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THE FORECAST

A Popular Journal of Scientific Prediction

EDITED BY SEPHARIAL

Vol. II
No. 8

WINTER 1907

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CONTENTS

NOTES OF THE QUARTER.
THE SCIENCE OF THE UNSEEN.
SPOTTED FEVER CASE.
THE OUTLOOK.
RAIN FROM SATURN'S RINGS.
ASTRO-PATHOLOGY.
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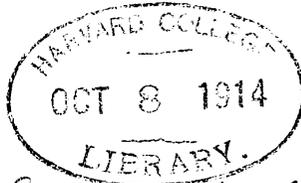
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THE FORECAST

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Notes of the Quarter

BEFORE anything further is said in retrospect or prospect, I would apologise to my readers for the late appearance of this issue. It will be seen, however, that THE FORECAST has changed its quarters and its venue. Its principles remain as ever at high water mark. In succession to the publications of *Fate and Fortune* and *Coming Events*, this journal has consistently advocated the paramount truth of planetary influence in human life, and in the course of its, as yet, brief career has been instrumental in bringing home the truth to a large number of enquirers. The meshes of destiny are wide, but nothing escapes its net.

I am confidently looking forward to the generous support of my many old friends and readers in my new venture. It is no light task to be solely responsible for the contents and production of a journal of this nature. One cannot write at the point of the pen. Every statement carries weight, or is supposed to carry weight, with students of the celestial science of scientific foreknowledge. If I make a mistake, I am duly criticised, and when I hit the nail on the head I get my meed of praise. And seeing that some of my readers know as much about Astrology as I do myself, I have to dot my i's and cross my t's with unusual care and precision. However, so far as experience goes, everybody means well by me, and since I am identified with Astrology I am well content.

The appearance of THE FORECAST will be Quarterly, as hitherto, but for the benefit of those who are following my speculative work, such as Astrology in relation to the Share and Produce Markets, Horseracing, and similar aspects of the subject, I propose to bring out a weekly Special Supplement, which will be done as soon as arrangements can be made for its regular appearance. I want to demonstrate

the practical working value of Astrology in matters which usually are regarded as purely speculative and outside the operation of cosmic laws, and I have one or two effective weapons in hand for the conquest of the popular mind.

The student of form in horseracing has a belief which is directly counter to that of the man in the street, who fancies that in "spotting the winner" good luck is the only qualification. It is my aim to show that both are wrong, and that a system of mathematics gets one there more easily and more often than either "form" or "fancy." I intend to show that the science of numbers, as represented in horoscopolical calculations and planetary aspects, is that unknown quantity which, for want of a better term, the average man calls Chance. That done, I shall rest content, and if, incidentally, I or any other student of Astrology can make a small fortune out of it, I shall be as pleased with the result of my labours as was Thales when he predicted a great dearth of olives and successfully "cornered" the article and sold out to his contemporaries at famine prices!

In retrospect of the past Quarter, I find that I have several points to my credit, which, whole and singular, I lay at the feet of Urania. First, as to my Weather Forecasts. A correspondent wishes to impress me with the fact that these were not up to the same mark as the daily weather predictions of the Meteorological Bureau. I differ from my correspondent, and affirm that from a practical point of view they are at a considerably higher point of merit. In the first place, I have not a telegraphic service at my disposal as has the Bureau, whose predictions are based entirely on what is known to be occurring at any moment within a given area. Nothing is easier than to predict a cyclone if you are telegraphically informed that one is bearing down upon you at a certain velocity. The matter assumes other and more significant proportions when attempting a forecast of the weather for months ahead. September here in England was a dry month. That this was not the general experience of other important centres in the Temperate Zone is shown by reports from France, Spain, and Portugal. It has been established that so far as England is concerned, September was the driest month of that name for 35 years past and the warmest since 1895. My prediction, which had regard to the Zone and not to England specifically, would therefore seem to be

wide of the mark, but at this period the King of Spain was busily engaged in visiting the scenes of widespread flood and destruction in the vicinity of Malaga, while sumultaneously the Tagus was over-running its banks and causing great distress in Portugal. It is of astrological significance, and possibly of scientific interest also, that Saturn, the planet whose opposition to the Sun and Venus about the 11th of September was responsible for my prediction, held the sign Pisces which rules Portugal. My critic admits that my predictions for June, July, and August were correct. But if Astrology is an exact science, why this breakdown in September ?

Another correspondent who is a student of Astrology writes: "I notice that all Astrologers were unanimous as to what the weather conditions should be for the 17th and 18th of this month, viz.: Cold, with heavy rains, and in one instance, shipwrecks. I felt pretty sure that the weather would be much as predicted, but, as you know, the weather has been superb, here in London at any rate, and so far as I can see, elsewhere. Perhaps you can touch on the matter in your next issue and suggest the possible reason for the non-fulfilment of the prediction ?" My correspondent here does not refer to the Bureau, because he knows that the Meteorological Department would not attempt anything like a three-months' forecast of the weather, even generally, over the Temperate Zone. Astrologers attempt this with commendable success, but the cause of failure in a percentage of instances is due to the fact that Astrology is not an exact science. It is not more exact than an individual practice of mathematics and empirical judgment can make it. It is a matter of observation that the chief effects of a planetary combination will be experienced in that country which is ruled by the sign wherein the active significator may be at the time. In this case it was Saturn in the sign Pisces, which rules Portugal, and there, perhaps, the worst effects were endured. England escaped. But will it escape next year when Saturn is opposing the Sun from the sign Aries, which governs England ?

The system of seismic disturbances predicted by me to extend from the 10th October to the 12th November was well defined, and cannot be regarded as in any sense fortuitous. The cause was to be found in the presence of Mars and Jupiter in the signs Aquarius and Leo and successively of Venus and Mercury in Scorpio, with attendant lunar configurations. I specifically mentioned the 22nd and 30th

October and the 5th or 6th November as periods of greatest activity. On October 23rd there was a great earthquake in Calabria, in the same area as that affected in 1905, the shock taking the same course and laying several towns in ruins, while rivers, diverted from their courses, flooded the country and added to the horrors of the catastrophe. Hundreds were killed by the shocks, and not less than fifteen towns partially or wholly destroyed. On October 21st Karatagh, in Bokhara, was destroyed by an earthquake, while on the 22nd disastrous earthquakes occurred in Huesca, in Upper Aragon, and Torre la Ribera was totally destroyed on the same day. About the same time McCulloch Peak, in Unalaska, which was raised by an earthquake a year ago to a height of 3,400 feet, was reduced by an earthquake to an insignificant hillock.

My Market Forecasts have included successful predictions of the slump in Americans, the fall in Home Rails, and the extensive rise in wheat, which came off to time. Hereafter this element will be eliminated from the Quarterly issue of THE FORECAST, and embodied week by week in the Supplement which I am projecting, and trust to have ready for the New Year. The information therein will appeal to all those who have speculative interests in hand, and in many respects the Supplement will be unique in the annals of journalism, inasmuch as it will be the first of its kind based entirely on astrological principles. The Quarterly will be reserved entirely for the elucidation of philosophical and scientific questions raised by astrological study. I believe this partitioning of subject matter and interests will meet with the approval of my readers generally, and I look forward confidently to a full measure of their support.

For years past I have mumbled over Sunday breakfast and the *Referee* together. "The Handbook" for the week is always interesting, whoever may write it, and Dagonet's "Mustard and Cress" is a perennial source of amusement. Occasionally I enter my protest against surreptitious digging in my potato-patch. I do so now on the instance of a suggestion that theatrical failures rest solely on the weakness of the productions, irrespective of the "stars" (of both sorts) which preside over their destinies. A correspondent suggests, on the contrary, that there is a certain rapport or correspondence between theatrical productions which fail and stellar positions at the time of production. I agree, and should go the

length of saying that author and artists are but agents of planetary influence. From the point of view of literary and dramatic merit there can be no doubt that many worthy productions have met with inadequate public support, while one has only to do the round of the theatres to discover that the public taste is not a criterion of quality in dramatic work. The dramatic critic may understand public taste fully, but he is not guided by the same standards nor does he regard a play from the same point of view as the public, while it is fairly certain that given the horoscope of a play-production an astrologer could say at once whether or not it would be a success.

About this time of the year we are faced with a crop of Almanacs of a prophetic nature, the best of these being Zadkiel's Almanac and Ephemeris and Raphael's Almanac and Ephemeris, both of which are so well known as not to need more than mention. A special article on "Earthquakes and the Heavenly Bodies" in Zadkiel's Almanac will be found of exceptional interest. Incidentally, I am glad to note that his estimate of the ruling sign of New Zealand from a figure for the Proclamation agrees with that which I empirically determined upon some years back, and have always used in practice. Then there is Old Moore in his triple guise of prophet-in-ordinary to the Original Edition, prophet and seer to Robertson's Penny Edition, and prophet-extraordinary of Pilgrim Street—and "see that you get it." S. L. H., in the *Morning Leader*, discovers also "The Green Book of Prophecies" with vaticinatory observations by Sepharial, whom he humorously compares to Old Moore in parallel citation of things to come. The denouement should be reached when at some future time this cheerful writer may compare the Three Old Moores!

Will readers kindly remember that with the present issue subscriptions for the ensuing year should be renewed? Remittances to THE FORECAST, 8, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C., will be acknowledged.

The Science of the Unseen

THAT there is nothing new under the sun is doubtless a correct aphorism if, like the Idealist, we regard all things as products of thought and not of experimental discovery. But a single century of modern scientific enquiry has opened up the field of thought immensely. That which formerly was the exclusive knowledge of initiates in the greater mysteries taught by the various schools of magic, and for which the neophyte was prepared to surrender his liberty, his home, his wealth, and even his life, is at this day the common burden of our text-books of science. Yet it must ever be remembered that Magic and Occultism were the progenitors of modern experimental science and that they were in themselves experimental, although it is generally affirmed they were set upon a wrong basis and erected by unscientific methods. But the deepest problems of modern science are yet those which confronted experimentalists two thousand years ago, and these problems were not confined to the ultimate nature of the atom or the constitution of matter. They cut deeper than that and more directly to the heart of things. In a word, they sought to know the nature and office of the human soul, its origin and destiny, and all their researches and experiments were directed to the question of man's possible survival of bodily death. Instead of physics they studied metaphysics, and in place of physiology they pursued psychology. The fault of the ancients was that they argued from generals to particulars and affirmed too much by deduction for which they had no evidence. To-day the problems are the same, the method only is different. Science affirms no more by induction than that for which it has objective evidence.

Prof. Sir William Crookes, among others of scientific repute, has observed the existence of certain physical phenomena which cannot be explained by any known law, and which are so directly opposed to the most firmly-rooted articles of scientific belief that for a long time his reason was in antagonism to the confirmed evidence of his senses. These phenomena, which included the movement of heavy bodies without contact of any kind, the levitation of human bodies, luminous appearances, phantom forms and faces, direct writing, the production of percussive and other allied sounds,

etc., are rendered the more remarkable from the fact that there is evidence of their being governed by an intelligence. With few exceptions they all happened in Sir William Crookes' own house, at times appointed by himself, and under conditions which absolutely precluded the employment of the slightest mechanical aid. They took place in the light, in the presence of himself, the girl medium, and his own private friends alone.

The Professor's library communicated with the laboratory by folding doors, one of which had been removed and a sheet substituted. The medium used the library as a dark cabinet while the audience sat in the laboratory, facing the sheet. A remarkable apparition in human form emerged from the cabinet. Five double stereoscopic cameras simultaneously photographed both the medium and the apparition! Sir William Crookes possesses no less than forty-four negatives of this apparition. But, *mirabile dictu*, it was the materialised apparition who arranged the test, conducted the operations, and herself "muffled the medium's head in a shawl to prevent the light falling upon her face." A lock of hair cut from the head of the materialisation, and now in the possession of Sir William Crookes, is of a rich golden auburn colour, but the medium's hair was a very dark brown. The pulse of "Katie" when tested was beating at 75, that of the medium was at 90; the heart-beat was steadier in her case than in the medium, and she had no cough, while the medium was then under medical treatment for a severe chest affection. Sir William's evidence concludes with the bold affirmation that "to imagine that an innocent school girl of fifteen should be able to conceive and then successfully carry out for three years so gigantic an imposture as this . . . to imagine the "Katie King" of the last three years to be the result of imposture, does more violence to one's reason and common-sense than to believe her to be what she herself affirms"—a denizen of the other world, using the fluidic body of the medium as a means of apparition.

Is it not along these lines that we may reasonably seek an explanation of the "rib" of Adam, which Hebraists render more correctly "the shadow" or "shadow-form," extruded in deep sleep for the materialisation of Eve? And may not the apparition of the Christ to his disciples "in an upper room, the door being shut," have been a form elaborated by metabolism from his physical body, which accordingly was found to have disappeared?

Sir William Crookes is not alone among trained investi-

gators of psychic phenomena in accepting the only rational position to which his experiences have impelled him. Dr. Visani Scozzi has proved by a series of hypnotic experiments that there is a "projecting or jutting out of the nerve force from the organism," which, under certain conditions, results in the projection of the fluidic body. This body is objective, sensitive, and endowed with intelligence, or at least is responsive to intelligent suggestions, and it has also been photographed. Thus, while conditions favourable to its manifestation may be induced by hypnosis, the conditions may also be self-induced, as in the practices of the yogis and sadhus of the East, or it may yet be an involuntary manifestation occurring in deep sleep or trance.

A most remarkable instance is recorded by Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace in his recently published autobiography.

"It was a bright summer afternoon, and everything happened in the full light of day in a room on a first-floor in Bloomsbury, with Mr. Monk, a Nonconformist clergyman, as the medium. After a little conversation, Mr. Monk, who was dressed in the usual clerical black, appeared to go into a trance. He then stood up a few feet in front of us, and after a little while pointed to his side, saying "Look!" We saw there a faint white patch on his coat on the left side. This grew brighter, then seemed to flicker and extend both upwards and downwards, till very gradually it formed a cloudy pillar extending from his shoulder to his feet and close to his body. Then he shifted himself a little sideways, the cloudy figure standing still, but appearing joined to him by a cloudy band at the height at which it first began to form. Then, after a few minutes, Mr. Monk again said 'Look!' and passed his hand through the connecting band, severing it. He and the figure then moved away from each other till they were about five or six feet apart. The figure had now assumed the appearance of a thickly-draped female form, with arms and hands just visible."

Here, then, are credible witnesses to psychic phenomena of a most remarkable order. To suppose that these and other scientific observers of occult phenomena have each been, in these particular instances, the victims of hallucination, while accepting their conclusions in other directions, would be stultifying the nature of all evidence and as grossly unjust to their reputations as it would be debasing to our own intelligence.

Spotted Fever Case

THROUGH the courtesy of Mr. Duncan Mackintosh, I am able to cite a case of spotted fever, or cerebro-spinal meningitis, concerning which I sought data from my readers in a former number of this journal. The peculiarity of this twentieth century disease is that it seldom leaves the patient scarless. It may arise from a variety of causes and is highly infectious, the prevailing symptoms being that the patient draws up the limbs and throws back the head very much as in the contortion of poisoning by prussic acid.

The case cited is that of a boy born in Dumfries on the 15th September, 1902, at 3 a.m. He was struck over the eye by a stone on the 6th March, 1907, developed spotted fever in three days, and remained under treatment in hospital for fifteen weeks. The horoscope shows the 7th degree of Taurus on the mid-heaven, and the 24th of Leo rising. The *Moon* has lately set in the 20th degree of Aquarius. The *Sun* is in Virgo 21° in the 2nd House, *Neptune* in Cancer 4° in the 11th House, *Uranus* in Sagittarius 17° on the cusp of the 5th House, *Saturn* in Capricornus 21° in the 5th, *Jupiter* in Aquarius 8° in the 6th House, *Mars* in Leo 7° in the 12th House, *Venus* in Virgo 3° in the 1st House, and *Mercury* in Libra 16° in the 3rd House.

The opposition of Mars in the fiery sign Leo to Jupiter in Aquarius, which rules the blood, in the House of Sickness (the 6th), is of instant significance in this case, and one would naturally expect to find that Mars was involved in any case of fever. But for this affliction by Mars, the position of Jupiter would give normal good health and immunity from prolonged illness, though in advanced years it might dispose to gouty affections of the

lower limbs. Mars, however, vitiates the good offices of Jupiter in this instance. On reference to the prevailing influences at the time of the accident which led to the illness, it is seen that the Moon has progressed to the 20th degree of the sign Aries (ruling the head), where it forms the opposition of Mercury and the quadrature of Saturn. Mars, by transit, was on the place of Uranus at the birth in Sagittarius 17°, and was in ephemeral quadrature to the Sun and Saturn. These indications, while sufficiently evil to account for some misfortune and sickness, do not seem to fully cover the case. Mars on the place of Uranus, which was afflicting the Sun at birth, clearly shows *an accident*. But on looking for more effective and lasting causes, I find that the last eclipse was a total lunar eclipse, on 29th January, 1907, which fell in close conjunction with the place of Mars at the birth of the young patient, and in opposition to the place of Jupiter. It has been frequently noted that eclipses falling on the place of malefic bodies in the horoscope have all the force and efficacy of primary directions, their effects being very marked and enduring. Thus, we have the Moon by direction afflicted in Aries, which would involve the head, in opposition to Mercury and square to Saturn. But the precise indication of the fever would appear to be that of the lunar eclipse on the place of Mars. It will be observed that Mars holds the 12th House, which rules over hospitals and places of detention. A few more examples of this kind might lead to a correct diagnosis of the disease from an astrological point of view. At present we have Mars in Leo in opposition to Jupiter in Aquarius as the radical index of cerebro-spinal meningitis.

The Outlook

THE ingress of the Sun to Capricorn takes place on 27th December, 1907, at 11.52 p.m., showing the end of Virgo rising at London, Mercury in Sagittarius occupying the 3rd House in quadrature to Mars and Saturn in the 6th House. From this position of the Ruler of the quarter we may anticipate more than usual sickness among the people, especially noting an increase in pulmonary and brain affections. There will be much want and dissatisfaction among workmen and scarcity of food-stuffs. Early in the year the position of the Government will be assailed, owing to the Sun being with Neptune in opposition to Uranus. The weather will be inclement and turbulent, especially during the first week of the New Year. About the end of January, we may look for dissensions in the Cabinet. There is a New Moon on January 3rd at 9.43 p.m., at which the malefic planets Saturn and Mars, nearly conjoined, will be setting; the Sun, Moon, and Uranus being conjoined in opposition to Neptune. The reign of violence will be witnessed in Portugal. The political relations of Great Britain will be seriously disturbed, and the Government will find its position one of extreme difficulty. This lunation constitutes an eclipse of the Sun, and falling in conjunction with Uranus in the ruling sign of India will produce a series of riots and political disturbances in that country. As Mars will transit the opposition of the Moon's place in the Royal Horoscope during January, and will be followed by that of Saturn in March, we should be wisely prepared for unusual developments in our Imperial and Colonial relations. There need be no croakings, but in view of the clear prediction of the troubles which during the past year have been experienced in India, in South Africa, and in Portugal, it would indeed be shortsighted on the part of responsible officials to ignore similar intimations from the same source. In a word, then, South Africa, India, and Portugal will shortly be in the grips of sedition, lawlessness, and riot. This, however, is not the first intimation of this sort I have issued. In Francis Moore's Almanac (with which my connection terminated last year) the following forecasts were made in regard to the year 1907:—

“ Saturn stationary in Pisces in July and September will cast its shadow upon Portugal, where distress will set its leaden foot and cause popular unrest and dissatisfaction. The conjunction of Mars with Saturn in

this sign of the Zodiac in December will cause an outbreak of hostilities."

In regard to India, it is said:—

"Mars continues in the sign Capricornus for over seven months during 1907, and is stationary therein in June and August. The result will be disastrous for India, where in the summer months serious rioting and political strife will take place."

In regard to the seditious influence of Dinizulu among the natives of South Africa, this note of intelligence appears under head of December, 1907:—

"Neptune setting indicates some sinister plot or seditious scheme levelled against this country . . . in South Africa events do not supply occasion for much confidence."

These and other apposite and striking predictions were framed in the spring of 1906 and printed in the summer of that year. As to the ensuing year, it is evident from the fact of the eclipse of the Sun on 3rd January falling in Capricornus in conjunction with Uranus, and on the place of Mars in the Royal Horoscope, that we have not yet experienced the last of Indian native sedition, while the stay of Neptune in the sign Cancer in opposition to Uranus clearly forbodes similar causes at work in South Africa. In Portugal there will be a strong and effective attempt at revolution. In India, riots, sedition, and destruction of life and property. At home, a great rise in the price of foods, dissatisfaction among the soldiery, and a Government, divided against itself, tottering to its end.

SEPHARIAL.

Rain from Saturn's Rings

I HAVE always thought that the ancients mistook the functions of Jupiter in ascribing to him the supreme control of the celestial watering can. The fulminations and thunderbolts with which he is wont to startle the world on occasions of extreme annoyance are rightly his prerogatives. The Jovian bluster is a thing we are all acquainted with in daily life. That gouty old tyrant whom Shelley so ruthlessly satirised years ago is the same old autocrat that to-day suffers so hardly at the hands of our dramatic authors. But rain? Well, I have a note of exceptional intelligence and no little scientific interest which goes to show that it is Saturn and not Jupiter who is the cause of the latter-day deluges. It is shown

that the years of greatest rainfall in this country have been those when the Sun was in the same or opposite longitude as Saturn and holding nearly the same declination in the signs Virgo or Pisces. Thus we have the rain-years

1848. Sun in Virgo—Saturn in Pisces.

1862. Sun in Pisces—Saturn in Virgo.

1877. Sun in Virgo—Saturn in Pisces.

1891. Sun in Pisces—Saturn in Virgo.

1907. Sun in Virgo—Saturn in Pisces.

The same results do not follow from the conjunction or opposition of any other celestial body, nor from these positions of Saturn in any other signs of the Zodiac. These facts give rise to the question as to why these particular parts of the Zodiac should be associated with the maximum rainfall at or about the time of the solar conjunction and opposition. The ancients depicted Aquarius as a man pouring forth water from a vessel. The stars which make up this constellation coincided with long. 300° - 330° (sign Aquarius) at and prior to the year A.D. 498. The Sun was in this part of the Zodiac in February, which month, accordingly, was reported a wet month. But owing to the procession of the Equinoxes, the same stars now coincide with the first 20° of the sign Pisces (long. 330° - 350°), and whenever Saturn joins the Earth or the Sun in this part of the Zodiac, which happens every 14 or 15 years, we now appear to experience the same effects as formerly attached to the stars of Aquarius. From this observation, which opens up the whole question of stellar influence as distinguished from planetary influence in mundane effects, we are led to anticipate that the summer of 1921 will be an exceptionally wet one. It has been suggested that as the effects observably due to Saturn's solar aspects sometimes precede and sometimes follow the date of exact configuration, they may be due rather to the influence of Saturn's Rings than to the body itself. There is nothing against this suggestion, so far as we know at present, and it may possibly be the explanation of the variation referred to. Certainly we cannot say why Saturn should exercise such a depressing effect upon the atmosphere when it comes into line with the Sun and Earth, but the fact that it does so in a marked but variable manner ought not to escape observation by meteorologists, and possibly the Rings may be found to exercise some considerable part in the distribution of the planet's influence. But Jupiter Pluvius may yet be vindicated through the instrumentality of the sign Pisces, over which he traditionally holds sway.

Astro-Pathology

FROM the earliest days of astrological study the influence of the celestial bodies in relation to pathology has held a foremost place. Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, was the first to discern between the action of Mars and that of Saturn in this respect. He made a sharp cleavage between diseases which he called acute and those denominated chronic. The former, ascribed to Mars, were associated with inflammatory action and a high temperature, as in febrile diseases, while the diseases of Saturn were associated with a morbid condition of the system, a low temperature and loss of vigour. The names of Mars and Saturn entered into the language of pathological science, and hence are such words as *marna*, *marta*, murder, mar, etc., and *chronos*, chronic, etc.

Each of the planets had a specific value in therapeutical science of those days. *Saturn* produced morbidity and wasting; *Jupiter*, congestion, plethora; *Mars*, fever; *Venus*, poison; and *Mercury*, salivation, dropsy, and spasms.

Doubtless, in the spring-time of the human race, disease was unknown or comparatively so, and all pathological variations might have been traced to the ratio of the alkalinity to the acidity of the blood, which in its turn might be a mere matter of temperature. But with the breaking down of cellular tissue by excesses of diet, irregularity of function, passion, strife, etc., the piling up of effete and morbid material in the system would soon give rise to more or less complex diseases in one part or another of the body. The atomicity of the physical cell would in time become more and more complex, which in

disease would lead to a yet more complex heterobiosis, germs multiplying in species almost as rapidly as in numbers.

To-day we have barely names enough to distinguish the various forms of disease throughout the system. The number of the planets multiplied into the number of the signs of the Zodiac would furnish the ancients with 84 distinct forms of disease, which they would recognise by symptoms rather than origin. Thus, Mercury in Aquarius was said to cause "wind in the blood," by which we may understand spasmodic action arising from debility. But it is a question whether this position in a significant part of the horoscope would engender the same effects in all subjects, irrespective of climatic and dietic influences. In a word, and to bring the matter to a point of enquiry, have we discovered new names for old diseases, or have we generated other and new diseases to which the old names do not apply?

There can be no doubt that proneness to disease varies with individuals according to their stock. The same variability may be discerned in nations, and it may well be that in the process of national evolution, physiological conditions might be induced which would give rise to new forms of disease. Thus, cerebrospinal meningitis, or spotted-fever, would seem to be the direct product of an age given over to ceaseless stress of body and mind. On the other hand, it may be merely a new form of an old-standing complaint or even a new name for an old disease. But it is hardly conceivable that a primitive stock would engender such effects. The simple life does not readily respond to the

action of Mars, and there is little that is forceful, or strenuous, or complex in the middle path of moderation. Whence then, these complexities of disease, since they do not affect the nation as a whole? The answer seems to be that, as in conduct so in disease, as in life so in death—the *planets act upon us in terms of ourselves*. It is a matter of pre-disposition. A pathological condition cannot obtain in the individual except that condition be

potential in his horoscope of birth. Mars conjoined with Mercury disposes to violence and insanity, extreme nervous excitability, and what have been aptly called "brainstorms." Whenever Mars joins Mercury in the heavens, all those whose horoscopes show this configuration are "rung up." Wireless telegraphy has placed inter-planetary action on an experimental basis. It can be scientifically demonstrated, as also can telepathy.

Gustavus the Fifth

THE world lost a king among kings in Oscar II. of Sweden, whose birth on the 21st January, 1829, affords a horoscope of exceptional interest, well worth the close study of astrologers. The opposition of Saturn to the Sun was largely discounted by the trine of Jupiter and the sextile of Mars, during the periods of Mars and Jupiter; but in the period of Saturn it resulted in the loss of half the kingdom, and in this period the good king died.

His son Gustavus succeeds him. He was born on the 16th June, 1858, when the Sun was in the 25th degree of Gemini in quadrature to Neptune, the Moon being in quadrature to Uranus, Jupiter and Mercury conjoined in the early degrees of Gemini. Venus was in conjunction with Saturn in Cancer, but trine to Neptune in Pisces and to Mars in Scorpio. The Sun is now approaching the sextile aspect of Jupiter, having reached the 13th degree of Leo, where Jupiter became stationary on the 1st December, foreshadowing by a few days the extreme honour of succession to the throne of Sweden. During the next four years the fortunes of King Gustavus will be increscent, and his motto: "With the people for the Fatherland," will be practically and

effectively realised. At that time, however, at the age of 54, the Sun will form the quadrature of Mars' place at birth, and Venus the quadrature of the Sun's place. From that time forth domestic troubles, national complications, and discordant political elements will find their place in the King's life, the years 1914, 1915, and 1916 being fraught with many dangers to the kingdom, if not indeed to the royal person.

I judge that Gustavus the Fifth has a fine, ingenious, and inventive mind, a fruitful and resourceful intellect, a sensitive and artistic nature; but is disposed to show nervous excitability under stress conditions and may later develop a marked eccentricity. From the position of the Moon I should hardly expect that he would enjoy the same degree of popular confidence and devotion as marked the reign of his father. But then there are not two King Oscars in a century, and if there were, it is hardly probable they would be found in the same country. After all, the temper of a nation counts for much in the matter of government, and the Swedes have shown themselves capable of great devotion and loyalty. The Fatherland will continue to prosper while the King is "with the people."

The Stars and Marriage

SOME little while ago the *Daily Mirror* started a rather sensational series of articles under the above heading. The public was assured that astrologers were not going to have it all their own way in deciding that happiness in marriage was entirely a matter of planetary influence and the observance of horoscopical warnings and advice. It was said that many correspondents had assured the Editor that they had discovered how to be happy despite the fact that they were born under what the astrologers called "adverse influences."

Two cases were cited, which, for the purpose I have in view, are here produced *ad lit.*:—

"A. C., Collingham Road, South Kensington, writes: 'I have been married eighteen years. My husband's birthday is in November and mine in June. We are even happier now than when we first married.'"

"'My husband was born in January and I in April,' writes L. St. B. from Birmingham. 'We have been comrades for thirty-nine years—thirty-five years in wedlock. I am proud to say we are sweethearts still.'"

While congratulating these good people on their marital felicity, I am bound to say that from an astrological point of view there is no reason adduced against its probability. The dates of birth are not given, only the birthday anniversaries, which, so far as planetary positions are concerned, afford no sort of indication. The fact that the Sun in the horoscope of one is in square to that body in the other horoscope means astrologically nothing whatsoever. Had it been shown, on the contrary, that the place of the Sun in one was in quartile or opposition to the Moon in the other, or that Saturn was on the place of Venus, or Uranus in one horoscope on the place of the Moon or in opposition to the Sun in the other horoscope, that certainly would have been a *prima facie* case against the principles of astrology. But it is not even shown that the individual horoscopes point to unhappiness in marriage, and it is, therefore, open to us to maintain, as the result of long experience, that happiness in marriage is only to be assured where the planets in the horoscopes of the contracting parties are beneficially disposed to one another, or at least where there is an absence of conflicting indications.

But a correspondent writing to the Editor of the *Daily Mirror* from Northampton was so certain of the inability of

astrologers to gauge the prospects of marriage from birth data that he sent a challenge to astrologers in the following form :—

“ ‘ I was born on August 14, 1857, at twelve noon, and a woman whom I chanced to meet and married was born on March 21, 1857, at 4 a.m.

“ ‘ What ought the result to have been? I am willing to pay £5 and make myself known if any astrologer can give me a reading which is substantially correct.’ ”

Having been assured that this “mysterious correspondent” was genuine, and that he would put up the stake, I entered upon the task of convincing him. My time and that of many other students was wasted, however, for no sooner had various delineations of the case been sent in than the articles abruptly terminated, and the correspondence was shut down upon in a most unsatisfactory manner. What became of that £5 note I never learned, nor was I solicitous of its destination; but to arraign astrology and refuse it a hearing I thought to be very much beneath the principles of such a paper as the *Daily Mirror*.

Several querents asked for information: Would a person born in March agree with one born in August? and so forth, clearly showing that the most absurd notions of astrology had been promulgated by some irresponsible scribbler. The month in which a person is born has nothing whatsoever to do with the matter. Everything depends on the individual propensities, inclinations, and characteristics, as revealed in the horoscope of birth—a figure set for the minute, hour, day, month, and year of the nativity—and their correlation with the attributes of the partner. A comparative study of this nature would involve a considerable amount of labour and thought, and the cheapjacks of astrology would be well advised to leave such serious considerations alone. How can an astrologer afford, for instance, to give your case any serious study for a shilling? In a simple test where a striking configuration is seized upon and interpreted, you may get a genuine judgment and expression of opinion, but even at that the work could not be closely done in a succession of cases without putting a great strain on the artist.

I have referred to this matter more particularly with a view to correct a false and popular estimate of astrology, and it would be well, perhaps, to advocate the establishing of a better class of work among those who practise it, in conjunction with a higher scale of fees.

Court Scandal

ALL sorts of speculations have been in the air as to the occasion of the German Emperor's visit to this country. Personally, I incline to the belief that he just wanted a good draught of fresh air. He came to England for the same reason that a man puts his head outside the window of a pest-house. He was temporarily stifled by the atmosphere of the Court of Berlin. The revelations which terminated with the hearing of the libel case against the journalist, Maximilian Haarden, must have been a great shock to the genuine and manly mind of the Emperor, who was first acquainted with the facts through the Crown Prince, and took immediate steps to clear the Court of its odium. He dismissed Eulenburg. "Away with Eulenburg, away with Hohenau for ever!" and put Moltke on half pay. Then, having awakened from this incubus, stifled and choking, he sought relief in the free atmosphere of England.

From an astrological point of view the case was of some interest. The Sun in the horoscope of the German Emperor has progressed to the twenty-sixth degree of the sign Pisces, where it comes into conjunction with the radical place of Mars, having just cleared that of Neptune. The radical position of the Sun was in the seventh degree of Aquarius, and Mars was exactly in that longitude on the conclusion of Haarden's evidence. A solar direction to two malefic planets falling in the midheaven of a horoscope and stimulated by a coincident transit of the fiery and turbulent Mars might certainly have been expected to produce some such effect as that which has now passed into history.

The tenth house, the cusp of which marks the midheaven, is astrologically the region of honour, credit, esteem, and prestige. Neptune is the instigator of plots, seditions, perfidies, subterfuge, deceit, and treachery. It indicates all involved and chaotic relations whatsoever. Mars is the index of freedom, of fractures, explosions, severances, outbursts of heat and anger, and Mars generally clears the air. Having now pointed this astrological note, if all's well that ends well, let us say no more about it.

Planetary Hours

THERE are at present in vogue among European astrologers two different planetary hours, both of which have an astronomical origin, and take their origin from the same point of time. It is a question which of these is to be regarded in astrological practice.

To deal with them in their chronological order, I may mention first the planetary *hora*, consisting of two and a half *ghatikas* of 24 minutes each. This period has been in vogue since the days of Mihira (*circa* 500 A.D.), and is that in common use among the Hindus to-day. The Indian "hour" of 24 minutes is thus seen to be a sub-division of the *hora* or planetary hour, which is divided into 5 parts of 12 minutes each, the *ghatika* being equal to two of such parts.

Time with the Hindu takes its origin from sunrise, and in most parts of the peninsula the hour of a birth is given as so many *ghatikas* and *vighatikas* from sunrise, which latter becomes for that reason a matter of careful observation. One would have imagined that a standard time, depending on the meridian transit of the Sun and fixed stars, would have been adopted by the Oriental astronomers, rather than a variable point such as local sunrise. But if, astrologically speaking, it is found that the sequence of planetary influences commence with sunrise in any locality, then for astrological purposes, at all events, it must be so taken. But at this point we are met with the difficulty which originates with the introduction of the European "planetary" hour. Starting from the same point of time, namely, local sunrise, the period to sunset is divided into twelve equal parts, and the period from sunset to sunrise also into twelve parts, each of which constitutes a "planetary" hour. These "hours," of course, will differ in duration with the season of the year, being shortest in the day and longest in the night about the time of the winter solstice and the reverse of this at the summer solstice. No such variation occurs in the planetary *hora*, which is uniformly 60 minutes in duration.

Seeing, then, that both systems of enumeration count from local sunrise, it is certain that both cannot be astrologically true. On a Saturday, for example, the first "hour" after sunrise is ruled by Saturn, which accordingly gives its name to the day, and is followed by Jupiter, Mars, Sun, etc., in the Chaldean cosmic order. But what is the duration of this "hour"?

Our answer to this question will determine every consideration arising out of a calculation made on the basis of the planetary hour. For it is obvious that if the diurnal planetary hour is held to be 39 minutes at a certain season of the year, the fortieth minute after sunrise will introduce the next "hour" on the European scheme, whereas, according to the Hindus, the first hour will continue for a further 21 minutes.

It is, therefore, of great importance that the question should be empirically settled, and it is not easy to see how the test can be applied with any certainty to the European scheme. It is quite otherwise in regard to the *hora*. This period is divided into sub-periods of 4 minutes each, answering to the thirtieth part of a *râshi*, or sign of the Zodiac, which sub-period is known as a *trimsâmsha*, i.e., "a thirtieth part" (of a sign). This enables one to fix the influence in force at any particular minute of time, while in the European planetary "hour" no such sub-division is recognised. Indeed, it is difficult to see how it could be effected, seeing that the "hour" varies according to the latitude of the place for which the calculation is made.

Students who are disposed to investigate the subject would do well to provide themselves with a copy of the Planetoscope, to which reference has been made in these pages, and the small treatise containing examples of the horary influence of the planets as set forth in Mr. T. S. Eyre's "Our Days and Hours—What They Tell." I am aware that some few among astrologers have made this subject their special study, and it would be of special interest to fellow-students if they would contribute the results of their investigations.

PLANETARY SUB-PERIODS

	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉
1	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉
2	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉	♃
3	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉	♃	♄
4	♆	♇	♈	♉	♃	♄	♅
5	♇	♈	♉	♃	♄	♅	♆
6	♈	♉	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇
7	♉	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈
8	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉
9	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉	♃
10	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉	♃	♄
11	♆	♇	♈	♉	♃	♄	♅
12	♇	♈	♉	♃	♄	♅	♆
13	♈	♉	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇
14	♉	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈
15	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉

The use of the above tables of Hindu planetary sub-periods is as follows: Suppose I should wish to know what planet is ruling at this moment on Saturday, at 10.30 p.m., sunrise on London being 8 a.m.

				H. M.
Time of sunrise	...	...	8	0
Time to noon	...	...	4	0
Time elapsed	...	...	10	30
			14	30

The 15th hour on Saturday is governed by Saturn. Of this hour 30 minutes have elapsed. Then, to find the sub-period ruling, divide 30 by 4. This gives the eighth sub-period, again ruled by Saturn, of which sub-period 2 minutes have elapsed. In 2 minutes, therefore, the sub-period of Jupiter will come into force; and we thus are able to frame the following scale of sub-periods:—

Period.	Sub-Periods.					
	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	Etc.
10'30	'32	'36	'40	'44	'48	Etc.

This ingenious disposition of the planetary influences can be made a matter of daily and even hourly experiment, and those who have employed it are fully satisfied that there is a sub-stratum of truth in it. Can as much be said of our Western method of Planetary Hours?

Birthdays of the Quarter

SINCE everybody will be looking forward hopefully to the coming year, it may prove a useful, if somewhat thankless, task to make a brief survey of the chief birthdays of the year, especially marking those whereon the planetary positions give warning of need for more than usual prudence and care. If, *en passant*, one can strike a happy note so much the better for all of us.

To commence with, the eclipse of the Sun on the 3rd *January* makes a year of radical changes for those born thereon, with danger to health and fortunes. Sudden partings, the breaking of ties and alienation of interests will mark the course of the ensuing twelve months. On the 4th and 5th the Sun in conjunction with Uranus and opposition to Neptune will cause plots and schemes detrimental to the position of those born on these dates. The 8th brings mental troubles, worries, anxieties, and unrest. Some will be involved in litigation. The 10th is not favourable to progress, and health should be carefully maintained. The 13th and 14th are excellent anniversaries, and those born thereon will have a prosperous and beneficial year, albeit some domestic troubles may intervene. The 17th and 18th show obstacles and cross influences at work, but the 19th is fortunate. The 29th shows improvement, but the 30th and 31st are full of adversities, and unusual pluck and determination, together with thrift and caution, will be needed during the ensuing year.

In *February*, the 2nd is noted as a birthday of change, mainly enterprising, but unremunerative. The 4th is fortunate and happy. The 10th shows a bereavement, also the 12th, which, with the 13th, may be regarded as unfortunate. The 17th

shows loss of position and ill-health. The 22nd is dangerous, and warns of accidents. The 27th is advantageous and progressive, but the 28th shows domestic troubles and family bereavement.

In *March*, the solar aspects are good between the 2nd and 8th, but unfortunate about the 10th, which shows losses and vexations. On the 15th a bad patch is encountered, and this lasts till the 23rd, the 18th, 19th, 21st, and 22nd being especially evil. Many difficulties and impediments will be encountered and the progress will be slow. The 23rd and 24th are probably the best birthdays of the quarter. The 25th is not fortunate, however, and there is not much in favour of any birthday during the last week in March, though the 27th, 30th, and 31st are not without their advantages, which the prudent will know how to utilize.

The *transits* during the quarter are evil for those born on or about the 4th to 9th July and the 4th to 8th January in any year. Saturn impedes and afflicts all those born between the 12th and 23rd March or the 14th and 24th September. But benefits will accrue to those whose birthdays fall between the 26th July and the 4th August.

NOTICES

Old Moore's Monthly Messenger.
Published by Foulsham and Co., 4, Pilgrim Street, E.C. Monthly 2d.
—This magazine, written upon popular lines, is a veritable mine of curious information regarding Astrology, Divination, Chiromancy, and kindred subjects. Three numbers are already issued, and these will serve the reader as examples of the interesting matter which will fill the volume.

The Occult Review (London: Wm. Rider and Sons, Ltd., 164, Aldersgate Street, E.C. Monthly 6d. net).—This is the only British journal dealing exclusively with psychic phenomena, telepathy, visions, hauntings, and similar subjects of modern psychological enquiry. It contains a variety of articles, illustrations, and reviews, and is well edited.

Wilson's Dictionary, by Sepharial.—This publication, which is now under subscription at the price of 10s. 6d., is in the hands of Mr. Philip Wellby, 6, Henrietta Street, W.C. The matter is in preparation, and subscriptions are coming in steadily. A decision will be come to in regard to production shortly, and subscribers will be communicated with in due course. Meanwhile, "The Forecast" can receive subscriptions in respect of the publication. The edition will be limited to five hundred copies, and will be published at

the price of 21s. net. The volume will incorporate the bulk of Sepharial's most recent observations and researches. Students of astrology will no doubt take this opportunity of securing this valuable work at subscription price. An order form is enclosed herein, and may be signed and forwarded direct to the Publishers.

Racing Selections.—Owing to the fogs prevailing at the time of the Manchester November Handicap, and the consequent displacement of several events, including the last great Handicap of the season, Sepharial was unable to advise his correspondents in time to prevent loss. The advices sent out 21st November were from calculations made on the schedule time of the race, 2.40 p.m., which, overnight, was altered to 2.30; then finally taking place at 2.0. This is the first opportunity Sepharial has had of offering an explanation.

The Weather

FROM the position of the luminaries at the solar ingress to Capricorn, I judge that the ensuing quarter will be marked by unusual severity of weather. Mars and Saturn falling together in the 6th House shows violent storms and torrential rains. The lunation for *January* shows a very hard month. About the time of the eclipse the solar aspects are such as to produce high gales and cyclones, very destructive to property, and shipping disasters will be numerous. Stormy influences prevail between the 8th and 12th. Wind and rain characterise the weather about the 14th, and the end of the month will bring violent thunderstorms, with hail, sleet, or snow.

Earthquake periods occur on the 3rd to 5th, 24th, and 31st of the month. *Storm periods*, 3rd to 5th, 8th to 12th, and 27th to 31st.

February opens stormy and wet, and continues unsettled to the 11th, with copious rain about the 10th. A warmer temperature with more open weather prevails from the 11th to 20th. Toward the close of the month there will be more rain, with high winds.

Earthquakes are likely about the 1st, 8th, and 29th. *Storms* are not in evidence.

March opens stormy, clearing on the 3rd for bright, crisp weather, which is likely to continue to the 13th. Colder, with downfall, about the 15th to 18th. Finer, with keen air, to the 22nd, then a break for warmer weather to the end of the month.

Earthquakes are probable on the 1st, 9th, 12th, and 13th. *Storms* on the 1st, 15th, and 25th.

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