

One Hundred Questions
and Answers on
**THE PHILOSOPHY OF
SPIRITUALISM**



Written Inspirationally by
REV. LENA BARNES JEFTS
Teacher of Philosophy



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THE PHILOSOPHY OF SPIRITUALISM

A Hundred Questions and Answers for the Investigator.

Any body or association of peoples, in order to have a definite program that will give a correct understanding of its underlying principles, must have rules and laws that definitely bring out the meaning and purpose of that association. These we have in Spiritualism, hence our first question:

1. Q. What are the fundamental laws of Spiritualism?

A. They are the Definitions and the Declaration of Principles.

2. Q. What are the Definitions?

A. They are articles giving a practical explanation of the most essential facts in Spiritualism.

3. Q. By what body of people were these Definitions accepted and upon what dates?

A. By the National Spiritualists Association, on Oct. 9, 1914, and Oct. 24, 1919.

4. Q. In accordance with these articles—what is Spiritualism?

A. "Spiritualism is the Science, Philosophy and Religion of continuous life based upon the demonstrated fact of communication by means of Mediumship with those who live in the Spirit World."

5. Q. What is a Spiritualist?

A. "A Spiritualist is one who be-

lieves, as a part of his or her religion, in the communication between this and the Spirit World by means of Mediumship, and who endeavors to mould his or her character and conduct in accordance with the highest teachings derived from such communion."

6. Q. What is a Medium?

A. "A medium is one whose organism is sensitive to vibrations from the Spirit World and through whose instrumentality, intelligences in that world are able to convey messages and produce the phenomena of Spiritualism."

7. Q. Why is Spiritualism a Science?

A. "Spiritualism is a Science because it investigates, analyzes and classifies facts and manifestations demonstrated from the spirit side of life."

8. Q. Why is it a Philosophy?

A. "Spiritualism is a Philosophy because it studies the laws of nature both on the seen and unseen sides of life and bases its conclusions upon present observed facts. It accepts statements of observed facts of past ages and conclusions drawn therefrom, when sustained by reason and by results of observed facts of the present day."

9. Q. Why is it a religion?

A. "Spiritualism is a Religion because it strives to understand and to comply with the physical, mental and spiritual laws of nature which are the Laws of God."

10. Q. How many in number are the Declaration of Principles?

A. Eight.

11. Q. From what source were they derived?

A. Through Spirit communication by means of Mediumship.

12. Q. Upon what dates?

A. In October, 1899, the first six were received and in October of 1909 the last two were added.

13. Q. What is the first Declaration?

A. "We believe in Infinite Intelligence."

14. Q. Just what do you mean by the term Infinite Intelligence?

A. We do not believe in a personal God. Infinite Intelligence means to us, an all pervading mind and intelligence that is in and of all things animate and inanimate; a dynamic and creative force and power that governs all things by immutable and unchangeable law.

15. Q. What is the second Declaration?

A. "We believe that the phenomena of nature both physical and spiritual are the expression of Infinite Intelligence."

16. Q. How do you briefly explain its meaning?

A. We believe that God or Infinite Intelligence through a system of evolution and chemical changes governed by Natural Law created both Heaven and earth. It seems logical to believe that the story of creation as given in the Bible might be symbolical of the different periods or cycles of evolution and

not meant to be confined to days as we know them.

17. Q. What is the third Declaration?

A. "We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith constitute true religion."

18. Q. How do you briefly explain its meaning?

A. A correct understanding of the laws of nature, which are God's laws and living in accordance with them gives to man a correct understanding of life, and what is life lived rightly but true religion? "Obedience to God's law is the highest form of worship."

19. Q. What is the fourth Declaration?

A. "We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death."

20. Q. What is a brief explanation of its meaning?

A. Spiritualism teaches us that **there is no death**. The change called death is merely a moving on to the next plane of existence, leaving behind the physical body but retaining the soul and spirit; still the same personality; the same individuality as when of earth, still retaining the same faults, virtues and mentality. On the other side of life we are known as we really are, for our **soul value**.

21. Q. What is the fifth Declaration?

A. "We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scien-

tifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism."

22. Q. Just what does this Declaration mean?

A. It means that we absolutely **prove** through our mediums that we **can communicate** with those who have made the change called death. To the world at large the scientifically tested phenomena given out through Psychic Research is recognized as most important. Men whose word stands high in the opinion of thinking people have made the unqualified assertion that they have found such communion to be true under the strictest of test conditions.

23. Q. What is the sixth Declaration?

A. We believe that the highest mortality is contained in the golden rule—"Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them."

24. Q. What does it mean?

A. It practically explains itself. The golden rule is found in the Bible in Matthew, chapter seven, verse twelve and is a part of the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. The same thought had been given to humanity years before in somewhat varied forms by the different philosophers of the ages, and many since Jesus, have taught that this law if made the actuating principle of man's life, would solve all his problems and lead him ever right.

25. Q. What is the seventh Declaration?

A. "We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys nature's physical and spiritual laws."

26. Q. What is the vital point in this Declaration?

A. That we as individuals are morally responsible for our every act and deed, for our own lives as we live them. As we obey or disobey nature's laws we gain happiness or unhappiness, here and hereafter. Spiritualism teaches us that neither Jesus Christ or our spirit loved ones can bear any part of the punishment for our sins and mistakes. We alone can and must make reparation for them by retracing our steps and replacing evil deeds with good before we can progress.

27. Q. What is the eighth Declaration?

A. "We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul, here or hereafter."

28. Q. Just what does this mean to you?

A. It means that we need no longer fear eternal punishment or a burning hell. Through our scientifically proven communication we learn that the thought of a burning hell is but symbolical of the burning of our own conscience. Our spirit friends tell us that at the time of transition we move to that sphere for which our earth life has best fitted us. If it be one of darkness, which designates the abiding place of those who lived a sinful life of earth,

then we must through our own desire work out of that condition by reparation and compensation, eventually progressing into the lights of spiritual happiness and understanding. There is literally speaking no hell-fire, nor is the doorway to reformation ever closed to any human soul.

29. Q. What is religion?

A. Religion is right living, and is attained by a knowledge of God's Law that teaches us how to understand our relationship to the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man. The golden rule is its precept. Religion is not theology; religion is not dogma or creed, nor is it necessarily related to any particular church or priest.

30. Q. Do you consider religion essential to man's progression?

A. Absolutely yes. Man must have an understanding of the governing laws and of his own possibilities in order to build his life constructively. No man whether he be Christian or atheist, denies the certainty of natural laws that are immutable and unchangeable regardless of man's own desires. As Emanuel Swedenborg wrote: All religion is related to life and the life of religion is to do good."

31. Q. Is Spiritualism a new Religion?

A. No, indeed. It is as old as mankind. In the early days of primitive religion we had evidences of Mediumship and our Holy Bible portrays every phase of it that is known to our present day Medium.

32. Q. Are the teachings of Spiritualism antagonistic to those of the Bible?

A. No! They only make more beautiful its Spiritual teachings and help us, through an understanding of Natural Law, to see the moral of those passages that we believe to be symbolical rather than literal. Our Philosophy is absolutely the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, and one has never really read the Bible until one has read it from a Spiritualistic viewpoint.

33. Q. What do you mean by the term Modern Spiritualism?

A. Modern Spiritualism dates from the time the Fox sisters first heard the spirit raps in their home at Hydesville, N. Y., March 31, 1848. The term is not used to designate a new religion but rather a more modern and a broader interpretation of the same Spiritual Truths understood by Jesus and the prophets of old.

34. Q. Who was Andrew Jackson Davis?

A. He was a prolific writer of Spiritualistic books and upon them much of our present day understanding of the Philosophy of Spiritualism is founded. He was called the "Poughkeepsie Seer," and was born in Bloomingrove, N. Y., 1826, and passed into Spirit, January 13, 1910.

35. Q. Who founded the Spiritualistic Lyceum?

A. Andrew Jackson Davis. In Doddsworth Hall, New York City, Jan-

uary 26, 1863, the first Lyceum was held. In a vision he saw the children being educated in the Spirit World and was inspired to start a similar school on earth.

36. Q. Do Spiritualists believe in a personal devil?

A. Absolutely not. We consider evil as the negative of good. All God's creations are good therefore He could create no evil—evil is good misunderstood and misapplied by man. We do not believe in a personal God, therefore we cannot believe in a personal devil.

37. Q. How can you prove that your communications with Spirits are not from an evil source?

A. By the communications themselves. Nothing could come from an evil source and be as beautiful and constructive as are the teachings derived through Spirit communication. We have yet to hear in a seance room the condoning of a wrong act, or advice given by a spirit that was not good, wholesome and constructive. Those who seek communion with evil in their hearts can attract to themselves evil, lying spirits, that is Natural Law, but he who seeks with pure thought, asking advice and spiritual guidance, receives only the highest and best.

38. Q. Can you prove the truth of Spirit communication by the Bible?

A. Absolutely yes. Moses received the ten commandments in this way and the Bible is filled with instances of a like nature. Our own beloved Jesus

was the greatest Medium the world has ever known, and surely if the communicating spirits were devils in disguise trying to lead humanity astray, they could not have deceived Him. There are those who accept the Bible literally, so also accept the spirit communication of those days, but they give as an excuse for not believing in it today, that the days of miracles are over. There never were and never could be miracles. All things must be in accordance with Natural Law. Anything that has ever happened in past ages can happen today, we cannot possibly get away from that certain fact and as Jesus Christ, a Medium, talked with Moses and Elias who had passed on, we too through our Mediums of today talk with our beloved in the Spirit World.

39. Q. Do you believe that all are created equal?

A. In as far as having potential faculties which may be developed, yes—for instance, all men have intelligence, reason, consciousness and Spiritual understanding, these are God given gifts. It is up to man himself to develop these gifts and to make of himself what he chooses. His possibilities are unlimited provided he obeys God's law.

40. Q. Do you believe that man can be a financial success if he breaks Natural Law in his effort?

A. Yes. But, there is a law of compensation that is immutable and unchangeable and either here or hereafter he who cheats God or man, to achieve

that success, must feel its effect. What we sow we must surely reap.

41. Q. What is Natural Law?

A. Natural Law is that law that God set in motion to govern all that he had created. It is immutable and unchangeable. We know of no instance where God has set aside that law in response to human appeal or for any other reason.

42. Q. What is the Law of Life?

A. The Law of Life is that law that controls the relationship of God and man. Upon our ability to adjust ourselves to it, depends the power of God that is expressed through us.

43. Q. What is the Law of Love?

A. The Law of Love is the creative force of all life. It is the highest vibration that can be attained for love is God and God is love.

44. Q. What is the Law of Truth?

A. It is that knowledge which constitutes right thinking, right acting and right living. Truth will always rise triumphantly over evil and wrong doing and is ever leading us onward toward a better and higher understanding of life.

45. Q. What is the Law of Compensation?

A. It is that law that metes out to man just payment for his own acts, for be they bad or good, the Law of Compensation automatically exacts its punishment or reward.

46. Q. What is the Law of Freedom?

A. The Law of Freedom teaches man his own unlimited power of choice. He can live as he desires, suffering or progressing in accordance with those desires.

47. Q. What does Spiritualism teach you regarding thoughts?

A. That they are real and active things in our lives. "As a man thinketh so is he." As Ella Wheeler Wilcox says:

"Thoughts are things on airy winds
Swifter than carrier dove
They follow the Law of the Universe
Each must create its kind.
They speed o'er the track to bring
you back
Whatever went out from your mind."

48. Q. What thoughts are constructive?

A. Love, service, prayer, harmony, faith, truth, honesty and many others.

49. Q. What thoughts are destructive?

A. Fear has been a most destructive thought since primitive times. Doubt, jealousy, hatred and malice are all destructive.

50. Q. Does the body control the mind or vice-versa?

A. The scientists of our present day prove by scientific tests upon the human anatomy that the mind controls the body and that destructive thoughts cause disease and wreak their vengeance upon the human body accordingly.



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51. Q. Why do you have affirmations?

A. Because of our knowledge that thoughts are things we know that a thought affirmed often enough becomes a real and active part of our lives. Hence the desire to affirm good thoughts.

52. Q. What is the best definition of myself as an individual?

A. You are a trinity, body, soul and spirit. If properly attuned to life you are conscious of your own possibilities, even while living in this earth life, which is the kindergarten of your experiences as a physical and spiritual being.

53. Q. What is the soul according to the vernacular of Spiritualism?

A. The soul is the spiritual body the connecting link between Spirit and material. At the time of so-called death it withdraws from its physical tenement and becomes the body of the Spirit throughout eternity.

54. Q. What is the Spirit?

A. The Spirit is the actuating life principle; the God-spark; it is the highest attribute of man, and the real essence of Infinite Intelligence. It is the I Am, that I am which gives to man immortality of the soul, memory and individuality.

55. Q. What physical evolution was necessary before the Spirit entered into the first man?

A. The development of the brain. Andrew Jackson Davis tells us that through the laws of organic evolution

the brain had to be perfectly developed with cerebrum and cerebellum before primitive man was able to receive the Divine inflow of Spirit which gave to him immortality of the soul, consciousness, reason and other attributes belonging solely to man.

56. Q. At what time during gestation does the Spirit enter the foetus?

A. At the moment of conception. We have had his proven to us by contacting spirit children who were premature and have been only of one or two months growth.

57. Q. What is man's purpose in life?

A. Creation and progression. To create more of his kind and to strive mentally, morally and physically to improve and progress in all ways.

58. Q. What are his possibilities?

A. There is nothing that is impossible with man that is within the scope of his own understanding. It is possible for him to build successfully and as he desires, provided he breaks no Natural Laws in so doing.

59. Q. Do Spiritualists believe that God has set any limit to man's progression?

A. No. Man's progression is unlimited as far as God is concerned. Man limits himself by his own misunderstanding of life and by his lack of knowledge regarding his own unlimited possibilities.

60. Q. What two faculties are given to man through his inheritance of Divine Mind or Spirit?

A. Reason and consciousness, these faculties making man the highest type of God's creation.

61. Q. What is the difference between mind and brain?

A. The brain is but the physical organism through which the mind functions.

62. Q. How do we differentiate between the different phases of mind?

A. The conscious, unconscious and subconscious. The conscious mind is that phase that is acquired through our conscious faculties; the second is the God mind giving to us the inherited knowledge of the ages and the last or sub-conscious mind is the storehouse of all our past thoughts and experiences.

63. Q. Does Spiritualism accept a belief in Spirit obsession?

A. The majority of Spiritualists do not. To believe that a thoroughly good person can be obsessed by an evil spirit and made to do wrong, is to believe in the supremacy of evil over good and we know that this is not true. If a person be evil himself there is no question but what he can attract evil spirits, but this is not spirit obsession, it is the action of a Natural Law, that of like attracting like.

64. Q. Does Spiritualism accept the theory of Reincarnation?

A. No. Anyone who reads the "Spiritualist Manuel" can readily see that it is not accepted by the National Association of Spiritualists. There are many reasons why we do not accept it but the most pertinent one is

that there is no retrogression in the Spirit World, and to return to earth again in another physical body would most surely be that. Our higher teachers from the Spirit Realms tell us that they have as yet found no actual proof of reincarnation.

65. Q. From whence was the theory of reincarnation derived?

A. From the religions of the Far East. While Buddha did not originate the theory, he taught it to his followers. There are many in this present day who still believe in it, all the Hindu religions, as well as Theosophy make it a part of their creed.

66. Q. What becomes of us after the change called death?

A. We, that is, the soul and spirit, move to that sphere in the Spirit World for which our earthly experience has best fitted us, but always there is a strong attraction to the earthly plane as long as those we dearly love still remain in the body.

67. Q. What do Spiritualists really believe regarding the word death?

A. That it is a misnomer, for literally speaking there is no death. When man has lived out his span of years in accordance with Natural Law, the spiritual and material must separate. The former live on throughout eternity, the same entity as when of earth, the latter disintegrates and goes back to earth but always exists as matter in one form or another. Nothing ever dies and nothing is ever lost even though it may change its form.

68. Q. From what source do you derive your knowledge of life in the Spirit Realms?

A. From our guides and loved ones who are living in that phase of life. We receive this information through the many channels of communication opened by Mediumship, and who is better fitted to give us this information than those who are living in that expression of life?

69. Q. What are the different stages of progression in Spirit Life called and how many in number?

A. They are called spheres or planes. The majority of teachers tell us that there are seven spheres and beyond that the intersolar and interstellar spheres of which we know but little, because they and their inhabitants would be too advanced Spiritually to be comprehended readily by earthly people. We receive many teachings from them, however, which are interpreted to us by our own guides.

70. Q. What do you mean by the term darkened sphere?

A. The darkened sphere, properly speaking, is the second, the first being the animal sphere. The second sphere is that to which those who have lived a sinful life of earth, gravitate at the time of transition; darkness symbolizing sin and ignorance. Our belief in a darkened sphere harmonizes with the Purgatory of Catholicism.

71. Q. What sphere can the person who has lived a fairly good life of earth, hope to attain?

A. The third. Those that are living in that condition tell us that it is nearest like the earth plane of any, and with practically the same degree of light.

72. Q. Where are these spheres located?

A. They are out from the earth, not up or down but out from it. The lower spheres being nearest the earth and the higher spheres the farthest from it.

73. Q. What are they formed of?

A. They are formed of the particles that are thrown off by the earth as it rotates on its axis. The more dense particles, owing to the law of gravitation remaining near to the earth, while the lighter ones are able to move farther away, forming the higher spheres.

74. Q. What are hell and Heaven in accordance with Spiritualistic philosophy?

A. They are not a place or an abode but rather, conditions of spiritual joy or misery. One may truly be in hell or Heaven while still upon the earth plane.

75. Q. Do we understand that there are occupations in this other world?

A. Yes. Life would be very monotonous if we had nothing to do. We are free to carry out whatever course of study or occupation that we may choose. Many spirits speak of carrying out in Heaven those desires that they were unable to gratify of earth.

76. Q. Do we retrogress in the Spirit World?

A. The loved ones tell us that there is no retrogression in Spirit Life; they must either progress or remain in the same condition in which they entered.

77. Q. Do spirits wear clothing?

A. Yes, except some very degraded souls in the lower realms. The higher the spirit progresses the more beautiful and luminous its clothing.

78. Q. Do they speak of marriage in Heaven?

A. Yes, but it is purely a matter of spiritual and mental companionship, and those who truly loved of earth are still together. The Master Teachers tell us that there are many, many man made marriages on the earth plane but few that are really God made, few in which a true Spiritual Love abides.

79. Q. What do you mean by the term "Spirit Guide?"

A. An entity who has made the transition from earth to Spirit, and who through a desire to serve humanity returns as a guide and mentor to some human soul of earth. He assists that soul in every way possible to progress and through him, his fellowman.

80. Q. Does everyone have a guide?

A. Yes. There is no one regardless of religious belief or creed who does not have the assistance and guidance of an angel from the Higher Realms.

81. Q. Do we have more than one guide?

A. We usually have several. It depends on the phases of Mediumship we

are capable of developing. There is always one main control and the others are our helpers in the various phases of work.

82. Q. Why are they attracted to us individually?

A. They tell us that it takes much study and progression in the schools of the Spirit World before they are deemed capable of becoming guides, and they are attracted to us through some similarity in character or work, or because they feel that they can use us as instruments to spread the Truth of Spirit Return.

83. Q. What are so-called earth-bound spirits?

A. That term is used in referring to those spirits who for some reason or other remain close to their former haunts of earth. Perhaps some remaining loved ones cling to them in thought and need their help or again it may be an entity who must make reparation for some crime of earth; one whose conscience burns and the law of attraction holds him until he has realized his mistake and made reparation so that he can progress.

84. Q. Is Spiritualism monotheistic or dualistic?

A. Spiritualism is monotheistic, recognizing only one God and all things as a part of that God.

85. Q. What position does Jesus hold in Spiritualism?

A. We consider him the greatest teacher and Medium that the world has ever known, a God-man who knew

and applied the Spiritual Law to a greater extent than any human soul who has ever lived, and we hold his name sacred in every way.

86. Q. Does Spiritualism believe literally in the vicarious atonement?

A. No, we do not. Our seventh declaration asserts the moral responsibility of the individual. We know through our scientifically proven communication with spirit loved ones, that each soul must make right its own sins, regardless of any last moment repentance. The Laws of Compensation demand that we compensate all evil with good before we can gain progression in Spirit Life.

87. Q. Do you believe in a miraculous birth of Jesus?

A. No. We believe in Natural Law and we know by experience that that law is immutable and unchangeable. Nature decrees that all men shall be born of woman in accordance with the law (Gal. Chap. 4, verse 4) therefore we cannot believe that God would break His own law. A belief in the natural birth of Jesus does not take from us one iota of his sacredness or faith that we have in him as the greatest teacher and Medium that the world has ever known.

88. Q. When and where was the first Society for Physical Research formed?

A. It was formed in England in 1882 by Stainton Moses and Sir Wm. Barrett. Among its first members was Prof. Henry Sedgewick, F. W. H. My-

ers, Dr. Richard Hodgson and others. Later Sir Oliver Lodge became a member and carried on an investigation of several noted Mediums, among whom were Mrs. Piper, who gave twenty years of her life to prove the truth of Spirit Return to science.

89. Q. Has Physical Research proved an advantage or a drawback to our cause?

A. An advantage. Scientifically proven communication endorsed by such men as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Camille Flammarion, Sir Wm. Crookes, Lord Northcliff and hundreds of others, has gone far toward convincing the world of the truth of Spirit Return.

90. Q. Do you as Spiritualists believe in predestination or fate?

A. No. We could not consistently believe in predestination and think that we are free agents, with the freedom to build our lives as we choose. We could not be morally responsible for our acts if they were all predestined. The idea that our lives are mapped out for us by destiny or fate is entirely out of harmony with Spiritualism.

91. Q. How do you account for the fact that a person who really tries to live right sometimes contacts disaster?

A. Natural law teaches us that every cause has its certain effect,—therefore, if we place ourselves in the pathway of disaster, we must suffer the consequences. This, of course, may not be the result of any immoral act on our part. For instance,—if you are

in the vicinity of an earthquake and are injured by its action, it does not denote any particular error on your part excepting that of being unfortunate enough to be there at that particular time.

92. Q. What is concentration, and what do you gain by it?

A. Concentration is the ability to focus the mind upon a given point, object or thought, and to hold it there to the exclusion of all else. By acquiring the ability to concentrate we gain the power to tune in with the Infinite Source of all Knowledge and receive guidance regarding the daily problems of our lives. Once one has learned the power of concentration one can at will, go into the silence and receive assistance from the Higher Forces.

93. Q. How can we best overcome our evil tendencies?

A. By striving to develop only your best and most constructive desires. Psycho-analyze yourself fearlessly and then face the fact that whatever you are you have made yourself. Emphasize your good points and overcome those that are destructive, secure in the knowledge that:

"You are the Master of your fate,
You are the Captain of your soul."

94. Q. Do you believe that everyone should have a certain amount of work to do?

A. The Laws of Nature demand that each consumer shall be a producer. To be a constructive member of the great human family we must

each have a definite work to do for the betterment of mankind, be it mental or manual labor. To live rightly we must all work for the good of the whole, rather than for individual gratification.

95. Q. Is Spiritualism antagonistic toward any other church or religion?

A. Absolutely not. It emphasizes the fact that there is good in all religion. Truth is truth whatever form it may be presented in and right living is the keynote to all religion.

96. Q. Does Spiritualism believe in capital punishment?

A. Certainly not, and it is to the credit of the Spiritualists that many of them have taken a decided stand against it. This problem could be worked out in many ways other than following the old Mosaic Law of "a tooth for a tooth," by taking a life for a life.

97. Q. Then what would you suggest regarding those who have broken the law?

A. I would first suggest that they be taught how to live right, not through fear of punishment but because it is the only right way to live. There is no code of right living more constructive than the Philosophy of Spiritualism. Through it they may learn their true relationship to God and man and their own duty toward all. There is no person who has sunk so low that there is not some good left in him. Find that spark of good and then appeal to it. Many times the contact of some loved one in the Spirit World can do more to help

these poor misguided souls than anything else. There is a wonderful field of work here and so few to carry it on.

98. Q. I hear Swedenborg quoted often in Spiritualistic writings and lectures. Was he a Spiritualist?

A. I do not believe that he called himself such, although he claimed to have established contact with the Spirit World. He was among the first to teach that the Bible should be symbolized rather than taken literally word for word and he wrote extensive literature upon that subject.

99. Q. Do you believe that there will ever be a Universal Religion?

A. Yes. We believe that the time will come although it may be far in the future when there will be a Universal Religion, one in which all mankind may agree; one which accepts the immortality of the soul, the return and communication with Spirit, the Brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God. It may not be called Spiritualism, but it has been prophesied by the Spirit World and most surely will come to pass.

100. Q. What vital benefits do you derive through your knowledge of Spiritualism?

A. Its benefits are many, but the most important things are these:

1—A knowledge of the immortality of the soul which overcomes all fear of death.

2—A knowledge of our own moral responsibility, that teaches us that as we sow so shall we reap, and to realize

that no one can atone for our sins but ourselves.

3—A knowledge of Natural Law that helps us to build aright our own lives. When we realize that these laws are immutable and unchangeable, that a certain cause is sure to bring its certain effect, we are more apt to try to obey them.

4—A knowledge that there is no hell-fire of eternal damnation. The doorway to reformation is never closed. Through reparation we can work out of any darkened condition caused by the breaking of God's laws and eventually progress into the light of happiness and understanding.

5—The comfort of communing with our loved ones who have passed on and the assurance that from this Higher Realm they are ever striving to assist us and to guide us aright.

