THE WORK
OF THE
ASTROLOGICAL LODGE
OF LONDON

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Meetings of the Astrological Lodge will be held on every Monday in session at No. 6, Queen Square, near Southampton Row, as follows: Beginners' Class, 6.15; Public Lecture, 7.0; Members Only Meeting, 8.20.

Full particulars from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. C. Davison, "Clovelly," Nicholson Road, Croydon, Surrey.

Hon. Treasurer's address is:—Mrs. A. Parkes, 49 Longdown Lane, N., Epsom, Surrey.

Astrology is no mere system of fortune-telling. It is a Universal Philosophy, founded on demonstrable scientific fact. The object of the Lodge is to form a strong body of earnest students, able to study and promulgate astrological truth, and to purify it from unworthy associations of all sorts. In this work we bespeak the help of every serious student, each according to his or her capacity.

All who are seriously interested in Astrological Science are invited to join and assist in our work.

A Cross in the space below indicates that, according to our records, your Subscription is now due and should be sent to C. E. O. Carter, 37 Inner Park Road, London, S.W.19, or to your usual Agents.



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OF INTEREST TO ALL ASTROLOGERS

ASTROLOGY

THE ASTROLOGERS' QUARTERLY

ISSUED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
ASTROLOGICAL LODGE OF LONDON
AND DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF
ASTROLOGY IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

Editor: CHARLES E. O. CARTER

VOLUME 25 DECEMBER 1951 NUMBER 4
JANUARY FEBRUARY 1952

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ASTROLOGY

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To save useless correspondence, readers are asked to bear in mind that *Astrology* undertakes no professional work.

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Readers will please note that neither the Astrological Lodge nor the Editor necessarily endorses opinions expressed in signed articles, the object of the Quarterly being to provide a forum for the free discussion of astrological problems.

The proprietors of *Astrology* are the Astrological Lodge of the Theosophical Society in England.

ASTROLOGY

The magazine ASTROLOGY is conducted upon purely non-commercial and idealistic principles. All contributions and all services (other than printing) are rendered voluntarily and gratuitously in order to assist in spreading a knowledge of astrological science in all its aspects. Readers are invited to co-operate in this work in the above spirit.

VOLUME TWENTY-FIVE DECEMBER 1951 NUMBER FOUR
JANUARY FEBRUARY 1952

EDITORIAL

His Majesty's Illness

This can have come as no surprise to astrologers, who have watched with concern the gathering effect of Sun square Saturn. The one-degree direction Mars square radical asc. is also close.

The nativity is one that threatens lung-trouble very clearly, Mercury being opposed to Pluto and Neptune in the 8th in Gemini, and 27° Aries-Libra being related to the lungs (see the *Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology*).

We trust that His Majesty, who has long borne so heavy a burden so courageously, will yet regain a measure of good health; but the approaching transits of Saturn and Neptune are not helpful.

Political

At a general discussion held in the Lodge on October 15th it was fairly unanimously agreed that the Conservatives would win the election. They will inherit a heavy burden. Not only Britain but many other countries are suffering from the most serious difficulties. Poor natural resources and rapidly increasing populations: what permanent cure can politicians find for these conditions?

The cure, we think, will lie with science when this is able to devote its marvellous powers to construction instead of, to a great degree, to problems of an opposite character. But even when this is done, fresh difficulties often arise: witness the results of stamping out malaria in some countries where this disease was an effective though cruel check on over-population.

As for Abadan and Egypt, I have no reliable data for Persia, but the horoscope for the kingdom of Egypt is said to be for 6.45 p.m., March 15, 1922, Cairo, so that three bodies rising in Libra receive the impact of recent and coming Saturn and Neptune transits.

When a country possesses some great natural asset, such as oil resources or the Suez Canal, these ought not to be selfishly monopolised. But it is to be feared that very few countries indeed have any right to preach sermons to others on this theme. Our own prosperity was built on coal, and we still try to get the best price we can for this commodity. How then complain if the Argentine tries to do the same with its meat? There is still far too much rank humbug about.

Not only are most nations selfish, but they are not even intelligent in their self-seeking. If they were, they might perceive how easily the greatest cunning may turn out in the long run to be the greatest foolishness.

Whilst this sort of attitude continues, political astrology is bound to be a depressing subject.

It would seem that the risk of global warfare that many foresaw for 1952 is somewhat diminished. But Mars remains in Scorpio for an unconscionable long time during that year, so that the atmosphere will be anything but tranquil.

As for the gravity of the economic outlook, what has been said in these editorials for some time is now becoming common knowledge. I suppose we shall get through, but it is hard to see how. Not that "we" are the only nation concerned in this matter. Everywhere the complaint goes up that the value of money is "melting away." In Russia, it will be remembered, it disappeared overnight, to a considerable extent, by a State decree, as also in Western Germany.

The New Year Maps

Readers will recall that these maps, cast for midnight of December 31st of each year, have been mentioned here, without your editor committing himself to any decided opinion as to their value.

The 1951 figure was by way of being a good test case, for the Moon, ruler 10th, rose to Uranus in square to Uranus near M.C. This seemed a sure indication of the overthrow of government and rulers, perhaps by violence, or at any rate sudden changes.

As I write there are still two months to run, but the list is already fairly impressive. In Persia Prime Minister and Foreign Minister were assassinated; then there were also King Abdullah and Liaquat Ali Khan. There has been a plot against Perón. Clementis has disappeared. Macarthur was suddenly deprived of almost dictatorial power.

In our own country the Sovereign has been gravely ill and the Government has fallen.

It remains to be seen what else of a like kind may befall.

Winter Ingress

This is shockingly bad.

The Moon is conjunction Saturn and Mars in Libra, quite close and applying, Neptune being just on the fringe of their orbs. *The Moon is square Uranus, only two minutes before the time of the ingress!*

This satellitium of ill omen falls around the nadir not far from Moscow, and the line also runs down through Mesopotamia, Neptune being close to the nadir at Teheran.

Thus, everything points to violence throughout the Middle East.

King Farouk's ascendant is said to be 18 : 59 Libra, so that he has recently had the conjunction of Neptune.

Recall, too, that the U.S.A. Saturn (ruling 10th?) is in 14 : 50 Libra.

Our 1801 map is fortunately not so closely implicated, and by equal division Jupiter is on cusp 10 at London.

Is the placard "Please Kick Me" to be at last removed from the seat of John Bull's trousers?

Scientific Astrology

When I see this phrase I always feel rather fearful. So often those who use it appear to have little knowledge of what science implies to a modern mind. They seem to think that one has only to reject with scorn anything that savours of the "occult" or "mystical" and what remains a "science!"

Some go so far as to say that Astrology is not and cannot become a science. That is nonsense. A science is an organised body of knowledge and certainly Astrology is that, and always has been. Too organised, in the sense of being too schematic, for some people. Astrology is certainly quite as much a science as meteorology or psychology or medicine. It may not be an *exact* science, but that is another question altogether. It seems, indeed, that nowadays scientists themselves—the orthodox kind—are not as fond as they were of using this term.

It is sometimes said that science is really common sense, and that is a point I tried to make when addressing the Faculty of Astrological Studies on the subject of statistics.

Astrology presents very plainly the two methods of science, deductive and inductive, but the former has been developed far more than the latter. Every student learns to form an ideal conception of the principles of which our factors are symbols, and from these principles he deduces certain probable conditions. Jupiter = principle of liberation; the 2nd house = the principle of material necessity: very well then, a good Jupiter

in the 2nd = liberation from material necessity. This may come in one of two ways: the native may have so much of what is colloquially known as "the needful" that he has no cause to bother about 2nd house matters, or he may be indifferent to all such and have no sense of poverty even when actually possessed of little. In each case the principles are the same. *Outwardly* the conditions are exactly opposite.

Now this deductive method is perfectly legitimate and we are very lucky to have it. It is precisely because so many modern sciences have nothing of the sort that they are so uncertain and mutable in their doctrines, whereas the main principles of Astrology have remained unaltered for many centuries.

The trouble is that it is apt to run wild when used by undisciplined minds.

It needs constant checking by induction, that is, by testing from below upwards, from particular cases to the general principles.

Retrogradation

A good instance is that of the significance, if any, of retrogradation. Reasoning deductively astrologers have constantly asserted that a retrograde planet is "weak," "fails to fulfil its promise" and so forth. There seems some hazy notion that because it is commonly a sign of weakness when a man retires instead of going forward, so also a planet that turns back on its path is showing weakness, indecision, and hesitancy.

Yet would it not be easy to test this notion?

Take Mercury: do we not all agree that he symbolises our powers of expression? Well, then, if the foregoing is true a retrograde Mercury should show a hesitant habit of self-expression. Would not stammering be a typical case in point? Good! Then why not collect as many cases of this trouble as possible and see how many of them have a retrograde Mercury. Remember that the average occurrence of this phenomenon (☿ ℞) is, I believe, roughly 1 in 5, so that, to support the hypothesis, we should need something definitely in excess of this proportion, and we should need a good number of cases to rule out a chance sequence, such as one gets when one tosses a coin and obtains the same result, perhaps, four or five times running.

Would readers care to join in this piece of research and send me data of stammerers?

It must be borne in mind that, though many cases are needed to get anywhere near *proving* a hypothesis, quite a few may be useful in *suggesting* one, so that students should not imagine

that collecting maps is of no practical use because they could never hope to build up a sufficient number.

Induction does not only help to prove our hypotheses; it is of great use in disproving them. One single well-authenticated case will be sufficient, for example, to destroy the sweeping assertions that some astrologers put forward, or used to.

I remember one old gentleman, long since passed away, who combined a passion for Astrology with an equal dispassion for clean linen, and who affirmed that people born with their Sun-positions in opposition were always antagonistic to one another. (Yes, in the old days astrologers really did talk that sort of rubbish.) Now it so happens that I have two such cases in my own family where there has always been affection and co-operation. So this hypothesis, at least in the form in which it was propounded, is just nonsense. The ancient who put it forward had probably based it upon two or three cases, or perhaps on even less.

"The Principles of Astrology"

This work has been out of print for some time, but a new edition, embodying a good many alterations which I hope are improvements, is now in the printers' hands.

Will readers please note that I do not myself supply books, either my own or any others? They should be ordered in the usual way, through local booksellers, or direct from the publishers. I have no staff to handle such commissions.

A New Year's Resolution

To spend little time—and even less space—on hypothetical horoscopes.

NEWS FROM THE FACULTY

BY M. E. H. AND R. C. F.

THE chart for the founding of the Faculty is an interesting one since it has proved so very correct, even in its short life of three years.

Uranus is in its 7th house so there have already been many changes amongst officials.

Mr. Michael Becker who has Taurus on the cusp of his 11th house, and its ruler Venus in that house, has now decided that "hopes and wishes" are to be attained through the care of real cows rather than through chartered accountancy (which was true to Taurus in the astrological interpretation of "caring

for" money). Since this new interest has removed him to Jersey, his office, that of Treasurer, has been undertaken by Miss Jacinthe Buddicom, D.F.Astrol.S.

Extension of Teaching Facilities

Jupiter is in the 1st house so growth is to be expected, and this would naturally be in a new way in a year when, by progression, the Sun comes to the natal Moon, as it does in 1952.

Many applications for tuition have been reluctantly refused because would-be students live in the country and abroad, since the general policy of the Council has been to consolidate first and branch out later.

A scheme has now been devised which counters the two main objections to the usual correspondence course. In such a method of teaching, the student gets monthly instalments but has no complete manuscript to study, a great lack for the quick-minded who would prefer to go over the whole ground first and then return to the beginning for detailed study. The new text-book by Mrs. Hone has been written as nearly as possible in the words used to students in the class room, and it includes example natal and progressed charts with their interpretations, exactly as already given to them this year.

External students, as they will be called, will be enrolled as students of the Faculty; they will begin in January with the new *Internal* students, will have the same complete text-book, the same homework and tests, the same holiday tasks, and will work for the same examination, which, if they wish, they can take near their own homes so long as they can find a suitable invigilator.

It is hoped that keen workers will join with others in their localities so that both study and examinations can take place in friendly groups. If this can be done, the Faculty hopes to send a tutor to give a lecture to any such centre once a year.

Another difficulty with some correspondence courses is that the student feels they are impersonal and that he has no one to turn to in a difficulty. Under the new scheme, external students are to be allowed to write a certain number of letters each term to their tutor and if making a visit to London may exchange some of these for a special private lesson. Needless to say, they will also be welcomed to the School in South Kensington.

Each will receive a correctly drawn copy of his own chart so that he may apply what he learns to the person he should know best—himself. The address for application for Prospectus can be seen in the advertisement in this number of the Quarterly.

Invitation Evening

Last year, the Council invited interested friends to come to see what went on at the Faculty School. These included the Officers and Committee of the Lodge, Presidents, Chairmen and Secretaries of kindred Societies, writers and publishers of books and magazines dealing with Astrology. They not only enjoyed what they came to see and hear but also the opportunity of meeting each other, so it was decided to repeat the evening.

Mr. Carter presided, but unfortunately, Brigadier Firebrace could not take part. Mrs. Hone spoke on the experience gained by the School Committee since its work began.

She explained that, instead of hoping to be right on one of several possibilities, Faculty students were trained to *translate* a chart in an orderly manner, factor by factor, enlivening this with their own vivid phraseology afterwards, omitting all astrological padding, but placing in a margin the significators from which each deduction is drawn, so that the tutor might follow their reasoning.

The "Direct Method" of calculation has been taught since January, and she was glad to say that in the Summer Holiday Homework, though the birthplace given was abroad, every chart was correct except one by a Junior whose method was perfect but who had made a wrong subtraction.

After an interval for refreshments and conversation, Mr. Carter gave a tuitional talk on the use of statistics in Astrology. He said it was quite wrong of people to say that none existed, and he instanced the work of Krafft, Choisnard and others. He spoke of the care needed in the evaluation of the importance of any one factor in a chart according to the frequency of its probable recurrence. It was remarked afterwards by a scientist that it was a pity that more astrologers did not think in this clear, mathematical way and that Mr. Carter "spoke as a scientist."

Examinations

At the time of writing, the entries already exceed those of last year. The dates of the examinations are December 8th, 12th and 15th.

1952

The term starts on Wednesday, January 9th, both for *Internal* and *External* students. Those who have passed the beginner stage are reminded that if they have not been through either the Junior year or the Senior Preparatory Class, it will be necessary for them to take special private lessons in order to qualify for the Senior Class.

AT HOME AND ABROAD

By JACINTHE BUDDICOM

AT this Winter season of the year, it seems appropriate to give first place to an interesting sketch of "SATURN—Builder of Fires," by Ethel Ruhwadel, in the September number of *American Astrology*.

This writer finds that when Saturn opposes or is in close contact with many planets (either in the radical or progressed chart) the native is likely to develop ingenuity in the affairs of life: most of these planets Saturn happens to be associated with are likely to be in aspect with each other, enabling the native to plan some careful course of action which will bring BENEFIT rather than the disaster some astrologers expect under heavy Saturnian aspects. "The Saturnian influence on a group of planets is like a community being hounded by a foe: they are forced on the defensive, which puts them on the alert and makes them use their wits. . . . Saturn is symbolical of aid in troubled times, but only when a resourceful attitude has been developed in earlier life."

Saturn represents that principle of accumulative conservatism in the Zodiac, and without his influence there would have been no confinement of LIFE in the earth, hence no growth of integration and no world. Not only is Saturn the builder, but also the refiner, the toner; and this principle shines forth in people and in objects. In any painting if the subject is composed of all brilliant colours it is apt to be too harsh and glaring, but a small addition of the darkness of Saturn tones the whole picture down, giving it a depth and character it could never otherwise attain.

Saturn represents that main ingredient in a magnetic person that psychologists tell us is the finishing touch of personality. It is the maturing of the adolescent, the rein on a horse, the poise of the aristocrat, which can be summed up as POWER UNDER PERFECT CONTROL.

The same September *American Astrology* also quotes (from Fall issue of "Fantastic Story Magazine"):

"An unexpected and highly interesting development has recently been reported by the research department of one of our two greatest radio networks, In the constant battle to eliminate or at least control static in amplitude modulation broadcasting, what can only be termed *practical astrology* is currently being practised.

"It has been found that the amount of static varies according to the near approach of the planets to Earth and that greater

power is required on the part of the broadcaster to enable listeners to tune in without acquiring matburns on their ears. When any of the planets are in transit (i.e. when the orbit of one intersects that of another in relation to Earth as in a solar eclipse) static is even more pronounced. In short, broadcasting power, save in the case of static-proof frequency modulation, is being regulated in direct accordance with the positions of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, *et cie.* And if that is not astrology in action, we don't know what it is.

"Scoffers may attempt to palm it off as astronomy, tangential outgrowth of the older science. But astronomy is the direct study of heavenly bodies *per se* in an effort to determine through observation the nature of the Universe. When it comes to Earth-control exercised by these bodies, we are back in astrological boundaries."

Berenice Stockland, in the August number of *American Astrology*, writes a good article on "The Solar Houses," which she calls a study in fundamentals. She says:

"Solar houses have a basic foundation in and of themselves for the Solar Chart, as well as an underlying foundation that should be tied into the rectified chart to acquire detailed understanding of the native and his psychological outlook. This foundation is just as important as the basic use we make of the normal house positions of the signs themselves.

"We say that Aries is the first sign, and the basic foundation for all first house application, whether the rising sign be Gemini or Capricorn. Just in this same way are the solar houses basic in their application. A Gemini Sun will have a basic foundation of Gemini as a 1st house, overlaid on the Aries foundation, with a 1st house rising-sign overlaid on the other two. This sounds complicated, but really has a simplicity once you get to work on it . . . this 1st house application is pretty well recognised; but as far as the other eleven houses are concerned, they seem to have been relegated to the forgotten past, especially if a Rectified Chart is used."

Mrs. Stockland goes on to give various examples of this Solar application, as, for instance, the suggestion that "those with Capricorn Sun tend to travel to and from their work" *because* the 6th Solar House of the Capricorn Sun is Gemini, the sign of to-and-fro travel; that in 3rd house affairs the Aquarian Sun is thoroughly Arian in his outlook, driving ahead in education whether he has had a formal education or not, his thought-processes tending towards new ideas, etc., while in 7th house affairs the sign of Leo gives him a flair for the dramatic; that Scorpion Sun with Aquarius on his 4th house makes continual alterations in his home; that the 7th house Capricorn of the

Cancer Sun leads her, if she goes out into public, to do so "not for idealism but for hard-headed business reasons."

I regret that space prevents me from quoting this article more fully, but readers can quickly and simply work it out for themselves in any particular case required. I have myself been experimenting with these solar houses for some time, and am very much impressed by them. Of course, the Solar Chart must be set up with all the planets in their signs according to the actual birthdate, and aspects considered in the usual way. For persons whose genuine birthtime is unknown . . . and their name is legion—this seems to me to give far more satisfactory results than "rectification," which is *with 24 hours to choose from* problematical, to say the least. A friend of mine who had no idea of her birthtime but was extremely anxious for a "horoscope" applied for one to four different astrologers, three of whom, at least, put a good deal of time and trouble into "rectifyination," as we may well call it, looking at the poor lady from practically every angle, and probing into almost every detail of her blameless past. Each of the four saddled her with a different rising sign, so her confusion was quadrupled, since each of them had equally excellent reasons for their choice. A few years later, in turning out some old family papers, she came upon a letter from her grandmother, who was present at her birth, written on the actual day and giving the exact time most circumstantially.

Which of the four astrologers was right, and why? Here we might have some useful data for future occasions. Alas, all four were wrong. And can you really blame them? With 360 degrees to choose from, was it *likely* that they would hit the bull's-eye in one shot, not knowing what they were aiming at, since it is doubtful whether one person in ten is really typical in physical appearance of their rising sign? Rectification to a particular degree, when the birthtime is known within half an hour or so may be permissible; rectification to one degree out of 360 brings us into the realms of pure fantasy.

But with the solar chart we are on more solid ground. In the case of the lady mentioned above, it really gives quite a good picture of her. She has Sun in Capricorn, so with Uranus in Aquarius in 2nd house her personal finances were rather erratic and she hated being "cluttered up" with possessions. With Pisces on 3rd, Jupiter being conjunct Neptune in the 8th in Leo, she had one sister who died in hospital under anaesthetic, from heart failure, while undergoing an operation. Sagittarius is on the 12th in the native's chart, and this configuration was picked up again to give her a very large legacy from an uncle (Mercury ruler of 6th in 12th in Sagittarius, trine Jupiter-

Neptune). Her early home life was stormy and her parents got divorced, as might be expected with Mars in Libra in 10th opposition Moon in Aries in 4th. Her own work was quite well shown by Gemini on 6th and Mars in Libra on 10th, since she started in beauty culture at 18 and joined the W.A.A.F. in the war. She had a tragic love affair: Venus ruling 5th, posited in Scorpio in the 11th square Uranus in 2nd in Aquarius, the airman to whom she was engaged threw her over in a very heartless way and married a friend of hers, who had put in a bit of fishy work (Pisces on 3rd, love-affairs of friends and friends of lovers). There were many other correlations, on which I will not dwell at present, but I have mentioned this chart because, having come across its owner *after* the four had had their say but *before* she discovered her correct birthtime, she asked me to rectify her chart and make a fifth guess at her ascendant. This I refused to do, but set her up a solar chart, which at least gave a résumé of her life from the point of view of the Sun, her Vital Principle. Of couse, it was not the same as her true natal chart and it did not give her an ascendant. *But it did not pretend to.* She herself thought the picture the most "like her" that she had received. She had a curiously scattered map. For anyone who would like to play about with it, her birthdate was December 30, 1919. I will not mention the time. Her parents separated when she was 7.

The matter of solar houses has been mentioned before at the Lodge, and I should be very pleased indeed to have the views of readers as to whether they have tested them in their own charts, or charts of people they know *well*, and what results they obtained. Of course, no such rough and ready method can replace an exact chart drawn up accurately for a *known* birthtime; but there is a great quandary in which the professional astrologer constantly finds himself, since he is so often asked for advice which is really very greatly needed by people who have no idea of their birthtimes and no means of ascertaining them. What is he to do? Refuse to undertake the task altogether, in which case the would-be client may very well go off in desperation to one of the "pigeon-hole brigade"? Pick with a pin, at random and with his eyes shut, one of the 360 degrees, in the belief that if it works at the racecourse he may equally well find a winner for the ascendant? Spend hours, days, and if he is really conscientious, weeks or months in testing every possible event for "rectification," during which time the crisis in his client's life will have probably passed over, let him hope? (And even then, he perhaps has the horrible sneaking feeling that however hard he has studied form, the favourite doesn't by any means always come in first.) For myself, I believe that a

judicious blending of the Solar and Natural houses gives far better results; especially with some attention paid to the dispositor of the Sun and to the general shaping of the planetary pattern, which would be important in any case.

Les Cahiers Astrologiques for July/August makes mention of a measure which is new to me. It is called the Dodecatemory, and is obtained by taking the planetary position, counting 0 Aries as the starting point, multiplying this position by 12 and adding the result to the original position: e.g. suppose Mars to be 10°30′ Aries, multiply 10°30′ by 12 which is 126 degrees, and add to 10°30′ Aries which brings us to 16°30′ of Leo, as the Dodecatemory of Mars.

Examples are given of this point in charts of Generals whose charts are not of obviously military significance, from a paper by the late M. Andre Costeseque.

Foch, with Mars in 19.36 of Cancer, has the Dodecatemory in 14.48 Pisces, close to the M.C.

Joffre has also the Dodecatemory of Mars close to the M.C. in 24.50 Scorpio. His birthtime is given as 12 January, 1852, 8 a.m. Rivesaltes.

Petain has this point at 10.12 Sagittarius, near his ascendant.

M. Costeseque has also some notes on the Part of Fortune, which he declared after systematic examination to have little to do with wealth or capacity for material gain, but to be concerned with the personality, the health and life; that is to say, to correspond closely to the ascendant, in its meaning. He advocates the use of similar points for the other planets (the old "Arabic points"), and to combine these with the Dodecatemories. His system, however, involves four figures from each chart, and although these excursions are often interesting in theory, by the time all the calculations are made and all the points are plotted the resulting creation would look more like a hedgehog than a horoscope, with barely a degree left unoccupied by *something*.

Miss Erna Bastian, in the *A.F.A. Bulletin* gives some examples of Henry Busse's theory of the relationship between Mercury's elongation and the human mind. The suggestion is that Mercury within 9° of the Sun "gives a mental attitude rather similar to Mercury in Leo; his thinking is guided by an image of perfection (Sun), an ideal: his viewpoints are fixed, determined in expression and somewhat lofty in language, from the fusion with the principle of magnificence."

"Mercury 9° to 19°, not too near and not too far from the Sun promises a good balance between the mind and its means of expression, giving besides a high degree of mental clarity;

the standpoint becomes firm though impersonal, and is controlled by reason. This elongation seems to loosen the pen as well as the tongue.

"Whereas in the first group the mind seems mastered by the heart, while in the second reality is governed by the use of reason, so we find in the third group, from 20° to 28°, rather a turning away from both heart and reason in favour of a larger horizon . . . the mind is free to speculate and dream."

It is a little hard to compare her examples fully, as the same categories are not given for all groups, but those under "Politics" are:

Group I.—Gladstone 0, Mussolini 1½, Theodore Roosevelt and De Galle 2, Lenin 2½, Cromwell, Thomas Jefferson, Dolfuss, Petain 3, Hitler 5½.

Group II.—Woodrow Wilson 11, Truman 12, Disraeli 14, Benjamin Franklin 15, F. D. Roosevelt 16, Lincoln 17, Karl Marx 19.

Group III.—Brüning 21, Harry Hopkins 23, Bismarck 24, Gandhi 25, George Washington 27.

If readers have made any researches of their own on similar lines, it would be interesting to hear their results and agreement or disagreement. I have been comparing some charts having ☉ ☿ ♀ in the SAME SIGN (1), contrasting them with others having ALL THREE in DIFFERENT SIGNS (2). From my few examples, Class 1 seem to have more concentration and fixity of purpose, but less co-ordination with *other people* than Class 2, who seem to have a free-er and wider range.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we learn from the *A.F.A. Bulletin* of the passing of two well-known astrologers: Mr. GRANT LEWI, editor of *The Astrologer* and author of *Heaven Knows What*, was born June 8, 1902, at Albany, N.Y., at 8.35 a.m. E.S.T., and died on July 15, 1951, after suffering a cerebral haemorrhage.

A graduate of Hamilton College, he taught English at the University of North Dakota, the University of Delaware, and Dartmouth College. He received his master's degree at Columbia University.

Mrs. LEIGH HOPE MILBURN, whose book *The Progressed Horoscope Simplified* we all know as an interesting contribution to astrology, passed away on August 22, 1951, of cerebral sclerosis preceded by anaemia. She was born in Dunedin, N.Z., December 24, 1877, at 2.54 p.m. L.M.T. She married an Englishman, Joseph Milburn, M.A.F.A., and with him and their two sons

migrated to the United States some forty years ago. She worked with the "Dean" of American astrologers, Llewellyn George, and introduced her husband to the Science of Astrology.

THE MERCURY PRINCIPLE

By The Editor

The Planet

Before studying the astrological qualities of a planet it is well worth while to take note of some of its astronomical peculiarities.

Mercury is the nearest known planet to the Sun, attempts to establish the existence of an infra-Mercurial body usually referred to as Vulcan having failed.

It has no known moons.

Its day is believed to equal its revolutionary time, so that it is to the Sun as our Moon is to us; it always turns the same face to the Sun. Its sidereal revolution is just short of 88 days. Its orbit is very elliptical, for at its nearest it is 28½ million miles from the Sun, but at its farthest it is more than 43 million. Its distance from the Earth varies from 50 to 136 million miles. Its orbit, in fact, is almost as eccentric as that of Pluto. Its probable temperature is put at 600° F. as against the Earth's 59°.

The inclination of its orbit to the ecliptic is 7° which far exceeds any other planet except Pluto. Venus is next, with 3° 23′.

Its maximum elongation from the Sun, as seen from the Earth, is 28°, so that we may well wonder how the ancients, even though they enjoyed a far clearer atmosphere than ours, were able to determine its planetary nature and even learn a lot about it. Few people in these misty islands are likely ever to see Mercury unless they make a special effort to do so, at the appropriate times.

Thus it is, physically, elusive and must have seemed so even to the primeval astronomers, and also they would have noticed its quick motion, which can be well over 2° a day, and its frequent retrogressions.

Now, whether we think this is mere coincidence or an illuminating example of cosmic symbolism, the same is often true of the native of Gemini. He can be elusive and even deceptive.

In mythology Mercury was a playful god, always up to mischief, and yet so engaging in his adroitness and "cheek" that

he was always popular. He stole Apollo's bow, but when the god was chiding him, he could not but burst out laughing to find that his arrows had gone too, and so on. He was always a youthful god, and handsome, and I have seen a distinct resemblance to the old Greek statues in some living Geminians.

Thus we can associate mental and physical quickness with the planet. Also, a boyish charm. He is likable.

Quickness is motion; it is motion raised to an unusual degree.

So Mercury becomes the planet of motion and is said to rule travel, especially quick short journeys. Not exploratory ones, but those that are definitely undertaken to get from one place to another. He rules everything that subserves such journeys, such as roads and all kinds of vehicles, but in particular lightly-built ones. He seems restricted to the land; I have never heard that maritime travel is Mercurial.

Then he has come to rule devices that serve the same purpose as a journey, such as postal and telegraphic and telephonic communication.

He is the Messenger of the Gods, and so stands for all sorts of communication; *imprimis*, speech and the written word.

But a messenger must be *fit*. He must be physically so, and also quick of mind.

Physical fitness is universally recognised amongst us as a Virgo ideal. So the planet gives an interest in gymnastics, physical culture of all kinds, dietetics, and medical remedies. Why so?

Basically I think it comes back to the fact that all illness either inhibits movement (say, rheumatic complaints) or makes them difficult or dangerous (heart trouble and respiratory ailments) or makes them irregular or uncontrolled (say, St. Vitus' Dance), or causes them to be artificially controlled (as in cases of mental disease and the terrible padded cell and strait-jacket).

So Mercury, as god of motion, becomes at once closely concerned with fitness.

Therefore afflictions in mutable signs seem often to affect the health. Those in the two signs of Jupiter commonly indicate danger of accidents; those in the signs of Mercury, disease, especially disease of mind or lungs.

This characteristic of the mutables rather puzzled me. Astrologers have made several attempts to define, in keywords, the functions of the three Quadruplicities.

To me the most revealing correlation is with the Three Heads of the Hindu Trinity: Brahma, Creator; Vishnu, Preserver; Shiva, Destroyer.

The activity of the Cardinals seems to agree with Creativeness. The stability of the Fixed signs seems to tally with Preservation. Mrs. Hone has told me of a case known to her of a woman who has got on quite nicely with heavy afflictions in fixed signs. It is true that when they do go the fixed signs usually go with a snap; but perhaps that is as good a way to go as any. Then we have the mutables as being under Shiva, the Destroyer. That would account for the connection with disease. But Shiva is not merely a god of destruction; it is destruction for subsequent construction.

As I have said, the mutable diseases are usually either nervous, verging sometimes towards the mental, and the pulmonary or respiratory.

In this connection I recently read a quotation from Dr. Kent, one of the great homeopaths, that "Phthisis and insanity are convertible conditions, the one falls into the other," and also "the intellectual symptoms and the lung symptoms are interchangeable."

Dr. Garnett, a leading scholar of his times, wrote a monograph on the connection between Mercury-Mars afflictions and insanity; but of course many other factors have to be taken into consideration. One must regard not only the planet, but also its signs and the related houses. Mercury-Mars contacts certainly make for mental excitability. Oppositions of violent elements across cusps 3–9 seem to occur more often in cases of mental trouble or deficiency than would happen by mere chance. Afflictions involving Gemini seem to affect respiration more often than the mentality. Asthma, for example, is often shown by Gemini–Virgo squares.

Breathing burns up impurities and re-oxygenises the blood, and so it is not strange that it should come under Shiva, who, we may add, is entitled "Lord of Yoga," a practice which has much to teach us on the subject of breath.

Now we come back to our point about the relation between Virgo and physical fitness.

If the mutables have to do with Destruction and Re-construction, then on their positive side they will study good health even if, on their negative side, they may "enjoy bad health," talk about it, and wallow in it.

I have never noticed this propensity in Geminians; in fact, their attitude towards disease is usually one of impatience, as towards something that fetters their urge towards constant motion.

Dr. Dickinson always said that Mercurials are bad patients. Gemini is restless and won't carry out a cure conscientiously, forgetting all about it as soon as amelioration sets in; Virgo

always thinks it knows better than the physician. I remember trying to help one relative who has Moon conj. Mercury in Virgo. I forget what I gave her, or for what purpose, but it seems to have acted. So she swallowed the whole bottle of tablets outright, supposing that if three did her good, thirty would cure her. Biochemic remedies are usually harmless, even in large quantities, but not always, and she never got any more from me. The risk was too great!

The healing aspect of Mercury does not seem to have mythological support, and a good many astrologers believe that, ultimately, we shall have another planet as ruler of Virgo. However, that is just speculation.

In both signs the "microscopic" aspect of the planet is evident. Virgo, in particular, loves small things, such as watches. A Sun-rising-in-Virgo friend, having mended all the watches in the neighbourhood, now spends his leisure making delightful sets of toy furniture.

Switzerland is said to be ruled by Virgo, and their watches are famous, as also their wood-carvings. Their standards of tidiness and cleanliness put all other nations to shame. Go into one of their inns and even if it is nearly closing time, you will probably not see a single match on the floor.

Gemini is not quite so precise or fond of minuteness, but it is limited in the sense that there is little mental speculation in its nature; it likes hard facts and has a rather card-index type of mind.

The late V. E. Robson, who had Virgo rising, Moon in Virgo, Sun, Mercury, Venus and Neptune in Gemini, had an encyclopaedic mind and could and would discourse on almost anything till the stars grew dim in the morning light. He was also an expert at card-tricks. But his books, though highly to be commended in their own fields and most carefully compiled, show little originality. Indeed whole series of adjectives have been taken, word by word, from some of Leo's works. I have known several people with the Gemini-Virgo combination and they were all extremely clever but did not always use their cleverness wisely.

Virgo is a good teacher, patient and quiet, not in a hurry. I question whether Gemini is so good, except when the pupils are also Geminian.

Sign-positions

In *Aries* the planet seems to me to be often rather self-opinionated and "out to disagree" with whatever is said.

In *Taurus* it is not forthcoming enough, and may converse in grunts!

Mercury is a very *human* sign—*vide* its signs—and it is not always happy in animal environment.

In *Gemini* the planet is lively, brisk and chatty, but not very easy to nail down and get down below the surface to basic principles. A good conversationalist rather than a deep thinker.

In *Cancer* he may get sentimental and want to talk of the old folks at home and how the roses round the door, for some undisclosed reason, make him love mother more; in the U.S.A. map Mercury is in Cancer, of course.

The memory is likely to be good because Cancer always harks backwards; and an element of shrewdness and business acumen may well be present. The American "Mothers' Day" was promoted by the stores, who were anxious to sell gifts to sentimental offspring.

Mercury in *Leo* is usually a jolly fellow, generous and good-natured, with plenty of the rather obvious sort of fun that Leo relishes. Some say the position makes for a proud and dogmatic mind but I have not noticed this.

Mercury in *Virgo* hardly needs description. It is precise, painstaking and fussy, but often has a pleasant whimsicality.

In *Libra* it finds a ready outlet for its gift of self-expression, and this position bestows powers of lucid explanation, so that you get the possibility of a good lecturer or teacher. Libra loves clear thought and Mercury here tries to clarify its own conceptions and those of others. It is sociable and agreeable.

In *Scorpio* it is reserved, mysterious and difficult to understand, often sardonic and bitter. It has been said that Scorpio will make a mystery of going across the road to buy a box of matches. Still, there are great possibilities in this position. It should be an excellent research student but it will have to leave the clarification of its discoveries to Libra and their popularisation to Sagittarius.

In *Sagittarius* it is the zodiacal chatterbox, and that's about all you can say of it, except of course that it is good-natured and means well. It has a way of starting off "I always think." But it doesn't.

Mercury is stronger in *Capricorn* than in any sign. It is a position of real mental ability and fluent expression.

There is often a serious religious element (Milton and Gladstone) and also an interest in politics, as one would expect.

Mercury in *Aquarius* is less able than Mercury in Capricorn. Its characteristic is broad-mindedness and universality of interests and sympathy. It is more social than Mercury in Capricorn, but it is less effective in the affairs of life. It is interested in the things of the spirit rather than in politics or business.

Traditionally *Pisces* is a bad domicile for the planet, which, in this sign, is said to indicate a woolly and silly mind and a babbling tongue. It is true that it is seldom lucid in expression and sometimes the ends of its sentences seem to have little connection with their beginnings. It is perhaps symbolised by the professor who gazes at the egg whilst boiling his watch. But after all, the professor is presumably an erudite man, even if he is a poor egg-boiler, and perhaps not very good at holding his audience of undergraduates. Added to this, Pisces nearly always bestows kindliness, and is rarely anyone's enemy save his own.

So much for the planet in the twelve signs, wherein it is of course always subject to modification by aspect and by the general tenor of the horoscope.

Aspects

I do not propose to delineate in detail the suggested values of Mercury's aspects, as this has been done, to the best of my ability, in one of my books. Mercury with Sol, rather self-opinionated and liable to adopt the attitude of The Great I Am; with Luna, quaint, fantastic, old-world; with Venus, kind and artistic, but, for some strange reason, apparently usually childless; with Mars, quick, excitable, disputative; with Jupiter, not always as good as you might think and as it seems somewhat liable to seek easy ways of success; with Saturn, often profound or at any rate gifted, and (once again, unexpected) frequently a great talker; with Uranus, intuitional and maybe talented, but, under affliction, as pig-headed as they make them, in three cases out of every four; with Neptune, whimsical, impish, a humorous observer of life; with Pluto, if we may take recent outbursts of Mr. Harry S. Truman as evidence (he has Mercury conj. Pluto in Gemini) given to explosive utterances not distinguished by tact.

It is noteworthy that the most famous of these had to do with Truman's daughter, whose vocal efforts a critic had described as less pleasing than the lady's personality: this brings one to the point that Mercury signifies young people in general and one's children in particular; also, he rules critics.

House Positions

These of course in a general sense indicate the field in which the qualities are exercised, just as an Army division comprises units of many qualities and each type or class operates in a special field.

But house position does often affect character markedly. This is obviously true of planets in the 1st house, but it is also true of the others. Persons born within two or three hours or so of each other do not merely differ in being engaged in different fields; they have also distinctive dispositions.

Undoubtedly the Mercury houses affect the disposition.

This has always been recognised as regards the 3rd, which theosophical astrologers correlate with the "lower" or factual mind. But the 6th is just as important, though it has more to do with instinctual elements, which appear as "moods" or the more negative types of emotion. A square from 3rd to 6th may produce a very difficult diathesis and might point to ill-temper due to intestinal toxicosis.

Has the 3rd house much to do with brethren, as tradition tells us? Very little, I should say! Sometimes you get a bit of evidence that it does, but more often, in my opinion, there is hardly any connection at all. The family, as a whole, falls clearly under the 4th, in general outline.

Has the 6th much to do with health? Yes, I think so.

Has it much to do with "service" and one's work? I should say very little indeed, if anything; but on this matter I am willing to be corrected. To discover horoscopically what work a man does is, to my mind, just impossible. What one *can* tell is what a man *ought* to do if he is to be successful and happy.

I do not think that Mercury himself, elusive fellow, takes much colour from the house he occupies, for he is no home-lover. He is strong when close to an angle and being carried to it by axial rotation, and when he is on a house-cusp, which, by E.H.D., means when he is in exact aspect to the ascendant. He is less happy in the "fixed" or succedent houses because they try to slow down his movements, though it could certainly be argued that this is really good for him. In cadent houses he is obscured but probably not unhappy, except for the 12th. Mercury in this sector, afflicted, is often unfortunate in that defects of the senses, such as deafness, sometimes occur.

Mercurial Stars

It will be worth while to spend a little time on the principal fixed stars that are of a Mercurial nature. My thesis on the stars is that they partake of the natures of their constellations, in whatever sign they may fall, and that the traditional Arabian values are so much nonsense, overdue for the astrological dustbin.

It has been said by the astrologers of the early nineteenth

century that Geminians often attain eminence because of the number of brilliant stars in the sign, or, to be accurate, in the same longitudes as the sign. I fancy this was a bit of flattery to R. C. Smith, the first "Raphael," who seems to have enjoyed the admiration of a little coterie of friends who called themselves the "Mercurii."

Robson lists the following stars that are in the constellation of the Twins:

Tejat, Dirah, Alhena, 3rd, 3rd and 2nd magnitudes and all three said to be of the natures of Mercury and Venus. Their longitudes, as at January 1, 1920, were respectively 2, 4, 8 Cancer. Once again according to my thesis, these Geminian stars would implant a definite Mercurial value on the three Cancer longitudes mentioned.

Then we have Wasat 17½ Cancer, Propus 18 Cancer, Castor 19 Cancer, and Pollux 22 Cancer, all in the constellation of the Twins but in the sign Cancer, and all transferring, in my view, a Mercurial influence to the areas of sign Cancer in which they fall.

R. C. Smith and his friends were, however, looking at the matter from the converse side. They were thinking of stars in all sorts of constellations, but falling by longitude in sign Gemini. Of these there are many, as you can see from Robson's book, but the principal are:

Aldebaran, 1st magnitude, in 8½ Gemini and belonging to the constellation of the Bull. It has only 5½° of latitude and is probably important, carrying a Venus value to the area of Gemini in which it falls.

Rigel, Bellatrix and Betelgeuse are all in constellation Orion and fall respectively in 16, 20 and 27½ Gemini. To judge by the mythology of Orion they must have rather robustious qualities. They all have considerable latitude, as you can see for yourself if you look at them on a clear winter night. They are all far below Aldebaran, Castor and Pollux, which are near the ecliptical line.

Capella, the beautiful yellow star in Auriga, the Charioteer, falls in 20¾ Gemini but has 23° north latitude, so in these parts of the world it can neither rise nor set. It means a "kid." I only know one man who was for a time an enthusiastic keeper of goats, and, believe it or not, he has Sun in 20¾ Gemini! This was also, it seems, the ascendant of George Bernard Shaw and he relates in one of his prefaces that he had a tame goat as a pet when a child.

The Pole Star itself falls by longitude in 27½ Gemini, though of course it is nowhere near either the sign or constellation of that name, having 66° of north latitude.

Polaris does seem to symbolise steadfastness, as when Shakespeare makes Julius Caesar say:

> "I am constant as the northern star,
> Of whose true-fixed and resting quality
> There is no fellow in the firmament.
> The skies are painted with unnumber'd sparks;
> They are all fire and every one doth shine,
> But there's but one in all doth hold his place."

I happen to know two people whose Suns were the one in conjunction and the other in opposition to Polaris, and both were certainly fixed firmly in their principles.

But the stars present special problems, and here is one: Polaris and Betelgeuse, though so far apart in the heavens, have almost precisely the same longitude, and so, ecliptically, they are in perpetual conjunction. There are many similar cases.

There is only one bright star in the constellation of the Virgin, the famous Spica, the Ear of Corn, which is in $22\frac{3}{4}$ of the sign Libra. One would suppose that this imparts to this area of Libra an agricultural propensity, but I have never noticed this. It might also indicate a certain girlishness or effeminacy to men in whose maps it is prominent, or perhaps a tendency to be ruled by women.

There are no 1st magnitude stars in the sign Virgo. Zosma and Denebola are 2nd magnitude. Both have considerable latitude and belong to the constellation of the Lion. Their respective longitudes are 10° and $20\frac{1}{2}$° Virgo. One does find Virginians at times who are possessed of quite Leonine firmness and outspokenness, and perhaps they are born under these stars.

Mercury and Morals

Alan Leo wrote somewhere that just as mercury shows the temperature in a thermometer, so the planet shows the moral elevation or depravity of the native.

This demonstrates what silly things the best of us may sometimes put on paper.

I cannot say what Mercury may indicate in the prenatal epoch or some other special horoscope; but Leo was writing of the nativity, and in this he certainly does *not* show moral status.

How this can best be judged is a difficult problem, involving as it does, first of all, just what one understands by "morality"

or "goodness." So various planets will have to be considered, but perhaps least of all Mercury.

He admires cleverness, "know-how" and good craftsmanship, but is left comparatively cold by acts of heroism or self-sacrifice, philanthropy, and so forth.

I am never tired of quoting the Prince Consort, a good and quite surprisingly wise man, at least two generations ahead of his times. He had Mercury, his ruler, opposed to Saturn and square Mars, Uranus and Neptune.

A strongly aspected Mercury tempts to devious ways because it makes the native "cute" and apt to joy in trying out his cleverness, matching his wits against those of others. He loves finding short cuts and sometimes these are no true rights of way but go across other people's property!

In morality, as such, Mercury has little interest. If Mercurials contradict this in their lives, it is for some other reason than their Mercurialism.

In contradiction to the Prince Consort I once knew a woman who had a most wonderfully aspected Mercury, in Libra in 3rd, with Leo rising. She was capable and was, in a Leo way, very attractive, dressing excellently; she had also a truly remarkable gift of repartee—no one would catch her out conversationally. But, so far as I know, she had no outstanding depth of character or of wisdom, but lived according to the standards of her environment.

I will close with a few remarks on the horoscope of Mr. Theodore C. Taylor, given in the last (March 1951) issue of *Astrology*, on page 4.

Mr. Taylor, now over one hundred years of age, still attends business daily. Apart from this, he has kept his mental youth in an extraordinary degree. Even when asked for his data, he wanted to know "what it was all about." He was also a pioneer in co-partnership, has been a great traveller, and is interested in physical culture and dietetics.

One would expect a strong Mercurial element and would not be wrong in so doing.

The Moon is in Gemini near the lower meridian and exactly opposed to Pars Fortunae, giving it exceptional strength. It is in very close sextile to angular Mercury. Three planets, Venus, Mars and Jupiter are in Virgo, within 5° of one another and in the 8th house (E.H.D.). Thus Mercury is the "ultimate dispositor" of everything in the chart, including ascendant, midheaven and Pars, save only the Sun.

With this glimpse of a "Grand Old Man" who is strongly under the protection of our planet, we close our paper.

THE BRITISH SOLOMON

By Martin Harvey

There does not appear to be a strictly contemporary nativity of James VI of Scotland and James I of Great Britain, although I once read that he had one engraved on his watch, and it is quite possible that Tycho Brahe cast it for him. The nearest in time are the seventeenth century astrologers and they appear to have followed the historian and scholar George Buchanan (1506–82). As one of them wrote (B.M. MS. Sloane 1009: *Miscellaneous Tracts*): "figure du ciel de la nate du Roy d'Escosse Jaques 6. le 19. jr de Juin 1566 a 9. heures apres midy selon que Bucanan la annotte en son histoire." Buchanan had written of Queen Mary: *atque decimo nono junii paulo post horam nonam equinoctialem filium peperit*: "and on the nineteenth of June somewhat after the ninth hour from *midnight* she bore a son." Thus, this astrologer had come to grief over the equinoctial hours of his learned authority; but William Lilly knew better and in his *Englands Propheticall Merline* (London, 1644), the time is given as 9 h. 10 m. a.m.

It must be admitted that Buchanan is a good authority. I do not know if he was actually in Edinburgh at the time of James's birth, but later he became the royal tutor. Nevertheless, there is a better witness in Sir James Melvil of Halhill who was Queen's Messenger and carried the news to Elizabeth of England. His record of what occurred can be found in *The Memories of Sir James Melvil of Hal-Hill; &c. Now published from the Original Manuscript. By George Scott, Gent. London*, 1683, where on page 69 it is written:

> "The Queens Majesties reckoning being near run out, she caused me to dispatch for England, to be in readiness to give an accompt of the news of her delivery to that Queen; leaving a Blanck in her Letter to be filled up either with a Son or a Daughter, as it should please God to grant unto her. . . . All the while I lay within the Castle of Edinbrugh [*sic*], praying night and day for her Majesties good and happy delivery of a fair Son. This prayer being granted, I was the first who was thereof advertised by the Lady Boin in her Majesties Name to part with diligence the 19th. of June 1555 [*sic*] betwixt Ten and Eleven in the morning. By Twelve of the Clock I took Horse, and was that night at Berwick."

This finds contemporary confirmation in *The Historie of Scotland* written by Raphael Holinshed down to 1571 and continued to 1585 by others. Presumably these writers knew all

about Buchanan's statement because one of the continuators, says in some notes at the end: "George Buchanan an Irish Scot, greatlie learned, but manie times maliciouslie affected, and that so vehementlie, as that he would not forbeare in the highest degree of malice to vpbraid and backebite euerie person and nation which had offended him, as maie appeare by his immodest spéeches, not beséeming a man of his learning, was schoolemaster to Iames the sixt of that name king of Scotland." There follows a list of Buchanan's works. The relevant passage by Holinshed reads:

> "And vpon the nintéenth day of the same moneth of Iune (1566), betwixt 10 and 11 of the clocke before noone, hir grace was deliuered of a goodly man-child, to the great comfort of hir highnesse, and all hir subiects, whereof the nobilitie did greatlie reioise. And incontinentlie all the artillerie in the castell was shot ofi. . . ."

The firing of guns should have made the time of birth fairly common knowledge.

There is thus about an hour's difference between the word of Buchanan, and the evidence of Sir James Melvil supported by Holinshed. It is true that Sir James is ambiguous and his statement probably means the time he received the news; but we must remember that he was the Royal Messenger, he lay in readiness at Edinburgh Castle where Mary was in labour: one can imagine him within call, perhaps in an antechamber, pacing up and down as he waited for the letter with its blank space filled in. It seems unthinkable that faithful Mary Beaton (Lady Boin) should take a whole hour to hand him the triumphant announcement of her mistress. Far more probable is the lapse of only a few minutes; and for that reason I place the birth at somewhat after ten in the morning rather than after nine. Little over an hour later Sir James had swallowed his dinner and was thundering out of Edinburgh Castle towards the high-road for England—and the middle-aged woman who was to greet his news with the bitter rejoinder that she herself was "but a barren stock."

Not often is it wise to accept the later alternative of two possible hours of birth, yet here the choice should seem justified. Neither does it do to make astrological convenience confirm sources: the British Solomon himself said "It is ofttimes a very deceivable argument to judge the cause by the effect," in which dictum he has been followed by modern scientists. Nevertheless, in this instance one cannot help remarking that a figure for 10 h. 15 m. a.m. sundial time does offer tempting mundane positions to the major planets. Perhaps some Scottish

student can produce further contemporary evidence as good as that of Melvil.

James has never fared very well at the hands of historians and biographers, so that it is perhaps only just that we should recall what Sir Roger Wilbraham put about him in the journal that he kept for his children to read when they grew up (*The Camden Miscellany*, Vol. 10, Royal Historical Society, 1902). Sir Roger was Master of Requests when James came to rule England at the age of thirty-six, and after knowing him well for three months the good knight "according to the meanes of my apprehencion without flatterie sett downe the nature & vertues with the apparant defectes" of his new master. In summary what he found was this: a man not tied to hours for eating and sleeping, and one who ate more for sustenance than for pleasure; a fearless rider at the chase and one who would hunt in all weathers. He was a man who relied much on his own judgment, quick to decide, but quite apt to change an opinion; his mind was sharp and nimble, he was ready and pithy of speech, and he had an exceedingly good memory. By temperament he was merciful and just but was soon angry, though without bitterness or desire for revenge; he seldom denied a suit and was often over-generous. In fact, he did away with several privileges and monopolies instituted by Queen Elizabeth with loss to his own revenues. He was neglectful of the forms of ceremony. Sir Roger, like all other observers of James, noted his vast learning and religious virtues, which the Master of Requests said "extolled him above all princes in the world."

An excellent short modern study of James I (as indeed of all the later Stuarts) will be found in *Six Stuart Sovereigns* 1512–1701, by Eva Scott, George Allen and Unwin, 1935. In summing him up she says:

> "Wise, but unable to use his wisdom practically; merciful and tolerant, yet forced to religious persecution; vain and self-confident, yet ruled by his affections; personally honest, yet indulgent to the vices of scandalous favourites; devout in mind yet profane in speech; intelligent and scientifically curious, yet a firm believer in witchcraft; advocate of the dignity of Kings, yet devoid of kingly or godlike attributes, he was entitled by the French statesman, de Sully, 'the wisest fool in Christendom.' "

With most of which one can agree, except the sneer at the end: it was certainly no fool who warned his son Charles that he would "live to have his bellyfull of Parliaments." The first monarch of Great Britain had a sad end, and afterwards it was

rumoured by base persons that his favourite son had poisoned him. Actually he fell ill on March 5, 1624–5 of a tertian ague, and died at Theobalds on the evening of Sunday, March 27. His last words were: *Veni, Domine Jesu.*

The figure has been set for Edinburgh, on Wednesday, June 19, 1566, at 10 h. 15 m. a.m. by the local sundial, and the places of the planets calculated in decimals of a degree from the tables of Schoch and Foelsch, the Sun being from these of James Hynes, Esq., of Dublin. Conversion to the Hypsomatic Zodiac can be made by adding 11° 12′ to all positions and cusps, with the mental subtraction of one sign. The houses are after Campanus.

☉	☽	☿R	♀	♂	♃	♄
6° ♋ 54′	♌ 4.1	♋ 11.4	♉ 26.9	♌ 24.5	♎ 0.9	♌ 27.0

♅R	♆	♇R
♐ 13.9	♊ 12.9	♌ 19.0

M.C.: ♊ 13 ♋ 10 ♌ 12 Asc. ♍ 18 ♎ 20 ♏ 18 ♌ ♏ 20.

Students should note the wide error of ☽ in N.N. 97, which is derived from the Ephemerides of Johannes Stadius.

AT THE LODGE

By R. C. D.

THE Autumn Session of the Lodge began on September 17th, when a representative gathering of members enjoyed an informal Social Evening. Of the large number who entered for the two competitions organised by Mr. Davison, the four successful competitors were Mrs. Marden, Miss Foster, Miss Rainbird and Miss Cole. Mrs. Churchill presented the prizes, which were provided through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Carter. When an extremely close finish necessitated the provision of a consolation prize, Mrs. Parkes miraculously produced a large block of chocolate to meet the emergency.

Both competitions were based on the horoscope of John Carveth Wells, poet, journalist and traveller, whose comparatively short life was packed with many experiences. Born of a long line of adventurous ancestors, on July 16, 1911, at 10.03 p.m. G.M.T., at Cheltenham, he hitch-hiked round the world at the age of nineteen; made an unhappy marriage at

twenty-one; became paralysed at twenty-four and spent the remaining eleven years of his life in a bath chair.

"The Amazing Mrs. Eddy" was the title of the opening lecture of the Session on September 24th. Mr. Davison was the speaker. He dealt with the implications of the horoscope house by house, first commenting on the general features of the nativity and then citing extracts from a biography of Mary Baker Eddy written by Edwin Franden Dakin. The founder of the Christian Science movement was born on July 16, 1821, at 10.30 p.m. G.M.T. at Bow, near Concord, Massachusetts. Her chart was remarkable for the rising conjunction of Uranus and Neptune, closely squared by Pluto from the 3rd house. The horoscope was a striking example of the effect of a 3rd house Pluto, for not only did she believe in the healing properties of properly directed thought-power, but also in the insidious power for evil of something she termed "malicious animal magnetism." This evil force lurked, so she believed, in post offices, mail boxes, telegraph and express offices, and railway stations: in fact, in all the types of locality that could possibly be associated with the 3rd house.

Exceptional interest centred upon the 8.20 meeting, when Mr. Carter conducted a survey of the mundane scene. The Autumn Ingress showed Mars in conjunction with Pluto in the 3rd house, by Equal House Division, from the ascendant, which was well in accord with the recent railway disaster. Mercury in square to the ascendant probably had some connection with the election campaigns which would shortly be in full swing. The Ingress Moon fell on the Midheaven of the New Year map, suggesting a change of government. The Solar Eclipse in Virgo in opposition to the Sun in the Labour Party chart was, by itself, probably a sufficient indication of a change.

Mrs. Rodgers pointed out that Neptune was on the ascendant of the British 1801 horoscope when the Labour Party came into power, and Saturn, the traditional symbol of the Conservative Party, now occupied the same position. It was noticed that the lunation of October 1st showed the Sun, Moon and Saturn in conjunction.

Mrs. Parkes drew attention to the fact that the Solar Eclipse at Moscow was placed in the 8th house and fell on Stalin's Uranus. Mr. Winyard mentioned the threatening position of the Mars-Pluto conjunction in the Autumn Ingress at Berlin, where it was on the Nadir. The Virgo Eclipse fell on the Midheaven at Berlin.

The remaining time was devoted to a discussion of a map of the present Royal Dynasty of the Netherlands. This chart, cast for March 16, 1815, The Hague (M.C. 30 ♒ : Asc. 4 ♋)

was produced by Mr. Delmar Morgan. The prominent part played in Holland by the female members of the Royal house was well shown by the position of the Moon, the ruler of the ascendant, in Taurus, in sextile to the 10th house Sun. The Dutch motto, "I will maintain," was aptly exemplified by the Cancer ascendant, the Moon in Taurus, and Mars in Capricorn.

Mrs. Dorothy Ryan delivered another of her interesting biographical lectures on October 1st, when she spoke on "Algernon Blackwood," the well-known occultist and short story writer. He was born on March 14, 1869, at Crayford, Kent, at 12.09 a.m. Over six feet tall, he was a rolling stone in early manhood. His childhood was unhappy, being spent in the rigid atmosphere of a home ruled by a father who overnight became a strict teetotaller, non-smoker and religious reformer. Blackwood discovered Theosophy at the age of seventeen and three years later met a Hindu student who gave him guidance in the practice of Yoga. Emigrating to Canada he was defrauded of his capital and endeavoured to recoup his losses by buying a saloon, a venture which entailed the strongest parental disapproval. At the age of twenty-three he went to New York, where, after a period of great hardship, he obtained a job as reporter on the *New York Times* and began to write short stories. The first of these was not published until he was thirty-five. After spending a short period as secretary to a millionaire he returned home to England before his thirtieth birthday.

Many planets in the western hemisphere of his nativity indicated the extent to which his fortunes were dependent upon the actions of others.

He had a horror of business. At the age of eighty he was awarded the C.B.E. On September 1, 1950, he had the misfortune to fall heavily. This accident brought on a brain haemorrhage, causing a stroke.

At 8.20, Mr. Davison revived an old feature under the title of "Points from the Quarterly," in which he brought forward for discussion controversial matter from a recent issue of the Lodge magazine. He quoted extracts from a letter from Lieutenant Lewis-Bizley, R.N., which was printed in the September 1951 issue. The writer had suggested that statistics seemed to point to the fact that most authors and philosophers had a cadent Mercury, whereas Mercury was traditionally held to be strongest when angular. Mr. Davison stated that in the great majority of cases the important factor was that Mercury was in strong aspect to the Midheaven or ascendant of the chart, irrespective of its placing in the houses. In the five main examples given by the writer of the letter, four showed such

a contact between Mercury and the Midheaven, while the fifth example, that of Immanuel Kant, was based on incorrect data, since the German philosopher was born with Mercury rising. Neither was the speaker able to agree that many soldiers of distinction were born with Mars cadent. In support of his contention he produced an impressive list of military commanders whose nativities showed Mars either angular or succedent. Montgomery appeared to be the only notable exception.

An extremely absorbing lantern lecture was given on October 8th by "Leo Topis." He spoke on "Physical Interactions in the Solar System," drawing attention to several modern astronomical theories and discoveries which, he suggested, might help to throw fresh light on some of the outstanding problems of astrology. It is hoped to publish the text of this lecture, which occupied both the Public and Members' Meetings, in an early issue of the Quarterly.

A symposium on "The General Election" took place on October 15th. The President, in opening the proceedings, said that as he had already given his opinion that the Conservative Party would be successful, he would leave other speakers to state their findings.

Mr. Davison gave a summary of the Secondary Directions and Transits in force in the horoscopes of the King, the House of Commons, the Labour Party, Mr. Attlee and Mr. Churchill. The two last-named charts were hypothetical but gave reasonably accurate results for past events. The direction Sun square Saturn in the King's horoscope was unfavourable to the Government, while all the other charts definitely indicated setbacks for Labour and gains for the Conservative Party. Since only a very small increase in favour of the Conservatives was sufficient to upset the balance of power, it appeared most probable that the Conservative Party would have a working majority after the election.

Mr. Fontaine agreed that the Conservatives were likely to triumph, but pointed out that the Liberal Party would probably enjoy a prominence out of all proportion to its numbers, since the Party progressed horoscope showed Sun trine Jupiter, but Mars conjunction Saturn! Mr. Attlee had precipitated the election under a Sun opposition Uranus direction and was likely to suffer as a result.

Mr. Delmar Morgan spoke at 8.20 on "Alterations in a Horoscope due to a Change of Latitude." He postulated a theory which entailed picking out a new Midheaven from the Tables of Houses for the new place of residence, retaining only the birth ascendant. This, he suggested, produced a chart more in accord with the changed circumstances due to the native

living abroad. He had only examined one chart thoroughly under these conditions and therefore his suggestion was only tentative. Subsequent speakers agreed that people who established residence abroad often experienced a striking change in their fortunes, but very few were willing to concede that a new, or even subsidiary, chart was necessary in order to account for this. Mr. Freedman and Mr. Davison emphasised the paramount importance of the radical chart. The latter speaker stated, in addition, that if any modification at all were to be made it should be to the ascendant and not to the radical Midheaven. Mr. Musselwhite said that he had lived for thirty years in a land far removed from his birthplace. In his experience it was the 9th house of the radical chart which had most to do with conditions encountered abroad and which showed how the native's fortunes were likely to fluctuate in foreign lands.

Mr. Carruthers pointed out that it was possible to determine by traditional methods from the position of planets in the birth chart the best direction in which to travel. Jupiter well-aspected in the 11th house, for instance, showed that the native would prosper in a country to the south-east of his birthplace. The President added that, similarly, Jupiter in Scorpio would probably show success in Liverpool, since that sign ruled the city, and so on.

On October 22nd Mr. Carter spoke on "Modern Trends in Astrology." In a very thorough survey of the present day astrological field he stated that in his view the most satisfactory part of modern technique was perhaps directional astrology. Some of the symbolic measures had lapsed into disuse but the 1° and ♀ measures still enjoyed the favour of some astrologers. He quoted some particularly effective directions in the King's horoscope based on the latter measure, coinciding with the beginning and ending of the Second World War.

In India an increasing number of native practitioners were abandoning the traditional Hindu astrology in favour of Western methods. The modern tendency was to narrow down the amount of orb allowed to each aspect but to increase the number of angular distances regarded as valid aspects. One such series of aspects was based on the quintile, while another took into account all distances containing a multiple of fifteen degrees. Touching briefly upon the subject of House Division, Mr. Carter mentioned an interesting piece of evidence in support of the much neglected system of Regiomontanus. On the day that transit Uranus came exactly to the 9th house cusp in his chart calculated by this system, his sister-in-law underwent a sudden operation. On the Continent there was an increasing tendency to study the horoscopes of events such

as train disasters, suicides, and so on. In such cases it was possible to work from a purely objective standpoint.

Dr. Rosenthal followed at 8.20 with the first of a series of three talks devoted to the same topic. He dealt with the new developments abroad, but confined his remarks to the subject of Solar Revolutions as a method of prediction, and explained the way in which M. Volguine used this type of chart, basing his remarks on M. Volguine's recent book. Similar methods had also been tabulated by Mr. Musselwhite in a recent letter to the Quarterly. The ordinary Solar Revolution, without precession, was calculated and superimposed on the horoscope of birth. Any strong cross-aspects were carefully noted and particular attention was paid to the radical house in which the revolutional ascendant fell. In order to determine the precise periods when events would fall due it was necessary to calculate a lunar return for each month and to progress the Solar Revolution Ascendant by 3′ 56″ of R.A. for each day of the year. The aspects formed by the daily Sun to the radical positions in the Revolution were also important. A final guide could be obtained by equating the twenty-four hours after the Revolution fell due to the following year, and noticing the times at which the progressed Moon completed exact aspects with the planets.

BEGINNERS' FORUM

It is rather disappointing that there have been only two points submitted for discussion.

1. *A reasonable explanation is asked of the effects when the Sun and Moon are without aspect to each other.*

This would indicate a basic lack of cohesion in the inner and outer lives. There would be no sharp conflict, but the two sides of the nature would have no community. The outer life, for example, might be that of a soldier, whilst inwardly there would be a peace-loving nature, or that of a student or artist. There would be no particular sense of incongruity, and if both bodies were reasonably strong, each side might be pursued successfully. This condition might exhibit itself in various forms in the external conditions. For example, the home-life would neither help nor hinder the public or vocational activities.

Other elements in the map might stress or relieve this condition; but as the Lights are so important, it would never be completely overcome.

2. *What is the apparent effect on a life when the majority of planets are retrograde?*

This is a matter of controversy. In horary astrology such a condition is said to delay the resolution of the problem, and, by analogy, most writers on natal astrology have considered that retrograde planets are hindered in their expression. For example, Mercury retrograde is said to show a slow intellectual development or some hindrance to the powers of expression. It is sometimes said that when Mercury turns direct from retrograde in the progressed map the native suddenly "blossoms forth," but the Editor's Mercury was just turning *retrograde* when the Quarterly was founded!

He would say that he has definitely no evidence whatever that retrograde planets are weak.

There is even some *a priori* reason to suppose that they may be better than when direct, for their retrograde motion is clockwise and therefore in the same sense as their apparent motion.

Another hypothesis that has been put forward is that retrograde bodies have a more *interior* value.

In sum we can only say that, on the general astrological theory that there is a close correlation between the planetary motions, both actual and apparent, and human life, it would seem that retrogression must have some significance, but it cannot be said that any real evidence has ever been produced as to what this is, so far as natal astrology is concerned.

It can be affirmed with some assurance that when a body turn is stationary in the progressed map, whether stationary to direct or to retrograde, its "influence" is strong for a year or so. In fact such a condition amounts to a quite powerful "direction."

Readers will see that the question of retrogression is also discussed in the Editorial.

I hope, as from next issue, to publish a series of example-delineations, in terms suited to beginners.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From MARTIN HARVEY

THE "CALL ASTROLOGICAL BODIES"

Having read with interest the above, as printed in *Astrology*, I fail to visualise the basic teaching around which serious students are to unite, and I should like to ask the following questions.

What is the classical tradition? Presumably it is Claudius Ptolemy and his mediaeval commentators, a handy compendium of which is

contained in *Ptolemaevs Parvvs, in Genethliacis Invictvs Arabibvs*, by Andreas Argolus, Lyons, 1659. Few modern astrologers would receive it as their gospel. Also, if we accept Ptolemy we must accept his doctrine of Orientality which plays so large a part in his rules. Only rarely is this mentioned to-day, which is not surprising, for Placidus did not understand it and judging from contradictions in the *Tetrabiblos* Ptolemy himself did not.

If we go back to Ptolemy we must bow to the Sidereal Zodiac which I understand is not favoured by the Austrian Astrological Society of Vienna. *Zodiacs Old and New*, by Cyril Fagan, Robert Anscombe and Co., Ltd., 291–292 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1 (1951) proves conclusively that the only zodiac used before Ptolemy was the stellar one, with fiducial at Spica Virginis. He also shows that it continued in use during the first five centuries of the Christian era. We need not agree with Mr. Fagan in his belief that this is the only valid zodiac, or in his assumption that the so-called exaltations have practical use, or accept something as true because it was believed in antiquity. But we cannot dismiss Mr. Fagan's historical research. If we are to rally around an ancient zodiac that zodiac can only be the stellar one.

Much modern astrology is based on elaborate sign meanings. Inspection of old text-books will show that these played but a small part in astrology until recent times. I know of only one old astrologer who paid a certain attention to them; that was Robert Fludd around the end of the sixteenth century. But he used both zodiacs and all the extra-zodiacal constellations. In the Golden Age of English astrology, the seventeenth century, elaborate sign meanings were not used at all by Simon Foreman, William Lilly, John Gadbury, John Patridge, Henry Coley, Elias Ashmole, and the rest. Incidentally, these men lived in bitter division with each other regarding alleged departures from classical and ancient teaching. One fashionable heresy of the time was Heliocentric Astrology.

About what house division shall we unite? Shall it be the ancient one of eight houses? Shall we number them upwards from the ascendant as certain of the ancients did? Or shall we discard houses altogether like one early school of natal astrologers, and work solely by the planets? Are we to accept exaltations as valid? I have applied the exaltation theory, in both zodiacs, to the twenty-five generations of the Royal House of England and find them significant only in the unkingly, in those who were deposed or murdered, or in the nativities of half-wits. If they will not work over a period of 800 years in one of the prominent Royal Houses of Europe they can scarcely have practical value. Moreover, they were the invention of men who based their observations on the stellar zodiac, and thus can have no place in the tropical zodiac.

No medical man would say that ink circulates in the body because he knows that his readers have cut their fingers and are aware that it does not. But medical men do say silly things and medical journals print them. Medical opinions vary and are sometimes reversed between one generation and another. I believe that rigid definition

of what is "right" or "wrong" in astrology can only be retrograde and restrictive. No doubt it would strengthen astrology in a worldly fashion, as such action has strengthened religions, both ancient and modern, and has commended itself to political ideologies. But is that desirable at the expense of speculation and experiment? If a man writes nonsense only fools will follow: they are no loss.

Astrology is an art, it cannot be a science. Always we come back in practice to the ability of the practitioner. As for recognition, I think that will be gained rather by the adoption of modern methods of investigation and reasoning than by appeals to garbled and conflicting teachings handed down from ancient times. A good start might be made by never publishing a nativity without full and complete details regarding birth. One seldom meets any attempt at this even in the best astrological journals. Yet without such information the nativity is worthless and any system employed upon it is invalidated. What would be the position of a public analyst in a court of law if he could not say whence he had the sample on which his evidence was based, and he had to admit that it was left on his laboratory table by he knew not whom? He would be dismissed as irresponsible. Until astrologers realise this elementary point they too must be dismissed as irresponsible. Scientists and thinkers will not dismiss astrology because it contains many theories; every science and art has them. But they will ignore astrologers who labour for hours, and employ intricate theories, on no more than hearsay. Judgment of the correctness and acceptability of birth data is more important than the method of interpretation, for it is the base. When astrologers stop building their houses upon sand they may begin to think about deserving recognition, not before.

Unless adequate reply can be made to these questions I feel bound to believe that nothing is to be gained from ancient astrology except, by reading in it, to discover how much nonsense is contained therein. If astrology has meaning let us go forward to discover it, and let us go forward with enquiring minds.

From CYRIL FAGAN

THE HELIACAL RISING OF MARS

On page 13, para. 6, of *Zodiacs Old and New* (Anscombe's edition) it is stated ". . . on the morning of 11th Shebat (February 4, 785 B.C.) Mars rose heliacally when in Aquarius 0° 8. . . ." The calculation of this date was made by means of the heliacal tables included on page 44 of the same work. As, however, the traditional "exaltation degree" (hypoma) is Capricorn 28°—a difference of 3°—I decided to look a little closer into the problem, and have since discovered that Schoch's table was computed for an "arcus visionis" (the minimum angular distance of the Sun below the horizon which will render Mars visible at its heliacal rising) of 14° 5, which is correct for Mars' *mean* magnitude + 1.8. But the magnitude of Mars at heliacal rising can vary between + 1° 3 and + 2° 1 altering the value of the "arcus visionis" accordingly. Calculation shows that at

its heliacal rising in 785 B.C. Mars was at its maximum brilliancy of $-1°3$ giving an "arcus visionis" of 13°2 approximately. This depression of the Sun tallied with January 30th (6th Shebat) when Mars' sidereal longitude was 207° 34' or CAPRICORN 28° its precise HYPSOMA or "exaltation degree"! This correction confirms beyond all doubt the authenticity of the origin and date of the "exaltation degrees."

Will readers kindly note that the year "467 A.D." given in the last paragraph of page 28, is a misprint for "479 A.D."?

REVIEW

Gods in the Making. By T. Mawby Cole and Vera W. Reid (new edition). Published by The Aquarian Press, 10s. 6d.

This book is not strictly speaking an astrological one, yet it was written, Vera Reid explains, with an astrological purpose, for it was Mawby Cole's attempt to set forth in simple terms the philosophy which formed the background to his astrological beliefs.

The strength of the book (and to some extent its weakness) springs from the originality and individuality of the thought which has gone into it. The argument is built up with care, new ideas are presented reasonably and old ones re-expressed with clarity and insight. The book treats of many points which must concern the thoughtful astrologer and Mawby Cole's experience as a teacher of astrology gives him insight into the difficulties of the student.

J. M. A.

PANDIT NEHRU AND ASTROLOGY

According to an article in the *Astrological Magazine* (November 1951) by Dr. R. Naga Raja Sarma, Nehru has said that "there should be a strict law to put an end, and a very hard end, to anyone who dabbles in astrology either by proclaiming it *or believing it*" (our italics).

Dr. Sarma states that this is quoted from a report in *The Hindu* of September 10, 1951.

Whatever benefits may have followed the end of the British Raj, freedom of thought does not seem to be one of them, at least if the Pandit has his way.

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