

THE CONCURRENCE

This Week's Consideration of a Famous Opinion

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In fragments attributed to Hermes Trismegistus the law of the harmony of the four great principals—fire, air, water, and earth—is repeatedly emphasized. It has been pointed out in recent monographs that the genuine mystic never forgets the alchemical trinity of fire, air, and water in its relationship to matter. With this in mind, the following quotation will be particularly significant.

And Matter being moved was heated and did turn to Fire and Water,—the one [being] strong and active, and the other passive.

And Fire opposed by Water was dried up by it, and did become Earth borne on Water.

And when it was excessively dried up, a vapour rose from out the three,—from Water, Earth, and Fire,—and became Air.

The [Four] came into congress, [then,] according to the reason of the Harmony,—hot with cold, (and) dry with moist.

And from the union of these [four] is spirit born, and seed proportionate to the surrounding Spirit.

-HERMES TRISMEGISTUS, 1399-1257 B. C.

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To the Members of the Esoteric Hierarchy, Greetings!

To most of you in this class it must be apparent that certain esoteric principles which we have practiced in the past are now being combined or united in the present studies and exercises. reason for this can only become evident to you if you conscientiously repeat these old-new experiments regularly.

Our recent exercise with the bowl of water, for instance, combines a number of esoteric laws which you may not have recognized. If it had not been that various concentration exercises were given you in the lower Degrees-even up to the present year-you would not be ready for the results you will surely have now. Various other exercises for the development and awakening of the psychic centers also contributed to the preparation for the present studies and applications.

I can heartily agree with the idea that it would not be a very sensible thing to devote much time to the development or practice of "clairvoyance." Not everyone wants to become expert in merely seeking answers to unusual questions. Certainly, there are many more practical things to be done in life; but, the experiments and practices outlined in recent and present monographs are not solely to develop the simple ability of getting special information from the Cosmic. use of the bowl of water, and the system of concentrating upon the water and causing the inner consciousness-the inner self-to become highly attuned to the Cosmic, leads to other practical things besides simply finding answers to serious questions. In the first place, the water itself is more than merely a glistening object to hold our attention during concentration.

Many attempts have been made to see whether a substitute for the glistening water could be used. Tests were made with revolving mirrors, crystal balls, polished beads, glowing embers, and many other objects which reflected light. The only substitutes which can be successfully used for certain special purposes are the candle flame and the black mirror. The black mirror, quite popular in many places in the Orient, is a very rare and costly thing. It is a piece of clear glass, about 5 x 7 inches, slightly concaved, and instead of being silvered on the back of the glass, a special black chemical is used that is highly sensitive. Such mirrors are in gold or jewelled frames and are kept in leather cases.

We may deal with these black mirrors and their mysteries later on: but the water is "living matter." That is its chief value and asset. You will remember, again, that in the experiment in the lower Degrees of holding your hands around a glass of water, the water became "magnetized" or "magnetic." It was affected by your aura and by the radiations from your body, plus those from the Cosmic.



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Thus the water in the bowl is a "living, sensitive mass," as explained recently in another monograph. It responds, it reacts, it receives and holds certain conditions which are difficult to describe. You will discover all this in due time and will come to look upon water as a most useful and wonderful esoteric help.

In every possible way I am anxious to have you faithfully and systematically work with the bowl of water. Do not look upon these exercises as "experiments." Do not practice any of the suggestions given in these monographs as though they were for amusing demonstrations. Look upon them seriously, and the results will be accordingly.

Not only will you find your serious questions answered symbolically—and sometimes with startling directness—but also at other times, when your question or desire is for "more light" (more wisdom), you will find that many marvelous Cosmic revelations will be given to you, preknowledge of coming events, or advice concerning things you should do to make your life happier or more contented. Since the Cosmic is always aware of what is best for us, and ready to advise us and help us, it is only necessary for us to give the Cosmic an opportunity.

It is just as though we were the "Keeper of the Prison" and the inner self were locked up and not allowed any advice from attorney or friend. The moment we achieve real attunement with the Cosmic we find the inner self being advised, and it is as though our outer self, the Keeper of the Prison, were standing by, listening to all that is being said. We may not always understand all that the Cosmic says to the inner self, but the inner consciousness understands and acts upon the instructions.

The health also is improved by such high degrees of attunement with the Cosmic, and in many ways the psychic centers are strengthened, and the glands become more normal in their functioning after such concentration periods with the bowl of water.

Therefore, each day—night and morning—put fresh water in the bowl, follow the instructions given to you in the past few weeks, and sit in silence and peace.

After you have begun to get reliable and helpful advice, and begin to feel the tonic effect, you will not fail to have these periods daily.

Your attitude, however, must be one of sincerity and confidence, and not one of doubt or skepticism. Do not practice with the water as a challenge, or as a demand that the Cosmic "prove" to you what it can do. Let your questions be serious, sincere, practical. Have an open mind, not a preconceived opinion which you wish verified.

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The ultimate effect of Cosmic attunement has been the great goal of mystics and philosophers, physicians, and wise men, for many centuries. When the earliest wise men and avatars taught the value of oneness with the Cosmic vibrations, the adepts believed that it would be possible to find a way to live eternally, or at least to prolong earthly life for scores of years. This belief led to the search for the so-called philosopher's stone, which centuries later developed into the foolish search for a "fountain of perpetual youth." Today, however, the wise and truly mystical know that the real benefit from Cosmic attunement is not in the great lengthening of this earthly life, but rather in making it more healthy, happy, and useful. Keeping in tune with the Infinite Mind and its infinite vibrations does lengthen this life. There is no mistake about that! It is not a false belief or hope. It is not a mere dream.

In issuing life insurance policies, every insurance company takes into consideration the habits and tendencies of the persons, as well as their present and past health. For many centuries vital statistics of every civilized country have shown that the truly cultured and educated person lives longer on the average than the uncouth and ignorant. The truly religious person—the one who takes his religion seriously, and strives to live by its rules, lives longer than the "heathen" or the atheist.

Every hour spent in developing the <u>mind</u> and <u>spirit</u> of the individual gives a greater opportunity of lengthening the span of life of that individual. Keeping in tune with Cosmic rhythm and Cosmic consciousness is the greatest process of all for making life <u>longer</u> and <u>better</u>. Nevertheless, lengthening our life here, and merely longing for <u>perpetual youth</u>, are two very different things. We know that we cannot continue to live <u>forever</u> in the present body (and no one should want to do so), but we also know that ill-health, sickness, sorrow, and grief cause our lives to be shortened, and that the average person does not live as long as he should. Even if Cosmic attunement did not add to our number of years, it would tend to make them more abundant in rich and glorious blessings.

As we grow in harmony with Cosmic vibrations, we avoid many of life's pitfalls and become the receivers of earthly benefits. This is not simply a philosophical theory, but the whole aim of the lessons you have received in the past few years. Your mind has been attuned to higher thoughts while certain exercises kept you more and more in harmony with the spiritual forces that prevent disease, put off old age, and eliminate frequent errors in living.



Scientists have said that the "average person" commits over thirty errors of living every day. At least ten affect the body and mind in a destructive manner. Another ten become habits which eventually produce chronic ailments.

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As soon as a person changes his course of <u>living and thinking</u>, he begins to change or modify those "thirty serious errors." Think of the changes you have made in your <u>thinking</u> and <u>living since you joined</u> the Rosicrucian Order. It is foolish to argue that <u>thinking</u> does not affect our lives. If a person <u>believes</u> and <u>thinks</u>, for instance, that he can eat <u>any</u> and <u>all</u> kinds of combinations of food, at any hour of the day or night, and <u>thinks</u> that nature will <u>always</u> maintain good health in his body, he is making a great mistake. He injures his system until it breaks down with diabetes, kidney trouble, dyspepsia, gall trouble, bladder trouble, gout, or other ailments.

If a person believes he can ignore other laws of the body and keep well, his wrong thinking leads him to colds, constipation, weakening the eyes, lungs, heart, etc. If he believes he can commit crimes, his wrong thinking will lead him to those very wrong actions.

Only one in a thousand reaches the age of thirty with a fairly perfect body. Think of that! Only one in ten thousand reaches thirty with a body and health over seventy-five percent normal. No one is ever one hundred percent perfect, but the "average person" at thirty is only about sixty percent perfect. After thirty, the changes for better or worse are more rapid. After fifty, changes for the better are harder to make because the breaking-down processes have too great a start, and the re-creative processes are slower.

This means that unless we take advantage of favorable conditions before we are fifty, our task of making the most of our lives, physically, mentally, and spiritually is more difficult. Think about this seriously for the coming week, for our next monograph will have more to say about it.

May Peace Profound abide with each of you.

Fraternally,

YOUR CLASS MASTER



Summary of This Monograph

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Below is a summary of the important principles of this monograph. It contains the essential statements which you should not forget. After you have carefully read the complete monograph, try to recall as many as you can of the important points you read. Then read this summary and see if you have forgotten any. Also refer to this summary during the ensuing week to refresh your memory.

- ¶ A number of laws and principles employed throughout the past Degrees for awakening and developing the various psychic centers, and combined now in the present studies and exercises, have prepared you for the results you will now have.
- The experiments and practices outlined in our present monographs have practical uses other than that of finding answers to serious questions.
- The only substitutes for water which can be successfully used for certain special purposes are the candle flame and the black mirror.
- The importance of water lies in its being "living matter," responding and reacting to certain conditions.
- Tevery hour spent in developing the mind and spirit contributes to lengthening the life span of the individual. The mystic knows, however, that the real benefit from Cosmic attunement is not in lengthening this earthly life, but in making it healthier, happier, and more useful.

