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. P. J. Carruthers, 114 Fellows Road, N.W.3

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

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APRIL MAY 1954

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ASTROLOGY

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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.

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ASTROLOGY

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VOLUME TWENTY-EIGHT MARCH NUMBER ONE

April May 1954

EDITORIAL

Saturn, Neptune and the English Language

The long-drawn-out conjunction of the two above planets has left many a scar behind it. But one rather noteworthy result has been the entry into our language of the word "smog" as well as one or two similar compounds that would have pleased Lewis Carroll. At least, smog may have been current in the Californian vernacular before 1953; but certainly it was in the winter of 1952–53 that it first took Britain by storm—or should I say, by suffocation? Nor do I object to such words: they may annoy purists but English never was a very pure language; and smog and its brethren are quite in accord with the genius of our speech.

It was a good thing the conjunction was not in Gemini, or the death-roll from bronchial ailments would have been much heavier.

The Eclipse of July 1953

Exactly as Mars came by transit to the square of this, we had the 24 hours' strike of engineers and ship-builders, said to be the most important since the Great Strike of 1926. The Eclipse was ♂ r. ☽ in the 1801 map.

There is much intellectual satisfaction in viewing the precision with which these things happen; and in mundane astrology there is no question of the obscurity that sometimes enfolds the events and conditions of private lives: the thing is blazoned on the placards.

That eclipses are precipitated by major aspects of Mars is an old and respected doctrine, here justified. Other bodies might act as strongly or even more strongly; but the likelihood of a major contact from Jupiter, Saturn or Uranus, or Neptune, within a reasonable time-orb, is not very great. Hence it is usually Mars that detonates the explosion.

The Winter Ingress

The close conjunction of the Moon with Uranus, falling on the 1st magnitude star Pollux in the constellation Gemini, in square to Neptune, was a pretty clear indication of such events as the tragic New Zealand railway disaster, almost coinciding in time with another in Czechoslovakia.

Then came the Comet crash and the catastrophic avalanches in Switzerland.

The conjunction of Mars and Saturn in Scorpio at the beginning of the year was a pretty clear indication of the publicity given in the Press to certain cases of revolting sexual perversion, and indeed to this unpleasant subject generally. If the theory that the New Year map is significant for the ensuing twelve months is valid, further evidence of this strong conjunction should occur during 1954, though it is impossible, with our present knowledge, to say what forms it may assume in manifesting itself.

Eclipse of June 30

This falls in close conjunction with Jupiter and should have a generally beneficial effect. But it is on the (usually accepted) ascendant of the Labour Party map and may bring the Socialists back into power, an eventuality which readers will view with pleasure or alarm and despondency, according to their political colours.

It is close to the M.C. of our 1801 chart, in opposition to the Sun.

It opposes Mars in Attlee's map and is sextile Venus in Taurus in Anthony Eden's, which may to some extent reassure Conservatives.

It is conjunction Pluto in the Egyptian horoscope.

Sir Edmund Hillary

Mr. Davison has been informed by Mr. E. S. Caselli that, in an interview with the famous mountaineer's mother, he ascertained that he was born between 12 noon and 1 p.m., local time, on July 20, 1919, at Auckland, N.Z.

The close conjunction of the ruler with Pluto is of special interest, but I daresay readers will have other observations to make.

Mr. Davison suggests an ascendant of 27 Scorpio, trine Sun-Jupiter but square to Saturn.

If this is so, then progressed Moon is close to p. Mars near

the radical mid-heaven and p. Sun is on cusp 11 (Placidus), showing the attainment of "hopes and wishes."

The most significant secondary is probably Venus stationary sextile r. Sun and Jupiter.

Sun opposition Uranus seems to have been helpful, on balance, and this demonstrates that arduous feats cannot be accomplished without *some* difficult contacts in the offing.

The regressions (prenatal secondaries) are striking: Sun sextile Saturn and Venus conjunction Neptune. *Also progressed Jupiter is exactly on the radical Moon in our* 1801 *map.*

Self-Undoing

Why was this name bestowed by Alan Leo on the 12th house? With the approval, it seems, of many later writers. Of course an afflicted 12th does indicate many sorrows and often serious ones; but I cannot see that these are usually self-caused. In fact, the reverse often seems to be the case. One is entangled in the troubles of other people, which affect one intimately because of the liability of the Piscean element to absorb the conditions of others.

I would definitely put self-undoing under the 5th, which can indeed be a truly creative house but can also, under affliction, be wasteful and profligate. It might be suggested that it is this house that causes one to get into scrapes, and that afterwards the scrapes get one into the 12th—prison or hospital.

Uranus in 5th is a rather questionable emplacement, and this planet certainly produced some queer types (Aleister Crowley, the Rector of Stiffkey) when it was in Leo and rising.

What do readers think of it?

Sun in Capricorn

Around Christmas several of us were struck by the number of notices in the Press of centenarian anniversaries.

Doubtless these are more frequent than they used to be, all the year round. And a careful investigation made into the comparative longevity of the natives of the twelve Sun-signs did not reveal any outstanding pre-eminence for Capricorn.

However, this may be due to the Sun-Capricorn being subject to a rather higher rate of mortality in childhood which would counterbalance a tendency to live long when once maturity has been attained. I have no evidence that this is so; but it might rather easily be the case.

Well-authenticated cases of great longevity are few, for a century ago people were even less likely to make a note of the

birth-hour than they are now, when a certain interest in Astrology is widespread. This pleasing fact was demonstrated to me when I requested the physician, an Austrian, attendant on my daughter to make a careful note of the time the grandchild in question was born. "Oh, yes; astrology, of course," he said, without showing any surprise or displeasure.

There seems little doubt that Jupiter rising is one of the very best things not only for living long, but also, what is much more important, enjoying one's life. We had a subscriber who, at 96, was full of mental and physical vitality, doing her own shopping in a busy town and at some distance from her home. She had Jupiter rising in Sagittarius, and died as a result of an accident, to which the natives of this sign are unusually prone, as is well known.

OFFER OF A PRIZE OF TWO GUINEAS

Scientists accuse astrologers of perpetually handing on arbitrary statements, producing no evidence in support of these. Because of such remarks, the Research Section of the Faculty would like to devise experiments to show that the basic concepts of astrology are true.

A prize of two guineas is now offered from the Research Fund for the best suggestion received for the conduct of an experiment to bring evidence to show that *the nature of each planet is indeed as astrologers know it to be by their working experience.*

The manner of working must be clearly set out and the attempt must be feasible. The experiment must be subject to a check experiment which must also be detailed. Workers of the Section will be chosen to carry out whatever is suggested by the winner of this prize. Suggestions should be sent to C. E. O. Carter, B.A., Principal of the Faculty, 37 Inner Park Road, S.W.19.

Mr. R. Eric Waddington, born West Riding of Yorkshire, about 11.30 p.m., October 26, 1904, present address Box 1144, Pretoria, S. Africa, would be glad to exchange astrological notes with anyone born at approximately the same time.

NEWS FROM THE FACULTY

Presentation of Diplomas and Certificates

The Diplomas and Certificates were presented by the Principal at the Faculty School on January 13th. In an opening speech, he welcomed new students and guests who had come as friends of those receiving the awards. Several External students had come to London for the occasion but most live too far away for this to be possible. Their names and countries were announced with the others. In every way, the desire is to help these to feel that they are brought closer to us as students of the Faculty, a very different relationship from that of merely "taking a correspondence course." There was a record number of entrants this year, thirty-two in all.

Those who gained the Diploma were:—

*Mr. Brockwell, London; Miss Dewick; Mrs. Dracos; Mr. Dracos, B.Com.; Mrs. Large, A.R.C.A. (E) Yorkshire; Mr. Robinson (E) Lancashire; Miss Vimpany (L); Mr. Watt, D.Hom.Sc., D.O. (L); Miss Winch, B.A. (E) Essex.

Those who gained the Certificate were:—

Miss Coomber-Wood (E) Australia; Mr. Everett (E) Surrey; Mr. Grundmanis (E) New York; Mrs. Henderson; Dr. Kahnemann (E) South Africa; Mr. Martin; Miss Pearmund; Miss Reece (E) Bristol; Mrs. Trott (E) Surrey; Mr. Tuxworth (E) Australia; Mrs. Tyson (E) Surrey; Miss Vincer (E) Bournemouth; Mr. Whittaker (E) Sudan; Mr. Wiffen; Mr. Wintle (E) New Zealand.

The Principal then announced the names of the winners of:—

(*a*) *The Carter Scholarship*

This Scholarship covers the fees for the Senior year and for the examination for the Diploma and is awarded to the student who, having been a member of the Junior Class throughout the year, has gained the highest marks in the examination for the Certificate. Congratulations go to Mr. Wiffen, who is the winner this year.

(*b*) *The Luxinger Award*

English astrologers much appreciate the friendly action of an American colleague, Mrs. Mary Luxinger of San Francisco,

* L = Lodge Member. E = External Student.

California. For the second time, she has offered Llewellyn George's *A–Z Horoscope Maker and Delineator* as an award to whichever student has made the most progress in the year. On the recommendation of the Director of Studies, this has been given to Miss Pearmund.

After the Presentation, Mr. Carter gave a talk on "The Place of the Faculty in the Astrological World." He said that there is an analogy between the place of astrology in human life and the place of the Faculty in the astrological world. He quoted the old *Punch* joke about the young cavalry Officer who said that the main purpose of the branch of the Service to which he belonged was "to give tone to what would otherwise be a vulgar brawl." Astrology gave tone—that is to say, order and reason,—to life, to what to the non-astrological is a chaotic procession of meaningless events. Equally the Faculty endeavoured to give order and method to astrological studies, giving students a graduated system of instruction, instead of their being left to grope their way through numerous books which were often at variance with one another and full of archaic ideas long discarded by up-to-date astrologers. There is an enormous amount of research to be done, sifting the old and seeking the new. That was where the Club came in, amongst other things. As for the usefulness of the External Branch, the figures spoke for themselves.

It had not been easy to get the Faculty going. Without mentioning names, a tremendous amount of work had had to be done. First, everything had had to be organised, and then and from now on, the system had to be kept going and administered efficiently. It was good to know that last year had been one of really smooth-running progress. The better a thing is run, the less friction there is, until an onlooker might think that it went of its own accord! That was not so; but no one could grudge trouble when the results were so outstanding.

Perhaps the most imperative thing was to educate the public to expect good work and to be prepared to pay for it.

The Epistle to the Student in Astrology by William Lilly was then read by Mr. John Addey and *The Code of Ethics of the Faculty* by Mr. M. B. Machin. Mrs. Hone added her good wishes to those of Mr. Carter to those students now leaving, saying how different the position is since the formation of the Club has made possible a continuity which did not exist before. Even those who do not become members can renew their association with the Faculty at any time by visits to Club meetings.

Mr. Dracos and Mr. Watt spoke on behalf of those leaving; Mr. Wiffen as a member of the present Senior Class, Miss Winch and Mrs. Large as External students and Mr. Brockwell as one who had taken the examination after self-study and some coaching. All expressed their appreciation of the systematic teaching received and their kindly thoughts to the tutors by whom this had been given.

After an interval for coffee, new students were introduced to their work by Miss Margaret Davies who, with Mr. M. B. Machin, has now been appointed to the teaching staff.

Other students, Club members and guests heard an analysis by Mrs. M. E. Hone of the chart set for the Interpretation Paper in the recent examination. She first spoke of Miss Buddicom and Mr. Machin, who had been her co-examiners this year, helping in all the work of organising the details necessary. She said that not only in this but all other Faculty activities, the year had been the happiest and most smoothly-running in her experience, this being due to the co-operation of all concerned.

In regard to the chart, a change had been made in that the same one had been interpreted by both grades on the same evening, marking being more strict for the Seniors. Since there were now so many entrants from abroad, a short analysis had been sent to all who could not be present. The examiners felt that they, as astrologers, learnt many lessons which were never available until it became possible to read so many versions of a reading of one chart. This showed clearly that while it is always possible to show by "backwards" astrology which factors in the sky-pattern correlate with the known behaviour-pattern of an individual, the worker using "forwards" astrology had no such easy task.

Candidates had been told that the lady who had given permission for her chart to be used had been a teacher. She had a Sagittarian ascendant. Opinions were divided as to whether she would incline to mental activity in a Sagittarian way because she had five planets in Gemini or to physical activity because of a very strongly aspected Mars in Aries. The truth seemed to be best expressed by saying that Geminian accentuation showed pronounced duality and versatility, since she had developed in both ways. She had qualified as a gym. and games mistress, teaching also such subjects as anatomy, physiology, hygiene and first aid but being interested also in serious reading and especially in anything concerning sport.*

Examinees were almost unanimous in interpreting Uranus in Aquarius in the 3rd house trine Sun as an interest in science,

* Data, female, near London, 7.00 p.m., G.M.T., June 5, 1913.

especially in new techniques; there was also agreement in answering a question as the probable use of spare-time, the strong Mars in 5th house with the fire ascendant being taken to indicate energetic out-of-door exercise, while the Geminian satellitium in the 7th house was an equally sure factor on which to suggest an inclination to pursuits in which she could join with close friends. Such work as this, the correctness of which depends on the interpretation of the chart as a whole shows the validity of the technique of astrology far better than statistics from the examination of isolated factors, though it is less impressive to the non-astrologer.

The Work of the External Students

The four Diplomas and eleven Certificates won by these students are good evidence of the efficacy of the methods of instruction. Seventy-seven have registered since this Course began two years ago. Work done by those who took the examination for the Certificate was of high quality, due to the number who had joined through the new "Senior Preparatory" Course. This has filled a great need since it is arranged for those who have worked alone, thus being too advanced for the Junior Course but not being sufficiently grounded to begin with the Senior Course. These usually have good experience in interpretation and are well-read in astrology. As they go on to their Senior year, they receive *Astrology* each quarter, thus being able to know something of what is going on at the Faculty and the Lodge. From all parts of the world come letters telling of the welcome given to this. In countries where there are no lectures and no other astrologers with whom to talk, *Astrology* reaches a larger public than its circulation figure would imply, since many of its recipients pass it on to others who are interested.

The Thursday Club

The Research Fund has reached over £90. On another page in this issue will be found an announcement of a prize offered for any suggestion which may help to achieve the object of planning experiments to bring evidence to show that the statements made in astrology are not all arbitrary as non-astrologers impute, but are incontrovertibly true.

Two awards have already been made to members who have carried out extensive work. These are C. Hammerton, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., D.F.Astrol.S., and P. C. Roberts, B.Sc., D.F.Astrol.S. This section of the next issue of the Quarterly will be devoted to an account of their reports.

AT THE LODGE

By R. C. D.

AUTUMN SESSION, 1953*

OWING to the necessity for repairs to the Hall of the Art Workers' Guild at 6 Queen Square, the first two meetings of the Autumn Session were held at 50 Gloucester Place, through the kind co-operation of T.S. Headquarters. The fact that the July eclipse had fallen close to the position of the Sun in Cancer in the foundation horoscope of the Lodge can no doubt be taken as an indication of this temporary change of home. That the enforced change was not without its compensations will be appreciated by all those who have had the pleasure of attending meetings in the newly decorated hall at 6 Queen Square.

Following the usual custom, the first meeting, held on September 21st, was a Social Evening. Two competitions, organised by Mr. Addey and Mr. Davison, provided members with an opportunity to sharpen their wits and, at the same time, to display their astrological acumen. Mr. Addey's ingeniously compiled crossword puzzle was speedily solved by Mr. Carruthers and Miss Harris who each received a prize (a copy of the 1954 Ephemeris) for their efforts. Winners of the other competition, in which competitors were asked a number of questions which required them to differentiate between two horoscopes, were Mrs. Hicks, Mrs. Marden and Miss Cole.

During the evening Mrs. Hone made a brief statement on the new Syllabus of the Faculty of Astrological Studies and, with the aid of a large-scale map of the world and a number of coloured indicator pins, graphically demonstrated the encouraging and almost world-wide interest in the Faculty's course for external students. As in some other spheres of significant human activity, representatives of the Iron Curtain countries were conspicuous by their absence!

Refreshments were served during the interval.

On September 28th Mr. Carter spoke on "The Basic Laws of Astrology." The lecture was very well received by an encouragingly large audience. This lecture is being printed in the December, March and June issues of *Astrology* and so need not be discussed here.

* It is much regretted that exigencies of space have forced us to omit the closing lectures of the Summer Session, 1953. Even as it is, we are a quarter behind!—EDITOR.

The return to 6, Queen Square, on October 5th was marked by the holding of a "Brains Trust." It is something of a paradox that, although a good deal of interest is apparently aroused by this feature, members seem somewhat reluctant to submit questions. The success of an evening of this kind largely depends upon "communal effort" and it would appear desirable, if the best results are to be obtained, to repeat this feature rather less frequently. On this occasion the organisers, faced with a last minute shortage of questions, invited one or two members to submit several questions in order to make up the number.

One of the questions which aroused most interest was "Are there any general rules for determining beforehand the sex of a baby?" It was suggested that the parents' natal and progressed horoscopes and the marriage horoscope often provided useful clues according to the emphasis on masculine and feminine planets and signs in relation to the 5th house. Mr. Addey pointed out that in an earlier number of the Quarterly Mr. Carter had reported that male children appeared to predominate when both parents had the Moon in masculine signs, while female children were in the majority when both parents had the Moon in female signs. This rule would appear to be reversed when the Moon was afflicted by Uranus. Mr. Davison reported a case which had recently come to his notice where both parents had the Moon in a masculine sign squared by Uranus. Their newly born child (their first) was a girl. He suggested that, if more were known about the right use of the Parts of Male and Female Children, these points might give significant indications.

The Brains Trust were also asked whether they agreed with Cyril Fagan's pronouncement that house rulerships should not be used in Natal Astrology since that doctrine had been falsely appropriated from Horary Astrology. There was a general reluctance to support this idea.

Another question was "Why, if it is correct in a nativity to allow an orb of 5° when computing major aspects, is not the same orb allowed when estimating the period over which a progressed aspect will remain operative?" In reply it was stated that the birth horoscope showed certain general tendencies. These general tendencies did not reach their opportunity for maximum expression until the aspect between the planets concerned approached close to exactitude. The closer the aspect, the stronger the vibration and the more likely was an event to be precipitated.

Miss Buddicom provided an ingenious answer to the query "Does the experience of the Brains Trust uphold the dictum of

Horary Astrology that it is unwise to buy articles of clothing or to wear new clothes for the first time when the Moon is in Leo?" This lunar position, she said, tended to stimulate pride so that people would be less likely to strike a hard bargain for fear of appearing mean. In addition they would tend to be in a more flamboyant mood than usual and might thus be tempted to buy a showy garment which they would, in a more sober frame of mind, regret having bought. Mme Latour mentioned that shoes bought when the Moon was in Scorpio often squeaked. This somewhat novel and apparently inconsequential piece of information was vouched for by several members who agreed that it tallied with their own experience. Both the 7 o'clock and 8.20 periods were devoted to the Brains Trust.

The transits of Saturn most definitely make their presence felt. This was one of the principal themes of Mrs. J. Rodgers' lecture on "Saturn and his Cycle," given on October 12th.

She reminded her audience that Saturn was the Reaper, Father Time with his sickle, bringing to all their just deserts, weighing all in the balance and meting out justice with strict impartiality, hence the exaltation of Saturn in Libra. Saturn was the planet of limitation and Time was one of the greatest limitations. The young could not act with the mature wisdom of experience, while crabbed age could not emulate the virility of youth or tolerate its undisciplined exuberance.

Saturn stimulated ambition. This was probably the reason why the planet was associated with falls, which were most likely to occur when we tried to reach out beyond our capabilities.

Saturnian afflictions often brought poverty or at least an ever-present preoccupation with the necessity for making ends meet. Saturn was the planet of boundaries and finance was concerned with the practical recognition of material boundaries. A respect for the boundaries of human conduct implied a sense of duty, another Saturnian attribute.

The typical Saturnian was a reliable, undemonstrative type. If he allowed his awareness of the need for imposing boundaries to deteriorate into a fear of overstepping the mark there was a danger of crystallisation setting in, ultimately leading to stagnation and decay.

Saturn completed a circuit of the Zodiac once every thirty years. Few were able to realise all the potentialities of their horoscope until the first return of Saturn to his own place. Such a return marked a critical time in the life. Saturn's influence by transit was strongly coloured by the planet's radical sign and house position. When the time of birth was

not known the cycle of Saturn in relation to the natal Sun formed a useful basis for prediction. Saturn's connection with Capricorn, the tenth sign, rendered its transits through the 10th house particularly effective. These nearly always coincided with some change in the native's status and sometimes with a fall from grace. Hans Christian Andersen wrote his first fairy tales when Saturn was passing through his 10th house, so making a burden for himself, as public demand forced him to concentrate on this form of literary activity when he would have preferred to have devoted himself to other forms of writing.

Saturn's passage through the 1st house brought a consolidation of personal expression. This might work out in some personal loss or entail a depletion of physical resources. When Saturn passed through the 1st house of John Ruskin's horoscope his health broke down to such an extent that he was never fit for regular work again. Saturn's transit over the fourth cusp of the same chart coincided with Ruskin's divorce.

The passage of Saturn through the 4th house often marked a time when the foundations of future success were laid. When Saturn passed through the angular houses of the horoscope situations which had been building up during his passage through the succedent and cadent houses became crystallised and projected into the outer life.

The lecture was well attended, which was no doubt connected in some way with the trine in the heavens of the expansive Jupiter in Gemini (lectures) with Saturn, the subject of the lecture. This remark, however, must not be construed as implying that our lecturer's reputation had no effect on the attendance!

At 8.20 Mrs. Parkes initiated a discussion on "The Results of the July Eclipse." She mentioned the Greek earthquakes in the mundane sphere and a number of cases of personal friends who had suffered various mistortunes, none of which appeared quite so catastrophic as might have been expected from an eclipse falling in conjunction with both Mars and Uranus. The Lodge horoscope had also been affected, the radical Sun in Cancer being very close to the place of the Eclipse. Repairs to the Lodge Headquarters had necessitated a temporary change of meeting place, while several Lodge members had been in poor health.

Mr. Davison reported that two old friends of the Lodge, Mr. Caselli and Mr. Sommaruga, had been involved in a motor accident in New Zealand. The eclipse fell in opposition to Mr. Caselli's ascendant!

Several other members were able to give examples of the way in which the eclipse had acted when falling on sensitive points in horoscopes known to them. In each case, events of the nature of the planet afflicted had occurred. The eclipse falling on Mercury had occasioned mental unrest, falling on the Moon domestic unrest, disputes with the mother, and so on. It was pointed out that eclipses could only have strongly adverse effects when they coincided with a period when adverse directions were in operation. Similarly, as the July eclipse fell in conjunction with Mars and Uranus, those who had these two planets favourably configured at birth would hardly be likely to experience misfortune under this eclipse.

There was some discussion as to whether an eclipse could influence events which took place before the actual conjunction of the luminaries. Some members were prepared to allow a margin of five to seven days previous to the eclipse, but Mr. Addey suggested, having a particular case in mind, that this margin might be extended to as much as six weeks. It was felt that, while such a margin might conceivably be allowable in some cases, it would be difficult to obtain evidence sufficiently clear-cut to decide the matter conclusively.

Racehorses and Flying Saucers figured prominently in Mr. Dennis Bartlett's lecture on "Practical Astrology" given on October 19th. In an amusing lecture he described his early struggles with the various techniques and systems of astrology and how he threaded his way hesitantly through a bewildering array of Fixed Stars, Nodes, Hypothetical Planets, Decanates, Degree Symbols, Parts and Points, to say nothing of half-a-dozen different systems of house division and various pre-natal horoscopes. After this introduction it was hardly surprising that Mr. Bartlett put forward a plea for simplicity in astrology! The angles of the horoscope were extremely sensitive points and transits over the angles, especially when two planets were in conjunction or opposition, could always be relied upon to produce results. On the other hand, astrologers should not expect to account for every little change by some astrological configuration.

Astrology worked on all levels. The racehorse Pinza, this year's Derby winner, was born on February 2, 1950, at 10.55 a.m., with Taurus rising and the Sun conjunct Venus and Jupiter. He was described as greedy and a "show-off." Mercury was in square to Neptune. He was awkward and skittish and, unlike his equine brothers, he always got up hindquarters first! With the accent on fixed signs and Mercury trine Saturn it was not surprising that he had rarely won on a course with bends

••

in it. Sir Gordon Richards had the Sun, Mars and Jupiter in Taurus, Jupiter being in trine to Pinza's midheaven. Racehorse and jockey had enjoyed a most successful season together.

Reputable witnesses had reported sighting Flying Saucers on December 13, 1952, in California, and early in the morning of October 9, 1953, over the English Channel. The lecturer wondered whether the horoscopes for the moment of discovery would throw any light on the nature and origin of the Saucers. In the latter chart Libra was rising and prominently tenanted. Mr. Davison pointed out that the glyph of Libra was the one most nearly approximating to a cross-section of a Flying Saucer. There was also a theory that the Saucers came from Venus!

Mrs. Hone led the discussion at 8.20, speaking at length upon "Facts from Tromsö about the Pre-Natal Epoch." She pointed out that from details of registered births within the Polar Circle forwarded from Tromsö, it had been established that, in about one-quarter of the cases, owing to the circumpolar movement of the Moon on the days in question, there could be no Ascendant-Moon interchange, a pre-requisite of the Pre-Natal Epoch technique according to Mr. E. H. Bailey, one of its principal exponents. She suggested that this invalidated the theory of the Pre-Natal Epoch. Mr. Gauntlett lent his support to this suggestion.

Mancunius, a welcome visitor after many months in the North of England, stated that no such difficulties existed in calculating the Epoch under the system of Equal House Division he used, since the Symbolic Ascendant was always in square to the Midheaven and an interchange could always be obtained. Brigadier Firebrace, while he was not convinced that the Pre-Natal Epoch was valid, did not regard the exceptional cases occurring within a limited area of the earth's surface as a sufficiently rational and scientific justification for scrapping the whole theory. Dr. Roosedale and other speakers supported this view. Mr. Davison said that he had received a letter from Mr. E. H. Bailey as a result of recent correspondence in the Quarterly assuring him that both Sepharial and he were, naturally, well aware of the circumpolar motion of the Moon in extreme latitudes and that a special method of calculation was necessary in such cases. The President added that he would have had a good deal more respect for the scientific approach to the question claimed by the opponents of the Epoch had they suggested that *either* the theory was untenable *or* that the rules as stated were in need of some slight modification. He himself was convinced that the Epoch was an indis-

pensable item of astrological technique, but he asked members not to rely upon the word of others as to whether the theory was or was not valid, but to investigate it thoroughly for themselves.

Mr. Alex Sim is always a welcome visitor to the Lodge and his lecture on "Points that Puzzle" was based on some of the problems which had exercised the minds of Lodge members in the days before the War when he had instructed the Beginners' Class. He invited the audience to give their solutions to some of the problems he was about to pose.

It was always a matter for some speculation as to how the Ancients fared without a knowledge of Uranus and Neptune. These two planets had an affinity with Aquarius and Pisces but it was not clearly established that they had in any way superseded the traditional rulership of Saturn and Jupiter. Another moot point was whether the 4th or 10th houses represented the mother. It had been suggested that normally the 10th ruled the father but if in the Soli-Lunar interchange horoscope before birth the Sun interchanged with the degree opposite the Moon instead of with the degree held by the Moon, the 10th house at birth should be taken to represent the mother.

A more difficult problem was to decide which of the various matters ruled by any one house would be thrown into prominence when directions involving that house fell due. For instance, a badly aspected Uranus in the 3rd might denote quarrels with brethren or accidents while on a journey.

The 12th house was the one occupied by the risen Sun, when the darkness of the night had given way to the glory of the day. Why then should the 12th house possess such a gloomy reputation?

Mr. Carruthers suggested that the reason lay in the fact that the 12th house was analogous to Pisces, the last sign in the Zodiac before the Vernal Equinox was reached, and thus weak in power.

Mrs. Hone observed that it might be possible to gain some idea of the strength of the relationship between Uranus and Aquarius by observing the sign position of Uranus in the horoscopes of those with Aquarius rising in order to see whether the native's appearance was correspondingly modified. A similar exercise could be carried out in relation to Neptune in the cases where Pisces was rising.

Members were reluctant to put forward definite rules about the 10th and 4th houses. Mrs. Jaffa preferred to regard the 4th house as having a connection with both parents. The

President reminded the audience that the signs and planets connected with the 4th and 10th houses were more in the nature of an indication of the way in which the native regarded his parents than a description of the parents themselves.

Mr. Machin led the 8.20 discussion, taking as his subject "The Significators of Music in the Chart." Venus and Neptune were the planets traditionally associated with music. Each planet, however, had its part to play. The Sun governed the power of self-expression in music. The Moon was the index of the native's sensitivity to sound. Mercury governed the means of communicating sound and the ability to understand it. Venus was particularly connected with harmony, Mars with aggressive and assertive expression. Jupiter gave the ability to expand and build up a chosen motif while Saturn was related to the basic foundations of music. Uranus enabled the composer to break away from accepted musical conventions, while Neptune brought inspiration and was no doubt connected with the development of harmony.

The signs also exercised their influence. Taurus was particularly associated with vocal and perhaps with reed music. Virgo governed musical technique, while the composer with Capricorn strong should be a master of musical form.

Strongly dramatic music would fall under Scorpio. Music of a more showy type was connected with Leo, which also produced many conductors and leaders in the world of entertainment.

A most successful debate was held on November 2nd. The motion "That this Lodge has serious doubts as to whether a knowledge of directional astrology is of much use in forestalling adversity" was proposed by Mrs. Jaffa in a very witty and well-reasoned speech, and seconded by Mr. Freedman. Mr. Gauntlett opposed the motion, being seconded by Mr. Addey, who sportingly stepped into the breach caused by the unexpected absence of Mr. Colin Evans.

Mrs. Jaffa cited several examples to show that, so far from a knowledge of directions having allowed a prospective "victim" to sidestep adversity, he had only landed himself the more surely in trouble by his attempts at evasion. She doubted whether a knowledge of directional astrology was intended to enable anyone to forestall adversity. Its main use was to help them to gain an understanding of their life's purpose. Although it was true that "character is destiny" few people were able to overcome inherent defects of character effectively enough to be able to alter their destiny as a result.

Mr. Gauntlett suggested that, although adversity must at

some time enter every life, a foreknowledge of the times when it was due enabled the person concerned to condition himself mentally and to take sufficient precautions beforehand to avoid being thrown "off balance" when trouble arrived. No less an authority than Ptolemy had said: "A sagacious mind improves the condition of the heavens." Everyone had a right to know the future so that they could do something about it in advance. He believed that it was possible to modify the character after a careful study of the horoscope and by so doing to change the personal destiny.

Mr. Freedman, supporting the motion, pointed out that all directions were of secondary importance to the radical horoscope. Those born with a T-cross might question very much whether it was possible to forestall adversity. Mr. Addey, seconding the opposition, replied that much of the dissatisfaction over directions was occasioned by the fact that astrologers found it difficult to pinpoint the time when directions would discharge their major effects. The more the technique of directing was improved, the greater the use that could be made of it in forestalling adversity.

There was some discussion as to the precise meaning of "forestall." One school of thought suggested that the word was synonymous with "prevent" while another preferred an interpretation embodying the idea of taking alternative measures.

When the debate was thrown open there appeared to be some measure of agreement among the audience that, while some events could not be avoided, being dependent upon outside circumstances which the native was powerless to influence, there were certain events which depended in large measure upon the native's own reactions, over which he might be expected to exercise some control, according to his ability to mould his character. In this connection the horoscope provided an invaluable guide to those weaknesses of character most likely to provoke trouble.

When summing up, Mr. Davison pointed out that it was comparatively easy to quote instances where foreknowledge had not enabled the native to avoid adversity. If, however, the native had taken evasive action as a result of his foreknowledge and no ill effects had accrued there was no proof that he would have suffered had he not taken such action.

The motion was defeated by the narrowest possible margin, by 17 votes to 16. So closely was the battle contested that a number of members were reluctant to declare themselves thoroughly convinced by either side, and so refrained from voting.

TESTING GROUND OF VIRGO-LIBRA-SCORPIO

By L. Furze Morrish

In the first place we may feel impelled to ask what it is which is being tested; and for what. The supposition underlying this subject is that there is a process of evolution going on, in which certain levels of consciousness or standards of awareness are in view, and that the universe has a teleological background, by which is meant that there is a purpose in it.

It would probably be possible to study and accept the significances and symbols of astrology, and apply them in mundane affairs, without ever accepting such things as reincarnation and purpose. However, such an astrology would undoubtedly not lead anywhere in particular and would be unsatisfying to people who want to see some sort of meaning in existence. It would be merely what we might call "Vegetable Astrology"—the sort that just grows without knowing it.

It is a natural reaction of most intelligent folk, on realising that the universe is a time-piece of very great precision, to conclude that there must be some sort of intelligence behind it, on the principle that if one threw the pieces of a puzzle into the air over one's shoulder, the odds against them all coming down in their proper places would be colossal. If such intelligence does lie behind the scheme of things, then it is hardly likely that there would be no purpose in it at all, on the principle that intelligence which does things without purpose is generally locked up for its own and other people's good. If someone stopped you on the street and asked you the question: "Where are you going?" and you replied: "I'm not going anywhere; I'm just going," people would be justified in looking at you queerly.

It is on the principle that one accepts a purpose behind celestial phenomena and that evolution is a manifestation of it, that we will consider this question of the Testing-ground of Virgo-Libra-Scorpio.

What is the test in question? Many students of what is called "occultism" often hold anthropomorphic ideas about these things. They seem to go to the opposite extreme from the materialist, and visualise a sort of personified Deity or His representatives, looking out over the world and noting those who pass or fail to pass their exams. The facts probably are that consciousness attains various successive "levels," or capacities, by responding to environment, and that underlying this there is the universal factor of Karma, or Cause and

Effect, operating, which individuals of all types and levels can make use of. There are presumably individual forms of life with immense ranges of consciousness, just as there are forms of life "below" us in evolution with much less consciousness than we possess; but the universal law seems to operate all through.

In these terms, therefore, one may think of certain points in the zodiac as representing crises, or psychological turning-points, where consciousness changes direction or expands, after mastering previous schemes. For every development of faculty there is need for concentrated effort, after which the function slips down into the Unconscious (Ucs) and becomes relatively automatic. The significance of this must be obvious.

Here we have some explanation of what in eastern religious and psychological literature is often called "The Path." It consists of stages in unfolding capacity and awareness. The key-words of Virgo-Libra-Scorpio suggest an important stage in this process.

Virgo

The significance of Virgo is Discrimination and Selectivity. That of Libra is Poise, Comparison and Co-operative Effort, while Scorpio represents Intensification and all the psychological results of tensional systems in general.

Let us consider Virgo. The usual symbol is a woman holding an ear of corn. Here is primitive selectivity—the ability to choose foods to nourish the body. This was probably one of the most elementary forms of distinction made by primitive man, his first attempt at analysis in any objective way. Virgo covers everything that entails selective choice and therefore underlies the whole scheme of individualisation; because the chief factor in individuality is the ability to make choice between one object, way, method, and another. Animals have as a rule none of this capacity. They obey the group instinct without knowing it, and individual units rarely have either the ability or the inclination to vary the patterns and modes common to the species.

Behaviourist psychologists have made a very serious mistake here. It was thought that because Pavlov conditioned dogs to salivate on the sound of the dinner-bell by successively presenting food by itself, food with a bell, and eventually a bell by itself, therefore human beings act in the same way. The Behaviourists claim that man's entire mental response is by the conditioned reflex, as it is called. They do not seem to take into account that human beings have evolved individual

selective capacities and have a technique by which they can "pick and choose." This technique is Virgo, ruled by Mercury, a symbol of skill and activated energies along certain channels of communication.

We thus have an important testing point in Virgo. This point is reached again and again, so to speak, on the spiral path of evolution. Among primitive humans Virgo represented the faculty of making simple selections and thus becoming individualised. This is, in a sense, a "test" passed by early humanity —a test carried out by man's evolutionary surroundings themselves.

Repeated passings of this test have produced a race of humans now capable of very fine distinctions, but it is the same principle of selectivity underlying all of them. At a still higher level this becomes a subtle form of mental honesty, which is the first real requirement on the "Path of Occultism" which we have mentioned. It is utterly impossible to go very far along this path without it. One fears that many theosophical personalities who have claimed to hold important positions in this movement possess very little of this quality. Mental Honesty implies the capacity to psychologise oneself and, so to speak, see through one's own motives, which are often not at all the ones we believe them to be. Virgo is a form of psychoanalysis, and psychoanalysis can be very ruthless when it comes to exposing favourite beliefs. Psychological pleasure-systems tend to build an inner holy of holies in the Ucs at the core HQ of which is supposed to sit a Magic Prince. No argument is allowed to get into this inner sanctum or throne-room unless it is suitably disguised in the words or ideas which the prince permits. However, as time goes on and this inner sanctum never gets a proper airing, the place tends to grow stuffy and may start symptoms of physical ailments. The psychoanalyst is someone who can thrust his hand in and drag out the occupant of our throne-room into the daylight. Only too often when this happens, it is found to be not a Magic Prince, but a Dead Rat! And that is not a nice thing to carry round.

Virgo therefore represents the capacity to rake out our own unconscious minds and see through their delusions, those beloved delusions which we enjoy harbouring. Many people who are most enthusiastic students of these matters look on Virgo as Discrimination between the Real and Unreal, as it is called. They think this means ignoring mundane facts and living in a dream-world, under the belief that this is seeking the Real and discarding the Unreal. However, Virgo is much

more realistic than that. Virgo means discovering the real or true in everything, and getting rid of the false. It is thus a major turning point in evolution.

Libra

Now as to the next sign, Libra, the Balance. Balance implies duality and there must be two opposites in everything. To indulge for a few minutes in abstract philosophy: if there is a single factor behind the whole universe, then this is what we term the Absolute, and it would be without form or limitation of any kind—universal and undifferentiated totality. There would have to be the opposite of this, because we live in a world of objects in a visible universe, and unless we deny its existence, there must be these two things, (*a*) the Absolute and (*b*) its opposite, the manifested condition. Thus we have at the outset Duality, sometimes referred to as the Self and Not-self.

Now Libra represents this balance in nature between the Self and Not-self, the Eternal Duality which cannot be abolished without negativing existence. As worlds are constantly passing back into the Absolute, philosophically speaking, so worlds are constantly coming forth from the same source. There is an over-all balance or harmony.

This seems to answer another question often asked by inquiring minds as to how to distinguish between the Real and Unreal, which Virgo indicates. The answer is by attaining a state of balance. The Real is not found by escaping from the objective state into a subjective one. That is a one-sided condition and based on the idea that worlds return to the Absolute, but never come forth from it. On the other hand, at the other extreme, the materialist is also wrong when he claims that the Real is only to be found in objects. That is basing conclusions on the idea that worlds come forth from the Absolute but never return to it. The answer seems to be that truth is found by reaching a state of poise from which either extreme can be dealt with at will, without becoming identified with either.

Here is Libra, and that seems to be the next turning point. After discovery of the power to select, comes the ability to make successive choices in such a way that one becomes detached from any of them. There is the subtle meaning of Virgo-detachment and apparent callousness. After this the capacity to make comparisons is developed, and this fines down into the state of poise required. The Balance is then achieved, and either scale may be weighted at will.

Scorpio

A new development takes place under this sign. Scorpio seems to indicate Intensification. It is the Fixed Water Sign. Being a Fixed Sign, it does not move in any direction like the Cardinal Signs, and it does not oscillate like the Mutables. It remains "put," so to speak. Its emotional or "water" energies are not dissipated in action or motion in direction, but revolve round themselves, as it were. In this way great tension is built up, and in fact Scorpio might be called the Tensional System. It is said to be the Sign of Generation, and to govern the sex-glands. It is certainly associated with the tensional systems which revolve round sex, or rather of which sex is one manifestation. The main characteristic of our sexual technique is the cycle of tensioning and detensioning which takes place. This is quite characteristic of Scorpio.

However, the crude forms of sex are not the only manifestation of this Power-Sign. We do see, all the same, the eternal Duality at work. There is Virgo selection between opposites; there is the Libra balancing and comparison of them, and there is the Scorpio intensification, or magnetic field set up between the two poles.

At all events Scorpio represents the tensional system by which Power is built up, and Scorpio undoubtedly represents the Power-complex in psychology. There can be little doubt, too, that a close association exists between the sex-instinct and the power complex. Far from being a symbol of depravity in sex matters as some seem to think, Scorpio contains in itself the power of regeneration. In fact Scorpio stands for Generation, followed by either Regeneration or Degeneration.

Here we find another phase of the Test we have mentioned. Before consciousness can expand, there must first be an intensification. The energies have to be conserved. This applies at every level from the simplest form of creativity to the most complex. Psychology claims that all man's monuments—all his intellectual and artistic creations—are the result of his sublimating the raw energy called Libido. This may take a form of primitive sex-life for the reproduction of the species—it may in technical terms find a "biological outlet"—or it may be "sublimated," or rendered more ethereal, more gaseous, in the development of mental powers. In all cases it seems that the principle of intensification and diversion into other channels underlies this whole process, and the one word which covers the whole thing is Scorpio. So that, when a knowledgeable astrologer wants to describe this whole process of damming and directing the flow of libido, he should only have to say

"Scorpio" for any other knowledgeable astrologer to know what he means. It might sound strange to us to say that someone "scorpioed" a block of city skyscrapers, or a work of art or some other achievement, but that is what the word really means. It means that the person concerned generated his libido, intensified it under the desire-urge to produce something of note, then built up his tensional systems until they found outlet under the direction of his mind into the work in question whatever it may be.

This stage on the so-called Path is obviously an important one. It is manifestly impossible to go very far without conserving and building up one's energies. There is no doubt that acquisition of various supra-normal powers depends on this process of training the flow of kundalini. This itself is an ultra-gaseous energy-pattern which passes along the spinal nerves and organises the electrical energies which constitute the nerve-currents—which "condition" them, as the Behaviourist would say. Kundalini is probably electrical in nature itself and represents a series of levels or frequencies, the higher of which synthesise and organise the lower ones. Thus the higher the tensional system and its control, the more subtle will be the type of response—the rate of consciousness.

From evidence available so far, it looks as if Pluto is most closely associated with Scorpio. It is hard to say this with certainty, but there is every reason to think that it is a fact. The initiatory impulses of Pluto find their natural channel in the tensional-systems of Scorpio. Mythologically Pluto is a good name for this factor of invisible intensification, and when the ancients spoke of Pluto as God of the Underworld, this is probably what was meant. They had no psychological-mechanical terms such as ours.

The test seems to be whether an individual is able to use his creative energies constructively or not. He has the selective discrimination of Virgo to indicate the right course, and the balanced judgment of Libra. It is to be seen whether he can put this into effect by dealing with his own tensions in actual fact.

It is an interesting point to be considered by everyone how far individuals and communities with a Libra natal atmosphere have to meet this Test of Scorpio. Any individual with Libra prominent in the natal map, whether by having it as Rising Sign, or near the ascendant, will have to meet the arrival of Scorpio on the progressed ascendant sooner or later. Or perhaps his Sun or ruler may progress from Libra to Scorpio at some stage in his career. How he will meet the influx of powerful

impulses is one he will have to decide for himself. For one example, the late Adolf Hitler, alias Schickelgruber, is considered to have had Libra rising at birth. He had Scorpio on his progressed ascendant for the greater part of his impressionable life. Strange powers flowed through Adolf and they were not well used at all.

The Chart of Great Britain also has Libra rising. Presumably Scorpio would have come to the progressed ascendant during the "Regency" days, when the cruder features of this sign were manifested. With the arrival of Sagittarius on the ascendant a more Jupiterian atmosphere appeared, not unlike Handel's music, which is conventionally Jupiterian.

There are certain Libra features in one of the charts of Soviet Russia. It would be interesting to see whether the sequence works out there too.

This is a comparatively easy turning-point to measure—that between Libra and Scorpio—because the two signs are so diametrically opposite in nature. The change is so clear when it takes place that there can be no mistaking it.

These, then, seem to be the main features of the critical phase denoted by Virgo-Libra-Scorpio. When this is passed, it seems that the way is then open for the tensioned energies to be directed in an upward trend, or sublimated under the symbolism of Sagittarius, whose "archer" is supposed to be "shooting at a star"—in other words, sublimating the energies. This is another subject.

The Moon's Nodes

As a final consideration of this selective process, we might briefly consider the Moon's Nodes. Psychologically the North Node suggests Intake, while the South suggests Ejection—in each case referring to material from the Collective Ucs. Each individual draws on the Collective Ucs for his own share of libido, and the position of the Nodes suggests the mode by which an individual will build in his newly-acquired habits and get rid of older ones. The whole process is rather like that of eating and digesting food. New habits are constantly being acquired, and older ones outgrown. This is a most important feature of psychology, and, though our environment plays a powerful role, only we ourselves can eliminate the "waste-matter" of our psychological systems. For example, the "magic prince," who turns out to be a "dead rat." When other people point this out critically, we fly into rages and defend our inner sanctum, but sooner or later all acquired life-styles have to be

outgrown and new ones evolved. Otherwise we are virtually dead.

A study of the nodal points will suggest interesting possibilities of how best to go through this rather painful process of psychological growth. The House and Sign position of the North Node will indicate the general direction in which to look for new modes, and the kinds of activities to be encouraged; while the South Node will indicate those to be avoided or thrown out. Incidentally the latter will also show those habits which we are most loth to get rid of, for the simple reason that they are the ones we have become most efficient at, and which we cling to on that account. In fact a clearer view of a person's character and tendencies may often be obtained by examining the nodal positions than from the Rising Sign. For instance, a Virgo rising, with South Node in Leo well aspected, may show as much Leo in his temperament as Virgo. This is likely to surprise everyone who understands what Virgo rising means.

Using this information, one may attempt to pass the Test of Scorpio, and realise that it is the Key-test of the whole zodiac. In fact it is the Master Key which unlocks all doors, and is carried by the owner of the property and the criminal alike.

BASIC ASTROLOGICAL POINTS OF VIEW

(continued)

By The Editor

A lecture given at the Astrological Lodge, September 28, 1953.

In the Syllabus of the Lodge this series of papers was entitled "Basic Laws of Astrology." But my desire was not so much to propound or suggest "laws" in the usual sense of this word, as to enunciate certain points of view which seem to me to be probably (in some sense at any rate) true and which, properly understood, might correct our approach to some of our problems.

Proposition Four—Ultimate Expression.

That which is unitary above is expressed in multiplicity below. Hence the astrologer cannot delineate or forecast details.

Applied to Astrology, this means that the principles which the Sun, Moon, planets and other horoscopic factors represent are of a unitary nature, though it is difficult, and perhaps impossible, to find the one word that will, in each case indicate

the radical principle, but that when these principles are expressed in human life they will appear in innumerable forms.

Thus it happens that no astrologer can be precise in detail. If he seeks to be, he will either fail, or, if he is very fortunate, score a point that will, however superficially impressive, be in reality a fluke which neither he nor any other student can guarantee to repeat.

This applies to all astrological work, but perhaps most of all to prediction, because it is in regard to this branch that the public demand precision. They have acquired the notion—and for this the astrologers are themselves largely to blame—that the work of astrology is to forecast the future, and, since vague forecasts are of no use to them, they require the impossible, and, failing this, they declare the claims of the astrologer to be totally unfounded. They would not so readily assert that all medical science is nonsense because the prognosis of the doctor is sometimes at fault.

The truth must be faced that so long as we remain fixed in the unitary principles, we can not only often be correct, but we can *almost invariably* be so; but that as soon as we try to deal in particulars we cannot (at least with our present knowledge) guarantee more than a quite moderate degree of success.

Let us see the principle of the life-force, the *elan vital*, that is, the Sun, coming to a difficult contact with the principle of obstruction, that is, in one of its aspects, Saturn, and we do not need to hazard a guess that obstruction will occur in the unfoldment of the life; we can quite honestly and scientifically say that this *will* be the case. Admittedly there are certain technical considerations that are well known and which might modify this. The natus itself must be scrutinised and it is possible, too, that other concurrent contacts might so modify the one we are speaking about as to make the obstruction, the thwarting, the hindering, much less apparent than would normally be the case. But *it will be there*, in some form or other.

Study of the other factors, such as the signs and houses, may enable us, cautiously, to narrow down the field in which the obstructive tendency will express itself, but in doing so we leave the field of the assured and are exercising our powers of judgment, of estimation, and we can no longer claim more than to do our best.

Obstruction, as a principle, may appear in such fields as: (*a*) our body and its well-being, (*b*) our emotional life, e.g. a love disappointment, (*c*) our career or business, or in regard to some other object of endeavour and ambition.

Almost any important check to our hopes and wishes will fill the bill. Obviously this is a very wide prospect indeed! The man in the street, bent on what he calls the "practical," would say that he has no use for such vagueness. But within its own scope astrology is neither vague nor unpractical.

The philosophic values and implications of this accurate but unprecise power to foresee the future do not of course appeal to the man in the street; but they are nevertheless immense. They argue not only a fundamental life-and-character-pattern for each individual, but also a progressive and intelligible unfoldment of the individualised life-urge. The value of this to a thoughtful person is far from negligible. Instead of being confronted with the conception of a sort of chaos out of which he must, if he can, forge some sort of order, he sees order behind, around and before him, and beholds himself as possessing the power freely to conform with that order, in an energetic and intelligent manner, or on the other hand to spend his powers in a fruitless and stupid struggle with it.

It is true that some people find this idea of a life-pattern inhibitive in appearance. The same people find nothing irksome in the fact that they are born with two arms, two eyes and two legs and are not modelled on Argus or a centipede or Briareus! They accept the "plan" of a physical body.

Be that as it may and let man feel as he may, we *are* born with a pattern, but it is a pattern framed in terms of principles, which, as we see from our Proposition, express themselves in countless modes; and there is no reason to suppose that we have not a large measure of freedom in deciding "our" particular modes. The arguments against a rigid determinism are philosophic rather than scientific.

So far as astrology is concerned, it would seem that Jupiter and Saturn respectively represent freedom and limitation. They certainly do so in the affairs of life; and they may be said to do so philosophically, and therefore to imply, by this token, that these contrary principles are both real.

But all planets merely differentiate the primal Solar Principle, which is the life-force, and which, by its very nature (I would suggest) possesses freedom. It would not be itself without it. Freedom is of its essence.

If precise prediction were possible, down to details, it would be impossible to argue the case for free will, but as we have seen, astrology makes no such claim. Indeed Claudius Ptolemy expressly repudiated it, affirming that only Divinity could know particulars. Certain cases of clairvoyance, in which, as it is claimed, the future has been foreseen in detail, might consti-

tute an argument for fatalism; but we are not called upon to deal with these. They are, in any case, abnormal. They are quite different from astrological prediction, which is rational and methodical and rejects any use of abnormal faculties, or at least rejects the right of any astrologer to call them astrological.*

The same Law holds good of work that is not predictive, as when we examine a figure of birth or nativity. Some aspects, it is true, may be fairly well relied upon to express themselves in definite and one might almost say precise ways, though it is true that the expression may be overlaid by other contrary factors so as not to appear on the surface. Venus afflicted by Uranus, for example, will hardly ever be strictly normal in sexuality; but the astrologer who immediately pronounces such an aspect as being a sure indication of gross immorality, is not only a social pest, but also a bad scientist who is forgetting the Law we are discussing. The native may perhaps express this difficult contact by producing particularly unintelligible poetry or paintings! Indeed one and the same man may express a configuration in several ways during the course of a life-time. Some events cannot by their very nature recur.

This Law naturally makes astrological work appear very strange to the sceptic, and even nonsensical. Without training one cannot see things in terms of principles and does not recognise the thread of similarity that connects outwardly quite different conditions. If a man has a progressed Sun in opposition to Saturn in Cancer on cusp 6, he may develop a duodenal ulcer and also have much responsibility in his work; the astrologer easily recognises both manifestations of identic principles, the non-astrologer not so easily, though it is true that nowadays the relation between the two conditions would be more readily admitted than used to be the case.

The aim of astrology is to gain a greater and greater power of exact prediction, for, if one predicts at all, one naturally desires to be as exact as possible. We need not be deterred by the fact that we shall never reach our goal and cannot, as human beings, really desire to do so and thereby demonstrate the futility of our own and every life. Such paradoxes do occur and need not frighten us.

We may turn for a moment to Horary Astrology. Here astrologers have consistently claimed the power to make definite and even precise forecasts and elucidations.

* See the Code of Ethics of the Faculty of Astrological Studies, para. (*d*).

I would, I think, be unjustly sceptical to say that most horary practitioners remember their successes and forget their failures even more than the rest of us. But it is possible that a strict account of successes, failures and non-descript results would show that Horary Astrology is not quite as trustworthy as its adherents claim. My own experience is that if a figure shows a clear answer, that answer is correct, but that often a figure has to be discarded as being too ambiguous to admit of judgment. In any case I have never tried to emulate those old masters who seem to have given answers in great detail, and on every conceivable subject.

The fact that, whilst astrological laws are exact and strictly scientific, the ultimate precipitation of those laws is the result of so many conflicting operative causes that precise statements are impossible, appears to me to have a bearing upon the doctrine of the Trutine of Hermes, or Pre-natal Epoch.

Here we meet a declaration that the place of the Moon at conception is the *precise point* of the ecliptic which rises or sets at birth and that there are no exceptions to this rule, though there may be some differences of opinion among the Hermetic brethren as to whether such things as parallax and latitude have to be considered.

Now this rule, as it stands, has been riddled by the unassailable fact that children are born, quite frequently, when the point occupied by the Moon nine months before cannot either rise or set at the place of birth. But had the advocates of the doctrine made their statement rather more judiciously and merely asserted that there is *tendency*—even a *very strong tendency*—for the interchange to take place in terms of *approximate* instead of *absolute* interchange *where such interchange is astronomically possible* their position would have been very difficult to refute.

Here we may state another proposition:

> *Proposition Five—Astrological operations cannot surmount astronomical conditions that render their free expression impossible.*

Thus an astrological "law" is not *necessarily* nonsense because in certain circumstances it cannot possibly "work." One thinks, in this connection, of the semi-arc method of house division as well as the doctrine of the pre-natal epoch already mentioned. What one *must* say is that difficulties of this kind have to be frankly faced.

Proposition Six—Primary Involvement.

When two or more persons are involved in the same condition, the most accurate results will be obtained from consideration of the one primarily affected.

This is best illustrated by reference to a common practice, that of rectifying a map by directions to the midheaven likely to indicate the death of a parent. "Saturn to the M.C., father died" is a case in point; we frequently come across it.

But a moment's reflection will show that if the father of several children dies, it is impossible in the nature of things for all of them to have an appropriate direction exact to time: they must all be approximations. At the time or thereabouts when the writer personally expects to say farewell to this interesting but not altogether agreeable world, his wife, children and grandchildren all have appropriate directions; but they extend over some two years, and that sort of thing must necessarily be so.

Therefore, according to our rule, the exact time must be looked for in the horoscope of the individual *principally concerned* and the others must be regarded only as approximations.

It is not argued that the progressions of all children will not show *some* indication of their parent's decease quite close to time; but it is impossible that they should all have, say, Sun opposition Saturn, or M.C. conjunction Saturn, exact to a minute of arc.

Hence the above method of rectification can only be approximate, like most things in astrology.

The same law applies to many astrological problems.

For example, I understand some enthusiastic astrological race-horse owners have sought to forecast victories for their animals whose times of birth have been carefully noted. But it is extremely open to question as to whether the horse is the primary "person" involved in the race. It often seems as if the steed is quite indifferent, or even averse, to winning the race! Jockey, owner and trainer are all concerned, and it might be difficult to make a general rule as to which is the "primary person."

It seems that this Principle of Primary Involvement is a quite important one, because, as I have tried to show by one or two examples, students sometimes look for the impossible through ignorance of it. It is related to Proposition Five, to the effect that we cannot expect astrology to work in the face of impossible astronomical conditions.

What about natural or artificial catastrophes that lead to the deaths of many thousands of people—earthquakes, atom bombs, and so forth? When over 90,000 persons were killed or missing at Hiroshima in a matter of seconds, who or what was the "primary factor"? We cannot believe that all those 90,000 had lethal directions to the precise time of their dissolution! I would say that the horoscope of the city itself (which we do not, of course, possess) was the primary factor from which an exact time could have been deduced, and all other factors in the astrological picture were secondary.

It must surely be impossible astronomically for 90,000 people all to have had adequate directions to account for their violent ends at the exact moment the bomb exploded, or just after.

(*To be concluded.*)

DELINEATION OF A NATIVITY (1)

By the Editor

In this series we hope to give specimens of delineation, either of celebrities or private individuals, from the pens of various modern students, not excluding the younger generation. We believe they will prove of interest, especially to beginners.

This is the kind of map that is likely to mislead a beginner, who might be tempted to expect a great deal from the fairly numerous "good" aspects. Also, if erected by the quadrant systems, Jupiter is in the M.C., square the Moon and Mercury but in close sextile to a dignified Mars in Capricorn.

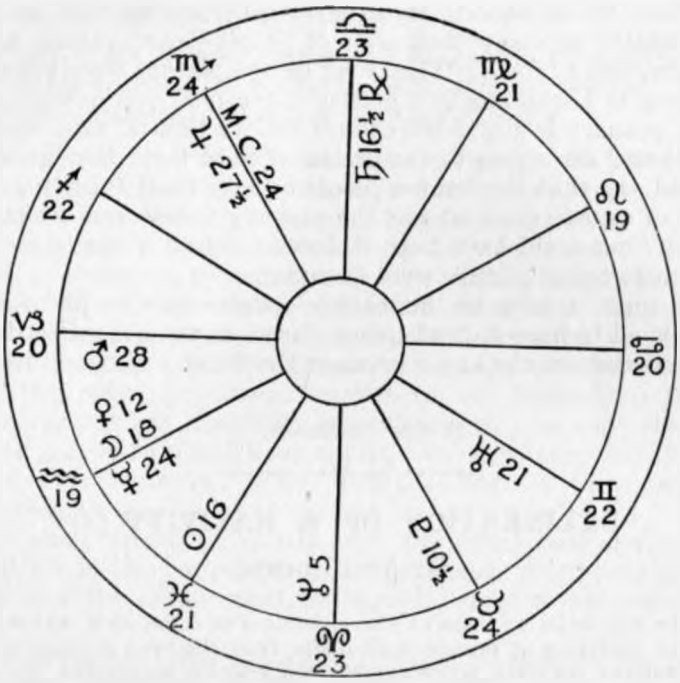
There is also a grand trine formation in Air, comprising Saturn (ruler), Venus, Mercury, Moon and Uranus.

One would be likely to say that the only serious affliction is the square of the Sun to Uranus, applying but not very close. The Sun is also quincunx Saturn (by Placidus, in 8th) but Saturn is dignified.

It would not seem unreasonable to say that (turning to the Elements or Triplicities) the preponderance of Air is counterbalanced by a well-aspected and dignified Mars rising in Capricorn, which would seem to be a very practical position.

As regards the Quadruplicities, there is a good apportionment.

One could find plenty of cases to demonstrate that Sun square Uranus is not, of itself, destructive of success, though it *can* be a most troublesome contact. Note that it is *not* angular.



The above is the horoscope of a male, born in Surrey, March 6, 1864. The map is erected according to the Poli-Equatorial Method. The time appears to be well-authenticated.

One would be inclined to say "an intellectual idealist, but very practical in outlook and able to take his part successfully in mundane matters. Sympathetic, kindly and hospitable. Probably fond of the stage and artistic matters. Many friends."

Now much of this would be quite true. The native *was* very hospitable; in fact the most attractive part of his nature appeared when he was playing the host. He *was* fond of acting (but always forgot his words). He *had* many acquaintances, if not friends, and liked to belong to clubs. He was definitely idealistic, but no one could call him intellectual: in fact mentally he was "wuzzy" and seemed always to be groping after the right way to express himself. Above all, he was *not* practical; he could not keep appointments; his memory was poor; and he was always talking of doing things and never doing them. He was consistently unsuccessful in business and never really earned anything regularly until, in his later years, he worked as an artist's model—an occupation he thoroughly liked, including the Bohemian society with which he was brought into contact.

He married late, but happily so far as the love-aspect went, for he was romantic and affectionate. However, his wife had to provide most of the family income.

He was muscularly strong, as might be expected, but suffered from bronchial trouble most of his life (Saturn in 8th by Placidus, but Uranus in Gemini in 6th above) and he also had severe skin-trouble, believed to be through poisoning with photographic chemicals, at one time (Saturn X asc. is said to incline to skin-complaints).

Now it is from puzzle maps that one learns most, and this natus does raise certain difficulties.

Firstly, why, with Mars rising in Capricorn, was he so unpractical in business matters?

I think we must pay attention here to one grave unbalance, namely only three planets (and those slow-moving ones) in the first half of the zodiac. This tends to the day-dreaming castles-in-the-air type, especially as there *is* so much in Air. However, why did not the earthy Capricorn redeem this? Briefly, my own experience is that Capricorn *rising* is seldom practical; it seems to have a gift for taking hold of sticks by the wrong end, and is often highly gifted without being able to cut much ice with its gifts. Sun in Capricorn is quite another story.

Mars made him quick-tempered, and that did not improve matters. But still, we ask here why did he not restrain this propensity, with Mars sextile Jupiter and in its exaltation?

Secondly, why had he no intellectual gifts? I attribute this to Sun exactly on cusp 3, square Uranus in Gemini, also Jupiter lord 3rd square Mercury-Moon, and, lastly, Neptune in 3rd. There is much 3rd house affliction when one comes to look into it.

Thirdly, why did not Jupiter in midheaven—and in the 10th by the quadrant systems—at least bring him some sheer *luck*, whatever his abilities may or may not have been? He was lucky in marriage but not in any other respect except that he was never, or only for brief spells, down and out. Probably friends or relatives helped him, most likely the former.

The poli-equatorial system shows Saturn, ruler, just past the 10th, and seems symbolic of one who always just "misses the bus." Still, it was an exalted, well-aspected Saturn!

Those interested in the Epoch may look to the general planetary positions on June 18, 1863, when Sun was applying closely to square Saturn, Gemini to Virgo, which might account for much, including the bronchial troubles and mental slowness.

His wife has 25 Aquarius rising and they had two sons (twins) born respectively under Capricorn and Aquarius.

BEGINNER'S FORUM

1. Why does the Sun change its house when progressed in certain horoscopes?

Answer: The mean progression of the Sun is 59′ 8″ from which it never departs very much. But the different cusps progress at various rates, only the M.C. changing at about the same rate as the Sun, according to the system of progression used.

Thus, when 5 ♐ on the M.C., cusp 2 = 5 ♈ and cusp 3 = 12 ♉, but when the M.C. = 6 ♐, these cusps have altered respectively to 7 ♈ and 14 ♉, London tables.

Consequently, it is possible for the Sun to change house.

2. When a planet is in 29° of a sign and retrograde, is its action affected by the sign it is near or is it purely that of the sign it is in?

Answer: Its main action will be through the sign it is actually in, but every body has an orb and if that orb overlaps into another sign, as in the case quoted, something of that sign will probably be expressed.

Retrogression would make this less evident, because it would prevent the body in question from entering the next sign by progression, as the life goes on. But if the body is direct in motion it would (unless slow-moving) soon enter the next sign by progression, and this in itself would emphasise the effects of that sign.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From (Mr.) R. S. Gleadow (Chelsea)

PARICUTIN

If Mr. Storme wants to be so pompous and indignant about the natus of the volcano Paricutin (with his "a retractation should certainly be made") he should pay a little more attention to accuracy. He says: "it is also the only nativity of a volcano to occur since the dawn of time . . . history records no such phenomenon in the past." According to the records, however, Monte Nuovo, near Pozzuoli, was formed in September 1538, and in 1831 a submarine volcano near Stromboli created a conical isle of ash 200 feet high, complete with crater—to say nothing of such comparable phenomena as Sabrina in the Azores, a temporary isle of cinders (1811), and the Old and New Bogosloffs in the Behring Sea (1796 and 1883). All this makes the "dawn of time" most terribly recent.

From (Mr.) A. Lavignini (Mexico)

I have for the date of the birth of Paricutin February 20, 1943, at 5 p.m., equals about 4 p.m. local time, or 11 p.m. G.M.T. Place is the State of Michoacan.

The birth came at full moon, with the opposition Mercury-Pluto about on the horizon. Sun-Moon respectively near Fomalhaut and Zosma, square to Saturn-Uranus. It was also an eclipse day, which should be noted.

Editorial Comment:—

Perhaps one should not be surprised that the correct nativities of volcanoes should be even more difficult to decide than those of human beings. It is only fair to Mr. Gleadow to point out that he indicated his source of information, viz. the radio, and thus the responsibility for the error, if such it was, does not lie with him.

From (Mr.) R. S. Gleadow

May I correct the inaccurate and one-sided impression given by the report of the Thursday Club meeting at which I spoke on July 18th (September issue, page 77)? In parts the report is fair enough, for instance in its allusion to the burst of quibbling with which the audience refused even to listen to the statistics as soon as it saw which way they were tending. (Can one imagine the Royal Astronomical Society behaving like this?) But when the chairman, who should have been impartial, endeavoured to score off Mr. Fagan by quoting him as saying that she was modest, shy, and retiring, it is unfair to suggest that there was no reply. Mr. Fagan's actual words read: "You are *at heart* innately shy, humble, and retiring, but the force of your powerful temperament, denoted by the Moon's configurations, swamps almost entirely your Virgo diffidence." This qualifying clause was omitted by Mrs. Hone both at the meeting and in the written account of it. What scientist would take half a sentence from another scientist's writings, carefully omit the qualifications, and then pretend he was representing the opinions of that scientist? In the scientific world anyone behaving so would forfeit for ever his reputation for intellectual honesty. It was pointed out in rebuttal that the chairman's attempt to make a decision between the two zodiacs depend on a single case, and that a case which had to be misrepresented for the purpose, was as sweet a confession of impotence as one could wish to find. I am glad to say, therefore, in defence of Mr. Evans and the other tropicalist speakers, that none of them descended to such depths. When will all astrologers realise, what scientists realised so long ago, that unless you are prepared to leave your marvellous little ego out of the picture you cannot tell an argument from a quibble and therefore cannot understand anything?

Mrs. Hone comments:—

Thank you for the courtesy of bringing Mr. Gleadow's letter to my notice before publishing.

The meeting can hardly be compared with one of the R.A.S. The procedure was chosen by Mr. Gleadow since he did not wish it to be a formal debate with voting at the end. On the evening itself, he was asked whether he would like to complete his talk and to be

followed by Mr. Evans, discussion to be later, or whether there should be breaks. The latter was decided upon as is shown by the comments of the audience.

Perhaps if my Aquarian Moon had been in Capricorn as Mr. Gleadow would assess it, I as Chairman would have remained silent to the end! However, I thought the story of my "innate shyness" was an amusing finale and a good example of the use of the sidereal zodiac put into practice, though naturally the audience would make decision not only on this but on what had been said in the previous two hours.

There was no "misrepresentation" for I said clearly at the time that I was quoting only what I remembered of the phrase used. I regret I can do no more now since the letter from Mr. Fagan, then mislaid, has never been found. However, the sentence has been re-written to me from a copy and I find that Mr. Gleadow has himself done what he finds so blameworthy, in that he too has omitted a part of it!

From (Miss) M. K. P. Laws (W.11)

THE LAW OF SIMILARS

The proposition "Coincidence of Similars" in your article "Basic Astrological Points of View" that "similar natures and conditions are drawn together in space and time" is exactly paralleled in the field of Radiesthesia or Radionics. In this infant science, the "Law of Similars" is accepted as meaning that two bodies of the same vibrational frequency, due either to matter or form, are linked through space at all distances.

There is nothing "cryptic or occult" about this: it is a proven fact in this particular field, and I think provides supporting evidence of the truth of your astrological postulate that "like is drawn to like."

The analogy is very interesting. But the Law in question, in so far as it operates in Astrology, appears to go far beyond anything that could be explained in terms of vibration; and it is for that reason that it may be denominated "occult" or "cryptic." But there is no need for those who dislike these terms to use them!—C. E. O. C.

From Carlos Erck (Puerto Victoria, Misiones, Argentina)

CHANGES OF GOVERNMENT

In your Editorial of the December 1951–February 1952 issue of *Astrology* you write under the heading "The New Year Maps" that the Moon, ruler 10th, rising in square to Uranus near M.C. seems a sure indication of the overthrow of government and rulers, perhaps by violence, or at any rate sudden changes.

Perhaps it will interest you to learn of a case where nothing of this kind did transpire.*

* But I was not writing of Ingress maps of which, as I have often stated, I have a poor opinion, at least as generally used.—G. E. O. C.

The Ingress Map of June 21, 1953 for Buenos Aires showed the following configuration:—

X	XI	XII	I	II	III
15 . 0 ♋	10 ♌	12 ♍	24 . 47 ♎	28 ♏	23 ♐
☉ 0.0 ♋	☽ 24.24 ♎	☿ 24.36 ♋	♀ 14.19 ♉	♂ 5.6 ♋	
♃ 10.0 ♊	♄ 20.33 ♎	♅ 17. 42 ♋	♆ 21.6 ♎	PL. 21.20 ♌	

One should have expected a change of government to happen during the quarter, more so as the strong unharmonious aspect of the Moon with Uranus was reinforced by Saturn and Neptune all three being in Libra, the sign ruling Argentina. The heavily afflicted solar eclipse of August 20, 1952 in 27.32 ♌ fell in the 10th house of the lunation and in exact angular conjunction with the M.C. of the chart for the Declaration of Independence. And one more solar eclipse pointing in that direction appeared to assure the indication of a sudden change of government, the houses and planets being as follows:—

July 10, 1953

X	XI	XII	I	II	III
27.37 ♐	29 ♑	0.0 ♓	27.47 ♓	24 ♈	25 ♉
☉ ☽ 18.29 ♋	☿ 8.21 ♌	♀ 3.51 ♊	♂ 17.50 ♋	♃ 14.17 ♊	
♄ 20.48 ♎	♅ 18.45 ♋	♆ 21.8 ♎	PL 21.50 ♌		

The eclipsed Sun was conj. Sun of the Declaration of Independence and conj. Uranus of the Ingress.

In spite of all these adverse Indications no overthrow nor change occurred during the corresponding three months, thus showing that this special aspect of Ruler 10th with Uranus cannot be relied upon in *all* cases, though sometimes it may prove a sure indication of changes political.

At the Declaration of Independence the positions were:—

X	XI	XII	I	II	III
27.7 ♌	29 ♍	6 ♏	12.47 ♐	7 ♑	1 ♒
☉ 17.24 ♋	☽ 22.30 ♑	☿ 6.24 ♋	♀ 11.18 ♋	♂ 17.6 ♌	
♃ 0.18 ♏	♄ 16.30 ♒	♅ 7.54 ♐	♆ 20.6 ♐		

REVIEWS

Applied Astrology. By Margaret E. Hone, D.F.Astrol.S., Published by L. N. Fowler and Co., Ltd., 29 Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4. 119 pp. Many charts. Price 17s. 6d. net.

The publishers make a bold claim for this work. They say: "The production of a unique book is a very rare thing, there-

fore we are glad to present one which is unlike any other book on Astrology."

Mr. Carter in his preface suggests that "those who study this book and carry out its precepts are likely to reach a very high standard of work far more quickly than those who have no such guidance."

Briefly, the unique feature of this book is that whereas so many others consist largely of theory, *Applied Astrology* is practice. Sheer, literal practice, since it is compiled from the casebooks of a most original, sound and successful practising astrologer.

I do not think that anyone reading this book can fail to be impressed by the meticulous care, both in calculation and delineation, which is taken by Mrs. Hone in order that she may give not only of her very best but also the best possible advice to each of her clients. It is quite obvious that she loves her work, that she has a heartfelt desire to help all those who come to her in doubt and difficulty, and that she has evolved an admirable constructive method of doing so.

The cases are chosen, naturally with the full consent of her clients, from a very varied field, to interest at the same time the non-astrological inquirer and to help the astrological student. For the benefit of the latter full notes are included, together with natal charts by both Equal House and Placidus systems of House Division for each case. Examples of progressions are also attached, and marginal astrological references are given for all deductions drawn from the charts, so that the source of each statement can be checked.

Anyone with ambitions to practise as an astrologer may well benefit from the chapter of "Suggestions to Students for consideration in interpretation of personal charts," a sincere exposition of the duties of an astrologer to his client, as well as from the examples of delineations set out.

Readers will be interested in the very human problems—the man torn between love and duty, for consideration of whose difficulties they can compare the charts of himself, his wife and "the other"; the Vicar who wondered whether he was following the true path of his individual destiny; the worried mother wanting to know how best to understand and help her little daughter.

Chapters are included on "Backwards and Forwards Astrology," a synopsis of the keyword system of interpretation, the interpretation of unaspected planets, and of the Nonagesimal contrasted with the Midheaven.

Altogether, this is a book which should give much cause for thought, for enjoyment, and for discussion, both to beginners and to experts. Psychologists and all who are interested in human nature and its problems should read the chapter for "the Interested Inquirer," which will enable them to see how the skychart for the birth-moment can bring them information of practical use.

J. L. B.

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