

MOORE'S JOURNAL
THE UNKNOWN

No. 6, SPRING ISSUE, 1931

THE NEW CYCLE

THINKING FOR RESULTS

LIGHT FROM HIGHER WORLDS

HOW SPIRITS CONTROL MORTALS

NATURAL WAY TO SUCCESS

HOW TO DEVELOP ABILITY

THE WINNING FACTOR

THE LAW OF INCREASE

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DEDICATED TO THE DISCOVERY OF TRUTH
AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF MAN

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NOTES AND COMMENTS

THE NEW CYCLE

In the first number of this publication I dealt with the New Era and its unseen cause. I wish to state now that the New Cycle commences in about two hundred years time when a New Order of an entirely different character and structure will be established. People feel and see that the old conditions are breaking up owing to the rapid advancement of science, the multiplicity of new inventions and discoveries which inevitably bring to an end many old-time beliefs, views and policies. The foundations of modern civilisation are being shifted, the basis of ancient institutions altered; and, there is in consequence, a tremendous unrest and discontent in the world. The mass of the people, however, still cling tenaciously to the old institutions—religious, especially, which have buttressed the Christian Era, and although these are crumbling, the belief is widely held that the old can be restored and modernised. This view is a fallacy. A New Cycle marks a break—not a development out of the old order but a clean-cut, radical departure.

THE OLD ORDER

The cycle to which we belong and known as the Christian Era is as distinct and different from the one preceding as the New Cycle will be from the present era. The old pagan ideas of gods and goddesses which held sway prior to the inception of Christianity were wiped out in a few

centuries, although great efforts were made by pagan priests and societies to retain them. We are coming to the end of the Christian Era and already the new trend of thought among advanced minds provides a clue as to the character of the New Cycle. These cycles of the planet come and go like the seasons of the year. Each brings its own elements and characteristics. The present cycle is one of darkness and chaos in which ignorance and oppression have enslaved mankind. Its predominant characteristics are expressed in the orthodoxy and monarchy of the different nations. These old institutions with their creeds, dogmas, doctrines, rituals, ceremonials and authority belong to an age which is passing. They have served their purpose and are being swept away. Nothing can prevent their disappearance within the current cycle and all efforts to revive them thereafter will be in vain.

THE NEW ORDER

The approaching cycle is one of Light, and utterly foreign to the old order. The pendulum of human thought swings from a gross materialism to an understanding of the Spirit. The mind will slowly realise that the Unseen governs the Seen; that the world of matter and physical effects is entirely subservient to the forces of the Spirit. Already a refining influence is observable in the world's criteria of standards and values. There is a leavening of classes and races, a new understanding of inter-racial relationships and a recognition of the fundamental unity of the whole human family. A New Teaching free from dogma, creed and established doctrines will aim to reveal the individual to himself and his true relations to the Creator and his fellow beings. There will be nothing binding with the New Light. Perfect freedom and tolerance will be taught and practised. Each man and woman will learn by precept and example how to express his or her own Highest Light in accordance with the Ever-present Inspiration of the Creator. There will be no intermediary, no priest or saviour to act as an agent between the individual and his Source. Each will be inspired to think for himself, to form his own conceptions in the Light of Truth, as it is revealed by a spiritual quickening of the interior being. The sin or mistake will be for any individual to renounce his or her own light and freedom of thought, and to become attached to a fixed doctrine or organisation where the judgment of one person or a group of persons shall be binding upon them. In addition, one who sees further will not enforce that greater light on one less unfolded. The Rule of the New Cycle, therefore, will

be for the individual to express his own Highest Light by inspiration through attunement with the Creator and the revelation will be qualified by the degree of development and grade of spiritual functioning.

In contrast to the old order there will be no organised religions and established churches, no systems of philosophy and schools of theoretical thought, no worship of saints, lords and masters; but, a free development of the individual according to his or her natural equipment of faculties and talents. In the past individuals have rarely stood alone and unfolded their own thought or sought to express Light and Truth in their own way; general conditions have militated against this attainment. Psychic atmospheres of dark and undeveloped thought have submerged the richer possibilities of a real soul development. Man has suffered from cramped and perverted expressions of Truth, while the immense possibilities of the untrammelled intellect have lain uncultivated and unknown.

The New Era will witness the triumph of individualism within a world-wide brotherhood of mutual understanding and tolerance, of goodwill and liberty. Here, also, is a remedy for the world's evils. In the old order, individuals have been enslaved and controlled in masses and often to their great hurt and destruction. In the new order, this state of affairs will be impossible; co-operation will rule, not despotism.

THE PASSING OF ROME

Although the dynasties of Europe and their systems of oppression have gone down there still remains that great and last stronghold of the old order—The Roman Catholic Church. The question now being asked is: "How long will this ancient institution continue to resist the forces of progress; how long, indeed, will it live?" Its main pillars—the old monarchies have crashed, and standing practically alone, its passing is but a matter of a century or so. The Vatican foresees the threatening danger from a swift-moving world and is making giant efforts to retain its mediæval grip upon modern thought; and not without surface results as various people prominent in art, politics and literature are turning to Rome. Observing vast changes in the world and feeling the sands shifting under their feet and unable to solve the problems of life in spite of their "intellectualism" they surrender to the binding dogmatism of the Church. Outwardly they will affirm that Reason is their guide, but inwardly they will feel weak and incapable of sturdy, independent thought. In the strong, fixed doctrines of Roman

Catholicism their spiritual frailty finds the prop it needs. In yielding up their mental freedom they step down upon the path of declension. Readers of these notes should not be influenced by the example of famous names to go and do likewise. *The great gifts of the Creator to Man are Reason and Freedom. While these are preserved he is safe.*

TWISTED TRUTH

I frequently receive letters from persons who are obsessed with the false theory of reincarnation. Will these good people please save my time by carefully reading the article on Theosophy in the second number of this publication. The theory is presented in such a plausible manner that minds unaccustomed to exact thinking are easily trapped into this quicksand of oriental metaphysics, and once caught it is evidently very difficult to escape. Reincarnation is one of the most mischievous doctrines invented by man and finds no support in Nature. No evidence of any real value is forthcoming to substantiate the doctrine. The only testimony available is the dogmatic assumption of the Theosophical School of thought that it alone accounts for the inequalities of human existence. There are other and superior explanations that discount the rebirth theory. Pure Truth is inverted by minds in darkness to enslave mortals and spirits. The Universal Soul perpetually reincarnates into individual souls but that is a very different teaching to the oriental inversion. There are no repeated physical rebirths nor can there be in fact. No person will actually live more than once on earth. The supposition that we live over and over again in different bodies in various ages as different personalities or as split-up fragments of a Higher Ego is sheer conjecture and liable to lead the mind into a state of chaos; indeed, that is exactly what happens in the end. I speak from observation and experience in connection with this oriental teaching. The theory is most alluring but it is fundamentally unsound and should be ignored.

BONDAGE OF ANCIENT THOUGHT

Great libraries are in existence and these are extolled as sources of knowledge and wisdom. Up to a point good literature is a useful informer of what other minds have thought and experienced, but in questions of religion and philosophy it is detrimental to become enslaved by ancient doctrines. The Great Creative Spirit is ever active, and each

age brings its own revelation of Truth which meets the particular needs of the peoples born in that age. Any doctrinal presentment of Truth, religion or philosophy of a past age belongs to that period and not to the present. It is inadequate to modern requirements. It should not, therefore, be taught as Truth. The Light of the Creator is ever-present and pure minds trained properly will inspire Truth naturally and present it in a form which is applicable to the needs of modern times. Vast numbers of people, however, are in bondage to ancient thought. There are the Platonists and Jews, Theosophists and Buddhists, Taoists and Christians, while many of the latter have forgotten the Message in their adoration of the Master—who are all slaves to ancient thought. Is not the Creator all-sufficient for each age and generation? Will not Truth come in a form which exactly meets the need of the race, where purity and freedom of thought is recognised and practised? Who shall dare to say that the Creator is not all-sufficient or ever-present; or, that Truth is not easily perceived and understood. Reason is the gift which makes man god-like and sets him free. Walk in the Light of Reason and follow no prophet, teacher or saviour who denies your right to think for yourself and to worship the Creator in your own way and to serve Him as you judge is best according to your own highest intelligence. The world has been dictated to and dominated long enough by minds who have sought rulership and place. The time has arrived when the bulk of the people must be freed from the bondage of ancient minds and the tyranny of obsolete institutions.

THE LURE OF THE OCCULT

Again I am impelled to call attention to the false claims of advertising schools of occultism. Students who aspire to adeptship should know that there is no school, order or society in the position to confer exclusive powers and occult knowledge through a rite of initiation, study of private script, entrance into lodges or by payment of fees, etc. There is no royal path to adeptship and the mastery of the unexplained forces in Nature. One can only grow into an understanding of Truth by study and meditation, and acquire a mastery over the elements and conditions of existence by effort and experience. Every person's life is an individual problem which that person alone can solve. Teachers may assist by instruction, encouragement and example; that is all. There is a real danger in oriental yoga practises as given out by certain occult schools. Some forms of eastern yoga are highly undesirable for western people.

Their specific effect is to bind up the spirit and force a psychic growth which is liable to unbalance the mind. We are aware of cases where persons have engaged in these occult practises to their great detriment. Usually the mind is so taken up with them that it loses grip of the practical affairs of life. In consequence, these misguided people eventually suffer great trials and losses, and are finally forced to give up interest in painful disillusionment. Oriental occultism is, undoubtedly, a snare and a pitfall to aspirants for occult power and is best left alone.

IS SPIRITUALISM DETERIORATING?

Spiritualism began its career with a grand ideal. Its pioneers were undoubtedly inspired and came at a time when the world was immersed in the fogs of materialism and the bondage of creeds. It came with a message of Hope, of *certainly* in its phenomena of an After Life. It was supported by a beautiful philosophy of liberal thought, angel-communion and spiritual progression; but, to-day, its Message is being submerged by a surfeit of phenomena-hunting and corrupted by commercialism. The public are being told from platform and Press that they can obtain help and guidance in their worldly affairs by consultation with the spirits. Such abuse of psychic privileges was never intended by the Higher Intelligences who inspired the movement. The sacred gift of spiritual mediumship, however, is being misused in many places. Psychically sensitive persons are being encouraged to cultivate their powers with the object of making a livelihood; to trade in psychic phenomena and messages from the Beyond as so much merchandise. Schools are being started in various centres which offer to provide psychic instruction to all and sundry on the payment of fees. The question of suitability and motive is not always considered. The plain truth that the gift of spiritual mediumship is *rare* is not properly emphasised, so many persons are misled. When an individual is wanted by the Spirit People for a special labour, that one is usually overshadowed, developed and trained from childhood; also, the process is not unknown to the one concerned. To tell every other person, therefore, that he or she is sensitive and should develop mediumship is all wrong; and professional and other psychics who make these suggestions are damaging the great cause of Spiritualism. No wonder the quality of the so-called spirit messages excite the contempt of the critic. Some aspects of the movement are so crude that were it not for the self-sacrificing efforts of devoted and high-minded workers it would soon go down. I am afraid, however, that the rot of commercialism is

corrupting the movement. Let those engaged in the task of expounding Spiritualism labour for love; many do who feel called to the work; but, the self-seeking exponents who measure out their services according to the profits derived thereby should be weeded out of the movement. All clap-trap talk about the labourer being worthy of his hire does not hold good with a great spiritual movement. Let those who are sincere put their faith in Higher Powers to the test; their needs will not be overlooked in other ways.

MATERIALISM IS DARKNESS

In every walk of life there are individuals who delight to deny the reality of the spiritual universe and assert that spirits and angels are myths, and that persons who believe in them are either fools or lunatics. These mortals vain in their self-conceit dwell in profound spiritual darkness. Imprisoned within the sphere of the five physical senses they are loud in their repudiation of unseen realities. They pride themselves on their practical commonsense. They are unaware that in truth they are extremely ignorant and undeveloped. Some of our physical scientists are notorious offenders. Having amassed a vast store of material learning, a great array of data and theory on the physical plane, they proudly imagine that all truth can be found by physical experiment and research, and that which cannot be proven by sense phenomena can be discounted. Within themselves, however, they feel weak and helpless. Their minds are over-burdened with corporeal knowledge; they feel something is missing and a settled depression sooner or later seizes them. At death they awaken to spirit life in a state of confusion, helpless as infants and as imbeciles in spiritual things, while a long and painful experience of shedding old learning and a new adjustment to the actualities of spirit life faces them. Why? Because their minds have been developed in wrong directions; they have spent themselves in accumulating knowledge which is useless in the next world; they have buried themselves in the mire and darkness of matter; they have gone downwards instead of upwards; they have denied reality for the shadow. It is necessary to speak forcibly on these matters. The world is filled with tomes of learning expounding unsound theories and false philosophies. All material knowledge not in line with spiritual Truth is darkness and void in the next world. It is a waste of time to give attention to the views and opinions of persons who are materialistic in habit and outlook; who look upon this life as the only one. They may be shrewd and intellectual

in worldly affairs, even honoured and successful, but their souls are shrouded in gloom; they are low in spiritual grade, being undeveloped; and, on transition to spirit life they can barely rise above the corpor level. Their vehement denials will make no difference to this fact; but, it is most important that their much vaunted material culture should not be allowed to discourage aspiring minds from seeking a spiritual understanding of Life's higher expressions.

UNKNOWN CHANNELS CHOSEN FOR NEW TRUTHS

Another circumstance which should be emphasised is that a new revelation or form of Truth never comes through the established universities and academies of learning. History records that when a New Light or Revelation of Truth is given to mankind, it is usually seized by the nation's teachers and rulers who then distort and misrepresent it in a way which will maintain and strengthen their worldly status and increase their power of domination over the people. The great Guardian Angels of humanity, therefore, choose other and often unknown channels when they wish to present New Truths to the world.

REMARKS

This issue of *The Unknown* contains a series of articles on success which will be completed in the next number with answers to any questions sent in relating to this topic. So many worthy men and women are complaining of material adversity that a special effort has been made to present in a clear and concise form that specific instruction, based on psychological principles and laws, which may be termed the Natural Way to Success, and the normal means employed, knowingly or unknowingly, by the great and successful of each generation. Also, I wish to draw special attention to a great new series—*Light from Higher Worlds*—which will bring a unique and remarkable revelation of Truth. The facts and realities of spirit life must be made known. Meanwhile, may I ask readers to be good enough to order their copies of No. 7, ready in July next, from this office. Such action will be appreciated.

THE EDITOR

THINKING FOR RESULTS

§6

All thinking that promotes harmony and increase is right thinking, because growth is the law of Nature.

(5) HOW TO THINK ABOUT PURSUITS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.—Few persons think correctly regarding their work or pursuits, in consequence, they do not obtain the maximum of good results from their labours. It is a beneficial procedure to take a constructive view of your employment, no matter what it may be. To look upon your daily work as a means to progress, an avenue of expression, an opportunity for the exercise of intelligence and power, and a pathway to better things is to bring yourself into right relations with it. You thereby extract the best it can offer for the development of your nature and the attainment of your ideals. Such an attitude places the mind in a position where it is able to evolve superior ideas and profitable plans for your own betterment and the advancement of your work. As you improve you must inevitably advance. The larger opportunity will come as soon as you are ready for it. Fitness is the standard of advancement everywhere.

On the other hand, when you take a low view of your employment and look down upon your work as being beneath your dignity or unworthy of your best efforts, you deliberately enter the sliding, downward scale; that is, you will fail to express the fullness of intelligence and power within by doing less than your best, thereby gravitating into a state of inferiority where nobody will appreciate either you or your work, and where there is no appreciation there is little chance of promotion. To get on and prosper, you must put forth the very best efforts of which you are capable. Your merit may not be recognised at the beginning, but after a time the actual results of your exertions will tell. You will have grown more capable and efficient, because you have steadily developed the best there is in you with the result that you will feel equal to the greater task, the higher position or the better place. Should advancement fail to come through the appreciation of others, then by your own efforts you will be inspired to create the greater opportunity. All progress is a matter of ready accomplishment. Whether slow or fast you can absolutely ensure it by constructive thinking, which in turn, leads

to constructive efforts, the accumulative value of which is the grand lever to a higher place in life.

Similarly, the circumstances of life should be viewed constructively; that is, they should be looked upon as containing varied elements and valuable possibilities for discovery and use. In truth, there is no circumstance or group of conditions which does not embrace some *latent* good which can be developed and utilised to promote progress and gain. No matter where or how you may be placed in the world to-day there is a vast kingdom of undeveloped good all around you and this knowledge will quicken your power of discernment and awaken the desire to use all the elements of value which you may discover to profitable ends. As you gain a deeper insight into the greater possibilities of things you will naturally want to develop them and in this activity you may at any time make valuable discoveries and thereby enrich your mind and enlarge your life. Whatever your sphere of life search for the larger possibilities and undeveloped elements of good therein and you will infallibly progress.

(6) HOW TO THINK ABOUT HEALTH AND SICKNESS.—Health is the normal state of man; ill-health is abnormal and was never conceived or intended in the original scheme of physical life-expression. Sickness is the direct or indirect result of the violation of natural laws. Nature's ideal is one of wholeness for every life-organism; therefore, it is scientific and correct to hold in mind the ideal of perfect health, and to cultivate the habit of thinking that "The Real Man is Well."

The real man or ideal of the Creative Mind is whole, perfect and complete in the metaphysical realm; the organised physical form expression being an outward effect, a symbolised appearance, a material presentment of this inner reality. Based on principles of absolute harmony, truth, beauty and goodness, the body should manifest order not disorder, harmony not discord, strength not weakness, health not sickness. The laws of Being ever work to establish and maintain harmony and balance in the human system and when these laws are not interfered with by false thinking and wrong action a state of wholeness is manifested.

Accordingly, no concessions whatever should be made to the negative suggestions of others and the adverse impressions of environment. Clear and positive thinking along right lines will invariably remove threatening symptoms of physical trouble. Practically, all sickness may be traced to negative thought and the admittance of a confused condition into the system. Habitual pessimism, dark views and mental warfare are forms

of wrong thinking which lead to the neglect or violation of life's laws. and when these are transgressed the natural functions get out of order. But assist Nature by cheerful thinking, agreeable feelings of gratitude and love, goodwill and harmony, and many forms of disorder and sickness will disappear. Nature ever works to heal, to build, to renew and make whole; all her laws are designed to promote this end. Wholesome states of mind and pleasant emotions are the keys to good health, jovial spirits and vigour of mind and body.

To counteract the effects of wrong thought, think right thought; and, the truth is that, The Real Man is Well. Think in accordance with this fundamental state of Being, and try to *feel* its reality, and you will positively ward off numerous disorders. Affirm daily, "*I am well, strong and happy,*" which you are in Truth. Firmly maintain this attitude of mind and you will not only create a state of mental positiveness to negative and disorderly thought but you will reflect in your person the happy results of such wholesome thinking in better health, serenity of mind and strength of body. You are a part of Nature and when you think in agreement with her purpose to maintain a balance of harmony by cheerful thinking and pleasant feelings you are far less liable to violate her laws. Mental turmoil and wrong thinking as the picturing of trouble and disease tends to create elements of confusion and disorder in the system which result in sickness owing to the mind's dominance over all physical states. But when you constantly recognise the truth that the Real Man is Whole, you proceed to create conditions of order and harmony as your thinking co-operates with Nature's purpose which is to keep you well.

(7) HOW TO THINK ABOUT SUCCESS AND FAILURE.—Success is generally the outcome of skilful plans, well-timed efforts and persistency; while, failure usually results from badly-planned, ill-timed efforts and a lack of perseverance. In most instances, however, failure is not without its lesson and often proves a stepping-stone to success. Our problem is how to ensure the one and avoid the other. Success and failure are both the results of action, and all action is the outcome of thinking; therefore, success must be organised in the mind before it can be achieved in the outer world. This process involves three essentials; first, a recognition that the individual is the primary cause of his success or failure, and not any external power; second, that it is Nature's intention that he should succeed and enjoy the fruits of his labours; and, third, that he can succeed

and prosper abundantly provided he exercises his endowment of intelligence and power to its full capacity.

It may be safely asserted that no individual would fail in life or in any legitimate undertaking were the whole of his intelligence and energy exercised and properly applied. Man is the repository of a wonderful intelligence and of sources of energy which are rarely tapped. Deep within his mind there are rich stores of latent knowledge comprising not only the racial inheritance of intuitive wisdom-experience, but higher forms of intelligence yet to be evolved.

To gain information of value in an emergency or need, a strong and insistent demand will call up from within the mind the seed-thought of the particular intelligence or knowledge required in the form of an idea or combination of ideas which should be promptly recognised and applied to the matter in hand. In this manner, the ability to reason clearly and the power to judge accurately will be greatly enhanced. Indeed, better and larger results can always be obtained by a thorough use of one's present store of knowledge, supplemented by an indefatigable search for more and more information along the same or co-related lines.

So far as failure is concerned, the fact should be remembered that the *cause* of failure is almost always incipient in the original plan of the individual and clear thinking and an exact analysis would discern and correct it. Therefore, one's greatest efforts need not be wasted or misapplied. Success here is not considered in the financial sense but in regard to achievement. Whatever you plan, do it well. Think out your scheme in detail, arrange each part in its proper place, so that the whole shall dovetail or blend in an orderly manner toward the construction of the ideal or object in view. Then, go to work and actualise it. As you can only do so by degrees, let "patience and perseverance" be your motto, remembering that these indispensable qualities will enable you to overcome all difficulties. In every instance, get your plan right, for that is half-way to success.

It is also important to avoid forming plans or decisions when feeling tired or when the mind is clouded with a sense of gloom. At such moments, proceed to create bright and cheerful mental pictures or go and associate with happy people forgetting for the time being the things that disturb your peace of mind. Modern psychology demonstrates that correct and successful plans are only possible of formation when the mind is highly active, clear and bright. The reason is simple. When the mind is in a state of gloom, heaviness and depression, its action is sluggish

and weak; the faculties are unable to work properly; hence, you are liable to be misled or to come to wrong conclusions. How can the mind see what steps to take or what course to pursue when it is in a darkened state, and the mind is always in the dark when you are feeling low and depressed.

On these occasions, persist in turning your thoughts to pleasant topics and bright themes. Picture the ideal side of things. Seek another point of view, one that encourages and stimulates. There is always such a point of view no matter what the circumstances. If you feel unable to take a higher point of view by a personal analysis of your condition, take up and read this book or some similar publication which treats of things as they are in truth and not as they appear. While you are searching for the cheerful thought and the truer point of view you will begin to sense a change taking place in your being. Things will look brighter and you will feel more hopeful. Then as you enter a lighter and clearer atmosphere of thought, the right idea will come and the correct plan will unfold into your consciousness and reveal what to do for the best results; because, when the mind is in the light—and there is a world of pure light within the soul—you will see clearly the path to take for success.

Failures often furnish opportunities for success. They signify that some effort has been made to achieve the ideal, and all worthy effort to reach out for the better and the greater even when it appears to end in failure promotes the development of the individual. Learn to plan more precisely, clearly; and, make your efforts stronger and more direct; but never make the mistake of working for ends that your inner conscience disapproves or which leave a sense of inferiority and guilt. When you seem to shrink inwardly or feel uneasy as you contemplate some object to be achieved, it is a warning that something is wrong. Change your plan or abandon it. There is something better you can aim at and work for. Find it and move forward to success. Studiously endeavour to secure the higher view of life which declares that there are numberless opportunities and limitless possibilities everywhere for improvement, advancement and usefulness; then, try to discover and develop the hidden possibilities in yourself and in your life, magnifying the Good always for that is the positive side of Reality. Do not lament the apparent lack of opportunity but proceed to use your present degree of ability and power to make opportunities. That is the pathway to a real success, the means whereby you can steadily develop your life, enlarge your interests,

stimulate and train your powers and move forward step by step to the greater goal in view.

§7

CAST OUT FEAR-THOUGHT.—Nothing hinders and represses the growing intelligence of man or the incipient powers of children as the indulgence in thoughts of fear, hurt and limitation. The bane of man's existence for ages past has been the clinging to old, dark, false beliefs based on the fear of evil. Good is the positive side of Reality—the Essence of Being; and, clear, true and strong thinking based on a belief in Good is the potent corrective of man's errors and the ills that result therefrom. The maladies of social and industrial life are largely the outcome of fear and ignorance, a lack of true balance in the active nature of man. We all know of instances where an individual has had his whole life embittered or biassed by false teaching, a mistaken doctrine or by some strong fear—a deep dread—impressed upon his mind in early youth, and which has harassed him, consciously and subconsciously, all the days of his after-life, undermining his peace of mind and robbing him of that power of keen appreciation and true enjoyment which is the birthright of all.

Hosts of men and women indulge daily in dark and fearful thinking. Ignorant of the creative power of the mind they are constantly producing conditions that are detrimental to their comfort and welfare. Every individual, consciously and unconsciously, builds his own condition, and constantly registers in his life the effects of his own thought-activities. There is no escape from this law. He reaps the harvest of his own sowing. He cannot reap happiness who has sown the seed-thoughts of discord; nor good who has sown evil. Fear-thought is an insidious cause of many disagreeable conditions but it can be outgrown.

A simple and effective process for removing fear-thought and other negative states of mind is to cultivate the habit of looking for and expecting the good. Begin by appreciating as fully as you can every blessing you now enjoy; number them in mind and catalogue their benefits. You cannot do this without expanding the mind into a larger realisation of good. Then throw out a mental invitation for good of every kind to flow into your life with a firm expectation that it will come. In other words, fill your mind with ideas of beauty, truth and goodness so that all others are crowded out. Incidentally, you will build up a

bright and wholesome mental state, a positive attitude of mind that will act as a magnet to attract into your sphere of expression the best that life can give. All fear-thought is based upon a belief in and the expectation of evil; and is outgrown as the mind gives its whole attention to the truth, reality and essential Goodness of Life and Being.

HOW TO ATTAIN.—In the endeavour to attain the ideal in whatever form it may be sought, never strive too hard or seek to make forced efforts at expression. Simply shape in mind a well-defined mental image of what you desire to be or what you desire to accomplish, and then picture this thought-structure as vividly and as completely as you are able on frequent occasions. After awhile, this ideal mind-picture will almost assume an aspect of living actuality, so real and so palpable will it appear to your inner mental vision. In such form it will act as a constant spur to your efforts and inspire you to work out in tangible life that which grips your heart and soul. Discriminate, however, and hold before your "mind's eye" only such images that are good and beautiful, true and inspiring, as the mind is a potent creative cause and whatever you originate within will, sooner or later, find expression in the without. Ideals may take various forms in accordance with the line of expression, need or desire, and sphere of action; but, always aim at the best and such as will benefit others as well as yourself. You cannot continue this practise for any length of time before opportunities will arise and the way will open for you to advance. It is a law of life. Whatever you build in the mind-world—the metaphysical realm of causes—must eventually find embodiment in tangible form or expression in action. Indeed, this simple method of clear visualization or mind-picturing is the inner, vital secret to all grades of attainment, and without it, little or nothing can be successfully created or accomplished.

THE NEW ATTITUDE.—An uplifting truth emerges from this study of the mind and that is: *the higher the point of view the truer it is*. When one is down on the lower planes of thought the vision is narrowed and judgment is warped; in consequence, existence appears as a barren waste, dark in outlook, difficult to live and apparently futile. But when one goes up in mind to the mountain-top and views life from that angle of loftier and wider vision, it spreads out before one in a glowing vista of entrancing scena, possibilities and beauties which inspire hope, courage and action to go on our way rejoicing. Indeed, an inner

spiritual conviction arises that the ultimate outcome of existence will be a rich and magnificent reward of gratified longings and fulfilled aspirations amid the immensities of Infinite Good in time and eternity, and that, perhaps, the hardest sort of life one can imagine is in reality, a wonderful privilege, a grand and sacred gift from the Heart of Infinite Love; and, so it is, when viewed from the shining heights of Eternal Truth. On those mountain-tops of exalted human consciousness it is revealed that all the laws of life and the universe were originally framed that every soul shall be gloriously and abundantly recompensed for having lived an earth-existence of struggle and travail; and that Man shall, in the finality of life's development, be rewarded and not punished for his mistakes; and that the suffering arising from the struggle of spirit with matter was necessitated in the part he had to play in the great divine drama of evolution.

When dark clouds of adversity gather and you are encompassed on all sides with conditions of confusion and trouble or in a state of mental darkness, pause and reflect that you are as the man who got lost in the depths of a huge forest. Surrounded on all sides by thick, tangled undergrowth without the least idea in which direction to proceed to find a way out, he sat down in despair at the foot of a big tree, when suddenly the idea occurred to him that if he were to climb to the top of that tree, he might be able to locate his exact position. He decides to do so and after tremendous efforts he reaches the top and is enraptured with the vision. He sees the border of the forest close at hand but in a certain direction, while in the other directions the forest appeared interminable. Carefully observing his position he descends and proceeds to move forward in the right direction. Shortly, his efforts are rewarded, he sees the light breaking through the thick undergrowth and soon is at liberty. By taking the higher point of view he saw his way out of the dark and oppressive forest. So with the confused, tangled and dark situations of life. *There is always a way out*, and by taking a higher point of view when storms of evil and adversity threaten, you will be led to see your way out; that is, the right thought will come, the exact idea or plan you need and the course you are to take will open before you; because, you have risen on the wings of aspiration to a higher level of being where the larger view is obtained and the true path you are to follow is revealed. In other words, you rise above your trouble, overcome adversity, dissolve your doubts and solve your problem simply by exercising your own innate superior intelligence.

The great problems of existence have quite simple solutions when approached in the proper manner. To explain: whenever you engage in serious thought concerning an important matter or subject, do not deal with it entirely from a low or inferior point of view when you may as easily deal with it from a high or superior point of view. The difference in results is immense. In the former case, your deductions rest upon a faulty basis as a limited outlook or a clouded vision, and to that extent are unsound or misleading. Contrarily, the high point of view gives you the loftier outlook, the wider vision, and you see further and know more.

For instance, we will suppose you have recently suffered a severe reverse or disappointment. The usual attitude adopted is one of regret and mortification and the thoughts are usually allowed to dwell on the dark side of the affair. Now, the better way to meet such an unpleasant event is to reflect that there is always a bright side as well as a dark side, and that you can obtain a vision of the better side by taking a higher point of view. It is thoroughly scientific to take this attitude because the bright side embraces the greater good. Indeed, you have no use for the dark side, so you will cease to mourn over it, and decide that there is something better to come, and which you would have missed had the rebuff not occurred. As a matter of fact, there is always a larger good at hand, although it is rarely perceived. Why not then rise to a loftier altitude and look for the good points of the affair or circumstance? In doing so you will evolve superior conceptions that will induce the clearer vision, the stronger aspirations to advance and to put forth efforts along new lines which sooner or later will bring your heart's desires.

The simple truth to be remembered is that *thought is ever the prophecy of its own fulfilment*. In different language, every move you make is preceded by some idea or plan. Therefore, to realise greater good you must first perceive it and then plan to actualise it; to win success you must plan success; to improve your life you must scheme for its betterment, and so on. The ideal ever precedes the actual. To use all things to good ends and so bring about the best in every phase of existence you must not only look for the good but give your whole life to it; then, the best will come to pass. An individual becomes like his thoughts, and his thoughts are always like the things he thinks about. It is a good rule, therefore, never to think strongly or picture vividly in mind anything that you do not wish to become true; rather, to allow your thoughts to dwell on its opposite—the good you want. There are

various processes of thought which bring desirable results but they are all based on this principle: *Whenever you wish to change your thinking, simply change your point of view; and, when you wish to obtain a better result take a higher point of view.* Nothing could be simpler and truer; certainly nothing gives one such a wonderful command of the thinking faculty—the greatest force in the life of man.



Avoid getting into a groove. Do not confine your thought and interest to one world—one body of thinkers or one group of workers. Touch life from different angles. Set up many points of contact. Broaden out your interests and enlarge your world of thought and action.

* * *

Gather the riches of the mind. No tyrant can rob you of these treasures. They are imperishable.

* * *

When you know much you can do much.

LIGHT FROM HIGHER WORLDS

I

All real knowledge is based upon objective experience. Man grows in wisdom by mastering the elements and conditions around him. Knowledge which is to endure must be obtained objectively. Man is born with the desire to gather knowledge in the experiences of his own person and that Knowledge is real and imperishable.

Book learning is not knowledge; theoretical instruction is not knowledge; beliefs are not knowledge; subjective impressions and explorations are not knowledge. Experience teaches true knowledge. Man on earth has no real knowledge of Higher Worlds because he has had no actual objective experience of them. The learned minds of earth, therefore, deny their existence. That is Man's corporeal limitation. It is no proof, however, that Higher Worlds do not exist.

It is the Plan of Creation that the souls of men and women should germinate on corporeal planets and experience the bondage and darkness of that initial state. It is also the Plan of the Creator that Man should suffer physical death that his soul may rise out of the limitations of corpor and ascend through graduated spiritual states until it is developed and fit to inherit the glories of Higher Worlds.

The Spirit in Man gains individuality and immortal entity by physical birth. Prior thereto Man is not; and Spirit is self-existent, unconditioned, all-pervading and without Entity. Man is capable of endless growth; his illimitable spiritual possibilities not even Archangels and tutelary Gods have fathomed. Corporeal existence is rudimental—the first stage; Life goes on in higher and improved forms. The Spirit in Man is progressive forever; hence, higher etheric worlds are essential for the larger experience and fullest development.

Knowledge of Higher Worlds is supernormal and must be acquired by supernormal means; that is, the faculties employed for this purpose must be spiritual and not physical. These supernormal faculties are dormant in all mankind, but they rarely show any sign of existence before physical dissolution. In a few persons, however, they are partially active. Special psychic processes are necessary to arouse and develop them, but it would be extremely dangerous to force the growth of these hidden

and deeper faculties in the average person. Fortunately, this form of knowledge is withheld from mankind, and the great Unseen Worlds remain unknown; otherwise, occult forces would be liberated which in the present state of human development would work irretrievable havoc and seriously interfere with the normal evolution of the race. Man on earth, therefore, is kept ignorant of the next world in his own best interests. Occasionally, however, Light comes through to help and guide aspiring mortals, but always under strict angelic supervision and direction into safe channels. There is a grand Hierarchy of Angelic Beings who have the care and responsibility of the earth and its spirit heavens in their keeping; and their corpor anchorages are jealously guarded and protected. These powerful, high-raised, Ethereal Angels watch over, nurture and safeguard the whole of humanity both on earth and in the vast spirit world. All spirits whether embodied or disembodied are in various stages of growth and environed in different conditions, often widely divergent, and they require particular ministrations and guidance accordingly.

II

HOW SPIRITS CONTROL MORTALS

Mortals with rare exceptions are profoundly ignorant of the absolute influence of the Unseen, and of the natural law of relationship which connects the physical and spiritual worlds, and the universal and constant interaction between minds in both states of existence. Human mentality is ever being acted upon—moulded and shaped, stimulated and directed—by the composite mind of legions of spirits. This governing mental power exerted over mortals is largely involuntary on the part of the spirit people, but takes place in obedience to a natural operating principle which lies at the root of all human and spiritual activities.

All states in mortal life have their correspondences in the spiritual world and these connections are vital, radical and structural. It is very important to realise that the same laws govern the growth of the spirit in both worlds; also, that individuals whose mental outlook and beliefs are not in accordance with Truth, retain for a season after transition to spirit life the same personal bias and characteristics. It should not be expected, therefore, that teachings or ideas received from the inhabitants of the next world are necessarily true. People expect, as a rule, that death brings a complete revelation of Truth but this is not so. Individuals are little or no wiser for the change from the physical to the spiritual side of life;

and, in all cases they take over their personal prejudices, views and shortcomings. In fact, they are unable to transmit any ideas other than those they may have developed within their own mentalities.

The vast multitudes of spirits in the earlier regions of the spiritual world are almost if not entirely ignorant of the real nature of their state and of the laws of spirit and its development; and, until they have progressed to higher levels of thought and understanding it is impossible for them to comprehend and utilise the opportunities afforded for true spiritual advancement. The majority seek, and naturally so, for the fulfilment of what they were promised by their religious teachers in earth life; and, in the intensity of their desires and ignorance of the laws of mental action and re-action, they exert an overwhelming influence on all mortals who come within the sphere of their unseen activities to perpetuate the erroneous ideas and false doctrines which they believe are essential to human salvation and happiness. Indeed, they overshadow the religious life of myriads of mortals with a power of domination almost indescribable, and many persons on earth ignorant of the truth attribute this influence to the Creator.

Humanity is largely subject to the ruling influences of minds who dwell in the first great zone of spiritual spheres which surround the earth; and, the majority of these spirits inhabit huge but confined regions wherein there is a gross ignorance of Truth and strong unbelief as to the reality of Higher Worlds. In these lower spirit-heavens there are many false spirit rulers who build and establish kingdoms over which they rule with despotic sway, much the same as on earth, but in more refined states and in a completer sense than is possible here. These self-appointed spirit leaders through their emissaries overshadow all earthly organisations with the object of shaping the thoughts and souls of mortals in certain lines, so that they can impel them on entrance into spirit life to go to their heavenly regions where they are enslaved into service, and usually under some promise of a vision of the Deity or Divine Reward in the times to come. There is no escape for mortals generally from the subtle, unseen influence of these minds in the spirit world, except by a constant exercise of Reason and a steady cultivation of its Light in liberty of thought and judgment.

These lower spirit regions are inhabited by countless millions of spirit people of all religions, sects and creeds; and, they are segregated in different spheres or realms, often entirely ignorant of the existence of each other, where they continue to worship as on earth finding much they

had idealised more or less actualised in their spiritual states. Accordingly, they become confirmed in their beliefs and ideas; and, in consequence, their influence is transmitted to mortals of similar persuasions through the operation of the laws of mental action heretofore mentioned.

These earlier regions or first zone of spirit spheres are unorganised and *bound*; that is, the spirit people who inhabit them are of a low degree of development and utterly unable to surmount the natural barriers of etheric vapours which surround and hold them in their respective spheres. Ultimately, however, they will pass out of these bound heavens by the slow process of spiritual evolution; but, vast numbers remain in them for centuries, and, often, thousands of years. Of course, there are some who awaken to their true state and escape; they become dissatisfied with their beliefs and the conditions in which they are placed, and after a time they find a way out of these spheres, usually with the aid of a Messenger from a Higher World. But the majority do not change, and continue from century to century, to labour and glorify their heavenly kingdoms, believing that they have reached finality and that they will remain therein forever.

Release comes at the end of the Planetary Cycle when these regions are invaded by organised groups of High Angels whose labour at that time is to cleanse the lower spirit heavens of the accumulated errors and arbitrary states of unenlightened spirit humanity, in order that the Coming Cycle may provide mankind on earth and in spirit life a new start and a fresh psychic atmosphere for a freer development. At this season the lower spirit heavens are cleared of the numerous spirit rulers and false gods; their heavenly kingdoms are disbanded and overthrown, while their corresponding anchorages of earthly institutions break up and disappear. The enormous spirit populations are then set free and taken in hand by exalted Ethereal Angels who succour, teach, train and instruct them in various spiritual pursuits for their sure progress in the true pathway of ascension to the glorified and emancipated worlds of Etherea.

III

PRINCIPLE OF SPIRIT INFLUENCE

Earth life and spirit life are two aspects of one reality. There is a perpetual transmission of thought-impulses and will-forces from spirits to mortals which is both voluntary and involuntary. The subtle law of relationship between the two worlds renders every person subject to the

influence and stimulation of the spirit people. It is not a question of belief but of fact. True, the active and exciting influence of discarnate minds is but vaguely understood and even denied by some; yet, were corporeal humanity to be cut off from the overshadowing of the spirit legions the whole race would quickly sink into a state of torpor akin to the lowest forms of animal life.

Immense numbers of people annually pass into the great spirit world and there is hardly one in a million who possesses a true knowledge of its conditions and realities. They all arrive upon its shores like shipwrecked mariners upon an unknown coast without any understanding of its location and conditions. Of course, the vast majority are met by their friends and relatives who have gone before and their Welcome Home is a happy event; but, there are others who never leave the earth-sphere. Having failed to cultivate any spiritual thought or aspiration, being entirely submerged in material interests and desires, they drift in their thoughts and feelings to the only state of life in which they have ever perceived sensation, and finding themselves within the atmosphere of the earth they cling to it with a fixed tenacity as though living in physical bodies and seeking no other pleasure than to live there still.

The phenomena of obsession is largely the effect of this tendency to gravitate to the earth-plane. It is a form of spirit return fraught with grave consequences to those still living in physical life of a similar disposition and habit. The vibratory mental action of these dark, earth-bound spirits is transmitted with great force to the brains of those who are in sympathy by motive and aim, and some of the worse conditions which afflict mortals are set up thereby. Hatred, crime, immorality, wickedness, oppression, wars, intemperance, false teaching and other serious evils are stimulated by this unseen spiritual influence. The will and judgment of recipients are controlled by it sufficiently to induce them to enact crimes from which in their normal state they would shrink with horror. Each individual, however, possesses the power of self-protection. It is not necessary to yield to bad influences; reason and moral conscience are always a safeguard; but, it is well for the individual to be aware of the danger of unconscious spirit influence, because in mental resistance there is safety. The involuntary phases of the principle of spirit influence is little understood, but is largely responsible for many of the crimes and evils in the world. On the other hand, there is the constant mental stimulation from pure and good spirits which maintain the balance of harmony and good in the social fabric of civilisation.

powers are latent in all, and by special psychological methods presented in this literature, these exceptional and potential elements can be developed to an extraordinary degree for actual and practical use. Every mind can develop greatness. It is simply a matter of "knowing how." True self-help, self-discovery, self-knowledge and proper methods of applying one's faculties and using one's forces will advance any person in the scale of life. Practice will ensure efficiency; use will bring results. Success, therefore, is within the reach of every aspiring mind.

You want to succeed and can. You possess all the essentials within yourself. All you need is to gain a right understanding of the principles and laws upon which success is based, and then to apply right methods of operating these causes until success is won. This knowledge is given in these articles.

The laws of success are as definite as the laws of mathematics. The exact use of these laws will produce results every time. It is results that count; and, as results may be multiplied indefinitely by a persistent application of these laws, there is no end to the success in store. Great things are no less possible than small things, and it is great things that will follow whoever uses this instruction with faith in the outcome.

Whatever your present condition, there is a better and larger future in store. But you must prepare yourself for it. You cannot rise into the better and greater unless you bestir yourself. Study, planning and effort are necessary. Young or middle-aged you are entitled to advance. To be true to yourself and Nature you simply must advance. Advancement is success.

It is Nature's resolve that you shall *move forward*. You can stagnate and retrogress, and thus retard your normal progress for awhile, a lifetime it may be; but, in the end you will be compelled to "move-on"; especially in the direction of soul-growth. Nature brooks no interference with her purposes. That is often the reason why "prods and pricks" of adversity come when you fail to move forward. There is a new element abroad—the spirit of progress—and we must all keep pace with the times.

You can achieve your ambition. Aim high and build well. What you picture to yourself as success can be reached. All ideals can be realised. Nature never blunders; what she idealises she has the power to actualise. You are a part of Nature. Think of this wonderful kinship. Your innate desire to rise and advance is Nature's voice in you to "come up higher." She ever seeks to build you up in power and success.

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IV

PRINCIPLE OF SPIRIT GROWTH

All spirits have capacity for development either in a downward or upward direction; that is, the spirits of mortals and angels can decide whether they shall enter upon the path of declension into lower states and grosser conditions; or, move forward on the path of ascension into higher states and more refined conditions. Life rolls on forever; it is never static; there is constant flux and the spirit must either advance or retrogress. Spirits inhabiting corporeal bodies are subject to the limitations of that state and the oppressive and adverse forces of the material world where life is more or less a selfish struggle for existence, individually and collectively. Where an individual or a community submit to a slavish obedience to the tyranny of earthly desires and selfish purposes, there is gradually built up a group of conditions, visible and invisible, which bring about a spiritual decadence, darkness and evil. Faith in the Creator departs in proportion to the materialism which arises, and when this state perpetuates itself, the individual or community sink lower and lower and eventually go down into ruin and disaster. On the other hand, where an individual or group of people express a simple and absolute Faith in the Creator and strive to live according to the higher dictates of conscience and conduct, there is an invisible support and higher guidance which leads upward and the downward tendency is overcome. Conditions of both orders exist in the world and one can more easily detect the right from wrong and the true from the false by comparison of states. The capacity of the Spirit of Man is very great and should it take the path of declension it can become very powerful for evil both here and hereafter. There is the contrary possibility with this proviso, that the Spirit in Man when it deliberately and constantly cultivates the Good, the True and the Beautiful; and, keeps the mind free from binding dogma, creed and belief, ever using Reason and walking in its Light, will steadily develop a power of dominion over all the elements and conditions of life and unfold a brightness of Spirit which links it to the mighty Gods who from Higher Worlds govern the affairs of angels, spirits and mortals on earth and in the spirit world, unseen and unknown, and whose labour mainly consists of helping the spirits of mortals and angels to rise into the everlasting habitations of Light and Happiness in Etherea.

(To be Continued.)

THE NATURAL WAY TO SUCCESS

MAN IS BORN TO BE RICH

§ 1

NATURE intended every individual to succeed. All her laws are framed to promote this end. It is her purpose that Man should become great. It is her Will that he should not only use, but enjoy every good in the universe. Nature denies Man nothing.

Man is born to be rich. The powers inherent in him are inexhaustible. Immense possibilities lie before every climber of the ladder of progress. Each normal person is endowed with a complete set of faculties which, if properly developed and scientifically applied will ensure success—ever growing success.

Man is made for progress. Growth is the law of life. Every man contains within himself the capacity for endless development. Advancement in all things is Nature's great eternal purpose. By learning to work with Nature in promoting that aim, Man may build himself into greater and greater success.

All the processes of Nature are successful. Nature knows no failure. She never plans but to succeed. She aims at results in every form and manner. To succeed in the best and fullest sense of the term, we must take Nature as our model and copy her methods. In her principles and laws we shall discover all the secrets of success.

Infinite resources are at Man's disposal. There are no limits to his possibilities. He focusses and individualises the elements, forces and principles of the Cosmos. All knowledge in the form of potential ideas is latent in his inner mind. By special deductive processes of thought he may unfold this knowledge into expression. He can develop a wonderful intelligence. Thus, all life's questions may be answered, all Nature's secrets discovered, and all human problems solved. Nothing is impossible.

Higher faculties, remarkable talents, superior insight and greater

powers are latent in all, and by special psychological methods presented in this literature, these exceptional and potential elements can be developed to an extraordinary degree for actual and practical use. Every mind can develop greatness. It is simply a matter of "knowing how." True self-help, self-discovery, self-knowledge and proper methods of applying one's faculties and using one's forces will advance any person in the scale of life. Practice will ensure efficiency; use will bring results. Success, therefore, is within the reach of every aspiring mind.

You want to succeed and can. You possess all the essentials within yourself. All you need is to gain a right understanding of the principles and laws upon which success is based, and then to apply right methods of operating these causes until success is won. This knowledge is given in these articles.

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Whatever your present condition, there is a better and larger future in store. But you must prepare yourself for it. You cannot rise into the better and greater unless you bestir yourself. Study, planning and effort are necessary. Young or middle-aged you are entitled to advance. To be true to yourself and Nature you simply must advance. Advancement is success.

It is Nature's resolve that you shall *move forward*. You can stagnate and retrogress, and thus retard your normal progress for awhile, a lifetime it may be; but, in the end you will be compelled to "move-on"; especially in the direction of soul-growth. Nature brooks no interference with her purposes. That is often the reason why "prods and pricks" of adversity come when you fail to move forward. There is a new element abroad—the spirit of progress—and we must all keep pace with the times.

You can achieve your ambition. Aim high and build well. What you picture to yourself as success can be reached. All ideals can be realised. Nature never blunders; what she idealises she has the power to actualise. You are a part of Nature. Think of this wonderful kinship. Your innate desire to rise and advance is Nature's voice in you to "come up higher." She ever seeks to build you up in power and success.

That is her plan for you. The faculties possessed by all great and successful men were the same human faculties you possess. They gained some knowledge of the right kind as we give here, then they applied their faculties in the best way they knew for advancement and so won success.

Some will ask: "But, in what does true success consist?" Almost every other person will hold a different view as to what constitutes *real* success. To avoid confusion of ideas, we will define our meaning of the term success. Most people consider success as being a high state of worldly prosperity; others, as the realisation of personal hopes or heart's desires; still others, as the achievement of ambition or the performance of great deeds. Real success, however, is something more. We do not confine it to terms of money and position, fame or wealth, although it may include all these. True, genuine success of the largest kind lies in results obtained, harvests reaped and distributed, so that our fellow-beings at large are benefited and the world enriched. Yet for the purpose of this instruction the term success will be interpreted in a more individual sense as meaning personal advancement and increase, and the favourable termination of anything attempted.

True success will consist of being all that Nature intended you to become. *To be and become, not to gain and possess*, is our first broad principle of success.

Experience demonstrates that the former invariably includes the latter, whilst the latter does not necessarily embrace the former. To aim at the acquisition of material possessions only, without regard to higher ends, is a gross perversion of natural law and a fruitful source of evil. But to build up one's personality into a state of balance, harmony and ability of a high order will always command an abundance of the good things of life, and that without the slavish desire to accumulate.

Man is so constructed that he may utilise the elements of his life and outer circumstances to build himself up into ever-increasing power, betterment and success. He is also subtly related to everything outside of himself that this purpose may be fulfilled. Such fulfilment, however, will depend upon the actual use he makes of his mind, and whether he chooses to serve in ignorance or govern with knowledge the forces in his life.

Mind is the great creative cause of everything that transpires in the life of man. Personal conditions are largely the result of our actions, and all actions are the outcome of ideas. You never make a move of any kind until you have first formed the plan in your mind. Ideas, therefore, are very potent things. They are causes, good, bad or indif-

ferent of effects which will correspond to their natures. Ideas liberate energies. They are reservoirs of power—the primal springs of all activities. It is evident therefore, that a practical knowledge of how to use the mind is of primary importance. To learn how to employ the mind constructively, and so make a correct use of your powers, faculties and forces, is the key to success.

A marvellous inner world exists in man. It is practically unknown; and, therefore, seldom explored. We have discovered where it lies, and how to tap some of its vast hidden treasures. Ere long you will be given the keys to its gates. Meanwhile, it is essential to realise that man's True Being is based on a Principle that is Absolute. That is to say, in the last analysis, the Mind of Man is found to be rooted in "Something" that is not only perfect but extends into infinity. A glowing prospect; and there is no escape from this deduction. Simply expressed, the final conclusion of the highest form of reason—metaphysics, science, logic and philosophy concur that, "*all things begin and end in principles which are unbounded and absolute.*"

It follows that man can do anything, attain anything and achieve anything within the courses of Nature; because, a scientific analysis of his True Being reveals a potential side that contains unlimited possibilities; and, which, when developed and worked out into actual, tangible expression will enable him to reach any goal, accomplish any purpose and attain any heights to which he may aspire.

Man stands on the border of two great worlds, the actual and the potential. What he dreams of in the one, he can realise in the other, because the ability to idealise implies the power to actualise.

This is the second broad principle of success. Idealism and realism are but two sides of one principle, the outer and inner sides of the mind. One power creates both and controls both. Simple compliance with the higher laws of mind, and the faithful application of right methods will thus bring all things conceivable within the realms of the practical.

Everybody should cultivate unbounded faith in their hopes and ideals. It is the inspiration that springs therefrom, which reveals the steps to be taken, the course to pursue, the path to follow, and the unfoldment of the ideas and plans necessary to promote the objects in view.

The individual who knows that his possibilities are unbounded will never be disappointed by setbacks as to give up to defeat. He will discover that every failure can be made a stepping-stone to something better,

and that it contains elements which he can use to promote his advancement on a greater scale than ever before. He also knows that by keeping-on he will eventually win success, and that it will come all the sooner by living in a cheerful, hopeful and confident frame of mind, regardless of what may happen. Such is the spirit that finally wins.

To embody in our personal plans for success, some design or aim that will benefit others and add to the sum-total of human good, is the third broad principle of success.

The laws of life constantly operate to produce greater and greater good for all; but, we frequently prevent the good we desire from coming to us as well as others, by failing to comply with this principle; that is, we selfishly seek our own personal gain regardless of the rights and needs of others.

Nature is a unity, a grand and all-comprehensive whole. All lives are individual manifestations of the One Universal Life and each is necessary and inseparable from the whole. Each is included and provided for in the Divine Economy of Nature. All minds are being evolved and built up to promote some mighty cosmic purpose. Hence, every mind is equal before the Infinite Mind. Nature knows no class distinctions and with-holds no good from one in favour of another. There are varying degrees of development but no favouritism. Just, impartial and immutable law governs all.

The universe is so built and ordered that all things work together for the good of each and all. Therefore, when we take the welfare and good of others into our plans and aims for success, we comply with Nature's higher requirements, and ensure the assistance and omnipotent backing of her great evolutionary and beneficent laws in working out the ends we may have in view. Such procedure, long continued, must inevitably lead to extraordinary success.

Upon these broad principles we can erect an edifice of success as large and as exalted as the imagination will picture with every assurance of safety, surety and final realisation. They cover the general ground we shall travel in our endeavours to discover the pathways that lead to increasing good fortune and success. They also furnish true conceptions of Nature's aims, and by co-operating intelligently with these purposes our progress will be accelerated accordingly, as we shall directly and indirectly operate mighty occult laws to work on our behalf in and through persons, circumstances, events and things.

§2

THE RULING FACTOR

SUCCESS is a matter of advancement by gradation. Its real secret consists in *moving forward*, and that peculiar mental attitude which promotes this constant progress is the Ruling Factor in the Art of Success.

No person can succeed who is not imbued with the desire to advance. This fact is patent; thus, the first step is to become thoroughly saturated with the "spirit of progress" so that one feels stimulated with a persistent desire to work for better and greater things.

The desire to advance implies the power to advance. That is a law as absolute in its action as the law of gravitation. The fact that you desire to succeed is evidence that you have the inherent power to succeed; for the simple reason that the desire to advance is inspired by this power. You cannot aspire to succeed, unless you have the power to succeed. Nature demonstrates this truth. The desire on the part of the plant for food implies the possession of the latent power to draw or reach out for that nourishment. On the part of the animal, the same desire spurs it into activity which develops its organism and increases its strength. Similarly, the desire to improve and advance is the primary cause of success in the human kingdom.

Psychological investigation into the lives of successful persons reveals a striking fact. It is found that they possess in common an element or quality which is mainly responsible for their success, and this element may be cultivated by anybody. We define it as the Ruling Mental Attitude. It consists of a constructive state of mind which psychologists term "the successful attitude." Simple as it may appear, it constitutes in almost all cases just that "difference" which decides the success or failure of a person. The unsuccessful individual is the undeveloped individual; that is, he has failed to arouse and apply the greater powers which he inherently possesses. Analyse his condition and it will be found that his ruling mental attitude is at fault and the principal cause of his failure. The discovery of this remarkable fact by modern psychology probes to the root of some deep practical problems and indicates a way out of adversity and failure. In short, the positive mental attitude of the man who thinks "he can" in contrast with the negative attitude of another who thinks "he cannot" is practically the only difference

between the one who succeeds and the other who fails. The former learns the truth and discovers that he can do things; and the idea liberates his latent energies, stirs him into activity, thrills him with the desire to advance, inspires him to get things done, so he moves into success.

Some persons, however, live in the conviction that "as they are, so they must remain." They believe that Nature has cast them into a fixed mould, and that the little ability or power which they possess is all they can hope or wish for in this life. No more erroneous conclusion is current than this belief in so-called "natural limitation." Scientific research into the mysteries of the human mind reveal a wonderful world of power and possibility. The psychological truth is that what is possible to one mind is possible to another and vastly more than we have ever dreamed. The same human faculties and cultivated powers of the great and successful are inherent in all minds. The only real difference is in the degree of development, not kind. Of course, there are differences of racial and hereditary equipment, yet the true view to take—the scientific conclusion, is not to look upon one's present degree of ability, talent and power as a "fixed" quantity, but to view it as a "growing" quantity and capable of constant development.

Begin now to take a superior view of yourself, your life and circumstances and of things and persons in general. As you mentally perceive the better and greater, you will consciously and unconsciously reach out for the better and greater. In other words, your thoughts, desires and mental actions will gradually become permeated with the spirit of progress, and your faculties will grow stronger and your power will increase. You will begin to move forward in the mental realm, and ere long a corresponding change will take place in the material world. Progress in one will sooner or later lead to advancement in the other.

Catch the *spirit* of the affirmation "I can" and you have the key to the successful attitude. Know that you can succeed, and proceed to think, live and act in that strong conviction. "My aim is to succeed, and I can." Make that your daily watchword, and repeat it ten thousand times if necessary. Be a veritable incarnation of this wonderful success spirit. You may search the archives of knowledge for an age, and roam the whole world over to discover the mystic secret of success, only to find that in the end, it is all contained in the two little but powerful words, "I can."

Modern psychology has discovered that "the person who thinks he can will speedily develop the power that can." This is a demonstrable

law of the mind. Persistently think that you can do what you want to do, and it will not be long before you find yourself actually doing it. There is no miracle about it. The mind works in that way. The principle involved is that when the "I can attitude" is adopted, the mind will proceed to direct all the energies generated by the system into those faculties which are employed in the doing of that which it is desired to accomplish, and steadily build them up until they become large enough and strong enough to actually perform what previously appeared impossible.

When Napoleon sought to conquer Italy he was faced with an apparently insurmountable obstacle—the towering Alps—which were considered by the surrounding peoples to be absolutely unscalable. The word "impossible," however, was not included in Napoleon's vocabulary. Being of resolute will and persistent energy, he determined to conquer and said "I can." His descent on the other side of the mountains so startled the inhabitants of the country as to practically conquer them by surprise. Thus his greatest obstacle proved a sure means to victory. So with all difficulties. Obstacles and limitations viewed from a higher mental altitude are invariably stepping-stones to success. They afford opportunities for the exercise of latent powers. They draw us out and make us strong. They lead to the goal we have in view. Henceforth, when you are "up against it" or desire to progress, you will declare "I can" and remember that, in those simple words you have the magic formula of the great and successful in all ages.

One's state in life is largely determined by his prevailing mental attitude. There are men and women who radiate discouragement, gloom and failure, because of their "I can't" attitude; while, there are others who positively emanate success through their cheerful, confident, energetic "I can" attitude. We all meet them. The one will often gravitate into conditions of adversity and ill-luck; while the other attracts the best to be had and rises into success. The negative, weak "I can't" individuals repel us; we instinctively shun them. That is Nature's warning to avoid their state which is out of tune with the true order of things. On the other hand, the strong, magnetic "I can" individuals attract us. They are thoroughly optimistic, and we are glad to do business and to associate with them. They help us on in some kind of indefinable manner. We feel better for having met them. Every person has an individual "atmosphere" like the flower its "aroma." The mind senses this condition and responds to it. That is why the

mentally alert are able to "size-up" or read people so quickly. Hence, seek to build up a strong, positive "I can do things" atmosphere. It will infallibly help to success.

Again, *the mind is a magnet* and attracts whatever corresponds to its ruling state. That is to say, whatever we picture in mind, expect and think about, will tend to draw into our lives the things, conditions, events and people who harmonise therewith. Scientific research has conclusively proven the existence and constant operation of this occult law of mental attraction. Therefore, it behoves everyone to select with care the things about which we shall think. All these statements are pregnant with truth. Our predominant mental attitude is the primary cause of almost everything that comes into our lives, and the sooner we realise this vital fact, the sooner we shall begin to improve our lives and scale the ladder of progress and success.

Seek to become a living embodiment of the *aspiration to advance*, and give Nature a chance to help you. Everything will then tend to assist you. Obstacles will strengthen your resolve to win. Discouragement from others will simply stir you to the depths and arouse you to stronger activity. You will discern with clearer vision that every difficulty is an opportunity to advance, a stepping-stone to success; while your burdens will lose their weight; because, the Spirit within you is unconquerable, and when invoked by aspiration will unfailingly come forth in greater power and richer intelligence, guiding your thoughts and actions into those pathways that lead to the heights of conquest. Indeed, as you get rid of the mental fetters forged in ignorance, and which have held you in bondage so long, Nature will find a readier channel of expression in you. She will then proceed to renew your strength, your faculties, your desires, your ideals, and give you a new and stronger mind. Nature will do all this in accordance with her laws which are so framed in their operations as to assist in every mode and manner the aspiring mind, the progressive spirit and noble soul which works for higher ends, to gain the victory.

"I am determined to succeed, and I can." This is the successful attitude, the ruling factor in our great study. Think it, affirm it, live it now and always. Then adversity will vanish like the morning mist before the rising sun. You will have taken a big step forward; you will actually have entered upon the roadway of constant progress that leads to the goal to success.

ESSENTIALS TO SUCCESS

THE principles and laws of success are identical everywhere and at all times, regardless of the many and varied methods employed in their application; therefore, the several essentials to be outlined will be found adaptable to any line of endeavour, sphere of action or group of circumstances.

Indeed, there is a Natural Way to Success, and the various essentials comprise the leading factors that need to be understood and applied to reach any goal in view. There is nothing really new about these principles and laws for they are as old as the hills. Until recently, however, no attempt has been made to analyse and classify them in a form where they could be intelligently grasped and combined and applied by the average person.

“The same causes will always produce the same effects” is an axiom of modern science; so, when these primary essentials or causes of success are employed there is always a group of effects the extent of which we alone can determine. As success lies chiefly in obtaining the results desired; and, as we have found that quite a moderate application of these principles and laws will produce an excellent measure of results, it follows that it is only necessary to persevere with patience along these lines to ultimately achieve extraordinary success.

(1) IDEALS—THE AWAKENER. You must have a fixed, definite object for which to live, think and labour if you wish to advance and achieve success. Nature works in this manner. All her operations are directed towards definite ends. Experience proves that success in life depends much upon having some clear, well-defined aim and purpose for which to plan and work; otherwise, the greater part of your energies will be wasted, valuable years will be lost, and the majority of your actions unproductive.

If you would become more and achieve more, you *must* attempt more. If our great explorers were content to remain in comfort and security at home, how much should we know of the Arctic Regions or the interior of Africa? The same simile applied to inventions and commerce would find us still living in dug-outs and caves. But, Nature is remorseless. She instils into all minds the desire to know, the instinct to move forward, and those who respond are richly rewarded.

Ideals are responsible for all the inventions, discoveries, advantages, privileges and benefits that modern civilisation affords. Indeed, they strike the Keynote to all accomplishment and achievement in any and every sphere of labour, interest and action.

Minds have conceived of the better way or felt the need for improvement; and, with a vision or idea of the superior they have tried to express their aspirations or to realise their hopes in tangible deeds; and, frequently, they have succeeded.

All persons have hopes, ideals or ambitions; but, it is only those who have courage and confidence in their vision of the good things in view, who incessantly try and endeavour to materialise them. In the course of our study and experience, we have observed that all such effort is constructive, and in time develops the ability and powers to accomplish or obtain what is desired.

It is constructive for two reasons. First, because it is the Law of Nature that everything should advance or express more and more of its innate possibilities; and, second, because such mental action directs the various elements, tendencies and forces in the human system into constructive channels. Hence, by striving to progress, the mind is engaged in a building process which, in time, will erect the necessary mental structure and machinery that is competent to perform or secure in the "without" what exists as an ideal or desire in the "within."

Let us go to Nature for some examples. Take for instance the flying squirrel. Originally, this animal was without wings, but in springing from tree to tree and often trying to leap over spaces beyond its capacity to cover, it made a steady demand upon Nature, and the law of growth responded by gradually developing new limbs in the shape of wings which, in course of time, enabled the squirrel to cover successfully the greater distances over which it had failed before.

Then, again, the disuse of any function or faculty will cause it to deteriorate and eventually result in atrophy. We witness an example of this law in Nature with the fishes in dark caves who lose their eyes from disuse. The observed order of evolution is that as soon as the use of anything ceases it becomes extinct.

These simple illustrations give a clue as to Nature's plan of growth. Any number of similar phenomena could be adduced as evidence that Mother Nature abhors a deficiency or vacuum. Thus, in the economy of Nature everything has a use and a purpose. We infer, therefore, that we can only develop new powers of accomplishment by striving beyond

our present attainments, and that we can only acquire new and higher forms of knowledge by continuous research in the wider realms of Truth.

To bring forth our latent possibilities which, at present, seem to exist only in the abstract or the ideal, we must perpetually desire to unfold the greater powers potential within our beings, and to supplement such earnest aspirations with repeated efforts to work up to the ideals or objects in view by using the best methods we know and the opportunities and material immediately at hand, and to continue in such procedure.

All such action will produce results, and whether those results are large or small, we shall be exercising our powers; and, the law is that "*when you exercise a power you begin to develop that power.*" It follows, therefore, that the continuous use of a power will lead to its perpetual development. In this way we can go on multiplying results indefinitely; thus it places all rational ideals within the reach of realization.

All things must be planned in the Ideal before they can be realised in the Actual. The house-builder before he begins to erect a house engages the services of an architect to whom he furnishes a rough idea of the style of abode he wishes to build; and, from this idea, the architect carefully designs a complete and detailed plan of the structure. The builder does not attempt to erect the house until he has this plan by him to guide his efforts. He then goes to work in a scientific way and starts to build the house part by part in accordance with the architect's design until the work of construction is finished and a complete edifice stands objectified as the material presentment of what was once only an idea.

Now, you must adopt some similar method of operation before it is possible for you to succeed in the fullest sense and complete the tasks you undertake to perform. To put it in another way, unless you form a clear, definite plan of what you are going to do before you set out to do it, you are likely to misplace many of your efforts and to create conditions that will hereafter be a hindrance rather than a help to success. Therefore, avoid aimless and ill-directed action as you would the plague. First, know what you want, and be sure you know; then go to work in a scientific way and build to plan and purpose. Most people's ideals are vague, indistinct and uncertain. They are not sure of what they really want, hence their lives exhibit muddle and failure in most things, because they lack a well-defined aim or worthy purpose to draw their lives into constructive pathways.

It has been said that "you can have anything you want provided you want it hard enough." This statement is literally true, for the fact is well-established that those persons succeed best who start out with clear, definite ideas of what they intend to do before they act. This is one of the inner secrets of success in practically every line of endeavour or field of action; and, often, it is half the battle won.

So, go over in mind what you would like to become and accomplish. Then, when you have definitely decided what object you shall live and work for, spend a few moments every day in quietude, and impress upon your inner consciousness a clear, well-defined image of your hope, want or ambition and *imagine complete success in association with it*. In other words, think out your ideal in clear-cut terms and get deeply interested in this attractive mental picture. See yourself in your "mind's eye" what you wish to be or picture yourself in possession of that which you want, and desire gently but persistently to move forward toward your goal. This practice is highly profitable as it creates tendencies in the right direction and only needs to be continued to produce an ever-increasing measure of results.

It is through your ideals that Nature seeks to draw you onward on the upward pathway of life and thus promotes your progress. Therefore, look upon your Ideals as Nature's voice in you to "come up higher." They lie directly in your path and by constantly moving forward you will, in course of time, achieve your ambition, realise your hopes and actualise your aims. In our personal experience we have repeatedly demonstrated the remarkable merit of this simple practice. You can do the same; for, it is a method that works. How it works, we explain elsewhere; but, in any case, the results are sure.

(2) WORK—THE PRODUCER. Work is the one process that produces things. Work builds things and does things. Work makes real the ideal. Work gives form and substance to our dreams. No person can succeed who refuses to labour. The successful man or woman is invariably a great worker. Indeed, the more we work the more we shall accomplish. As the ancient adage has it, "the Gods love the worker."

Nature is one grand and vast scene of industry. All is activity, life and work. Nature glorifies her every task, little or big, by doing it well. That must be our motto—"Do it well!" Put life and interest into everything you do. Be thorough and do as Nature does—glorify the common task, the humble duty by doing it well.

When you perform your tasks to the very best of your ability or when you are thorough in your work and do it well, you infallibly bring out the best there is in you. Otherwise expressed you grow more capable and more efficient. You become better and thereby demonstrate your growing superiority. And the law is that he who becomes better will attract the better and be given the greater things to do.

The principle involved is that when you become too large for your present place you will begin to gravitate into something larger. You cannot attract the better until you become better. If an individual appears to do so, it will not continue; for, in accordance with a compensating law in Nature that person will find his true place. Or, as business men express it "he will find his level." In truth, the only bar to your advancement is your own unfitness. In other words, he who more than fills his present place will, sooner or later, be advanced; and, were it not for this principle there could be no progress, no evolution.

Again, to despise work is wrong. We are in the world and we must live, and to live we must labour. We must not only support ourselves but contribute something to the common weal. Hence, all work is honourable, no matter what form it may take; and, all workers are co-operators in Nature's marvellous plan for the perfecting of the vast human family and the evolution of a mighty and divine purpose. Indeed, it is as meritorious to serve as it is to be served.

So, whether you plow the earth or drive a car, tunnel for coal or sweep the streets, audit books or sell useful products, keep the house, care for the sick, bring up a family, manage a business or rule a state, or any of the thousand and one tasks of material life, reflect that *all labour carries with it an equal dignity*. It bears the impress of Nature's seal, the stamp of divine design.

(3) ENERGY—THE MOTIVE POWER. An abundance of energy is absolutely indispensable to the living of a useful and successful life. One must be filled with power, push and go to get things done and to accomplish results. To maintain and to acquire a super-abundant supply of energy it is necessary to understand the laws of physical well-being and to live in accord thereto in addition to the practice of right thinking.

One of the best and most rational methods for increasing one's stock of vitality is the practice of deep breathing. Ten to twenty minutes every night and morning should be devoted to long, deep, full inhalations of fresh air and rapid exhalations. The inhalations should be taken through the nostrils and the exhalations made through the open mouth for the

quickest results. By these means a larger quantity of oxygen gas is extracted from the air by the lungs with a consequent increase in vital power.

Sleep is another very important factor. Notwithstanding all opinions to the contrary, we assert that three-quarters of our nervous, physical and mental energies are received and stored in the system whilst the body rests in a state of profound slumber. On this account, therefore, no effort should be spared to assist Nature in her repairing and recuperating processes carried on in sleep. This is best accomplished by observing a few simple rules:

1. Avoid a heavy repast for at least two hours before retiring; otherwise, take a short walk after the last meal of the day.
2. Do not indulge in passion or undue excitement nor fret or worry during evening hours. Be calm and serene and enjoy some form of entertainment and leisure or read a few chapters from some helpful book.

The ideal slumber is profoundly unconscious and dreamless. When you awaken in the morning, get up immediately. Do not doze, as much valuable nervous and mental force is wasted thereby. If your sleep has been free from excitement and restless dreams, and you awaken in the morning feeling refreshed and strong, you may conclude that you have derived the full benefit from your night's rest.

The normal and healthy human system generates an enormous amount of energy which, if saved and put to constructive use, is more than equal to the most strenuous demands of material life. Unhappily, however, much of this power is wasted by the average person. True, these valuable forces are dissipated largely through ignorance, but no time should be lost in instructing those desirous of greater efficiency and a better life, the incalculable advantages that may be derived by learning to save all the power the system generates and to employ it constructively.

Vices and bad habits use up a considerable amount of energy to no useful purpose. To rid oneself of all undesirable habits, therefore, is extremely important. We all want to succeed to the fullest possible extent and to become all that we can be here and now; hence, to find and check all sources of needless waste is absolutely essential if we have the highest aims and achievements in view.

Then again, much power is frittered away in unnecessary worry, vain longings, stupid jealousy, fault-finding, wrangling, trivial complaints

and disputes. Most persons waste at least half of their mental and nervous forces in this manner—the very elements required to win success. Study yourself; ascertain all the little leaks in your personal life that drain you of power and stop them. Reflect that the smallest leakage will, in time, empty the largest boiler, and energy is to you what steam is to the engine. The greater the pressure of steam-power, the more rapidly the engine will advance. So with you; the more energy you possess the more rapidly you will press on to the goal in view.

Also, energy is wasted daily through “bad moods.” When you find yourself becoming irritable, angry, depressed or fearful over any external matter, just be quiet a few moments and turn your attention upon the still, silent depths of your inner mind where absolute peace and harmony reign supreme. This simple method will divert your attention from the disturbance and assist you to maintain your dignity and self-poise. Say with St. Paul: “None of these things move me.” Then, by calmly trying to discover some plan to remove the evil or remedy the wrong you will save your power and put it to constructive use.

You can build yourself up in harmony, power and efficiency by a proper and an intelligent use of your forces, or you can deteriorate in mind and body and finally “pass out” prematurely through their improper and ignorant use. It rests entirely with you how you live in the world and what you shall become or achieve. Grasp the idea that *your life is a force* which you may use and apply in any manner you please, and you have the key to successful living. The oft-quoted maxim “your life is what you make it” is literally true. The simple elements and forces you employ in your daily activities; that is the energies you use in thinking and working, are all that you need to carry you to success. Properly used and directed aright they will constantly promote your all-round advancement. Or; on the other hand, if you allow your natural energies to be dissipated you can never expect to amount to much; while, if you deliberately misdirect your forces into wrong and illegitimate channels you will inevitably gravitate downward on the stony pathway of pain, sorrow and degradation.

Live peacefully with all beings. Forgive and forget everything that disturbs your peace of mind. Bury the past with its mistakes and regrets and live for to-day. Be agreeable to everybody, including yourself. Think and act in the spirit of harmony. Make a daily practice of going about your duties in a quiet and deliberate manner. Refuse to be rushed, confused or disturbed, and be cheerful and kind. Seek to please and

help. Good feelings are contagious—they serve to banish gloom and make life brighter. Then, our brightest ideas come in our happiest moments and these are often great aids to success.

These are simple admonitions but they count very much in the art of success. When you realise fully that all strife and disturbance wastes and scatters energy, while peace and harmony save and accumulate energy, you will practice these precepts and begin to conserve your forces and thereby increase your personal power. Everybody knows that it is next to impossible to keep an intelligent person down who is brim-full of energy. Force must act and such a one simply must push ahead—and it is the forward movement that leads to success.

(4) ABILITY—THE PERFORMER. While work does things, the *actual value* of those things is determined by the degree of ability or skill exercised in their production.

The ability to select and adapt ideas and things to improved and practical usages is a very valuable art, and one which we all need to cultivate to the very highest degree and so develop greater proficiency and worth in our respective fields of labour.

To simply carry bricks from one pile to another, and then to repeat the process backwards and forwards incessantly, is a sheer waste of time and energy, with nothing of practical value accomplished; but, to take the bricks to a selected spot and then to proceed to erect a building according to some intelligent design, not only exhibits a definite and useful purpose, but also implies the possession of ability.

Much of the work being done in the world is analogous to the carrying of bricks too and fro from one pile to another; for, a cursory examination reveals that only too often, there is little definite plan and useful purpose involved. In consequence, practical results of a "worth while" character are very meagre when compared with the larger and improved results that could be just as easily secured by putting more intelligent interest into the tasks of daily life.

Ability is the application of intelligence to things and work is the application of energy to things. This brief definition or conception of ability and work will assist the understanding at this stage of our study. The former is the natural complement of the latter, while both are necessary to achieve real success. Efficiency is the great demand of the age in every sphere of life and action, and there is no more important essential to the attainment of efficiency than the development of a high order of ability. Indeed, one's position in life and the recompense

received is almost wholly determined by the degree of ability possessed and exercised; therefore, the time given to the cultivation of superior abilities will be time most profitably employed.

There are varying degrees of ability as well as forms of ability and the particular degree of skill or talent possessed by the worker will largely regulate the value and worth of his productions. Although the amateur may exert an equal amount of energy and work quite as hard as the skilled professional, yet the results obtained are vastly different, the products of the former being much inferior to the finished products of the latter.

Ability, skill or talent are not "fixed" qualities. They can be developed just as easily and as surely as muscle can be developed. There is this difference, however, that while it would be unsafe to develop muscle beyond a certain point, ability can be developed to any degree desired with absolutely no danger whatever; provided, of course, it is always legitimately employed. Thus, higher attainments and greater achievements are within the reach of every aspiring mind.

HOW TO DEVELOP ABILITY

There is far less *inequality* among minds than is generally supposed, for modern psychological research into the mysteries of mind has discovered that every person is in potential possession of a very large number of possibilities and various capacities that cannot be measured.

Therefore, the problem before us is to devise ways and means to bring forth in greater and greater measure these hidden, dormant powers. With this object in view we have invented some highly practical methods of signal value, and these are clearly described elsewhere, while below, we present a few simple and effective methods that may be immediately applied to your present work or pursuits with results that cannot fail to further your advancement.

An excellent method for developing your *real* or natural ability—and everybody has one or more natural talents—is to get a clear idea before your inner consciousness of what you want to become. If you are in doubt on this point meditate a few moments upon what you take a delight in doing, for there you have a gift. With this clue as to your natural ability you will then proceed to form a clear and well-defined idea of what you would like to do and accomplish along that line, making this conception large and successful so as to give your thought-activities plenty of scope for creative effort. The next step is to hold this idea constantly

in mind and to try daily to do something to work up to its realization. At first, results may be very small and disappointing, but do not get discouraged. We all have to begin on the bottom rung of the ladder of progress. So keep on trying and in a little while you will actually begin to do something of value—your efforts will begin to count—and it will dawn upon you that if you only continue to persevere in this manner you will, in course of time, accomplish all that you want to do and become all that you long to be. This simple plan will call out your real ability in a sure and steady manner, and its faithful practice will eventually yield the most gratifying results.

Another good method for the improvement of ability is to *try and do better what you are doing now*. Of course, if you love your present work, this will be an easy matter and ability will naturally increase. But, if you are engaged in work that fails to interest, it will be evident that you are not using your best abilities; and, in consequence, these will continue to remain more or less dormant and unproductive. There is a way out, however. You can proceed to use your present work, no matter how uncongenial, to promote your personal advancement; that is, you can use it to build up the faculties employed therein and to cultivate habits of accuracy, decision, resource, promptness and well-doing. Then, when you do change into more congenial employment you will be stronger and more capable for having passed through such a period of discipline; also, you will be far more competent to achieve a greater success in the new field of labour by reason of such training. Therefore, cultivate a desire to do your present work better, knowing that in doing so, you will develop the ability to do it better; and, as you improve in yourself and in your work you must eventually become too large for your present place, when, in accordance with the law of progress, other and greater opportunities will be attracted for your advancement into more congenial and remunerative spheres of action.

Still another method for developing ability is to *use thoroughly all the ability you now possess*. In other words, most persons have more than one talent or line of ability and it is advisable where convenient to exercise these subsidiary abilities in their various directions so as to ensure an all-round development and a well-balanced distribution of the mental and spiritual energies. As in everything else, practice makes perfect, and the continuous exercise of power leads to its perpetual increase, so you may go on developing greater and greater ability every year by these means.

Again, it is well to cultivate *general* ability as well as *special* ability, so as to guard against an abnormal or one-sided mental development. One very powerful faculty supported by a number of other strong faculties will ensure infinitely better results than a single faculty abnormally developed and the rest of the mind weak in action and poor in expression. In all cases, general ability will always enrich and enlarge specialised ability, although the latter is mainly responsible for individual success.

Further, general ability is interchangeable; that is, it can be readily adapted to the requirements of any new kind of work or line of action. Pursuits are rapidly multiplying in every direction. Specialised branches of commerce, trade, science, art, mechanics and industry are being developed, each of which contains rich possibilities and golden opportunities for service and gain. Hence, if you should fall on "hard times," or for any reason become "shut out" from that kind of work to which you have been accustomed, remember that there are always opportunities to "make good" in other avenues of usefulness.

In fact, there is a great natural law behind all changes, and often it is necessary for the lesser good to pass out of our lives to permit the greater good to come in. Indeed, it frequently happens that when we take this point of view and expect that when one door closes another will open we are led to perceive the path to take for the greater good. The simple reason is because this higher attitude of mind furnishes the superior insight or the clearer discernment which perceives in the conditions around us the possibilities of improvement and latent opportunities for success.

So, when changes come, as they must, do not antagonise and resist. Anticipate greater good than ever and proceed to get busy. And, when rebuffs are met, do not become discouraged or "give up." Keep cheerful, active and alert. If you fail in one direction determine to use your ability in another. Every man and woman of worldly experience knows that there are various other pursuits to which a person can successfully adapt his abilities; and, in which, he will probably be able to accomplish far better and greater results. Indeed, it often happens that such is the case, and the apparently "adverse" change proves to be an open door to a larger success than would ever be dreamed possible in the old vocation. And, after all, does it matter very much where you use your ability so long as you *do* use it; provided, of course, you are happy and engaged in well-doing.

THE WINNING FACTOR.

THE men and women who win success are those who possess the power to "hold on," a purpose once fixed, and then persistent and indefatigable efforts until the goal is reached.

More persons fail through lack of persistency in aim and purpose than almost all other causes combined. When we stop to examine the lives of individuals who have achieved great things, we find that one predominant trait is present with them all,—a "never-give-up" attitude, which impels them to press on and on, and to plod and plod away, often in the face of every sort of obstacle and adverse circumstances until the end in view is attained.

Persistence always wins. It gains our objects. It accomplishes our desires. It actualises our dreams. Next to a definite purpose, a high ideal, or a great aim, the faculty of persistent application is absolutely indispensable to success.

Nothing worth while is achieved without effort. Great achievements are invariably the outcome of patient, determined, and unwearied efforts. We rarely hear of persons being too persistent, rather do we contact numerous failures through a lack of this one invincible quality.

Numbers of clever, resourceful, industrious men and women start out every year with bright, well-planned undertakings that seem to promise well, but which usually fail after a time, often for no other reason than a deficiency in the power of persistent application. They begin well, with the usual high hopes of success; and, as in the case of almost every new undertaking, various difficulties arise and opposing forces are met which, at times, threaten to swamp the enterprise. It is at these moments when dark clouds gather that more determined efforts than ever should be put forth. Instead, however, they permit their minds to be deeply impressed by the apparently adverse indications which tend to engender discouragement, and the consequent slackening of effort. Then, as matters get worse, as they will do, unless strong control is exercised, and still greater exertions are made, these worthy people rapidly lose heart and finally "give up"; whereas, had they aspired for more faith and determination and endeavoured to arouse more energy and decided with every rebuff to "stick it out" to the finish, they would ultimately have won a glorious victory.

At the same time, do not persist in a course of action which reason and instinct tells you is wrong. There is an infallible monitor within you that will guide you aright—an inner voice whose admonitions you should train yourself to obey, then you will rarely err and misdirect your efforts. If, however, you have made a mistake, be square with yourself, acknowledge it and change your plans. Then get started in a new direction which your own intelligence will confirm as being the right one, and go ahead, ignoring past failures and heart-breaking disappointments, by concentrating your vision with a greater love, adoration and faith than ever upon the grand ideal to be reached.

In all circumstances you must be greater than things, conditions and events; and, you are greater potentially, if not, actually. Therefore, know what you want, aim with definite purpose, plan accordingly, and decide to win. Then, be strong—you can! Take the success attitude, enter the “I can” spirit—the attitude invincible—and you are bound to succeed.

Nothing can withstand the set purpose of firm, adamant resolutions of the awakened Will, when backed up with unswerving faith in the righteousness of your purpose, and the limitless possibilities and vast resources of the potential side of your being. No matter what the nature of your undertaking you are certain to meet with difficulties, obstacles, opposition and mistakes—either your own or others; but, you can learn to overwhelm all these through the primitive force of your own unyielding spirit in confidence and in love for the attainment of the greatest good.

Modern science declares that there is more than enough power within any individual to enable him to accomplish anything worthy that he may set out to do. The demand upon the Spirit within implies the supply. Therefore, move forward! Never mind the possibilities of mistakes, aim high and aim well, and errors will be few and far between. As you get into touch with your own unbounded power, you will begin to make headway, to attempt more and achieve more, and as you do so you will gain experience, and from experience you will gather knowledge, and knowledge will give you the power to win success.

Look upon your individual life as a “force-cause” in the process of development, and your conditions—adverse or otherwise—as so much raw material out of which you can shape or mould any ideal you please. We will assume you desire to establish a more successful state of affairs. The next step is to encompass, as it were, your entire life and present

circumstances, with a clear, definite mental image of what you want it to be, or of what you would like to realise. Then, proceed to express the full power of your persistent desire in every phase of your activities. In other words, begin to work up to the ideal in view by constant daily attempts. No matter how crude or poor your first efforts may seem when compared with those who do so well, keep at it everlastingly. They once had to commence at the bottom, as you are doing, and sooner or later you will reach their state. In the meantime, know that you do not fail until you give up, and that you cannot fail if you never give up, therefore, keep on trying, each effort will produce some good result, and see you a little further advanced. And success consists in completion.

Draw inspiration and firm resolve from Nature. She teaches a hundred lessons of patient and persistent application. Knock down an ant-hill and watch the little workers commence rebuilding their home again. Break a spider's thread a score of times, and it will persist in spinning another. It is the constant dropping of the water that wears away the hardest stone. For countless ages Nature has persevered with innumerable forms of life from the crudest and simplest beginnings, at each grand effort producing a slightly better and improved type until the highly organised and complex structure of man was evolved. Copy Nature, learn the lesson she would teach, put forth the effort and steadfastly work up from little things to big things, from small beginnings to great endings, and be happy in the doing, count it all a grand adventure.

There is tremendous force in persistent desire. The fact is you can only really work for what you desire; hence, the stronger your desire, the more energy and determination you will persist in trying to do what you have set out to perform, because energy must act and determination must direct—that is the law.

In this way you steadily increase in working capacity and efficiency. By the force of your persistent desire you literally arouse into stronger and more potent action—set aflame, as it were—all those faculties within which can produce what you desire, or perform what you wish to do. The force of your desire actually feeds and nourishes them so that if you continue to want what you have decided to realise or possess, you will infallibly strengthen and build up that particular group of faculties until they become sufficiently large and strong to enable you to grasp the object of your desire.

Indeed, in most things, the force of persistent desire is practically omnipotent. Somewhere, it has been said that, "you can have anything

you want if you only want it hard enough "; provided, of course, the object of desire is within the realm of natural accomplishment.

Most psychologists agree that the power of persistent desire is wonderfully effective in supplying our wants and needs, but many persons fail to receive what they desire because they have no clear conception of what they really want, or because they are always changing their desires, wanting one thing at one time and something else at another, thus failing to exert the proper amount of effort to win success in any one direction.

Our experience demonstrates that in the realms of accomplishment, the person who is most persistent in his aims and purposes will usually outstrip all others in attainment, even though his compeers may outclass him in actual brilliancy of mind, talent, social and educational advantages. Verily, strong and persistent desire is a primitive, elementary power that is practically irresistible in every walk of life.

Throughout all Nature's dominions, the principle of desire or aspiration is abundantly evidenced as the "voice" of the law of growth. We see one phase of its expression in the attraction or cohesion of one atom to another; and the potential force of the seed that prompts it to put forth tiny feelers for light and nourishment; and, again, in the animal whose desire for food incites to physical activity and a consequent development of its organism.

Take this hint from Mother Nature. Be bold and free. Acknowledge your natural and pure desires for Truth, Goodness and Beauty. Don't crush your aspirations to rise and to advance. Be true to yourself. Set your desires to see the light of day. Come out of your shell. Don't bury those tiny seeds of inner yearnings and longings to be something and to do something. Strive to realise the grandeur of your real nature, and vast possibilities, and then seek to live your life in accordance with the true laws of progression. Learn as much as you can from those who have gained a larger knowledge of life, and proceed to apply your powers in the doing of things that shall give pleasure to yourself and happiness to others.

Desire attracts; in fact, persistent desire is a manifestation of the law of attraction, which has its correspondences on all planes of life. The desire of the seed for light and the desire of the animal for food attracts the supply. So with the person of strong desire for success or a better life. In yielding to the expression of this desire-force, he becomes a magnet, as it were, a live centre of attraction, drawing to himself the right opportunities, persons, conditions and things that correspond to

the nature of his desire, and which will promote the realization or accomplishment of his wishes as he uses them with this end in view. Thus one's own will always come; because, there is a definite law in Nature, which gathers and draws together all those things that are needed to realise a strong desire, or to fulfil an insistent demand. This principle lies at the bottom of all life's processes of action and constitutes one of the basic means whereby the cosmic plan of evolution is carried into greater and greater effect.

Again, any desire can be made persistent by impressing it a number of times on the inner side of mind—the subconscious. This is the department of being, from which man secures his greatest powers, his best ideas, and the ability to execute his plans. Now, you can proceed to secure the aid of the unlimited resources of the subconscious, by trying to feel your desires. *To feel is to impress.* Then, by forming a clear-cut mental picture of what you want and permitting it to sink deeply into your inner-consciousness you will complete the process of impression and render the desire persistent.

It is in the vast depths of the potential side of mind where the mightiest forces of man lie dormant. Hence by seeking to get into closer touch with the deeper currents of life, mightier forces will be set into operation, that will directly and indirectly work toward the objects in view. To promote this process, select a brief period each day when you can give your whole thought and attention to the things that you long to attain, and then desire firmly but gently that your entire mind and its faculties shall co-operate together and work in unison to materialise your hopes and bring to pass the things you desire. A few minutes daily practise of this description will, if persisted in, produce some remarkable results. That, however, will be no more than should be expected, because such practice will set up a "channel-current" so to speak, along which will flow the major portion of the energies generated by the system, and which, if continued, will eventually become so strong as to actually produce within yourself the necessary power, ability, insight and courage to bring about the achievement of your aims.

All progress is through desire. That is the law. The desire to possess implies the power to do, not always the actual power, but the innate force which, of course, can be developed by proper means. In persistent desire we have one of the great secrets to advancement. It operates the law of growth. Hence, to achieve your every normal aim you have only to persist. In fact, persistent desire constitutes a great

building force, a developing agency of rare value and is one of man's most powerful weapons in the attainment of the ideal. Finally, the simplest way of cultivating persistence is to express a desire to be persistent and then to continue in that desire.

§5

DEMAND AND SUPPLY—THE LAW OF INCREASE.

MAN is never satisfied. This fact is deplored by many, but Nature never intended that Man should be forever satisfied.

The law of his being is perpetual increase, progress and growth; so, when one good is realised another want for a greater good will develop; and when a higher state is reached another and more glorious state will unfold his vision and beckon him on and on. Hence, the advancing life is the true life, the life that Nature intended man to live.

The love of good is universal; for, are we not all seeking "good" in one form or another? In the final analysis, logic and science declare that "All is Good"; and that the universe is filled with the essential substance of every imaginable good that man can picture, and that he is entitled to a full and ever increasing supply of any and every good he may need or desire. We conclude, therefore, that it is not only right but good for man to seek to gratify all pure desires and aspirations.

WE ATTRACT WHATEVER WE STRONGLY
DESIRE AND EXPECT

Here is the key to the law of supply; and, consciously or unconsciously, every person is constantly operating this law in one or more of its phases. It works universally and on every plane of life's expression. We all are perpetually drawing into our lives the things we most desire *and* expect, and whether we attract good things or bad things the principle operated is the same. But as we all want less of the bad and more of the good things in life, it will be necessary to understand this law more perfectly, and so be able to adapt our thinking to it in a more direct fashion and thus secure the greater benefits that will accrue from a conscious, intelligent use of its power.

THINGS WILL GENERALLY DO WHATEVER WE
PERSISTENTLY EXPECT THEM TO DO

Almost every person will have had, at some time or other, remarkable evidence of this fact, but few seemed to have analysed the matter. "Yes, it happened just as I *expected*" is a common enough expression when something unpleasant has occurred. Then, why not *expect* the good in a like manner and help bring it to pass? When we trace effects to their causes, we find that expectation invariably fulfils itself in obedience to some hidden law, and that apart from desire. Now we know why some of our heart's deepest desires fail of realisation. We do not compel our expectation to keep pace with them. More often than not we desire one thing and expect something entirely different. We thus create a state of confusion and become like a house divided against itself, which cannot stand because in confusion there is no cohesion or attractive force.

When in trouble expect to get through all right and you will. Positive mental radiations will blow away the darkening clouds and in your confident expectation that everything will come right you operate the law that can and will put matters right. Therefore, be glad and strong and know that there is a Power within that is greater by far than any difficulty you are ever likely to meet either here or hereafter, and this Power will never fail to see you through.

True desire or aspiration represents the *urge* of life seeking a fuller expression and when kept alive by a continuous expectation of fulfilment it will tend to bring us into touch with the ways and means for its gratification. Fear attracts, in exactly the same manner, for we frequently expect the evil we fear to come upon us and so ignorantly operate the same law to our hurt.

In brief, the metaphysical principle involved is that, *no desire is felt until the supply is ready for manifestation*. The strong desire for any specific good is caused by the pressure upon consciousness on the inner plane of causes seeking expression on the outer plane of effects; in other words, no mind can become conscious of a need, a want or a longing desire unless the possibility of its fulfilment exists.

It follows, therefore, that you can steadily draw into your life any and every form of good you may truly desire. Every blessing comes from the One Great Fount of All-good to whom love and gratitude should ever be rendered as each one is received, for the mind so acts that when you do this it will open more and more perfectly to a purer Light from

above that will reveal the next step and all the steps to be taken to bring about the realisation of a still larger good and so on until the blessings in your life can be neither measured nor numbered.

Again, it is the "will" of Nature that you should enjoy every good that will promote constant happiness and advancement. All desire is an expression of the will, while to expect good is to demand good, so that both are essential to attract an adequate supply. Therefore, seek to harmonise your "will" with Nature's purpose and expect that every good and only good to befall you, then nothing but good can come.

From what has been stated, it will be evident that the two distinct functions of "desire" and "expectation" are both necessary to operate the law of demand and supply. To apply this law for practical results proceed to form a clear, mental image of the good you desire, but do not stipulate how it shall come or in what direction—leave that to Nature; then, support your desire by a continuous expectation of its perfect fulfilment. In this manner you will set the law of attraction into operation, so that the good demanded will be drawn irresistibly into your life with about the same certainty as the law of gravitation operates to draw down to earth any detached lesser mass within its sphere of magnetic sway. The results are inevitable.

Whatever you may desire in the way of health, love, success, happiness, knowledge, riches, power, talent, spiritual growth, truth or any other good, start it on its way to you by this simple mode of procedure. This twofold exposition of the law of supply should prove of inestimable value to all desirous of entering the realms of larger demonstration and accomplishment. It works, and the results are sure because natural principles are involved. You may, therefore, proceed without doubt or fear to desire and expect all the good you can legitimately use and enjoy. Let your affirmation be "I expect only that which I desire." Thus you will unceasingly add to the sum-total of good in your life and in the process of its acquisition you will be happily and fully occupied.



Articles on Choice of Pursuit; How to Work; Power of Thought; How to Concentrate and Personal Magnetism will appear in the next issue.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions relative to any subject or topic within the scope of this journal may be sent by readers. Answers will be given herein, except in special cases when replies will be sent by post. Letters should be addressed to the Editor.

John K., London, N.W., asks: "It seems to be a reasonable teaching which tells us that our particular environment or circumstances at all times are exactly those needed for the education of our Souls, and that what we call 'tribulation' is essentially remedial. If you agree that this teaching is true, will you please tell us to what extent we are justified in altering other people's circumstances by helping them out of their difficulties?"

I do not agree that our particular circumstances are always those exactly needed for the education of our souls or that tribulation is essential. Tribulation is remedial when it results from folly and evil living; but, a great deal of the tribulation in the world arises through outside causes and is undeserved by the great majority who experience it. At the same time suffering is not without its disciplinary effect on the spirit. To answer this question it is necessary to get down to fundamentals. What is the supreme object of existence? To individualise the spirit in man. All experience, therefore, has a value. It intensifies and develops self-consciousness; it moulds and strengthens the indwelling spirit. Struggle and effort are powerful educational factors in the evolution of mankind. It is not altogether a good thing to enjoy an easy passage through life. Individuality and character are strengthened and developed through exertion and struggle. At the same time one is justified in exercising a superior intelligence to overcome the hardships of material existence. One is not justified, however, in helping persons who can easily help themselves. Help persons to help themselves, but do not reduce them to a state of dependence upon your bounty. Nature demands that each individual should develop his or her own intelligence and powers, and become strong and self-reliant. One is only justified in altering the circumstances of persons who are unable to lift themselves out of their difficulties. In this action there is a blessing both to the giver and the receiver. Otherwise, more harm than good may be done; but, use reason in all cases according to the

circumstances. There is no fixed rule of action. The highest rule of action is to use one's best intelligence in all the contingencies and situations of life.

J. S., Burnley, asks: "How is an idea born? Do you put yourself in a certain state of quietness and think of the desired result or is there an exercise executed mentally that produces the idea?"

An idea arises from an association of impressions received from external objects and stored in memory or from internal reflections. Also, the subconscious side of the mind is an operating factor in the production of ideas. It is a good practise to reflect or meditate upon matters wherein new ideas are desired. The conscious effort to associate one thing with another when pondering on a matter will often develop the idea sought. The primitive mind of the barbarian acts from impulse or instinct; it lacks the reflective power of the civilised mind, the thinker. Reflection is the best process for generating ideas. Try to take different points of view; look at the matter under consideration from different angles. You will soon develop plenty of ideas.

D. C., London, asks: "Is our Guardian Angel or Guide our own spirit self?"

Certainly not. The Guardian Angel presides over the welfare and development of your spirit *from* a time prior to your physical birth until after death when you as a spirit entity are handed over with a complete record of your earthly career to an Angel of another order who then transfers you to a sphere adapted for your further progression. At no time in your earthly life are you permitted to know your Guardian Angel or to receive any direct communications. A Guide is an Angel of lower degree who, for one reason or another, may become attached to you for the accomplishment of some useful purpose or mutual educational advantages.

(2) "Are Angels departed human beings or those celestial beings who have never incarnated on earth?"

Discarnate spirits of mortals ultimately develop into Angels, but not all Angels who minister to mortals from the Unseen have been incarnated on earth. Many high-raised Angelic Beings who overshadow the races

on earth and in the spirit-heavens were originally raised up on other corporeal stars.

(3) "*What is the difference between obsession and possession?*"

Obsession means a low, negative state of mind which permits attack and molestation from an outside entity. Possession means control by an evil spirit from within; the natural spirit being driven out of its own body. Many so-called instances of re-incarnation in the Orient are of the latter order.

(4) "*What did Jesus mean when He said, 'this kind go not out except by prayer and fasting.' And why was it necessary to command them to enter swine and be drowned?*"

Exactly what He said. These dark spirits are very undeveloped and easily controllable by a Mind exalted and spiritual. Jesus ruled them by the magnetic sway of His will, and knowing they would be dangerous to other mortals if allowed to roam free, He drove these spirits into the bodies of animals for a safe anchorage. They are known to occultists as vampire spirits who dwell in the psychic atmosphere of mortals or animals and live on the subtle portions of the substance they eat and drink.

(5) "*Are there any real Brotherhoods of Advanced Occultists in existence to-day; if so, how can one know the true from the false?*"

Yes, there has always been a confraternity or brotherhood of men and Angels in sympathetic and active co-operation for human welfare, progress and guidance in all ages of the world. There are few mortal members although they may greatly increase in the New Cycle which is dawning. Individuals drawn into affiliation with the unseen Angelic Hierarchy are prepared and trained from early childhood, and are recruited *in a special manner for their own safety and protection*. None but themselves are aware of the exalted companionship and power which they enjoy; nor can they speak of these things to others. Usually, their lives are dedicated to service or labour for humanity; and, although they are guided and inspired from the Unseen their earthly careers are arduous, often dangerous, and never easy or fortunate in the worldly sense.

Occult orders, societies and so-called brotherhoods which make

extravagant claims in their public announcements to attract members are counterfeits. Usually there is a consideration of fees or other forms of payment, but where they operate surreptitiously through a philosophical or religious society there is an additional danger. It should be clearly understood that the real occult orders are not man-made; they are unknown to the public. Members are born in them and there is no question of joining. They belong to the spirit side of life and are organised assemblies of Angelic Beings whose members on corpora are chosen from physical birth and subjected to a special culture so that they may act as corporeal anchorages, etc. This subject will be fully dealt with in articles dealing with the occult universe and activities in the unseen worlds. In the present revival of interest in psychic matters, however, it is very important that the public should be made aware that the high claims made by advertising occult schools or orders are unfounded; also, they are dangerous and lead sincere and uninformed persons astray. What power they possess is drawn from dark sources, and especially where occult ritual and ceremonies are observed there is a very real danger. See Notes and Comments.

(6) "*Has any spiritual teacher ever given information of the inhabitants of other planetary bodies? Have you any knowledge of sentient life on other planets; also, are there lesser evolved worlds with inhabitants something akin to humanity as we know it?*"

Swedenborg has given a peculiar and detailed account of the denizens of the planets Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, etc., which somewhat resemble the descriptions given in the records of the ancient astrologers and philosophers of Syria and Persia. We know of no modern or medieval teacher who has publicly given reliable information. Yes, we have a limited knowledge of life on other planets but no practical purpose will be served by disclosing it, except to state that races of beings akin to the human family come into existence and evolve on other corporeal stars in much the same manner as the peoples of earth. Mortals are vain, indeed, if they think that the small globe they inhabit is the only populated planet in the universe. In addition to numberless physical stars there are countless celestial or ethereal worlds of a superior and different order throughout the illimitable expanses of the spiritual universe, and these higher worlds are habitable within and without by mighty hosts of Angels who are grandly developed, high-raised and glorious in their functions and states.

(7) *"How and where do the spirits of animals evolve after leaving earth and do they after æons evolve to become human?"*

The spirits of animals are absorbed back into the Group Soul of animal creation. Animal spirits are not capable of immortality. A temporary after-death existence is possible and often occurs with the spirits of domestic animals in some of the lower levels of the spirit world but final absorption is inevitable. The spirits of animals never evolve into human spirits.

(8) *"Why is it necessary for the Absolute to create human life and its imperfections? How and when is the Spirit projected into matter? What is Spirit? Is Religion necessary? What is God and how does He manifest Himself to Man? What is the difference between prayer and Communion?"*

Human life and its imperfections is a relative aspect of Reality. The Absolute is beyond human conception and analysis. We dwell on a plane of relativity; therefore, questions referring to the Absolute are unanswerable. The sublime mystery of life and consciousness is the grand secret of the Absolute; the final problem which will not be solved by the human intellect. There are Spheres of Eternal Contemplation in Higher Worlds where Pure Light irradiates all mysteries and reveals the Truth of Spirit and its projection into matter.

As to what is Spirit, read article on the "Origin of Spirit and Pre-existence" in the last issue. And is religion necessary? Pure religion is a part of human life and inseparable from the yearning heart of mankind for union with the Creator. Persons who appear to be irreligious because they do not subscribe to creed or attend church and chapel may be deeply religious in the true sense. Religion is what we feel about the deeper issues of life. Science is what we know about the facts of life. Philosophy is what we think or speculate about life. They are all essential to human culture and development. Take a broad interest in all.

Who or what is God and how does He manifest to man? is a question which gives its own answer. God is manifest to mankind in the glory of His creations. All Nature is His handiwork and the great Book of Revelation to every enquiring mind. Study Nature in all her aspects and phases of activity and you will learn something of the Beauty, Wisdom and Power of the all-comprehensive, architectural, creative

Mind of God. Man focusses Nature in unit form and in the perpetual discovery of himself God becomes more and more revealed to him. Man reaches out after his Creator through aspiration or prayer and there is a natural communion when the mind is attuned to Truth.

M. W., Sydenham, asks: "Does the development of psychic gifts aid spiritual attainment or are they separate conditions?"

The development of psychic gifts should not be sought before the moral nature has been thoroughly disciplined and cultivated, otherwise there is a grave danger of self-undoing. Psychic culture is not spiritual growth; the two are vastly different. A person of low morals and deficient intellect may be very mediumistic. Psychic power is a matter of organic fitness, not morals, character, training or knowledge. Asylums for the insane are filled with unbalanced psychic people. The development of psychic gifts, therefore, does not aid spiritual attainment. Some of the most spiritual people in the world are not conscious of psychic talents. Spiritual development is marked by refinement of thought, high moral principles, expansion of consciousness and power of understanding. Spiritually minded persons will often unfold a beautiful form of psychic sensitiveness naturally, and not by any arbitrary methods of psychic development.

(2) *"It is said that John, Swedenborg and others were able to reach the spiritual spheres while still embodied. Is this possible to-day?"*

Yes, given the requisite degree of spiritual growth and psychic development, coupled with the proper conditions. What really happens is that the psychic and spiritual faculties of a seer are stimulated and extended through the magnetic operations of Unseen Beings who assist their protégé in the corporeal form to rise in soul vision to their own exalted states, and where possible to record a few impressions upon the physical brain for translation into earthly language. It may take either the subjective or objective form. The subjective form is more common. See article on "The Occult Universe" in No. 4 of this publication.

E. T. R., Crumlin, Mon., asks: "Do you believe Jesus to be a great Spirit; and, do you say God is the spiritual embodiment of Goodness and Reality; or, is He a Spirit Creator, indefinable but the Father of all and Creator of everything and personally approachable through prayer?"

Why not believe Jesus to be a great Spirit; there is nothing to the contrary; but, there are other great Spirits—mighty Gods who are the managers of the Creator's corporeal and celestial worlds, and who have had millions of years of experience in association with the evolution of races on many planets in different areas of the Infinite Universe.

The All-Highest Creator is Ever-Present in Spirit and is approachable in prayer. Why rule out the Personal Element which is a Divine Attribute? The Great Infinite Spirit—The Creator, is the ONE ALL-PERSON. Who shall dare to assert that the sincere prayer of the humblest of mortals or spirits does not find a sympathetic response in the great Divine Heart? The ALL-SEEING EYE of the CREATOR is the witness of every act here and hereafter. The VOICE OF THE CREATOR is upon all men and women at all times and in all places but they hear it not. The still, small Voice of the Spirit is heard in the silence of the soul and blessed is the mortal who hears and responds.

(2) "*Science rejects the possibility of 'The Immaculate Birth,' but history confirms the Bible narrative. What am I to believe?*"

Believe nothing which is not confirmed by Reason and experience and you will be on safe ground. Science is right, while history is three parts fabrication. The Light of the Creator is active when you exercise Reason and think for yourself. Many people refer to the Bible as the grand old book, but the grandest of all teachers is the Book of Nature, uncontaminated by the hand of man. You can read a thousand beautiful lessons in Nature. Tune in with the Spirit of Creation until the Truth of Life and the Purpose of Existence unfolds to your inner vision. Pure aspiration and clear thinking will solve the mysteries of Life and without the aid of man-made Bibles.

"Retlaw," London, E.C., asks several questions in regard to certain statements in the No. 4, Spring Issue, 1930.

(1) Page 67: "*If rising into a better state means losing interest in this world which still contains your affinity, that means you must lose touch with your affinity which is contrary to love surely, and very distressing to the one left behind. Also, if you leave your affinity behind surely you must for the same reason be earth-bound?*"

Not necessarily. You may lose touch with the earth-world but you can never be entirely separated from anyone you love. Love is spiritual

and not material; love is eternal not temporal. Love is the one indissoluble link in the spiritual world. Where there is pure and mutual affection neither can be spiritually separated or lose the other. Sympathy in the spiritual world is the governing principle of attraction as gravitation in the physical world. Love draws souls together and binds them in magnetic states which continue and improve in accordance with the fundamental and beautiful laws of progression. Spiritual things must be spiritually discerned. Read pages 58-59 of the issue mentioned.

(2) Page 68: "*Re Guardian Angels. An innocent child of 12 was knocked down and killed through crossing a street to save a dog. A kind action severely punished. Where was this child's Guardian Angel?*"

The Seed of many unfortunate events is found in the Past. Psychic facts in association with the ancestry of the child would, if carefully investigated, probably reveal the causes which led up to the accident. You judge from a material point of view and while that is your limitation it is not necessarily true that a kind action is severely punished. The spirit of the child would be properly protected by its Guardian Angel, but there is a question of psychic environment inherited from parents and ancestors which may be an almost insurmountable barrier to angelic interference in regard to physical safety. Ignorance of unseen conditions is deplorable. The true Light of the Spirit has been crushed by dark and oppressive teachings down the ages; and, in this journal we are making an attempt in difficult conditions to reveal some of the things we have learned through private experience. Be assured, however, that all would be well with the disfranchised spirit of the child; and, from a spiritual point of view with a full knowledge of hidden facts the accident may have other and brighter features.

(3) Page 70: "*If spirits see the same Sun, Moon and stars that we see, do they see with eyes as we do? For the Sun is a physical body and would appear to require physical organs to see it; and, again, you state light and heat are permanent states and there is no variation in the atmosphere as on earth.*"

Every physical object in Nature has its spiritual counterpart. Man has a spiritual body as well as a natural body. The Sun as we know it physically is the outer form of an inner, spiritual Sun. Spirits see the

spiritual Sun and stars, etc. They have duplicate spiritual faculties corresponding to the physical senses. Light and heat in the various zones of spiritual life are determined in degree by the magnetic emanations of the spirits and angels inhabiting them. The inner life of a mortal after transition becomes the outer life in the spirit world. The interior thoughts, desires, habits and states are reflected in the exterior conditions of the spirit. A mind well-balanced, peaceful and kind in thought and feeling would naturally find itself environed with pleasant and beautiful conditions when freed from the body. The soul steeped in passion and vice would find itself in a very uncomfortable state in spirit life. These reflected spiritual conditions are graded in degrees of light and darkness, heat and cold according to the moral and intellectual status of the spirit. Spirit people form communities and their aggregated magnetic emanations largely determine the state and formation of the sphere which they inhabit.

(4) Page 63: *"You say degraded individuals awaken on the spirit shores without a welcome or a home. Now this reads terribly cruel and unreal. Surely there must be some kindly spirits who would wish to welcome these poor arrivals and show them hope, even as on earth the Salvation Army welcomes the lowest and redeems many for Christ said: 'Judge not, that ye be not judged.'"*

The statement made is a fact and we are not concerned with any sentiment in the matter. Degraded individuals wake up in spirit life in very unpleasant conditions, because they have built them by their own thoughts and deeds on earth. Benevolent angels are there to assist them, but to the new comers into spirit life they are invisible, being shut off by the dark, gross emanations of the spirits themselves. An evil man or woman on transition is enveloped in a psychic aura like a fog and this dark condition is a barrier to the spirit's vision. Only time and remorseless self-examination followed by persistent efforts to reform and improve will gradually dissolve this dark and terrible condition. Usually the spirit is guided unseen to old haunts and familiar places where a full realisation of its true condition is brought vividly home, and when purified by the "fires of remorse" (that is the real hell) Light breaks in upon the spirit, and powerful and benign angels make their appearance to lead it onward and upward to happier states. Repentance for evil done or hope of forgiveness is of no avail in spirit life. Spiritual conditions built up by years of bad and selfish living cannot be wiped out by a last minute repentance; they must be painfully endured until outgrown. Thousands

of souls have been deceived by this doctrine of last minute repentance.

(5) Page 60: "*The spirit world comprises a vast globe many times larger than the earth. This description of comparative size seems to me inadequate. Does not the spirit world fill the whole known universe and extending into other universes, etc.; and, if this is so your illustration would appear misleading. Even the Sun is but an insignificant star in the mighty fabric of the universe; therefore the size of the spirit world must be inconceivable, etc.?*"

Our reader's difficulty is appreciated in relation to the comparative sizes of spirit worlds and planets. What is actually the truth is that each corporeal star evolves from its own sublimated emanations a spirit world which settles around it. There are countless spirit worlds as there are physical planets. In addition, there are other spiritual worlds of a superior and different character and these are dealt with elsewhere. The grand Spirit World of the Universe would, of course, comprise the myriad of individual spirit worlds of all the habitable planets in our solar system and all other solar systems. Our illustration is in order. Do not confuse the spirit world of our individual earth with the spirit worlds of other earths. Each is distinct and separate from the others. Also, all spirit worlds are in another condition of Being and cannot be comprehended in terms of physical space measurement, time, etc.

(6) "*When a murderer is hanged does he meet his victim and what is the attitude of the two spirits towards each other?*"

A great deal depends upon whether they gravitate to the same spiritual spheres. A criminal who murders another criminal would infallibly meet his victim among the degraded dens of spirit society he would enter on passing into the lower regions of the spirit world. He would then be tormented by his old victim and other dark spirits for an indefinite period; there would be a constant warfare until each is weary of suffering, etc. On the other hand, if the victim of the murderer is a good or innocent person they are unlikely to meet for a long period. The spirit of the murderer would suffer from illusory visions of his victim, and also at the hands of other malevolent spirits, until after a period of time which will seem an eternity to the tormented, frenzied spirit, he is generally assisted out of his dark and terrible condition by the very one whom he injured. There is always a link forged by the crime and the spirit of the murderer cannot progress until the complete forgiveness of his victim is gained.

"Corbridge," Yorkshire, writes: "You say the 'spirit never actually leaves the physical body, asleep or awake, only at death.' I am not a spiritualist but I have had an actual experience, etc."

I do not doubt your psychic experience, but it is quite in order to affirm that the average person as a spirit never leaves the physical body. What happens, in psychic experiences of this sort, is an extension of the faculties of the etheric body brought about through persistent yearning of the spirit for light or union with another spirit; or, what is more frequent, by the careful magnetic preparation of Guardian Spirits who foresee some good result (spiritual) will be obtained thereby. Such experiences, however, are uncommon even with the mediumistic person who is born with a peculiar organisation that lends itself to manipulation on the part of Unseen Spirit Operators. Certainly, no individual can leave his body and travel around in spirit without the aid and guidance of Angel Guardians. Also, many of these experiences are *subjective*. It is possible, but extremely rare that *objective* spiritual experience is obtained by one in mortal form. Such would involve a long and special occult training. Again, all such experience is premature and abnormal; and, should not be sought for its own sake.

B. C., Halifax, asks: "Do you believe in the Bible and can you tell me where it originated?"

We do not consider the Bible indispensable to human development, and there are some persons who think the world would have fared better had it never existed. It is very doubtful whether anyone really knows when and how the Bible was compiled. Its origins are lost in the mists of antiquity. According to ecclesiastical history the Bible originated with the Nicene Council in the fourth century. There are several Bibles in the world (see page 31, No. 5, *The Unknown*) and we look upon them as human records of sacred matters and religious history. Each contains a mixture of truth and error; certainly none is infallible. Bibles are man-made books and no more necessary to a knowledge of Truth than any standard work to tell us how to live. The Great Book of Nature is the Creator's eternal witness to Truth.

A. C., London, W., asks: "Do you consider psycho-analysis dangerous? And what is the difference between animal magnetism and hypnotic power?"

Yes, all forms of psycho-analysis which dig deep into the animal soul and expose the baser instincts of a man or woman is definitely pernicious and soul-destroying. In spite of the great claims made by its advocates psycho-analysis is a perversion of mental science.

Animal magnetism or mesmerism is the power to induce an extraordinary state of the nervous system wherein one person controls the thoughts and physical actions of another. It is supposed that this control is obtained by a flow of intangible fluid called magnetism from the operator to the subject, whereas in hypnotism the control is obtained by oral or mental suggestion.

(2) "*What is the sixth sense? And what is a psychic?*"

The sixth sense is a composite blending of spiritual perceptions awakened in a person of psychic capacity. It cognises elements, conditions, things and facts outside the range of the five normal senses. It is a higher faculty of the mind and is dormant in all persons and active with but few.

A psychic is a person sensitive to invisible influences and conditions. A somnambulist or hypnotised person is a psychic. A medium is always a psychic, but a psychic may not be a medium. Any person is psychic who senses unseen things, while a medium is one who is not only sensitive to invisible Beings but is controllable by them.

J. L., Herts, asks: "Does God exist apart from His Universe? Also, what is the ultimate destiny of man?"

If you mean does the Creator exist apart from His Creations, visible and invisible, the answer is in the negative. Read articles on pages 11 and 46 of No. 1, *The Unknown*, for a treatment of this question. It is there stated that "the Great Creative Spirit is *imminent* in the universe, and that man is essentially *divine*, because God dwells within him." Also, study article on New Science of Truth, in No. 2, of this publication. As the spirit of man animates his body, so does the Spirit of the Creator animate his universe.

In regard to the ultimate destiny of man, who can tell? We observe that all the laws of life point to a never-ending progress and development from corporeal life into the spiritual spheres, and then onward and upward to higher ethereal worlds. Man begins on earth, a mortal; next, transition takes place and he finds himself a spirit; then, he progresses

into angelhood; afterwards becoming an archangel, and a god. We know from supernormal investigations that this planet and its spirit heavens are ruled by a mighty hierarchy of Gods and Goddesses who were originally raised up on other corporeal stars; but, some of the Angel Rulers over provinces in the spirit regions and on earth were one-time mortals like ourselves. We cannot state the ultimate destiny of man. It is lost in sublime mystery. We do know that no mortal can describe or even imagine its spiritual flowering, the grandeur and beauty of its final developments. Every man is a god in embryo; every woman a goddess in the making. The marvel of life and the glory of man's ultimate destiny demands an epic portrayal to do it anything like justice. Even then it would fall indefinitely short of reality.

K. G. M., Edinburgh, writes: "You say there are other worlds as well as this one, please describe them."

A special article is under preparation dealing with this fascinating topic but a brief statement will not be out of place here. Meanwhile, read article on the Vast Spirit World in No. 2, of this publication. In addition to information therein, we would state that there are three classes of worlds; first, the physical stars or corporeal worlds; second, the spirit planets or ethereal worlds; and, third, the celestial or higher worlds. The first we know; the second are spiritual counterparts as the spiritual body of man is the duplicate of his physical form; while, the third are the highest and perfected worlds of the Creator. Spirit planets are linked with their corporeal bases, and revolve with them in similar orbits and courses. The higher or celestial worlds are independent and everlasting creations with motions and courses of their own, and superior to all other worlds in majesty, power and perfection. The earths of the universe are habitable only on the surface. The spirit planets are also habitable only on the surface of their spheres or plateaus. The celestial or ethereal worlds, however, are habitable within and without and endure for eternity. More anon.

(Other questions in hand will be dealt with in the next issue.)

GENERAL FORECASTS

SPRING AND SUMMER

The general outlook for the period under review is very disturbed and unsettled. Strong forces of adjustment are operating to bring about a balanced state of affairs in the commercial, political and financial worlds, nationally and internationally. Despite this fact there is a widespread feeling of uncertainty. It was pointed out in our autumn issue that the present cycle of trade and financial depression would probably continue until there is some hope or promise of reforms in our national trading systems and fiscal policies to meet the requirements of the changed conditions in the world. We are all witnessing a tremendous struggle between the forces of progress and ancient institutions which have outlived their usefulness, and the "spirit of the times" demands that the old must die that the new may live. The real trouble, therefore, is the need of adjustment in the political, commercial and financial fabric of modern life. That remedy is slowly being applied in many directions, the outcome of which will dissolve the current economic crisis and bring sure and permanent relief through the adoption of new methods, principles, and fresh policies adapted to meet the requirements of a changed post-war world.

TIME YOUR ACTIONS FOR BEST RESULTS

There is virtue in the careful choice of times and dates for important actions. Long experience and study of astral causes of mundane effects confirms this conclusion. All months and dates are not alike; they differ in vibration and condition. The times and dates given under each month are those when general influences and conditions are more favourable to positive actions than otherwise. Many persons find them of great value in pushing affairs, especially in business, social and financial life. Better results from actions are often obtainable thereby.

MARCH.—General influences operating in the first part of month favour greater business activity but conditions are uncertain owing to the shifting basis of current trading, industrial and financial problems. The month is unfavourable for taking big risks of a financial nature, and most

projects will have extra difficulties to overcome if started in this period. There is considerable government anxiety in connection with Far East affairs. Troubles come from India and Australia is passing through an adverse time. Russia is a thorn in the side of Europe, and what she forbodes in the future is a deep problem. International labour troubles and revolts are featured. The whole religious world is subject to great unrest for some time to come; and epoch-making changes are inevitable. The slump in commodity prices continues with slight improvements and subsequent reactions; but, this aspect of our forecast is dealt with more particularly in the specialised report mentioned elsewhere. General conditions are trappy for investors owing to financial disturbances, losses and adjustments being registered in different countries. Extreme care is essential with all important financial business and market investments at present. Weather likely to be mild or warm from mid-month. Last ten days of month are best for new affairs, changes, travel and adventure. On the whole, a disturbed and unsettled month.

BEST DATES are 1st, 3rd, 5th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 15th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 22nd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th.

APRIL.—A very important month with mixed influences operating to produce a variety of developments, events and changes in most spheres of life. Financial institutions are subject to a very anxious time, especially during the first part of month. Mammon is very oppressive. The government is powerful and carries its plans into execution. Trade generally is depressed but new features are showing on the horizon. Food prices are at low ranges, as forecasted last year. Much political discussion of a heated and acrimonious nature holds the public's attention. Great philanthropic schemes are a striking feature; also, important mergers and amalgamations of public companies. Agricultural and mining interests may benefit now or in the near future by legislation. Foreign trade receives a fillip. The month is more favourable for scientific, literary, professional, legal and educational affairs than the heavier pursuits. The last two weeks are best for changes, new ventures, professional undertakings, partnerships and marriages; also, for changes or new arrangements in domestic affairs. New affairs then started have prospects of growth, success or happy fruition.

BEST DATES are 1st, 5th, 8th, 12th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 23rd, 24th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th. Use these days when you have to push an affair, seek an interview, make a new arrangement, seek help or gain anything important in which a good result is desired. The days not mentioned are unimportant

or unsuitable for positive actions which involve risks. Of course, all minor or ordinary matters may be transacted any day. It is only when you have something really important or upon which a great deal depends that you should select a suitable time and date. When you time your action in harmony with astral law you know then that your chances of success are more sure (other things being equal). You act under good auspices.

MAY.—Current weeks are conspicuous for sudden developments and changes in the affairs of railways and transport companies. Also, the unemployment problem is seriously tackled. In regard to staple industries and national trade the indications are various; some industries register definite improvements and brighter prospects, while others are still depressed. More detailed particulars are given in the Specialised Report referred to on another page. The public are much inclined to spending and pleasure in this period and the big stores should do well. The weather turns suddenly cold in the latter part of the month; crops suffer and mortality may be exceptionally heavy. There is a line of seismic disturbance or very severe earthquakes across Southern Japan and Central America. The geological formation of the earth's structure undergoes important transformations somewhere in these regions. Public affairs are quieter than recently. There is less turmoil and excitement. The last nine days of the month are best for new ventures and changes in work or profession. Litigation and public disputes, however, should not be initiated.

Use the **BEST DATES** for first moves and important transactions as the 1st, 4th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 16th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 25th, 26th, 30th.

JUNE.—Strong and favourable influences are operating and in the latter part of the month there is a definite urge to individual enterprise especially in social, artistic, literary, educational and scientific spheres. Many persons feel the need of pushing ahead, starting new undertakings, planning and doing things for improvement and success in their respective spheres of activity. In fact, the next several weeks marks one of the best periods in the year for active enterprise. The country faces some very important changes in conditions and outlook in respect of the health and welfare of the people. There is tremendous excitement in U.S.A. about now in regard to their political affairs; great upheavals and readjustments are prefigured. Markets will fluctuate heavily. Paris comes into the limelight with some mysterious and scandalous occurrences, probably in connection with its social life or the film profession. Spiritualism is much to the fore. Strange psychic revelations now receive

much publicity. The weather promises to be warm and fine for holiday-making. The last two weeks are best for starting new affairs as influences favour increase and good results.

Use the **BEST DATES** for important matters and first moves, as asking a favour, making a change, buying anything of a costly nature, seeking gain or work, going a journey, new arrangement, or for pushing interests in any direction. These are the 1st, 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 25th, 29th, 30th.

JULY.—The best period of the month for new and important affairs is from the 19th to the 28th. **BEST DATES** for general matters are 3rd, 7th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 17th, 19th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 30th.



BOOK NOTICES.

THE CAT IN THE MYSTERIES OF RELIGION AND MAGIC.—A record of cat symbolism through the ages. Illustrated; 256 pp. 15/- net. Rider & Co.

CHRISTIAN NAMES & THEIR NUMBERS.—Interesting volume for students of numerology. Price 7/6. Rider & Co., London.

THE VOICE OF MYSTIC INDIA.—A simple, attractive recital of author's psychic experiences in India. By A. E. Dracott. Price 3/6. Rider & Co.

PSYCHIC CERTAINTIES.—A selected number of recorded psychic data which prove the claim of supernormal origin. By H. V. Prevost Battersby. Price 5/-. Rider & Co.



ON COMPENSATION

“It is impossible for a man to be cheated by anyone but himself, as for a thing to be or not to be at the same time. There is a third silent party to all our bargains. The nature and soul of things takes on itself the guaranty of the fulfilment of every contract so that honest service cannot come to loss. If you serve an ungrateful master, serve him the more. Put goodwill into your debt. Every stroke shall be repaid. The longer the payment is withholden, the better for you; for compound interest on compound interest is the rate and usage of Nature's just law.”
—Emerson.

Success by Foreknowledge.



In view of the prevailing pessimism and uncertainty in the City of London due to the general slump in trade and commodity prices, the Editor has decided to issue a specially prepared report forecasting conditions likely to come up from time to time in the next few years for the benefit of business men with interests in the various commodity and security markets.

Unique methods are employed to arrive at reasoned and reliable judgments which cannot be duplicated elsewhere. As irrefutable evidence to the dependability of the information supplied, it is only necessary to inspect copies of Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of this publication; especially the Spring Issue, 1930, wherein it is clearly and specifically stated on pages 72 and 73 that, "a very serious international financial crisis develops towards the autumn which brings about a rapid and general slump in market values from which there is little or no recovery during the balance of the year." Also, other similar statements of a very accurate nature were given.

Earlier in the year and summer of 1930 the investing public were repeatedly encouraged to anticipate an autumn revival, authoritative financial opinion miscalculating the trend of prices and conditions, and both bankers and professional market operators were caught badly by the sharp decline in values. Our forecast was issued in the face of expert opinion in Throgmorton and Wall Streets, and received no support anywhere, but it proved correct.

Close attention is now being given to this line of research, and there is no necessity to emphasise the extraordinary value of this advance knowledge. We all know that the current unprecedented cycle of trade and financial depression must come to an end, but when? That is the problem. The Report now under preparation will deal with this question and provide investors and market traders with shrewd opinions as to the trend of commodity prices and trading conditions over the different months for some time ahead. It should prove invaluable as an aid to judgment in conducting profitable transactions.

Enquiries should be addressed to

The EDITOR, "Moore's Journal," 12 Holborn Viaduct House, London, E.C.1.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor, Moore's Journal.

Dingley, Alderley Lodge, Cheshire.
2 December, 1930.

DEAR SIR,

I am enclosing a letter I wrote in response to a request to attend a meeting of Ministers of Religion and give a short account of the Foundation of my Religious Beliefs. I was unable to attend the meeting so I wrote my statement and asked the Secretary, the Revd. Prestwick Rosling to read it to the meeting. From all the interesting articles I have read in "The Unknown" I am inclined to think that my statement might prove interesting to many of your readers, and if you will do me the favour, I shall be grateful if you would publish it in your next issue.

Yours truly,

(REV.) ELLISON ANNESLEY VOYSEY.

THE THEISTIC FAITH OR NATURAL RELIGION.

The Revd. Ellison A. Voysey's letter to the Revd. Prestwick Rosling.

MY DEAR ROSLING,

I am sorry I shall not be able to attend the Fraternal Meeting next Monday, for, as you observed from my address above, I am in London. I am particularly sorry that I shall miss the chance of discussing the question of the *foundations* of religious belief, for to me this is a most important question. Every one may be satisfied with his own beliefs, and even with the foundation on which his beliefs rest, but neither the beliefs nor their foundation are necessarily true unless they are in harmony with indisputable facts or are logical deductions from facts.

For instance, the foundation of a person's belief may be nothing better than Holy Scripture, and the idea that Holy Scripture is infallible; but people who have really thought about these things have long discarded Holy Scripture as a trustworthy foundation for their faith; likewise they do not trust with any greater confidence the authority of any so-called superhuman or Divine Teacher such as Jesus Christ, Buddha, Mohamed or Confucius, &c. To be of any real value our knowledge of God must be based on facts which every one can understand and no one can dispute; and it must be plain to everyone that the true knowledge of God is enlarged and intensified with every new fact which comes to light. There are certain facts of man's nature and the Universe which prove beyond any questioning that there must be a Creator and that this Creator must possess certain qualities or characteristics. Looking out broadly over the Universe we are quite sure that the solar system, for instance, is based on law and order, and that the vast bodies of this system are not the originators of the laws which they obey, and therefore the law and order must have come from a being with intelligence and will. It is of small moment that we may still be unable to explain *how* the Universe came into being, the only important thing is that we should be quite sure that an intelligent will created and controls it; it is reasonable to believe this and indeed impossible to believe otherwise. The facts of law and order are indisputable, therefore confidently state our conviction that *God must be intelligent*—not because

the Bible or any other sacred book says or implies as much, nor because any great or good teacherlike Jesus has said as much, but *because the facts of the Universe prove it.*

Next we must prove, if we can, that this intelligent God is also good. There is one fact of human nature which proves that God is good. It is the consciousness in every soul—savage or civilised—that we *ought to do* what is right, and *ought not* to do what is wrong, this *sense of obligation is universal*, we call it, *conscience*; and conscience never tells us what is right or what is wrong; it only tells us that we ought to do the one and ought not to do the other when we have decided what *is* right, or what *is* wrong. Reason, or experience may or must decide this. Man may be in doubt as to what is right or wrong but until the decision is taken, the conscience has no cause to work; but as soon as reason says, this is right—*conscience* says *do it*, if reason says it is wrong, *conscience* says *do not* do it. Now the presence of this feeling of “ought” and “ought not” in every living soul is a proof that the God who created man desires that *the right should be done.* This proves that *God must be good.* He has also endowed us with many other faculties and instincts all good in themselves which help us, if properly employed, to discover the truth and the right. Therefore we assert confidently and without fear of contradiction that *God must be good*, not because the Bible says so, or because Jesus or any other inspired or uninspired teacher tells us so, but because the facts of man’s nature prove Him to be so.

Lastly, we believe that *God is loving*, because we find in the heart of man universally the principle of unselfish love. In spite of all exceptions, man has the capacity and instinct of unselfish love—like that of a mother for a child. This is universal and even the exceptions to this rule are not sufficient to disprove it. We know that this instinct or faculty has been *given to us*, it is not of our own creation; it must have been given to us by our Creator, therefore we conclude that as He could not give us anything He had not got Himself, He too must be capable of unselfish love; and we confidently assert that God must be at least as loving as the most loving of His creatures, or they would be better than He—which is absurd; we believe He is infinitely wise, good and loving; and the more we discover of the real facts of His creation the more we shall know of Him and the more we shall love and adore Him for His wisdom, His goodness and His loving kindness.

The foundation of my faith in God is absolutely unshakeable, because it is based on facts which cannot be disputed or overthrown, and which every living soul with normal powers of thought and feeling can understand. *This is the foundation of the Theistic Faith*—or as it may be called more simply—Natural Religion.

If not too long, will you please read this as my contribution. It is hastily set down and I regret its imperfections.

Yours ever,

ELLISON A. VOYSEY.

Our correspondent’s clear and logical expression of wholesome religious conviction is appreciated.—The Editor.

CONTENTS OF No. 1, SUMMER ISSUE.

ON TRUTH : What is Truth ; How to Know Truth ; Two General Sources and the Truth about Man.

THE NEW ERA—ITS UNSEEN CAUSE : Angelic Inspiration.

MODERN THOUGHT MOVEMENTS : General Revelation ; Particular Revelation ; and an Analysis of Christian Science.

THE UNSEEN GOVERNS THE SEEN : Spirit Influences ; Inspiration—Its Source ; Light, Dark and Grand Inspiration. Reveals a Great Law of the Spirit-world.

ETERNAL ADVANCEMENT—THE PATHWAY OF ALL LIFE : Deals with the Crowning Discovery of Modern Science ; The Great Creative Plan in Nature ; Lays bare the core of Natural Truth.

PROBLEM OF GOOD and EVIL : An Analysis from the Scientific, Philosophical and Religious Point of View ; Also deals with the Cause of Evil and its Remedy.

A NEW VIEW OF MAN : Opens up wide possibilities and describes a Process of Individual Development.

CLEAR THINKING—A MEANS TO ADVANCEMENT : Deals with Latent Power ; Real and Surface Thought ; How to Think for Clearness, Originality and Improvement.

CONTENTS OF No. 2, AUTUMN ISSUE.

NEW SCIENCE OF TRUTH : Expounds Fundamental Principles of Life, Reality and Consciousness with a view to laying foundations for solving problems of human development.

DEATH AND VAST SPIRIT WORLD : Describes process of transition and conditions awaiting newcomer into spirit-life ; treats also of the two great zones of spheres—the lower and higher heavens of our spirit-planet, inhabitants and activities, etc. Reveals knowledge which is priceless to the earnest seeker.

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