

# The Mystic Messenger ~



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# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

THE MYSTIC MESSENGER IS A MONTHLY PERIODICAL AUTHORIZED BY THE MYSTIC BROTHERHOOD AS A CHANNEL FOR MESSAGES OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE STUDENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND NEWS OF IMPORTANCE TO FOLLOWERS OF THE PATH OF WESTERN OCCULTISM

## CONFESSION -- ITS ORIGIN AND HISTORY



o come to England, Wesley provided for spiritual discipline thru the class-meeting, whose leader has to advise, comfort or exhort as occasion may arise, and thru the ministers, who have to bear the chief responsibility in the reproof, suspension or expulsion from communion of erring brethren. In the Salvation Army people are continually invited to come forward to the "penitent form", and admissions of past evil living are publicly made. Among the Calvinistic bodies in the British Isles and abroad, discipline has been a stern reality; but in none of them is there either private confession or priestly absolution of a formal kind.

The Church of England holds as usual a central position. The method generally adopted is one of general confession to God in the face of the Church, to be in secret used by each member of the congregation for the confession of his own particular sins, and to be followed by public absolution.

But three other methods of confession for private use are mentioned in one of the exhortations in the communion service. First, all men are urged to practice secret confession to God alone, and in it the sins are to be acknowledged in detail. Secondly, where the nature of the offence admits of it, the sinner is to acknowledge

his wrong-doing to the neighbor whom he has aggrieved. And, thirdly, the sinner who cannot satisfy his conscience by these methods is invited to open his grief to a minister of God's word. Similarly, the sick man is to be moved to make a special confession of his sins if he feels his conscience troubled with any weighty matter. The priest is bound, under the most stringent qualities, never to divulge what he has thus learned.

Extreme views are held on this question of confession; some oppose auricular confession as the citadel of sacerdotal authority and as a peril to morals, while others speak as if it were a necessary element in every Christian life, and hold that post-baptismal sin of a grave sort can receive forgiveness in no other way.

Confession to the Occultist is important, and he gives it close attention. He does not, however, take his confessions to a friend nor a priest, unless he particularly wishes to do so. Rather, he has his own higher self as a judge and priest. He analyzes himself, sees both his sins of omission, and of commission, and his higher self, bids him what to do to right the wrong. It may be but a matter of correcting a fault; it may be a matter of making right a real wrong, but in either instance, he knows the Divine Self as his guide.

The End.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE  
from  
SRI VERITUS



**I**nspiringly representative of the Christmas Season, is the cover of the Messenger for this month. It is a picture which carries the warmth of cheer to each heart, and which, to the Occultist, brings much more.

First, of course, the central figure -- could anything more completely typify the heart within? Could anything bring a more fulsome representation of ourselves, as we commence upon the Path? The Babe is forever the symbol of new life, of a new message, of a beginning.

The Birth brings to us a symbol replete with the meaning of Initiation, for Initiation does not mean a culmination of all things, but the beginning of all things. The Babe, therefore, is not only the Master Jesus, at the beginning of His physical incarnation, but ourselves, as we take the first step into a new cycle of development.

About His Head there is the nimbus, the artist's representation of the Holy Aura, which is about the head of Mary as well, for in giving birth to the Saviour, Mary became hallowed.

In Mary we have the symbol of the Mother Aspect of the Trinity. How the heart of Mary must have swelled with happiness and pride, as the wise men came to kneel before the new-born Babe and to bring Him their precious gifts.

That there were three wise men, is not an accident -- There were neither two nor four. Three, still bringing out the Trinitarian Principle. The gifts which they bear, are not valued because of their material price, but because they symbolize to us the gifts which were brought to us thru the Master Jesus. Those wise men knew and rec-

ognized the Being which had come to Humanity, to bring it a higher message, and they added their rejoicing to the voices of the Angels who hovered near, and sang to those gathered about, that all might partake in the upliftment of the Divine Force which was centered about the humble birth-place.

In all the representations of the Birth we find much evidence of Light - Light, which is to man the symbol of upliftment, of inspiration, of revelation, of all that effort and determination will reveal to him.

And so I bring you this Christmas, the Message of the Divine Birth, that this Birth may come to you individually and collectively. That it may be not only an outer belief,

but that it may be also an actuality, that it may take place within you; may you perceive the awakening of the Inner, Higher Self, feel the first faint stirrings of your Divine Sonship.

This is your first Initiation, this first awakening to the potentialities within yourself. So attune yourself with the Divine Message of this Season, that it becomes a living, breathing thing within you.

Let the Radiance of the Birth of the Divine Babe bring to you the lustrous awakening, let be born within you, as upon that Day long ago, the Babe was born, the knowledge of the Divine within yourself, that it may shine with never-ceasing Light and radiance.

"Make ye ready the way of the Lord,  
Make His paths straight.  
Every valley shall be filled,  
And every mountain and hill shall  
be brought low;  
And the crooked shall become  
straight,  
And the rough ways smooth."

Sri Veritus.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

## SCIENCE VS ORTHODOXY



In our Modern world, God is becoming progressively less essential." So writes a modern in one of our current magazines and proceeds with documentary evidence to prove his point. The question is a large one, one that cannot be dealt with in a few sentences or paragraphs. From the writers' view point, I shall have to agree, but from the Occultists' point of view, he has merely sensed a changing order of orthodoxy.

The ultimate of authority in our world, whether it be in this or in future generations, is not going to be an inflexible rule which has been established. God is a progressive God and those who follow by inspiration, intuition or logic, will progress with Him. The interpretation of God which to us was all important yesterday may be looked upon today as a stepping stone to our present understanding and the very principles upon which we based our conclusions yesterday, have served their purpose to give us the version of truth which we hold today.

So it is without fear of successful contradiction that I conclude here before stating my case, "God, in our modern world, is becoming progressively more essential."

We are bordering the greatest scientific age the world has ever known; no, we are not in it, man has not learned to do the many things he has made machinery to do. Witness the sending of voice around the world in a fraction of a second. Man has by concentration attuned himself with "Nature's finer forces" and thru the medium of an understandable force, a force that is only partially understood, created for his benefit, apparatus that will magnify the human voice, transmit it a thousand miles or more to a receiving set, to carry on a conversation that a few years ago was only possible within the range of a few feet.

Within a comparatively short time distances between given points

have been reduced, due to the speed of vehicular travel. The prairie schooner of yesterday has been replaced with the automobile and the airplane. "Going to and fro like lightning" is no longer a mere speculation; it is an actuality; and the ultimate is not here.

A few years ago a four hour speed limit was rigidly enforced in towns and cities in congested areas. Later a ten mile an hour and later twenty miles per hour for autos. Less than forty years ago men legislated against speed greater than fifteen miles per hour, saying it was contrary to the laws of God. God has not changed, the people have changed their conception of Him.

Concentration, in reality, consecration to an ideal, is responsible for the many inventions that have contributed to man's pleasure in living. These inventions have not come in their ultimate perfection, neither can we say that any invention now in existence is in a state of perfection. We probably thought our '36 models were as nearly perfect as they could be made, but now that we have used them for nearly a year, we have discovered weaknesses, some of which will be overcome in our '37 models.

There is a source of information, not a tangible source, of course, but one that remains as mysterious as the thought forms that come from it. It is to this source we are indebted for every iota of information that has in any way helped us in our approach to the ultimate. Only the egoist feels all sufficient within himself, and he is at loss to explain the life force of a grain of mustard seed; thus admitting his very limited wisdom.

That this source is accessible to all who seek it in the way prescribed by law, is a foregone conclusion; otherwise men would rejoice in their ignorance and depend on the gods for their everything, giving no heed to progress or advancement of

(Continued on Page 8.)





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

FIND YOUR FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE DAYS FOR DECEMBER BY YOUR SUN SIGN

ARIES				TAURUS				GEMINI			
March 21		- April 11		April 19		- May 20		May 21		- June 20	
FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE	
3	21	1	24	2	20	1	24	3	20	1	30
5	27	4	29	5	22	3	29	4	23	2	31
7	31	14		6	26	4	31	9	24	6	
8		15		8	27	9		10	25	19	
9		16		10		13		11		21	
10		19		12		16		12		22	
11		20		14		17		16		27	
13		22		15		18		17		28	
18		23		19		21		18		29	
CANCER				LEO				VIRGO			
June 21		- July 21		July 22		- Aug. 22		Aug. 23		- Sept. 22	
FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE	
2	18	1	28	2	22	1	21	3	20	1	30
3	19	5	30	3	23	4	26	4	23	2	31
4	23	6		8	24	5	28	9	24	6	
8	24	7		10	29	6	30	10	25	19	
9	25	20		11	31	9		11		21	
10		21		14		12		12		22	
11		22		16		13		16		27	
15		26		18		17		17		28	
16		27		19		20		18		29	
LIBRA				SCORPIO				SAGITTARIUS			
Sept. 23		- Oct. 22		Oct. 23		- Nov. 22		Nov. 23		- Dec. 20	
FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE	
2	20	1	24	3	21	1	24	2	20	6	
5	22	3	29	5	27	4	29	4	24	7	
6	26	4	31	7	31	14		8	25	14	
8	27	9		8		15		9	27	21	
10		13		9		16		12	29	22	
12		16		10		19		15		23	
14		17		11		20		16		26	
15		18		13		22		17		28	
19		21		18		23		19		30	
CAPRICORN				AQUARIUS				PISCES			
Dec. 21		- Jan. 21		Jan. 20		- Feb. 18		Feb. 19		- March 20	
FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE	
1	23	3	14	5	25	2	30	1	23	2	22
10	24	4	26	8	26	3		3	24	4	26
11	25	5	30	9	27	4		8	28	7	27
15	28	6	31	10	28	7		10	29	9	
16	29	7		11	29	12		11	30	12	
17		8		15	31	17		15	31	13	
18		9		19		18		16		14	
19		12		22		20		19		18	
22		13		23		21		21		20	

These charts of the favorable and unfavorable days of each Sun Sign will appear in the Messenger each month.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

THE FORUM

THE WONDERFUL WEAVER



student asks --- "I have always understood that God is loving, and just, yet I have been told that forgiveness is impossible. Why is this true?"

First of all, this student has been misinformed, for we are forgiven our sins. Not, however, as is generally understood in the Orthodox sense. A sin is in the first place, a mistake, and in addition to forgiving that sin, it must be wiped out or redeemed.

We make the mistake, we see its results, and we are sorry. We go to God with prayer, and ask to be forgiven. We are, if we are sincerely sorry for the error, but there still remains the karma of that particular act. We have set certain forces into motion, and they must react, for once set into motion, there is nothing we can do to stop them.

That does not mean, however, that the results of that act must come in their full power. We can certainly lessen them, and make them less severe.

"As we sow, so shall we reap", is a law which is immutable and unchangeable. If we burn our hand, we are sorry, and are careful thereafter not to do it again. Nevertheless, we can plead forgiveness for that sin endlessly, without ridding ourselves of the burn. It must be healed, and no matter what method of healing we use upon it, it is still the overcoming or working out of the effect of the act.

Suppose we say, then, that instead of God forgiving us our sins, as the term is usually understood, that He overlooks our errors, and in His Divine Love, leads us gently in the right direction. We may suffer, but thru that suffering, we are burning out the dross of our souls, and turning it to pure gold.

Thru making mistakes, man learns, thru learning he grows, and as he grows, he evolves to the perfect being as which he was designed.

There's a wonderful Weaver  
High up in the air,  
And He weaves a white mantle  
For cold earth to wear.  
With the wind for His shuttle  
The cloud for His loom  
How He weaves, how He weaves,  
In the light, in the gloom.

Oh with the finest of laces  
He decks bush and tree!  
On the bare flinty meadows  
A cover lays He.  
There a quaint cap He places  
On pillar and post,  
And He changes the pump  
To a grim, silent ghost.

But this wonderful Weaver  
Grows weary at last,  
And the shuttle lies idle  
That once flew so fast;  
Then the sun peeps abroad  
On the work that is done,  
And he smiles -- 'I'll unravel  
It all -- just for fun.'

Lillie C. Carter F.M.B.



In every man's life pilgrimage, however unblest, there are holy places where he is made to feel his kinship with the Divine; where the heavens bend low over his head and angels come and minister unto him. These are the places of sacrifice, the meeting-ground of mortal and immortal, the tents of trial wherein are waged the great spiritual combats of man's life. Here are the tears and agonies and the bloody sweat of Gethsemane.

Happy the man who, looking back, can say of himself: "Here, too, was the victory!"

Michael Monahan.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER



**S**ri Dayananda, our Brother and Leader, Founder of our organization, gave to one of his students, several years ago, a message at Christmas, which all of you will enjoy. We are quoting from his letter --

"Do you recall the little article entitled "The Search for God" by an unknown writer? 'When I was young and before I awoke to my Heritage, I travelled thru many worlds in search of God, and from every Soul that I met I asked where He might be found and from each person received a different answer. One spoke of the infinity of the heavens, another measured His glory by the worlds which lie beyond -- numbers spoke of Him in the words of those who are now elsewhere, and the words of the sacred creeds. To no two souls was the likeness the same, and to none had His countenance been unveiled. So I wandered even farther, -- I walked in the Paths of Silence -- Then I returned to life -- this is a large world, it must be seen in a large way. So I learned to sing with the larks, and be silent with the Astronomers, that you may be ready for the hour when the gentle breath of the awakening will blow the mist from your eyes.'

It is this kind of understanding, and this kind of spirituality that you will find inculcated in all that comes to you from the Western Traditions. As I write these words to you, the spirit of Christmas warms our hearts, for this is the Natal Day of the great Initiate, that Master whose Name is unrevealed to Humanity, for it is the Name of Power, but whom the people know as Jesus, and in this season, working in His cause, as you softly speak His Name, you will feel the joyous response, you will behold as in a Vision yourself lifted into joyous response, you will behold as in a Vision yourself lifted into the Light of His Presence; Peace as a garment, will unfold you; Love will control, and Spirit will illuminate you; you will

feel the Omnipresence of the Christ Force as it flows in Purity thru the Consciousness of the Master of the Highest Plane. During this season there should not be a darkened corner anywhere, for every soul that turns to Him will be blessed by His Presence, and a realization of the All-Power which is in His Name. We will rejoice with you when the fullness of the Infinite Power of the Master is revealed to you, and receive His blessings. And then as you turn again to the New Year, I want you to start with a resolution to keep every day a Good Day, or more correctly speaking, perhaps, to allow every day to be a Good Day. Every day is a Good Day to begin with, but sometimes we choose to mar its perfect pattern, and then it is our fault, not God's if, when nightfall arrives, we bow our head in grief over our experiment. Each day we are entering upon a day's perfection, and thus at the beginning of the year I want you to pause for a moment and think with St. Paul, "Whatsoever things are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, of good report, think on these things."

(This has, of necessity, been shortened, for it is but excerpts of the letter, here and there. Nevertheless, it brings out the thought, one which is just as applicable at this Christmas, as it was upon the day Sri Dayananda first wrote it.)

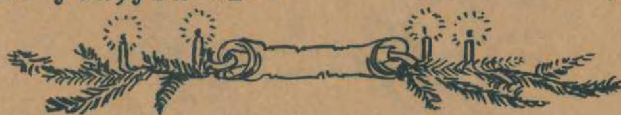
## HYMN FOR CHRISTMAS

I sing of snow  
And clean, white trees --  
The peace of Christmas  
Over these.

I sing of friends  
Both near and far,  
To all who hail  
The Christmas Star.

I sing of Him! ---  
Glad earth, glad skies --  
The Babe, with giving  
In His eyes.

Mae Van Norman Long.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

## TWO STORIES



his was in the local newspaper. A man had been shooting pigeons that were making a parking place of his roof. He left a loaded shotgun in a corner behind a door.

His three-year-old daughter was playing with a small neighbor of the opposite sex. With the natural curiosity of the male regarding weapons, the little boy wanted to see the gun that worked such desirable slaughter among the pigeons.

Finally the girl brought out the shotgun and tried to explain its mysteries. She pulled the trigger. The boy fell, instantly killed.

Much ado was made of this by certain people who should have known better. Some thought the child should be prosecuted to teach her a lesson.

The district attorney brought her to his office for questioning. He wanted to know if she fired the gun in anger, and if she intended to kill her little friend. The evening paper carried a picture that conveyed a heart-throb; a picture of the child after the ordeal, asleep with a thumb in her mouth.

Authorities decided that the killing was accidental, and the baby was not held responsible. That was wisdom, but those interested might have looked further.

How about the father who provided a deadly weapon for a child that was too young to use it intelligently?

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A woman told me this one from her own experience. She became interested in an organization that taught mind science and the power that lies in affirmations. A forceful, dynamic man headed the group. He made strong, emotional appeals to his followers.

"You can have what you want," he told them. "This great power

can be stirred into action if you affirm steadily, persistently and with unbounded faith. Pick out the thing you want. Then use affirmations to bring it to you."

"Well," the woman thought, "that is fine if true. I will try it."

She decided that she wanted a thousand dollars. She affirmed faithfully, powerfully, day after day, week after week. She determined to "demonstrate" a thousand dollars or die in the attempt.

One day she was repeating the affirmations as she crossed a street. She awakened in a hospital, swathed from head to foot in bandages and plaster casts. While crossing the street she had been run down by an automobile.

The driver of the car was sorry. He was not wealthy, but he paid all expenses and gave the woman a thousand dollars. Maimed, crippled and in pain, she had the money she desired. Too late, she learned that we must pay in some manner for everything we get. That is a Truth that was not known by the man who had placed the powerful weapon of affirmations in her hands.

Alan Emley, F.M.B.



Over the chimney the night wind sang

And chanted a melody no one knew;  
But the poet listened and smiled,  
for he

Was Man and Woman and Child, all  
Three,

And said, "It is God's own Harmony,  
This wind we hear in the chimney."

From Bret Harte.



"They that wait for Jehovah shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint."

Isaiah.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

## JUST A THOUGHT



**R**ecently, I attended the annual bridge tea, which was given for the benefit of the Home for the Aged, at which there were several hundred guests, many of whom, were socially prominent citizens. Acting in the capacity of one of many hostesses, I naturally overheard bits of conversation among the groups of players, as I passed the tables. One of which, "O yes, he (mentioning the name of a certain wealthy patron), donated quite an amount. He is always so generous."

**GENEROSITY** - its real meaning! Does it imply only the giving of material things? This planted into my consciousness, a tiny seed for the following thought. There are many avenues through which one may express generosity. In all of God's manifestations -- a generous prayer of praise to Him - our Supreme and Absolute One! To our Master Jesus - To our Holy Unseen Ones, without Whom we are as nothing. A generous prayer of thanksgiving to our Mighty Archangels for their ever watchful protection. A generous blessing of sincere gratitude, for our ever willing Instructors in the Brotherhood, thru whom we are afforded such divine inspiration.

A generous prayer of compassion for the afflicted bodies -- the unfortunate criminal -- the saddened hearts. A generous prayer for God's Grace and Blessings to touch every soul in His vast universe, including all kingdoms.

A generous smile for all whom we meet. To whom, or from whom service is in any way applied. A gentle pat and a morsel of food, for the little stray animal. A generous thought of appreciation for the song of the birds - God's Heavenly Symphonies! Not excepting any of His wondrous beauties.

We as Occultists, should zealously welcome every opportunity which the new day unfolds, to demonstrate the Teachings of the Master. With a greater desire within

our hearts to distribute wisely, the knowledge, understanding and abundant love, which is constantly flowing into and through us - His Servers. "By their fruits ye shall know them." All of which is - real **GENEROSITY** of the soul.

"I give unto you a new Commandment - love one another."

*Accepted prior to change of name*  
Nora Haskin, F.M.B.

(Continued from Page 3.)

any kind. The savage has his medicine man, his magician who drives out the evil spirits, and until recently, we had our superstitions, which in comparison with those of the savage, intelligence, wisdom and the advantages of civilization considered, were even more primitive.

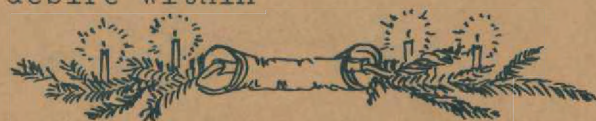
Space does not permit enumeration of the many superstitions that were practiced by our forefathers. Our religious beliefs were based for the most part on fear and not an understanding faith, the faith born of wisdom and understanding that overcomes the mountains of doubt.

Scientists in their meditations and concentration periods have contacted the Source of Wisdom, not the God of fear and superstition, but the God of Supreme Intelligence who rules His universe with mathematical precision, and is the Acme of Law and Order.

From this Source they have gleaned partial truths that are being amended and added to as their experiments and experiences warrant, proving the practicality of their findings and passing them on for the physical and mental comforts of mankind.

By what name they may refer to this Source of Love, Wisdom and Intelligence, whether understandable to the majority or not, their implicit faith in It's existence and their cooperation with and dependence upon It, adds proof to my conclusion and firm conviction that God is becoming progressively more essential.

Old Joe.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

## DEFINITIONS

Both sides of this sheet of paper contain definitions of occult words and terms. You may remove this sheet of paper from your Messenger, and place it in a loose-leaf binder, which can be purchased at any ten-cent store. Number the pages as you put them in. In the front of your book, place a few sheets on which the words and terms can be alphabetically arranged, with the number of the page upon which they are to be found in your book.

If there are any words which you would like to have defined, you have but to list those words in a letter to your Teacher, who will see that those words are included in the earliest number of the Messenger possible.

In addition to the definitions given in each Messenger, we are preparing a complete Occult Dictionary for our students. It is not as yet completed, but it should not be far in the future, before it is ready for you, and you will find an announcement upon these pages, when it can be procured.

**BAAL** - (bā'āl) - A word in Hebrew signifying Lord or Master. The ruler bearing this name was the chief divinity of the Phoenicians. In early civilizations it was used to denote Divinity, and was identified with the Sun God. Baal-gad was the Lord of the multitude of stars. Elijah, in 1st Kings, gives us the difference between Baal and Jehovah in the familiar account of the idolatrous worship of a false god.

**ANGELS' ALPHABET** - (ān'jēls āl'fā bēt) - Called by the Hebrews 'chetab Hamalachim' or the writing of the angels. According to Gaffarel, the stars are arranged in the heavens in the form of letters, and that it is possible to read there whatsoever of importance is to happen thruout

the universe. Therefore, the stars are the angels' alphabet, and those who can read the stars, are reading this alphabet. Both Astrologers and Alchemists make use of this alphabet.

**EGYPTIAN MYSTERIES** - (ē jīp' shūn mis ter es) - As it was in Egypt that the ceremonies of initiation were first established, it has always been considered the birthplace of the Mysteries. It was there that truth was first veiled in allegory, and the principles of religious worship presented in symbolic forms.

The initiation into the Egyptian Mysteries was, of all the systems practiced by the ancient, the most severe and impressive. Only those with the keenest desire and hunger for truth could submit to these initiations, and thus, only the Priests and those sincerely desiring truth were able to delve beyond the exoteric presentation of the truth.

The Priesthood constituted a sacred caste, in whom the sacerdotal functions were hereditary. They were first in authority, in government and political matters, for the kings were subject to the Priests.

The principal seat of the Mysteries was at Memphis, in the neighborhood of the Great Pyramid. They were of two kinds, the greater and the lesser, the greater being the Mysteries of Osiris and the lesser being the Mysteries of Serapis, or Isis.

The candidate was required to exhibit proofs of a blameless life. For some days previous to the commencement of the ceremonies of initiation, he abstained from all unchaste acts, confined himself to an exceedingly light diet, from which animal food was rigorously excluded, and purified himself by repeated ablutions.

The candidate experienced the initiation into the lesser mysteries first, and these initiations taught the physical laws of nature, the necessity for moral purification, etc.





# THE MYSTIC MESSENGER

The second degree, or initiation into the greater mysteries brought the lesson of death and resurrection.

EGYPTIAN PRIESTS - (prēsts) - Highest in authority in all Egypt, the Priests led not only the religious activities, but governmental affairs as well.

They conferred the initiations of the Mysteries, of which there were two divisions, the lesser and the greater. There were, in all, seven steps or grades; (1) Pastaphorus, instruction in physical sciences; (2) Neocorus, instruction in geometry and architecture; (3) Melanophoros, instruction in the symbolical death of Osiris, and in the hieroglyphical language; (4) Kistophoros, becomes a judge and is presented with a Book of the Laws of Egypt; (5) Balahate, instruction in chemistry; (6) Astronomos, instructed in astronomy and the mathematical sciences; (7) Propheta, instructed in detail regarding the Mysteries, was presented with a cross, which he must carry with him at all times, a white mantle and a square headdress.

JAINISM - (jīn'izm) - The Hindu religion which gives obeisance to the Jinas, gods which are supposed to be superior to the Hindu Gods, thus resembling Buddhism. Like Buddhism also, the Vedas are not used. In this sect respect and veneration for animals is very great, and the priests will go to very great lengths to keep from harming anything with life. They walk, sweeping the way before them with a broom, that they may not step on an insect.

Some portions of this sect assert that woman cannot gain salvation, while others include women in their religion, and promise them salvation.

ANNULAR THEORY - (ān'ū ler thē'ō rī) - A theory of the creation which supposes that the earth was a gaseous mass which gradually sol-

idified. In this process, there was left suspended above it, numerous water rings. These later fell to the earth, and it became as we know it today.

ARISTOTLE - (ār'īs tōtl) - Philosopher (384-322 B.C.) He was the most comprehensive and systematic of all ancient thinkers, and thru the perpetuation of his doctrines in medieval philosophy, has exercised greater influence upon Western thought than any other single philosopher.

ARK OF THE COVENANT - (kūv'ē nēnt) - The Ark of the Covenant or of the Testimony was a chest originally constructed by Moses at the command of God, in which were kept the two tables of stone, on which were engraved the Ten Commandments. It also contained a golden pot filled with manna, the tables of the Covenant, and Aaron's rod. First it was placed in the most sacred place in the Temple, and was lost when that building was destroyed. The later history of that ark is therefore, in obscurity. It was most beautifully wrought, exact in detail to the instructions given to Moses by God.

BLUE - (blōō) - Esoterically, the symbol of universal friendship and benevolence. The ancient Hebrew people were instructed to wear blue; it was the color of one of the veils in the Tabernacle, and was also used about the robes of the priests.

Among the Druids, blue was the symbol of truth. The Egyptians held it to be a sacred color; the Babylonians used it for the robes of their deities and idols. To the Chinese it was sacred, and the Hindus state that Vishnu was represented a celestial blue.

Among the medieval Christians, blue was considered an emblem of immortality, and it has come, generally, to symbolize perfection and good.

