

NEWS

Our Newsletter which accompanies the Bulletin is our way of including news items which we wish to share with our readers but which we feel do not belong in the magazine --particularly since the news would increase our printer's bill!

When I think of our friends who may be suffering through blizzards and floods, I wish I could write to each one personally and express my sympathy. Especially since yesterday when our Group's office* was again flooded; but this time we were prepared for the rains, and the water mark was but 6 - 7 inches as compared with 13 inches in 1952. But what is this inconvenience of mopping out a soggy office today in comparison with digging out autos from snowdrifts as perhaps many of you are now doing! The sun is now shining and I am typing this by a large living room window overlooking a lush meadow and the green hills beyond. Boxes and files on tables and desks I hope will not deter the mimeographing and other work involved in mailing out our belated Winter Bulletin. (* our garage, redecorated)

THE NEW NAME

We hope that you will approve of the change in name. While not flashy, it nevertheless seems substantial! Some people thought the name "Mothers' Bulletin" was a little exclusive. However, we are very happy to include the fathers and hope that we shall thereby attain greater usefulness.

CORRECT VOLUME NUMBER

We used to have a bad habit of changing the volume number every time we indulged in another bad habit, that of changing the magazine's name! And now we are doing it again, we hope for the last time.

Although our work was first started in July, 1934, the correspondence that ensued made a bulletin imperative. Our first issue of our magazine was in April, 1935, and simply called BULLETIN, then the next year, MOTHERS' BULLETIN, then NEWS BULLETIN, then MOTHERS' OCCULT DIGEST, then five years ago MOTHERS' BULLETIN again, and now PARENTS' BULLETIN. This issue begins as Number 1 of the 23rd year of continual publication of our magazine, representing Volume 23.

BIBLE RESEARCH

It has been our hope for some time to enter into research in the Christian Bible from the standpoint of the Ancient Wisdom for young people. We feel there is a need in this direction. And we further think it should include all of the Bible, not only the New Testament. There are, of course, many books extant of great interest and wisdom written from the viewpoint of the Wisdom Religion---the Gnosis. It is not our intention to compete with this literature, but rather to take inspiration from it and adapt articles and stories which will, we hope, give the young person a feeling of illumination on ideas and stories of the Great Book --the Bible, which has meant so much to the western world particularly.

Our progress may be slow, and will depend a great deal on our finances. Our first venture which we have in mind will be some small booklets for children.

The matter contained in the present issue relative to the Bible is for adult background reading and we hope will not be thought as the heavy reading for the young!

HELPERS

These we can always use! We have some writers and artists who are glad to contribute their talents. And friends who can interest others in our work and publications are urged to help. Also those who can actively interest members in their theosophical lodge, or people at federation gatherings, conventions or public lectures will do our Group a very great service. Each one at some future time must reincarnate as a child again, so we feel that everyone should be interested in children and parenthood! Is there anything in the world so wonderful as a little child?

FINANCES

"To provide capital for"---says the dictionary! And how right and wise is Mr. Webster's observation! It would be a great pleasure just to ignore the word, but then---ah, well, it is surprising how well we do! We operate on sales of booklets, the small subscription fees and such donations kind friends pass on to us from time to time. Also The Theosophical Society in U.S.A. has given us a help-

(continued next page)

(Finances continued)

ing hand for the past decade. Then too, there is a profit made from sales of Christmas and greeting cards from our book tables at Krotona. In the past we have held bazaars, and friends from abroad now send craft work, art objects and baby things which we sell to pay for their subscriptions and booklets sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

When we began our Bulletin some 23 years ago we asked a subscription fee of \$1.00 and have never raised the price since (although it seems all other magazines have raised their fees) -- and the cost of materials has more than doubled over the years.

It has been our thought that the important thing was to get our literature distributed to anyone who might need it. The results, in appreciation, have been very rewarding. The goodwill, and kind encouragement (sometimes from rather distinguished people) have kept your editor and staff on the job year after year. So to those who have been our financial benefactors, we indeed say THANK YOU. Needless to say how we need your continued renewals and cooperation now as in the past.

THE STAFF:

Our staff is spread out the length and breadth of the land one might say - from Washington to California and from Oklahoma to Connecticut. So much of the work is done by mail, and often more could be done except for this vast distance between us! The assembling and mailing out of Newsletter and bulletin are done by the Ojai group.

A MEAL IN ONE COOKIE (Submitted by Della Belansky)

1/3 cup (c.) peanut oil
1/3 c. raw sugar (or brown)
1/2 c. molasses
1 egg
1/4 c. dry soy milk powder
1 c. wheat flour (whole wheat flour)
1/4 c. white flour
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. soda
1 tsp. baking powder
1 c. grated carrots (raw)
1/2 c. grated coconut
1 tbsp. lemon rind
1/2 c. raisins
1 1/4 c. quick rolled oats.
Mix and drop by spoonfuls. Bake at 350° until brown and firm.

OUR COVER DESIGN

#2

The Bible Stems from Vedic Times

The artist for our cover design, Jane Evans, sent us the following information concerning the beautiful cover that introduces our Bible research:

"There were so many symbols to choose from that it was a job picking one but I chose the Dancing Siva (Nataraja) for the Vedic Indian Religion or early Hinduism. (The swastika is really the truest abstract symbol for it, but to most people it just means Hitler and the Nazis. (Although Hitler used the swastika backwards, Ed.) Then Chaldea is represented by the symbol for Nanak or Nannar, (H.P.B. says the Jews borrowed their gods from Chaldea, (Secret Doctrine Vol.II, p. 381) and also from Abraham, the first founder of the Jewish race)(Vol.III, S.D. p. 147). I copied that symbol from the one given for the Chaldean religion on the walls of the Great Hall in Adyar * where they have all the symbols of the principal religions. Then the pyramids, and the Ankh (everlasting life) for Egypt, where the Jews were held in captivity and where they found Moses and learned many ideas from the Egyptians.

"Incidentally Joan Grant in her book SO MOSES WAS BORN, says that Moses was really the son of Rameses II by a Jewish wife. The Jews were much despised by the Egyptians so it was thought best to have Rameses' sister find the baby in the bulrushes and bring him up with his real mother close by. His real name was Ra-Moses (Ra-Meses) which the Jews shortened to Moses, dropping the Ra.)

"The winged man is the symbol for Ahura Mazda, the god of the Zoroastrians and I got that from the front of the Zoroastrian temple at Adyar.

"Last of all is the sun symbol of Babylonia which seems to be the principal one in their drawings. And of course the Jewish six pointed star or interlaced triangles. When the Jews were captive in Babylon they got their conception of a Universal One God where before Jehovah was really just a tribal god...."

As to costumes, Mrs. Evans wrote:

"The costume book says the only record is drawings on the walls of Ninevah showing the Jews taken prisoner....I took this Nineveh drawing for a base and put the lads in simple tunics..."

* (Note: Mrs. Evans once lived at the International headquarters of the Theosophical Society - Adyar - in Madras, India. Ed.)