The True Light

Volume 1, Number 1

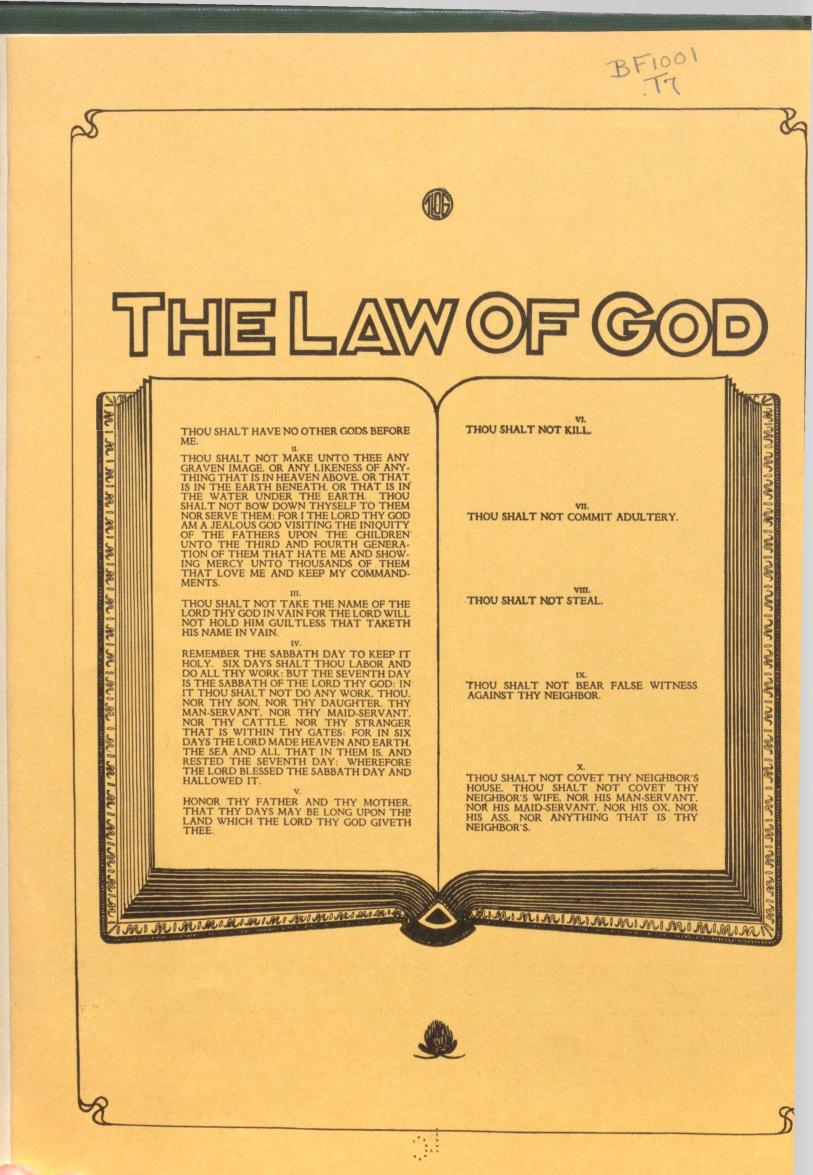
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THE LAW OF GOD A CROWN OF LIFE A DUTY **CONCENTRATION TESTIMONIALS** SPIRITUAL GIFTS **OBSERVATIONS** QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS **EDITORIALS** THE LANGUAGE OF SPIRIT MUSIC THE FLOWERS **SPIRITUGRAMS MY AUTOMOBILE** THE CRY OF THE PARENT **IN MEMORIAM**

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The True Light

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

A CROWN OF LIFE

Brought forth by Rev. M. E. Claas



EACE be unto you, and so I would call to one and to all that where there is Peace, there am I also in the midst of them. And, too, I would call, that those that overcome, to them shall be given a crown of life.

"What is a crown of life?" many may ask. It is a crown that cannot be taken away; it is a crown that is not as an earth crown to uplift one in this material plane, or to bring one on a higher standing in this journey here, no; it is a crown of life, and that crown of life no one can take from you.

I bring this especially, for I see how many are drawing downward and downward. I see how the temptations are drawing near. I see how many are going to be led in conflict, and I see, too, how many will stumble in their own footsteps. To these I would call, be on guard and watch and be not led into those temptations that are being brought before you. These temptations, if you yield to them, will draw you down to the very bottomless pit.

Take hold of what is right, take hold of that which will build up your spiritual self as well as your material self. Then you will find how all things will come well with you and yours. On the other hand, to those that yield to these temptations, to them I call again, it will be a sad, sorrowing day when you awaken to the fact that you still exist, and yet, what have you done? You have left undone the main things on your earthly travel here, and you have neglected the very best self, the Spirit part, the God part, that had been implanted within each one.

I call to you to be watchful and wait patiently, for those things that upset you here in this plane are not of a lasting nature, they must pass hence and then in the end you will find yourself uplifted. Reach and call to the Father. The Father is ready to hear. He is ready to receive even the blackest sheep.

And yet, yet I say those that think they can travel on in their lustful ways, beware, for the hour is nigh when you will think sadly over what had passed. I call to those that are here in our midst, I call even to those that understand not the ways of them that have gone before, that understand not the ways of that Supreme Force, God. All have been sent forth free and independent, and therefore each one in freedom must return. They must come back to that God, to that Father, yes, and meet there face to face. Then you will be known as you really are, and then you can reach forth and say, "Here I am, Father, I have done my utmost while traveling in the plane, I have tried to do that which was your will, I have tried to do that which I thought was well."

And yet, yet many will stand and will call to those high mountains, "Cover me, for I cannot bear to see this shininess of the light that comes forth, for it seems to blind me; rather that those high rocks and mountains fall over me and cover me." And yet I say, even though the rocks and mountains would fall, yet that all shining light of God would pierce through, for you cannot even go to the uttermost parts of the seas, for even there that shining light would follow you. And even if you went to the very deepest parts of the seas, even there it would follow you. Therefore there is no escape. Again I call and say, be on your watch and be at peace with one another. Help one another and do that which God hath commanded each to do. You will then find the open arms of the Father are there and you will feel and you will experience the very presence of the Father while walking this earthly plane. More yet, your wants, your needs, your every day things, they will all be there for you and you will be well satisfied, even if at times you think it is impossible to go on in this way, but that all strong arm of God is there to hold you up and keep you from fainting.

I call again, Peace be with you, and as I leave this Peace with you, so leave the Peace with one another, and be in Brotherhood with one another.

As I came here at this time, and as I drew from the very high point and looked about I saw how many were standing in your midst, and how many in sadness and sorrow, and many in happiness and contentment. Then I saw that many a doorway was opened and many a one had been led on the upper pathway.

You may think that by following the Law of God and by abiding by the same that it will hold you from your everyday goings, from your pleasures, from those things which seem to make you happy even if but for a time. And yet you think if I follow that Law, I must forsake all. I say everything in this material plane is given for God's children and all can be partaken of, but in a regular, righteous, truthful manner, not in a disgraceful manner. No, in an uplifting manner, to encourage the spirit and to build up that fleshy condition that arises ofttimes as clouds of smoke before us.

And this I bring you today, Love one another. When you have followed these points you can be assured that the crown of life awaits you, and awaits you in happiness and in gladness. Therefore be as little children, for are you not all children of that one Force, God. Call to that Father and let that Father embrace you, and let that Father uplift you and give you strength to overcome those things that tangle themselves in your very path, for I see how many have become slaves of their own riches, many have become slaves of their own children, many have become slaves of those about them and many have become slaves of those pleasures that route in and draw you down to the darkest corners.

This I call, reach out in a righteous pathway and in a truthful way. Follow on the pathway that will reach that high light, and then your crown of life has been won. You shall receive it then from the heavens of the Father, for well will be said then of you, "You have done well, enter now into thy kingdom." What kingdom is it? It is the kingdom that awaits us the beautiful Zion, that heaven, as many call it, where there will be one grand family surrounded with one father at the head. Those things are well worth reaching to. Reach to them then and be at peace, for where peace is there will I make my abode.

And this I bring to you that each might win that crown of life and live for evermore. AMEN.

JESUS OF NAZARETH

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THE TRUE LIGHT

July, 1927

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

A DUTY

Brought forth by Rev. M. E. Claas



ND so I again draw nigh this material plane and again I come to you in brotherly love, and it is that each one should reach in that manner, each one should find that it is their duty to be in brotherhood with one another. It makes no difference whether one is white or black, it makes no difference whether one has a cloak of rags or not, it makes

no difference, for is it not the selfsame Spirit within each body? Is not the same atom, that small portion, that was sent forth from the Creator, is it not within each one?

I again bring it that humanity awaken out of their deep sleep and understand that it is worth while to follow on an upward, righteous, truthful, brotherly pathway. I bring it as was brought so oft when the Elder Brother was still here amongst men, how He brought to the disciples in that time what they should do, what they have to do, and what they are responsible for.

Each one is responsible for their own cloak or body, as you call it, that they carry with them, and I say protect it well. It is worth while when we travel here that our cloak, our body is well protected, for the Spirit takes care of itself if we are righteous, truthful and in brotherly love. It takes well care of itself and ofttimes prompts the body not to go into those low down parts that will cause it to fall from its standard, but it should hold fast to that which was brought to it.

It is the Life, the Spirit, not the body that has to make account, for the Life, the Spirit, the very thoughts, you carry with you when you leave that house of clay. You take that with you whether it has been right or wrong. You yourself implant it upon your memory and you cannot erase it again, therefore, I say, reach in a righteous manner, reach out to that which will bring upliftment to you that you might look back and say, I am glad that I have traveled in the Elder Brother's footsteps, that I have tried to do as near right as I could, that I tried to walk in such a close touch with that God whom I worship, and I am happy that I can look back and see what my journey here had been.

And so I would again point out the Law of God to each one. I would say it is never old and one is never too old to reach forth to do what is right, and one is never too young to follow on a righteous pathway. I would draw first the line on the Law of God, on the commands that had been given. By this we should abide, and if we abide by the Law of God, we will find our journey here will be well. It will be well blessed even if hardships or disappointments cross our path. We will find that ever loving Father will send forth those that will bring upliftment, that will bring righteousness to our door again.

I see how many weep and lament, and why. Because one is not trustworthy of the other. I again see where many, many will take with them those conditions that they had gathered up here in this material plane. So then we will go to that law of God, and if you but look over it, you will find how it will benefit you, how it will help uplift you, how it will bring you thoughts of happiness to your surroundings, and you might help many in their distressed manner.

So then, we look over what God the Father commanded the humanity, the offspring of that Father, for is not the very stem within each one, that small kernel from the Father? Is it not brought forth in the manner which God had brought it forth and said, we will create man in His own image? And what was that image. It was the Spiritual form of God and

He looked upon all things and they were well done, and so this image was implanted within each one. That part God must again take hold and return to the Sender as it had been sent forth

I would like to bring to each one and have each one understand the right point of what the Law of God really means. Thou shalt have no other gods before me-so sayeth the Father above. We should make no other gods, no matter what they may be, whether they be material gods, children, wives, fathers, mothers-we should not make gods of anything, anything in the earth, underneath the earth or beneath the depths of the seas. We should not bow down or worship these, for God is that God that requires only the calling and the worshipping to Him. The material clay is made here in this material world, and therefore it has no account, for it again returns to mother earth from whence it was taken, so it is that the so-called death approaches and takes away the clay and then disembodies the Spirit

The Spirit goes on, for that life must again go on its journey. It must make right its shortcomings. It must call in those deeds that it had left undone, and must again come back to the Father as it had been sent forth.

Then we go and we see how often humanity take the name of God in vain. Does not God say we should not take His name in vain for He shall not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain? So often do humanity bring His name in vain, therefore, I bring it to you again, call to God in Spirit and in truth, and not in your everyday way of doings, for remember, it is a command and law of God. By that Law we should abide if we want to reach to that which is higher and better and nobler. Then we should be cautious and not take God's name in vain.

It goes on about keeping the sabbath holy, and what is a sabbath? We can make any day our sabbath, so long as we keep it in reverence for the Father. I call, think not that it must be a certain day. It does not have to be a Sunday, Monday, or Saturday or Wednesday, no, it can be any day, but it must be kept then as a sabbath. A sabbath, it means to hold those things, to talk, to bring forth, to have in communion that Father that had sent us first forth. That we should remember and follow, and then we would find how conditions would come different in our surroundings.

Then we should not kill, and we should not bear false witness against our fellow men-we should love our neighbor as ourself. We should not covet, for know you not that those that covet are held responsible before that Father, for is it not the Law of God that sayeth we should not covet, and so throughout the whole Law of God? And it says, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." And how many are committing adultery, if not in deed, then in thought. God commands it that if one takes a mate, then they should hold to that mate and not look forth and go looking where other conditions might bring us down to the very depths of destruction, for he that committeth adultery, he shall in no wise enter the Kingdom of God, and remember it, my dear brothers and sisters.

Look over the Law of God. You understand it. Make it plain for yourself and then when you have looked it over, then cleanse out those conditions. Ofttimes one will hear, "We were ignorant of the fact, we did not understand what we were doing." It is time, brother, sister, it is time to turn from that way, it is time to reach out to something that is better.

Make right your shortcomings here, make it right before

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the very eye of God, and cleanse yourself and cleanse the condition, and then you will find how that God whom you worship will send forth those conditions that bring forth contentment and happiness in your whereabouts. For it is then that the Father seeth that the very child wants to again return to the fold, and wants to be cleansed, and wants to reach out in the right manner.

Those are the things and I see throughout this material plane many things approaching. Many will go down to the very depths and many will rise, and so be with those that rise to a higher point. Not only when you have left your earthly body behind, no, right here while you travel this plane, that your journey might be a happy one, a successful one, that you can look back at, one that your brothers and sisters might say, "It was well that he or she journeyed here in body, for it was worth while to have such a spirit amongst us.

Be kind to one another, uplift one another, those that are down and less fortunate than yourself. Uplift them and give them a helping hand, for the Elder Brother sayeth so often, he that helpeth one that stumbleth, they will find how they will send forth praises to God and they will build up a foundation. They will build up a condition that will rise to the very highest heavens and they will find their happiness there.

Your time is a success. Everything is right, but forget not the Father who sent forth the small atom. Starve not the Spirit, nourish it and let it reach out to that which is higher and brighter. It will bring you Peace while you journey here, and so I leave it with you and say, follow on God's pathway. APPOLIES OF TREON AMEN.

THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD

THE mystic woods of summer when the trees stand stanch and still, And you enter nature's temple by the pathway up the hill, It is silent, with a silence that clings softly 'neath the trees— And perhaps you hear an echo of some muted buzz of bees.

You are swept into the maelstrom of the most intense desire, Long fearing, hoping, praying as your thoughts are lifted higher; You are just a little atom and you're searching for the light, With some million other atoms striving upward with their might.

Tenderly fair nature beckons, and her voice is crystal clear, To the consciousness within us, to the inward listening ear. God is all around and with us; can't you feel the urge of love As it nestles with the birdlets in the trees or sky above?

All is thrilling, pulsing life beats, and in harmony of tune, From the glow of sparkling sunlight to the sheen of silver moon. And the force behind the impulse of the love toward all today Is the God reflected by us, pointing out the higher way.

By FRANCES G. S. HOWE.

CONCENTRATION

By a Member of the Staff



ONCENTRATION is nothing more than the capability to think, either with the eyes open or closed, upon one certain thing to the exclusion of every other thing.

In this busy work-a-day world, do we, frankly, concentrate? Do we think our ways through life, or are we just drifting along? Are we successful in business? If so, we have concentrated and have given the proper amount of thought to our means of livelihood.

The person who does not concentrate is never reliable. He either does not attempt to do the things that he should, or he actually does many things which he should have left undone. He neither loves, nor hates, intensely. He is luke-warm about everything. You may say he is a happy-go-lucky type who gets a good deal out of life. I say, "No," he is missing everything, the power to develop his God-given powers.

Brother, sister, think for yourselves. Develop your own individuality. Lean on no one else for support. Why should you? Are you not part of that Supreme Force, God? Do you need any greater power within yourselves than what is there now, undeveloped?

Learn to think. Learn to think righteously. You will then be able to know what constitutes fleeting pleasures of the moment and what constitutes happiness, a state of the mind.

Concentrate. Be able to place the proper value on everything. Know for yourselves that worldly possessions are but tinsel and dross compared to the spiritual possessions. Reach out to the better side. Is there any better way than to concentrate on the Laws of God, the Ten Commandments? Perhaps some of us have almost forgotten them. If so, start at once to read these commandments daily. The Law is for all humanity, black or white, Christian or Jew, young or old, in all climates and climes. This Law has never been changed. It is universal. Anything that is universal in its application is therefore truth.

Live this law, but first understand it. You can only understand it by concentrating upon it, prayerfully. If you do this, the petty differences between you and your neighbor will disappear. You will love all humanity as the Supreme Force, God, loves all of His children.

Don't say it cannot be done, that the world would not understand you or your motives. Try it, brother and sister. You will find a ready response from those who, like yourself, are reaching out. Above all, concentrate, concentrate.

God bless you.

T. R. W.

GEO. BEAVERSON

B. M. LAWRENCE

THOU source of Life, O hear my prayer, For guidance through each day; May thy pure guiding angels keep My feet in wisdom's way.

Thou source of Light, O hear my prayer, Send sunshine to my soul; Be thou my guide on life's dark sea When billows 'round me roll.

Let me not live in vain; Teach me to place more trust in thee, Make all my duties plain. Thou source of Truth, O hear my prayer,

Thou source of Love, O hear my prayer,

That all mankind my know Our loved ones can return to earth And bring sweet heaven below.

CHORUS

THE PILGRIM'S DAILY PRAYER

Hear my prayer, O hear my prayer, Guard and keep me in thy care; Loving Father, hear my prayer; Hear, O hear my heartfelt prayer. From "CELESTIAL SONNETS

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TESTIMONIALS

CHATHAM, PENNA.—My first experience with spiritual communication was in February, 1888, when, at the invitation of a friend, I visited a meeting place, and during the service I was told my brother-in-law would pass out on the 29th day of October. Although I spoke to my wife of the forewarning, I sort of let the matter be forgotten. However, on the day and month mentioned, which was about eight months later, that which was foreseen actually became manifest. This phenomenon has amazed me ever since.—MR. S. H. P.

BROOKLYN, N. Y .- On several occasions I tested inspirations received. The first was when inspired to go to upper part of my home and look around, but on arriving at the first floor found nothing unusual. Was still impressed to look further, and, on doing so, discovered that the ladder leading to the roof had been removed by a disagreeable party in the house and replaced in such a manner that, should I ascend it, the result would be disastrous. By obeying the in-spirations nothing harmful happened. Another occasion was while having some business to attend in New York had boarded a subway train. Half way to my destination I was inspired to leave the express and board the local. I remained seated, and, to my sorrow, for after the train left the station a short distance it was held there for an hour and a half before reaching the next station. Then was again inspired not to board the local, but to go aloft and walk. I did so, arrived at my destination, transacted my affairs, and returned to the subway to find conditions as when I had left. Still another-on boarding a crowded elevated train, I followed the inspiration as to what part of the car to stand, and, soon after getting on, obtained a seat. My loved ones direct me and I heed their inspirations. These which I have mentioned are some of many. You, my friends, can do likewise if you will acknowledge your loved ones and let them help. It is a delightful sensation when you have received an inspiration and carried it out, then look back and see what could have happened had you not followed what was given. Then allow your thoughts to travel and give thanks. -MR. W. D. G.

JAMAICA, N. Y.-Confidence is a part of every one of us. It is more or less an instinct instilled within our body by the Creator for our own benefit, but how many of us endeavor to advance this instinct. We know it is within us, but we take it as a matter of course, the majority not bothering to reap the benefits from its stupendous power. Confidence is the antecedent to whatever great desire or thing we wish to accomplish, but this particular case deals with health, more or less, and serves to corroborate my statement of confidence. Permit me to cite my own particular case, although I admit it is neither stupendous or miraculous in its result, but it does give the possibilities of a true confidence.

I fell from the front porch steps, from which I received a serious strain and abrasion of the arm. We all realize that a complete recovery from this sort of an accident, especially with a person of my age, would take a long time. Curious to say, when I realized the extent of my injury, which was far from being reassuring, I must say, I experienced absolutely no anxiety or fear as to my recovery. My confidence in the Higher Forces, my knowledge of their goodnesses, love and care for those who trust in them put my mind immediately and completely at rest, for I knew in my heart they would work for my recovery and a minimum of pain.

And how true it all turned out to be. My confidence in God and His goodness brought about my remarkable recovery entirely within two weeks, with a minimum of pain. Again, I say, for a person of my age, I consider this remarkable.

Confidence is the oldest and greatest healer in the world. How many times do we hear this. Testimonials to this effect are never wanted, and I am grateful for the wonderful help given me. I couldn't resist adding my testimonial of confidence to the now long list, every one indicative of the graciousness, love and guidance of the Supreme Force and our departed loved ones.—MRS. A. S.

OF DEEPEST WORTH

THESE are the things I prize And hold of deepest worth: Light of the sapphire skies, Peace of the silent hills, Shelter of forest, comfort of the grass, Shadow of clouds that swiftly pass, And after showers The smell of flowers,

And of the good brown earth— And best of all, along the way, Friendship and mirth.

HENRY VAN DYKE.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Dr. Louis C. Lindemann

IN the First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians we read, "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant," 12:1, and in verses 8-11 we read further, "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

In John 14:12 the Nazarene is recorded as saying, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto the Father." To go back to the First Book of Moses, called Genesis, we can read that what God created was good, and to take from the twentyseventh verse, we read, "So God created man in His own image (Spirit), in the image of God created he him."

These indeed are great points we must not overlook if we would understand the meaning of these spiritual gifts. All we need is full confidence in that Father, to know we are a part of Him who sent us forth, to ask Him for help in a real childlike way, Spirit to Spirit.

We should abide by His commands and live our life on this earth plane as near as shown us by our Elder Brother, that man of Nazareth. Then we will have overcome sickness, pain and distress. We will send out only thoughts of love, will be in brotherhood one with another, and help one another. In this way do we become worthy of these spiritual gifts.

To understand them is one matter. To do right by that understanding is much more important. They have been forthcoming during every age of man, and still come in different ways, and "greater works will be done." With all let us not fail to give thanks to that Supreme Spirit, God.

For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speak in you. MATTHEW 10:20.

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. JAMES 2:26.

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PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

OBSERVATIONS

By a Member of the Staff

Smoking by Women

A^S we go into the public places, such as restaurants, hotels, dance halls and theatres, it is noticeable that too many women are seen brazenly puffing cigarettes. Three-quarters of them are girls under twenty-five. These same girls are still at it while in the taxi or in the privately owned automobile. We surmise that their actions are the same whether they be at business or in the home.

All of which leads us to ask, what good reason have they for this display of vulgarism? Surely not because it improves their morals, their health or beauty conditions, neither to calm their spirit.

This tendency to smoking by women is becoming too strong. It should be objected to rather than encouraged. Gambling, drinking and social carelessness had moderate beginnings, and so it is with smoking. All have reached alarming proportions, and their excesses are destructive to noble womanhood.

The future generations are likely to suffer the iniquities, and there are now too many other harmful conditions to body and spirit that must be overcome before we add more obstacles, such as is smoking by women.

Appreciating the Weather

A SEEMINGLY happy family were sitting in a closed car driving along to their destination, when suddenly it began to rain. It was the drizzling kind. It became difficult clearly to see through the windshield, and it was necessary to drive cautiously. Pools began to form on the sidewalks and in the streets. However, inside the car it was dry.

And so they rolled along. Soon a child occupant of the car remarked that it was a "nasty day" and the silence of the other child occupant signified approval. Not so with the mother, though.

"Every kind of a day is a good day; there is a good purpose in this day of rain," suggested that mother. We venture to say those two small children will soon come

We venture to say those two small children will soon come to understand that the days of rain and of snow and of sunshine are each one of them days of blessings. They can all be viewed as days of happiness rather than as nasty days.

Let us come to know the joys of living each day in brightness. Young and old alike can share the very same blessings every day, no matter what the season of the year.

The American Indian

IN a recent conversation with a man who lived among the American Indians nearly all of his earthly journey and who still loves them, he said that the white man does not appreciate how much good can be obtained from our copper-colored brothers and sisters. Accordingly we pass on to our readers just a few of the many good points he mentioned. We anticipate an especial article from our informant in the not distant future.

The American Indian worships only the Great Spirit and is always mindful of the blessings that Spirit gives. That the original League of the Iroquois, or Five Nations, gave to Presirent Woodrow Wilson the foundation and substance for the League of Nations which he sponsored. Before the Indian would destroy the limb of a tree or even

Before the Indian would destroy the limb of a tree or even a blade of grass, or before killing an animal for food or clothing, or before destroying a fish or bird needed for his daily bodily nourishment, he would ask the Great Spirit to forgive him for what he was about to do in ending the life of beast, fish or fowl. Under no circumstances would be go after more than the daily needs for his family and self.

Truly these are attributes of a race from whom whites and every other race might well learn. But we envied our friend when he said he was preparing for another visit to the Indian tribes of the north of Alaska, to be gone for several months. He said he would rather be there than among the masses of humanity in New York City.

When we think of many parts of the city of gay life and bright lights, we are sure he is safer in body and spirit far away from the broad way of a narrow city.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

An opportunity is offered to all our readers to send any question of spiritual nature they desire answered. Question should be written on one side of paper and in ink and must be signed by the enquirer with address.

UNION COURSE, L. I., N. Y.—What would be your interpretation of the following passage from the Bible: "If a man die, shall he live again"; Job 14:14?—MRS. K. C. G.

Job spoke in the terms of all true prophets and men of wisdom, namely, the man of flesh and blood and bones dies, but the life, the spirit, that was within the man-made body liveth unto all eternity. That spirit goes on its way, back to whence it came from, to God. He liveth forever and ever.

SPRINGFIELD, N. Y.—Where in the Bible can I find any reference about letting the bird's nest alone?—MRS. J. R.

Deuteronomy 22:6, also in Matthew 8:20. As you read these we suggest emphasis upon the thought there expressed, that all mankind be considerate of both the birds and their homes.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—In what light do you hold the Bible?—MR. F. S.

Much has been left out, and much has been added to the Jewish History during its career. We will try to deal with each point specifically as brought up and urge you to follow this column closely. Unlike the first page of that History, which says, "Revised," we have no "revisions" to offer.

CONGRATULATIONS

From A. F. Senftleber

IN THE beginning the Supreme Wisdom, the Creator of the Universe, commanded that there be light, and there was light. Humanity as it has progressed has been seeking more light. Quoting the Nazarene, "Let your light so shine that men may see your good deeds, and glorify the Father which is in Heaven." Again, "Follow My teachings and you shall not wander in darkness." Every blade of grass—every flower—the birds —the beasts—even man himself—thrive and flourish in the light of day.

Your name and objective are well chosen. May you live up to your name and may your rays reach the far corners of all lands.

Congratulations.

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July, 1927

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

THE TRUE LIGHT

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EDITORIAL

A Policy

IN HUMBLE beginning, without glaring color or the blowing of trumpets, this monthly magazine comes forward to render every spiritual aid possible to all humanity. Our plea of RIGHTEOUSNESS, TRUTHFUL-NESS, and BROTHERLY LOVE, will be portrayed in simple, and, we hope, convincing manner.

It is to be as attractive as it is to be interesting. We want it to find its way into your library or reference file. It must become a most helpful service to every member of the family.

The high and the lowly, the strong and the weak, white or colored, believer and non-believer, all need this service and gospel of Him who sent us forth. No offense is intended, and by the same token are hopeful that we may not be offended.

As we develop and progress, thereby becoming of even greater service and usefulness to mankind, our mutual reward will be considerable on our awakening in the Spiritual Realms. Glory and praise is not our ambition. Upliftment of the spirit is the real goal.

Every opportunity will be offered for hearing and recording experiences within this scope. Open discussions are invited, and enlightenment regarding the work at hand is to be given available space within these pages.

We invoke the aid of Deity. We pray for Divine Guidance. We welcome spiritual help. We insist upon the TRUTH. We know we shall gain that spiritual wisdom and understanding we seek for. Read every issue and make use of your talents. Spread the light the same as we are trying to, and may we be able to say to each other, "WELL DONE."

Help the Afflicted

NOT a day goes by, when we travel over the highways but what we see the blind or the lame, or the deformed. Some seem so helpless and distressed and still are so hopeful. The aged nearly always look toward the day when they can be relieved of their inconveniences and hardships.

Let us help them. Our opportunities are many. As we watch the blind stagger along and we see they need to be guided, let us quickly set him or her in the right direction. Give them a cheerful word or two at the same time.

When the lame come along, either with or without the aid of a cane or crutch, let us likewise help them. At least, let us be ready to help them. If they are before us do not crowd them to one side so that we might forge on ourselves. We must be both kind and patient, and consider them as fully entitled to receive our aid without obligation.

Many who are deformed of body deserve our help as much as any of those bearing other forms of affliction. The very best help we can give as a whole is to not embarrass them by our stares. Our very best thoughts should always go out to them.

The strong can help the weak in two ways—first, by coming forward of themselves on every needy occasion; secondly, by preventing others who are less willing to help from causing any additional inconveniences and hardships. All that is required is a willingness to be of help —that is, when and where needed.

The helper may rightfully ask, "When can one be sure of offering help?" The answer is, "Do what we would expect if the conditions were reversed."

Capital Punishment

W^E do not believe in capital punishment. The Law of God commands us not to take another's life. If the law of man has been violated and the guilt of the accused has been established by a just and impartial jury, we still assert that we cannot violate the law of God.

God, the Supreme Force, gave life. Man should not send a life out of body, the material clay.

Brother, you cannot destroy life. It

lives on forever. Life or spirit is eternal. God is spirit. God is eternal. We are part God.

Capital punishment only releases a spirit from the body. The body or outer cloak has pulled the spirit down. You think you have rid society of the poor murderer. You have only rid society of his earthly body.

The spirit of the executed one is alive and active for good or evil. There are many causes on record where the condemned passed out of body with oaths and curses to their executioners. Society has not rid itself of the influences of those they chose to call criminals. The influence of the murdered while

The influence of the murdered while in body was limited. Now, out of body, his influence is of larger scope. He can attract by his influence of thought men with minds like he had and used.

His loves and hates have not been destroyed by the so-called death. His revenge is paramount. The lowest conditions control him. He will be satisfied when he has so controlled another in body that he can give physical expression to his thoughts. Society has not gained a single thing by breaking the Law of God.

Like attracts like. This truth is manifested in all phases of life, earthly and spirit life.

Take a trip to the prisons confining murderers, visit the drunkards' homes of poverty, the gambling houses, the places of shame, wherever you find the desire to covet something which another possesses, there you will find the dead murderers present to cast their influence over those they are able to control.

Our executed murderers are striving with intense desire to hold on to physical life through those still in body. Their last thoughts on earth are ever before them, and, since these thoughts are ofttimes of the lowest, you cannot expect but the lowest influence to be sent forth.

Capital punishment has not prevented murder or any crime that invokes the death penalty. The presiding judge at a recent trial of nation-wide interest expressed his conviction "that capital punishment as practiced in this country does not act as a deterrent to crime." He further states, "The good Lord gave life and we have no right to take it away." During the course of this same trial we found many people who hold views similar to the learned judge. Capital punishment is a relic of the dark ages.

We do not intend to offer substitutes for capital punishment. Love, however, should replace hate and killing. Let us try love. We are all part God. God

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is love. Out of love let us harbor the criminal in suitable quarters where he would be confined for the balance of his earthly life, engaged in some industry for the benefit of humanity. The criminal would realize that the penalty he is pay-ing is a just one which he really owes to society.

Love attracts love. Touch that Godpart within and the murderer will respond. Many tried killing and failed. Try love. Thou shalt not kill.

Understanding

T is universally acceptable to acknowl-edge God. Not many who profess that confidence will deny that there is a "life beyond," but when it comes to admitting communication with those spirit loved ones who have given up their earthly bodies, passed over, as it werethen it is different.

That these spirit loved ones return is an established fact. They return out of brotherly love. They give us warning that we might prepare and be prepared. They advise us of certain conditions that our spiritual progress may be hastened.

Take it or leave it, but by all means get understanding. Do not sadden the spirit of your loved ones by failing to grasp this understanding. Your own spirit is likewise saddened if you fail to accept this point on your own passing out or going over.

Surely you have heard the inner voice -the better self. Surely have you felt an impression or have been inspired to do good. Surely have you experienced the presence of one who had gone on before. Recognize the sensation and acknowledge the facts. Study them out and learn of their import. Make yourselves worthy and draw upon that endowment of understanding, wisdom, foresight. The wonderful works of God are

great. The Divine mysteries are many, but seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto thee, ask and it shall be given, awaken and follow the light, uplift and bring upliftmentthese words of wisdom and many others have been brought many generations ago.

Many have gone and come since then. What the spiritual value of the under-standing may be that they have taken out or left behind for us can not be hu-manly measured. This much we cannot deny-we need it-right here and now. Prophets have come and gone. Their messages are a comfort to all who take heed. They have shown the way for we all to follow. That they have eliminated the cross roads there can be no doubt.

Understanding the straight way and road is had by those that are both willing and ready. He who would scoff and mock such as have understanding need help and encouragement. If an element of doubt exists, depend on those who can help to remove it.

Greetings

From Church of Spiritual Truth **REV. MINA STAPLEBERG**

EAR friends, let us fully realize that through so-called death one is not lost forever, but that the spirit being finds its entrance into a different plane inhabited by spirit loved ones who were once in the mortal body and manifesting on earth as individuals.

Our time is really short here on this earth plane, even a life of one hundred years is short, indeed, in comparison to the celestial life that is eternal.

So it becomes important for every one to learn something about spirit existence, and open the door for your loved ones so they can communicate with you.

An Announcement

Interesting the Young

WE are fully aware of the need of Spiritual Truths for the young children. For them, it is therefore, that we plan to have another department within the pages of THE TRUE LIGHT, and to be known as "SUMMER-LAND." It is as the Sunday School column, and will bring to the fore those points that make for upliftment.

Arranged in logical sequence for study, and in simple language that will enable every earnest truthseeker to more fully understand what has been brought by the prophets of old, there will appear a master subject for each week within the month. As the work progresses, supplementary helps will be gladly given those circles or gatherings that are undertaking the studies by furnishing direct, on request, additional points to those that may already have been shown.

This is merely another means whereby mankind may review more intimately the untampered TRUTHS. Every one interested can prepare the text matter in such a way as to make for ready and quick reference. It will be well worth any effort one can exert, and it will be entirely within your own judgment as to how much good you will take from it all. For our part, we do all we humanly can, willingly, reverently, and earnestly. As to your further part, we want you to keep us informed of your continued interest. In the words of the wise man

of a far prior generation, we suggest, "Be ye not only listeners, but also doers of that which is good."

An Acknowledgment

THE Board of Editors of THE TRUE LIGHT are happy of an opportunity to express their appreciation of the many good things that have occurred and which have enabled them to come forth with this magazine.

They are thankful to God for all good. Thankful to Him for the spiritual help given by the Loved Ones. Thankful because there is one in our earthly midst today who has made it her way to help humanity back to Him who sent us forth. It must be pleasing to Reverend Sister Martha E. Class to see the unfoldment of the wondrous works of God, those manifestations that show progress.

As the Board of Editors stands for TRUTH, and for RIGHTEOUSNESS, and in BROTHERHOOD, they pledge themselves individually to try and give of their very best efforts.

In thankfulness they further acknowledge the material assistance given by those who have done so for the great good that may come to many. The result will be to help our Elder Brother, the Nazarene, in the fulfillment of His mission. We all, every one in the great spiritual family, who look to our Father who is in Heaven, most surely will be of help and comfort to each other.

Our best wishes go to all our brothers and sisters, no matter what race, color or creed, and we ask them to join with us in giving thanks to God.

Faults and Virtues

DO not think of your faults; still less **D** of others' faults; in every person who comes near you, look for what is good and strong; honor that; rejoice in it; and, as you can, try to imitate it, and your faults will drop off like dead leaves when their time comes.

JOHN RUSKIN

THE QUESTION

HAVE you ever stopped to listen To the words that come from above?

Do you give a moment

Just to listen what is brought Of the words of wisdom That is sent you?

See the beauty all around you, Love in all things.

Would you have them change it?

Trees and flowers in their beauty, Their arms in wordless prayer. And we little human beings

Hardly give a word of thanks.

By W. E.

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PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

THE LANGUAGE OF SPIRIT

K. F. Clawson



E are rapidly approaching that era when "The pen is mightier than the sword." It is noticeable that the written expressions of speakers who are of truthful motive command attention, and rightly so. The power that comes with the sincere message, simply told, is such as to invite public confidence, and, in that manner, removes considerable doubt. The painstaking care that both author and publisher should give will be highly productive of a recording of superior merit.

Speakers and writers who are concerned with the Language of Spirit have a gift that requires no hidden words, obscure phrasing, nor evasiveness of thought, that would tend to weaken or strengthen the message. Much harm comes to the egotist who craves for reputation, for it is the pitfall of over-extended ability. The different lines of endeavor have basically two conditions to the voice of triumph. They are, first, that the creation of the message lies elsewhere than with ourselves, and secondly, that we heed the promptings as given or brought.

Recording the Language of Spirit, may it be said that there is neither dictionary nor encyclopaedia that can be authoritatively used without exercising every due care. Any one interested must lend his or her assistance to the clarity and proof of the TRUTH. So that, should we read or hear a message, the true interpretation depends on our individual willingness and sincerity. In this way both the giver and the receiver are responsible and can result in bringing forth the TRUTH in universal exactness.

Only part of the truth, or half of the truth will not suffice. In the Language of Spirit, it must come as the whole truth, untampered with. Unless we have the whole truth we are not fully on our way understanding the true language. The chief obstacles that lie in our pathway are guesswork and opinion, otherwise branded as false teachers. The premise therefore is that we can have the best and all highest.

Space does not permit of going into each of the different forms by which the Language of Spirit may be recognized and understood, but opportunity may be had for separate discussions at later times. So that for brevity it should help by generallizing under two major classifications, namely "philosophical" and "symbolical." Where there appears to be an indication to both classes, the sub-classification is placed under but one major class and is governed by its greater or majority force.

Under "philosophical" would mainly come such conditions as Inspirtation, Feeling, Seeing and Hearing. Under the "symbolical" are listed Miracles, Flowers and other forms of earthly growth, Beasts and other forms of earthly life, but not including forms of humans, and such as Ships, Trains, Buildings, Scenery of land or sea, as well as of something of the so-called beyond.

Whether these conditions come about through the aid of one's own human organs or senses, or through another's, such as an intermediary, instrumentality or mediumship, they require considerate attention. The importance of this is indicated by the many records as shown in the Bible, the beautiful works of the poets, artists and composers of music, the inventive genius of mankind, or the discoveries of that beneath land or sea or that which is in the heavens. These are visible proofs of a Language of Spirit. Man of himself is as nothing; it is the Spirit within that is both willing and of understanding, but allows itself to be mastered by the fleshly. It is the fleshly that denies visions and dreams, that avoids impressions, that casts aside the voice that seems to come from nowhere, only because he thinks he is alone.

Man does not dictate this language, and it is not for man to dictate the forms or conditions under which it may or may not become manifest. The great comfort is that it is for all, both here and hereafter. The greater comfort is that we can learn the Language of Spirit ere we go into Spirit Land. The greatest comfort of all is that we can speak the Language of Spirit, in Spirit, with the Supreme Spirit, God.

We can very easily learn, but it needs thinking, same as does the language of man. It is the language of the ever living, and not the dead. The sooner we master it rightly, the better will our progress be. It is a language of love.

MUSIC

Margaret Rubel



melody

USIC truly is a wonderful aid to harmony. When used in the proper way, it serves to create a very high purpose. The beautiful strains just waft their way through space and the listening ears at once become the receivers for that feeling of lightness and brightness. The very inner self seems to respond to the

There are very many kinds of instruments that produce music. Most of them are difficult and require ability to play them. Still, there are many simple means of music making. Anyone who desires can make music. Not necessarily must music be produced by aid of an instrument.

Singing is the means that can be indulged in by all. What a happy time the housewife could make for herself and those in her midst if singing became a household duty. Suitable songs that are neither difficult nor trivial would bring about an influence for good, the power of which would be of lasting effect. And how much better the men would feel if they, too, did more singing.

Singing by the elders would soon develop an interest in "close harmony." The young listeners about would not only join in the harmony of the music, but they would be encouraged to learn to play an instrument.

Community singing and glee clubs and singing societies have their appeal to both the singers and the listeners. The oldtime melodies, the spirituals, folk songs, ballads, the Christmas carols, hymns and classsics, all have their attraction and stimulation that makes for contentment. It has been said that music refreshes the mind of man, and it may well be added that it gratifies the spirit of man.

A lesson for music making can be taken from the birds of the air. Whistling is not without its means to make for pleasure and happiness. The fun that goes with whistling is enlivened by the apparent ability to create or compose music, and it comes to talented and untalented alike.

When we consider music and its wonderful effects, we quite naturally turn to dancing. The rhythm of the music produces a rhythm of the body. Literally it may be the hop, step and jump, but really it is a bodily expression of the joy of music. Surely any one skipping around in rhythmic manner to the rhythm of the music is not ageing rapidly and usually has not the sour facial expression to dampen the joys of others. Rather, laughter is the result.

Music, therefore, has its place in the life of every man, woman and child. Many have wondered at their own vocal talents. Many have brought about some unusual results in the use of music-making instruments. All who practice music will soon find that balance that makes life on this earthly journey just so much more cheerful and harmonious. Try it and keep at it.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

THE FLOWERS

B^{EHOLD} the flowers, harbingers of love and peace and good will. How they wave in the air and turn their faces toward the sun as though confident of the life-giving strength coming from that source.

The sight of these exquisite creations of the Supreme Force, God, can not help but thrill us with a feeling of great awe and admiration as we see how they beautify and embellish this sordid earth plane on which we travel.

We find them everywhere, from the highly cultivated flower beds of the rich to the humble gardens of the city dweller who endeavors on his tiny patch of ground to encourage the growth of these messengers of cheer and loveliness. So we see that God, the Supreme Force, is no respecter of persons. He allows His creations to adorn the abiding places of the poor as well as entwine themselves around the stately mansions of the rich.

as entwine themselves around the stately mansions of the rich. Flowers are loved very much by children, and if we would sacrifice a little of our time and cooperate with the little ones in planning a garden for them we might teach them valuable lessons about the love of the Father. In no better way could the children come to a practical realization of the wondrous works of God than by planting seeds and watching the development as the tiny green shoots force their way up from the ground and finally burst into the richly colored blossom.

And the music of the flowers! Have you not heard the wondrous sweet melody that swells up from this vast multitude? Sometimes they sing in unison, and our souls are thrilled with rapture, and ofttimes they trill singly, each with a message all its own. One sings of love, a second of peace and good will, a third of contentment and harmony, and another of purity; each trying to bring those things that the inner self craves.

Poets have written about flowers, such as:

THE FRINGED GENTIAN By WM. Cullen Bryant

1

Thou blossom bright with autumn dew, And colored with the heaven's own blue, That openest, when the quiet light Succeeds the keen and frosty night.

Thou comest not when violets lean O'er wandering brooks and springs unseen, Or columbines, in purple drest, Nod o'er the ground-bird's hidden nest.

Thou waitest late, and com'st alone When woods are bare, and birds are flown, And frosts and shortening days portend The aged Year is near his end.

4

Then doth thy sweet and quiet eye Look through its fringes to the sky, Blue, blue as though that sky let fall A flower from its cerulean wall.

5

I would that thus, when I shall see The hour of death draw near to me, Hope, blossoming within my heart, May look to Heaven as I depart.

These flowers, with their great variety of shapes and colors and delicateness of structure, make a strong appeal to the individual. They offtimes preach a more powerful sermon and touch the hearts of people in a more tender way than the eloquence of a minister in his pulpit.

What a feeling of peace they bring to a sick room and how their delicate fragrance permeates a gloomy and depressed atmosphere. And yet all they need for steady and healthy growth is a proper soil with a mixture of rain and sunshine. They keep right on developing each integral part and shooting up higher and higher until they have attained their required height and size. We know they do this whether the sun shines or the rain falls.

How unlike these lovely creations of God we are! Unless the sunshine of prosperity and good fortune beams continually upon us, we grumble and sometimes feel ready to quit playing this game of life.

If, like the flowers, we would turn our faces toward the Supreme Force, God, and keep plodding on in spite of adversity, confident of His love and protecting arm around us, we would develop the God part within us. We would grow steadily day by day more like Him who sent us forth. We would then very ably run our race and fulfill our mission in a happy and satisfied manner.

So let us learn a beautiful lesson from the flowers. A. M. W.

SPIRITUGRAMS - No. 1

Each sentence is taken from one of the inspired songs of David. Do you know which ones? See answer in next issue.

- 1. I will praise thee, Oh Lord, among the people; I will sing unto thee among the nations.
- 2. And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long.
- 3. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.
- 4. Happy is that people, that is in such case; Yea, happy is that people whose God is the Lord.
- 5. I will cry unto God Most High; unto God that performeth all things for me.
- 6. Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire.
- 7. Who remembereth us in our low estate; for his mercy endureth forever.
- 8. It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.
- 9. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth; my flesh also shall rest in hope.

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. PROV-ERBS 4:7 and 14.

Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit: but the upright shall have good things in possession. PROVERBS 28:10.

But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. I COR-INTHIANS 2:10.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can they know them, because they are spiritually discerned. I CORIN-THIANS 2:14.

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PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

MY AUTOMOBILE

By a Member of the Staff

WHAT does it do for me? Many things. It is a time-saver, it expedites my business, it gives pleasure to my family, and it enables me to see more of the open country I could not reach without it. My wife uses my automobile to do her shopping; I find it very convenient to use when I am making my social calls. Oh yes! my automobile has been my friend in many ways. It has done nothing but good for me.

Brother, on further thought, I am mistaken. My automobile has also done me harm. I have lived only for my car. I have sacrificed many necessities to own it. I could have owned my home, lived in better surroundings, provided more help to charitable institutions, and caused my family less financial worry if I did not have to maintain my automobile.

My automobile has helped me to forget the Supreme Force, God. I have not had time to think of my Heavenly Father and the keeping of His commandments. My sabbaths have been devoted exclusively to my automobile. I have not remembered the sabbath day to keep it holy. I have broken another commandment and made a god of my car. I regret to admit that I am farther from Heaven due to my automobile.

"Well," says another brother, "I am rich. My exclusive automobile has not been the slightest burden to maintain. I come and go as I please. I have every other luxury of life, then why not an automobile?"

Brother, you are right, but use that car of yours for the best and kindest of deeds. First keep the Law of God. There are many children of the tenements and back alleys. They need the sunshine. So do the invalids. Share your automobile with the unfortunates of humanity. What a blessing that car of yours can be! Brother, think it over.

What does my automobile do for me? Does it drag me down, keep me selfish, or do I put it to noble and glorious purposes?

God bless you! T. R. W.

A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels. PROVERBS 1:5.

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ROMANS 8:5.

A SERMONETTE ON DIVINE SUPPLY

THEREFORE I say unto you, take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat or what ye shall drink, nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat and the body than raiment?

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your Heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin;

And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Matthew 6:25, 26, 28, 29, shows what we have just been reading. So it is written today, yet, and yet, the very wisdom at the time of utterance is not to be hidden and can not entirely be stricken out, even though much less were to be said in its stead. The twentieth century speed standards might put it this way, "Spiritual nourishment first, material second."

Evidently conditions of those days are as those of today. There seems to be just the one main or first desire, that of filling our stomachs. Many eating places there are, and much there is to eat, and every minute of the day becomes suited to our cravings. Eat we must.

A habit, many will say. It certainly carries on with the regularity of the clock—when meal times arrive, we put forward such desires as, where shall we eat, and how much can we afford to spend, what will we eat and drink, what kind of music will go best with our meals, where do the good dressers go and are we in the proper toggery.

This is not putting spiritual nourishment first. This is not getting what we really need. This is not the way of one who will hunger and thirst after righteousness.

The life surely is of more value than the food, and the body is of more value than raiment. But all value is placed seemingly in food and raiment as we go through with our daily habits. It is exactly the reverse of what was given down as of old. All value here is for the outer man and the inner part is left to impoverishment.

This is not any attempt to deny the need for material nourishment, but it is an urgent plea that it be placed in secondary position. We fully understand and well know that the lack of the material would soon bring exhaustion that would affect the spiritual life. It is for us to consider wisely and follow it up diligently.

There is the bright sunlight, there is the pure water, there is the clear air, all God given, and all for our material welfare. Man cannot and need not toil for that, but must toil for the life. Each of these blessings is a force for bringing forth in abundance. It brings a blessing for him that takes and for him that gives. Each one is for the fowls of the air and the lilies of the field. It pleases the Heavenly Father to do this, and we should do to please Him.

Spiritual nourishment may be made the same strong habit that material nourishment has developed into. It would only then be a matter of time when the spiritual would master the material as it should. The Divine Supply, the All-Supplying God, the Food and Drink of Life, pours out upon us. We are not without that Fatherly help that comes to us so plentiful and so free.

To learn to use these forces in the spiritual way, in the way of love and of wisdom, is the lesson we have before us. Let us resolve to be true to God, to give Him thanks, to give praise and to glorify Him. In all our ways let us acknowledge Him.

The spiritual force is stronger than the material force and we should be guided by it. It will prosper us and strengthen us. It should be first in all our doings. The Divine Supply is only limited by ourselves. By an awakening of the life within, and fulfilling the Will of the Father, can we overcome the material. W. G.

OPEN THE WAY

Would that I could find a way To my loved ones here on earth, Just to bring them a word of cheer That we live in the heavens above, And many times stand beside them Trying to let them know we live on. How often do we hear them say If father, mother, sister or brother Were here again, how happy we would be, And as tears are flowing fast Never think of us beside them. Hear us calling, we are living, Don't you see us? Don't you hear us? Don't you feel us in your presence? Do not weep for we come to comfort. Would you like it if we came Just to see you weep?

No, we come to comfort, And to lead you on to higher heights. B_{V} W. E.

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PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

THE CRY OF THE PARENT

By Richard Thomas

T HAS been my privilege to talk privately to many parents, for it is my business that takes me into their homes. I have found parents who frankly admit they cannot control their children.

The parents are shocked at the language used by their young children just coming out of babyhood and are grieved over the doings of their older sons and daughters. The children have become disobedient to these parents, and are insolent and selfish. Parents are heartsick because the sacred tie of confidence between themselves and their children does not exist any longer. It is also claimed that the children are deceitful and invariably lie to their elders. These are sad conditions, still, there must be reasons for these regretful conditions.

Parents are unwilling to admit that they should be held responsible for the actions of their offspring, yet in many ways they actually are responsible. We parents were not always perfect ourselves. There are many things we did in our youth that we do not care to recall to mind. Our children did not entirely benefit by our own transgressions, to be sure.

Look back to the childhood days of your boys and girls. Do you remember when your children first began to build sentences and to ask you such questions as why this and why that? Whenever you did not answer truthfully you violated the Law of God. You would lie about Santa Claus and many other fables just because it was the custom to do so. If you thought it advisable not to talk upon a delicate subject due to the age of your child, you at least could have postponed the discussion until the proper time without lying to the child. Therefore, do not complain about your children being so deceitful to you.

You made gods of your children and violated another commandment of the Supreme Force, God. Most everything your little one desired you endeavored to supply. Often you bought expensive playthings for your child and sacrificed to do it.

You tried to save your children by making slaves of yourselves. You therefore retarded the spiritual growth of your children and you stunted them of their individuality. Yet you thought it was a duty, but you placed yourselves in the background, giving every comfort and convenience to your children. You really were not able in many cases to accompany your children to places of amusement, or even to present yourselves to their friends. You did not take the opportunity to know what was going on.

Parents, do not cry over the lack of confidence when you yourselves helped to create it. You taught your children to be selfish, although you did not mean to do it. How much better if you had taught your children the Ten Commandments from their early youth. You had left it to someone else to do, and, since that someone else did not do it, be not surprised that your children do not now follow that Law of God from day to day.

You remark that the children of today seem to be wiser than the children of your youth, and you want to be excused on this ground. Brothers and sisters, if you have forgotten to live according to the Law of God, you are responsible to a very large extent for the shortcomings of your children.

They were placed in your care to guide and properly instruct. Failure in this sacred duty has brought selfishness, insolence and disobedience. If you have taught them the value of material things and of the spiritual things, their training has been along the proper lines and you are not responsible if after that the children stray from the straight and narrow path.

Parents, when did you conduct family prayers in the home to give thanks to God for the blessings He has sent to you? You omitted this important duty, so that your children did not receive any benefit from such a beautiful and helpful example.

Let us parents turn about face. From now on our children, whether they are in youth or in the adult age, should know that we are trying to live the Law of God. Let us hang the Ten Command-ments on the wall of our homes. We should study them so that we will get understanding. Let us offer such guidance and advice to our children that they do likewise. We will notice a difference in the attitude of our boys and girls toward us. They will then respect us as we respect the Supreme Force, God. Have no fear that they will think us a bit oldfashioned. The Ten Commandments are for our spiritual development, and we develop by living that law. Try this out. Our heartaches will leave and the sunshine and happiness will come back into our homes. Our children will call us blessed.

The iniquities of the parents fall upon the children, and no parent should misunderstand the import of these words, given to humanity centuries ago, but still a part of the Law. To parents who have young children in their homes—teach these little ones not alone with your lips, but with your lives Create respect and respect will be shown you. Create confidence and confidence will be given you. Treasure modesty and your children will do likewise. Be truthful to your children and to all others in the presence of those children so that the right example is shown.

Have pure thoughts in and out of the home. Your children will pick up these thoughts and respond with pure thoughts. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Union Theological Seminary Conference Notes

THE sixth annual conference on The Church in the City and Industrial Communities was held June 7 to June 17 at the Union Theological Seminary, New York City. Mr. William Geiger of THE TRUE LIGHT addressed the conference on Saturday morning, June 11. His topic was, "Church Records," and the discussions that followed were also centered on Church Organization.

"Church Organizations are beginning to realize the need for adequate records kept in simple yet as complete in principle as those of the progressive business enterprise. Well organized church records establish confidence and maintain good will."

Financial and membership records were gone into quite in lively detail, the varying forms of record keeping and record protection considered, as well as having touched on the personnel. "By being systematic, and with the aid of modern office equipment and appliances, it will be found that these are factors in the solution of many problems that arise within the average sized church body."

The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the Lord; but He loveth him that followeth after righteousness. PROV-ERBS 15:9.

I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. MATTHEW 22:32.

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom and the man that getteth understanding. PROVERBS 3:13.

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PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

IN MEMORIAM

By Union Coursean



HE world indeed is full of mourners, sad of heart and sad of spirit. We find that every community has its membership of the wearers

of the somber black. We also find that cities of any importance have cemeteries and crematories. Finally, the papers provide space for the memory of the departed, those that are gone but not forgotten. All of which reminds us that when the so-called death approaches, we realize that there is nothing we can do to restore the life within the body that once stood in our very midst. Money, pleadings, our every human effort is of no avail.

Unless we look forward to that moment when the body is lifeless, we are likely to be unprepared for the emergency. It is then we do the things that later sober reflection suggests we could have done differently. When the sudden situation thus is upon we who remain, unthinkingly and quickly are the funeral arrangements entered into.

Elaborate plans for costly coffins and expensive floral pieces are made while in this sorrowful and sad condition. The procession is to be as long as the relatives and friends or acquaintances that can be gathered would have it. Lavish expenditure for burial grounds and tombs and monuments are entered into. So it is in the time of our bereavement that we have the earthly remains put away.

After all the bills are finally totaled, we find ourselves both happy and sad. Happy because we visibly did so much for the one just gone, but sad because we could not or did not do as much before the going.

Now we realize it has been the custom of many years that we are following. However, it is offered that new standards should be made. Right on down through the ages the standards have progressed. Had there been no progression, we probably would still mumify the lifeless bodies.

One of the greatest barriers to overcome is the plunge we take into the black and the premium prices that must be paid the merchants for the wearing of the black. What good the black will do, no one has been found by the writer who can give an answer that will hold strongly other than that it is an outward or material expression of sadness and of loss of relative or friend. It is the dress of lamenting or of grief, yet, only for a certain length of time.

The most reasonable thing that might be said about black is that some who wear it really do look attractive and stunning. Our modistes and milliners and haberdashers and tailors surely seem to be very thoughtful in this regard. There is then little wonderment that we yield and become victims of their mercenary ways.

The writer is entirely for the brighter things, and at all times. Color certainly at mourning time lends its aid. After all, that which is on the inside counts for much more than for what is on the outside. What should we care of what our neighbors think and do. Simplicity of dress and of mannerism will go farther to cheer the one who is gone than all the black and the shedding of tears of those behind. It is not for the neighbors we do the memorial things.

When we go to the cemeteries and view the vast area of ground occupied, and consider the value that has been placed on those graves and mounments of stone and marble, we must stand in amazement. It all is of doubtful purpose. The great relief that this money could bring to the needy sick and distressed ranks of humanity in all cities would be astounding. The good that could be done in this way would far surpass any relief or comfort that beautified graves or burial plots offer. Furthermore, the good would be for many generations and therefore much more lasting in efect.

To study the inscriptions on most all the stones erected in memoriam of a loved one, it is noticeable how with considerable frequency we read, "He Rests in Peace." Does he? Not any suggests wandering in darkness. To be in real memoriam is to do for the spirit and not for the body, to do for the living and not the "dead." Well, too, it is to begin ere the body becomes lifeless. To quote from Dante, "Give light and the people will find their own way."

Just recently have we emerged from the Memorial Day celebrations held in memory for the participants of wars of America, including and since the Civil War. The sounding of the drums, the blowing of trumpets and the waving of flags and the carrying of instruments of death through the streets and then to the graves is another step that must be overcome in our progress for spirituality. Such actions as we saw on that day are not of help to those gone on before.

We want to get away from the material conditions, and this is best accomplished by destroying those very conditions of the dead bodies. In this direction we note increasing interest in the cremation of the body over that of the burial. It is an encouraging sign of progress. Not only is it more economical and more sanitary, but, most important of all, it is the destruction of the material tie between body and spirit. It thus enables the disembodied spirit to become free and to get on its way, instead of to hover about its former house.

With the material attraction no longer in its path, the spirit goes forward to find the light, and, when in light, goes forward to seek more light, and so continues on to its destination. This is an ancient revelation worthy of our deepest thought.

Now, to hold services for the living spirit and not the dead body can be helpful if held in the right way. Eulogies have their place, but those mainly are of vain words and in many instances are colored with an element of untruth. For the spirit to look back upon the conditions surrounding its passing out, to hear the words of vain praise spoken, to hear the weeping and review the sorrow, and then to find its earth-made body in the ground, is something for those left behind to think about from every angle.

The point is, we should really and truly and with understanding make it easier for the spirit to continue its traveling. Now it is without body. Let us send out kind thoughts for the comfort and the God speed of its new journey. Let us call to that spirit, in spirit, to call to God for light, for protection, for guidance. This we can always do, and in doing for those who have passed over before us, we do for ourselves. They, in turn, do what they can to inspire and impress and guide us. Truly, this is help of the higher and better way. We and they both want and need it, so it should be just as near right as we all can make it.

Another helpful condition comes during the memoriam times, and it is to have a God creation symbol in place of a man-made symbol. This may be brought about by having flowers in the home instead of decorating the graves. It is a beautiful manner in which to honor and revere the living, in the surroundings of the living, and not where the dead bodies lay and which soon begin to decompose.

Courage is required to take the step away from the past customs and traditions and so be of sublime help. The spiritual memoriam will then be more inspiring and uplifting.

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF SERVICES

ALBANY, N. Y.

The Spiritual Church of the Arisen

Holds services every Sunday evening at 52 COLUMBIA STREET Rev. Milicent Hubbard, Pastor

ASTORIA, N. Y.

Church of the Spiritualist Doctrine

404. THIRTIETH (GRAND) AVENUE Wednesday, 2:30 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday, 8 p.m.; lecture and message service. Elizabeth Marklew, Pastor

Spiritual Church of Divine Faith

323 DITMARS BOULEVARD (Second Floor) The Rev. Hermine Leger, Pastor

Lecture and message service every Wednesday, 8 p. m.

BOSTON, MASS.

Unity Church (Founded May 29, 1883) Rev. Frederick A. Wiggin, D.D. Sunday services: Jordan Hall, at 11 a.m. and 7:30 P.M. Tuesday message service at 7:45 P.M. Recital Hall (this building)

Spiritual Assembly

Conducted by Preston E. Gray at 465 STUART STREET, BOSTON (Over Copley Theatre) Every Thursday at 8:00 P.M.

First Spiritualist Science Church

235 NORTHAMPTON STREET Mrs. Julia Lee, President Mrs. Margaret Taylor, Vice-President Meetings: Friday and Sunday at 7:30 P. M.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Church of Divine Light Rev. E. C. Resch 756 QUINCY STREET

Services: 7:45 Sunday Evenings

Christ Spiritualist Church

James Hedenberg, Minister Services: Tuesday, Thursday, 2 and 8 P. M. 1288 PUTNAM AVE. (NEAR CENTRAL AVE.)

PSYCHIC TESTS Lillie Briton

Graduate of Hunter College 1267 BEDFORD AVE., NEAR FULTON ST. Services: Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, 8; Tuesday, 2. Private Consultations. Decatur 3186

Independent Spiritual Church Rev. Dr. Edw. Ortmanne, Pastor

664 PUTNAM AVE., NEAR LEWIS AVE. Services: Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30; Thursday at 2 P.M.

Church of Divine Science Joseph Borst, Minister Monday, 8 P.M. Tuesday, Thursday, 2 P.M.-8 P.M. 754 DECATUR STREET (BASEMENT) Telephone, Foxcroft 5168

Church of Spiritual Truth, Inc. 178 GRAND STREET (Between Bedford and Driggs Avenues) Monday and Thursday, 8 P.M. Messages, Mrs. Mina Stapleberg

W. M. Stewart

Well-known spiritual mediator of Brooklyn, in his new church, 1000 Park Place, between Brooklyn and Kingston Avenues.
Services: Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, 8:30 P.M.; Monday and Friday, 2:30 P.M.

The Divine Spiritual Church of the Redeemer, Inc.

Meetings: Tuesday, Thursday, 8 P.M. 512 VAN BUREN ST., NEAR PATCHEN AVE. Trance Medium

St. John's Spiritual Church, Inc., Spiritualist

1630 71st STREET, BROOKLYN Lillian Johnston, Pastor Services: Sunday, 8 P.M.; Monday, 2 P.M.; Wednesday, 8 P.M.; Thursday, 10 A.M. Lecture and messages. All welcome. West End subway, 71st St. Station.

Cosmopolitan Spiritualist Church

Meetings, Odd Fellows' Hall, Schermerhorn Street, near Nevins subway, every Saturday, 7:45 P.M., and 431 State Street, Thursday and Sunday evenings. Mrs. J. C. Murphy.

Golden Rule Spiritualist Church Pastor, M. Schorup

Services: Tuesday, 2 P.M.; Tuesday, 8 P.M.; Thursday, 2 P.M.; Friday, 8 P.M.; Sunday, 8 P.M. Address, 261 10th Street.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Church of Spirit Communion WEST FERRY AND HERKIMER STREETS Theodore Russell, Pastor Services: Sunday at 8 P.M.; first and third Sundays at 3 and 8 P.M. Visitors and workers cordially invited.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

The First Spiritualist Temple 631 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE Services: Sundays, 8 P.M. Leon E. Stevens, President

Spiritual Mission FRATERNITY HALL Russell Building, 2107 Massachusetts Avenue North Cambridge Sunday Services: 2:30 and 7:30 P.M. Conductors, R. B. Evans and P. E. Gray Take North Cambridge car to Harvard Square; get off at Russell Street.

GLENDALE, N. Y.

Louis C. Lindemann Chiropractor Office Hours: 8-10 A.M., 5-8 P.M. Monday, Wednesday, Friday Other Days by Appointment 71-49 - 68TH PLACE

Mrs. L. Johns 2630 (6526) Myrtle Avenue

Meetings: Monday and Friday evenings, 8:15. Tuesdays and Thursday, 2 P.M. Directions, Myrtle Avenue car toward Richmond Hill to Schley Street.

HOLLIS, N. Y.

Violet Spiritual Church

Mrs. Miller holds services Tuesdays, 2:30 P.M., at 192-55 Hollis Avenue, Hollis

Take Jamaica Avenue car to 190 Street, or Hempstead bus passes door.

JACKSON, MICH.

First Spiritualist Church American Building and Loan Bldg. 131 S. MECHANIC STREET

Services on Sundays, 2 and 7 P. M. Dr. Julia M. Walton, Pastor

JAMAICA, N. Y.

Church of the Four Leaf Clover 8553 - 144TH STREET Rev. M. E. Claas, Pastor

Services: Sunday at 7:45 P.M. Demonstration, Tuesday at 7:45 P.M. Children meet in Auditorium Sunday, 2:00 P.M.

Kent Thompson Spiritualist Mission

Meetings Every Sunday 8:15 P.M. All welcome. Those who attend our meetings may consult Mr. Thompson privately. Voluntary offerings 137-34 JAMAICA AVENUE Queens Boulevard "L" Station

PLEASE, GOD, GIVE ME LIGHT; HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF SERVICES

JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

Spiritual Science Church 111 So. MAIN STREET Rev. Louisa L. Bramer, Pastor Sunday services, 7:30 P. M. Lyceum, 6:00 P. M. Mid-week circle, Wednesday, 8 P. M. Phone 2940-W Visitors cordially invited.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Progressive Society of Spiritual Truthseekers

First Spiritualist Temple, 906 E. 23d Street Mary C. Vlasek, Pastor

Sunday services: Lyecum at 9:30 A.M.; Conference at 11; Healing at 2; Silent Healing at 2:30; Message Circles at 3:30; Lecture and Messages at 8.

LYNN, MASS.

Church of Truth Spiritualists

62 MONROE STREET

Services: Sundays at 3:00 and 7:45 P.M. Mrs. M. F. Benson, President

MASPETH, N. Y.

Star of Hope Spiritualist Church

Saturday, Sunday, 8 P.M. LEHMANN

5727 - 63RD ST., NEAR FLUSHING AVE.

NEWARK, N. J.

Second Mount Pitcairn Spiritual Church 478 BROAD STREET, NEWARK, N. J. Pastor, Rev. A. L. K. Clark Sun., Wed., 8 P. M.; Thurs., 2 P.M.

NEW YORK CITY

Spiritualist Church of Advanced Thought

Services: 123 WEST 94TH STREET Telephone, Riverside 0756 Every Sun., Tues. and Fri. at 8:30 P.M. Wednesday afternoon at 2 P.M. Speaker: Rev. John Hill

First Church of Spiritual Harmony Services: Tues., 2:30 P.M., and Thurs., 8:15 P.M., Genealogical Hall, 226 W. 58th St., New York City. Tel.: Glen Ridge 10120. Rev. Sarah Wenige-Cushing, Trance Medium

Progressive Spiritualist Church, Inc.

Services: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday Evenings at 8:30 o'Clock 325 WEST 59TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY Sunday, 3 P.M. 398 St. Nicholas Ave., Near 130th Street M. H. Fulton-Williams, Leader A. D. Williams, President

Universal Spiritual Church

Beulah E. Thompson, Minister Services Every Sunday, 8:15 P.M. AT HOTEL BILTMORE Worship, messages, music. All are welcome

Spiritualist Church of **Psychic Science**

Conrad H. Hauser, Pyschic Scientist 330 W. 89TH STREET Tel. Schuyler 9961 Message Service: Sun., Tues., Fri., 8 P.M. Wed. and Sun., 2:30 P.M. Private Interviews and Developing Class Arranged by Appointment

Spiritual and Ethical Society

Sunday, 2:30 P. M. HOTEL ASTOR

Various Speakers Every Week All Are Welcome

Spiritualist Church of **Divine Guidance**

15 WEST 83RD STREET Message Service every evening, 8:30 except Wednesday. Also Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2:30. Mediums:

Florence Ayling B. M. Helms

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

The Divine Spiritual Alliance Church, Inc. Services: 2:30 and 7:30 P.M. **307 WEYBOSSET STREET** F. A. Davis, President Rev. Lucy B. Moran, Pastor

W. T. Stead Spiritualist Church, Inc. **32 HASKINS STREET** Bible Spiritualist. Affiliated with T.N.S.A. Nelson B. Vars, President Rev. L. J. Hervey, Pastor

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Spiritualist Church of **Divine Inspiration** Sunday Services at 7:45 P.M. Rev. W. Harrs, Pastor 372 Flint Street

SALEM, MASS.

First Spiritual Mission Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, ESSEX STREET Mrs. Ida Courtis, President Circle, 12:30. Meetings, 3 and 7:30 P.M. Circle at 6 P.M. Sunday

First Spiritual Society 53 WASHINGTON STREET Mrs. Ruth Olmstead, President Services at 3:00 and 7:30 P.M. Circles at 12:00 M. and 6:00 P. M. Sunday

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

The First Spiritualist Church meets regularly every Sunday at 7:30 P.M. Sunday School, 10 A.M. Mid-week Message Service, Tuesday, 2:30 P.M. Rev. Aldrick E. Hanson, Pres. and Pastor Mrs. Fred Williams, Medium All meetings held in I. O. O. F. Hall 104 · 4TH STREET SOUTH

WOODHAVEN, N. Y.

Spiritualist Church of Divine Light and Faith

Services: Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:45; Tuesday at 2 P.M.; Thurs-day at 10:30 A.M. All welcome. Margaret Hunt, Minister 8731 - 89TH STREET Forest Parkway "L" Sta., Woodhaven, L. I.

Church of Spiritual Enlightenment

Sundays, 2 and 8; Tuesday, 2 and 8; Wed-nesday morning, 10 and 2; Friday, 2 and 8 P. M. Charles Winkler, pastor. 8631 · 91st Street, WOODHAVEN Jamaica "L," Woodhaven Boulevard

Spiritual Light Society

Meetings: Tuesday, Thursday, 8; Tuesday, Thursday, 2; Thursday morning, 10. Rev. Dorothy Smith 8734 · 75TH STREET, WOODHAVEN Elderts Lane "L" Station

Mrs. Sarah Doughty Formerly at 3508 Atlantic Avenue, Moved to

No. 2 ELDERTS LANE Elderts Lane Station, Jamaica Line Applegate 8018

WALPOLE, MASS.

First Spiritualistic Society Rev. Sarah Parker Thomson, Pastor Sunday Services, 7:00 P.M.; Lyceum, 3:30 P.M.; Wednesday Services, 7:30 P.M.

WORCESTER, MASS.

First Spiritual Church G. A. R. Hall, 55 Pearl Street Mr. William Ostergard, President Mr. William De Roehn, Soloist Sundays, Wednesdays, 7:30 P.M.