

THE CONCURRENCE

This Week's Consideration of a Famous Opinion

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■ We cannot be reminded too often of the dual aspects of our nature and the consequent necessity for harmonizing ourselves with the dual forces of the Cosmic. The Rosicrucian is primarily interested in achieving this harmony, for he knows that a successful, happy,

and useful life must inevitably result. We note recognition of the importance of both the spiritual and physical aspects of life in the following quotation:

... Truly to see is to behold what we may presently become. Truly to respond is to take the new prompting which life reveals today and ride over the top of the wave.

Two points of adaptation are important if we would move with this incoming stream. We need a practical method of adjustment, and we need to carry on the life of reflection. Since "conduct is three-fourths of life," the first essential is responsiveness to the tendencies that send us forth to action, that keep us alive, expressive, spontaneous, free, and that make us open to brotherly love. . . . But, in the second place, it is also important to carry on a study of life as it passes, noting its laws, observing its comings and goings in the conduct of men. If I carry this additional consciousness, I shall all the while find incidents that throw light on life's pathway, and enable me to aid my fellowmen. Moreover, the life of thought is a resource which lifts us above material circumstances, above routine and all littleness.

-HORATIO W. DRESSER, Ph.D., 1866-

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To the Members of the Esoteric Hierarchy, Greetings!

Every advanced step in our work necessitates our perfect understanding of and adjustment to the propositions laid down at any stage of our progress. Because the present subjects may not be touched on again for some time, it is advisable that the matter of earth and Cosmic forces—their relationship to and influence upon man's health and spiritual nature-be once again emphasized.

In too many occult or mystical studies promulgated in the Western world today, the earth is looked upon as a gross, negative, and unspiritual part of the universe. In fact, a number of common phrases such as "earthly," "materialistic," etc., imply that anything or anyone connected with the earth is essentially the opposite of spiritual in nature. In other words, we look upon everything above the earth as being spiritual and everything on or in the earth as the opposite. This is not fair to our better understanding of universal cosmogony. Regardless of the fact that the earth manifests in a material form, every bit of it is held together by spiritual force, and everything that grows upon it or inside it is filled with a spiritual energy that comes from the Cosmic. The earth does not create or generate any power or energy of its own; it is just as much a part of the universe as is the sky or heavens. While it is true that man has a material form with a spiritual body within, his physical body and his spiritual nature are both essential for him to be a living being.

That concise statement of our Rosicrucian ontology in Genesis so often referred to reads: "God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living Soul." We should not look upon the Soul and the dust of the ground as being two opposing things just because they are different things. In other words, we should not think that the dust of the ground which forms the body of man is something evil imprisoning the spiritual body or Soul. The dust of the ground, from which man's body is formed, in the beginning of things had a spiritual origin and is maintained in its form and activity by forces and energies that radiate from Cosmic space.

If all the Divine energies of the universe were taken out of the earth, it would crumble into dust and become nonexistent. While man is on the earth with its surrounding magnetic belt, he draws upon the earthly magnetism just as much as he draws upon the Cosmic. It takes a combination of these two to make a perfect living being. If a person could bury himself in the earth so deeply that he no longer could take into his body any of the Cosmic forces from above, he would

"die." His body would become a part of the dust of the earth

and would continue to exist as such.

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It is, therefore, both shortsighted and a grave error to overemphasize the spiritual part of man to the exclusion of his physical body. It is no more right for man to try to live a hundred percent spiritual existence here on this earth plane than it is for him to attempt to live a hundred percent materially. Separated from his physical body, as at transition, the Soul of man can live a hundred percent spiritual existence because the Soul is a purely spiritual entity. In the same manner, the body after transition, or separation from the Soul, can live a hundred percent earthly existence. The ideal, perfect man that God created in the beginning, who is daily unfolding more and more of that perfection, however, is a balanced and harmonious combination of both the earthly and the Cosmic energies and vitality. Any doctrines, teachings, or principles, therefore, which draw man away from the earthly influences, the earthly magnetism, and the earthly elements in order that he may live a wholly spiritual existence, are absurd and inconsistent.

The minute such an extreme condition is attempted, the whole body is thrown out of harmonious balance. It is much the same as expecting an electric motor to operate with one of its two necessary wires disconnected. These two electric wires supply a negative and positive charge. The motor will not be balanced and harmonious in its operation, nor even function properly, unless these two wires having balanced influence are attached to it. If seventy-five percent of the energy were conducted through the positive wire and only twenty-five percent through the negative wire, the motor would not operate.

This is only a theoretical picture, for true electric motors or electrical devices in modern times naturally do not operate on opposite polarities when a direct current is used. Nevertheless, in theory the illustration is correct. Thousands of examples are around us constantly of persons trying to live purely earthly existences, denying themselves any strengthening or balancing of the spiritual forces or spiritual side of their lives. Even their bodies fail to keep healthy and normal and, of course, their natures and minds are always out of balance.

A person can become just as greatly unbalanced by attempting to live a purely spiritual existence while denying the need or influence of the earthly side of life. In India and other parts of the Near and Far East there are countless instances where persons cease eating, drinking, and living normally and try to hide themselves on mountaintops or sit all day in the sun in cramped positions meditating only

on the spiritual side of life. Their bodies become deformed and emaciated and they are useless to themselves and to humanity. Whatever degree of spirituality they develop is of no value to them or to anyone else.

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In the Christian type of character personified by Jesus the Christ, we find a well-balanced individual who gave heed and thought to the earthly, material necessities. He kept in touch with earthly problems, walked and talked in a normal, healthy manner while at the same time maintaining a proper degree of spiritual balance. That example he left for his disciples and us.

Our earthly existence today is constantly affected and influenced by currents and crosscurrents of energy. Through the earth and on its surface these vibrations play upon us. Science tells us that it would be difficult for a plant to grow or a human being to live if either sunlight or the rays and emanations of the sun were not directly or indirectly absorbed. It is equally true that unless man is absorbing and taking into his body in the proper way earth currents or energies and vibrations, he will not be balanced or be able to maintain normal bodily health.

Many seem to think that just living on the earth is sufficient for keeping ourselves well balanced. Going into the sunlight and fresh air, or on a mountain or ocean trip, or taking deep-breathing exercises does help us add to our bodies Cosmic vibrations. So do certain other things give us more of the earthly currents and vibrations. There are certain rules and laws that we must comply with in regard to our earthly living, such as eating proper food and drinking proper water. But these alone are not enough. If they were, there would be more healthy people and fewer sickly or unhappy ones. We must, as well, adjust ourselves to other earthly forces and energies. Certainly, this necessity is just as great as food and water in the maintenance of the normal harmonious balance of our bodies. It can be accomplished, too, simply by sleeping with our bed in the position required by our individual case and condition.

In recent years, the necessity of having fresh air in the bedroom while sleeping has been accepted; but that is only half of the necessity. While we sleep, we also need the vitalizing power and energy of the earth's currents just as much as we need fresh air and Cosmic currents. During the day when we are moving about and constantly changing our position, we are stepping into various crosscurrents of earthly magnetism and being helped by them. While we are asleep in one fixed position and in one spot, we may be hours in the wrong position, getting no benefit from the earth currents. If we are sleeping in the wrong position, we are most certainly denying curselves the benefit of sleep. While it is true that rest is essential, in itself it will not vitalize the body. In other words, rest will not add something vitalizing to the body but will simply allow nerves and various parts to

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slow their action and recover some of their former balance. When the earth's currents can be added during this restful period, a reserve of energy is built up that will help throughout the coming day.

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It is essential during our period of meditation and psychic experiment to attune ourselves as completely with the earth currents as with the Cosmic vibrations. Both sides of our dual natures should be harmonized with the dual forces of the universe, earthly and Cosmic.

Review the ideas that have been suggested in the last few monographs and find an opportunity during the morning, afternoon or evening, to spend ten minutes in complete rest and meditation. These periods of rest should be in accordance with the earthly crosscurrents as well as with the Cosmic mental attitude. There must be a certain spot and position in which you feel more balanced and comfortable. You should find the same to be true in regard to your periods of sleeping. During the coming week try these ideas and learn the best position for you during meditation or concentration and relaxation.

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.

- ¶ It is not fair to our better understanding of universal cosmogony to consider unspiritual everything pertaining to the earth; and to consider everything spiritual that is above the earth.
- ¶ Just as much a part of the universe as the heavens, the earth is held together by spiritual force, although it manifests in a material form.
- We should not look upon the Soul and the dust of the ground as being two opposing things just because they are different things.
- ¶ It takes a balanced combination of Cosmic energy and earthly magnetism to make a perfect living being.
- Overemphasis of either the spiritual or the physical aspects of man's nature results in inharmony and imbalance.
- We receive the full benefit of sleep only while sleeping in a position harmonizing with the earth's currents, whose vitalizing power and energy are just as important as fresh air and Cosmic currents.
- ¶ During our meditation it is just as important to attune ourselves completely with the earth's currents as with the Cosmic vibrations. Both sides of our dual nature should be harmonized with the dual forces of the universe, the earthly and the Cosmic.

