



A M O R C

The Rosicrucian Order

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THE CONCURRENCE

This Week's Consideration of a Famous Opinion



¶ While it is true that a certain amount of fear is inborn and our experiences and training tend to encourage rather than to diminish it, it is also true that we can overcome fear and its undesirable psychological effects. Our Rosicrucian study has helped in this respect, and so will daily meditation and attunement.



Counsel of experienced mystics, too, is helpful. We quote from a source familiar to many.

The initial step, then, consists in determining to picture the Universal Mind as the ideal of all we would wish it to be both to ourselves and to others, together with the endeavour to reproduce this ideal, however imperfectly, in our own life; and this step having been taken, we can then cheerfully look upon it as our ever-present Friend, providing all good, guarding from all danger, and guiding us with all counsel. Gradually as the habit of thus regarding the Universal Mind grows upon us, we shall find that in accordance with the laws we have been considering, it will become more and more personal to us, and in response to our desire its inherent intelligence will make itself more and more clearly perceptible within as a power of perceiving truth far beyond any statement of it that we could formulate by merely intellectual investigation.

—THOMAS TROWARD, 1847-1916

To the Members of the Esoteric Hierarchy, Greetings!

Usually the benefits described by those who have been members of the Rosicrucian Order for a number of years fall into these classifications:

First, improvement in health. It is true that many still have chronic conditions not entirely eliminated, but the average member frankly admits that his health, his memory, his mind, his general physical condition and functioning have been greatly improved.

Second, improvement in worldly affairs. Although far from having all of the luxuries of life, and a perfectly satisfactory business and financial status, most members declare themselves able to adjust to meet their present conditions with a greater degree of satisfaction than in the past.

Third, improvement in spiritual understanding and happiness. Problems of religious doctrine and difficulties of understanding the laws of the spiritual kingdom no longer cause them any difficulties. A greater degree of happiness, security, protection, and development in a spiritual and divine sense is theirs.

Fourth, improvement in family affairs--the care of children, the companionship of their marriage partner, and other intimate matters that make for home happiness.

Fifth, intellectual development and companionship. Worldly and social friends are one thing, but intellectual and spiritual companionship brings a greater satisfaction. There is a feeling of being part of an organization of men and women who are progressive, happy and contented, and whose companionship is of great value.

There are scores of other benefits mentioned. For instance, the fact that study of the monographs and magazines has improved vocabularies, style of language and conversation, as well as the understanding of many things in life not ordinarily understood by the average individual. Some members say they find people noticing an improvement in their conversation and in their discussion of timely and important subjects. There are those, too, who say that the necessity of paying dues every month has taught them the value of saving so that dues will not be a burden upon their regular budget.



Others have derived benefit from the books recommended--from visiting AMORC branches, or coming to the Grand Lodge at Convention times or between. Scores mention help received in regard to business, social affairs,

health, and other personal matters. Even members to whom personal letters have not been written have declared that the monographs have gradually enabled them to work out problems of vocational guidance for themselves or their children.

The outstanding benefit mentioned by most is the improved viewpoint on life and the development of self-reliance, self-confidence, sureness, and the gradual disappearance of the fear complex. This matter of fear is one which needs a thorough examining.

We all are born with a certain amount of fear. As soon as we are old enough to notice anything, we begin to develop what seems to be a natural tendency toward fear. Fear keeps the child from standing on his feet in the crib. Fear keeps him from walking after he has learned to crawl. It is fear that takes hold of the child when left in the dark, and fear as much as pain that makes him cry.

Many times, fear makes the child obedient. Wrong as it is as a method to develop obedience, the average parent resorts to the fear of punishment as the quickest way to gain results. Thus the idea is developed through childhood.

Later in life, fear makes the adult obedient to man-made laws which attempt to make good citizens by threat of unpleasant publicity, ostracism, or imprisonment. In the same way, fear makes men and women honest and obedient to the moral code.

With the development of fear comes a sense of ignorance. When too great an awareness of his ignorance begins to develop, a person condemns himself as somewhat incompetent. He hesitates to enter into conversations; to put his best foot forward or promote his own best interests. There is always a possibility that he may make a mistake through ignorance, and this ignorance develops an inferiority complex. At least fifty percent of the failures in business or social affairs are due to an inherent inferiority complex.

We meet these inferiority complexes among musicians, artists, businessmen, housewives, and even children in school. We are born ignorant as far as worldly knowledge is concerned, and even as far as understanding of spiritual and divine laws, but we should not allow this ignorance to make us feel inferior. An old Rosicrucian proverb says, "If you dare to do, you will have the power to do!" That is an esoteric key to genuine accomplishment. It means that if you dare to try, or dare to do something, you will find that not only the Cosmic but all of your inner latent and unused abilities will come to your rescue and enable you to do the things you want to do.



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Of course, this does not mean, as some popular psychology teachings promise, that you can be wholly ignorant of music and yet dare to sit down at a piano and have divine inspiration to play one of the masterpieces as though you were a genius. Bedridden persons have, nonetheless, dared in emergencies to get out of bed and have suddenly had the ability to walk. Many heroic actions have been performed by persons who, before some emergency or demand, would have hesitated. A woman who before was always timid, quiet, and reserved has shown the courage and strength of a lioness in protecting her young children. Men, in business and public affairs, have at times seemed to release superhuman ability and knowledge that they did not know they possessed.

If during our earliest days of thinking and reasoning, we could have been convinced that we were all born with Divine Intelligence, that a still small voice and a guardian within revealed truth to us, and that the Cosmic equally protected us in any emergency, any inferiority complex would have been quickly removed.

Our teachings have broken down this element of fear and of inferiority, and have at the same time done much to soften the sense of superiority. Most members in the Eleventh and Twelfth Degrees would attest that the elements of fear, ignorance, and inferiority have been removed. Also, that with the development of understanding, daring, and bravery comes a realization of security and confidence. Many have written that through the studies they have developed a sense of sureness in all the things of life. They have eliminated even the fear of death, of the unknown, and of the unexpected.

While preparing this talk, I was told the following by a member just entering these higher Degrees: "I just wanted to tell you how much my health and happiness and everything in my life has improved through the changed outlook and understanding that has come to me through the monographs. For years I was a victim of what I believed to be a very serious physical condition. It kept me confined a great deal, and constantly consulting physicians who continued to recommend various medicines and treatment. My condition interfered with social life, discouraged my husband, made my children apprehensive, and simply ruined all prospects of the future. Now, after a few years of study and development, my whole outlook has changed and my physical condition is actually better. Even the physicians tell me that I do not have the symptoms and conditions I used to complain about. I walk better, talk better, look better, and have a smile and hopefulness that is captivating. The result is that my husband and children are happier, and now I can go ahead and make plans for the future with a degree of assurance and confidence that I never had before."



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The point I want to make is that you should purposely try to develop--each hour of the day--some sureness and confidence that there is a divine part of your inner self and a divine part of your outer self. Through the teachings, practices, and exercises in these various Degrees you have, albeit unconsciously, developed a fortitude, a physical, moral, and spiritual character, and certain abilities that you can use in any emergency. The Cosmic will not fail you. You can always resort to the use of these laws whenever necessary, and find through them strength, health, and protection. Surely that should make your life happier.

If you develop confidence deliberately and wilfully, with a fixed idea that you are prepared to meet any unexpected emergency, and if you add to that the conviction that you are part of a great organization, it will fill your whole life with a different aura, and give it a confident tone.

Begin this week, with me, to hold a meditation period each day for the purpose of attuning yourself with the Divine Consciousness, and at the same time fix in your mind the idea that you are not only a child of the Cosmic, but also a master of your own life. You have at your command the knowledge of certain laws and principles that will enable you to protect yourself, your family, your home and business affairs. Nothing can bring an end to your life, your happiness, your joy and progress, except it be the will of God to give you something better.

May Peace Profound abide with each of you.

Fraternally,

YOUR CLASS MASTER

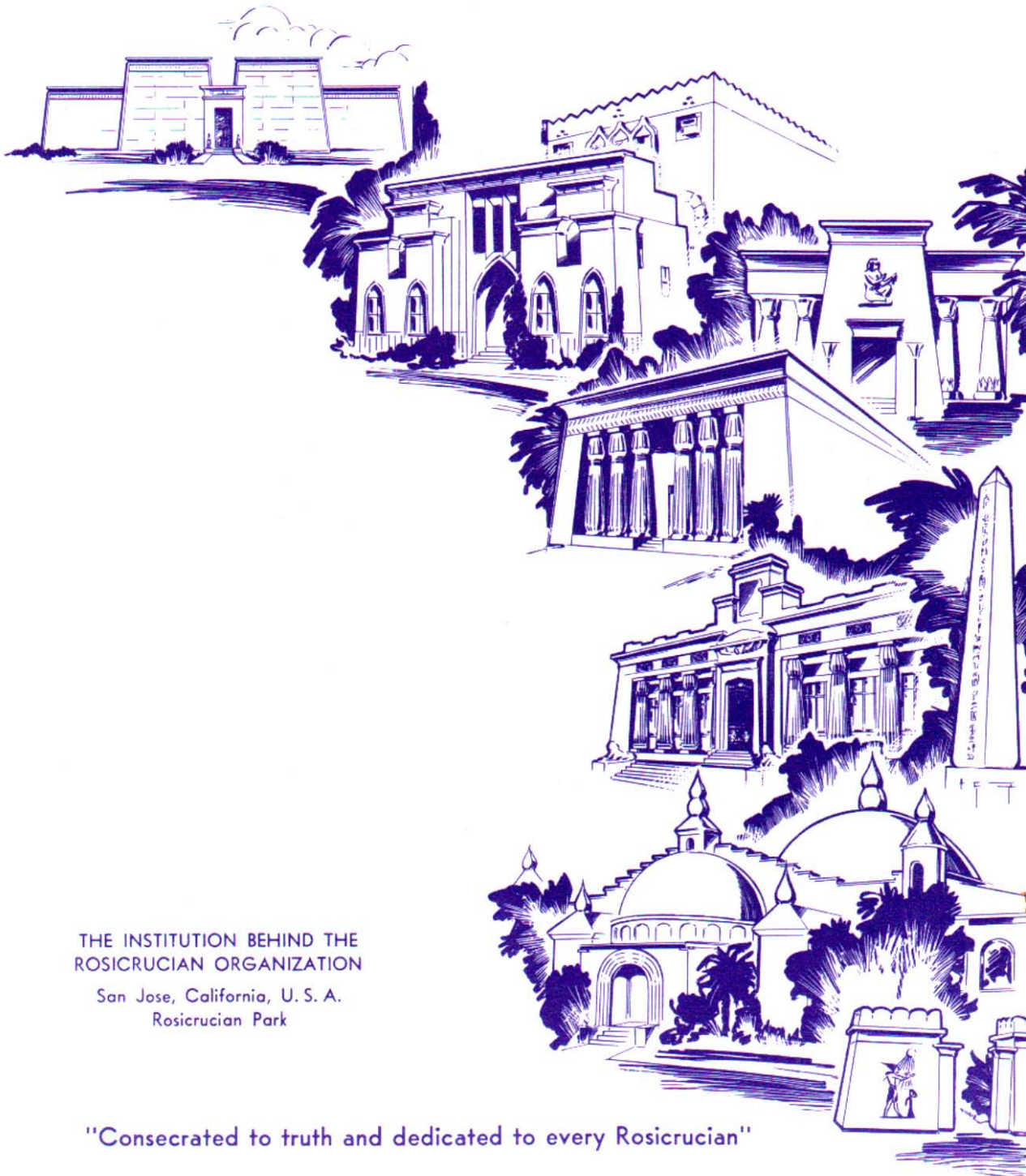


Summary of This Monograph



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.

- ¶ **The benefits to members of the Rosicrucian Order are generally:**
1) Improved health; 2) A more satisfactory adjustment to worldly affairs;
3) Greater spiritual understanding and happiness; 4) Improved family relationships; 5) Intellectual development and companionship; 6) Other benefits, such as increased vocabularies; improved conversational ability; a broadening of interests; and the development of self-reliance, self-confidence, and the gradual elimination of fear.
- ¶ **We are all born with a certain amount of fear, and this fear is developed rather than eliminated as we progress through life.**
- ¶ **An inferiority complex is the result of fear which engenders a sense of ignorance.**
- ¶ **An esoteric key to genuine accomplishment is the old Rosicrucian proverb, "If you dare to do, you will have the power to do!"**
- ¶ **If as children we had been taught that we are born with Divine Intelligence and an inner guardian, with cosmic protection at hand for any emergency, the elements of fear and of inferiority would have disappeared.**
- ¶ **Daily meditation to attune yourself with the Divine Consciousness, with the conviction that you are a child of the Cosmic, and the master of your own life, as well, will develop confidence and remove fear.**



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