

**AFTER DEATH WHAT?**  
THIS PAPER TELLS YOU

SPIRITUALISM'S PICTORIAL JOURNAL

# TRUTH The PSYCHIC OBSERVER

**TRUTH FOR AUTHORITY NOT AUTHORITY FOR TRUTH**

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## Spirit Return of Sir Oliver Lodge

### HE WAITED FOUR YEARS . . .

### "So that I could be sure I am giving facts"

— The Medium —

#### GLADYS OSBORNE LEONARD

*Sir Oliver Lodge Has Returned — and the Society for Psychical Research, Famed for its Cold-blooded Attitude to Survival, Has Published the Evidence!*

By

MAURICE BARBANELL

No, he has not yet revealed the cryptic message, a sealed copy of which is stored in the S.P.R. safe. For that, skeptics must still wait.

Instead, he has given what the S.P.R. describes as a "discourse." Even before giving that he waited for four years, he says, "so that I could be sure to my own satisfaction that I am giving you the correct deductions, that I am giving you facts founded on the observations I have made since my transition."

Sir Oliver returned at a dramatic seance where his coming was not expected. He gave evidence of his identity and occasionally his own voice was "clearly heard in a strong whisper, which sounded as if originating from a little distance in front of the medium."

The discourse describes life as he has found it in the spirit world since his passing in August, 1910.

The medium through whom he returned is Gladys Osborne Leonard, the same medium who had furnished him with some of his greatest proof of Survival when he was on earth. His son, Raymond, gave Sir Oliver convincing evidence through her mediumship. It was the publication of Lodge's book dealing with this evidence from his son killed in the last war that attracted world-wide attention. Mrs. Leonard became known as "Sir Oliver Lodge's medium."

Drayton Thomas Says:

The man to whom he returned is the Rev. C. Drayton Thomas, the Methodist minister who has devoted years to expounding Spiritualism—he was given permission by the Methodist Church to inquire into our case — and has written many books describing proofs of life after death, mainly obtained through Mrs. Leonard's mediumship. His father is a regular spirit communicator.

A special number of its "Journal" was published by the S.P.R. In it Drayton Thomas gives a verbatim account of what was said in this remarkable seance, interspersed with comments by the minister to show how characteristic were Lodge's statements from the spirit world.

Feda, the medium's guide, transmitted Sir Oliver's typical comments, but sometimes these were

given in the first person as the scientist succeeded in obtaining almost direct control.

Drayton Thomas has made a comprehensive and penetrating analysis of the seance showing that it bears the hall-mark of authenticity. Summing up the evidence, he says that the strongest part of it he is unable to share with others. He writes:

"It is the convincing impression of Sir Oliver's presence and personality which I felt while listening to this discourse. It was as if the years had rolled back and I was again hearing Sir Oliver broadcast, as he did on an occasion not long before his death. Here, once more, was the deliberate, impressive manner; the distinctive vocalization, the little pauses and repetitions; the sense of presence."

Messages for His Family

Feda begins this remarkable seance on April 20, 1944, by referring to Lodge's presence and continues:

"He says, I wanted to come before, but I felt it was not worth while until I had progressed in some of my studies and arrived at certain conclusions. He thinks that there is nothing very remarkable in them, but perhaps coming from me, he says, it may interest you and carry a certain amount of weight."

Then came messages for his family, including the following, which is quoted on account of the comment by Brodie Lodge, his son:

"Will you tell Brodie . . . I would like to tell his wife that she was perfectly correct when she thought that I was standing beside her. She thought that she felt me there and that I was impressing her, not about any specific thing but in a general way . . . She was very much aware of me, and I would like her to know that she did not imagine that I was there. It was some time recently and was in the daytime, quite recently. She had been, or was, in the garden. I have an impression that I sensed plants and I think she was examining or taking some special interest in plants at the time."

Brodie Lodge writes of this message: "So much is known to Mrs. Leonard about the family that the best evidence in these messages is about my wife who recollects very well the episode in the gar-

den and her sensations on that occasion. She was weeding hard and very conscious at the time of my father's personality and power. That was one day last week."

Spirit Rejuvenation

Feda continues: "He wanted you to know that now he has gone back a considerable number of years, and that he found no difficulty in so doing. He says, I think you might say that I have knocked off about 30 to 35 years. The processes of rejuvenation have been very easy. I don't think they are to all people, but they have been very easy to me.

"They seemed to me, in my own case, to be more automatic than voluntary.

"Now this body, this body in which one finds oneself after death — huh! — this body is indeed a body. It seems to be very much more a body, a material body, than I had supposed would be possible. The status, he says, the make-up, let us call it, of this body seems to be ready-made; that is, you see, we have made it during our earth life; and I feel that there is a considerable difference in the content or make-up of each body.

"I see great differences in the grades and qualities of different individuals on this plane.

"I am going to call it the *spirit body*: I am not going to call it the *etheric* body or the *astral* body. I would say that the condition of the spirit body is governed voluntarily during the earth life and automatically after passing. The process seems beyond our control now. This is a big, a very big subject." Thomas.

Try To Learn

"The process is more automatic after death than it is during what we call life on the earth. It is more within our power to bend, to shape, to govern that spirit body during our earth lives than it is after. That is why it behoves us to have some knowledge, some working knowledge, even of a simple and elementary kind, about these matters.

"We do make, we create in a way, the quality, the strength, the power of our spirit body during our earth lives. We pass into it, the body that we made, and it is there, and, believe me, it is more difficult to shape it and alter it after than it is during the earth life.

"Now I feel that what I am saying and what I may say to you on different occasions may arouse a certain amount of controversy, but I must give you my impressions, my deductions, the result of my observations, as they have come to me.

"And this opportunity, for which I have been waiting a considerable time—well, I have delayed making it so that I could be sure to

SHE WAS LODGE'S MEDIUM



Psychic Observer

This is GLADYS OSBORNE LEONARD, noted trance medium, whose principal spirit collaborator is FEDA. The picture above was taken at Normanton House on the Lodge estate, Lake, eight miles from Salisbury, England.

my own satisfaction that I am giving you the correct deductions, that I am giving you facts founded on the observations I have made since my transition.

Reason For Delay

"Now, during the earth life I kept an open mind about this vexed question of what is called reincarnation. I kept an open mind about it. I didn't know, I didn't know. How could I know? I had no memory of previous lives.

"As far as I remember I was not told anything very definite about them as to whether I had, or had not, had any. But my wife had certain experiences and certain communications, I believe, a great many years ago, which interested her: but I let them be.

"There were other problems, questions of a vital character, that needed my attention. I let it be till I knew.

"Well, now I know that it is a fact. It is true, therefore I must state it as true, that, according to my personal experience, it is true; and I have had many talks with my friend Myers (F. W. H. Myers, the classical scholar and Spiritualist) about it. I have asked him why he did not tell me more about it, especially during my many sittings with Feda.

"He said that he thought at times the medium had had an aversion to the idea. I think that has made a certain barrier, and possibly also she was acting in what I might call a conscientious sense about it, and was anxious that I should get what she felt was right and founded on what she calls fact.

"She was uncertain about it herself, though there was a certain amount of imagination and what she calls rubbish talked about it, and I think that that built up a barrier.

The New Body

"This body, this spirit body, is unable to adapt itself completely, in complete harmony, complete unity, and therefore happily with the conditions of this side until it is perfected, let us call it, to a certain extent, until it has had certain experiences and benefited by

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

## NEW YEAR'S Call To COURAGE

You Are in Possession of  
Something Wonderful  
(LIFE) although you  
May Lack All Else.

By DORTCH CAMPBELL

WAIT not for New Year to find your new era. Each day is fresh from the hands of God. Each day is a call to courage and action. It is a holy day, a part of your real self and of life, made by God to create with.

But since you have failed so much, start again with this new day of your New Year. Break the crust of yesteryear's fear and ignorance. Pile your days on days. If you have hitherto gained nothing, if you have failed in all things, you can at least know the joy of being alive, and that is what each new day of each New Year is made for—to feel the joy of being alive!

"I press on," said the apostle Paul.

In this same sense Columbus searched for America. Thus inspired Edison labored by night and by day through long years for the secret of incandescence. To press on is the universal panacea for every problem that afflicts mankind.

Landone's Passing

Understand this literally. For I am persuaded that if a man will go on with the business of life with a song in his heart, never harking back to the old years, that man will solve each problem as it arises, renew himself, transform his body, change his circumstances.

"I press on" was the keynote of the times and seasons of that remarkable man Brown Landone, who passed on to a more sublime world of work but recently at ninety-eight and seven months.

Brown Landone, years before his passing, was told by physicians on several occasions that he was dying. He smiled back at them with that sweet smile that made the heart glow, and he arose from his sick bed and went on and gave to mankind a new understanding of life and a glimpse here and there of a new religion.

Millions Faced Realities

You remain poignantly aware of the dark days and turbulent times through which the world recently has passed and but lately has got rid of. Why that deep, calm, philosophic peace that now hangs like the Star of Bethlehem above us? It is because the world in the midst of travail went along with life.

Millions in those days faced stark realities of sacrifice and deprivation. They stared eye-to-eye at mutilation and death. Their sufferings remind one of those of the early Christians. But the mil-

(Continued on Page 12, Col. 1)

# HOW EXPLAIN the GENIUS?

Here is a question psychologists have striven fruitlessly to answer. Perhaps only the Occultist can throw real light on it.

By  
**C. WHITAKER-WILSON**

I am making an attempt to account for a condition of mind that can produce a constant stream of brainwaves of a high order—genius, in other words.

The attempt is admittedly disordered, but that is because I am merely recalling incidents and facts about the great masters in music (they make excellent examples) which have remained in my mind ever since I first knew about them.

I do not want to look upon anything for what I write here; that will mean I shall have to try to account for anything I find. Which is exactly what I do not want to do. I want only to write about what I know to be a fact, and upon which I have long since formed opinions.

Genius—to me—is the result of a highly organized brain that lends itself completely to spiritual control, whether the human actually be aware of it or not. That is to say, whether he be clairvoyant, clairaudient, or neither. It is difficult to believe that a great composer is not clairaudient because his music comes to him through his mental ear; in other words, his ability to hear in his mind what he sees written on paper without the aid of an instrumental or vocal performance to help him.

## 5½ Year Old Genius

Anyone who learns harmony and counterpoint must get that faculty sooner or later, even though he may be far removed from a genius. Still, for my purpose, it will do to say that genius is something not altogether of this world. My examples will, I fear come in any order—but that may not detract from their interest.

I imagine most musical readers will agree with me that Mozart was the one outstanding genius so far as absolute pure genius is concerned. He began his career at three. So sensitive was his brain that he fainted the first time he heard a trumpet. He played on a violin in the most remarkable manner at five after a few min-

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(P-181)

## LEST WE FORGET HIM



Psychic Observer  
**GEORGE BARLETT CUTTER**

The Spiritualist Medium, who, during his lifetime, did more than anyone else to immortalize the song, "Only a Thin Veil Between Us."

(Perhaps real genius is always pure and simple?) Naturally he influenced those who followed him.

Beethoven owed something to him even though it may not have been by direct spiritual contact. So long as Beethoven's own guides directed his thoughts towards Mozart's works, musical hereditary would be established.

### Bach and Handel

Beethoven was conscious of strong influences all his life; the strange part is that he missed things on his death-bed. He declared all he had done thus far was a prelude to what he was about to do—but the end came soon afterwards, a fact he did not recognize until almost the last moment.

The deafness from which he suffered—he was stone deaf for twenty years—made of him a recluse; but he increased his powers of composition enormously after deafness had set in—probably because he had to depend entirely upon his mental ear for the sounds he produced on paper.

Bach and Handel were more unfortunate still; both became blind. They were blinded by the same incompetent surgeon, as a matter of fact. Something of a professional record! But, in their case, blindness—how could it be otherwise?—slowed down their output. Composition by dictation is always a slow process. It is amazing how much Delius got through by that means. He, too, was blind.

There are charming and even pathetic evidences of one composer being guided by another—either direct, or at least by influences in sympathy. The finding of Schubert's great symphony in C major by Schumann, gives one to think a little. Schumann had been deeply shocked at Schubert's death at 31, and went to Vienna with the direct purpose of trying to collect together some of his works.

### Composers Influence Each Other

He found the originals dispersed all over the town. The most unexpected people brought him manuscripts. While he was glad to accept these, he looked for the bigger works in person. He searched all one day and found quite a fair quantity, but just as he was about to leave he had a strong feeling there was something he had missed.

He routed at the back of a large cupboard and pulled out a heavy parcel, inches thick in dust. "One of the operas," was his thought. He beat the dust out of the parcel and subsided into a chair to examine his find. He opened his eyes very wide as he read rapidly through the closely-written manuscript. He had always loved Schubert's music, but had never imagined him capable of so great a work as this.

His eyes filled with tears as he thought of poor Schubert—gone

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 4)

## Only A Thin Veil Between Us Spiritualism's Favorite Song

### Editor's Note:

The late GEORGE B. CUTTER, noted American clairaudient medium, was directly responsible for making this song popular among the Spiritualists. For over twenty years, 1920 to 1940, he can be remembered playing and singing this song at the beginning of church and camp-meeting services throughout the country. It was his favorite. Those who attended Cutter's classes at Spiritualist camps can visualize him now—playing the piano and singing at the top of his voice "ONLY A THIN VEIL BETWEEN US."

The words and music were first made famous by MME. WILHELMINA WRIGHT CALVERT. The music is written for song or duet with Pianoforte Accompaniment; the author is PROF. C. PAYSON LONGLEY, famous Spiritualist and medium of his day.

### HERE ARE THE WORDS

1

Only a thin veil between us,  
My loved ones so precious and true,  
Only as mist before sunrise,  
I am hidden away from your view.  
Often I come with my blessing,  
And strive all your sorrows to share,  
At night when you're quietly sleeping,  
I kiss your eyelids in prayer.

2

Only a thin veil between us,  
Not many long years will it stay,  
'Tis growing more fleecy and golden  
As earth-life with you fades away.  
And when you are thinking so sadly  
Of days all so joyous and free,  
It is then I am nearest my darling,  
And I bring sweetest comfort to thee.

3

Only a thin veil between us,  
Oh! can you not see me just now?  
I bring you a crown of rare flowers,  
With which to encircle your brow.  
So long have I waited to greet thee,  
And tell of the joys that are mine,  
Be true and be faithful to duty,  
And my home in its beauty is thine.

### REFRAIN

Only a thin veil between us,  
Some morning the angels will come,  
And then in a bright land of beauty,  
We'll gather with loved ones at home.  
Home, beautiful home,  
No longer is sadness to roam,  
But safe in the kingdom of glory,  
We'll dwell with our loved ones at home.

The sheet music, with the words, of "Only a Thin Veil Between Us" can be purchased from Dale News, Inc., Lily Dale, N. Y. (\$1.00 per copy.)

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(P-177)

# MEDIUMSHIP Is HEREDITARY

Early Prosecutions Were  
Disastrous To Truth  
—and To Science

By PAUL R. LOMAXE

Dr. Gustave Geley was Laureat (first prizeman) of the Faculty of Medicine at Paris and he was at one time House Surgeon of the Hospital of Lyons, France. He later became the Director of the International Metapsychic Institute of Paris, and he did a great deal of research in psychic phenomena in that capacity.

Much of his work was done at the Institute in Paris, although he never hesitated to visit other countries to investigate persons with remarkable psychic qualities.

He was acquainted with nearly all of the intelligent, reputable and high-minded people of Europe who were interested in psychic phenomena—such as Sir Oliver Lodge; Camille Flammarion, the French astronomer; Mme. Curie of radium fame; Charles Richet, Professor of Psychology at the University of Paris; Baron Albert von Schrenck-Notzing, M.D. of Munich; Mme. Juliette Bisson of Paris and others who often joined him in his investigations.

"Clairvoyance & Materialization"

In addition to his other qualities, he possessed great common sense, which is often lacking in brilliant men.

He often went to Poland to investigate some of the remarkable mediums residing there. He writes in his *Clairvoyance and Materialization*:

"Mediumship is hereditary. I have found this to be the case with all the powerful mediums that I have studied—both clairvoyants and those capable of ectoplasmic phenomena. Sometimes this heredity is direct, sometimes it appears in ancestors or collaterals; but it is always there, so clearly as to be undeniable.

"Mediumship may therefore be described as an hereditary gift conditioned by a tendency to decentralization of the constituent psychological factors of the medium.

"This notion of the hereditary nature of the gift allows us, in some measure, to understand why mediumship is so rare in the Western nations. I have heard this often maintained in Poland. Poles say that the Inquisition and legal proceedings against sorcery have very nearly extinguished the race of mediums in Western Europe.

Psychic Families

"Among the thousands of persons condemned at the stake during many centuries, the majority were victims of hysteria, along with a considerable number of real mediums. . . Subjective (mental) mediumship escaped destruction to some extent; but objective (physical) mediumship, being more easily discerned and more striking in its manifestations, would seem to have been nearly extirpated.

"From this point of view the work of the Inquisition and prosecutions for sorcery, instituted for other ends, must have had important consequences, disastrous alike to science and to truth."

Anyone who has read psychic literature extensively may recollect families which were psychic. To mention a few:

Kate Fox, her son and two sis-

ters, of Hydesville, N. Y.

Florence Cook, the medium whom Sir William Crookes investigated so thoroughly, and her two sisters.

Judge Edmonds of the New York Court of Appeals, his daughter, Laura, and his niece.

Helen and Gertrude Berry, sisters, of Boston.

Stephen Ossowiecki, the powerful Polish medium and his grandmother, his mother and brother.

Frank Kluski of Warsaw, his father and his paternal uncle, a Catholic priest.

"Suffer a Witch To Live"

The African ancestors of the Negroes in America were not decimated in compliance with the Biblical command: *Thou shalt not allow a witch to live.* (Exodus 22:18.) That, no doubt, is the reason why there are more mediumistic persons among the Negroes, per capita, in the United States than among the remainder of the population.

The ancestors of the American colonists were nearly all from Western Europe, and they suffered the ecclesiastical homicides at the hands of the misguided followers of Him who said, *Love thy neighbor as thyself.* (Matthew 22:39.)

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## THE ART OF COMMUNION

By OLGA A. TILDES



This book is a real contribution to the field of psychic research. It presents a new slant on the nature and use of psychic power and knowledge. It indicates how the *Art of Communion between Both Worlds*, based on the Law of the Rhythm of the Universe, has found expression in the works of Shakespeare, Raphael, Tennyson, Beethoven, Victor Herbert, and other creative geniuses. It teaches how God works with mortals and how mortals can better work with God through the Angel World and the Law of Love.

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## Why Terhune Wrote: (★) "ACROSS THE LINE"

On several occasions, the editors of *Psychic Observer* have interviewed Anice Terhune, wife of Albert Payson Terhune, famous author. When asked how she happened to write the book "Across the Line," Mrs. Terhune replied that she had to do it to fulfill a promise to her late husband who said: "If you love me, give written proof of my actual living to everyone we know." Ed.

"ACROSS THE LINE" was actually written by Albert Payson Terhune, who from the spirit side of life, was able to transmit his message to the world through the instrumentality of his wife, Anice. The letter below, written to Juliette Ewing Pressing by Mrs. Terhune, describes in detail the circumstances not only prior to the publication of the book but also after its release, as well as her reasons for presenting it to the public at this time.

### HERE IS MRS. TERHUNE'S LETTER

Juliette Ewing Pressing,  
Editor of *Psychic Observer*,  
Lily Dale, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Pressing:

May I tell you of the wonderful response to my husband's book *Across the Line*? Its recognition has been instant and overwhelming. The first edition is already completely sold out and the publishers are working frantically to get a second edition ready.

At Brentano's in New York, they told me "It's the one book everybody wants." And at Scribner's they said they had already re-ordered three times. It is truly amazing, for there was purposely no advance advertising of the book. The publishers and I felt that it should stand on its own feet. It did!

The marvelous way in which it became, overnight, a best seller tells its own story. It proves that *Across the Line* has a message that a sorrow-laden world has been hungering for. It proves also that man is fundamentally good, that Faith is not dead, and that the world is ready to receive any truth that may help one to live a better and more useful life.

I am literally snowed under by the letters that come to me daily through every mail, testifying to the hope, the happiness, the comfort and inspiration my husband's book brings to each reader.

They believe in his messages because they knew him already, through his books. They trust him because he was, while on earth, the friend of men and beast alike. They know his glorious message is true because it is he who gives it to them; because the man whom they knew and whose books they loved has come back as their friend to tell them about the *New Country*; and because he who was, as the world puts it *dead* testifies joyously that he is *more alive than ever*.

I will confess now that it took all the courage I had to surrender to the world this beautiful book, made up of my husband's personal messages to me; but I had to do it for he said, *If you love me, give written proof of my actual living to everyone we know*, and this was the only possible way.

I knew that many, many people would believe and he helped and comforted by the book, but I shrank from the criticism of those who might not believe; who might not understand; who might speak slightly of my husband's wonderful words.

I needn't have worried! I needn't have been frightened! Not one word of any adverse criticism has come to me! It is all unbelievably beautiful! I can only say I am humbly grateful for the privilege that is mine of bringing peace and happiness to so many through my husband's words of enlightenment. The world seems so very, very near heaven nowadays!

Most sincerely yours,

ANICE TERHUNE,

Sunnybank, Pompton Lakes, N. J.

(\*) "ACROSS THE LINE" (\$2.00) DALE NEWS, INC.

## The Great Chopin

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 3)

ten years now—who had never heard a bar of the work performed. He saw Ferdinand Schubert and asked permission to take the score to Mendelssohn to perform at the Gewandhaus concerts in Leipzig—and always maintained he was led by someone to make that discovery.

*Mendelssohn's Case*

Sir George Grove had a similar experience searching for the now popular *Rosamunde* ballet-music. He eventually found a parcel two

feet high containing music books that had been tied up ever since 1823. They were the score and parts of the *Rosamunde* music, which may now be heard in every cafe in London.

Mendelssohn is a case, I imagine, of more or less direct influence by one composer over another. In the music of Mendelssohn lives the spirit of John Sebastian Bach.

Nobody recognized the spiritual relationship between Bach and Mendelssohn more than Claude Debussy, who I knew many years ago. He said that what he did not owe to one he owed to the other. And yet unthinking people would see the influence of neither in Debussy's music. But it is there, whether people see it or not

*Schumann's Clairaudience*

Mendelssohn lived one of the happiest lives of all the great masters in music; the others, it seems to me, found their genius productive of much sadness. Schumann was a good example. He was highly intuitive—possibly clairaudient—and certainly fatalistic.

Most of these great men suffered. Neither is it surprising. The high tension of their minds, through which an endless stream of melody and harmony was always pouring, was bound to give way to periodic slackening and inevitable depression.

One has only to look back to the days of Bach and Handel, and trace the influences that have since brought about the development of the great art of music, to realize that genius is not entirely of this world. Indeed, my surprise is that any of it is.

The same thing applies to the genius that interprets only. Vladimir de Pachmann, easily the greatest pianist of all time (even though he devoted his main efforts to producing Chopin's music only) was a man to whom one could not talk *except* about Chopin. When he answered a question he gave the impression it was Chopin speaking. He was eccentric to a degree, but he knew what he was talking about.

*Great Pianist's Inspiration*

I learned all I know about Chopin from Pachmann, but it was always with the impression that I was getting first-hand news. Having known Pachmann, I really feel I have met Chopin, though I must admit that two more dissimilar people to look at could not well be conceived. Chopin had charm; Pachmann had no charm and did not pretend to have any.

All he desired anyone to know was *what Chopin would have said*. He never spoke—at least, not in my hearing—to any other effect. I never went so far as to question him closely—but it was not necessary. He spoke with Chopin's mind—and he played his works as Chopin himself could never have played them.

Strange thing, genius! Perhaps I am wrong in my theories about it—but all I can add to what I have said is that I have met a few—only a few, of course—of the world's geniuses, and my impression has been the same every time. *There is someone else behind it all*. As often as not, I have fancied I know who it was. But, there again, one can never be *quite* sure.

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# Lodge Returns

(Continued from Page 9, Col. 1)

them. And, believe me, these experiences have to be all round.

"They have to be varied, and I think that there are few people who can get the sufficiently varied experiences and tests in one incarnation that will enable them to stay permanently on this side.

"They have to come back until the spirit body is built up. In other words, this body has to be made, it has got to be created. The spirit is there, but the spirit body has to be made like the garment clothing the spirit. And this garment takes a long time in the making, a long time.

"People can say what they like, but it is an extremely difficult task to adjust oneself perfectly to the conditions on this side: that is to say, if you are going to use your powers to their full extent, if you are going to avail yourself of the opportunities that are there.

"Now I would say that the average individual is only able to avail himself of ten per cent of the opportunities that should be open to him.

## Identity Always Remains

"And of course should he live such a life—that is to say, a ten per cent life, let us call it, he stagnates. You cannot stagnate on this side. You can stagnate more easily and comfortably on the earth, but here you would lose identity, and that cannot be allowed.

"You lose what progress you have made, you lose your ten per cent if you stay too long in that status of stagnation that you would undoubtedly fall into, drift into, without the weapons on which to sharpen your spiritual faculties.

"Thomas, do you see? You haven't the weapons here. You haven't the machinery here. You have got to go back to the earth to have them at your command again. You must. You get a certain amount of help on this side, but nothing is done for you that you must do and should do for yourself. Your father tells me he has always made that plain to you.

"But when it comes to the point, when it is seen that this person must come back, help is given.

"In other words, his education is taken in hand by those who are competent to deal with him, and he is told, as a child would be told, in what way he has to learn certain lessons and what other lessons there are in which he has failed, or which he must learn, and which he must go back into the school of life to learn.

## Spirit Instruction

"The testing ground, the school, as Myers always called it to me in communications with him, the school, the testing-ground, the earth. And with that amount of understanding which is alive in him he can use it; he can use it because he is aware that others are doing things he cannot do.

"He is aware of it. He looks up and he sees those who have, let us say, grown wings, those who can soar, those who can have adventures and experiences of a remarkably interesting kind from which he is debarred. He feels weighted.

"Now that embraces it all to me. He knows there is something wrong, and he usually acquiesces in the suggestion that he should volunteer to go back. And, if he is willing, he has the advantage of

being taught and prepared to a certain extent for his next experience.

"He is taken in hand, and he is instructed in the things in which he is lacking. At least he is told what they are, broadly speaking, and he is told that these same instructors will watch over him when he comes back to the earth, and that, if he should be willing and attain a sense of unity with them, believe in them, he will find himself in touch with these same leaders.

## Scientist Pokes Fun

"He will probably be introduced to them should he have the good fortune, or the misfortune ('He's looking naughty!' commented Fedda) to become interested in psychic research. He will most probably have them introduced to him as the guides. I remember hearing far too much about the guides at several of my earlier sittings.



Lady LODGE

"In fact, I was rather bored with the guides. But now I understand; I have met them and I have recognized them as old-time friends, and I appreciate their faithfulness and patience with me.

"Now there is nothing whatever, as far as I can see, in the facts regarding physical incarnation and the ordinary processes of physical evolution as science has understood them that need contradict the foregoing. The physical processes by which man has evolved are not interfered with.

"He evolved, he reached a certain stage before he began to reincarnate. I feel the time will come when science will embrace so much more of what we have called the metaphysical, when science will find itself incomplete

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without a union with metaphysical truths, metaphysical knowledge.

"It must be so. There must be a true science of spirit, mind and physical. We cannot separate them; not one of the three can do without the others. That has been our trouble, Thomas. We have tried to monopolize one and concentrate on one and cut off the other two.

## Immortal Process

"Usually we allow the two, the physical and the mental. We cut out the third, the spiritual, for the purpose of what we call scientific investigation and scientific truth.

"It cannot be done. It is not complete. Even those who are convinced that they are right in doing so much see that there are cer-



Psychic Observer

This is Lodge's son, RAYMOND, who was able to communicate with his illustrious father on many occasions, through the trance mediumship of Gladys Osborne Leonard in collaboration with her famous spirit control, FEDDA.

tain conditions, certain facts, that evade them, certain questions, certain problems they cannot resolve.

"While they limit themselves to these two the processes of life cannot be solved in their entirety. We may evolve certain short-lived automatic processes, but we have not that eternal memory, that immortal process of life which comes from God.

"We cannot make it our own, we cannot bring it down into the grossly material and divorce it from the spiritual, from its spiritual origin. We must learn the laws, the spiritual laws, the divine laws, and co-operate with them. Then there will be more hope for us: there will be a greater perfection in whatever we do or try to do with regard to the other two.

"I am glad—if I may be allowed to be personal—I have every reason to be extremely thankful that I allowed myself to be led from the material through the mental to the spiritual.

"I know there were those who railed at me, thought I had a bee in my bonnet and so forth, but I had a firm conviction that there was a Being, an intelligent and beneficent Being above and beyond and in all things, and that we could not do without Him, and that, if there were things in which we felt we did not want Him, those things were not good.

## "Kept God In My Life"

"I wanted to let them alone. But if there were things in which I felt He could co-operate or would wish to co-operate, I felt eager to do those things. I kept God in my life and in my plans and in my ideas, and I have every reason to be thankful that I did so.

"It gave me—if I may put it so at the risk of sounding somewhat self-complacent—it gave me a great advantage in my personal conditions, and in my ability to do that which I felt inclined to do and wished to do; a greater interest in the life into which I had recently come, a greater ability to enjoy the companionship of others who had been here longer than I, a greater zest for living; my faculties seemed remarkably keen and clear.

"I contrast my condition with the conditions of some people, people who have lived a long life on the earth, people who have attained a certain amount of eminence in their professions or their work, their lives generally, yet who come over here and seem at such a disadvantage, who come over here and have to crawl, vir-

tually crawl, whereas one can oneself walk and run and leap.

"I was overcome with the joy of life; and I see those others, poor creatures! coming over from what they would call material success on the earth and feeling, well, at a great disadvantage. And those are the people, the only people, who wish to return to the earth.

## Man's Two Bodies

"I don't like to stress the fact of my joy, my feeling of satisfaction that I had allowed myself to be guided in my natural inclinations towards, shall I say, spiritual knowledge, spiritual thought, that I had allowed myself to be guided to that knowledge which was augmented by my friend Myers and others while I was on the earth. I felt the deepest satisfaction that I had done so.

"Now to come back to this spirit body. The earth body we know. The earth body is a covering made up of certain constituents. We know so much. We know it is composed of certain chemical processes and dependent to some extent on the substance called the ether, and that this body, this physical body, has only a temporary existence in the nature of

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4)

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# LODGE RETURNS

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 5)

things; as we understand them at present it can only have a temporary existence.

"The will of man can only help him to live, the understanding can only help him to live, no matter what it is, a certain number of years, more or less, more than another man, more than his next-door neighbor or less, according to his habits and so forth.

"But this other body, this spirit body, it is within the power and the will of man to create and to shape so that it will have immortal and eternal existence after the death of the physical, after man has made it sufficiently harmonious to its spiritual conditions and surroundings, that is to say, those into which it will enter after death.

"If he is able to do that, it is not incumbent upon him to enter into another physical body at some later period and go through the same processes. It is not necessary. But most people find it necessary. Some at a very low ebb are compelled to come back—at least, I don't want to say that word compelled, but they come back automatically.

"When I say compelled I think I mean there is no choice in the matter. They have to go back. They are drawn back. It is the spirit within them knows it must go back. There is an attraction for it to the earth to continue its progress or attempt at progress.

## The Divine Spark

"There is always that that we call, for want of a better term, the divine spark, that animates us automatically. We may commit crimes, we may sink into a slough of ignorance, and we may think there is no hope for us, we have got beyond hope.

"But the divine spark within us is alive, we cannot kill it. We can suppress it and keep it down, we can damp it so much we are scarcely aware of it, but it is there, and it is, as I say, alive, and that which is alive animates, as you know.

"It has the extreme—let me call it extreme for want of another term—the extreme energy within itself. It is energy, divine energy. Small as it is, buried as it is, it is bursting with divine energy, the need to express itself.

"Feda will remember that I used to say, and your father has often talked to me about it, that human beings were bits struck off the Rock of Life, and that some God might wish to be struck off, and some were struck off wantonly, but they had become human individual egos and the divine spark therefore enthroned in each piece that was struck off the Rock of Life.

## Rock of Life

"You can't strike a piece off, chip a piece off the Rock of Life but it has to be animated; the animation is there, in every infinitesimal piece that you strike off.

"The congestion of the undesirable is opposed to the perfection of the material which is already there in its process of evolution. Well, it is this spark which is always calling men back to God, back to the Rock, back to that from which it has sprung.

"It is always inciting man to do this or that or the other that they may bring his efforts in train, in harmony with that divine source from which it springs. And it does it. Probably that is the good

angel who tapped on one's shoulder.

"Now this being so it is something man will eventually attain to, the state in which he can continue his life, his progress, his evolution on our plane, the plane on which I exist now.

"But it may take him some considerable time, and I think that we could, in modern language, speed up the evolution of man if we let him know why he must evolve and the trouble he will save himself if he chooses to endeavor to do this.

## Death Misunderstood

"These two bodies are his here and now. They are in his possession; they are, you might say, or can be, the servants of his will, the clay to the potter.

"He will know it is worth while endeavoring to take not only himself, as he calls this limited physical body, in hand, but to take his two selves, as he might call them, in hand and perfect them so that he has a second body, his spirit body, ready perfect to enter when the time of death comes which is so inevitable.

"It is inevitable. One cannot escape it. He knows that. But I think in present conditions, the conditions of ignorance of this subject, he ignores death as much as he can. He doesn't embrace the idea and examine it and try to understand its possibilities. He ignores it. It spells or seems to spell extinction to him, or something which is so vague, so incomprehensible to him that it dismays him.

"Now, if we can take away that fear and show him there is the other body, the spirit body, and that it is within his power now to shape it, strengthen it, so that he will thoroughly enjoy living in it from the moment in which his physical body collapses, then I think, Thomas, he will begin to see to it, or, shall I say a considerably greater number of people will see to it than do at present.

"I do wish to emphasize that point, that it is within man's power to perfect and shape his spirit body and to become more and more familiar with it as he does so.

## Can't Be Too Sure

"And I think he gets—I am not quite sure but I think, from what I have seen, that as he becomes familiar with it he may be able to enjoy certain excursions in it while he is still in his physical which will give him an appetite for more and an idea of what advantages

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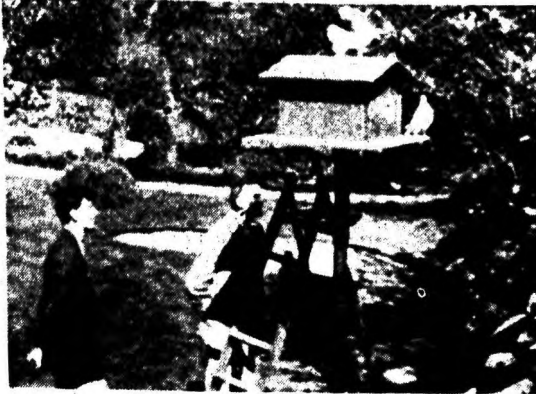
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## Lodge's Sons at Mariemont



The picture above, taken from "RAYMOND," Lodge's famous book, shows Brodie and Raymond in the garden at their estate, Mariemont, about 40 miles south of London, England. The picture was taken before the beginning of World War I.

and adventures will be his after death.

"Now this is also my own thought. I am not sure of this, but a deduction I have drawn, that the more people who are doing these things, who are studying and who are consciously and voluntarily following up the study of the spirit body, and who are therefore able to enjoy a certain amount of exercise in it, the more, the greater the number, the more it will grow.

## Do Not Split Up Life

"The more it will grow, because I think that these people will meet each other; one will inevitably meet one's neighbors, one's next-door neighbor, out of the body and there will be a sense of familiarity which will grow until the whole custom, the whole operation—let us call it custom and operation—will become a more familiar thing to us.

"When an individual escapes from his physical and visits our state, seeing and meeting en route people he knows, it is more difficult for him to remember what he has done, because those people with whom he communicates, with whom he fraternizes on the spirit side of life, generally seem to him to be part of his normal everyday life.

"We have split up life into two parts far too drastically. We have drawn a line, and we must gradually erase that line. We have talked about the spiritual life and the earth life or the physical life. The two are one and we must make them one again.

"There is no line, no line at all. Man has drawn a line and it must be erased, and it will take some time to erase it completely, but we must work towards that, the erasing of that man-made line, that man-made boundary. We must do that in the same way that we must erase national boundaries and limitations, racial ones.

## "Only One World"

"All these must go, and especially the boundary that we have quite unnecessarily erected between what we now call our two worlds, which are one.

"There is only one world and we must take down these barriers, these barriers of illusion that compelled us to think there must be two, because through our limitations and ignorance we are unable to look over the self-erected barrier, or to look through it. It must come down. It is your work, it is our work, to erase it, to take it down.

"We must make man understand that the spirit body is to a certain extent in his own power, his willpower, that he can do as he pleases with it, that it is even more at his mercy than his physical body is. He has thought of the spirit body, if he thought of it at all, as elusive, something that is beyond him.

"It is exactly the contrary. He is shaping and making that body every hour of his life. He is deal-

ing with it in every action and every thought, far more than he is doing with this physical body.

"This physical body, being temporary and being subject to certain inherited tendencies of thought, that can elude him. This physical body is not so much his as his spirit body is. His physical body belongs to the physical world. It has inherited instinctive powers which belong to it more than to the spirit body, which, in fact, have nothing whatever to do with the spirit body.

"You might say, if you like to call it so, the physical body has a mind, that is, it partakes of a great consciousness, of the great physical mind, the great physical consciousness which we call instinct.

"Separate them if you like and say that the mind, the other mind, the greater consciousness which is always with us, which we take with us after death, is the intuition; the one is the intuition, the other is the instinct.

"They are both forms of consciousness, but the one of which I am speaking now, of which his physical body partakes, has come from the physical and can only last while the physical lasts. It is very strong, and it has more power of its own than man has ever had, while he has complete control and complete power with—and I will call it over—his spirit body.

"It is that that we shall have some difficulty in ramming home to him, because he has thought of it as being exactly the opposite.

"It is wrong teaching, this physical consciousness, this physical instinct, is what is known as evil. We talk, many have talked, as you know, philosophers, teachers, thinkers generally, of the spirits of good and evil. Well, I haven't come across any devil yet, or saint either.

## Desire For Progress

"I haven't come across any embodiment of evil, but I look upon the purely physical instinct, or the great physical consciousness, which has existed down the ages as far as the history of man goes, as containing whatever evil there is in the universe, and that the spirit of

man, being pure, is separated from it.

"But the will of man, poised between the two states, can be affected by the evil thoughts, the mass-consciousness of the physical.

"There must be the intelligent desire for progress. And there must be the intelligent desire for personal effort to attain that progress. As soon as the will-power reacts to that desire, the spark helps.

## The Divine Spark

"Now that spark can be fanned into a flame. The will-power is the bellows that fans the divine spark into a flame from something which is so buried, so obscured that it is invisible—one cannot believe it is there.

"I am not sure myself that this something that we call will-power, which is possessed by every man and woman living, is not an offshoot, a sort of secondary spark from the divine spark. At any rate it is there. It is not something that man has to attain or to develop, it is there; but he can develop it further. He has the nucleus of it.

"Nothing is beyond man — that is my point. God has not set a standard for man to attain which it is not within his power to attain. Make that clear, Thomas!

(Continued on Page 12, Col. 5)

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# Havens For Spiritual Unfoldment The Home Circle

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J. Bronterre Tellow

A circle is a symbol of perfection. *Ralph Waldo Emerson* says, "It is the highest emblem in the cypher of the world." *St. Augustine* described the nature of God as a circle whose centre was everywhere and its circumference nowhere. It is sweet to live in these highlands of thought, and to feel the joyous atmosphere which is an every-day fact there.

The man or woman who does not occasionally put away these muddy vestments of time, and take a holiday on the highest, does not realise the greatness of common life. If God is not everywhere. He is nowhere.

You and I belong to God. He is "Our Father," and we are His children, and it is a good thing to be conscious of Him now and again. We can all do it if we want to, and if we do we shall reveal the fact in our speech, in our manners. We cannot keep good company without feeling a benefit and making others know it.

We Spiritualists believe in "circles." We also say "like attracts like." Do we ever fully realise the greatness of our belief? If God is a circle whose centre is everywhere, then He must be at "our circle." Do we ever fully realise that?

## Spirits Seek Mediums

Rather do we not regularly forget it, and content ourselves with dwelling on the lowlands of circumstances, and are ready to pollute our soul by cringing to the lowly needs of others.

A circle is a place where people congregate to hear something from over the *Great Divide*. Its completeness consists in medium, spirits, and audience. But as the medium needs to enter into the spirit to learn from the spirits, that he may impart information to his audience, his audience needs to be in unison with him if he is to succeed.

It will readily be perceived that one of the agencies to be in operation if success is to be attained is desire. Sometimes spirits seek a medium; oftener a medium must seek the spirits. To do this he must desire. The quality of the desire measures the condition of the message to be sent and the answer to be received.

As the audience are within the hoop, their desire also has its re-

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sults. Now, as a medium is the visible centre of the circle, and centre of its energies and powers, and as it is a law of gravity that all energy must come from the centre to the circumference, then the medium is the agency by which power can be governed and manifested.

The medium, then, by the nature of his desires, can lay down the conditions by which that circle shall be governed, and its results manifested. Like is attracted to like. The Fortune-telling element of a circle is governed by the desire of the medium.

The medium can elevate his audience by the desires of his heart and intellect. When he forgets that God is present, and Mammon is the purpose of the work to be done, then he will draw to himself according to his desires. As we are, so we draw unto us, and of ourselves we give unto others.

## Reason for Circles

Mediums are not without responsibilities in the performance of their work. They are for the moment the clock that regulates the time for others. If they have ideals, purpose, will, character, and a reputation to sustain, then they will seek such means as alone can be used to fulfill what they seek.

A circle is a place where facts are presented, and where, by the agency of those facts, convictions and conversions take place. What are the conversions you desire? Is it that you may be considered smart, clever, and above the average in the obtaining of those facts which appeal to the wonder element in human nature? You can have your reward.

We must, however, ask "What is the real nature of a circle?" Let us go to that first circle at the frame house in *Hydesville, N. Y.*, and we shall have an answer. It is to evidence the fact that life continues without the body, and can react upon us here to help us to unfold our life. Let that be the measure of our performance, and we shall not go so far astray.

Our method and work may sometimes be misunderstood by those who do not read our motive

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Communicates With Nephew



Psychic Observer  
**WILLIAM PRESSING**, Norwalk, Ohio, has, over a period of fifteen years, communicated from spirit-side of life with his nephew, R. G. Pressing. During earth-life, he knew nothing of Spiritualism but displays keen interest in the progress of Psychic Observer.

in our manifestations, but so long as the truth of a circle lies with us we shall make revelations to those whose natures are open for our message. Let us hitch our wagon to a star, and we need not have fear for consequences.

A circle may be made a centre of religious enthusiasm when the diviner side of our nature can be fed, and from whence can radiate influences of sweetness, sympathy, affection, and love. The indwelling holiness can find a response in the visitants from the other-world order. What place can be made more precious than a circle?

## What Is a Test?

It is because we do not make circles a place where reverence can find food by which it may grow into an every-day power in our lives that the sacredness of our faith is lost, and the religious souls who came to us hungry have gone away unfed.

The remedy lies with the mediums. The Movement of Spiritualism is dependent upon mediums. What an opportunity, what a vocation, what a message, revelation, reform, to help humanity to a higher purpose and life.

Circles cannot exist without influences, which become influences as they are absorbed into the medium. Anyone analyzing them at many of our "ladies only" meetings would find much that is not in any way desirable, but very much otherwise.

Some of it was crystallised into speech one day not long ago: "If I'd known I was not to get a test I wouldn't have come; I'd spent my quarter on bread." Better have done so. But what a revelation into the motives of the visitors.

No spiritual desires, no psychic unfoldment, no kinship with the next order of life, no knowledge of how mediumship is operated from the other side. No, a desire, a test, "anything will do, so long as it is spoken to me."

## Things Not To Forget

Many Spiritualists pride themselves upon their freedom from orthodoxy and the Church. Personally, it may count, but if our meeting-rooms could have some of that soul abandonment, that spiritual confidence, that impersonal spiritual strength which often overpowers your inner life when you go into those places, all of us would be the gainers, and nothing would be lost that is worth keeping.

In freeing ourselves from creed-alism we need to remember that here and now we are spirits—the self-same spirits that will be when this body of flesh has fallen away from us. The law of all life is unfoldment, awakening, growth. The character of our consciousness tells how far we are on the road to the *Summerland*, and what are the nature of our effluences. Let

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# A Psychic History of Religion VII.

This is the seventh in a series of articles written by one of America's leading ministers of the religion of Spiritualism.

Next Issue: "IN JUDEA" concludes this series.

## IN GREECE AND ROME

By

REV. M. McBRIDE PANTON

Minister for the Albertson Memorial Church of Spiritualism, Stamford, Connecticut



Initiation Into ORPHIC BROTHERHOOD

Initiations, similar to "The Orphic Brotherhood," changed the world's history -- influenced Pythagoras and Socrates and laid the real groundwork for Christianity.

As in the case of other primitive peoples, the Greeks and Romans at first conceived the spirits of the dead as wholly hostile to the living -- a belief which they only gradually grew out of. The dead also needed food and drink, at first.

The tombstone of Victor Fabianus reads, *Travelers who crown me and offer me flowers may find the gods propitious.* A little child asks its playmates to come to its grave, bring wine and pray that the earth may lie lightly upon it. Cicero quotes ancient laws *Keep soared the laws concerning the divine dead.*

In both Greece and Rome there was a sacred duty to be held toward burial or cremation of relatives, the later form of disposal being more favored in Greece than in Rome. So important were these rites that the laws of Solon enacted that if a father had hired his son out for vicious purposes, the son was absolved from the obligation to feed and shelter such a parent, but was required to perform the funeral rites.

Only such abominable sinners as traitors, temple robbers and suicides were refused funeral rites. Among the Romans, the unburied were conceived to wander about without a fixed abode, and hence were a menace to the living.

### Teachings of Zoroaster

Tertullian says in *De Anima*. *It was believed that the unburied did not descend to the world below before they had received their due.*

Quintilian remarks, *Even upon unknown dead we heap earth, and no one is ever in too great a hurry to honor an unburied body by putting earth, be it ever so little, upon it.*

In Homeric times the soul or breath is only an image of its former self, like smoke or shadow, and passes like air through the hands of those who try to seize it -- and for this reason the dead are unhappy. The poorest of earth was considered more fortunate than the highest of the shades.

But such gloom-ridden conceptions were not to live long. For the Greek had an inquiring mind that was highly analytical. And he came in contact with thought foreign to his own -- absorbed this thought, and that which seemed reasonable, he accepted.

Egypt, and Egyptian mysticism had its effect. Zoroastrianism also, but the most important of his contacts with foreign thought came from India. This combina-

tion, and a final at-one-ment with the divine.

This aim, in *Orphism*, was to be attained only by both moral and ceremonial purity, but the avoidance of sin, abstaining from meat and all animal food, and by the practicing of certain purifying rites. During the times between rebirths, the soul goes to Hades where the good are happy and the wicked in misery.

### Learned From the Magi

Pythagoras (582-500 B.C.) a contemporary of Buddha, founded an *Orphic Brotherhood* that spread to all parts of the Greek and Roman worlds. He was the son of a rich jewel merchant at Samos, and as a young man the lascivious and brutality of the court of Polycrates disgusted him.

One night he had a moment of mystic illumination, and because of it, determined to dedicate his life to search of God. This search took him to Asia, Babylon and Egypt -- and imprisonment for 12 years in Babylon where he learned from the Magi.

Escaped, he returned to Greece, settled in Croton and founded his brotherhood, a strict Orphic cult, and at the age of 90 was burned to death in his home by a jealous former disciple named Cylo. His order lasted 250 years and greatly influenced all Greek thought.

Heraclitus (535-475 B.C.) also fell under Orphic influence. He wrote, *The living and the dead, the waking and the sleeping, the young and the old are the same; for the latter when they have changed are the former, and the former when they have changed are the latter.*

### Socrates and Plato

Pindar (522-443 B.C.) taught the Orphic doctrines of reincarnation, retribution in Hades, and ultimate deliverance from the *Wheel of Rebirth*. As did Empedocles (490-430 B.C.), who also taught that in the last rebirth the soul becomes a prophet, poet, physician, or some other benefactor of mankind.

But it was Socrates and Plato (429-347 B.C.) who carried the doctrine of a future life to its highest development in the ancient world. They taught that the soul is eternal, uncreated substance that is temporarily imprisoned in the body where it is subject to the temptations of the world. If it overcomes these and realizes its nature of pure spirit, it then passes at death to fellowship and union with the gods. If it succumbs, it is born on earth again.

It is this doctrine of the eternal nature of the soul -- its immortality -- its indestructibility -- its essential divinity -- that had such a profound effect upon the future of the Western World.

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tion, with its inevitable modifications, had a telling effect upon the history of the Western world, and to a large extent shaped the course of Christianity and with Christianity, all of Europe and even our own America.

The Indian influence came into Greek life somewhere around 1,000 B.C. (some authorities hold for 1,300 B.C. -- others 600 B.C. Such is authority!)

Its expression in Greece was *Orphism*, so named after the personage of *Orpheus* -- a character so legendary that, despite the testimony of Pythagoras, Empedocles and Plato that he was a divine man, orthodox circles today do not permit a belief in his existence.

Whether Orpheus lived as a person or not, makes little difference. The content of Orphic thought is what is important. This thought has been inscribed upon eight gold tablets, six of which were found near Sybaris, one in Rome, and one in Crete. All of the tablets found in tombs of members of the Orphic brotherhoods -- and also inscribed upon the minds of the noblest thinkers of the ancient Greco-Roman World: Pythagoras, Heraclitus, Aeschylus, Pindar, Empedocles, Socrates and Plato as well as the neo-platonists.

### The Aim of Orphism

Orphism held that the human soul was divine, that it sprang from the source of all, and was upon a progressive journey toward that source. The physical body, according to Orphic thought, was the prison of the soul, and the soul must be born and born again in lower or higher forms of life according to the way it had lived in its most recent existence.

The aim of Orphism, as with Hinduism and Buddhism, is freedom from the circle (wheel) of necessity, the compulsion to be re-

What I Observe  
by  
R.G. Pressing



## Queen Victoria and Spirit Communication

MME. HELENE VACARESCO, maid of honor to the QUEEN OF ROMANIA, the charming CARMEN SYLVIA, relates her impression of QUEEN VICTORIA, and incidentally touches upon the belief in spirit communion so strongly held by the late sovereign. HER MAJESTY had been questioning MME. VACARESCO concerning her ideas in music and art, and presently remarked:

"How wide apart lie your ideals! I am so fond of music myself, and I love reading the biographies of the great musicians. They all have had such sad and thrilling experiences. I have till quite lately played on the piano, and even practiced whenever I found time enough to do so, because I ever remember the happy days when my darling husband opened the instrument himself and led me to the music stool, and then opened a book of MENDELSSOHN -- he loved MENDELSSOHN -- and pointed out the passages he wanted to hear.

"Now I am rather ashamed to play I am such an old woman. One day one of my youngest granddaughters caught me practicing and laughed outright. 'WHY, GRANDMA, HOW CAN YOU PRACTICE NOW, AND WHAT FOR?' Her remark struck me. . . I left off playing for some time. But then, you see, my dear husband taught me to love all things beautiful and good -- I learnt to seek them for his sake -- now I return to them often in memory of him.

"You cannot guess to what extent my life is interwoven with the life of the dead. I only feel alive when in close communion with the dead. My prayers lead me toward them. Their spirits and their power guide me. I am sure that the dead we have loved pray constantly in favor of the living."

"I then took occasion to relate to Her Majesty how tender and true was the love which the villagers in ROMANIA bestow on their dead, and how many touching ceremonies and songs point out this particular trait of our national instincts.

"Further, the Queen said: 'I AM STUDYING HINDUSTANI JUST NOW. DON'T LAUGH -- I AM VERY OLD, BUT I HAVE ALWAYS LIVED UP TO A PRECEPT WHICH I ADVISE YOU TO REMEMBER: 'WE MUST ALWAYS LIVE AS IF WE WERE IMMORTAL.'"

"In my opinion," says MME. VACARESCO, "all the power and bliss of Queen Victoria's life and influence are explained by those words." With a quiet, melancholy smile she added: "THEN WILL DEATH COME TO US LIKE A RADIANT SURPRISE, A MOST WONDERFUL AND UNLOOKED-FOR BOON; THEN WILL THE JOY OF SEEING AGAIN THOSE WE HAVE LOVED BE MOST STARTLING AND COMPLETE."

## Jupiter and the Skeptic

A SKEPTIC who doubted the existence of the Gods once supplicated Jupiter to give him some Sign whereby he might be assured of their existence. So great was his unbelief that even when the God answered him out of a cloud he persuaded himself it might be only the working of his own Fancy.

Nevertheless, in reply to *Jove's* question as to what he desired, he begged that a tree might be uprooted by some unseen agency. And later there came a great gale, which tore from the ground a mighty Oak. But the Skeptic was still unsatisfied, for (said he) "after all, it was only the Wind."

So he begged to be shown another Phenomenon -- namely, that fire should come out of the ground. Soon afterwards a mighty eruption took place from a Volcanic Mountain, which the Skeptic was near enough to behold. Yet he was still discontented. There was nothing wonderful, he said, in a Volcano.

But being persistent, he prayed again, this time asking to be shown some great body suspended in space and upheld by nothing. Even as his petition finished, the moon rose over the hills, as for a sign. "True, it rests on nothing," he grumbled, as he watched it poised in the heavens, "but it is only the moon."

And thereupon there came a great clap of thunder from Olympus, following a flash of lightning which blinded the eyes of the Skeptic. And the Father of the Gods spoke from a cloud once more, saying, "Presumptuous wretch, if thou canst see nothing wonderful in the works of Nature thine eyes are useless to thee." And the Skeptic, now become a Believer, wandered sightless all his days.

David Gow

## Does Orthodoxy Lead To Purgatory?

Purgatory is not a place but a condition. The mind that is obsessed by Fear and Dread and is looking forward to some impending calamity like the judgment, or the sufferings of hell, is in reality in Purgatory here and now.

If a man forms or receives from any source a false and hurtful concept of the Divine character so that he fears or hates God, he is in Purgatory, whether in or out of the body. Purgatory is a condition of fear and torment induced by believing in the anger and vengeance of God. Once imbued with this fear he needs nothing more than the thought of death to produce a real Purgatory of suffering in his soul.

All preachers of an awful Judgment Day and of the wrath and vengeance of God are creating Purgatory in the minds of their hearers and putting them in a condition to realize the awful sufferings of that Ante-Chamber of Hell, where millions of victims of False Theology are suffering indescribable torment today.

B.-F. Austin

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(P-174)

## New Year's Call To Courage

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

lions no longer hate, nor blame others. Their dignity and calm are unmatched by the attitude of those who merely watched and waited. Theirs is serenity; we are restless and confused. They are happy just to live. Now they know in heart-of-hearts that immortality, the continuity of life, is God's greatest gift.

But that is not really all; for out of their misery came miraculous restoration of the injuries of life. In the years of turbulence terrible wounds quickly healed, malignant diseases disappeared, broken hearts were mended, all in spite of lack of care.

The lame, the halt and the blind came back to normal while the world rocked in chaos without benefit of clergy or medicine except that spark of faith, hope and love that springs supernal in the human breast. Again and again there has filtered out of the darkness and confusion stories of miraculous self-healing.

### Whence Came the Wonders?

From some vastly spiritual deep? Yes, but what the method? What the formula? Was it not because the faulty habitual methods of living were forgot? Surely, all the fetters of conscious and conventional thinking disappeared, and only the stark desire to live was theirs.

Those starvelings of fate pressed on to the ultimates, leaving the Soul free before God. A richer, deeper something had swept through them. It was life—life in the raw. They came close to their inheritance. It was rebirth!

Life feels like a fight, observes the glorious Will Durant.

What are you waiting for? What are you asking for? Is it not, most of all, to be clean, strong and devoted? The real lack of most persons is not in possessions but in character. Give me character and I will rule not only myself and my environment but all the world.

### Conquer False Worries

Solitary prayers of *The Master* were always a battle for strength and courage to go on. He prayed between the crushing labors of *Capernaum* and tours for the gospel. *The Master* went alone to pray when the storm of the *Pharisees'* wrath gathered. He prayed at *Gethsemane*. In that sublime Garden he found a battlefield. But all his life he lived battle.

*Paul's* life had a warrior aspect from the time he went down that lonely road to *Damascus* unto the destiny that led him back home to Rome. The *Apostle* did not pray, "God liberate me from prison," but his prayers were for fortitude to endure.

Let us make within our lives a prodigious battlefield upon which we shall conquer false worries, trivial anxieties and all the specters of the finite mind. May the aim be character. All else shall be added to us when we find that kingdom of heaven.

### Don't Waste God's Time

Ay, I am glad indeed that I have learned that life is a battlefield upon which field of glory we shall fight for strength and courage. All the chosen of the Lord were warriors upon the battlefields of peace, swinging into action, pressing on.

This going on with life is as great as our prayers—indeed the prayer of solitude is only half of it. *Spurgeon*, who prayed oft and

earnestly, understood this. Speaking of *Luther's* protracted seasons of prayer, he said: "I could not do it even if my eternity depended upon it. Besides, if I go to the bank with a check, why shall I wait loafing around the premises when I have got my money?"

God floods you with his light and love and life. Do you propose to loaf on God's time? Take the gifts he has given you out into the world.

### What Is Creativeness?

That which I would have you understand as you stand on the threshold of the *New Year* is that you are in possession of something wonderful men call life although you may lack all else. Even though you possess naught else save a *New Year* yours is the glory and the promise. Take that *New Year* and carve something beautiful with it.

You can really do this because each man or woman is an artist, a sculptor, a musician. The countless millions have creative skill. You can revel in beauty, thrill to music, feel the divine touch of an act of service. Each individual is planned by God to be an artist to paint something. And what is any art? Is it not joyous activity?

Creativeness is not merely emotional release but for the purpose of sustaining the movement of life. Traders in the jungle when the porters lag start them to singing. They know this releases hidden energy. Soldiers on the march are unafraid when they sing. Primitive minds chant away their pain. The mystical value of sound and movement is well known to seers and scientists. These things are not escape mechanisms. They constitute life on a higher level.

You should not live amid the wreckage of war and peace. Find that High Consciousness this *New Year* brings to you.

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## THIS CALIFORNIA EDIFICE TO BE DEDICATED JANUARY 6



Psychic Observer

The picture above, taken recently, is The Pyramid Church of Truth and Light, Inc., 326 South Atlantic Blvd., Alhambra, California. According to Rev. J. R. Kingham, business manager, this new edifice will be dedicated January sixth; the guest speaker will be Rev. A. M. Baxter.

Dedication services, afternoon and evening, will mark completion of four years spiritual work for the church which is incorporated under the laws of The State of California. These laws grant the officials of the church the power to issue ordinations and sub-charters . . . papers to be allowed only when earned through a series of rigid examination.

Throughout 1946, regular church services will be held in this building every Sunday, 7:30 P. M. and Thursdays, 2 P. M. Healing services and classes for spiritual unfoldment are scheduled each evening, daily except Sunday.

## Ads to Save Souls?

### WILL RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS COME TO THIS?

British parsons may soon be hard at work on elaborate advertising campaigns.

If certain forward looking English churchmen have their way, Britons soon may open their papers and magazines to find full-page ads "selling" something seldom offered through such a worldly and commercial medium — *Christianity*.

Widespread and vigorous use of advertising by the Church has been urged by a committee of prominent pastors and laymen who feel that, since the gospel teachings of tolerance, peace and loving one's neighbor are the most important message that could be circulated on this war-torn earth, the Church should adopt the proven methods of big business.

Critics protested that religious

advertising in the press would be "undignified" and that religion's finest and most effective advertising, now as always, must be the example of good citizenship and brotherly love set by Christians in their daily lives.

Advocates of advertising had anticipated these objections. They conceded that the lives of professed Christians necessarily must be religion's best advertisement, but pointed out that a great void remains in the instruction of the general public.

Dr. W. E. Sangster, pastor of Westminster Central Hall, London, outlined the case as follows:

"Many people criticize religion without knowing what it really is. Antagonists sometimes tilt at beliefs which intelligent Christians do not hold. Many thoughtful people who have never given serious heed to the Christian case seem to have dismissed it as a myth.

### What About Dignity?

"There is a complete answer to all these libels, but it is only given in churches and religious books, and the mass of people do not hear it. Clear and sincere publicity in the press, without denominational bias, could give the answers.

"Perhaps men and women are not likely to be converted by advertisements alone, but if their prejudices are cleared out first, and their honest intellectual difficulties patiently met, the way is prepared for acceptance of the finest things religion has to give."

This argument won over several prominent parsons who had, at first, flatly opposed the idea of trying to sell Christianity with a nation-wide advertising campaign. They agreed with Dr. Sangster that there certainly can be nothing undignified in scholarly "ads" that enlighten people about Christ and his creed.

Meanwhile, American observers also are considering the question and asking: "Are we standing too much on our dignity? Wouldn't it be best for us, too, to drop old-fashioned prejudices and carry our message more directly before the general public."

Ed. Note: It might be well for the Spiritualists to unite in such an advertising program. No other religion has received as much heckling and unjust criticism . . . about time for its truths to be publicized.



Psychic Observer

REV. EMMA E. KINGHAM, resident pastor of The Pyramid Church of Truth and Light, Alhambra, California. She is a lecturer, teacher, healer and mental medium.

## LODGE RETURNS

(Continued from Page 9, Col. 5)

Then we shall have less of this hopeless-ness of attitude and outlook, this 'I can't hope to attain to such perfection.'

"The truth is that I can attain any perfection that is possible to anybody. In other words, I can come back to God, that is to say, I can be as God. I can be God-like. It is my inheritance. I can attain it when I am ready for it. I can attain it when I choose. It is man's power to attain anything that is possible to any other man.

### Unexpected Visit

"I want to take away this attitude of limitation from the minds of men. I want to make it seem easier to man to attain, and to therefore give him an increased eagerness to do so. There must be the intelligence of the soul and spirit; that living quality in the mind there must be. He is not complete without it."

Drayton Thomas comments: "In the present case I had not expected to hear from *Sir Oliver*. The announcement that he was present pleased me, and I was glad to hear that he proposed to speak of his experiences.

"On the occasion of this Lodge discourse I had the impression that *Feda* was usually transmitting word for word, sentence for sentence."

Drayton Thomas also mentions: "There had been one previous brief communication from *Sir Oliver*. This was at my *Leonard* sitting on March 7, 1911. My stenographer was absent but here are my abbreviated notes:

"*Feda*: '*Sir Oliver* says, I never regret the day that I embarked on the study of psychical research. I bless the day when I first came into touch with authorities that enabled them to locate the murderer, a well-known physician who admitted his guilt. He was subsequently placed in a lunatic asylum.'"

The facts have been printed many times. Scotland Yard has never denied them and *Lees* was rewarded for his services. It was *Lees* who gave seances to *Queen Victoria* in Buckingham Palace. "Psychic News"

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