

THE THEOSOPHICAL MESSENGER

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THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

DR. W. A. ROBERTSON
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World Congress—and Then?

By RAY W. HARDEN

HISTORY is always "in the making," but there are times of "visible culmination" when impending events break into unusual activity. Moreover, these periods can be foretold with an accuracy seemingly mysterious to those unacquainted with natural processes.

For example, we may observe the mother robin sitting sedately upon her nest of eggs day after day. We have only to know when those eggs were laid, and how many days are required for incubation, to predict the exact date upon which a very great change is certain to take place. After that, no longer a patient, inactive bird, dreaming away her peaceful hours. Instead, a company of restless, squirming creatures, clamoring for food and experience; and a busy, maternal robin, going and coming—always laden with provisions for those open, anxious mouths.

All things, great or minute, follow comparative law. Fraternities and societies are bodies, subject to the necessity of nutrition, growth and reproduction. Methods and periods greatly differ, but in their own time they too must either fall victim to unfortunate failure, or attain that for which they are destined.

Theosophy, as a school of occult wisdom, approaches a climax, but failure is not indicated because of the strength already developed, based as it is upon the most vital service that can be rendered to the race. Healthy progress has been made by the Theosophical Society, which means that new facts have been discovered and methods adjusted to changing needs, but theosophical fundamentals remain solid.

And they will so remain, even though a new era opens before us. Perhaps Theosophy as a body, takes *initiation*, and the World Congress marks the epoch. Members everywhere who "sense" this new life and activity feel attracted. And they are coming. Reports from all quarters promise an overwhelming attendance.

It will be fascinating to watch the "Greater Theosophy" emerge. There is sure to be joy in its wider service. Because of this, we all have the urge to be present in Chicago on Aug. 24, when that history-making, six-day program opens, calling every theosophically-minded person to participate if possible. Your presence cannot fail to shed its contributory influence upon the Congress, just as you cannot fail to draw from the expe-

rience a profound and lasting consequence which may place you henceforth upon a higher level of usefulness to Humanity—perhaps higher than you have considered possible in your present incarnation.

When one reviews the world-wide result of that inconspicuous gathering in New York, at which Madame Blavatsky, with Colonel Olcott, established the Theosophical Society, there can be only a sense of awe at the far-reaching and intensely potent force which may certainly be expected to develop in this assemblage of thousands who have immeasurably benefited by her work. These people have *thought* rather than “followed,” and have made use of her Theosophical School to educate their own Soul-consciousness, bringing it into positive manifestation down through the mental, the emotional, and out into the physical nature.

Here we shall have a Congress of theosophical students ablaze with determination to place this beneficent torch of wisdom, free-

dom and God-like happiness into the hands of unnumbered millions of their fellow-beings in the evolutionary stream. Such is the future of Theosophy for the coming fifty years.

Our present leaders—*teachers*, who are with us for this Congress—are those sturdy egos who were most ready; who have taken to heart the great Truths set before Humanity by H. P. B. and her colleagues. Let us do—not what Blavatsky did, for that is done—and she did it well. Let us rather carry loyally forward into logical sequence the hard pioneering which has given the world a school for the Ancient Wisdom.

Theosophy can never again be what it was. Its nature is progressive—evolutionary. It must go on to its destined greatness. World Congress is assuredly a turning point. No one who can, by any effort, be present, will miss this opportunity to attend; to observe, and faithfully share in the making of new theosophical history.

Congress Chorus

The Music Committee is delighted to announce that it has secured the services of an experienced chorus leader, Miss Elizabeth Hancock, who has received her training from Thomas Whitney Surette of the Concord School of Music and Dr. Archibald Dairson of Harvard.

All who wish to take part in the singing are urged to come a day or two early so that by intensive practise and coaching an effect of real beauty can be produced. In order to make the last minute work possible a list of songs to be used is appended and arrangements have been made with E. C. Schirmer, 221 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass., to keep these numbers on hand so that those who desire to help in this way may send for the music and familiarize themselves with it before coming to the Congress.

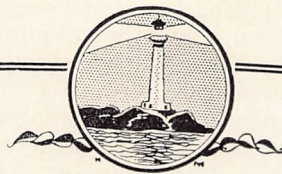
The first six songs on the list are to be found in the Home and Community Song Book, Concord Series No. 2. The purchase of this volume at ninety cents is recommended. The others may be had in 8-vo. form at ten or fifteen cents the copy.

For information concerning time and place of pre-Congress rehearsals, please communicate with the Theosophical Book Concern, 725 Kimball Building, Wabash Ave., at Jackson Blvd., Chicago.

Chorus Songs

America the Beautiful.....	Ward
Prayer of Thanksgiving.....	Netherlands Folksong
My Gentle Harp.....	Londonderry Air
Open, Lord, My Inward Ear.....	Beethoven
Now Let Every Tongue Adore Thee.....	Bach
What Tongue Can Tell?.....	Bach
The Guardian Angel.....	Cesar Franck
Jerusalem	Parry

America	Bloch
“Summer is Icumen in”	
.....	England Traditional
Andalusia.....	Spanish Traditional
Turitomba.....	Italian Traditional
Follow Me Down to Carlo.....	Irish Traditional
Estrelita	(Mexican) Ponce



Special Opportunity

A set of 12 diagrams is being offered to students of Theosophy. These are a real help in the study of any book, new or old. The Planes of Nature, Bodies in Involution and Evolution, The Outpourings, Relation of the Ego to his Vehicles, and practically every point in Theosophical teaching, is plainly visualized.

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Theosophists Manufactured at Cost

By RAY W. HARDEN

AT Star Camp this year, a Theosophical Society member related an interesting experience with propaganda work.

"I can tell you how to make Theosophists at an average cost of \$3.78 per Theosophist," he declared. "I have experimented with this method for the past six years.

"Occasionally I select from among my friends and acquaintances a man or woman of fair intelligence. I do not bombard them with propaganda leaflets nor vocal effusions. I simply subscribe for THE THEOSOPHIST in their name and supplement this by mailing out my copy of the MESSENGER after I have finished reading it. I find that what a person or an organization is actually doing is of magnetic interest.

"In these six years I have worked on eleven persons in this way, and eight of them have joined the Society. Probably I picked good material, but I do not believe they had any intention of becoming members when I started with them. Yet all eight have become good workers, and one is a lecturer.

"Of the remaining three, one was killed in an accident, one married a Hindu, and the other has started an occult movement of his own, so perhaps my method has done *something*, however hazardous, to all of them.

"Some of my prospects received a second, and a few even the third yearly subscription before they got to the point of spending their own money. In addition I have presented several of them (secretly) with a good Theosophical book, just at what I considered the "psychological day." ELEMENTARY THEOSOPHY, by L. W. Rogers, is my favorite volume for this purpose.

"There is a further aspect to the situation," concluded this unique propagandist, "and this has increased production and lowered my average cost.

"Some of my eight members have themselves brought in members, especially wives, husbands, brothers, etc. A careful check credits thirteen in this manner. Thus I have a total of twenty-four, at a cost of \$90.74, or \$3.78 per member."

* * * * *

[NOTE BY MR. HARDEN: Some of our Theosophists may be able to devise more prolific plans or possibly less expensive ones, but it should not seem unreasonable that each of us can secure eight members each, by some fair means, during the next six years. If so, even allowing for the normal increase in membership as offsetting the normal deaths and lapses, the Theosophical Society would, in the year 1935, be 72,000 strong in the United States. Counting the secondary members attracted by every original eight, as claimed in this experiment, the roll call would stand at 216,000.

Summer School Program

Dr. Arundale, who is to be the Dean of the Summer School, has made a skeleton outline which is as below:

1. The future work of The Theosophical Society:
 - (a) The Society as a whole.
 - (b) The work of Lodges and individual members.
 - (c) The specific work of the American Section.
2. The Occult and the Mystic Paths.
3. The problem of cooperation between the Angel and the Human kingdoms.
4. The problem of authority and experience.
5. What is truly Theosophical education?
6. Great movements and forces at work in the world to-day.

All such programs are of course tentative. By the time he arrives at Wheaton, Dr. Arundale may have other features which he will add to the work. He suggests, in addition, that we have some entertainments. Last year we had regular evening programs and sometimes entertainments were put on. A good idea for one evening would be to have Dr. Arundale talk upon his new iconoclastic book, *My Changing World*.

The total advance registration for the Summer School is now almost equal to our facilities, and not many more applicants can be accommodated.

Steamship Tickets

The Theosophical Headquarters have been made the agency for the following steamship lines: Holland American, Cunard, Dollar, United States, White Star, French Line, North German Lloyd, Swedish American, Hamburg-American and Canadian Pacific. If you are contemplating a journey which will use *any* steamship line, in going abroad or in coming to the United States, now or at any other time in the future, you can buy your ticket through our Headquarters office at Wheaton, for exactly the same price and on the same conditions as though you purchased directly from the steamship company, and the agency commission will go into our National treasury. Some of our members are constantly traveling abroad, and a handsome revenue can accrue to our treasury by being a little thoughtful on that subject.

It does not matter in what class you travel nor by what line nor what particular steamer you select. Headquarters is the agent for every kind of ticket that you can buy elsewhere.

RUSSIA COMING!

Last month the hope was expressed that Dr. Anna Kamensky, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Russia, might be brought to Chicago. The problem is solved and she will speak for Russia at the Congress.



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All reports and articles for publication must be re-
ceived at Wheaton office by the 20th of the month in
order to appear in THE MESSENGER of the next month's
issue.

Ho! For the Congress

AT LAST the eventful month has arrived. Before August has run its thirty-one day course, the Theosophical World Congress of 1929 will belong to history. The General Council, of which every National President and every General Secretary in more than forty nations is a member, will have met and adopted or rejected proposed changes of the Society's Objects and its General Rules and will have declared the organization's future policy to the world. Seven years will then elapse before another such world-wide convocation takes place.

What will the Congress bring forth? It would be rash to predict. Certainly there has been no period in the Society's fifty-four years of life

so portentous with unknown possibilities. On previous somewhat similar occasions no uncertainties were in the air. There was nothing to be expected but some excellent lectures, by good speakers, and having read the announcement of their subjects one could almost know in advance how the arguments would run.

Not so today! The theosophical world has been undergoing a great change. There has unquestionably been more shifting of viewpoint within a year than during the previous twenty years. Two new organizations have grown up within the Society—the Star and the L. C. C.—and the former is itself in a state of flux, due to the necessity of consistency between its form and its teachings. Indeed, the entire membership of the Theosophical Society somewhat resembles drifting sands. The spirit of vagueness is everywhere within its ranks, and only a rash prophet would attempt to forecast what will emerge from this historical August conclave.

Perhaps the one certain thing is that there will be strong differences of opinion, forcefully expressed. There must, of course, be absolute freedom of speech, and there is no shadow of doubt that there will be plenty of it! The fact that Dr. Besant will preside guarantees fair play for all conflicting opinions.

All theosophical conventions are interesting, instructive and inspiring. In addition to that the World Congress promises to be thrilling.

Bishop Wedgwood vs.

Mrs. Jinarajadasa

BISHOP JAMES I. WEDGWOOD, who is the head of the Liberal Catholic Church, has sent to the General Council a reply to the recent letter of Mrs. Jinarajadasa on the subject of the relationship between the Theosophical Society and the aforesaid church. He says, of what have often been denominated the allied movements of Theosophy, that "they are the outcome of special study of subjects like religion, social order, education, etc., and are indeed the at-

tempts to theosophize the world in their various directions. They call for the support of Theosophists—as the putting of Theosophy into practice.”

Bishop Wedgwood offers the opinion that instead of replacing Theosophy, the “subsidiary movements” have supplemented it. He thinks that much of the prejudice against the Liberal Catholic Church arises from the fact that many now in the Theosophical Society have in past lives been persecuted by the church and that “this accounts for the instinctive and deep dislike which a number of people have against all religious ceremonies.”

All the arguments used in the two documents by both writers have been repeatedly urged before and have been matters of controversy for some years. The most important point about it all is that sharp controversy has arisen between these two distinguished members of the Society. The Bishop accuses Mrs. Jinarajadasa of using “incendiary” language and of singling out the L. C. C. for attack. He says: “Of all religious bodies the

Liberal Catholic Church is the least open to attack on the grounds of dogmatism, sectarianism and the many isms that Mrs. Jinarajadasa delights to portray.” The reply as a whole seems a bit less judicial in language and less impersonal than Mrs. Jinarajadasa’s letter, but the Bishop is on sound ground when he says that the Order of the Star should “stand in exactly the same category as the other movements,” [in relationship to the Theosophical Society]. Mr. Krishnamurti would be the first to agree to that.

As we approach Congress time it becomes clear that we are on the eve of momentous events. Mr. Ernest Wood is bringing out a book, to be ready for the theosophical public by that time, which he calls *The New Theosophy*, and he has given notice that he will present propositions to the General Council affecting the future policy of the Society.

Are we to have a new Theosophy and an old Theosophy? We shall soon see what we shall see!

Summer School Affairs

One day intervenes between the close of the Congress and the opening of the Summer School at Wheaton, over which Dr. Arundale will preside. This gives opportunity to come leisurely to Wheaton. Last year the members coming to Wheaton got together and chartered a bus, but if they follow the same plan this year it will mean at least three buses.

On the electric road twenty-five ride tickets to Wheaton can be used by groups and thus reduce the fare almost one-half. Any remnant of such tickets will be purchased at face value by Headquarters.

On arriving at Wheaton to attend the Summer School, the balance, if any, of the registration fee of \$10 should be paid, and the member in charge of that work will assign rooms. These will all have been secured in advance. The opening session of the School will be on Saturday morning, Aug. 31.

In case you come by train, the most desirable thing is to use the electric road, the Chicago, Aurora & Elgin, the Chicago station of which is on Wells St., just south of Jackson Blvd. Arrived at the Wheaton station, you can always find taxis which will make the trip to Headquarters at the rate of fifty cents for one or two and twenty-five cents for each additional passenger. By arrangement with Mr. Harden at the Stevens Hotel, you can, upon arrival at Wheaton, call Wheaton 1571 and our car from Headquarters will come for you, without charge.

Order of Service

A letter from Mr. John Nimick suggests that members attending the World Congress should visit the T. O. S. booth, where attractive exhibits are being planned for social service, animal welfare, world peace, back to nature, and arts and crafts departments. “The Order,” says Mr. Nimick, “is carrying theosophical reality into hitherto neglected fields, permeating each department of human activity with the living spirit of brotherhood.” Mr. Nimick calls attention to the official organ, *Service*, a quarterly journal issued at London at \$1.00 a year, and to *The Watcher*, an eight-page monthly mailed free to members and interested people. There are no dues in the T. O. S., although financial help is always welcome to expand the work.

ORDER OF SERVICE AT THE CONGRESS

Wednesday, Aug. 28, of the Congress session will be given to the Theosophical Order of Service. The features in the forenoon will be music (arranged by Mrs. Alice Green), “The Chorus of Nations,” the opening address by Dr. Besant, the report of progress by the International Secretary, Max Wardall, and an address by Dr. James H. Cousins on “Art as Service.”

In the afternoon the striking numbers will be the symposium on “Theosophy, Academic and Applied,” by Miss Dykgraaf, International Counsellor, Mr. John Nimick, National Watcher in the U. S. A., and Mr. Chester Green, Head Brother, each speaking ten minutes. This will be followed by an address by Mr. Peter Freeman on “Our Transgressions,” while Mr. Robert R. Logan will speak on “Our New Work for Animals.” The open forum will be the closing number and the subject “Ways of Work.”

The lecture in the evening by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson will be in harmony with the day’s proceedings, his subject being “Angelic Cooperation in Social Reform.”

Headquarters Notes

Miss Ida Cohen and Miss Louise E. Wolk, of Des Moines, paid a short visit to Wheaton early in July.

Mr. Robert R. Logan and Miss Zimmer, his secretary, arrived at Headquarters by automobile, July 1, having driven from Ojai, and were guests for a day. Mr. Logan, who is to take a prominent part in World Congress program, conferred with Department heads on issues of immediate importance.

Miss Charlotte Everett, a niece of Mary Montz, of our Record Office, spent a few days at Headquarters recently.

Mr. John Sellon of Rye, New York, is visiting his sister, Miss Betty Sellon, who has been giving invaluable service to Headquarters staff for some time.

Prof. Ernest Wood, accompanied by Mrs. Wood, arrived early in July for a few days' stay. Prof. Wood is Recording Secretary of the Theosophical Society, and is scheduled for World Congress talks. He is now enroute to Ommen, and will return to Chicago in time for the Congress opening.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kraatz of Milwaukee arrived in time to help Headquarters workers celebrate the Fourth of July. Rex Barnett drove out from Chicago on this date, and "a good time was had by all."

Mr. O. Ray Stevens of Cleveland, Ohio, spent a few hours at Headquarters early in June.

On the evening of June 28, a very pleasant social evening was enjoyed by Headquarters staff members and friends. The feature of the event was a group of interpretative dances, those represented on the program being Miss Olivia Martin, Miss Mavis Parker, Miss Dorothy Krueger and Mr. Fred Menzenwerth.

Mrs. C. S. Hill of Lightbringer Lodge, Washington, D. C., accompanied by her sister, Dr. B. S. Mooney, of Chicago, visited Wheaton Headquarters over night, July 14, and spent the next day inspecting the departments at work, and the beautiful grounds and gardens. Both were enthusiastic in their praise of the place, and expressed the hope that they might come again, which was shared by all, as their visit was a pleasant event for the staff.

Mrs. Weaver, representative of Kable Brothers Company, mammoth publishing plant at Mount Morris, Ill., spent a few hours at Headquarters on July 7. Mrs. Weaver has been with Kables for many years, in their fraternal magazine department, and expressed her interest in Theosophical subjects and progress, gathered through her association with publication details connected with the monthly

editions of the MESSENGER. She said that a number of the people at Kable Brothers' great institution are familiar with, and rather interested in the World Congress, and some of them are making plans to attend the evening lectures which are open to the public.

Miss Ellen Preston Lee of Leeds, Mass., visited Headquarters on her way to Ojai, Calif., for Star Camp.

Mr. Grover Huckaby of Baton Rouge Lodge was a guest at Headquarters for several days the latter part of June.

We have a notice from the Star Publishing Trust that after July 1 the price of *Life the Goal* will be 15 cents.

From Far Singapore

The Singapore Lodge is asking for donations of books from those who would like to help a young foreign Lodge get on its feet. In order to avoid useless duplications, send any books which you wish to give for this particular purpose, to Headquarters, and we will forward them after making, if necessary, exchanges here to prevent duplication.

Katherine Tingley Dead

The press dispatches of July 12 from abroad brought the information that Mrs. Katherine Tingley, who had been injured in an automobile accident some weeks ago, had succumbed to her injuries. The Chicago Tribune published the following:

Mrs. Katherine Tingley, although known as a Theosophist, was not head of the main organization, which had been founded by Mme. H. P. Blavatsky, who was succeeded on her death by the present head, Mrs. Annie Besant. Mrs. Tingley had her own cult at Point Loma, Cal., known as the Universal Brotherhood. She founded there a Raja Yoga school, of which she was the "purple mother." Of the eighteen Theosophical Societies in Chicago, none are of her cults, but of Mrs. Besant's.

Study Groups

The Correspondence School offers a special inducement to groups which use the courses of the School as a basis for study. If one member of the group pays the full tuition which is \$10.00 for each course except course V which is \$5.00 the others may purchase the sets of pamphlets as follows:

Course I	\$2.00
Course II	2.80
Course III	2.45
Course IV	3.30
Course V85

The prices are based upon the number and size of the pamphlets.

Personal Opinions

By L. W. Rogers

[On this page the National President will write monthly of matters of general interest but which are of a somewhat more personal character than the subjects discussed in the editorial columns.]

Changing the Objects

If there is anybody with whom I should particularly like to agree when we reach debating time at the Theosophical World Congress, it is my genial friend, Mr. Peter Freeman, whose generous hospitality I have had the good fortune to enjoy at his pleasant home in Wales. But Fate will have it otherwise. I fear, moreover, that Mr. Freeman is by no means alone in his earnest belief that the present three Objects of the Theosophical Society have outlived their usefulness and that his resolution to change them will be supported by other members whose names are familiar to all Theosophists. Be that as it may, I cannot agree with my friend upon that subject.

Was it not Bill Nye who quoted the line spoken by King Henry VI when Warwick and Suffolk were inviting each other to "come outside and settle it"?

"Thrice is he armed, that hath his quarrel just," says the King, to which the humorist adds:

"And four times he that gets his lick in fust."

If I am accused of taking a mean advantage of my friend by getting "a lick in fust," I can only reply that when he issued his circular letter giving his reasons and arguments for the proposed change, the debate was that moment begun; and, seriously, I believe that the free and full expression of opinion cannot begin too early.

Mr. Freeman's resolution calls for the condensation of our three Objects into seven words: "To form a nucleus of universal brotherhood," and he gives his reason as simplifying the Objects and broadening the concept of brotherhood.

Simplicity is a good thing, but it is possible to be so simple that the world does not know what you are talking about. Mr. Freeman holds that a nucleus of the brotherhood of *humanity* has now been formed and that the "second and third Objects of the Society are no longer ignored by the world." He says that "they naturally fall within and are implied by the single Object that is proposed. Comparative religion, philosophy and science are now almost universally studied. Many scientific and other bodies are investigating the unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in man."

Yes, but from a wholly different viewpoint, and with no illuminating philosophy to accompany their work! And what is the "world" that no longer ignores the study of comparative religion? What fraction of Christendom even admits that there is any real religion on the earth but their own? Count them up, and you will find that the occiden-

tals who have even a mild interest in Buddhism, Confucianism or Mohammedanism are a scholarly few that are numerically absolutely insignificant, while the hundreds of millions think of the adherents of those great religions as heathen steeped in grotesque superstition. There is no better evidence of that than their willingness to spend enormous sums of money on missionary work to "win the heathen from their idolatry." What a man *pays* for he believes in. I am afraid we are a very long way from the time when more than a negligible fraction of "the world" is past the need of enlightenment about the value of other religions. Mr. Freeman says: "It is *not* suggested that any activity along these lines should be discontinued." Then why drop the second Object? The very purpose of the three Objects is to tell the world precisely what we stand for and what we propose to do.

Mr. Freeman argues that dropping the phrase "of humanity" and limiting our declaration of principles and purposes to "form a nucleus of universal brotherhood" would enable us to include animals and birds, nature-spirits, fairies, angels, etc. Most of us do that in thought and practice. How far we shall go in publishing the Objects of the Society is merely a question of tactics. If we get too far ahead of the multitude, the man in the street simply does not comprehend. We shall not be understood at all unless we speak the language of the people. We must talk in terms that have some relationship to their knowledge and experiences. That the sublime and the ridiculous are near relatives is well illustrated by a headline I saw in a daily paper after the reporter had heard a theosophical lecture on brotherhood. The flaring letters read: "BROTHER TO THE BUG!"

I cannot agree with Mr. Freeman that the time has come to drop the phrase "brotherhood of humanity" from our first Object. If we were to eliminate anything, I should much prefer to drop "a nucleus of the" and throw more emphasis upon the big job of persuading people to at least go far enough to break down the separative walls of race, creed, sex, caste and color. I am not half as much interested in extending a man's conception of brotherhood to the fairies and angels as I am in getting him to be decent to another human being who has a yellow skin or who perhaps wears his jewelry in his nose instead of in his ears, (as do "civilized" people!) or wears long thorns through hair coiled atop of the head instead of hat pins protruding horizontally where they will gouge somebody in the face.

No, I can't agree with my friend that we no longer need the phrase "brotherhood of hu-

manity" in our Objects. On the contrary, I believe we need it more than anything else. I believe that we must clearly and specifically tell the people exactly what we object to in human affairs and point out with emphasis that the most shocking sins of our present-day civilization are centered about those very words, "race, creed, sex, caste and color." To my mind, that is just where the most important work lies—in the breaking down of the separative barriers of contention, antagonism and hatred which periodically break out in mob violence or in war. And the work can best be done by taking first the thing most obvious to the man of the world. After he realizes that all others of the human race are one with him, he will be ready for the brotherhood of the invisibles.

Health Is Naturalness

Occasionally one hears among would-be vegetarians expressions which show that many people regard vegetarianism as an ideal but not a practical thing. A quotation from a member's letter appeared on the editorial page of THE MESSENGER for June that sounded like the pathetic cry of one who despairs—"Is there not someone in the Theosophical Society who has been healthy all the time on a no-meat diet?"

There are many such members who are both continuously well and strong, and since "seeing is believing," it is quite the proper thing for those in search of dietary truth to ask for the evidence that sustains the theory. Dr. Besant and Bishop Leadbeater are the very best examples because of their advanced age and their great abilities. Both have been vegetarians for well over thirty years, I believe, and it is more probable over forty years. Both are past their eightieth year but are in good health, and each does an enormous amount of work.

We have scores of other members who are living evidence of the practical value of vegetarianism. I can add my personal testimony to its efficacy. Since 1902, or for twenty-seven years, I have continuously abstained from any kind of food containing meat, fowl, fish, or any other animal substance, except the dairy products and eggs, and I have never during that time been ill except with colds and a very slight touch of ptomaine poisoning, none of which interrupted my work. Hundreds of my acquaintances in various parts of the country know that I am in good health, and that my working day when on tour is from seven a. m. to ten p. m., seven days a week, and when at Headquarters it

is much longer, including strenuous physical labor before and after office hours.

That one cannot be strong and not eat meat is the most downright nonsense that ever deluded people. It may indeed be that it is not wise for everybody to suddenly and completely abandon a meat diet. Some of us can succeed in doing that because, very probably, we have acquired the tendency in past incarnations. But there is little doubt that anyone may achieve it gradually, by easy but persistent steps. The very fact that some people declare they cannot do it is evidence that they have not yet evolved the will to do it. I once heard Bishop Leadbeater say, in answering questions in a meeting, that if he had a physical body that could not live on a vegetarian diet he would get one that could! It is undoubtedly that very absence of the will to be vegetarian that defeats many.

That some who attempt vegetarianism are frequently ill proves nothing whatever against it. They are not ill because they have abandoned meat, but for numerous other reasons. The average human being does not have continuous good health because he is constantly violating nature's laws, and he does it quite deliberately, though probably rather thoughtlessly, not through ignorance, but because he has not enough will power to control his desires. Dr. Besant puts it concisely in "Man And His Bodies" when she remarks that people say they would be willing to do anything for the sake of a higher life, but when it comes to the decisive moment they prefer to have a good dinner!

We constantly see about us people who cannot or will not control their desires and take reasonable care of their physical bodies. They eat unwisely and carelessly, both as to quantity and quality, give no thought to bodily exercise, loll on a sofa when they should be out in the air and sunshine, do not drink enough water, eat handfuls of confectionaries, read a novel or play games far into the night when they should be asleep, give little or no thought to ventilation, commit a score of other hygienic blunders, and then wonder why in the world they are sick in bed every few weeks!

No observant person doubts that probably the major portion of human ills arise from weak wills which cannot resist the desire of the moment. Evolution is slow, but the time will undoubtedly come when we shall all be heartily ashamed to be ill, because illness is evidence of failure, either immediate or remote, to live in harmony with nature's laws.

Round Table Service

In the haste of getting to press last month, with a multiplicity of affairs on hand, mention of the Round Table was omitted from the announcement of the receipt and disposi-

tion of gifts of odds and ends to be sold to those who want them. The actual merchandising will be conducted by the Round Table, of which Mr. Ray W. Hardin is Chief Knight in the United States, and the members of which are always eager to be of service.

Letters

A new department appears in this number of the MESSENGER under the caption "Letters." It is impossible to use more than a small portion of all that are offered, but the selection will be made to represent various viewpoints and from those that, with brevity and conciseness, present a thought that may be useful. Agreement with the personal views of the Editor will be no more welcome than disagreement. Such a feature, to be of real service, should reflect the sincere opinion of the writers, and the only test for admission should be the use of impersonal and temperate language.

Often because of its length a good letter has to be omitted, which could be used if condensed and the gist of the communication inserted. Those who are willing to have the Editor pare their letters down to the minimum of words that will express the central idea, should indicate it on the margin of the manuscript. Without such permission no Editor is at liberty to do more than accept or reject in toto.—THE EDITOR.

FROM FRANCE

I have read with interest in the June, 1929, issue of the MESSENGER (page 124) of your hope that, in the course of the meetings of this magnificent Congress, it will be possible to discuss the difficulties now arising between the Theosophical Society and its allied activities, and which are mentioned in Mrs. Jinarajadasa's open letter. You may please note that I second heartily the statements so bravely made by her. I consider that the advice expressed in her letter might, if followed, save the Theosophical Society from the threatening secession.

Believe me, dear colleague,

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) CHARLES BLECH,

General Secretary, French Section of the Theosophical Society.

ORGANIZATION

For, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

When in the fullness of an experience, two or three individuals find that their independent purpose is a common purpose, there is organization born, and there is power born. As many strands make a common cord, strong to bind and serve, so the small strengths of personal effort become the greater strength, geometrically multiplied, which brings the common purpose to flower, and as many streamlets join to form the river, so do personal aspirations join in the flower of experience on the altar of life.

Let each be independent; let each seek his own experience and find his own fulfillment of life, but when in the course of that eternal journey he finds the hand of his brother near his own, let him not be ashamed to clasp and rejoice that another goes with him in joyous and happy companionship, if that road be pleasant, and in grateful appreciation, if the burden is lessened by another's shoulder, when there is a burden.

As the sparks fly upward in the impelling flame, each paints its own pathway of light. The paths are myriad and dart and twist in all directions, and yet they all fly upward, and to the observer they are joined in one glorious sweep heavenward, making night beautiful. So many human lives join in their upward

pathway, independent in action, and yet one in purpose and common direction.

When two or three are gathered together, and a common aim is discovered, an organization is born, and rightly so, be it church or state or society, and in that joining there immediately follows a useful partition of action. In this division of action, if there is the true independence of inspiration, which is the necessity for individual growth, each will fall into his proper place, do his proper work and gain that experience which is his next step toward the goal. And if that true independence is maintained, and the individual is not stifled or bound by the useful forms which have appeared, and the time comes when the common purpose of the group is no longer the purpose of the individual, that individual will turn without regret, without pain, toward the eternal life which ever beckons, and step boldly forth, and for a time his path may be lone, but yet it is inevitable that soon from the darkness a hand will reach and then another, and once more the unity of life appears, and organization is born.

NORMAN STEVENS.

SEES IT DIFFERENTLY

I was surprised to see that An Earnest Theosophist was opposed to Lodge officers being members of the Liberal Catholic Church. Church membership is an individual question, and officers are appointed usually because of devotion to Theosophy—not because of affiliation or non-affiliation with any Church. And it might be a pertinent question to ask what the Lodge referred to would do without the Church member who is its "Chief Supporter?"

In my own Lodge three of the five officers are members of the L. C. C.; all three of these have served the Lodge in official capacity over periods from three to eight years—all three being reelected to their respective offices at the last annual election. I know of no Theosophists anywhere who have sacrificed more both in private life and in Lodge work for Theosophy than have these three. Should these officers be deposed because they choose to belong to the L. C. C.? Rather, should not their untiring work be commended and appreciated? I submit the question.

ANOTHER EARNEST THEOSOPHIST.

What Lodges Are Doing

Sirius Lodge, Chicago, held its annual closing reception on June 27. A very delightful entertainment was given, with a musical and dramatic program, after which refreshments were served.

Newly elected officers for Besant Lodge, Tulsa, Okla., are as follows: W. J. Zollinger, President; H. G. Humphreys, Vice-President; Miss Ann G. Bell, Secretary; Robt. M. Benardeau, Treasurer, and Mrs. Frances Zollinger, Librarian.

From an attendance of 125 for their supper and entertainment in May, the St. Louis Lodge increased the attendance to 200 for the similar event of June 29. Small wonder, as the announcement received presents a tempting program: Music by a six-piece orchestra; a "Manufacturer's Supper," various fine food producers furnishing their best, also a first-class minstrel program, "brimfull of laughter, songs and dances." The announcement continues by saying: "The proceeds will be devoted to the Order of Service, a Theosophical organization embracing different kinds of humanitarian work."

Lansing (Mich.) Lodge announces new officers recently elected: President, Lincoln C. Bradt; Vice-President, Bessie Finkbeiner; Treasurer, J. W. Wagenvoort; Recording Secretary, Clara White; Corresponding Secretary, Grace P. Winchester; Purchasing Agent, W. W. Johnson.

Mrs. Hester C. Kimball, succeeding Mrs. Annie Climo as Secretary of the Cleveland (Ohio) Lodge, writes that it so happens that her first act in office was to report to Headquarters the marriage of a Lodge member. The coincidence was that this is the wedding of her own daughter, Miss Frances C. Kimball, married to Mr. George Hodges, on June 22.

Harmony Lodge (Toledo, Ohio) gave a very enjoyable social party, the evening of June 26. Solos, piano and vocal, were rendered by Mrs. Robert Witchner and Sanford Dye, Jr. An address on "International Relations," by Miss Matilda Campbell, followed by a reading by Mrs. Alice Bentley Gardner and original monologues by Mrs. Sigmond Sanger. The entertainment closed with a violin selection played by Miss Josephine Heinsen.

A comprehensive and interesting report is received from Surya Youth Lodge of Chicago, covering the activities for the year ending June 30. It appears that the Lodge has had twenty-six speakers from other Lodges; two lectures given by their President, and two debates staged. "Theosophy Simplified," by I. S. Cooper, is the book for Lodge study, and the attendance has averaged from fifteen to eighteen, with the high mark of thirty. A

special meeting was held in honor of White Lotus Day, and a number of pleasing and profitable parties and "pot-luck" suppers have been given. In the field of publicity, Surya Youth Lodge has produced two one-act plays, and handled a large number of theosophical pamphlets by mail. Also a typewritten program has been sent out each month. On June 22 the following officers were elected for the coming twelve months: President, Martha R. Pellan; Vice President, Virginia Kemmler and Wilmot Lewis; Secretary, Miriam Moore; Treasurer, Herman Lusche; Federation Representative, Helen Lewis.

From Honolulu, T. H., comes much colorful news of theosophical activity. This is not to be wondered at, considering the presence in this little American island territory of such distinguished students as Mr. Charles H. Macintosh, Captain Leo L. Partlow, Colonel T. E. Merrill, Major Sutherland, Mr. Hamilton Stark, Dr. E. S. C. Handy, Mrs. A. T. Powlison, Mrs. M. E. Armitage, Mr. Merlin McGrew, Mrs. Mildred Martin, Miss Catherine Hewlings, Mrs. M. Marquebille, Mrs. Claire Cottrell, and others. Visitors to the Lodge have been numerous including Mr. Ernest Wood, and prominent Theosophists of South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, and "The States." Mr. Wood lectured on June 20, the title, "Pleasure and Pain." The Lodge is to be congratulated upon the fine cooperation of all its members in carrying on the work in Hawaii. The Secretary reports that all dues for national memberships to Headquarters have been paid promptly, and contributions to funds and special collections have been adequate. Extensive correspondence has been carried on with the Wheaton office regarding the World Congress, and arrangements made for the Honolulu delegation. The Secretary was chosen as official Lodge representative to the Congress.

The Des Moines Lodge is one of the units coming forward with prompt payment of its members' national dues to Headquarters, and the following statement is of timely interest: "As we are workers here and anxious about the issues which are so momentous and eternal, Des Moines Lodge expects to be represented by several of its members at the World Congress. This will undoubtedly be one of the most interesting events, especially to the American Section."—M. E. B.

It is always encouraging to note that our members are winning laurels in the world's work. Matilda Rounds, Secretary of Manasquan Lodge (New Jersey), has been made head of the Literature Department by the Woman's Club of that city. Their next study topic will be Ancient Philosophy. Mrs. Rounds has visibly strengthened the Lodge through her class on "Character Building," and her new duties fit in nicely with the good work in which she has been engaged.



BUILDING FUND BULLETIN

The purpose of this department is to give to the members of The American Theosophical Society news of the progress made in raising the money necessary to pay for our National Headquarters Building.

AUGUST, 1929

No. 39

Landscape Plan

If you are interested in the landscape plan that appeared in the April MESSENGER, you should know that it represents only the ten-acre plot on which the building stands. The Society owns eight acres more which are back of the building and west of Wheaton Ave. That street thus divides the property. It is, however, practically a private way. The property on both sides being Society grounds and there being no other people with interest in the matter, we cultivate the land to each edge of the roadway and have sown borders of red clover along it. For all practical purposes, Wheaton Ave. is just our rear driveway and garden entrance.

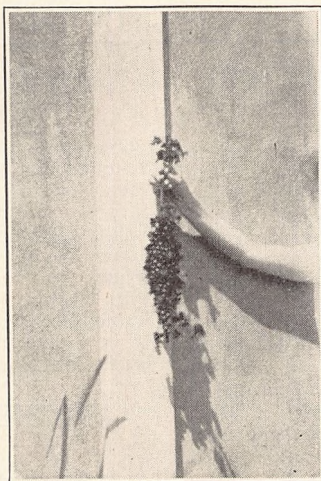
Some Changes

There was an error in that landscape sketch in labelling the northeast portion just north of the lawn "Vegetables." Some unobjectionable things such as strawberries and lettuce are at present there, though the major portion is in white clover, but even these things are to give place to flowers as soon as all arrangements can be made, the blossoms to go to the florist market regularly as they reach the right stage of development. It takes money for the upkeep of a beautiful plot of many acres and the produce from the ground itself can furnish it. One of our near neighbors sends a consignment of flowers daily to the floral market. It is more profitable to grow flowers than to grow vege-

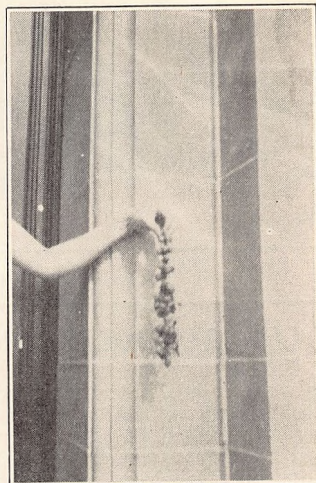
tables, and much more appropriate for grounds adjoining the lawn.

Some Berries!

In this issue we give you two pictures that will enable you to visualize our prolific fruit garden. Each shows a twig loaded with fruit—one



with currants, the other with gooseberries. The latter twig is 10 inches long and 3-16 of an inch in diameter, but it bore 33 berries, the largest of which is $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter. With a foot-rule, mark off on a paper the distance of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch, and imagine the berry filling that space, and you will realize the actual size. These two twigs were not unique. Many others on the bushes were like them. The bushes were not quite 14 months old when the fruit was gathered, and not an ounce of fertilizer of any description was used,

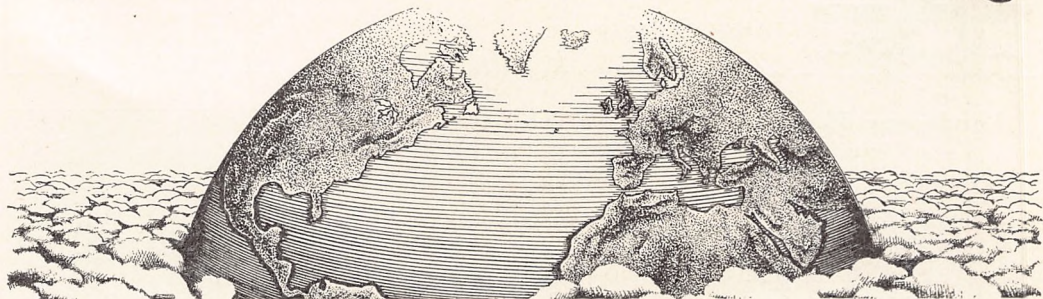


nor any special cultivation given. They are the ordinary product of this black Illinois loam.

Building Fund

As promised in the previous number of the MESSENGER, the publication of the list of donations to the Building Fund is begun in this issue. The list for the thirty days is encouraging, sixty-eight members sending cash totaling \$740.75, and this is about the worst time in the year to expect payment of pledges! Many are laying by money for the trip to Chicago in August. Probably there can be no better excuse for delaying payment than hoarding to attend the World Congress. Nobody would have the heart to criticize any person for "going the limit" in any direction rather than miss the event of a lifetime.

WORLD CONGRESS NEWS



No. 8

RAY W. HARDEN, EDITOR

No 8

CONGRESS AT HOTEL STEVENS, CHICAGO, AUGUST 24-29, 1929

CONGRESS QUESTION MEETING

Unquestionably one of the most interesting as well as one of the most useful features of the Congress will be a general question meeting over which Dr. Besant will preside. She will herself answer questions, and these questions may be dropped in a box that will be provided for the purpose. A committee, appointed by the Congress management, will assort and classify the questions and eliminate the duplicates.

Questions should really be written out well in advance and for that reason this notice is now being given. If you do not prepare your question in advance, you will probably be unable to satisfactorily formulate it after you get into the high-tension atmosphere of the Congress. Write your question now upon the particular thing you want to know, whether on some theosophical principle or of the Society's policy, or what not, and bring it with you.

INDIAN LODGE REPRESENTED

Mary Isabel Sanden, member of *Benares Lodge*, India, now visiting in Washington, D. C., writes that she is soon starting her journey to Chicago for the Congress. She will stop over frequently along the way, thus making the trip one of more than ordinary study of American life.

Dr. James H. Cousins, who is recognized as one of the outstanding Irish poets, will speak at the World Congress banquet. Our members who have heard him will know that with his versatility and keen sense of humor, a treat is in store for us.

ICELAND'S NEW PRESIDENT MAY COME TO CONGRESS

Somewhat delayed information has at last reached this office announcing the election of Mrs. Krisbie Matthiassore as General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Iceland. While Madame Matthiassore's prospects for attending the World Congress were still somewhat uncertain at the time of writing, the trip is not beyond possibility. Mr. Rogers immediately dispatched official invitation, and it is hoped that Iceland will be represented by its national head at the Congress.

ANOTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN DELEGATE

A distinguished citizen of Honduras, Salvador Moncada, F. T. S., will represent his country at the World Congress this year. Senor Moncada resides at Peguayalpa. Copies of the official Congress poster have been sent and it is hoped that other theosophical members will unite with the party, which starts on the journey to Chicago early in August.

MAY BE ENROUTE NOW

President H. O. Sverrild, of the Theosophical Society of Denmark, writes from his office in Copenhagen, giving a list of Lodge Presidents in various parts of his country as prospective World Congress delegates. The Danish Theosophical magazine has been received for the International Publications Booth, and it is reported that our World Congress posters have long been on display throughout Denmark.

Newspapers Show Interest in Congress Plans

The following is advance copy of a magazine feature article soon to be released through a prominent press syndicate.

FAIRIES AND ANGELS MAY BE PHOTOGRAPHED IN CHICAGO

Chicago, July 15.—Filtered rays and super-sensitive film will be used in experiments planned to catch the elusive forms and movements of Fairy folk during sessions of the Theosophical World Congress at Chicago, Aug. 24 to 29, which philosophers and students of occultism from all points of the earth will attend.

Prominent among foreign delegates is Geoffrey Hodson, author of many scholarly but startling books upon the subject of Fairies, Gnomes, Sylphs and other denizens of the Nature Realm. These fleshless beings, so claims theosophic lore, occupy jointly with humans the soil, air and water of the planet. Dr. Hodson, whose home is in Letchworth, England, states that the existence of an entire branch of intelligent entities called the "Deva Evolution" is known by literally thousands of persons, and that the highest Deva forms constitute, upon a very practical basis, those perfected specimens who have been poetically and religiously referred to as "Angels."

Another authority upon the subject, who will also be present at the Theosophical Congress, is Mr. Earl L. Gardner, former National President of the British Theosophical Society, who recently toured America, lecturing on "The Coming of the Fairies." Gardner attracted widespread attention through his use of stereopticon views from photographs snapped by English children who had Deva playmates. In these amateur photos the partially materialized etheric forms of various Fairies and Gnomes are plainly visible. The plates are declared genuine and untampered with by experts in photography, but have been

the subject of magazine and newspaper articles both pro and con, and in various languages for several years.

While Fairy citizens of the Earth are said to usually avoid humans, the claim is advanced that effort is being made just at this time to bring about friendly intercourse and contact between the two realms. For this reason it is believed that powerful representatives of the Deva people will attend the Chicago Congress in large numbers. Hence the effort to catch the photographic reflection of these less dense forms of life upon the cinema records, and establish beyond question the discovery of their existence.

Sessions of the Congress will be held at Hotel Stevens, and the "fairy movies" attempted on various locations, including the famous Stevens roof garden, the shores of Lake Michigan and the parkways of the site of Chicago's new World's Fair of 1933.

CONGRESS MOVIES

The making of a Theosophical motion picture with screen stars of note in the production was scheduled to begin with several scenes being "shot" in and around Hotel Stevens, with the World Congress crowds as "extras." This plan may still be carried out to some extent, but owing to the decision to make the film a talking picture, there will necessarily be changes in the original plan.

However, it is assured that movie cameras will click at the Congress, as all the News Reel companies are sending operators to record the event. Even the Movietone will be present thus the International Congress Chorus and dramatic moments of the great lectures will be flashed upon the screens of the world with accompanying sound vibrations.

WHERE THERE'S A CAR —THERE'S A WAY

Unusual arrangements have made possible a cross-country dash from San Francisco to the World Congress. A member of Akbar Lodge, Chicago, having a fine sedan stored in a California garage, decided to permit some of the members of the far west who might not otherwise be able to come, to use the car.

Letters were written to the World Congress office, describing this opportunity, and at once a committee of California members was appointed to obtain a competent driver and select passengers for the trip.

By the time this item is being read in the MESSENGER, the big motor car will be spinning merrily along the Lincoln Highway, drawing hourly nearer to Chicago and the

great Congress. Other parties are motoring in from Pacific Coast points and in fact from many other points in North America. One might say that Theosophists will practically be present "en masse" at the Congress.

NON-MEMBERS AT CONGRESS

There will be much at the Theosophical World Congress to entertain the person who has no membership card to admit him to all sessions. Such visitors can attend the general reception on Saturday evening, all of the public lectures, the international Symposium on Monday afternoon, the garden party at Wheaton Tuesday afternoon, the banquet on Thursday evening, etc., etc. In fact, the visitor who is a non-member can be nearly as busy as anybody else during the entire time of the Congress.

"Last Minute" People

Great events often depend rather heavily upon those who "did not expect to be present." Perhaps in a measure, this will prove true of the Theosophical World Congress—the first to be held in America, and doubtless the *only* one which many of us will be able to attend in this incarnation, unless it be those little folk who are brought to it by their parents.

The member who has felt all along the impossibility of coming, and is then suddenly thrilled by an almost "miraculous" opportunity, brings to the Congress a zest to make the great event count for everything that can possibly be put into it, or gained in self-training through the experience. Though unexpected, these spontaneous human units add much force to the guiding spirit of a gathering. Theirs is an especially "eager intellect," ready to lend energy to any work where active help is needed. They are also keen to absorb the wisdom which outpours in all the truly great lectures, conferences and sessions with which the hours of such a Congress are enriched.

This is no reflection upon the enthusiasm and capacity of those dependable delegates who have long planned for the Congress. Merely a different sort of note.

Various tones are required for the magnificent composition which characterizes so important an assemblage. It constitutes a world melody with Truth as its theme—and here Truth means, in a very vital sense, the revealing of life and living for what it actually is and means; the purpose for which all consciousness, including that of man, exists and functions as we see it doing on earth today.

There is the distinct culmination of a cycle in a World Congress. To all of us the new note will be perceptible. Events, efforts and objectives for us as a group, and as individuals, will awaken fresh abilities and create change. New aspects will develop which we shall grasp and of which we will make practical use.

Verification of all this will be recognized when, in future years we hear and use such phrases as "*That was before the World Congress*" or "*During the sessions of 1929*" and "*The World Congress changed all that.*"

It must be evident that this is an event which no member who is interested in humanity, and himself as an integral part of it, will miss, if there be any possibility at all for attending. It is this compelling and wholesome urge which brings forth so many "last minute people."

The steady, sturdy members who decided to come, at the first moment they heard that a Congress was to be held in America, may be said to comprise the ground-work—the substantial theme upon which the whole composition rests. Those who at early stages, and at various later periods, resolved to co-operate by their presence, bring in and express the contributing notes of joy, hope, confidence, assurance, determination, optimism,

and all the thousand-and-one beautiful harmonies of the figurative "World Congress Opera."

Then comes the climax—these "spur of the moment" folks, who pour forth the melody of a "grand finale"—a thunderous, victorious chorus, which distinctly plays its essential part in a production of race-wide importance.

To all who can join in this glad song of world-attainment, on behalf of a teaching established and watched over by the Masters themselves, we say "Come to the Congress." You are not only thrice welcome, but—no matter how many others may come—you are urgently needed!

Publication Date

Most of the theosophical magazines are issued the middle of the month instead of the first, and in order to bring the MESSENGER into concerted action with the other publications, it will hereafter be mailed the fifteenth instead of the first of the month. That could not conveniently be begun in August because of the necessity of having final news about the World Congress in the hands of our members early in the month, but this is the last issue of the MESSENGER which will go into the mails on the first. For September, expect it about the middle of the month.

Healing

Today all students are aware of the importance of health in evolution and the realization of the Universal Life.

Various attempts have been made to find cures for many of the bodily and spiritual ills from which the human race is suffering. More and more as the twentieth century advances towards its zenith, is the mind of the western world turning toward the orient and its mystical lore in an effort to wrest from the "Ancient Wisdom" the secrets of the healing art which have been buried there for many ages.

The practitioner of healing, no matter what channel he may use, is aiming at harmony, and through harmony to health, as health on any plane cannot be established if inharmony is evident. The metaphysician, because of his training of the intuitional and superphysical faculties, can note these inharmonies and trace them to their beginnings.

Theosophists, generally, believe in healing by mental and spiritual means and they practice this in their daily contacts with their fellows.

The following books on the subject are recommended:

<i>Occult Side of Healing</i> , by Rev. Charles Hampton	\$.25 paper
<i>Ways to Health</i> , by Max Wardall	.25 paper
<i>Occult Methods of Healing</i> , by Jane K. Adams	.35 paper
<i>The Principles of Occult Healing</i> , by Dr. Mary Weeks Burnett	1.00 cloth
<i>Ways to Perfect Health</i> , by Irving S. Cooper	1.00 cloth
<i>Healing Methods Old and New</i> , by Elizabeth A. Gardner	.75 paper
<i>An Occult View of Health and Disease</i> , by Geoffrey Hodson	.60 paper
<i>Occultism, Christian Science and Healing</i> , by Arthur W. Osborn	1.25 cloth
<i>A Renaissance in the Art of Healing</i> , by L. J. Bendit	1.00 boards

Theosophical Press, Wheaton, Ill.

Economical News

Which May Put The Congress Within Financial Reach for Many

One very impressive fact has recently been brought to the attention of the World Congress office regarding cost and convenience of travel between Chicago and various points both near and far.

It appears that several Theosophical Society members who felt that railroad fare would be a little beyond their means, made the discovery that *bus* fare, with reduced rates for the Summer Excursion round-trip, fits nicely just within their means. So, they report—"Instead of missing the Congress, we are coming."

We would suggest, therefore, that members anywhere, who feel expense preventing their desired attendance at World Congress, make inquiry at their local bus offices, or those nearest them, if they live off the regular bus lines.

Visitors at Wheaton, traveling by buses, have told us of the remarkable comforts now enjoyed in using this mode of transportation, with luxurious seats which, by pressing a button or two, unfold into comfortable couches. As a restful night may thus be passed on the bus with no extra charge—no porter's tips, etc., the cost of the journey is farther reduced. Also the opportunity to obtain refreshments and good meals, at regular cafe and restaurant prices, is an additional saving.

Highway travel, now that we have the big new buses, with washroom, lavatory and other modern equipment, is comfortable and pleasant. Headquarters office has not the facilities to furnish bus rates and time-tables, but these and all desired information may be had for the asking, from any bus office.

Advance Registration

Are you willing to help lessen the tremendous crush which is bound to occur at the registration desk in the opening period of the Congress? You will recall that the pressure is great even at our annual conventions. Unless a large number of members register in advance, it seems certain that many people will have to stand in line for a wearying period. The Stevens is a large hotel, with ample corridors, but when many hundreds of people want the same thing at the same time it presents a real problem. By all means take the trouble to send check for \$3.50 for your registration fee to Headquarters in ample time.

Remember that the Headquarters offices will be entirely closed during the Congress and for two days previous to it, because the records have to be removed from Wheaton to the Hotel Stevens. Therefore business which relates to the Congress must be in the mails early enough to arrive at Wheaton not later than Thursday, Aug. 22. Send your registration fee early and thus arrange it so that when you arrive at the Stevens your envelope with everything in it will be ready for you.

Why Meet Them?

Attention has been called to the unique opportunity which the World Congress offers our membership, to meet practically all the outstanding world-leaders in Theosophy.

"Leaders!" A term that has suffered much in these days of going-it-aloneness. Shall we run to extremes in our "freedom"? If so, we may yet come to the point where we shall have to individually grind our own flour, cobble our own shoes, repair our own watches and fill our own teeth.

If instead we propose to maintain a sane balance, we shall continue to recognize the need for specialists. We use road maps, and when we wish to understand a legal problem, we consult an attorney. An architect, a gardener, a painter, an interior-decorator and similar professionals are very useful—not because we are incapable of thinking and deciding what we want, but because these specialists can speed up our knowledge on a given subject.

The day of paying the preacher to feed us upon pre-digested religion has passed. But the service which a master of religions, of philosophy, of occultism, can render to those who seek understanding is still an important matter.

Of course the time will come when we have mastered life, and can dispense with teachers, as a student does when he graduates and becomes one with the adult life of the world. But just now the millions incarnated here *do* require instruction—answers to their "foolish" questions. The fourth grade school boy cannot attain graduation this evening.

So when we say "leaders" we do not mean some exalted person dragging us along at the end of a rope. It is a term of appreciative respect for one who has preceded us on the Path, and now kindly turns to offer us some light upon what we shall have to do for ourselves. The light is welcome—just as it is so gladly given, thus making the transaction free, fair and ethical. It carries only the happy responsibility of passing on that light to any seeker who may have need of it, to help him see *his* way.

A World Congress is the focal point for a vast concentration of such light. Since it is an occasion which commands the attention and the presence of practically all the devoted specialists in theosophical study, it presents a most unusual advantage for those of us who are learning at lower levels of knowledge.

Here we meet, say, Mr. Jinarajadasa, Mr. Warrington, Dr. Besant, Geoffrey Hodson, Dr. Arundale, Miss Dykgraaf, and literally dozens of other authors, speakers and *thinkers*.

We are *thinkers* too; and we aspire to think more—to think more clearly, more effectually. For that reason we like to meet great thinkers. Not to imitate, but to know them, and learn more of what they have learned. In this sense the World Congress takes precedence over all other possible events in our lives at this time.—R. W. H.

The Congress in Print

Considerable public interest has been aroused in the Theosophical World Congress. Early in July the Associated Press, the world's largest news-gathering organization, carried a telegraphic news story of 300 words to its representative newspapers, which includes practically all dailies of the large cities. The feature department of the "Associated" will soon release special sketches on the lives and accomplishments of all the distinguished visitors and lecturers who are to appear as stellar attractions on the Congress platform. These stories are to be accompanied by illustrations, and will necessarily make mention of many phases of theosophical philosophy.

Railway Certificates

If you make the journey to Chicago by rail, you should ask, when you purchase your ticket, for a certificate of purchase. Do that even though you do not intend to return by rail. When you arrive in Chicago and have finished at the registration desk, go to the transportation desk and deposit the certificate. It is the possession of that certificate which will enable you to buy a return trip ticket at one-half the regular price. Without the certificate you will be unable to do that. It must give your name and show the date on which it is purchased. Such certificates will be issued from Aug. 21 to 27, inclusive, and the latest date on which return ticket may be purchased will be Sept. 11. In case you should not be intending to make the return trip by rail, the certificate will be of help, in that it requires a certain number to be deposited in Chicago, and it costs you nothing but a moment's time to ask for it.

Reaching the Hotel

Even with our national conventions, it has been found impracticable to have members meet delegates arriving by train. The number of trains entering Chicago daily is more than one hundred over a single railroad, and there are many stations with several railways each. Particularly at the World Congress, meeting arriving delegates would be an impossibility. When you arrive, take a taxi and simply say, "To the Stevens Hotel." Taxicab fares in Chicago are low, and five persons can ride for one fare without extra charge.

Arriving at the hotel and located in your room, go directly to the registration booth and, if you have been thoughtful enough to register by mail in advance, you will find awaiting you at the registration booth an envelope containing your badge, your program, your banquet ticket, if you have reserved it, and such printed information as you may need for your complete guidance during the Congress. If you are not staying at the Stevens, of course go to your hotel first and come soon afterward to the registration desk at the Stevens.

Interpreters and Stenographers

There have been a number of volunteers for doing the work of both stenographers and interpreters, for which the management of the World Congress is grateful. However, on this special occasion we need more than we now have to make things run smoothly and not overwork those who have kindly volunteered. Please write the Secretary-Treasurer at Wheaton immediately, if you have not yet volunteered and are willing to do either kind of such work, and say also what amount of time you wish to give. If we have many volunteers, it will not be too tiring for any of them.

Banquet Reservations

All members who are sending checks for banquet tickets, in addition to their Congress registration fee, are being assigned to reserved tables on the diagram of the banquet room. Those received first are being assigned to tables nearest to the speakers' stand. If you have any difficulty at all in hearing well, or if for any reason you wish to be near the speakers' table, you can make sure of it by promptly sending in your check for \$3. Members of your family or friends who are not members of the Society can purchase these tickets on the same terms as others. Tables seat eight and parties can be made up as you desire them; either single seats or part of a table or an entire table or several tables can thus be reserved.

We shall rigidly follow the rule of assigning seats as the reservations come in and working backward from the speakers' table.

Bring Your Children

Arrangements have been made to take care of children between the ages of five and twelve who come with their parents to the Congress. A competent woman will be placed in charge of the playroom and the children can be left in her care from nine in the morning until five-thirty in the afternoon, without charge. If there are those who wish to leave the children at still later hours, that can be arranged by a very small fee. Should there be younger children, the hotel can arrange to have a nurse in attendance to take care of them.

To Remind You

Things to bring: Your 1929-1930 membership card and your railway certificate that will give you half fare returning home.

Banquet ticket: Price \$3. The speakers include, of course, Dr. Besant.

Registration fee, \$3.50 for members over eighteen years of age, and \$2.50 for those under that age. That pays your share of all incidentals such as badges, decorations, music, wages of nurses and other non-member assistants, advertising the Congress, etc.

A Post-Congress Plan

By Which the Theosophical Society May Render Much Service and Reap the Sinews
For Rendering More

By RAY W. HARDEN

Chief Knight for America, Order of the Round Table

ENCOURAGING responses have come in from several parts of the country, relative to the new plan announced by Mr. Rogers in the July MESSENGER, to raise funds for theosophical work by means of a national sale, participated in by our entire membership.

The purpose at this time is to call the attention of those interested in the plan, in order that counsel may be taken, and helpful ideas advanced while the various groups are naturally assembled at the World Congress. It should be remembered, however, that no action in the matter is to start until after the close of the Summer School at Wheaton, which follows the Congress sessions.

Furthermore, it is understood that this is a cooperative enterprise in which the Order of the Round Table will handle the management of actual selling. The Round Table has for many years past enjoyed the hospitality of Theosophical Society Lodge rooms and buildings for their meetings throughout the country, and in appreciation of this courtesy, the Round Table membership feels greatly pleased with the prospect of rendering another really important service.

Incidentally, of course, the Round Table treasury must share in the proceeds of the sale; truly not at the behest of the young knights, who serve freely at all times, but rather because our national officers realize the value of making possible more extensive operation of the character-building program

of that organization among young people—assisting boys and girls who require only normal opportunities, to make the most and the best of their lives.

Round Table units have tried these sales with success in a small way, and with this training are fitted for the work which they now offer in a larger field. This is the particular reason for the introduction of Master Franklin Lacey at Headquarters. Franklin, it is recalled, was made Squire to the Chief Knight last year for distinguished service to the Order. Aside from his ability as first lieutenant to "Gardener Rogers," and office messenger at Wheaton, Franklin has had definite experience with local Round Table sales plans in California; is an accomplished salesman and organizer of youthful sales forces.

Considering other and varied facilities favorable to the success of this enterprise, it is evident that if the Theosophical Society membership will get behind the idea with a wholesale supply of stock-in-trade, garnered from all corners of their own homes—sending in superfluous articles of every description, a very considerable fund can be realized for the immediate promotion of theosophical activities in America.

In addition to all this, the sales plan will constitute in itself a most beneficent service to needy persons and families who will find in it an opportunity to obtain articles of beauty and serviceableness to them, at nominal prices.

Automobile Parking at Congress

Negotiations are in progress with garage managers in Chicago to take care of automobile storage and repairs for our members who drive into the city for the Congress, in order that reasonable prices may be assured.

Quotations thus far obtained for storage is 75c and \$1.00 per night (24 hours) and \$4.50 and \$5.00 per week. More complete details and figures will be on file at the information booth for those who desire them.

For temporary parking on arrival, there is an open air parking station directly back of The Stevens, where the charge is 50c per day. Also free parking of cars in Grant Park, just east of the Illinois Central Station, which is not far from the hotel.

Attention, Chicago Members!

If you can offer hospitality to paying guests during the World Congress, please advise Headquarters, with full details as to terms,

etc. Some delegates may prefer the less expensive rooms in private houses.

World Congress Hotel Rates, Hotel Stevens

Room with double bed and bath for one person, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00 and \$8.00 per day.

Room with double bed and bath for two persons, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00 and \$10.00 per day.

Room with two single beds and bath, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00, \$10.00 and \$15.00 per day.

Parlors connected with bedrooms, \$8.00, \$9.00 and \$10.00 per day.

By special arrangement the Stevens Hotel has set aside a large block of rooms at \$3.50 and \$4.00 per day for one person, and at \$5.00 and \$6.00 per day for two persons, thus guaranteeing in advance to all applicants a reservation at a rate which each individual is willing to pay.

Single rooms can be had at \$2.50 per day at the La Salle Hotel, which is under the same management as The Stevens.

Wood Defends India

A very large volume is Professor Ernest Wood's *An Englishman Defends Mother India*. In its 458 pages of twenty-five chapters and fifty-one illustrations, we have the one complete reply to Katherine Mayo and her *Mother India*. The author does not ignore any of the issues involved. He deals with the family, marriage, motherhood, child-birth, religion, indecency and vice, character and manners, cruelty, outcasts and princes, villages, industry, taxation, reforms, etc. In the illustrations taken from life, we have street scenes and buildings, Hindu brides bejeweled for the occasion, high caste and low caste Hindus, Mohammedan girls, elephants at work, a home for old cattle, village roads and scenes, water-side marketing, Indian builders, village industry, and an interesting collection of portraits of prominent Indian men and women. If printed in the United States the price of the book would be at least \$5, but coming from India the price is but \$3. A consignment from the Indian publishers has just arrived at Wheaton.

Mr. Knudsen Returns

Mr. A. F. Knudsen, while en route from Adyar to England, stopped in Yugoslavia, Poland and Czecho-Slovakia, to visit the "baby sections," as he puts it. For a number of years he had given his services to that part of Europe.

In writing of his return to the United States Mr. Knudsen mentions the fact that some European members were speaking of the heavy expense of attending the World Congress, and he makes the very pertinent suggestion that one can now travel "tourist third class" quite comfortably. He says the round-trip is only £38 and he intends to come on from London with such a ticket.

Theosophical Contest Decision

Mr. William H. Wallace of Cleveland, Ohio, who offered prizes for the best answers to seven questions, has decided that the first contest was won by Mrs. Isa Scott of New Westminster, B. C., whose score was forty-four in a possible forty-nine, and that the second was won by Mr. C. E. Richardson of Chicago, whose score was forty-nine, or 100%. Details and the questions and answers by the winners will be published in the September number of the MESSENGER.

Book Reviews

An Englishman Defends Mother India, by Prof. Ernest Wood. Published by Ganesh & Co., Madras, India. Price, cloth, \$3.00 through The Theosophical Press, Wheaton, Ill.

Here is a book that ought to be in every public library, alongside of Katherine Mayo's diatribe *Mother India*, and the idea at once occurs—why could not each Lodge buy two of Prof. Wood's books, one for its own shelves and the second for the largest local public library?

Prof. Wood's book ought to clear away any misunderstanding of India, as the result of the Mayo screed. It is more than a complete reply to *Mother India*. It not only refutes the many false charges but it gives an all-around picture of the real nation and its people, based on Prof. Wood's thirteen years residence in the country.

A world traveler who has studied conditions in thirty nations, Prof. Wood writes as an Englishman who has the honor and welfare of Britain at heart. His clear style makes him always interesting, and there will be none to deny that he is well qualified to write of India after three visits there, during which he spent some time in all parts of the country, mingling with the high and the low in no less than one hundred and fifty towns and villages.

Prof. Wood's book is more thorough and covers a wider range of Indian knowledge than the recent work of D. G. Mukerji, whose *A Son of Mother India Answers* was among the early replies to the Mayo book. He gives ample proof that Miss Mayo had been badly inspired, and where he does not completely refute her charges he shows that they have been greatly exaggerated in a frenzied zeal to write scurrilously of a much misunderstood people without proper study and reflection.

Fully illustrated with original pictures of exceptional interest—village scenes, street scenes, brides and mothers, maiden water carriers, temples of worship, beautiful homes—this book of 458 pages is classified into twenty five chapters, each dealing with an important phase of Indian life—the family, motherhood, outcasts, sanitation, etc., every one of which is interesting because of its dispassionate and scholarly treatment.—John Nimick.

Sleep and Dreams, by Max Wardall. Published by the Theosophical Order of Service. Price, paper, \$0.25, through the Theosophical Press, Wheaton, Ill.

The four primary purposes of sleep are to rest and restore the physical body; to give drainage relief and ventilation to submerged emotions, ungratified desires and painful complexes through dreams; to give the mind a chance to coordinate the day's impressions and instruct the sleeper; and release the individual for activities in other realms of manifestation.—A. P. Munn.

The Outlawry of War, by Charles C. Morrison, with an "Afterword" by John Dewey. Published by Willett, Clark & Colby, Chicago. Price, cloth, \$3.00, through the Theosophical Press, Wheaton, Ill.

Every intelligent American who wants to know the whys and wherefores of our failure to enter the League of Nations or the World Court will find herein the most valuable analysis of American pre-war, war, and post-war psychology that has yet been offered to the public. This is a book which threshes the war question from every angle. It is brilliant, forceful, clear, and the product of a scientific mind.—Albert de Pina.

Funds

PUBLICITY

June 15, 1929, to July 15, 1929

Donations to this fund are used in supplying inquirers with brief, attractive statements of the truth of Theosophy.

Arthur R. Hosegood.....	\$ 1.00
El Paso Lodge.....	2.00
Mrs. Amanda Rinchlew.....	2.00
Pittsburg Lodge.....	.34
Mrs. W. S. Barry.....	2.00
Harmony Lodge, Toledo.....	5.00
Mrs. A. M. Cox.....	1.00
Washington Lodge.....	2.00
Inglewood Lodge.....	1.50
Glendive Lodge.....	2.50
	\$ 19.34

NEW TERRITORY AND ADVERTISING

June 15, 1929, to July 15, 1929

This fund is used in opening new territories to theosophical work. It needs your support.

C. E. Alden.....	\$ 5.00
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RADIO FUND

June 15, 1929, to July 15, 1929

Stockton Lodge.....	\$ 5.00
Mrs. Augusta Rose Flower.....	6.00
	\$ 11.00

HELPING HAND FUND

June 15, 1929, to July 15, 1929

Mr. H. D. Olsen.....	\$ 2.00
Oak Park Lodge.....	6.00
Lansing Lodge.....	10.00
	\$ 18.00

TREE FUND

June 15, 1929, to July 15, 1929

Donations to this fund are used for purchasing trees to beautify Headquarters grounds.

Fred Menzenwerth—For Rose Arbor.....	\$ 6.00
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BUILDING AND ACTIVITIES FUND

June 15, 1929, to July 15, 1929

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Fresno Lodge.....	10.00
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E. Maud Holt.....	10.00
Mr. John Roine.....	20.00
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Mrs. Orian S. Sterne.....	25.00
Jean Gabriel Warren.....	5.00
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Sybilla S. Muntz.....	10.00
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Mrs. Maud Randolph.....	5.00
Mrs. William H. Thomson.....	5.00
Fred H. Menzenwerth.....	25.00
Mr. A. Robson.....	6.00
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Mrs. E. Kennedy.....	5.00
Miss Minnie Hamilton.....	6.00
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Mrs. Henrietta Posner.....	5.00
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Dr. George H. Shubert.....	10.00
Seattle Lodge of Inner Light.....	2.50
Miss Gertrude Silberman.....	35.00
	\$740.75

MARRIAGES

Mrs. Zena Huff (Detroit Lodge) and Mr. Potter.
Mrs. Ellen Ballard (El Paso Lodge) and Mr. Fine.
Mrs. Jesse D. Coyl and Mr. Donald R. Hilbourn (both National members, now of San Francisco).

DEATHS

Oliver Mullins (Herakles Lodge), March, 1929.
H. C. Crutchley (Palo Alto Lodge), June 13.
Mrs. Harriet E. Shaw (Boston Lodge) and Mr. Fine.
Mr. Andrew Brocker (Savannah Lodge), May, 1929.
Miss Alice R. Caloway (Richmond Lodge).
Dr. Helen T. Cleaves, Pacific Grove, Calif., Feb. 27.
Miss Laura Duval Steele, San Antonio, Tex., July 6.

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