

The ROSI CRUCIAN DIGEST



SEPTEMBER
1931

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Suggestions

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The Rosicrucian Digest



Covers the World

The Official, International Rosicrucian Magazine of the
World-Wide Rosicrucian Order

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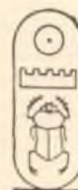
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ROSICRUCIAN PARK

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA



The THOUGHT OF THE MONTH THE DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONALITY

By THE EMPEROR



RECENTLY that very eminent observer of human nature, President Barbour of Brown University, expressed himself very definitely on the subject of the overflow of personality. A copy of his address was sent to me and I was delighted, as I read it, to think that some one outside of our organization had really started a mild campaign against the present-day bombastic display of personality and the insane desire to make the outer personality of every individual a magnificent asset.

For the past twenty years the country has been flooded with literature telling everyone how to develop a personality that would be so magnetic that if one passed by a wooden house the nails would all be drawn out and shoot wildly at the individual and if such a person went into a steel factory it would disrupt the machinery. I have often wondered how such a person could safely take a trip across the Atlantic or Pacific in a steamship without causing the magnetic needle to fluctuate wildly and cause the ship to lose its course.

I remember, a few years ago, a woman lecturer on the subject, "How to Develop a Super-Personality," told all the persons present at her first lecture that before the third day was past she would show them a demonstration of what personality would do. At the third evening's lecture she appeared on the plat-

form with a very elaborate and costly fur coat which she displayed with great pride to the audience. She said that she had come to California without a heavy overcoat and that the late fall evenings were cool and she found she needed one. She said she depended wholly upon her magnetic personality to attract the overcoat and now she had it and was happy to exhibit it as a demonstration of her magnetism. At just about this point in her lecture a woman arose in the audience and in a loud voice said, "Your attractive personality may have induced my husband to buy that coat for you but I want to assure you that it is going to take more than personality to get the food that we need in our home since my husband has no money left to buy it."

There are those in America and other parts of the world who seem to think that the real magnetism of a personality is some physical, tangible asset that is connected in some way with the objective, material, physical part of the body. Hardly one of the hundreds of free lecturers who offer to teach privately, for large sums of money, the art of developing a magnetic personality, fail to include diet, exercise, beauty preparations, massage, fine clothing, and a superficial tone of voice and enunciation, along with a few ridiculous gestures of the eyes and hands as factors in the display of personality. Naturally ninety per cent who pursue such a course and spend their money on such advice fail to attract anything along the line that they have dreamed about and the other ten per cent either had some personality before

they started or learned a very valuable lesson in what really constitutes the personal attractiveness of the real self.

In talking with some eminent master artists regarding the success of their work in portrait painting, I have heard it said many times that the attractiveness noticed in such portraits as they are willing to paint is the result of their effort to put on the canvas the subtle, almost intangible and immaterial attractiveness of the spiritual or soul personality of the sitter. They frankly admit that any good artist can paint a portrait of a man or woman and put all of the physical attractiveness into it that has made some artists unjustly renowned as true portraitists. A long and shapely nose, a long and shapely neck, pearl like ears, delicately formed lips, large and sparkling eyes, delicately curved eyebrows and similar tricks of physical compositions in painting, do not produce a picture that people rave about and stand and look at and wonder what it is that holds them spell-bound. Look at the famous picture of Mona Lisa, by da Vinci, and see if you can tell what it is that has made millions of women envy it while standing fascinated before it, and what it is that has made them feel a pang of jealousy when men have stood long before the picture and said, "There is an attractive personality."

As you analyze the features, the face, the head, the neck, the shoulders, and the entire composition, the coloring, the light and shade, all the small details of the picture, you do not see a single thing that you would want to have as a personal asset in a physical sense, for the face is not pretty, the eyes are not beautiful, and in a purely physical sense the woman in that picture could walk down one of the main boulevards of our city today without having anyone turn his head to look at her. But da Vinci, discovered and then registered and finally revealed in his canvas the real personality within, and it is that personality that is magnetic and attractive to a high degree. I have seen faces of old men and old women, wrinkled and in every way the very opposite of what Miss Arden would consider an excellent example of her cosmetic craftsmanship or physical rejuvenation. Yet there was an attractiveness in these faces that was unmistakable and as easily recognizable

by men and women, young and old, as by an expert.

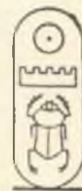
In the first place, the desire for an attractive personality is usually born in the heart or mind of a person who is suffering from some inferiority. Without any doubt it is the inferior mind, the inferior intellect, and the inferior spiritual person who becomes aware of this inferiority and seeks to make up for it by an outer display of an outer show and proceeds to develop a physical attractiveness as a substitute for the real attractiveness.

On the other hand, a majority of those who are attempting to increase their personal attractiveness may have some degree of real attractiveness that has served them well on proper occasions and a consciousness of this has led them to believe an increase of this power or this influence would be of greater service to them. But they have failed to understand what was the real attractiveness which they naturally possessed. In the mad search for the secret of such attractiveness many women and some men have become convinced that if they develop a degree of outstanding strength in appearance and mental domination they will have all portals and all avenues opened to them and change the entire course of their lives.

This leads gradually to a belief that an attractive personality is that something about a person who is domineering, bold, outstanding, and bombastic in action, that attracts attention. Many of these women would hesitate to wear a green dress, with a red sash tied around the waist, and a large yellow hat and purple shoes for the sake of attracting attention by walking down the highway, yet what they are attempting to do in the way of attracting personality is much like wearing garish clothing or outlandish physical adornments.

The real secret of personality lies in the inner self, in the soul or spiritual self. It is a subtle thing that is too indefinite to be described, even by words, and most certainly it is something that cannot be hung upon the body and taken off at will nor developed overnight.

I think that President Barbour did excellently well when he expressed this idea in the following words: "There are two sorts of action in which we are able to indulge: voluntary and involuntary.



It is the involuntary action that produces the overflow of personality. This overflow of personality is the thing that we do without thinking about it or knowing that we do it. We all play an accompaniment to our own life. . . . The involuntary expression should always echo the inward character. That is what we call integrity of character. . . . It is the unconscious overflow of personality which is the true index of character and is the force that acts upon and strikes the external world and the people who inhabit it. . . . The thing that determines the overflow of personality is like the overflow of water in a reservoir, the quality of the personality beyond it."

In other words, real personality is built up inwardly through the evolution, growth, and development of the real part of ourselves. First, the spiritual values; secondly, the psychic comprehension, and understanding of things; and thirdly, the fortifying of the strong traits of character will build up and create a continuous flow of subtle personality that becomes so abundant in its quantity and so magnetic in its quality that it simply overflows when we are least conscious of it and attracts and influences others without the least effort on our part.

The very strange thing about all of this is that the very points or principles which are important factors in the building up of a strong inner personality are the very opposite of those which are being wilfully developed outwardly in the hope of attaining a magnetic personality. Among these principal factors are humility, tenderness, toleration, sympathy, universal love, a persistent and consistent desire for justice and fair play, a readiness to serve and give rather than to be served and to receive, an increasing desire to see the beautiful things of life, to express only the beautiful thoughts and to promote only beautiful acts. Are not these factors the very opposite of those which are exploited as

assets of an outer personality? Do not all of the public and highly prized courses of instruction on the development of personality insist that first and above all you must "be yourself"? Do they not urge the use of affirmations and the assumption of an attitude that reflects superiority rather than humbleness? Do they not insist that you shall demand rather than command respect, service, attention, gifts, and fictitious love and admiration? Do they not teach that intolerance, aloofness, extreme discrimination, artificial preferences, and a high and mighty attitude, are the things which attract attention and cause others to think well of you?

I hope that the world will be delivered from an increase in this campaign of madness for attractive personality for if it continues the time is not far distant when each and every person we meet will be an individualized god, an ultra supreme being and unapproachable except on bended knees and in utter humility, and yet there will be none to bend on knees or to serve or to pay adoration to others and we shall have a conflict and a contest hourly and daily and on all occasions and in all places among all men and women for the supreme position of personality and dominion of character and kingship of self. What a mess it will be! Probably some of us will then take ourselves away to some South Sea island and try to find a humble little creature living alone who is not only free from the contaminating influences of free lectures and wonderful books on the development of personality but free from the contact with anyone to pay adoration to his personality. And here we may find a man and a woman living humbly and sweetly and yet so attractive in all that really constitutes personality that we will say to ourselves, "At last we have found real children of God and that which we can adore and admire as truly magnetic, attractive, and beautiful."

INTERESTING MAGAZINES

The Order formerly published a magazine called the "Rosae Crucis." It was a large publication and many of the numbers contained fascinating, instructive and interesting articles. We have quite a few numbers still left. We are making a special offer at this time, which offer will be withdrawn in another sixty days, of *four copies*, each copy different, of these large magazines with their many helpful comments and articles, for *fifty cents*. These back numbers sold two or three years ago, for as high as fifty cents apiece. *Four for fifty cents!* We will select the most interesting copies for you. Send your remittance—money order or check—to Rosicrucian Supply Bureau, San Jose, California.

**The
Rosicrucian
Digest
September
1931**

Six hundred twelve



Our Happy Convention

IMPORTANT DETAILS AND HIGH LIGHTS OF THE GREAT OCCASION

By THE CONVENTION REPORTER



AM preparing this report in daily installments as the convention progresses so that those of our members who were not able to attend the convention may follow the various sessions from day to day in brief form through the pages of our magazine.

Right now, a full day before the convention actually opens, there is every indication that it is going to be the most wonderful, happy, and glorious occasion in the history of our present organization here in America. For months the preparations have been going on with enthusiasm and diligence. The new Francis Bacon Auditorium recently built on the grounds of Rosicrucian Park and designed to take care of not only our annual convention but the many yearly occasions when a thousand or more of our members gather together for special ceremonies, has been the special place of workers who have been decorating, painting, furnishing, and doing hundreds of things to make it not only attractive from the Moorish and Oriental point of view inside and out, but to make it comfortable, attractive, and even fascinating in some of its unique appointments.

The grounds have been carefully prepared and new lawns planted with an abundance of shrubbery and flowers and many attractive stone benches have been placed in Rosicrucian Park to make comfortable and attractive nooks and corn-

ers for little groups to gather together between the convention sessions for the comparison of personal notes and experiences. The beautiful Amenhotep Shrine, an open air Egyptian temple built in the center of the Park to commemorate the great initiation in Egypt has been surrounded with shrubbery and rose bushes to make it even more inviting for those who wish to enter for rest and meditation. Huge flood lights have been erected in various places to illuminate the Shrine, the auditorium, the temple, and administration building and the lawns at night so that the wonderful climate and balmy air of the evening and moonlight would appeal to the members at the close of each evening's session. And speaking of moonlight we are happy to say that the convention opens with the increasing of the moonlight and attains its final session at the full moon.

For the past two or three days members and delegates have been arriving in groups from all directions. Every few minutes an automobile would arrive at the front door of the administration building or go into the drive ways of the Park, loaded with persons coming from distant points and many of these cars carried large amounts of baggage and had been on the way for many days. The trains brought others and likewise the steamships. In every reception room or lobby of each one of the many buildings you hear the buzz of conversation between several or many of the members and delegates who have arrived early to prepare reports and to take part in the activities of various committees.



Throughout the city of San Jose the words "Welcome Rosicrucians" are seen from every vantage point. The hotels have signs hanging from their canopies over the streets. The theaters, the restaurants, the candy shops, the various specialty stores, and many other places have signs in their windows in the golden red color of the Rosicrucians, bidding them welcome to the city. The street cars carry large signs on the front also bidding them welcome and giving them directions for getting to the convention hall at Rosicrucian Park. The newspapers have carried comments, assuring the Rosicrucians that the city gives them a hearty welcome.

The largest hotels down town in the heart of the city report that they have no more vacant rooms and that they are reserved to the limit with Rosicrucians who have arrived or who are expected tonight and tomorrow. The various civic service clubs have enjoined their members to render every possible help and every department of public activity in this large city is helping to make the next ten days a gala holiday period for all of those who are attending this convention.

As I go out and mingle among those who are at the auditorium halls and lobbies, or who are seated or standing upon various parts of the grounds around our buildings, or in the automobiles holding confidential chats with one another, I hear nothing but praise for the community, for this wonderful valley, and for the beautiful architectural splendor and the hundreds of conveniences that have been arranged here at Rosicrucian Park for our members. Everywhere the same thing is said, "What a magnificent setting and what beautiful creations for the National Headquarters of our organization." Well may every member feel a proper pride and joy in the dignified, beautiful, instructive and artistic arrangement of buildings, park, shrubbery, ornamentation, shrine, and other things that have been created and built here to constitute a living testimonial of the ideals of the organization. The very spirit of Rosicrucianism is demonstrated in this beautiful and inspiring picture of lawns and buildings.

Wednesday Evening, July 22

The first session of the convention was held this evening. It was not only the opening of the convention but the occasion for the dedication of the new Francis Bacon Auditorium. Long before the hour of eight o'clock the members and delegates that had been arriving for many days and had been scattered throughout the city in various hotels and engaged in committee work began to assemble before the auditorium and finally to enter it, while the chimes in the large belfry pealed forth a melody that could be heard for several miles distant, and they filled its hundreds of seats with happy, smiling countenances. There was not only a spirit of enthusiasm in the air but a tenseness of vibrations which plainly indicated a feeling of deep reverence and interest on the part of the members.

At just a few minutes after eight, a Chairman stepped upon the stage of the auditorium and announced that the session should come to order. The large stage with its footlights, Moorish background, and Moorish and Oriental panelling and draperies, as a proper stage setting in such a building, made a picture that seemed to take one out of America and back into the temples of buildings of Arabia or some other part of the Orient. Everyone present was deeply impressed with the richness of this stage setting in gold, deep red, and deep green. There was something Oriental and magic about it that brought forth the deepest emotions in everyone present.

The Chairman announced that the first feature on the program would be the presentation of the American national flag and the singing of the national anthem. Boy Scouts immediately stepped out onto the stage in their uniforms, carrying a beautiful silk flag, and in proper military form presented the American flag while a quartette, accompanied by the thundering tune of "America," sang the first verse of this song with the entire audience joining in. The second verse was sung as a solo and then to the accompaniment of bugle calls the Boy Scouts retired from the stage. When the organ music came thundering from the front of the audi-

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torium everyone was astonished at the volume and beauty of the tones of music in this building which has had unusual attention paid to its acoustics principles. The singing of the anthem was followed by the Invocation made by the city's most prominent clergyman, whose words and appeal were touching, indeed. Then the Chairman introduced the Supreme Secretary as the permanent Chairman for the evening and he proceeded by calling upon the various city officials to express their greetings to the members assembled.

The first to speak was the City Manager of San Jose. His enthusiastic words and cordial greetings to the assembly and his assurances that the city valued the presence of the Rosicrucians were greatly appreciated. He was followed by the president of the Chamber of Commerce, who also enthusiastically welcomed the Rosicrucians to the city and expressed his delight in having the organization as an asset to the State, as well as the city and county. He was followed by the District Attorney of the city, and then a representative of the State colleges and board of education system of California. Then came the president of the Better Business Bureau and a representative of the banks of the city. All of these officials assured those who were present that the Rosicrucians had participated in all of the civic and important duties of the city and county, had aided in all of its humanitarian and welfare programs, had contributed to various forms of relief and were looked upon as highly valued members of the community.

Once again the organ music filled the auditorium and the comments of those who listened to it expressed the same idea as has been heard before regarding the music in the Supreme Temple. These comments are much like those that have been made all over the country regarding the music that is produced on our radio programs and often heard in the Cathedral of the Soul periods. Even musicians admit that it is the most perfectly balanced, the most perfectly toned, and undoubtedly the sweetest music ever produced through any unique methods of sound radiation.

The Supreme Secretary made an introductory speech, stating the purposes

of the convention and what was to be accomplished, and then called upon the Emperor to make the speech of dedication.

The Emperor touched briefly upon the life of Sir Francis Bacon and pointed out recent researches culminating in a number of new books dealing with the life of Bacon which were making public and popular a correct understanding of the life of this famous man. He pointed out that many eminent students of history and especially of the lives of public men had discovered that the critical comments made of Bacon's life have been unfair and based upon an incomplete or erroneous interpretation of his life. The Emperor admitted that Bacon had been a mysterious character, unnecessarily secretive when he might have been otherwise, and that a high sense of duty and a very unusual application of the spirit of protecting those who had befriended him even when this protection might have been modified sufficiently to serve his own ends, was responsible for the many false stories that had been told of his life. The picture which the Emperor gave in brief form of the life of Bacon, and the manner in which he proved that enemies rather than friends had prepared the popular biographies of his life, left us with a perfect picture of a true Rosicrucian, but the Emperor pointed out that it was not as a great man and not as a Rosicrucian that we honored Sir Francis Bacon by dedicating this auditorium to his name, but because of what he had accomplished in the literary world and in the world of education. The auditorium, the Emperor pointed out, is to be devoted to the spread of literary culture and education and for this reason was dedicated on this night to the name and fame of Bacon.

At the close of the Emperor's speech, the Supreme Secretary called upon the various high officials from the different Rosicrucian jurisdictions to rise and present their greetings, and this was followed by the reading of cablegrams and letters of greetings from the various foreign jurisdictions of the Order. Up to the present time these cablegrams and letters, bearing a large number of seals and elaborate signatures and written on foreign stationery of the Order bearing



the official seals and design of identification have come from Nigeria in Africa; Berlin; Vienna, Austria; the Dutch East Indies; Bolivia; Chili; Shanghai, China; Nice, for Southern France; Bristol, England; Costa Rica; Bombay, India; Athens, Greece; Belgium; Sweden; Paris, for Northern France; Heliopolis, Egypt; Denmark; Australia; British Guiana; and Porto Rico. These letters and cablegrams, along with others that are arriving from time to time, are being turned over to a committee of credentials and identification composed of the members who have come from various parts of this jurisdiction for examination and identification.

Delegates from other jurisdictions representing many countries of the world who are present here at the convention also brought greetings and will be heard from during the different sessions of the convention.

The first session closed with music and singing and the appointment of various committees and the planning of special features for social and business activities. This first session was a huge success and a great joy to everyone who was present. During the session other visitors from distant points arrived and we find the hours of the late evening requiring the attention of all of the hostesses, committee workers, and officers of the organization, to co-operate with the plans and requirements of new problems appearing every moment.

The members are being escorted through all the buildings and through all the offices by hostesses who have been specially instructed to point out to the members the detailed activities of each department. These members are watching their next week's lecture being prepared and placed into envelopes for mailing. They have watched the editor of the magazine and Forum at work. They have seen the Recording Department staff recording the dues and checking up on the special lectures that the members require. They have seen the Research Department and Research Library with the workers there. They have seen the Art and the Advertising Department and the large Inquiry Department with its staff of many employees answering the hundreds of letters that arrive each day from those who want literature and want more information

about the organization. They have seen the Emperor's sanctum and office, the Supreme Secretary's office and the offices of their assistants. They have seen the Correspondence Department where the staff is busily engaged answering the hundreds of letters which give special advice or information to our students. They have seen the Welfare Department and how systematically every appeal for physical and mental help is tabulated and assigned to special workers and carefully followed by reports and requests for further information. They have seen the Supreme Temple where the highest initiations are held and where the Forum conclaves are conducted and where the most sacred of mystical ceremonies have been held and will be held during convention week. They have seen the mail arriving in large sacks on a truck and they have seen it go out. Those who arrived here early this week were surprised to find the first truck load of mail leaving one evening with eighty-eight full size sacks of mail piled upon it going to the railroad ready for distribution in the post office car of the trains. They have seen the ware rooms and store rooms with the literature and books piled high, the Shipping Department and the many other departments that are necessary for the world-wide activities of AMORC. Every member has expressed delight with the modern equipment, the extreme cleanliness and systematic arrangement of every detail of every office and department, and especially with the enthusiastic, happy expression on the countenance of every employee and the courtesies and kindness shown by every member of the entire organization and employment body.

This is a picture of the first few days of the convention and now we look forward to the second session tomorrow afternoon. One thing is certain, those who are assembled here heard the representatives of the city pay high tribute to the organization and to its chief executive. The District Attorney, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, the City Manager, and the others, united in speaking of the high character of the Emperor and of the Secretary and of their valued position in the community

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and they made every member and delegate present feel that they spoke with the utmost sincerity when they said that the Rosicrucian organization and every visiting Rosicrucian would always be considered as an honored guest of the city. It is a glorious thing to be a part of an organization that is held in such high esteem by not only its neighbors in the city where its principal offices are located but by the officials and high representatives of the city. When an organization or a movement of any kind has the respect and high regard of the community in which it exists it is safe to say that the organization is accomplishing great work and much good for the benefit of many.

Thursday, July 23

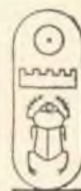
Early in the morning, the members began to assemble on the grounds and form into groups and committees for the carrying on of special activities, and long before noon time hundreds of members were busily engaged in the important discussion of matters to be officially considered at the various sessions.

At two o'clock in the afternoon the first business session of the convention was called to order and the Imperator was the first speaker. He outlined to the delegates and members some of the problems confronting the organization and called for the various committees to take up these problems and give them consideration. He pointed out that these problems related to the creation of erroneous references to the organization in some encyclopedia and reference books and to the criticism of the good repute and good name of the organization on the part of such enemies as this and every other instructive organization in the world has to contend with. He spoke in a kindly way of a few enemies that have criticized the AMORC and who are active in attempting to interfere with its progress, and explained that not only a kindly attitude but a firm position taken in connection with these critics would help to neutralize the effect of their attempts to restrain the growth of the organization. The Imperator also called attention to the fact that one of the problems that faces every new branch or lodge of the Order is that of establishing some idea of the historical

origin and authenticity of the Order. He therefore called upon all of the delegates and members present to avail themselves of the privilege of seeing the charters, documents, patents, and especially the letters of greeting that have been received within the past few days from twenty or more foreign jurisdictions of the Order. These letters of greeting had been presented to the convention during the previous session and were now available to every member, including the unique envelopes in which they were mailed with the Rosicrucian seals and emblems upon them and with other internal evidence of an interesting nature. He wanted every member who was interested to be sure and read these greetings and examine these letters so that they might state to inquirers in their individual localities when they returned home that they had seen these communications personally.

After dealing with many of the problems of the work of the organization and assuring the members and delegates that they would have an opportunity to make and pass resolutions the Imperator called upon Dr. Arthur B. Bell to speak on the problems of the Welfare Department. Dr. Bell held his audience in tense interest and the applause plainly indicated how his address was valued. He was followed by the Grand Master, Charles Dana Dean, who spoke eloquently of the work of the organization and made his address of very special help to every member. The afternoon session was followed by a period of music and social activity during which plans for unusual trips of sightseeing were completed and small meetings or groups of members for the testing and demonstration of certain principles of the teachings.

Throughout the morning and afternoon, the Imperator, the Supreme Secretary, and their assistants, and Dr. Bell, were busy with personal interviews. It was arranged that the high officers should give from ten to fifteen minutes' personal advice and help to each member or delegate who was present at the convention and in many cases where personal problems required it, much longer time was given. The words of thankfulness and appreciation on the part of the members for this opportunity of submitting in confidence and privacy



some of their problems and desires to the highest officers surely made us all feel that a great work was being accomplished during the first days of the convention.

In the evening the auditorium was filled with members and delegates from every part of the country. New arrivals who had been delayed in their journey added to the large audience of the previous evening. During the evening session there was much interesting music followed by brief addresses from the various department officials and ending with a lecture on the mystical principles of the teachings by the Emperor. The hundreds of members who have often wanted to hear the Emperor give one of his lectures and to study the mystical and magnetic application of these principles as the Emperor uses them in his lectures were highly pleased with the evening session. During the evening session the large audience sat in such quietness and with such intense concentration of interest that the vibrations in the auditorium rose to the highest pitch and it was noticeable that not only the Emperor's aura but those of the many high degree members became visible when the softer lights were turned on and the various principles of the work were explained.

One of the most common of the remarks made by the members and delegates as I run into them from moment to moment in various parts of the building and on the lawns of the Park, is that they have never seen such a beautiful arrangement of buildings and offices, so inspiring in art and architecture, so well laid out in departments, with such a large staff of employees. They say that the pictures have been published in our literature and the statements that have been made from time to time do not do justice to headquarters and already a recommendation has been made by one of the committees that the Supreme Lodge issue a small pamphlet containing actual photographs of the many buildings and departments at work so that all of the members may appreciate these and feel just pride in the magnificence of Rosicrucian Park.

The enthusiasm of the members regarding the convention and the many pleasant incidents connected with it is

heard and felt everywhere in the city where you meet our members and that means in practically every part of the city for between the sessions, the members and delegates with their orange ribbons seem to be on every street and in every public building that one enters. It is not surprising that the City Manager of the city of San Jose stated that instead of handing the key of the city to us while assembled here he had simply unlocked all the doors and gates and thrown the key away. Hundreds of automobiles are parked around the grounds of headquarters and on the side streets and when one goes down town into the heart of the city one sees automobiles everywhere containing the stickers with the words on them, "Rosicrucian Convention" or "Official Rosicrucian Car." The City Manager also stated that if any of the visitors to the convention got into traffic troubles and were given a tag of any kind by the Traffic Department or the Police Department they should simply write on the back of the tag that they were a Rosicrucian and send it back to the Police Department and the tag would be torn up. This will certainly be a great help to those who are strangers to the traffic regulations and who might unknowingly violate some of the California rules and regulations in that regard. The newspapers of this morning contained a very large report of the last night's session with many complimentary remarks and we are all enjoying a holiday and a period of festivity which even the city itself is sharing with us.

I notice that after the evening sessions are over the members and delegates break up into automobile parties of ten, twelve, or twenty and go down town to the principal hotels, restaurants, or candy shops and indulge in parties and gaieties of a wholesome nature until long after midnight. It is truly a great vacation for many and I only wish that all of those who had planned to come here might have had their wishes fulfilled although, goodness knows, I do not know how we could have taken care of so many thousands. But, next year those who were not able to come this time will come and enjoy what they have missed this summer. I am quite sure that before the convention is over the delegates will

Six hundred eighteen

vote to hold next year's convention in this city as in the past three years.

During the evening session, the Emperor not only made a very interesting address dealing with some of the highest mystical principles of the teachings but once more he was carried off into such perfect Cosmic attunement that as the lights were gradually lowered his aura became very wide and luminous and that peculiar transformation again took place which thousands of our members have noticed in years gone by when the Emperor was in the height of his Cosmic attunement. Many saw before them not the Emperor as he is but as he was and this old patriarch with gray hair and gray beard spoke to them in a manner that is beyond description. Then he was inspired to demonstrate some of the highest principles he had been referring to. The members will probably never forget the strangeness of some of these demonstrations. As an illustration of the power of the human mind to control the material things and re-create them or change their nature at a considerable distance the Emperor allowed the audience to select, through a very complicated system that would entirely eliminate any possibility of pre-arrangement on their part, and through so-called accidental selection of numbers, an individual in the large assembly who was asked to select from any of his personal belongings a piece of paper containing a hand written signature of any kind. The Brother finally found in his pockets a letter bearing such a signature and it was shown to those sitting around him and to any others who wished to see it and their attention was directed to the color of the writing and the precise formation of the letters composing the name. Then holding this piece of paper in one hand where all could see it, the Emperor standing upon the platform fully seventy feet distant concentrated upon it for a moment and pointed his finger toward it and declared that the middle initial of the name, a large capital letter, should become lighter in color than the rest of the writing on either side of it and changed in its shape and form. After another moment's pause, the paper was examined and shown to all who could see it and at the close of the meeting it was found that the middle

Six hundred nineteen

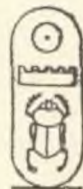
capital initial was lighter in color and of an entirely different shape than it had originally been and different from the rest of the writing. Other demonstrations of a similar nature were carried on for a long period and this brought to mind the many demonstrations which the Emperor has made at various conventions in the past and at special, large assemblies in the Supreme Temple for many years. Such demonstrations as these made in reverential and true Rosicrucian spirit have made it possible for thousands of the members of the organization to know from intimate experience just what the highest principles of the Rosicrucian teachings can accomplish in hundreds of material ways as well as in the spiritual and psychic realms.

Friday, July 24

All through the morning and early afternoon new arrivals for the convention appeared at the registration office in the new auditorium. Many of the members from New York who had been delayed in reaching here had come into the city of San Jose during the night and there were other arrivals from the north and south.

As I walked about the lawns and grounds of Rosicrucian Park this morning in the bright sun and cooling breezes and saw the hundreds of members in their attractive summer outfits in little groups of from six to twelve under trees or archways in the open air temple and shrine, or seated upon the various stone benches in the different parts of the Park, or on the front steps and entrance ways of the different buildings and parts of the auditorium, or chatting interestedly about their experiences and the demonstrations of last night and all smiling greetings as I passed by with a degree of cheeriness on their countenances that seemed to be as bright as the orange colored convention ribbons which each of them was wearing, I could not help but think of the beautiful, colorful, happy, inspiring picture that it presented.

On every hand there is evidence of extreme happiness, of success in life, of intellectual power, of masterly control of life's problems, of a complete absence of any fear as to the future or of any of



the so-called hidden mysteries of life. Here, truly, was a segment of humanity optimistic, enthusiastic, inspiring, and filled with the spirit of human understanding and a strong urge to help human beings everywhere to understand the real principle of universal brotherhood. Many had gathered flowers in the fields and along the highways and in the open spaces of the city itself; others had purchased large bouquets at the florists' shops and in the auditoriums and offices baskets of flowers or small bouquets were to be seen representing the gifts from city officials or city departments, and from open windows of the great auditorium, the organ music pealed forth as a delightful background to all the conversation, for the music was incessant throughout the day and constituted one of the inspiring features of the auditorium program. As I moved around among the members I found that not only were they relating their personal experiences and helping one another in solving problems, but that they were forming committees to help the different delegates in establishing new Sunshine Circles in different cities and many were comparing notes as to the unusual results that these circles in various places had accomplished. Others were analyzing some of our new books and making suggestions as to others that should be published. Others were speaking of child welfare work, prison welfare work, and the spread of our literature through various channels. Those who were expert in various lines such as medical men, scientific teachers in colleges and universities, laboratory men or research workers were addressing little groups and giving informal lectures. Other groups were deeply buried in the examination of the letters of greetings from foreign jurisdictions or in looking through the mass of documents and papers, charters and other written and sealed instruments from the ancient branches of the Order.

When the afternoon session was called to order at two o'clock the Emperor again addressed the very large audience and asked for the presentation of any resolutions that the delegates might wish to make. After much discussion on the part of many of the delegates and seconded by another to the effect

that so nominal were the National Lodge monthly dues as compared with the vast amount of matter that was sent to each student and member and as compared with the many and varied benefits of membership, that no form of joint membership in the National Lodge whereby a man and wife were allowed to study together from one set of lectures with the payment of dues for only one of them, should be permitted. The vote on this resolution was wholly unanimous without a single dissenting voice, although the Emperor urged that anyone who had any opposite viewpoint should express himself. It was pointed out by many of the delegates that membership in the organization was primarily for the purpose of development and the unfoldment of the self and that there could be no such thing as joint progress and joint unfoldment and joint development, and that, therefore, there could be no such thing as joint membership and that the principle of such a form of membership was wholly inconsistent and contrary to the ideals of the organization and only resulted in dissatisfaction and many entanglements.

Another resolution passed by the convention during the afternoon session was to the effect that the books issued by the organization in the past two years had proved so extremely helpful and inspiring and had been so greatly appreciated by the thousand or more of the large libraries throughout the country and had so contributed to the development of the organization and a better understanding among the populace of the high ideals of Rosicrucianism that the printing and publishing and sale of these books were highly approved and the prices charged for them considered fair and nominal for the high grade of work in a material sense; and that more of these books should be prepared and published in accordance with the suggestions and desires of the members and delegates at large as submitted from time to time, so that eventually a large library of publications authentically issued by the Supreme Lodge of AMORC would be established in the western world. This resolution was also unanimous and although the Emperor urged that anyone present who had any proper objection

Six hundred twenty

to the issuance of such books by the organization should express himself or herself and there was no dissenting voice.

Prior to the passing of this resolution the delegates discussed the fact that many years ago a bibliography of Rosicrucian books, published in foreign lands by the various Rosicrucian jurisdictions, showed that although several thousand such books had been published in the past there never had been any issued that contained the secret teachings of the Rosicrucians and none which claimed to contain such teachings and none of the books issued by the AMORC of North America contained the secret teachings or pretended to contain them and that therefore the publication of such books as had been issued by AMORC dealing with outside principles and supplementary reading matter of highly instructive nature was consistent with the similar activities of the Order in the past and in no sense a violation of the ancient principle of keeping the true secret teachings of the Rosicrucians out of public printed literature. Incidentally, the delegates and many members all voiced their disapproval of the present day pretension on the part of some publishing houses to offer to the public, books or other forms of printed matter supposed to contain the true Rosicrucian teachings.

Following the passing of these resolutions a very interesting address was made by Brother Bell, the director of the Welfare Department, who had spoken on several other occasions during the convention and who had been extremely busy throughout the week with hundreds of personal interviews and personal contacts. Brother Grand Master Dean also spoke to the convention during the afternoon and inspired everyone with his message of helpfulness.

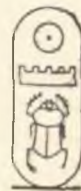
During the evening session the Imperator spoke briefly regarding the hundreds of activities of the welfare work, pointing out its many ramifications and inviting the delegates to examine the records and activities of the Welfare Department in the administration building during the day time activities and to see the various clerks handling the thousands of requests coming by telephone and letter from all parts of the world.

Six hundred twenty-one

The members and delegates were astonished to learn of the hundreds of ways in which the Order is helping the unfortunate and the way in which AMORC is freely expending large sums of money in maintaining a nation-wide system of helpfulness. The Imperator then called attention to the fact that one of the most interesting phases of the welfare work was that dealing with prison work. He then called upon Brother Captain Kleefisch to speak of his activities, as Chief of the prison welfare work.

Brother Kleefisch explained about his daily and weekly attendance at the principal prisons and penitentiaries of the west and how he comes in contact with as many as three to four thousand men and women in one institution and how they are helped in finding positions when they are released and how the AMORC lessons and literature are widely and systematically distributed and how the ideals of Rosicrucianism are being inculcated among many groups of these prisoners and how the organization helps in the rehabilitation of the lives of these men while they are in prison and after they are released. Brother Kleefisch held his audience spellbound for almost an hour and his illustrations and examples of personal help in the lives of many individuals were often so pathetic that the tears were seen in the eyes of those seated in the auditorium while at other moments they were so amusing that the audience burst into hearty laughter. At the close of his talk he was so greatly applauded that he had to make a second appearance on the platform, thanking the convention for its hearty co-operation.

He was followed by Brother A. Leon Batchelor, the Chief of the Correspondence Department, who entertained and amused the convention with reading fictitious specimens of the kind of letters that the Correspondence Department is called upon to answer and deal with in its daily routine. Some of these were pathetic, others were amusing, and still others highly problematical in many ways. He then proceeded to produce a small playlet on the stage of the auditorium, assisted by one of his regular stenographers, and with the stage representing a corner of his office with the daily mail piled high upon the desk and



illustrating the incidents that occur in attempting to answer these letters. The audience roared with extreme amusement as he picked up letters and attempted to answer them, but found that they were so poorly signed with rapid signatures that he could not determine who had written them, and others containing a part of a street address and no city, and still others with no address at all. The great variety of questions asked calling for research in the library of the administration building or the communication with experts in various lines in other cities in order to secure the correct information or the consultation with various department chiefs made plain the difficulties which the heavy correspondence on thousands of subjects presented to every officer of the organization.

The evening session closed late in the evening and everyone looked upon it as an extremely entertaining, as well as instructive, period. Once again I moved around through the lawns of the Park and found that the members were congregating in the Egyptian Shrine Temple which was now not only illuminated by the flood lights on the lawns but mysteriously tinted by the brilliant moonlight, and many of those who were present and who had been to Egypt with the Emperor and had participated in the initiation in the temple along the Nile were enthusiastic in their remarks regarding the recollections that came to them of that grand and glorious night in the moonlight on February 14, 1929.

Saturday, July 25

Because the greater part of this day was to be given to sightseeing with a convention session only in the morning, the members and delegates arrived at the grounds and seemed to be in the most cheerful and happy of spirits. The weather has been so delightful throughout the past week with mild summer warmth in the daytime and cool evenings for sleeping that everyone made the most of the daytime in dressing for and participating in typical summertime activities.

At ten o'clock in the morning was a session in the nature of an open forum, the first hour of which was conducted

by Grand Master Dean. A score of important questions were asked and answered in detail, touching upon every phase of the teachings and the practice of Rosicrucian principles. Dr. Arthur Bell then took charge of the discussion principles of healing and the routine procedure which the Welfare Department had decided upon as proper, but which he would like to have the convention delegates and members consider and comment upon.

A resolution thanking the Associated Press for its valuable contribution to research and scientific knowledge by the dissemination of intelligent and extensive reports understandable to the lay mind of the world, was voted upon and unanimously endorsed.

Other important matters of procedure were discussed and finally the convention session closed with an expression of confidence and approval of the manner in which the entire business and departmental activities of the organization were being conducted by the executive staff of officers.

In the afternoon, the wonderful trips of sightseeing to distant points began and perhaps the most interesting feature of these was the trip to the top of Mt. Hamilton by special buses which climbed slowly to the mountain top where at sunset an outdoor picnic meal was served amid the beauties of nature and with a scenic view that was truly inspiring. On the top of Mt. Hamilton is located the enormous Lick Observatory and through arrangements with this Observatory and one of the eminent professors, our members were given a special lecture relating to the cosmogony of the universe from the Rosicrucian point of view and then permitted to look through the three exceedingly large instruments which brought the heavenly bodies into view in a very large form with all of their details in extreme brilliance. The hundreds of members remained here until almost midnight and proclaimed it to be the most fascinating, inspiring experience of their lives.

Others had journeyed to the various universities and colleges and to the campus of Leland Stanford University at Palo Alto, visiting the grounds and home of the President of the United States, Herbert Hoover. The day was

Six hundred twenty-two

delightful in its climate and the delegates and members considered this to be an outstanding day in the entire program.

Sunday, July 26

There being no official session until evening of this day, the members were at liberty to continue their sightseeing, taking advantage of the daytime to go to the seashore and the mountains. While a majority of the delegates and members who lived at inland points throughout the country and seldom have an opportunity to go to the shore of any ocean journeyed over to the famous Santa Cruz beaches, less than ten miles in a straight line from San Jose, and there spent part of the day in enjoyment of the beauties of the Pacific and the attractiveness of typical California beaches with all of their gaiety and colorful picturesqueness, others were at the top of the Santa Cruz mountains and walked among the big trees, the giant Sequoias and the aged redwood trees rising to the height of many hundreds of feet, like tall sentinels or monuments in memory of the ancient continent of Lemuria.

On the other hand, a large number of members and delegates went in a body to the large Episcopal Church in the city and attended the morning services out of respect to the clergymen of the church who had made the Invocation on the opening of the first session. They enjoyed the special services and one of them, a Brother Episcopal clergyman from Minneapolis, was invited to take charge of the vesper service in that church in the afternoon, which was attended by a large number of the Rosicrucian members and during which a special discourse on the mysticism of Rosicrucianism from the religious point of view was given.

Late in the afternoon, fully a hundred new arrivals to the convention reached the Rosicrucian grounds and were enjoying the beauties of the environment and when the evening devotional service was opened in the Francis Bacon Auditorium every seat of that large hall was occupied. The organ music was devoted exclusively to the rendering of the oldest of the sacred songs of all denominations, including those of the Jewish

religion and of some of the Oriental religions, as well as the various Christian denominations. The chimes in the belfry of the auditorium pealed forth in such volume that they could be heard several miles from Rosicrucian Park and added a tone of attractiveness to the entire picture that was truly impressive.

The Emperor opened the devotional services, wearing his official robes and delivering a discourse upon the subject of living the life of truth, taking his text from the famous adoration composed by Amenhotep IV, the Pharaoh of Egypt, and which was carved on all the monuments erected during his reign, "Living in truth eternally and eternally." The Emperor stressed the point that our great problems in life came with the complex inconsistencies and falsities that man had created as his code of life and as a code of laws for governing mankind generally. He pointed out that from the mystical point of view, the great and fundamental laws of life were simple ones and that to follow these was a simple matter and enabled all to live in truth and in simplicity, with health and happiness and enjoyment of the abundant prosperity that God had given to all men.

He came to a point at the close of his hour's address when he called attention to some of these simple fundamental principles and touched upon the fact that music contained some of the most impressive and yet simple fundamental laws of life. To illustrate this he had the lights lowered and the Rosy Cross made luminous against a rich tapestry of crimson, while he stood before it and chanted in the ancient Oriental manner and then had one of the ancient Oriental chants rendered on an organ and finally chanted by a double quartette using all of the mystical vowel sounds taught in our lessons. The power of these sounds along with the beauty of the voices and the sweetness of the music held the members spellbound and enthralled in a spiritual power that brought tears to their eyes and a trembling sensation of the incoming of mystical power. He then extinguished all lights, except the fiery brilliancy of the red rose in the center of the Cross, and with his own aura extending widely across the auditorium platform, he raised his arms to the sacred emblem and pronounced the



ancient benedictions of the Masters in the language of the Oriental temples. Turning again and facing the audience he directed from his hands the emanations of this power and the influence of the benediction upon the audience. The response and effect were so keen that every member in the large building spoke of it afterward as being the greatest regenerative effect that they had ever felt in their lives.

After the close of the devotional services, the Supreme Secretary called upon the principal officers of the various jurisdictions to speak and as each arose and told of the work being accomplished in his state or his part of the country, the audience applauded with enthusiasm. Finally the many delegates who were present and who were not at the moment engaged in committee meetings in various parts of the different buildings were called upon to rise and introduce themselves and say a few words, and again there was great enthusiasm and applause.

As the audience left the auditorium and poured its numbers upon the grounds around the various buildings and stood in small groups in the moonlight and flood lights, expressing in soft voices their deep emotions and distinct impressions of the evening, it seemed as though the entire assemblage had been re-born and re-created and there was reluctance to leave Rosicrucian Park and its powerful vibrations. Several reporters and representatives of the Associated Press who had been admitted to the latter part of the meeting, stated to me that they had never participated in a convention or in a general assembly at any time in the past where they found such profound sincerity, such deep emotional response, and such a high grade of intellectual co-operation and enthusiasm.

All of the officers of the executive staff appeared to be thoroughly tired and exhausted from the hundreds of interviews with members and delegates, the continuous activities, the great stress of personal attention to individual problems, and the many efforts necessary to keep every moment of the hours of this week filled with benefits and interest to the members. The Emperor is also extremely busy attempting to keep up some of his correspondence and some of his

lecture work while preparing some additional matter to be used during the two months while he and his wife will visit the executives in some foreign cities throughout August and September. Surely he will need and deserve the vacation that he may have on the train and steamships when this convention period is over.

This ends the fifth day of the convention. More are coming from various cities to participate in the great event of tomorrow night and the several days following. I think that every State and province of North America is represented here now and every foreign jurisdiction, every large country of the world, is also represented either by a delegate or by a long and official communication, which all of the members have been privileged to read and examine. As with the convention last year, this one, too, is proving to be an international convention of world-wide significance rather than a convention of the organization in North America.

Monday, July 27

The late arrivals of Sunday were equalled only by the new arrivals on Monday morning and before the afternoon session opened at two o'clock it was evident that the new auditorium was going to be taxed to its capacity. Reports were coming to us from the downtown part of the city that the hotels, restaurants, and novelty shops were just filled with Rosicrucians wearing their orange colored badges. We soon found, however, that although each member did a nominal amount of sight-seeing, many preferred to remain close to Rosicrucian Park and talk. I think that if all the conversations and lectures were reduced to words it would require a set of books like the Harvard Classics to contain all that was spoken during the past four or five days. Members who have not come in contact with other Rosicrucians, or especially with those high in the work, have simply talked and talked and talked of their experiences and their problems and they have found this conversation week the golden opportunity of their lives.

The afternoon session was devoted to lectures and discourses by the various

Six hundred twenty-four

officers and to the discussion of problems. The principal thought in the mind of most of the members, however, was the program for the evening because on this night was to be held the great honorary initiation.

Two hundred and five members of the Order present at the convention and who had rendered some special service to the organization were permitted to be given an honorary initiation in the Supreme Lodge Temple, making them honorary members of the Supreme Lodge.

The ceremony began at eight-thirty and was conducted by the Emperor in his official robes and his staff of ritualistic officers all garbed in Egyptian costumes and arranged in their various stations of the mystically lighted Egyptian lodge room. What a gloriously impressive ceremony it was lasting until a little after eleven o'clock. I stood by the outer portal when the ceremony was over and watched candidates coming out and there were tears in their eyes and soft spoken words about the magnificence, the impressiveness, and the sacredness of the ceremony and its meaning. Up to the very present moment those who were initiated are speaking of the intense vibrations and the effect of these vibrations upon them. They say, as have others who have been initiated in this temple, that they will never forget this unusual ceremony.

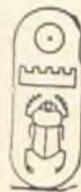
While the ceremony was in progress in the temple there were lectures and discourses in the auditorium for those who were not being initiated. Late arrivals during the day practically filled the auditorium and then when the initiation ceremony was over and the Emperor and his officers and the two hundred and five initiates entered the auditorium, there was not a single seat left vacant in the auditorium for the final feature of the day's program. The program had announced that on this evening at the close of this initiation the Emperor would conduct a mystical ceremony to be concluded at midnight, because at this midnight hour the various high masters of the organization throughout the world would be in concentration and attunement with the Emperor and the gathering in the auditorium.

Six hundred twenty-five

When the Emperor went upon the platform and directed the lights to be lowered everyone knew that another wonderful period of mystical demonstrations was to take place. It was during this late hour that all of us had an opportunity to see not only the aura of the Emperor extended into space, but to see this aura and its personality project out over the audience and make itself visible in every part of the auditorium. Various other manifestations occurred on the platform near the Emperor and at distances from him which cannot be described in these public pages but which every member present will remember as long as he lives. The musical demonstration as a part of the Emperor's special features will also remain as an outstanding event, for the famous Rosicrucian chant of ancient times was beautifully sung by a double quartette while the Emperor used these vowel sounds to produce some of the effects we witnessed and these were followed by the Emperor's incantations of ancient prayers and pleas to the Cosmic hosts.

At the close of this beautiful ceremony the members assembled on the lawns and grounds of the Park, for the moon was in full brilliance and mysticism and tense vibrations were in the air and heart of every member. No one seemed to want to go home. Special automobiles, buses, and even special cars on the trolley system were waiting to take the members to their hotels, but no one hurried. It was too magnificent a night, too wonderful in its revelations and demonstrations to want to bring it to a hurried close.

I could not help but think of the hundreds and thousands of members who had written that they would like to come to the convention and who were unable to do so. I do hope that most of them will come next year for already the various committees have made plans for next year's convention, elaborating upon the interesting features that have been so greatly appreciated during the past few days. So many have said that they knew of others who would have come if they had understood that a new member just starting in the work and hardly more than a month old in the organization could come and enjoy all of these



things equally with the highest members. I am sure that everything has been done to make it plain that members of the correspondence lodge, called the National Lodge, or members of a local lodge and members of any stage of the work are welcome to come to the convention. As one member expressed it to me, this convention is different from others he has attended inasmuch as there are no heavy registration fees, no financial limitations, and no restrictions except that those attending be actual members of the organization. He said, "I can plainly see why the organization has had to limit attendance to actual members." Hundreds of those who came to the convention brought their wives or children or parents with them to enjoy the marvelous vacation in this Valley of Heart's Delight. All those who were not members were privileged, however, to enjoy the auditorium, museum, and other parts of the building between sessions of the convention and listen to the music and participate in all social activities, including the great banquet. Therefore, none who came here with members felt the least bit disappointed.

In speaking of vacations I have questioned over three hundred of the visiting members and delegates who have come from distant points and they have told me that this has been the most enjoyable, profitable, and also the most economical vacation they have made in many years. I think all of our members should keep that fact in mind in making plans for next summer.

Tuesday, July 28

As usual the morning was given over to social and sightseeing activities while groups of members participated in the preparation of committee reports and in plans for the final sessions of the convention.

During the afternoon session, the Emperor again spoke of the work of the organization and called upon the Committee of Credentials to render its report. This committee was one voluntarily composed by volunteers from all parts of America who offered to serve on the committee. The purpose of this committee was to read and examine the

twenty or more letters that had been received from the Emperors or Grand Masters of foreign jurisdictions and to examine any charters, documents, or other papers of authenticity or authority possessed by the organization. The Emperor had placed in the hands of these members of the committee all of the correspondence, all of the documents or papers he had received, with their seals and signatures, names and addresses complete and the envelopes in which they had been mailed in foreign lands. He instructed this committee and instructed the members of the convention that any member of any grade or degree who desired to read and study these credentials should apply to the committee, in whose hands they were placed for the entire week, and take as much time as he required to study them. Calling for the report of the committee this afternoon, the individual members of the committee arose in turn and expressed their comments. One after another for over half an hour they spoke of how they had analyzed letters, documents, and credentials, and had found them interesting in their original languages and in the translations which had been verified by various persons in the convention who spoke foreign languages. They also spoke of the fact that some of them had written for the past two years to some of these foreign authorities and had received similar letters in return.

The comments of the committee were followed by the comments of hundreds of members who viewed the documents and by those who had travelled about in the last year and had personally met many of these foreign officers. The comments regarding credentials and documents were unanimous in several points. First, that all of them breathed the spirit of harmony, love, and universal fellowship; secondly, that they showed that there was no difference or distinction in any of the jurisdictions in regard to national boundaries, race, color, or creed; thirdly, that there was no evidence in any of these letters or documents of the worship of a personality, but of the high ideals and principles of the organizations; fourth, that all of these foreign organizations, many of them of very long standing and wide recognition in their countries, paid extreme honor and

Six hundred twenty-six

high respect to the American organization and its Imperator and officers.

At the conclusion of the comments of the committee members and all others, the Imperator urged that if there was a single person in the auditorium or in attendance at the convention who had any doubt regarding the wide-spread existence of the organization or its activities in any foreign land, or that the organization was established as stated in these letters or official documents, that, such a person or persons should arise and express their doubt and that further documents bearing even governmental seals and verification of signatures would be shown to them. After urging this action on the part of any persons present and stressing it considerably and there being no response, a motion was made by one of the delegates that a vote of complete confidence and joy in regard to the foreign work be expressed by the convention. This was put to a vote and was carried unanimously without a single dissenting voice.

Other matters were discussed in regard to the activities of the organization, the defense of its good name and reputation against the malicious activities of a few enemies who are natural enemies of any thing that is progressive or illuminating, and there was wide-spread criticism of the activities of one or two former members who are devoting themselves to the working out of a personal grievance against the organization. One of the outstanding comments made in this regard was made by an attorney, representing one of the large eastern cities, who said that his personal investigation of several of the active enemies of the organization had convinced him that they were unjust, unfair, and malicious purely in a personal sense and he called attention to the fact that never in all of his connections with many organizations had he found one like the AMORC so free from any critical condition that could justify any real objection to the work and objects of the organization.

The afternoon session closed early in order that all might get ready for the evening banquet. This banquet is always a complimentary courtesy given by the organization to every member and delegate in attendance at the conven-

tion. This year, because of the extremely large attendance at the convention, the banquet was a real tax upon all the facilities of San Jose. There was but one hotel large enough to take care of such a banquet and in fact it is doubtful if even in the average city of United States there are facilities for caring for such a banquet as this. The large dining room and the open air Spanish patio with its fountain playing the water in colored lights and with birds singing, and with all of the atmosphere of the inclosure of an old monastery were adapted to hold the banquet tables. Beautiful souvenir menus were printed in gold, representing the greetings of the hotel and the good wishes of the management. Long before it was time to enter the dining room and patio the hundreds of members began to arrive at the hotel lobby and on the streets and the picture of these members in their attractive clothing with all of the officers in evening attire and with the many bouquets of flowers was a sight to behold. Bear in mind also that there were representatives of many nations and races and from many lands and these, dressed according to their individual tastes, added uniqueness to the picture.

The banquet began at six-thirty and during the course of the evening there were many impromptu speeches by those desiring to express appreciation and joy for the courtesies and benefits that they had received. Madame Beatrice Bowman, coloratura soprano, formerly of the Metropolitan Opera Company, presented Carmen de O'Barrio, accomplished Pan-American artist, who played two beautiful piano selections, and Miss Marie Wallman, soprano soloist, and protege of Madam Bowman, who exhibited an unusual ability by singing three well-chosen selections, accompanied by Peter Hansen, talented protege of the famous Lincoln Batchelder of San Francisco.

As one surprise of the evening the Grand Master of Canada made a speech that was handed to him so he might read it on behalf of the various departmental workers at headquarters. Then he unveiled the largest and most beautiful floral piece that I have ever seen consisting of a huge circular disc of flowers in the center of which was a triangle and a Rosy Cross composed of fresh



flowers, and around this were the words "Peace Profound — AMORC." This floral piece was presented to the Emperor and his wife by the department chief as a token of their appreciation of the kind and courteous consideration shown by them to all of their associate workers. The Emperor, on the other hand, had the privilege of announcing to those assembled at the banquet that the committee of nominations had completed its work and had selected a list of nominees to be elected to the Grand Council of the organization for North America for the ensuing year. Of those on the Grand Council there are twelve members, three of whom are the supreme executives and nine of whom are elected each year. These nine Grand Councilors are also Inspectors-General of the Order for their district. The Emperor submitted these nominations to the convention and each was voted on separately and each was unanimously elected. Those elected on this occasion were: Dr. Charles Green, Pittsburgh, Pa; Manuel Rodriguez Serra, San Juan, P. R.; Dr. J. B. Clark, Vancouver, B. C.; F. Ingersoll, South Bend, Ind.; Joseph Kimmel, Washington, D. C.; Dr. James Ward, San Antonio, Texas; E. D. Bufmeyer, Willapa, Wash.; J. P. Callaghan, Montreal, P. Q.; Mrs. Marie Clemens, Boston, Mass.

The Emperor then announced that in accordance with the rules recently established of honoring certain members in the organization who had distinguished themselves with unusual service for the Order by making them honorary members of the Amenhotep Chapter of Egypt, he wished to read a list of those whom he had selected on the advice of the Supreme Council to be thus honored. The convention applauded the reading of the list containing the following names of honorary members of the Amenhotep Chapter: Dr. John R. Carter, Lansing, Mich.; E. D. Bufmeyer, Willapa, Wash.; Mrs. Virginia Herbst, Germany; J. Tuggy, Atascadero, Calif.; George E. Baldwin, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Ada Neurotsos, Victoria, Canada.

During the evening, resolutions were passed by the delegates thanking the hostesses and the hosts who acted as ushers, secretaries, and assistants throughout the convention in arranging interviews with the Emperor and Sec-

retary and in planning all of the details of the entertainment features. High testimony was paid to the organization by prominent persons who were present and an exceedingly delightful evening was enjoyed up until nine o'clock, when the entire assembly arose and left the banquet hall and prepared to form parties to go to the California theater in San Jose where some special features were introduced into the program to make it a highly colored entertainment. Thus at midnight the social activities of the evening ended.

The newspapers of this district in reporting the convention day by day have spoken often and freely of the many Rosicrucians present in this city and of their kindly, cultured interests. In speaking of the banquet the newspapers said that it was the largest banquet ever held in this valley or in any of the cities of this part of the State. Certainly not only was the meal enjoyable and the service equal to that of the highest type in any part of the world but the spirit of the evening, the music, the many testimonies of appreciation and high regard expressed in the resolutions passed, and the enthusiasm and intensity of the vibrations made it another occasion to be remembered for a life time.

Wednesday, July 29

The morning of the last day of the convention started with crowds of members and delegates going through every executive and departmental office of the administration building, checking up on systems and routine and becoming familiar with the various processes whereby the records of individual members are preserved and the different activities conducted by specialized employees. Large groups of members and delegates were being constantly conducted through the printing plant and I think this one department aroused more comment than any of the others because of its extremely large size, large number of employees, and interesting equipment. I have heard hundreds of the members say that they had no idea that there was such a large printing plant and with such large presses and so many departments and so many hundreds of individual pieces of equipment owned and operated by Rosicrucians.

Six hundred twenty-eight

Informal meetings of all kinds were underway before ten o'clock and there seemed to be a tenseness in the air which plainly indicated that all realized that this was the last day of a glorious period. At two o'clock the afternoon session opened and from the very moment that the organ music ceased the auditorium just hummed with reports, resolutions, recommendations, pleasant comments, applause, and bursts of laughter and words of praise.

Among the interesting resolutions that were passed at this convention is one which I have been asked to carefully report in our magazine because of its very nature. I have not spoken here of the many resolutions, or those that have been passed in this convention, praising the work of the various officers personally or praising the treatments and wonderful demonstrations made by Dr. Bell or other members of the Welfare Department, or praising the Supreme Secretary's unusual ability in organization and routine matters, or Brother Batchelor's extraordinary capabilities in the management of the Correspondence Department, or even of Brother Dean's jovial, kind, sympathetic advice given to hundreds of members here at the convention in connection with their personal problems. But this one particular resolution, although of a personal nature, must be reported here as the request comes not only from a committee but from a unanimous vote of the entire body of delegates.

I do not know exactly when this resolution was conceived but it was presented so spontaneously by one of the delegates, Brother A. J. E. Baker, from Chicago, that it seemed to appear at the right psychological moment and won instant, whole-hearted indorsement. Brother Baker rose to his feet and stated that as a member of several committees investigating the activities of the officers and various departments at headquarters he had discovered that while the organization and its Emperor had made every effort and every possible sacrifice possible to build beautiful buildings, temples, and shrines, and every possible convenience for the members as a lasting monument to the ideals of the organization not a single one of the executive officers had appropriated any of the funds or

any of the income that might rightfully be theirs for the building of a home for themselves and that each one of them, including the Emperor, were renting nominal homes in the district surrounding Rosicrucian Park. He, therefore, proposed that the suggestion made at last year's convention regarding the establishment of a personal fund to be placed at the disposal of the Emperor, and to which the Emperor made immediate protest and effectively wiped the idea from the convention slate, should be modified and a fund established for the purchase of a piece of property near Rosicrucian Park and the building of a home upon it for the Emperor and his family. The idea seemed to have met the desires and wishes of the entire convention in an electrical, magnetic manner, for many immediately arose to their feet to second it and there was a burst of applause. Grand Master Dean, Dr. Clark of Vancouver, and Dr. Bell immediately sought the whereabouts of the Emperor, who was scheduled to speak in the auditorium in a few minutes, and with various arguments convinced the Emperor that his speech should be delayed a while and that he should continue to interview some more members in his sanctum until it was time for him to appear at the auditorium. The time for this resolution had been selected when it was known that the Emperor's wife would be busy with one of the committees and would not be present either. Therefore, without any possibility of protest on the part of the Emperor and his wife, the motion was put and unanimously voted upon without a single dissenting voice.

Other resolutions immediately followed regarding the collection of such a fund, the appointment of a permanent committee, and the plan of disseminating the knowledge, including the recommendation that I incorporate the matter in my convention report. The general ideas included in all of the resolutions and recommendations pertaining to this matter were to the effect that Brother Leon Batchelor be appointed chairman of the permanent committee to look after the fulfillment of the plan and that various members of the Order, including Dr. Clark of Vancouver, Brother Baker of Chicago, the



Chief of the Legal Department of the organization, and others, remain as members of this permanent committee; that every member in the organization in any lodge or in any branch of the work be permitted to make voluntary donations to this special fund. Realizing that the Emperor has forbidden any assessment to be levied for any purpose and realizing that he objects to solicitations of any kind for any funds, it was decided that this entire matter should be left on a voluntary basis and that it be brought before the entire membership in this manner. Throughout the final sessions of the convention donations and pledges were given by every member attending the convention and these were turned over to Brother Batchelor to be deposited in a bank in a separate account in the name of the "Imperator's Corner Stone Fund." The piece of property selected by the committee is a very attractive and beautifully located one close to Rosicrucian Park on an opposite corner and is ideal in every respect, and a number of architects present at the convention volunteered their services freely in planning the home, while others present offered to give of their services in planning the interior decorations and special symbolical features.

I am instructed, therefore, to say to all of our members and friends that if they wish to contribute to this fund throughout the next weeks and months in a purely voluntary manner, they should send their donations of any amount in the form of checks, money orders, or cash in registered letters addressed to Mr. A. Leon Batchelor, as Chairman, Post Office Box 785, San Jose, California. All checks and money orders, however, should be made out to "Imperator's Corner Stone Fund" and not to any individual, and not to AMORC Funds or the Imperator or in any other manner than made payable to "Imperator's Corner Stone Fund."

An exact accounting of every donation received will be made by the chairman to the committee and careful records will be kept of all transactions.

When the Imperator heard of this proposal he and his wife were not only pleased but greatly astonished. The Imperator directed this thought to be ex-

pressed, however: That such voluntary donations to this fund should not interfere with the voluntary donations from the members to the Welfare Funds or Cathedral Funds or any other activities of the organization, for he did not want the creation of this fund to interfere with or limit the humanitarian and welfare activities of the organization in any sense. I trust, therefore, that every member will keep this in mind while trying to do his utmost to help the plan and support the resolution that was passed.

If in sending your dues or other remittances, any part of your remittance is intended for the Imperator's Corner Stone Fund it should be distinctly stated in your letter and the remittance should be sent separately, if possible, to the above given P. O. Box address so that bookkeepers and auditors at headquarters will make no errors and find no difficulty in properly segregating your remittance. Any further details regarding this plan will be gladly given by Brother Batchelor if a letter is addressed to him in that regard.

At the evening session on Wednesday, which was the closing session, the Imperator occupied the entire time with a discussion of the ideals of the Rosicrucian organization and concluded with his annual message to the members and delegates. He chose as his topic the idea of living the symbolism of the Rosy Cross or, in other words, making that symbolism an ideal in our daily life through keeping in mind continually the fact that through the crucifixion of the body by means of the trials, tribulations, experiences, problems, illnesses, joys, rewards, and lessons of life, the soul and the self within evolved and became masterful. He pointed out that whether all of the other lessons and lectures of the organization were cast aside or carefully followed, it was only necessary for the true Rosicrucian to keep in mind the symbolism of the Rosy Cross and to make its ideals a living factor in our daily lives and we would be fulfilling the purposes of the organization.

Finally the evening session came to a close with the ancient Rosicrucian benediction being pronounced by the Imperator and this was immediately followed by a resolution from the floor of the auditorium by one of the delegates

Six hundred thirty

recommending that the convention delegates and members pronounce a prayer or benediction for the organization and its officers. Thus closed the last and final session of the most wonderful convention that the organization has ever held.

Too much cannot be said of the many side activities and helpful forms of work conducted by the various officers. For instance, during the last few days of the convention Brother Batchelor was extremely busy with classes of several hundred of the members at one time assembled in the Supreme Temple lodge room, receiving personal instruction in the pronunciation of the mystical vowel sounds used in all of our lessons and lectures and in training the voice of those present in creating the proper vibrations through breathing and the use of the vowels. The members said that this was the most beneficial of any of the private class activities carried on during the convention. Brother Batchelor's unusually excellent voice as a singer enabled him to train them with efficiency and a deep knowledge of the principles involved.

On the other hand, many classes were conducted by Dr. Bell and many of the periods in the auditorium were directed by him during which demonstrations in healing and the use of the healing principles gave the members and delegates personal instruction and guidance in this work while between these sessions and class periods, Dr. Bell was extremely busy giving personal interviews and personal help in his private office.

Grand Master Dean was similarly engaged with private interviews and private instructions in his office from early in the morning until late in the evening.

The Supreme Secretary not only spoke from the platform on many occasions and delivered excellent addresses

but was busy from early morning until late at night with personal interviews regarding organization problems, and Brother Shibley of the Printing and Publishing Department and the other officers, likewise, made excellent addresses and helped in individual matters.

Thus the members attending the convention had every opportunity for personal, private instruction and guidance, freely and gladly given without restriction or limitation, except as to time, and without any obligation of any kind.

As I dictate this on Thursday morning we are all conscious of the fact that the great convention is over and as the morning newspaper states, hundreds of happy persons are travelling in various directions north, south, east, and even westward over the ocean on their way home, each carrying with them blessings and benedictions and the memories of the most happy vacation they have ever spent, but there are still many here in the Park around the buildings still seeking a little additional information, completing their committee reports, and hesitating to take themselves away from the peace and harmony of the temple and auditorium.

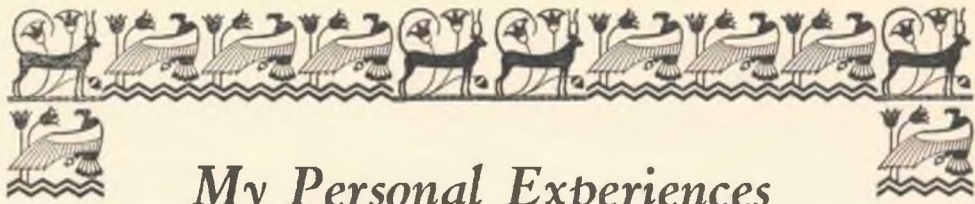
Many recommendations were made at last night's session as to what should be done at next year's convention and already some of these suggestions are under way, for plans are now being made for next year's convention in July and you, whoever you may be, should make up your mind now to be here next summer if you were not here this summer, and as for those who were here they will need no urging to come again. It was a glorious ten days or two weeks for most of the members, and for all of us at headquarters it was the most beautiful demonstration of harmony, and love and hearty co-operation that the officers of any organization in any part of the world could wish to see.



CONVENTION PHOTOS

Photographs of the 1931 Rosicrucian Convention are now obtainable at Headquarters for those wishing to avail themselves of the opportunity of getting one of these large, 8 x 40-in. pictures showing three hundred or more members and delegates. The pictures are priced \$1.00 each, postpaid, and may be had by writing to the AMORC Supply Department, Rosicrucian Park, San Jose, Calif.





My Personal Experiences

SOME UNUSUAL PSYCHIC ADVENTURES OF A STARTLING AND INTERESTING NATURE

By H. SPENCER LEWIS, F. R. C.

(NOTE—This series of articles will present the strange and mystical experiences which may come to one who has gradually attuned himself to the higher or more subtle forces existing around us. Perhaps some of our members have had identical experiences and the explanation given by our Imperator in connection with the ones he has had will help our members to understand some of the laws that are possibly involved. These experiences will be presented in the form of one complete story in each issue for the next few months. Many points connected with each of these experiences are difficult to explain and still remain in the realm of the unknown. You may take the Imperator's partial explanation and accept it or you may reject it. He is merely offering his personal opinion while he still holds an open mind and is seeking through tests and experiments to determine the exact nature of whatever principles or laws were actually involved in these experiences. Incidentally, these experiences show what may come into the life of a person who is Cosmically or psychically attuned and who is in constant contact with conditions, persons, and places throughout the country, and while holding the position he holds in relation to the work of this organization—Editor.)

Number 2—The Strange Packing Box



IN this second incident of my series of peculiar psychic experiences, there are a number of points of special interest to those who are fond of psychic research.

A few months after I had moved my home to a large city in Florida in 1925, with the intention of remaining there a few years to assist in building up our work in that part of the country, I was called on the phone one evening by a very close neighbor who asked if I would come quickly to his home and investigate something that had been tormenting his wife and himself throughout the evening. It was a little after midnight when I was called, and I had not yet retired. It was early in the spring and the sky was very dark but clear and there was a warmth in the air plainly indicating that the warm summer period had made a good start.

The homes in this city of Florida were all large and spacious, the ceilings

especially being very high in order to allow a large amount of free air circulation throughout the summer months. Every house of this kind had many large windows, well screened, and when I say well-screened, I do not mean with a loose portable fly screen or a large one on the outside of the windows that flaps loosely or is easily removed, for the great winds that often sweep over Florida necessitate the construction and fastening of screens in a manner that will protect them against being torn from the building suddenly and completely. Furthermore, the city was on the highway, traversed most frequently by tourists from the north, and was generally filled each day with motorists and those begging free passage along the way, and there had been so many attempts at robberies and intrusion, that the owners of homes had taken every precaution to see that every downstairs window and door was tightly secured before retiring at night. The second stories of such homes very often consisted of one or two enclosed bedrooms and three or four sleeping rooms or open air porches. My neighbor's house

Six hundred thirty-two

was a wooden bungalow with a second story consisting only of two sleeping rooms entirely surrounded by windows that could be opened and with only the tightly fastened screens would become typically an open air sleeping porch. The hallway and stairs by which these two upper rooms were reached were at the rear of the house. Just between the dining room and an adjoining den room and library a flight of stairs ascended for about six feet where there was a small platform at right angles with another flight of stairs rising for six more feet to the second floor. Here there was a small hallway on either side of which were located the two sleeping rooms, to which I have referred.

My neighbors had moved into this house but two or three months previously, and had had it redecorated inside and out in a very thorough manner. Only within the last few days had they furnished one of the upper bedrooms, for during the first two months of occupancy of the house, it was cool enough to permit them to sleep in one of the downstairs bedrooms.

From the very first night of their occupancy of the upstairs bedroom, they had been awakened from eleven o'clock onward with peculiar sounds in the hallway outside of their upstairs sleeping room and in the adjoining bedroom, which was unfurnished and was used for storage of unused pieces of furniture and packing cases of various materials and articles. For three or four nights, they believed these noise to be due to the winds which often become very strong after midnight or late in the evening, or possibly to mice or to the flapping of a radio wire connecting the antenna on the roof with a set in the den room below. It appears, however, that the young couple occupying this house had generally retired after midnight, and on only one occasion had been in their bedrooms before eleven o'clock. They had, therefore, heard the sounds only after twelve-thirty or one in the morning.

When I reached their home on this particular night, I found both of them in bathrobes or dressing gowns seated in the den room downstairs and frightened out of their wits. The story they told me was as follows:

That they had retired just about eleven o'clock in the upstairs room and closed the door as they had always done; that shortly after the lights were extinguished in their room and they were at rest in the bed in the far corner, they heard footsteps in the outer hall and a bristling noise as though some paper was being rattled. Both of them remained awake listening, but each was unconscious of the fact that the other was listening. The young man happened to be in a position where his face was turned toward the closed door on the opposite side of the room. The faint light from the arc lamp on the street illuminated the room sufficiently for them to see the outline of the door and the pieces of furniture in the room.

Listening for a while to the footsteps, the young man was suddenly frightened by hearing the door-knob of the door rattled and turned. The door-knob was one which stuck, and required more than the usual amount of pressure to turn it, and after being rattled for a while and turned, the door gradually opened. You can imagine the sensation this created in the mind of the young man, but he was able to restrain himself and lie quietly in his bed and watch. The door opened to the extent of eight or ten feet, and then moved no further. He waited to see if there would be any attempt on the part of anyone to enter the room, but there were no further sounds for a few moments, and nothing else to be seen. Then suddenly the footsteps in the hall were heard again, much louder this time because of the door being open. Then another door-knob was rattled and turned, and the creaking door on the opposite side of the hall giving entrance way to the unused bedroom indicated that whoever was causing the disturbances had stepped across the hall. The second door finally closed and as the young man listened he heard the movement of some heavy articles on the floor and then the rattling of paper as though large sheets of stiff wrapping paper were being shaken, and finally the noise of a hammer hitting against nails or wood.

Thoroughly alarmed he turned around to awaken his wife, only to find that she too had been listening to the entire procedure and believed that he was asleep.



They compared their impressions and then arose and turned on the lights, and rushed out into the hallway with a gun which the young man always kept in his room. They found the door of their bedroom open, but the door of the bedroom on the opposite side of the hall was closed. They examined every part of that room carefully, including a little door that afforded entrance way into part of the attic adjoining these two bedrooms. No one could be seen and nothing found to give any explanation of the noises they heard. After searching around downstairs and making sure that every window was still closed tightly and every door locked, they returned to their room, and before they could possibly get to sleep, similar noises were repeated. Always the same rattling of large sheets of paper, the handling of pieces of wood, and the hammering of these together as though nailing up a box or crate.

Just why the young man and young woman interpreted the noises as the nailing up of a crate, they could not explain. It is a psychological fact that we try to associate every noise with some commonplace incident or something with which we are familiar. In looking at my notes from which I am dictating the report of this experience, I find that in my usual manner I made very careful notations of everything that was told to me, and everything that I observed myself, for I do not like to depend upon memory in regard to such experiences. Years of research and investigation have trained me in making copious notes in notebooks, and filing these away under various index classifications. I find one notation which deals with this very point. I asked the young couple several times why they believed that the noises had anything to do with the packing of a large wooden crate, and their answer was that it sounded just like the noises they had made themselves when they packed some of their crates and unpacked them in the processes of moving to their present home. I found, however, that very often the Cosmic Mind or the psychic mind within the individual gives a clue to the nature of the noises, and that this is more dependable than the mere association of ideas. However, we were all

agreed that the noises heard had something to do with the handling of wood, paper, nails, and a hammer.

After hearing the same noises a second time, they decided to stay up the rest of the night and partly dressed they went downstairs into the den room on the first floor, which was almost directly under the bedroom in which they had been trying to go to sleep. With all of the lights on in the house, they could still hear footsteps on the floor upstairs and every now and then they would hear one of the two doors open and close, and then there would come the rattling of paper and the hammering. They even heard the footsteps descending the stairs as though coming down to the lower hall and entering the very room in which they were seated. After listening to all of this for over an hour, they finally asked me to call.

After making a search all through the house and finding nothing that would give any clue, I sat down in the den room with them and waited. In a little while we heard the footsteps, the creaking boards, the turning of door-knobs, the creaking hinges, the rattling of the paper, and the hammering. There was no mistaking the noise of the paper, and there certainly could be no mistake of the noise of hammering. Whether the hammering was upon a packing box or on the floor I could not determine. Every attempt to go up the stairway while the noises were distinct resulted in an immediate cessation of the noises. However, one time I stood at the foot of the stairs with the lights all turned on and distinctly heard the footsteps coming down the steps toward me until they were within three or four feet of me.

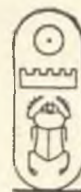
Deciding that I would make one of my usual materialistic tests, I took a sheet of thin tissue paper and stretched it out on one of the steps half way up the flight. Then we waited for the footsteps to come down the stairway again. As the noise of the footsteps began and approached me we waited for the invisible footsteps to reach the piece of paper. Suddenly, we saw the thin sheet of paper pressed downward against the wooden step just as though some foot had stepped upon it. You may realize that a piece of thin paper lying on a carpeted step will lie very lightly and

will not fit tightly against the carpet. However, the paper was suddenly depressed in the center and gave every visible evidence of some light weight upon it. Then the noise of the footsteps ceased.

Wishing to carry my investigation a little further I went up the stairs to the upper floor and sat down upon a chair midway between the two bedroom doors and then extinguished the lights. The young people remained downstairs in the den room. Finally I heard the footsteps ascending and looking down the stairway I could see the haze and the bluish white aura of a figure. It came closer and closer and finally passed right by me, and through the partly opened door into the bedroom that was not being used. Then the door closed just as definitely and decidedly with all the noise and clicking that one hears when a door is closed by a physical hand. Waiting a moment I heard the rattling of the paper again and finally the very loud pounding of the hammer. Pushing the door open I found a large, white, hazy figure much like an oval form of white fog standing in the middle of the room and then floating in the space of the room in a horizontal position it wafted out through the upper part of the open window passing through the metal screen just as though there was nothing to interfere with its passage. It was the first time in my experience that I had ever seen a figure of this kind hasten away from me. In nearly every instance of psychic research such figures whenever of genuine psychic nature become passive and remain long enough in my presence to reveal to me the nature or purpose of their mission.

I closed the door of the room and seated myself on the edge of a trunk and waited in the faint light that came from the street lamp for any further developments. Suddenly my attention was attracted to the little door that gave access to the attic. This little door was about eighteen inches wide and possibly thirty inches high, and was cut into the wooden paneling of the room in a hidden manner with just a little brass catch on it to keep it closed. It was not intended for any use except possibly for electricians or repair men to get to

the attic when absolutely necessary and since the attic was very low and unfinished, the little door was kept constantly closed. Early in the evening I had look at this little door and noted that the spring catch on it was working properly and that the door was securely fastened. Now I was surprised, however, to see the spring catch on the door actually open and click and permit the door itself to open to the extent of eight or ten inches. I suppose that many would consider it an uncanny thing to sit in the center of a room and watch a small door apparently open of its own accord. Looking through the dark opening of the door I could see in the center of the attic a small bright light much like a ball of luminous paint. It had a very hazy outline but the center of it was brilliantly white. As I concentrated upon it I saw that it was moving toward me, and as it moved it widened in area until finally it was at least two feet in diameter. Then I saw it squeeze or condense itself through the little open doorway and rapidly expand into a large oval of misty white luminosity. This appeared to be the identical oval form that I had seen float out of the window. It came closer to me, passed in front of me, and went to another corner that was very dark. Here it stood and gradually changed its shape from an oval figure to the form of an old man. I plainly saw the gray hair and gray beard, and the bright eyes, and even the trembling lips. Slowly he raised one of his hands and enabled me to see that in this hand he held an odd shaped hatchet. Pointing with this hatchet over toward the opposite dark corner, I was surprised to see there a large packing box made crudely out of odd pieces of wood. The top of it was partly closed and along side of it stood a number of pieces of wood, which evidently were intended for the closing of the top of the box. I was just about to ask some questions when the wind blowing against one of the shades or something else caused one shade that was pulled all the way down against a closed window to suddenly flap and spring upward. As the shade wound itself rapidly around the roller, making a terrific noise, the figure in the corner trembled and turned into a misty haze



again of a deep red color, and seemed to condense into nothingness right where it stood. Even the vague packing box in the corner disappeared also.

After I had made sure that the figure had entirely disappeared, I examined the window where the shade had caused all the disturbance and could find no reason for this incident, which certainly interrupted what might have been an interesting conversation.

The young folks downstairs had heard the noise of the shade, and had heard me spring across the room, and were quite concerned. They stood at the foot of the stairs and called to learn if anything was wrong, and to pacify them I had to go down and explain that merely a shade had played a trick on me. They were thoroughly frightened, however, and explained that they would not go to bed as long as there were such noises in the house, and the young wife even threatened to prepare to move the next day. I had to assure them, therefore, that I would intercede for them and see that the magic spell that had been cast over the house was neutralized or extinguished for all time. We all three proceeded then to sit in concentration while I attuned myself with the Cosmic forces and pleaded that this sort of psychic manifestation should discontinue inasmuch as I had received sufficient explanation from what I had seen to eliminate any further necessity for a continuance of the visitation.

Explanation

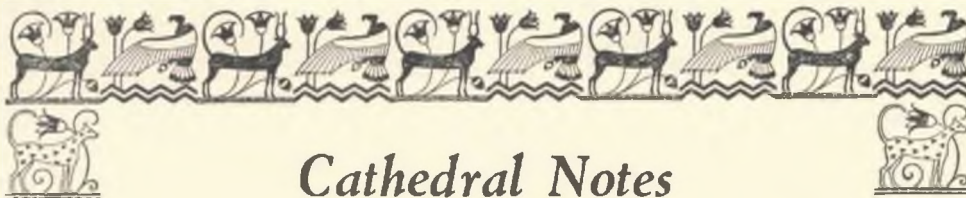
I did not attempt to trace this completely and to learn the details of the story back of it. Whatever details I would have learned would have been unimportant from a mystical or psychic point of view. For instance, I am not concerned even today as to the identity of the old man or what his position or place in life had been. It is quite evident to me from what I saw that the old man had lived in the house at one time either as a permanent resident or a guest, and that just before his transition he had engaged in packing something or many things in a large box, which he had crudely constructed out of various pieces of wood, and intended to ship this packing box to some place or leave it for some one person to possess with all of its contents. Transition, however,

overcame him before he completed his work and evidently the contents of the box had gotten into wrong hands or were in danger of getting into wrong hands, and the personality of the old gentleman was undoubtedly disturbed and uneasy, and desired to complete the protection of the things that had been placed in the packing box.

Such strong desires in the heart and mind of a person at the moment of transition often cause them to return to the earth plane or to be held earth bound on the earth plane for days, weeks, or months after transition. It is just as though after transition they found themselves floating in space as a being, but with their mind and thoughts centered upon and held fast by some little problem that they considered exceedingly important. Through their mind being concentrated upon the problem and the location and character of the problem, their personality projects to that place and they perform in a sort of mental visualization those acts or those things that they would have liked to have done before transition. These mental pictures project themselves to the place being thought of and become visible. If you can convince such a projected personality that the message they wanted to give or the thing they wanted to do is being taken care of, and that everything is all right, they will immediately abandon their restlessness about it and forget it completely, and this at once released them from constant contact with some earthly place.

Nearly all cases of the return of a personality to some former habitation is for the purpose of giving to someone a message, pointing something that is hidden, lost, or undiscovered, or to attempt to cause some little act which weighed heavily upon their minds at the time of transition. The turning on of lights, however, and the brusque manner of dealing with these projections and manifestations often frightens away the personality only to return again at some quiet moment. The quickest way to end this sort of thing is to sit by peacefully and sympathetically and ask the vision before you what it is it desires to convey or what it wishes to have done, and listen to what is said or watch what is shown, and thereby bring the matter to a permanent close.

Six hundred thirty-six



Cathedral Notes



The "Cathedral of the Soul" is a Cosmic meeting place for all minds of the most advanced and highly developed spiritual members and workers of the Rosicrucian Fraternity. It is a focal point of Cosmic radiations and thought waves from which radiates vibrations of health, peace, happiness, and inner awakening. Various periods of the day are set aside when many thousands of minds are attuned with the Cathedral of the Soul, and others attuning with the Cathedral at this time will receive the benefit of the vibrations. Those who are not members of the organization may share in this unusual benefit as well as those who are members. The book called "Liber 777" describes the periods for various contacts with the Cathedral. Copies will be sent to persons who are not members by addressing their request for this book to librarian S. P. C., care of AMORC Temple, San Jose, California, enclosing three cents in postage stamps.

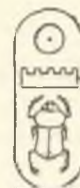


HE work of the Cathedral has been very efficient in the past trying months and has brought a great deal of joy and happiness to those who were depressed.

There is an old time saying that you help others the most when you help them to help themselves. The Cathedral has been especially happy in the fact that it has aided others to help themselves in many ways. Very often when obstacles surround a person and the things they value the most have been taken from them and there seems to be no opportunities to recover one's proper position in life, the kind words of a friend, or the advice of one who understands and knows, is far more helpful than any other gift. In this regard the Cathedral has helped thousands for it has revealed

to them the proper move to make, the proper attitude to take in regard to certain problems, and the path to follow to find the things that are most needed.

Certainly there can be no greater advice, no more dependable guidance, than that which comes from the Cosmic and we hope that all of our members and readers and even those who are strangers to us will make themselves acquainted with the Cathedral Welfare work and take advantage of its marvelous possibilities. The work is non-sectarian and does not mean the least interference with one's regular religious, business, or social affairs. Get a copy of the book mentioned above and make yourself well acquainted with the various periods for Cosmic contact. Each one of these periods means inspiration, invigorating power, and a peace and understanding that saves the day for many.



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(Those who are Rosicrucian students are now receiving these instructions)

*The
Rosicrucian
Digest
September
1931*

Six hundred thirty-eight

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The Order is internationally known as AMORC (an abbreviation), and the AMORC in America, and all other lands, constitutes the only form of Rosicrucian activities united in one body having representation in the international Rosicrucian congresses. The AMORC does not sell its teachings, but gives them freely to all affiliated members, together with many other benefits.

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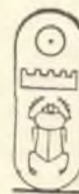
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