal family. Also, there will be health hazards to public officials and industrial leaders. A radical element must be dealt with promptly and incidents of sabotage may lead to international complications. Monetary values are unstable and criminal elements can become involved in international political gatherings. A major bank could suffer from a robbery. There will be considerable tourism, but there may be strikes involving transportation and communication facilities. Employment may be slightly down, but there will be some improvement in the second half of the year. Public morals are in serious need of improvement.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA For reasons not entirely clear, Czechoslovakia will loom large in the complications of the year. The country

is under affliction which could lead to a general political upheaval, but there are also protecting influences and a major crisis may well be averted. Uneasiness is in the air, there is danger to the public health with a spreading of contagious and infectious diseases. Climatic conditions will be uncertain with possibilities of violent storms. Arson cannot be ruled out and will be traceable to terrorist organizations. The Czechs are a very patient and courageous people; they will survive all difficulties and ultimately attain freedom. Misappropriation of funds will disturb national credit, but in spite of these hazards essentials and some luxuries will continue to be available.

FRANCE Little by little, France is forging its way ahead resolved to regain its leadership in the European bloc. Difficulties which arise in surrounding countries work to the advantage of the French people. There could be troubles in the Spring and prominent persons will be subject to illness. Financial situations become better and a wave of patriotism sweeps over the country. France is gradually outgrowing its provincialism and will probably enjoy a good press in 1986. Strikes and outbreaks of radicalism are noted. They will be annoying, but will have no lasting effect. There is a strong upsurge of religion and mystical cults and societies will receive considerable public support.

EAST GERMANY This area is under rather depressing influence. Transportation facilities are inadequate, public services in general are not being properly maintained, communication is heavily restricted, and traffic conditions have been badly neglected. There is heavy censorship and travel between East and West Germany is burdened with unnecessary restrictions. The standard of living is lower than in most European countries and education is dominated by propaganda. Business conditions provide few or no opportunities for individual initiative. As the year progresses, some improvement is likely and an effort will be made to polish the East German image. Pluto is involved and warns that the abolishment of human rights will have disastrous results for those responsible for abuses of power.

WEST GERMANY This area is progressive, innovative, and reasonably prosperous. There may be some unemployment and re-trenchment is advisable. There are a number of good aspects, but a few that will be difficult to interpret. Espionage will be less troublesome, but there may be considerable political conflict within the country itself. There could also be some unfortunate disclosures involving misuse of public funds. Strikes or labor agitation will interfere with the economy and the exporting of German cars may be curtailed. Weather conditions may result in damage to crops and cut down boat traffic on the Rhine. Relations with East Germany will be better and visitation between the two countries will be easier. Accidents are possible in mining and the handling of heavy machinery. Crimes involving degeneracy and dissipation will be difficult to control and epidemical ailments will cause serious concern. In spite of these rather negative interpretations, the problems themselves will inspire practical and encouraging reforms.

GREAT BRITAIN Conflicting pressures will become severe in 1986. Progressives will press their advantages and conservatives will seek public support. Great Britain is likely to strengthen its military forces and tighten its relations with the free European countries. The British pound will suffer from considerable vacillation, but this will be less unpleasant for those living within the country; the greater concern will be foreign trade. The health of the British people is somewhat afflicted and epidemical ailments, some of which will be brought into the country from other nations, will cause concern. The press is afflicted and television will be open to considerable criticism. Employment will fluctuate and there is a probability of strikes and labor disputes. The royal family is under some affliction and should curtail travel outside of the homeland. All extravagances should be curbed and public displays of wealth discontinued. Scandal in high places could be embarrassing. With all these stressful problems, we can still say, "There will always be an England."

IRELAND Conditions look considerably better for the Irish. It would seem that antagonisms and animosities have worn themselves out and solutions are the better part of valor. North Ireland will be more amenable to reason and will sincerely attempt to find a constructive solution. Both the Catholics and the Protestants are favored by the horoscope for the year, and it would seem that several prominent citizens of Ireland will get together and make a sincere effort to save their country from further suffering and confusion. The Irish Republic, with its strongly Catholic leanings, will become more inclined to consider the words of Jesus, "Blessed are the peacemakers." In a world sorely troubled, local feuding should cease. The development of stronger financial ties and cooperative industrial efforts are indicated. Morals will improve, home life will be strengthened, and difficulties, due to excessive indulgence in alcohol will be corrected contributing to prosperity and lowering most of the tension. Education improves and a higher standard of living is probable.

ITALY All in all, there are much better prospects for the Italians. They are gradually emerging as a significant member of the free European group. A better spirit of patriotism will inspire the social changes that are necessary to the emergence of a modern nation. There is a constructive expansion of trade and an improvement in credit ratings. Important industries arise within the country or are brought to them from other nations. Leadership will become more popular, the income of the private citizen will rise, and there will be a strong progressive trend in education. Obviously, the Italians are considerably influenced by happenings in Vatican City and in the Catholic religion throughout the world. While the present Pope is extremely conservative, the religious atmosphere in Italy does improve and the Catholics themselves will accept the challenge of spiritual and secular progress. Some volcanic disturbances are noted, but they are not too severe. The criminal class in Italy and Sicily will find it difficult to avoid or evade the curtailments which now are likely to be imposed. Health is fairly good, the arts flourish, and there is greater consideration

for the needs of children and senior citizens and medical facilities will improve.

NETHERLANDS The outlook for the Netherlands in 1986 is unusually favorable. There is strong emphasis upon idealism and progressive religious activities and the improvement of social relationships. Education receives a great deal of attention. Materialistic institutions will pass into the keeping of more enlightened instructors and a spirit of morality will spread through the country. While it is true that certain political anxieties will continue, there is greater strength and insight with which to face the responsibilities of the present generation. Trade expands and people in general will be busy and reasonably prosperous. Some type of censorship may be imposed upon the entertainment media and the use of satellite news media. There is some hazard along the seacoast and dikes and dams must be carefully watched and maintained. The royal family is ruled by fixed signs and with reasonable discretion will lead the country for many years to come.

POLAND We can't offer any immediate solution to the Polish internal conditions. The people are still caught between an upper and lower millstone. They are further afflicted by eclipses and the chart would strongly suggest that these people must wait as patiently as possible for the intercession of universal law. There may be some evidences of this before the end of the year. There could be further uprisings in the working class and, while this will be promptly subdued, the moral influence will continue on in the history and memory of Poland. The standard of living may improve slightly, but most of the funds are drained off for purposes of armament. The public health is better than might be expected because the Poles are a hardy people and have never been weakened by soft living. Climatic conditions will be more or less severe and could include a very hot and dry summer. Education of the young will not improve greatly because the curriculum will be dominated by politics. Religion continues to exercise a strong constructive influence, but is subject to increasing censorship from the prevailing government.

PORTUGAL Portugal is seldom considered as contributing to the security of Europe. This year however, this country seems to take a long step into the future. A reasonable degree of optimism prevails, home life is more congenial, and educational facilities improve markedly. Many of the old pressures subside, and the dominant church cooperates with the rising optimism. The birthrate increases slightly and life expectancy lengthens. There is considerable emphasis upon having a good time. Places of amusement will have enthusiastic support. Motion pictures will be popular, especially with films made before 1950. Some unpleasant experiences with juvenile delinquents could result in the enforcement of laws which will cause a general exodus of undesirables. The Portugese enjoy gambling, speculation, and uncertain investments, and such activities will be on the increase. It looks as though the Portugese will make a strong bid to export its wares and will put salesmen into the field to present Portugese products in most of the markets of the free world. The program should have good results. Portugal has always depended upon its fisheries and these may be in some trouble. Health could be disturbed by the failure of sanitary resources. The Portugese may be subject to health problems such as rheumatic ailments and diseases of the lymphatic system. All in all, however, health should be reasonably good.

SPAIN It appears likely that the Spaniards will be among the more favored countries in 1986. The government is popular and should survive the year without serious problems. The people are enjoying better conditions than they have known for a long time. There is an upsurge of enthusiasm and new incentives for productivity. There is much to indicate that tourism will contribute considerably to the Spanish treasury. The country abounds in remarkable and beautiful natural grandeur and the great palaces and castles of the past are wonderfully attractive. The financial situation is right and many world-weary travelers have decided to settle there for the rest of their lives. There will be some financial complications, however, due largely to foreign exploitation and the Spaniards must limit the rights of foreigners to buy land and take over Spanish industries. The Basque situation will continue to be

annoying and may provide a center through which foreign, political extremists may gain a foothold on Spanish soil. Spain may be accident prone this year and travel by rail or air will be a little hazardous. The church and the state get together on an amicable basis. Spanish folk arts and folk music will be popular all over the world. Families are close and children for the most part are well treated. Agitation over Gibraltar will ultimately bring the great rock back to Spanish possession.

SWITZERLAND There will be some political rumblings among the Swiss. They have an all-time record for getting along together without agreeing with each other. It will be a shame if this genteel relationship is disturbed. The Swiss have gone through two World Wars with comparatively little involvement, but a new equation now presents itself. A wealth-hungry world is searching desperately to find more sources of profit. In time, this may lead the Swiss into serious difficulties which could begin before the end of 1986. The leaders of Swiss political policy appear to be honorable persons, but with the best of all intentions unfortunate decisions might be made which could open the way to weakening the traditional integrities of the Swiss cantons. A strong tourism helps to maintain the prosperity of the Swiss and they have enjoyed a good press for a long time. Some employment difficulties may arise, accidents in winter sports will be more numerous than usual, and transportational facilities are afflicted. The United Nations organization in Switzerland could make a major contribution to the stability of European thinking. Some important and far reaching conferences will probably be held there and more successful than in areas dominated by special interests and commitments. In all, the Swiss can do as well as can be expected in a world burdened with complications.

U.S.S.R. This might be a very good year for Russia to remain as inconspicuous as possible. It has many internal decisions to make and there is some evidence that more consideration should be given to the private citizens of the Soviet Union. There could be a strong

division of opinions in the executive branch of Russian government. The impact of the new upon the old could have far-reaching consequences. Among the issues that must be considered are the construction of a private enterprise system, the control of alcohol and narcotics, the cost of a highly competitive armament to protect the country from an enemy that does not exist, and some tangible proof of the superiority of the communist theory of government. There is strong indication of the need for a simple, honorable, and devout religious instruction. A negative Mercury aspect warns that the public minds of the Russian people are confused and frustrated by the conflicting procedures of government which provide the individual with very little inducement to self-discipline or cooperation for common good. The arts are successful and some interesting literary personalities are likely to arise. There is a chance that some of the countries that have been invaded by the Soviets will regain at least a part of their freedom and self-determinism.

THE SCANDINAVIAN BLOC

In 1986 there is considerable stress and anxiety among the Scandinavian people. They will probably unite to maintain their standard of living. There is some emphasis upon armament and the protection of coastal areas. Health problems will arise, especially in the fall, and accidents will be more numerous than usual. Financial matters will require careful attention and there is some danger of a scandal involving banks and the stock exchange. Heads of state should make as few public appearances as possible and transportation accidents will be on the increase. A serious social crisis will be averted and these countries will have faithful friends and allies if needed. Storms and floods may cause trouble in Norway and Sweden. Denmark is more protected, but must be careful about drug addiction and juvenile delinquency. Religion will come into some focus, but will be unconventional. Sports are favored with care against accidents. Climatic conditions indicate extremes of weather which could cause considerable damage to property.

THE NEAR EAST

In general, this area will continue to be socially and politically disturbed. The region is under a fixed sign, and programs will be perpetuated to the bitter end. There is very little hope for an enduring peace in 1986. The Moslem religion is ruled by Taurus which goes on its way regardless of obstacles. Money will be a very large factor in the policies and procedures of the Near Eastern countries. Property damage and loss of life may result from warfare or seismic upheavals. Refugees will seek security in foreign nations and many will come to the Western Hemisphere.

IRAN Moslems will be divided in their allegiances. Some will cling to the fundamentalist group and others will proclaim their dedication to modernization, liberalism, freedom of education, and the rights of women. These points can be supported by the Koran and therefore do not represent disloyalty to the faith. Outbreaks of violence will continue in Iran and a major purge of progressives will bring further misery. The economic condition of the Iranians worsens, but there is indication that Kohmeini is losing control of the very machine he set in motion. His own health is not good and throughout the area there are health problems resulting from malnutrition and the breakdown of sanitation and hygiene. Conspiracies will be numerous, but a sudden occurrence may ease the situation and reduce the probabilities of further warfare.

ISRAEL This is not an especially good year for the Israelis. Internal divisions damage the political image and economic problems worsen for the next several months. Israel must be careful that its emergencies do not result in dangerous outside allegiances. The nation is still largely under the protection of stronger countries and these are bound to determine, at least in part, the future of Israel. The keynote for the year is certainly "international relationships." Realistic diplomacy is sorely needed. Minor outbreaks of violence are almost inevitable, but the intervention of sympathetic countries will prove protective. Women will play an increasingly important role in the Israeli government and their cultural influence will be

obvious through the arts, especially music and drama. Progress at this time is slow and painful, but will ultimately be well rewarded.

THE FAR EAST

AFGHANISTAN The first of the Far Eastern group to which we must give attention is Afghanistan. In mundane astrology, the keynote for the year is "the people against authority." In this case, the authority is a foreign controlled government spearheading the complete conquering of the Afghan people and the portents for 1986 are that the struggle will go on until their cause is given worldwide recognition. There is indication that help may not be too far away. Religion may play an important part in advancing the cause of these embattled people. The aggressors are suffering almost as much as their victims and in the end this may lead to a reasonable arbitration. One of the Asiatic group, possibly Pakistan, may come to the assistance of the Afghans and supply them with the means for continuing their struggle. The normal processes of living, financial stability, and advancements in education and free enterprises are completely blocked in Afghanistan. The stars indicate that conditions may better within the year.

BURMA For some time now, this socialist state has been wrapped in mystery. Very little is known about the internal affairs of the country and travelers have little opportunity to evaluate existing conditions. Burma enjoys some fortunate aspects in 1986. It will be slowly and cautiously permitted to emerge from its obscurity. We may soon find Rangoon included in tourist programs. Buddhism will be treated more tolerantly and neglected institutions such as hospitals, schools, and labor unions will come back to life. The prevailing government will go through a housecleaning, crimes will be handled more justly, and patriots who have labored long in secrecy will be recognized as benefactors. Mysticism, esoteric sects, and teachings intended to bridge East and West philosophically and ethically will be recognized. As the country improves its conditions, it must be very watchful however against organized efforts to prevent the restoration of ancient rights and liberties. The year

is basically better, but the struggle is not entirely over.

INDIA This vast sub-continent is divided into so many regions and levels of interest that it is difficult to summarize the prevailing tendencies. Generally speaking, the country is favored especially in certain matters including transportation facilities and the communication media. The problems of traffic and housing in the larger metropolitan areas test the resources of the government. It might be more practical for all concerned if India were divided into three or four sovereign states, each of which could be held responsible for the well being of its citizenry. A shadow of such an idea seems to be hovering in the atmosphere. The financial state and the monetary resources of the country improve somewhat. Surrounding countries will be friendly, but minority groups within India itself will continue to oppose existing leaderships. Education will advance, the birth rate will be slightly down, and the rural areas will become more prosperous. The government is insecure, but will probably survive the year if it is not victimized by anarchy. In many parts of India there is considerable prosperity. The native entertainment industry including television, motion pictures, and radio is generally appreciated by the public. Due to the catastrophe in Bhopal, foreign investments in India are not popular, but in time with careful control they will accomplish a great deal of good. The health of the Indian people will be somewhat above average with special considerations for the needs of the elderly. Religion is generally strong and mystical groups are favored. In many areas education, which is in the hands of elders rather than professional teachers, shows considerable improvement. Agriculture is favored this year and modern methods are opening the way for more profitable farming. The country will remain pacifistic and militarization will be limited to that necessary to protect borders or control internal disturbances. There may be some concern over conditions in Sri Lanka (Ceylon).

INDOCHINA Under this heading we include the Khymer Republic, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. The proximity of these

closely inter-related countries and the effects of the political changes which threaten to dominate their futures for some years to come justify this arrangement for astrological purposes. The group, except Thailand, is in deep trouble and there is grave concern that the difficulties will extend into Thailand. Altogether, the Indochinese group is threatened with the loss of national identity. Up to now Thailand has survived, but the other three countries are little better than penal colonies. The people are under the tyranny of arrogant despots and loss of life continues to be noted in the chart. There are virtually no medical facilities available to the common people. Malnutrition is widespread and prisons are overflowing with those who attempted to resist the political corruption. Under the surface of this catastrophe, numerous conspiracies contribute to private misery and there are spies, secret agents, and political informers hard at work. Religion is largely practiced in secret, but there are organizations quietly helping the needy so far as is possible. The religious life in Thailand has been considerably strengthened and metaphysical movements are gaining influence. Pluto stirs up loyalties to principles and undermines despotism. A frontal attack on Thailand might be attempted, but indications are that this will not succeed. The Thai people have formed strong bonds with the Western powers and, in an emergency, other countries will rally to the cause of Thailand. The year is likely to drift along with a slight improvement. Food will be somewhat more abundant and Thai Buddhism will receive help from other Buddhist countries. The prospects for refugees are also somewhat brighter.

INDONESIA There have been difficulties in this area ever since it lost the protection of the Netherlands. Despotic leaders exploited the resources of Indonesia, but in 1986 the Moslem population may attempt to intimidate the people and enslave them. A revolt of younger Indonesians and an increasing spirit of patriotism will emerge this year and carry on for some time to come. Health will be reasonably good, old customs will be perpetuated, but there is danger of volcanic activity and earthquakes. Unseasonal storms

will damage crops, but there is no likelihood of serious famine. Political reforms will be agitated and native leaders will develop practical patriotism and rally for the correction of abuses. Buddhism will continue to assert a strong influence, and the Christian community will contribute to the strengthening of the morality and ethics of the people.

JAPAN The Japanese empire will be faced with a number of serious problems and important decisions in 1986. The internal life of the country is bound to be affected by restrictions imposed on its foreign trade. The scenario seems to be that the limitation of exports will increase unemployment which in turn will bring about strikes and labor disputes and these will open the way for activists and foreign agents. The increase in armed forces inspired by threats of foreign activity in the Hokkaido (the northern island of Japan) is cause of grave concern. The high cost of travel in Japan will affect the tourist trade adversely and will also work considerable hardship on private citizens. Health is affected to some degree and the government is under adverse aspects. Planetary configurations also indicate seismic disturbances and adverse climatic conditions. There is advancement, however, in education and religion, and Japanese medical research will make an important breakthrough in the area of chronic diseases. While daily happenings will cause anxiety, both the government and the people will unite strongly for the protection of the country and things will come right in the end. The health of the Imperial family may cause some concern.

NORTH KOREA Major changes are likely to occur in this area. The North Koreans have decided that it would be advisable for their politically isolated country to cultivate foreign friendships and rejoin the family of nations. The people in general are dissatisfied with the existing regime and disillusioned with the prospects for the future. There is strong demand for improvement in education, housing, and the revival of a free enterprise system. Religion will gain considerable support and per capital income will

rise slightly. An accident involving floods or landslides could occur before midsummer. Changes in leadership are indicated with benefit to all concerned.

SOUTH KOREA While details are still obscure, the South Koreans should enjoy considerable prosperity and recover from years of dubious leadership. The tone of the country is optimistic with emphasis upon education, the public health, and industry. The people will work together to strengthen cultural integrity. The standard of living will rise considerably. The healing arts will combine both Eastern and Western methods. There is emphasis upon sports and patriotic demonstrations. Of more than passing interest will be the effort of South Korea to restore friendship and cooperation with North Korea. The long-range hope is the ultimate restoration of the original Korean state. South Korea will receive support from several other countries and the condition of young people improves considerably.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA This vast country is still heavily burdened with problems left behind by the Mao regime. The challenge of responsibility for one fifth of the population of the earth is not easily met. By processes of trial and error, a program to meet this vast need is gradually emerging. The cultural revolution was a tragic failure and the trend in 1986 will be strongly democratic. Opportunity will be provided for the people to help themselves through a controlled system of private enterprise. The present administration sincerely regrets the past persecution of religion and is opening the doors to missionary activities and the cultivation of constructive idealistic philosophies. It is expanding the social services, and in 1986 there will be progressive reforms in education and medical care. The barefoot physicians will receive better training, but the emphasis will be upon the classical Chinese concept of therapy. Contacts with the West will be strengthened and full advantage will be taken of improved relationships with the United States. The Chinese military strength will be used largely to protect its own borders from the infiltration of

troublemakers. The government has one strong advantage. The private citizen has always obeyed the governing class and the goal of the one-child family is possible only because of the basic temperament of the citizenry. There will be, however, considerable trouble in distant provinces and Tibet over this issue. The development of heavy industry creates situations for which no solution is available at present.

China and Russia do not see eye to eye on political matters and tension is likely to develop in northeastern China which may cause international anxiety. The People's Republic is becoming conscious of the importance of tourism. This is not merely an adventure in travel, but brings outsiders into closer understanding and sympathy with the Chinese people. There is also an increasing trade between China and Western countries. As this exchange is not especially dangerous to Western industry, there should be mutual advantages. The People's Republic of China is now a source for paintings, hardstone figurines, cloisonnes, and statuaries which are gaining world-wide appreciation. Efforts to distribute competitive articles at this time will not be so successful partly due to the inability of the Chinese to fulfill orders which they have accepted. It is difficult to estimate climatic conditions in an area with such diversified terrain. There may be unusual rainfall with the flooding of rivers and lakes and danger to dams. Seismic disturbances are regular occurrences, but one of the larger Chinese cities may suffer severe damage from fire or earthquake. Southern China should be especially prosperous and family life is still highly sensitive to the precepts of Confucius. The influences of classical scholars and artists will continue to protect China from juvenile delinquency and many forms of crime which are spreading through Western countries. Progress may be slow, but China is moving forward and its intentions are increasingly honorable.

TAIWAN The people of Taiwan must do everything possible to strengthen their relationships with the countries of the free world. Some conflict may arise in government. When this happens, the national good should be the first consideration. Foreign agents

may attempt to infiltrate the country and cause trouble with the industrial force. Generally speaking, however, the financial condition of Taiwan will remain sound with some improvement due to foreign investments. Cultural activities continue to support the National image and Taiwan will receive awards for excellency in sports and the arts. There could be a health problem involving digestive ailments and the disposal of toxic materials. Special care should be given in air travel and there is danger of arson in schools and other public buildings. Areas of the island of Formosa which have not yet been developed will be given attention and a new and important city will come into existence in a sparsely settled region. World sympathies will help to protect Taiwan.

LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

This area in general is under strong constructive influences. There will be advances in hygiene, education, and industry. Legal reforms and the corrections of political abuses are stressed, and the influence of the people in the advancement of useful reforms will have an immediate effect on living conditions. Religion gains in influence, legal codes are revised, and there is increasing confidence in most areas.

Mexico will be rather slow in recovering from recent catastrophes, but the country reveals unsuspected strength and morale and progress will be more rapid than expected. The monetary situation will strengthen and natural resources will contribute strongly to the improvement of international credit. The drug problem could cause serious concern in the early summer and minor crime could escalate, but before the end of the year Mexico should be in much better condition.

The Panama Canal Zone will be involved in some kind of a political crisis and care must be taken to prevent sabotage in this region. The people of the Canal Zone will be comparatively indifferent to the consequences of failure to protect the facilities of the canal.

South America faces considerable social and political disorder. Governments are insecure and corrupt and most of this group will

be unable to meet their financial responsibilities. It is possible, however, that debts can finally be met if creditors have patience.

Argentina is heavily infiltrated with troublemakers and the leadership of the country is ambitious, but inadequate. Political outbreaks must be expected and guerrillas will be active. Damage to transportation and communication facilities appears to be likely. Housing will be short, but the value of the currency will likely be stabilized.

Brazil emerges as a major region in 1986. It will be strongly in public attention, interesting and unusual things will happen there, and constructive reform is likely. The whole country is subject to sudden changes some of which may appear to be dangerous, but in the long run will contribute to unusual progress. Trade increases and the financial condition of the country improves, but difficulties multiply in remote areas. An insurrection of natives is possible and dangerous flooding of rivers and unfortunate weather conditions will afflict the agricultural regions. The narcotic and alcoholic problems will give concern, but in spite of certain hazards there is a distinct forward motion in Brazilian affairs.

Venezuela will be drawn into South American complications. It must be careful not to come under financial indebtedness to persons or countries with ulterior motives. The influence of the church will be clearly noticeable and have a steady effect. The government must become more concerned with the needs of the people or the administration is likely to be overthrown.

CANADA

For the year of 1986, Canada will present a united front to the world. Internal discords, conflicts, and competitions will either fade away or be transcended. The emphasis is upon business conditions which seem to be improving. There are important changes in the educational system with emphasis upon the moral instruction of children. There may be a few disturbances in the industrial sector, but these will be settled with appropriate promptitude. The public health might cause some anxiety due to toxic waste or insecticides. The labor situation is fairly good and transportational

facilities, including railroads, will attract many tourists. Relations with other members of the British Commonwealth are amicable. Canada will also cooperate with the United States if, and when, conditions demand. Western Canada may face some agricultural difficulties, but a boom is likely before the end of the year. Exploration of northern Canada in search of minerals or petroleum will prove profitable. The winter of 1986 is likely to be strenuous. The government is indulgent and its policies should last throughout the year. Traffic on the Great Lakes may increase and tourism on these lakes could expand considerably. Education is progressive, employment holds up, and the financial situation can be endured without distress.



THE WISHING WELL

Outside my window stands
an empty wishing well,
drained of water years ago,
filled with dirt and leaves.

We no longer stand,
eyes tightly shut,
beneath winter stars,
hoping for good things.

Busy feeding
our frail contentment,
we ask many questions,
burning, intense—
only to hear chill silence
like vanishing stones
dropped in the soul.

—Arthur Johnson

AMONG MY SOUVENIRS

Part II

When a person is by nature a collector, a number of interesting items are likely to come his way. In my case I was born an accumulator, and in the course of sixty-five years my holdings have become numerous and varied. In this article the emphasis is upon gifts rather than purchases. Many of the unusual items are associated with my travels and in some parts of the world the exchange of gifts is mandatory. A few have not been preserved or were too difficult to transport. While in Calcutta I received a gift of candy. It arrived in an open brass bowl and consisted of some kind of a mysterious confection floating in a sweet syrup. This delicacy was protected by a large green leaf which served as a cover. It was delicious, but cannot be photographed at this time. One gift had to be declined with regrets. A young boy in the Asiatic hinterland brought me a small picture book, crudely printed, which I would like to have added to my collection. It was not an outright gift, however, but a kind of bribe. In exchange, I was expected to adopt the lad as my personal servant, take him to the United States with me, send him through college, and find him a rich wife.

I happened to be in India when Mahatma Gandhi was released from one of his hunger strikes. On this occasion I delivered a lecture in the Albert Theater in Calcutta, and the editor of the most important newspaper presented me with a Gandhi hat. It was of the type often worn by military personnel, hand crafted from native cloth. The hat was rather jaunty, but about three sizes too small. It rested precariously on the crown of my head while I marched about two miles through the main streets of Calcutta in a torchlight procession. I still have the hat with a slit down the back to make it more serviceable.

Of more recent vintage is a neatly printed sheet of paper bestowing upon me all the rights and privileges of the city of Corpus

Christi, Texas. With the document was also a gilded key to the city and I was told that it would enable me to enter and leave after dark. I was traveling through Texas at that time to give a series of lectures for the Scottish Rite Bodies of Freemasonry. While in the Lone Star state I also visited Odessa a city founded, according to local report, by Russian laborers who worked on the railroad. The brethren there specialized in *haute cuisine* and my memento from them was an amazing meal which I was assured was just a regular dinner.

Occasionally, someone drops by and enriches my collection with a notable artifact. Gandhara, an ancient archaeological site in what is now Pakistan, is world famous for the Buddhist imagery which has been excavated there. It was at Gandhara that Grecian art mingled with that of India and adjacent areas. It was in Gandhara also that the familiar image of Gautama Buddha came into existence. The earliest likenesses of the great East-Indian philosopher were based upon Greek figures of Apollo. One day a lady whose husband had a diplomatic post in Pakistan visited our Society. When they returned to this country they brought with them two original pieces of Gandhara sculpturing. Both examples were devoted to Buddhist subjects. One was a kind of frieze of figures in



My rights and privileges of the city of Corpus Christi, Texas with key.



Gandhara figure of Buddha attended by two disciples.

which Buddha is attended by Hindu deities including Indra. The other example shows the great Indian sage attended by two disciples. Both pieces date from the second century A.D. Incidentally, there was a coinage in this area featuring the head of Buddha, but the only copies reported are in major museums.

The accompanying figure of a Chinese forest sage was one of the first gifts in my collection. It was presented to me in the early 1920's and has assumed the status of a palladium. It is beautifully carved from a gnarled piece of wood and is about fifteen inches high. These Taoist sages were masters of all the secret wisdom of nature and practiced esoteric alchemy. The Taoist hermits could make themselves invisible at will, flew around the world on the backs of cranes and other birds, and sailed the seas on monsters of the deep. The person who gave me this figure passed on many years ago, but we exhibit it occasionally when featuring Chinese material.



Chinese forest sage carved during the Ch'ing dynasty.

All the woodblock prints of Ando Hiroshige (1797-1858) are scarce. Many reprints have been made, but a series of his landscape prints is difficult to assemble because a few in each group command a very high premium. In our library collection we have a set of his woodblock prints published after his death because the original drawings were held for a number of years by a European collector. The accompanying example, much reduced in size, features Fuji the sacred mountain in the background and a scene of inns and teahouses on one of the main highways of Japan in the foreground. It was unusual for scenic prints to become popular as the public taste centered upon the Kabuki theater, Sumo wrestlers, and the waitresses in the local tea shops. Sad to say, Hiroshige's life was cut short by an outbreak of the plague.

According to Chinese psychology, the most ferocious looking creatures confer various blessings including financial security upon those who admire them. A young American soldier who visited the grounds of the Summer Palace of the Empress Dowager of China came face to face with a terrifying creature who was supposed to protect the destinies of the Imperial household. He observed, "These Chinese have the awfulest imaginations." Through a kindly friend, I received the gift of a beautifully carved miniature



An original Hiroshige print now in the possession of the PRS.

jade copy of this benevolent little monster. The design includes a lion-like mane with exceptional dental equipment. It is slightly larger than the photograph shown here and has some indications that it was carved by an excellent artist, probably in the Ch'ing dynasty. There is no way of telling the misfortunes that might have befallen me without the protection of this amiable figurine.

In our book, *Self-Unfoldment*, we reproduce a Chinese painting showing a pilgrim standing on the brink of a great cliff and gazing out into shadowy distances. It seems that this painting had been brought to the United States by a gentleman who had great respect for the wisdom of the East. He was suddenly stricken with a fatal ailment and asked that the picture be brought to him in his hospital room. His wife, who was not sympathetic with his religious inclinations, refused his request and within a few days he passed on. Later his widow, regretting that she had not complied with her husband's last request, brought the painting to me so that it could be seen by those mystically inclined. We have exhibited it on a number of occasions, but she asked that the gift should remain anonymous.



This lion-dog must be seen to be appreciated.



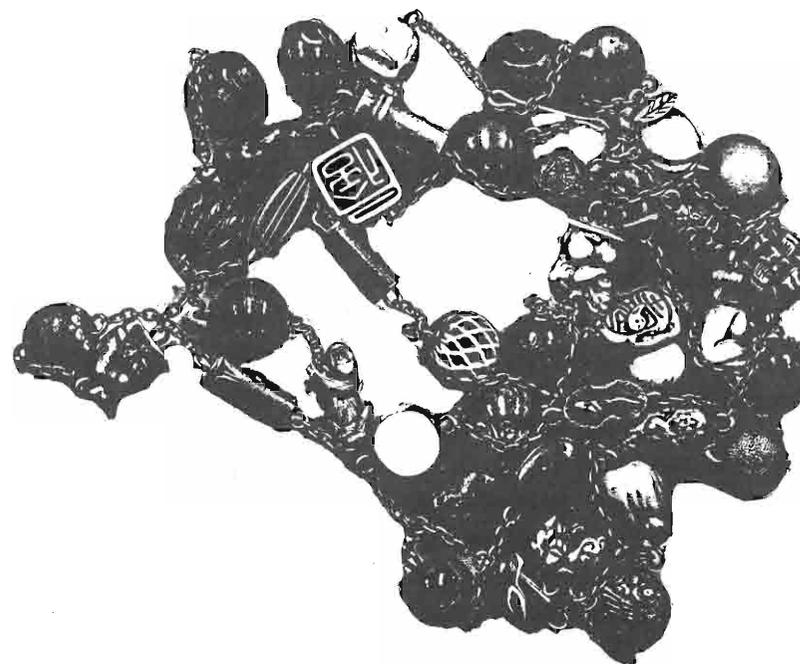
A Chinese pilgrim standing alone on the brink of universal reality.

As the clothing worn by a Japanese gentleman contains no pockets, small items were suspended from his sash where they could be immediately available. In Europe, the ladies, not the gentlemen, hung keys and other small objects from their belts. The Japanese equivalent to a purse or wallet was an *inro*, a small box-like container, usually beautifully lacquered and divided horizontally in segments for storing minute articles. This box-like device was suspended by a *netsuke* (toggle) resembling a watch fob. Between the *inro* and the *netsuke* was a cord upon which was threaded a bead called an *ojime*. By running this bead up the cord the box could be opened easily, but when lowered it prevented the *inro* from opening accidentally. There have been many collectors of *in-*

ro and fine examples may cost several thousand dollars. The same is true of the *netsuke* which are heavily collected in Japan and are purchased at lavish prices by American enthusiasts.

The *ojime*, or bead, was not a popular item until more recent years. It became obvious that these little beads were often works of art in themselves. They were carved by famous craftsmen and are now offered singly in important auction sales. Long ago, I received a necklace—actually a long string of what appeared to be beads held together by small chains. Many of the beads are obviously *ojime* and this necklace may be unique. The photograph gives some idea of this curious accumulation, but in a sense it must be seen to be appreciated.

Speaking of *netsuke*, I should mention one that was presented



A remarkable necklace with numerous *ojime* as beads.

to me by a Japanese art dealer. In this case the toggle, which is ivory, contains an image of the Amida Buddha similar to the colossal figure at Kamakura. The lid is decorated on the inside with designs of the sun and moon and behind the figure is a cloud pattern. When the cord is pulled, it holds the cover in place and the lid itself is in the form of a lotus bud on the outside. *Netsuke* with religious designs are not common, but occasionally the folk gods of good fortune are also found in *netsuke*. The shrine here shown is probably nineteenth century, but is well carved. The face of the Buddha is pleasantly delineated.

In the *PRS Journal*, Summer issue of 1974, there is a discussion of the Orchid Pavilion scroll. Our example is from stone rubbings and is similar to the one reproduced in Taiwan in 1961. The scroll is concerned with an important group of Chinese intelligentsia who



Netsuke in the form of a Buddhist pocket shrine.



Opening section of a painting of the Orchid Pavilion scroll by a Japanese artist.

assembled in the fourth century to combine wisdom and conviviality. It seems that many years ago a sketch, more or less in the sumi style, came my way. It was probably intended to form the basic design for a pair of screens. The concept is abridged but easily recognizable. The master of the occasion, seated in his pavilion, is clearly represented. There are also cups of tea floating on lily pads and scholars in various groupings probably exchanging their latest poems. A small section from this version will indicate the general treatment, and includes two ducks floating about on the surface of the placid pool.

Our book *Buddhism and Psychotherapy* includes a magnificent miniature ivory shrine loaned by a close friend of the Society. The shrine is about ten and one quarter inches high and, when the



At the time she purchased this shrine, the owner had to decide between this sacred object and a new automobile.

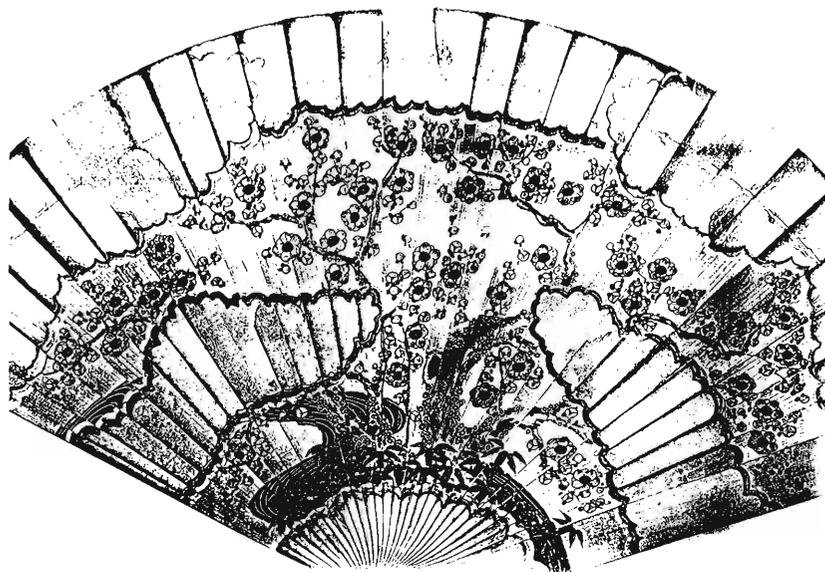
doors are opened, the central figure is the Buddha Amida, the figure at the viewer's right is the Bosatsu Kannon and on the left is Bosatsu Daiseshi. The piece was purchased in San Francisco from Gump's and was one of the finest that had passed through their hands. This came to me as a bequest and in due time will become part of the collection of the Society.

While traveling around Japan, I followed the approved procedure of securing impressions of the temple seals at the various sanctuaries which I visited. There is a proper book provided for this purpose and in it I was able to secure the authorized seals and signatures of forty-six temples. One rather handsome example is from the Miidera Temple located in the suburbs of Otsu on the shore of Lake Biwa. There are two temples in this vicinity; the other is the Ishiyama-dera. It is here that Benkei, the Japanese Hercules, is well remembered. The cauldron in which he cooked his lunch must have held at least twenty gallons and is now protected within a modest building. Another exploit even better remembered is the fact that he stole the temple bell, which certainly weighed several hundred pounds and carried it up the hill to the monastery on Mount Hiei. The project was a failure however, because when the bell was struck it would only whimper, "Take me back." At last, Benkei, exasperated, kicked it down the hill. The occasion is verified by the scratches accumulated by the bell as it rolled down.

Somewhere along the way, I accumulated a very interesting and colorful Japanese folding fan. According to local report, this type of fan is used only on ceremonial occasions, usually by the Empress or some noble lady close to the throne. It is made up of thin strips of wood and elaborately painted with areas of gold and silver. The motif features plum blossoms, bamboo, and a flowing stream with small flowers. From each side of the fan is suspended four twisted cords of silk, each a different color, and something over three feet in length. They are held in place by rings of antique design in the form of birds in flight. The reverse of the fan is relatively plain with gold and silver cloud patterns touched by birds and butterflies. The fan is in perfect condition and probably late



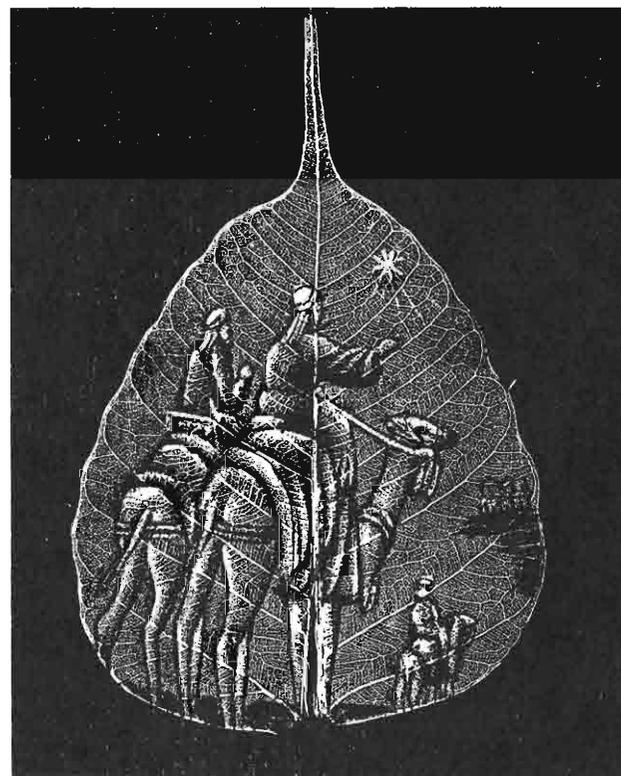
The temple seal and inscription which I secured at Miidera Temple.



Detail of folding fan carried by a lady of the Imperial court.

eighteenth century. The picture shows only the central section of the fan.

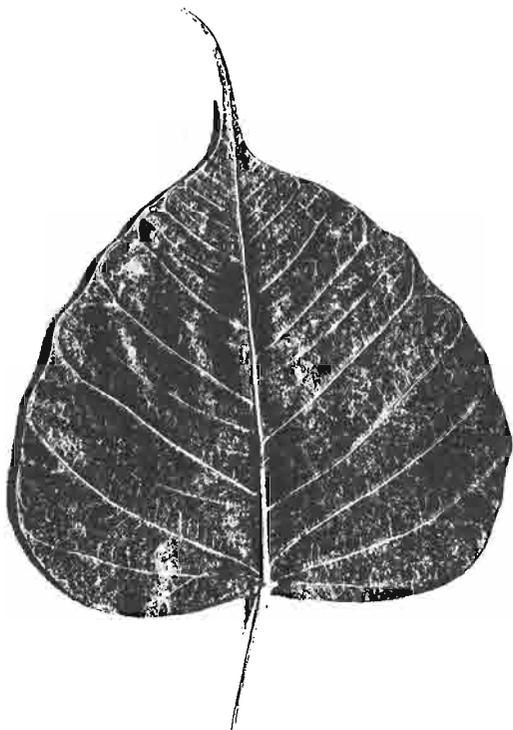
From a Hindu friend I received a gift of several paintings on pipal leaves. This art medium is known in India, Tibet, and China. Several of the Hindu leaves depict Christian religious themes. In our library collection, we have two albums of mounted leaves featuring figures of the sixteen arhats of Buddhism. A friend recently brought me a leaf from the sacred tree at Bodh Gaya in India where Buddha received illumination. It is forbidden for anyone to pick a leaf from this tree, but when one falls to the ground, it can be picked up as a souvenir or relic. In the case of the leaf



Modern Hindu painting of the three kings following the star to the birthplace of Christ.

presented to me, it was necessary to wait for some time for a leaf to fall and then pick it up quickly before other pilgrims could get hold of it. Incidentally, we also have a small piece of wood, long treasured, because it came from the original tree under which the great Indian sage received his enlightenment.

In the period during which General MacArthur was encouraging Japanese artists to improve their financial condition, a number of excellent replicas of Japanese treasures were produced. The accompanying photograph shows a life-sized head copied from the original antique piece in the collection of the Kiyomizu-dera Temple in Kyoto. This wood carving of a bodhisattva is beautifully colored and the replica is a significant work of art. Facsimilies of this quality were only made for a short time and are now extremely scarce.



The pipal leaf which fell to the ground at Bodh Gaya.



Hand-carved replica of a celebrated Japanese work of art.

As we have run out of space, this subject will be expanded at a future date.



The logic of all this seems to be that it is all right for young people in a democracy to learn about any civilization or social theory that is not dangerous, but that they should remain entirely ignorant of any civilization or social theory that might be dangerous on the ground that what you don't know can't hurt you . . . a complete denial of the democratic principle that the general diffusion of knowledge and learning through the community is essential to the preservation of free government.

—Carl Becker

To teach men how to live without certainty and yet without being paralyzed by hesitation, is perhaps the chief thing philosophy can still do.

—Bertrand Russell

*In
Reply*



A Department of Questions and Answers

Question: I have accepted the doctrine of karma because to me it seems to make sense. Can this be reconciled with the words of Jesus, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do."

Answer: It seems to me that the law of karma is the foundation of ethics and morality. Proof is available to any thinking person. Every nation and civilization from the beginning of time has established some code of rewards and punishments without which the conduct of the individual cannot be regulated and brought into harmony with the common good.

There are misunderstandings concerning the operations of karma, especially among Western peoples. Life is not an endless sequence of vice and retribution. In other words, karma does not go on forever. The negative aspect of karma slowly fades out as individual conduct is based upon the truths of existence. We do not go on forever making the same mistakes and suffering for them. It may properly be assumed that each embodiment is accompanied by moral improvement. Through experience the realities of existence become more obvious; the consequences of misdeeds are forced upon us, and progress is essentially the correction of vices and the enlargement of virtues.

The Bible is rich in references to the operations of divine laws in the mortal world. Both Testaments warn that punishment for sin is inevitable. Certainly Dante's *Inferno* is a most fearful description of the fates of evildoers in the realms beyond the grave. Michelangelo's great painting on the wall of the Sistine Chapel in Rome depicts with fearful definition the fates of the damned. The operations of karma would seem to be more merciful than eternal damnation. The law of karma promises that in the due course of mul-

iple existences every soul comes to salvation through reformation of character.

If embodiment in the mortal world does not lead to the regeneration of those who come here, there seems to be no valid reason for the great evolutionary program by which all living things release their divine potential. There is no point in living if there is no penalty upon ignorance.

Matthew 5:48 reads, "Be ye therefore, perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." There seems more than a reasonable doubt that the overwhelming majority of those alive today will attain perfection in the present embodiment. Dispositions do not change that rapidly. Weaknesses cannot be quickly overcome, and those with atheistic inclinations seem destined to pass out of life much in their negative moods. Perfection must depend upon a long-range program just as growing from infancy to maturity cannot be hastened in any miraculous manner. It seems more reasonable to assume that we are growing a little every day and that in the full course of time we may return to the Eternal from which we descended in the beginning. Until then karma seems to be just and necessary.

Support for the validity of the great evolutionary process unfolding around us and within us appears to be available to every thoughtful person. History shows us how despotism destroys itself, war teaches us the need for peace, and selfishness is forever undoing itself. Even the small mistakes give us pause and would naturally incline to philosophical thinking. We are the masters of our own destiny. We must face our mistakes and correct them, strengthen our virtues and obey them. The immediate reward is security; the more distant reward is release from a delusional existence. We can delay growth, but we cannot prevent it and, when we resist the demands of self-improvement, we are penalized by mental or physical suffering. The Bible tells us these simple truths through the Ten Commandments and similar teachings are found in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucian ethics. The world is never without codes suitable to its needs, but they have often been denied or ignored.

Galatians 6:7 states firmly, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Is there any conflict between this statement and the words of Buddha? "Effects follow causes as the wheels of the cart follow the feet of the oxen." Unless cause and effect are not parts of the divine plan, countless statements in both Testaments are in conflict with each other.

There seems to be no inconsistency between the laws of karma and the Christian doctrine of the forgiveness of sin. A person who commits a crime has no right to believe that his moral state can be restored unless he rights the wrong that he has done. Forgiveness of sin demands repentance, and it is sincere repentance and a firm resolution to atone in every way possible that neutralizes karma. We do not suffer further punishment if we punish ourselves, learn the lesson, and become better persons. If we do not forgive our enemy, we shall not be forgiven by heaven. If we are unjust in our weights and measures, we shall be weighed accordingly. If we reject the lessons of life and determine to continue a pernicious career, then we shall be forgotten by heaven and allowed to be miserable until we correct our own faults.

It is not possible for Our Heavenly Father to punish us by direct action. Deity has established the immutable plan which is administered throughout the universe on all its levels with justice to all and favoritism to none. No religious belief has been given the right to nullify or compromise the laws of God, of nature, or of man if they be just. In our mad haste to escape from all the responsibilities of mature living we violate the ageless covenants which were set up for our perfection. We seek happiness, wealth, fame, or earthly pleasures and in our haste, create karma that can only be expiated by thoughtfulness and devotion. These truths are forever obvious. We know perfectly well that our material existence is transitory and that there is no place beyond the grave for the indiscretions which we cultivate in the realms of mortality. We bring nothing into the world but ourselves and the divine potentials with which we have been endowed, and we take nothing with us when we go but the growth we have accomplished through daily ex-

perience. We can forget this sober fact, but we cannot invalidate it. The sorry condition of our twentieth century way of life is proof beyond doubt that something is wrong and we must finally realize that the fault is in ourselves.

In early Christianity the disciples and brethren of the faith renounced the world and dedicated their lives to unselfish labors. Religion has always taught that excessive worldliness must inevitably lead to tragedy. It is not necessary to believe that this mortal existence has to be miserable, lonely, and conscience-ridden. The span we live here can be beautiful, kindly, friendly, generous, and peaceful. If we keep the laws of nature, these laws will guide us and protect us toward the destiny for which we were created. The idea that dissipation is enjoyable and that we should do exactly as we please regardless of consequences is neither practical nor possible. Every day men and women who might have had useful and well-adjusted lives become alcoholics, drug addicts, or destroy both mind and body in the name of freedom. Liberty has become license and a nuclear holocaust hangs over us. We may pray for mercy, but to merit it, we must in our turn become merciful. We must seek in every way possible to restore the values which we have voluntarily ignored or rejected. If we pray to heaven, but break all its rules, we cannot expect to be relieved of our misfortunes.

You seem to feel there is a conflict between Eastern and Western ethics and support this doubt by quoting the words of Jesus, "Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do," and also the words of the Lord's Prayer, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." The intercessional ministry of Jesus is reflected in many of the world's religions. Like Horus, the Egyptian savior, Jesus is the only begotten of his Father, and by his own life and sacrifice he established a doctrine of atonement. This parallels karma, but does not violate it. In the new dispensation, Jesus appears as a divine messenger to restore the relationships between God and humanity. There is only one way in which this can be done. The lawbreakers must repent of their iniquities; religion must be purified; the temple must be reconsecrated; and

the divine plan for life must be restated in clear and simple language.

The individual is required to mend his ways and the great world teachers have clearly outlined the lifeway which leads to universal peace. The divine part of each human nature must be released by enlightened living and must take over the rulership of the compound personality. The divine purpose has authority over all the lesser parts and functions which make up character and personality. In other words, only when we forgive our enemies will God forgive us. We must right the wrongs we have committed and prove sincerity if we expect to be relieved of our present infirmities. Human beings suffering from various degrees of ignorance are like children. When a child misbehaves, we do not destroy it, but we try to correct the fault with sound instruction. Human beings in general are not perfect at this time and perfection is not expected. Unless we know what we are doing, we will not know why we suffer as a result of what we have done.

For these problems there is a divine compassion. The law of karma steps in and shows clearly why our conduct has led to unhappiness. Heaven is not impatient nor hasty of wrath. No one is cast out into perdition for sins committed in ignorance, but ignorance itself is no longer an excuse; the person knows that his action is contrary to private and public good. When teaching fails, nature steps in and takes over the labor of instruction. With nearly five billion individuals in this world, most of them making daily mistakes and only a small number even repentant, it is obvious that nothing less than a universal law can solve the difficulty.

According to Scripture, the time came when the prodigal son left the fleshpots of Egypt and, repenting his sins, returned to his father's house. The father rejoiced greatly because the one that was lost had been found again. This more or less sums up the human tragedy and it also explains the true mystery of repentance. This really ties the idea of repentance directly to the law of karma. When repentance is sincere, it changes the entire psychic constitution of the human being. If, however, it is only for a moment, and relieved of an emergency a person returns to his old habits,

the natural law of compensation steps in again.

In the Egyptian ritual, the soul is weighed against the feather of Maat. The feather is weightless but, when need arises it overbalances the vices and virtues of the candidate for initiation. The negative confession of faith must be from the heart and not from the lips. It must be a true and complete repentance and a firm resolution to correct the faults involved. Incidentally, this correction is not to be taken lightly and may lead the repentant sinner through a garden of Gethsemane. There is pain in breaking old habits as every alcoholic knows who has ever taken the pledge. It may shake the entire foundation of a career and force the renunciation of wealth or fame. It must humble the egotist, curb the wayward, and disillusion the seeker after worldly honors. In this way the karma is paid. Many of the most beautiful souls in the early Christian church like St. Francis de Assisi fought this battle and found in victory a peace of soul never known before.

Some of us may live to see the victory of integrity over corruption. The world is staggering under the weight of its own perversities. Kindly, well meaning people are caught up in situations beyond their immediate control. It is evident, however, that universal law is moving in. Little by little, it is bringing down evil doers from their high estates. When Aesop was asked the principal occupation of the gods, he replied that they were forever pulling down the great and lifting up the humble. A little lifting of this kind might prove encouraging.

There are many ways of arriving at a working philosophy of life. It may be from the East or the West, from ancient times or modern times, but in every case complexities of wording conceal the same basic principles. As Max Muller once said, "There has never been a false religion unless a child be a false man." For some, teachings must be very simple and direct, and among these natural virtues are likely to predominate. There are others who require elaborate theologies which, being more or less incomprehensible, are difficult to apply to daily conduct. There are also some who have decided to begin their journey toward truth by putting their own lives in order. They do not regard peace as a reward

for a good life, but the good life itself which is its own reward. No matter how the wording is stated, karma is there as continuing proof that heaven is forever mindful. Some children grow because of internal attributes and others must have integrities thrust upon them through discipline. The workman is worthy of his hire, but there is no reward for poor workmanship. In life there are internal pressures which if solved bring peace, but if tolerated without correction will worsen from day to day.

The Christian faith in its origin and through the teachings of its early converts was in no sense of the word a system of vicarious atonement. It never advocated that a man or woman should continue to practice conduct inconsistent with enlightened faith and, at the same time, hope to be lifted up by eternal mercy. Something has to happen, which causes a resolution to mend one's ways. Repentance must precede redemption and this is just another simple statement of cause and effect. The enlightened religious life leads to the release from the pressures of materialism.

In the mystical theology, at-one-ment (atonement) with God is the end of the human pilgrimage. This does not actually mean the annihilation of individuality, but an indissoluble union with the divine purpose. This is the end of self-centeredness and terminates the struggle for separateness in a universe that is one and indivisible. It is to this end that karma is continuously working even though its processes are objectionable to the unenlightened. This brings into focus a phase of the law of cause and effect, little known or appreciated.

Nearly all small children pass through experiences that are little known or understood. One often hears the remark, "I have been good for a week and no one appreciated me. I made one small mistake and was severely reprimanded." We generally assume that we are placed in this world to be happy. Therefore, the consequences of misdeeds, whether in this embodiment or a previous incarnation, are regarded as unfair and unreasonable. Karma is not a term synonymous with punishment. Cause evil and punishment is inevitable; cause good and the rewards are equally certain. The pleasant things that happen to us are effects of causes which we

have set in motion by our own conduct.

If, however, we abuse the privileges we have earned, we set up new sequences of karma. Ultimate enlightenment is possible only as a result of the law of cause and effect. By degrees we bring our own conduct into harmony with those universal laws which govern all things. Buddha taught, "Cease to do evil, cultivate the good, and purify the mind." No enlightened system of religious belief can deny the integrity of those words: Competition cannot survive because it is self-destructive. Conflicts cannot continue forever because they are self-annihilating. When all errors have failed because of their karmic consequences, it becomes evident that truth alone is immortal and the ultimate victory of good over evil is inevitable.

This is the true teaching of karma. If we sow the wind we must reap the whirlwind. The decision always remains with ourselves. Heaven cannot force virtue upon us, but it rejoices when virtues arise within its creations. The Western idea of eternal damnation is as unacceptable to the enlightened mind of the Eastern sage as it is to the Western mystic. Our miseries are growing pains and are especially unpleasant when we resist growth. As we must cause our own troubles so we must likewise cause their correction.

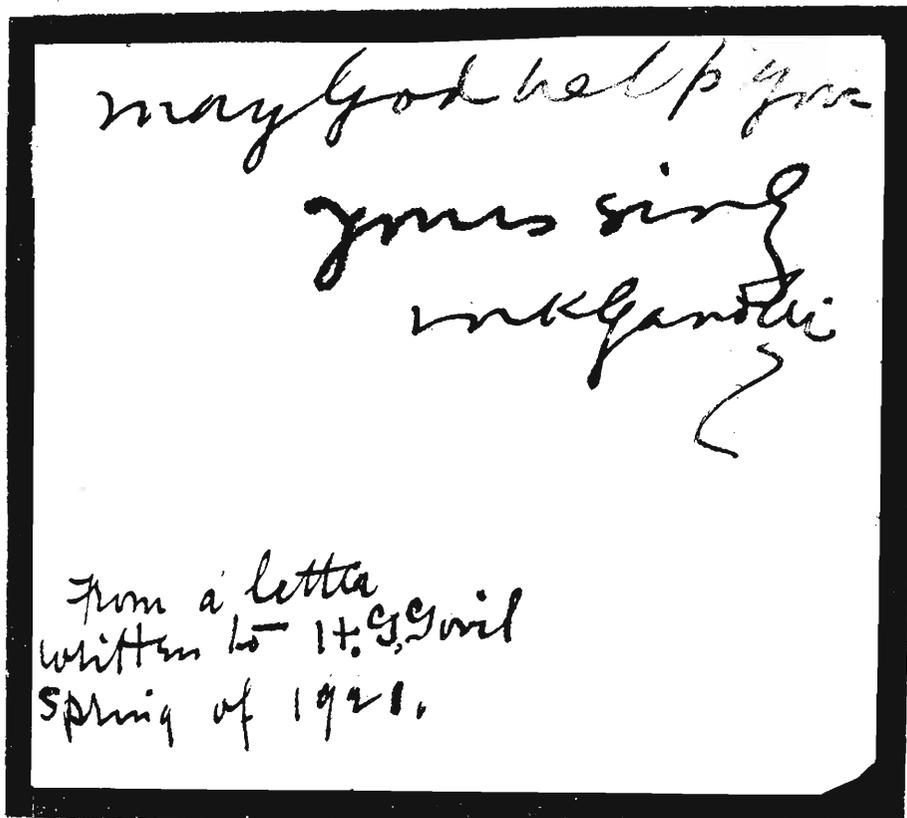
When we think of the words of Jesus upon the cross, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do," this statement is excellent in terms of karma. If we have been injured in some way, we can either seek vengeance, which is against all religion, or we may correctly realize that the person who has offended us does not know or understand the consequences of his own action. Vengeance is not for us, and karma in due time will accomplish its perfect works. If we forgive, karma teaches, so shall we be forgiven. No injury merits further injury, and it is up to the thoughtful person to rise above indignation and take refuge on the level of integrity. We must forgive the ignorance of others as we hope to be forgiven. The belief in karma restrains us from excesses and, in due time, purifies our motives and disciplines us for a nobler destiny.



Happenings at Headquarters



The Philosophical Research Society acknowledges with sincere appreciation an important donation to the PRS Library. It consists of three lines, including the signature of Mahatma Gandhi. Accompanying the autograph is a note stating that it is from a letter written to Lt. G. Govil in the Spring of 1921. This is an important contribution to our collection of signatures of persons who have contributed to the spiritual, moral and physical advancements of human society.



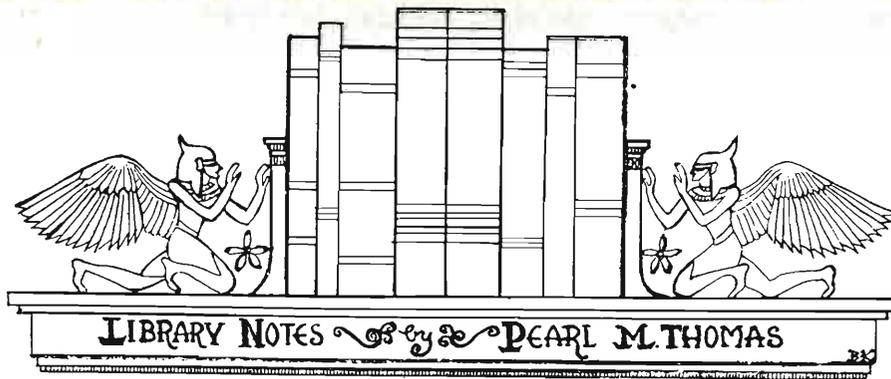
On Saturday, December 21, 1985, the Biennial Honours Ceremonies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry were held in the Valley of Los Angeles at the Scottish Rite Masonic Temple, 4357 Wilshire Blvd. On this occasion Manly P. Hall received the Grand Cross.

This is the highest individual decoration bestowed by The Supreme Council voted very rarely to 33° Masons and only for most exceptional and extraordinary services. It was conferred in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the teachings, history, and philosophy of Scottish Rite Masonry. At the banquet Past Sovereign Grand Commander Henry C. Clausen presented Mr. Hall with the cap, jewel, and certificate of the Grand Cross of the Court of Honour. On the same occasion, our good friend, Burl Ives, received the honor of KCCH in recognition of his many years of unique service to the American people.



Brother Hall with his new cap. Photograph courtesy of Pearl Thomas.

We wish to express our gratitude to the friends who donated books for the annual book sale which took place January 18 and 19th of this year. This event always provides necessary funds for the maintenance of our Library facility. The book sale was a success, as usual, and Pearl Thomas, our Librarian, has scheduled several projects which will be undertaken according to priorities. Incidentally, a number of books contributed to the sale have been added to our permanent collection.



SOME FOND RECOLLECTIONS

Church of the People & PRS Library

In the early 1920's, when my parents moved to Southern California, my mother, who was a student of metaphysics, started "shopping" around to find speakers that appealed to her. After some little time, she found such a one talking at the Black Building at Second and Hill in Los Angeles. She thought the gentleman quite remarkable and tried to tell me about him. In true youthful fashion, I didn't really pay much attention although I am reasonably certain that I gave her the appearance of taking it all in. Later this speaker moved to a different address, to the Denishawn Hall on Grand Avenue, between Ninth and Tenth Streets. By this time I am sure that most everyone is aware that I am here referring to Manly P. Hall. And that I am.

One evening my mother suggested that perhaps I could go with her to his lecture. Being a dutiful daughter, I went along. She did not ask me to listen; just to go along. I was an old hand at sitting quietly in a lecture hall with my own thoughts, giving not one moment's attention to the various speakers. But at Mr. Hall's lectures, after one or two more trips like this, something made me sit up and actually listen. And I've been listening ever since. Mother was delighted that I became interested at long last. And so, one evening, she spoke to him about how grateful she was that I finally

showed some regard for philosophical subjects. I stood in the background much too awed to make myself known. Mr. Hall's answer to her was that this influence would stay with me all my life. We took it personally although in later years we both realized the truth that the early influences have profound effects on growing persons.

After I attended a few lectures, Mr. Hall announced that he was taking a leave of absence for a spell and would be gone for several months. The letters that he wrote about this extremely worthy trip were read at the Church of the People and later were incorporated into a booklet which he called *Thirty-eight Thousand Miles of Impressions*.

In those early years, headquarters for Mr. Hall's work were for some time carried on in the lovely old home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Young, on West 20th Street in Los Angeles. This included the print shop, mail ordering and shipping. Mrs. Young, Business Manager for Mr. Hall, was fondly called "Mrs. Aunt Mary" and regularly asked volunteers to assist in doing many of the jobs needed to be accomplished. The room I remember the best at her home was the dining room. It was an exceedingly large room with redwood walls going up to a rather high plate rail where lovely old plates were displayed. Here up to fourteen or fifteen helpers could gather around the huge dining room table and do whatever work needed to be done. Much of this volunteer work involved mailings and we were kept quite busy, but there was always time set aside for a friendly luncheon. We often brought our own sandwiches, but quite frequently Mrs. Young would prepare a casserole of pink beans, baked with onion, garlic, and several kinds of cheeses. In fact, I was so fond of this dish that I frequently made it at home and built up quite a reputation as a good cook, largely on the influence of that bean recipe. It was a nice experience going to the Young's home and talking with people who had similar interests. Now that I too have volunteers working in the Library, many of my ideas come directly from the influence of "Mrs. Aunt Mary."

The Youngs had a beautiful relationship with Mr. Hall, who lived in their home for a number of years. They likewise had a

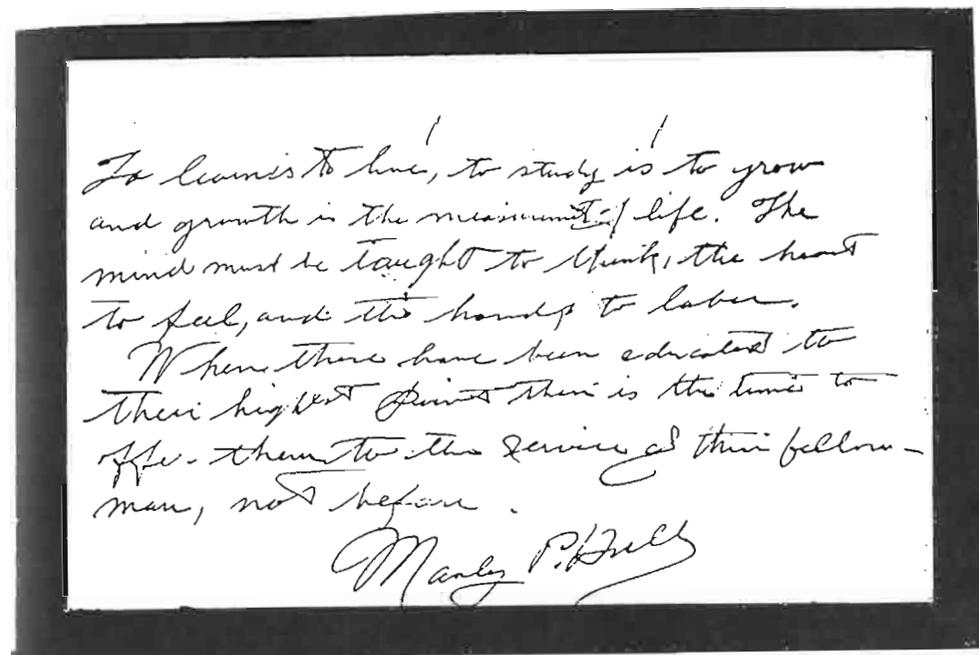
beautiful relationship with each other. One of her delightful little tricks came out when she phoned her husband at his place of business. She would say: "Mr. Young?" He must have given some sort of an answer, then she would say, "This is Mrs. Young." I loved it. In fact, so much so that for years I often addressed my husband the same way over the telephone. It was one of our silly games, and we played it frequently.

At the old Denishawn Hall, a frequent Sunday evening visitor was Manly P. Hall's mother who came in from Santa Monica. It was always a delight to see the expression on Mr. Hall's face when he realized that she was there. We were all in agreement that he resembled his mother to a great extent. Except in height—his six foot, four inches loomed over everyone, including his mother.

One day, at the Denishawn where the Church of the People congregated with Manly P. Hall as pastor, I was called in to substitute at the book table to sell Mr. Hall's already extensive array of books. Very shortly, two ladies approached the table and one picked up the current copy of the magazine *The All Seeing Eye*. She immediately turned to the last page and started reading "The Pearly Gates Gazette," where MPH reported some of the goings-on in the upper regions. I smiled when I realized what she was reading, but much to my surprise, neither one of the ladies seemed to show any sense of humor in reading those words. At that time, as a teenager, I readily did not expect seniors (anyone over thirty-five) to appreciate humor. They were just having fun and I didn't know the difference!

A short time later, I had my high school annual at one of Mr. Hall's lectures. A close school friend of mine had taken it home to fill up a page with youthful humor including pictures of "Little Perlita" ten or twenty years hence. As I was leaving the lecture that evening, Mr. Hall was standing near the entrance and no one was talking with him at the moment. This was my chance to ask him if he would mind signing the yearbook and he readily consented. He only asked if he could return it to me the next evening. In those days Mr. Hall talked six times each week (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and three times on Sundays!). He knew it was a foregone

conclusion that I would be present then. Below is shown a copy of his remarks as they were written in my high school annual way back when. I am still a little amazed that I could ask him to sign



the book of a little high school youngster, but exceedingly glad that I found the courage to approach him. Today, after more than fifteen years in his employ, I still hold tremendous regard for him, but feel free to express myself most naturally when talking with him. I dearly love to make him laugh, and that often brings out little delightful stories that he is able to draw upon at any time.

It may appear that I talked to Mr. Hall a great deal in those early days but such is not the case. I am perhaps describing almost every time I spoke to him. Which reminds me of yet another occasion. After he had started talking at the old Trinity Auditorium, now known as the Embassy, somehow during the course of a Sunday lecture, he left some of us with the general impression that he would be leaving Los Angeles. After the lecture, a number of us walked out into a sort of patio area where Mr. Hall was standing

and greeting the guests. Many of the people were just standing around not approaching him, but I wanted to know if he was actually leaving, so I asked him quite bluntly if he were planning on leaving the City of the Angels. He smiled, and said, "Oh, no. This is my home. I'll always stay here." And everyone around applauded.

When I graduated from the Los Angeles High School the ceremony was held at the Shrine Auditorium, the largest in the city. I was given the nominal number of tickets for guests and asked Mr. Hall if he would like to attend the graduation. He said he would, and "horror of horrors," I gave him a ticket for the balcony! He not only attended the graduation, but talked about it at considerable length on the following Sunday.

I have heard Mr. Hall talk, aside from the two places already mentioned, at the Forum Theatre on Pico and Norton, at the Friday Morning Club on Figueroa near Ninth, and at the Ebell Club, on 18th and Flower. It was here that he gave a series of lectures on astrology. (They were presented daily during finals week at UCLA—then called Southern Branch—and finals took second place.) Later, of course, there was the Campus Theatre on Vermont before the PRS auditorium was built in 1959 on Los Feliz. In 1960, my husband and I moved very close to the Society and consequently I was able again to come much more often than I had been able to in the years when my boys were growing up.

The PRS Library was for years unknown to the general public, but we who work here are thoroughly aware of the fact that people regularly come in to see what we are all about. After all, the sign on the Los Feliz Boulevard side plainly states, "Visitors Welcome," and we have been taken at our word. One of my favorite stories about the library is of a professor at one of Southern California's larger universities. He had the responsibility to travel collecting information on Armenian manuscripts and gospels. While in Japan making use of library facilities in Tokyo, he asked if they were aware of Armenian manuscripts that might be found elsewhere. Yes, was the prompt reply. At the Philosophical Research Society of Los Angeles they have an exquisite

Armenian Gospel written on vellum, the text in *cilicia* in the Armenian year 1133 (corresponding to 1684 A.D.). Our volume is an interesting example of a little known type of script. We also have a number of single sheets of Armenian manuscripts.

I personally love the story of the woman who was wondering if we had a book about mathematics which H. P. Blavatsky often quoted. The lady's problem was she could not remember the name of the author or of the title! Fortunately, Mr. Hall was standing nearby, and walked about ten steps to a case and pointed it out to us. The title was: *The Source of Measures*, by J. Ralston Skinner, 1875, 324 pp.

Not in any way am I trying to compete with Mr. Hall, but one day shortly after starting to work in the library, I was putting books away in the Egyptian section and my eye was attracted to a large title on the spine which lengthwise read "Hieroglyphics." It appealed to me, so being right there I took the book out and had looked it over for a minute or two when the telephone rang. I returned the book into its place in the case, and hastened to the phone. What did the gentleman seek? What else, but a book on hieroglyphics! I very calmly (I hope) explained we had such books and they were available to use here. Within ten minutes he appeared in the library happy that what he wanted was indeed in this library.

When my husband and I moved close to the Philosophical Research Society all lectures were conducted on the premises. I was working elsewhere, but I could at least get to Sunday lectures. As time moved on, the two of us started taking care of evening programs, he taking the donations for the lectures and I selling books in the foyer of the auditorium. Then, in 1970 the librarian left and I fell heir to a very satisfying position thanks to Esther Engler, an indispensable member of the PRS staff who let me know that there was a vacancy in the library. All arrangements were made the following day and I became librarian on December 21, 1970. Christmas and New Year's Day came on Fridays so for the first two weeks that I worked, I only was involved for three and a half days each week. Most of my learning was through osmosis, and

frankly, that has been more or less the pattern others have had to follow in becoming acquainted with this library.

After I had been associated with the PRS Library about eight months, I had occasion to be working in the area of the gallery where art books are kept. I happened to open one of the art bins and there found quite a collection of bound magazines. They were rather ornately bound and looked very interesting. I picked one up, and finding it rather heavy, I sat down on the floor. The magazine was named *Bibby's Annual* and was published in England in the 1910's and '20's. On further checking, I found that Mr. Bibby had originally written a quarterly magazine largely given over to the interests of farmers. In this original format, he started a section which had a literary focus. One of the early contributors to this section was Annie Besant who regularly wrote articles for him. Mr. Bibby, in the 1920 edition of his *Annual*, wrote an editorial which he entitled: "Mrs. Annie Besant as I Knew Her." Gradually other Theosophical writers came on the scene: Jinarajadasa, A. P. Warrington, A. P. Sinnett, Clara M. Codd, and L. W. Rogers were all regular contributors. Will Levington Comfort sent in many articles from his home in Venice, California, which were accepted by the magazine. The illustrations are incredible. Most of them represent great art through the ages. Almost every page had at least one fine illustration, however few of the pictures bear any direct relationships to the articles they accompany.

My reason for going into great length over these early English periodicals is that they were the general format from which Mr. Hall drew the inspiration to write *The Phoenix*. One major difference between the English magazine and Mr. Hall's book is that Mr. Bibby was editor only, contributing one or two articles for each issue, but the remainder of the contents were all written by prominent people of his time—at least thirty different writers for each issue! *The Phoenix*, on the contrary, was written in its entirety by Manly P. Hall. The books are about the same size, and both contain many pictures. The articles have in some instances very little in common with the text, but both books hold great interest for all concerned.

While I was sitting there on the floor mulling over this find, I was wishing that someone of the staff would happen by—I wanted so to share the beauty of *Bibby's Annual* with others. For several days, I worked over ideas that would be feasible to share with others: how we catalog, where books are located, ideas to show a "behind the scenes" view of the library and carefully wrote out an outline of the subjects I would like to discuss. Mr. Hall seemed pleased with the idea of emphasizing the Library. Fortunately, a new program was being printed and a Library workshop was incorporated into the Winter quarter for February, 1972. The announcement suggests a limited enrollment of fifteen to be exact, but some eighteen appeared. The program went out December 23, and the enrollment was filled the first week in January. That first class was a great success. Six people who had never met each other before became fast friends and have remained so through the years! Remembering my early enthusiasm for doing workshops, I am seriously considering repeating some of these Library programs again—they were very rewarding.

It would be quite impossible to work for any length of time in a library such as PRS without taking on some of the varied interests which are represented here. The vast majority of the books and manuscripts of course relate to interests of Manly P. Hall. This takes in a tremendous array of subjects, but they can be listed into a few general topics with almost countless subdivisions. For example, Orientalia—a basic generality can be involved with art, music, philosophy, politics, symbolism, religions, medicine, to mention a few areas. Any one of these subjects could make up a complete collection. The PRS Library has ten cases with four shelves in each, plus added bins beneath them where books on various aspects of Orientalia are catalogued. Add to this, ten cabinets in the lower annex given over almost entirely to the Oriental subjects. We can put up art exhibits dealing with any phase of Asiatic culture, all from material that has been largely collected by Mr. Hall. It seems that he is usually in the right place at the right time. The types of books that he could collect in the 1920's and 30's would require a major outlay of money today, but, for the most

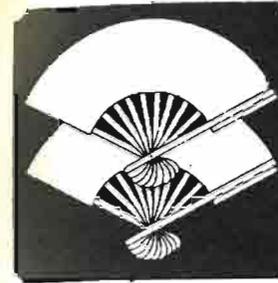
part, in his collecting days valuable books were quite readily available and prices were moderate. Today, when some of these fine old tomes need rebinding, the price one pays is far greater than the original cost of the book itself.

I too have been in the right place at the right time—so many wonderful opportunities have come my way these last years at PRS. As the PRS Librarian I have had the privilege of presenting workshops which meant considerable dedication to the subjects involved; opportunities to set up PRS programs and find good speakers representative of PRS values; and the rare privilege of writing in the *PRS Journal* and expressing myself on many subjects. These past fifteen years have been most fulfilling and rewarding. It is said that after age fifty (I've even been told it should start about age twenty for certain zodiacal signs—mine included) one should be planning for a fortunate rebirth. I am in such an excellent position for attempting to do just that for everything is “going my way.”



My Library Notes on traveling have inspired many delightful letters from friends of PRS. Apparently the impression is that I travel a great deal, but traveling is something entirely new to me. Perhaps I bring to it an enthusiasm that could easily become jaded if indulged in too often. However, recently Mr. Hall remarked that he could see for me in the year 1986 another trip to England. Now, I feel that I should definitely take another trip to the Isle of Albion. In no way would I want to invalidate a prophecy of “The Maestro.”

ARTS OF THE WORLD GIFT SHOP



Listed below is a sampling of books on Oriental art and philosophy carried by the PRS Book Shop. If a favorite of yours was omitted, please call (213) 663-2167 to check on the availability.

h = hardback p = paperback

Caruș, Paul	<i>Canon of Reason & Virtue</i>	\$10.95h
	<i>Gospel of Buddha</i>	9.00p
	<i>Karma/Nirvana: Two Buddhist Tales</i>	9.95h
Cowell, E. B. (Ed.)	<i>Buddhist Mahayana Texts</i>	11.00h
Dargyay, Eva M.	<i>Rise of Esoteric Buddhism in Tibet</i>	4.00p
Easwaran, Eknath	<i>Bhagavad Gita for Daily Living, Vol. 1</i>	10.00p
	<i>Bhagavad Gita for Daily Living, Vol. 2</i>	10.00p
Egami, Namio	<i>Beginnings of Japanese Art</i>	15.00h
Goddard, Dwight	<i>Buddha's Golden Path</i>	9.00p
	<i>Buddhist Bible</i>	11.95p
Grimm, George	<i>Buddhist Wisdom: Mystery of the Self</i>	11.50h
Humphreys, Christmas	<i>Exploring Buddhism</i>	2.50p
Legge, James (Transl.)	<i>Confucius</i>	6.00p
	<i>Works of Mencius</i>	9.95p
Mooney, Lucindi Frances	<i>Storming Eastern Temples: Psychological Exploration of Yoga</i>	4.25p
Munsterberg, Hugo	<i>Arts of China</i>	29.50h
	<i>Arts of Japan</i>	12.50p
Sawa, Takaaki	<i>Art in Japanese Esoteric Buddhism</i>	15.00h
Swann, Peter	<i>Art of China, Korea, and Japan</i>	7.50h

Books may be ordered directly from the Philosophical Research Society, Inc., Dept. P., Los Angeles, CA 90027. Please add 6% to the total cost of your order for shipping and handling, with a \$.75 minimum; for UPS delivery add 10% with a \$1.50 minimum. California residents must add appropriate sales tax. All prices are subject to change without notice.