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Spring 1985

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MANLY P. HALL, EDITOR

EDITH WALDRON, ASSISTANT EDITOR

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About the Cover: An emblematic woodcut showing the earth within a band of the zodiac according to the teachings of Ptolemy who is shown here carrying an astrolabe. Published by Georgij Purbachij in 1515.

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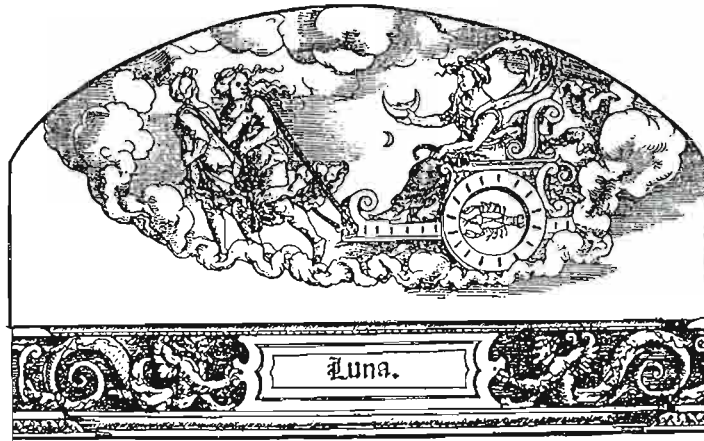
NATIONAL TRENDS FOR 1985

(Lectured Delivered on January 27, 1985)

According to the traditional systems of mundane astrology, the zodiacal sign of Cancer is on the cusp of the first house in the annual chart for the United States. From this it would appear that an atmosphere of good intentions will prevail this year. The planetary ruler of Cancer is the Moon which is in a close conjunction with the sun and enjoys a fortunate aspect with Jupiter, the major benefic. Incidentally, persons born with the sun in Cancer or with this sign ascending are apt to have considerable success in the advancement of career and the fulfillment of hopes and aspirations.

Cancer ascending advances the estate of women whose influence in the affairs of the nation enlarges, and strengthens projects and activities which are of special concern to women. Because this sign is also deeply emotional, women born under it take on social conditions, develop political anxieties, and are deeply concerned with the suffering and disillusionment which has reached world-wide proportions. Affairs of women, some of which are in need of improvement, will receive ethical attention.

In terms of psychology, the country is in need of considerable counseling. There must be greater faith, a Cancer quality, in the future of the country and the world. A tendency to negative thinking invites correction and patience will contribute to relaxation and help to preserve constructive attitudes. The moon, be-



cause of its phases, contributes to a variety of moods with alternate periods of optimism and pessimism. Some inconsequential issues will be over-emphasized, but for the most part the trend will be toward the support of worthwhile changes.

The American people will contribute to a variety of worthy causes, especially those of sorely oppressed groups in desperate need of charity and understanding. Cancer is a highly moral sign with a protective attitude toward children and underprivileged minorities. There may be occasions in which generosity will be exploited, but for the most part the needs are real and socially significant.

The effects of the eclipses on the lives of persons should be mentioned. The two eclipses in Scorpio may be felt by persons born under the sign of Scorpio. Life patterns may change to some degree, but in the end new situations will prove fortunate. Cancer natives this year may rest assured that, if they keep faith in values, their faith will keep them.

In 1985, the voice of the people will be heard throughout the land. They will have much to say on the subject of legislation and the correction of corruptions on all levels of management. There could be a frontal attack on medical and legal abuses, misrepresentation in advertising, and the abuses prevalent in the entertainment and media industries. A strengthening of home ties is likely

and there is a relaxation away from extravagance and wastefulness. The public health overall will be consistently better, but the cost of care will be given severe attention. The physical resources of the country should be above average and there could be a reduction of food costs.

There will be some reduction in the overall cost of living and a strengthening of currency. There could be an increase in taxes, but in a Cancer year there are likely to be restrictions on armaments. In June there may be a financial problem associated with dishonesty in banking and the suppression of truths that should have been brought immediately to the attention of the people. A number of new corporations and conglomerates are established, some of which are likely to be short lived. It will be necessary to watch carefully any danger of damaging the trend toward economic stability. Foreign loans will for the most part remain unpaid through 1985. Staples will remain firm, but excessive luxury spending may be under severe criticism. Displays of wealth should be avoided.

Transportation, communication, and the media generally may have a mixed year. The telephone situation could be difficult to clarify, some railroads will be more prosperous, but small companies may not survive. The postal system is in scandalous condition and some effort may be made to transfer it to private ownership. In any event, it will cost a little more to mail a letter. Traffic congestions and related accidents continue to increase and there could be a drift to public transportation which may be inconvenient for many persons. The book trade will find itself in trouble because of over-expansion and the dubious value of its publications. Newspapers will lose circulation, but travel will pick up and tourism into foreign countries will increase.

Agriculture in general will be fortunate, with some anxiety over pesticides and erratic climatic conditions. The basic climate should be better than average with sufficient rainfall and excessive precipitation in parts of the middle west and southeast.

A brisk building program is indicated, involving primarily stores, office buildings, and civic structures. The Democratic party

will begin gathering its forces and in local politics social reforms will strongly influence the choice of leadership. Home life will strengthen and families will work together for mutual advantage. High prices will limit spending and customers will be more concerned about the quality of their purchases. In general, thrift will gain in popularity.

The birthrate will be lower and the whole subject of birth control and family planning will remain a major source of controversy. There is no major improvement in public morals and popular indignation will be intensified. An alarming increase in venereal disease will result in widespread anxiety. Education does better and young people can be successfully influenced to improve their standard of conduct. Courtships and romantic relationships may show some improvement, but gain very slight public support. Several ambassadors and diplomats from foreign nations will be subject to embarrassment because of their espionage and their propaganda activities. The investment market will intrigue speculators who may lose heavily.

The public in general will be opposed to the expansion of the military program, but not inclined to neglect problems of national defense. There will be active agitation against wasteful military expenditures which are more theoretical than practical. There is hope of reducing the political and psychological pressures that could lead to military aggressions. This section of the chart must be carefully examined to understand the ulterior motives involved in the defense program.

Certain aspects of the public health leave something to be desired and there is a clear recognition of the dangers of alcoholic and narcotic related crimes. The accident rate is likely to rise and unemployment contributes heavily to violence. There is continued danger of strikes and lesser difficulties between labor and management. The condition of workers in various industries will improve and benefits of public health programs and civil services will ease tension and strife in some fields. Pulmonary ailments could reach epidemical proportions and a severe winter works hardship on older people and those in poor health generally.

It seems very unlikely that the United States will be involved in any major military confrontation in 1985. International relations improve and those countries most likely to cause trouble are hindered by internal conditions. Refugees from other countries continue to unsettle the domestic economy but the atmosphere is more optimistic. The marriage rate will probably be down which is not a good symptom. This may appear to solve immediate difficulties, but has unfortunate long-term effects. The ethical levels of human relationships are in need of considerable improvement. Foreign trade is good, but will be subject to tariff restrictions and a series of moves to restore a balance of trade. These for the most part will be insufficient. While the condition of women in public life expands with many entering the higher income brackets, there is an increasing doubt that the new freedoms are actually satisfying. It becomes necessary to weigh the advantages and disadvantages more carefully, especially when small children are involved.

In 1985 the death rate will be somewhat higher due to a variety of causes, one of the worst being an irrational attitude towards health. While moderate health regimes are certainly beneficial, the present tendency is excessive. The suicide level may be somewhat lower. Many young persons lack the stamina to face the problems of maturity.

International loans and contributions by the United States to emerging countries will increase in number but they are precarious investments. Various forms of taxation, some rather insidious, will work hardships on those in lower income brackets. There is strong need for economy in government including reduction of the salaries of political figures. Leaders, according to democracy, are servants of the people and there is no reason why they should live better than others. Some laws passed in recent years may be rescinded, but pressure groups oppose any limitation on excessive profit which is one of the great extravagances of our time.

What passes for higher learning presents a number of conflicts and contradictions. Profit and expansion of scientific institutions have seldom contributed to the advancement of ethical philosophy or practical idealism. If we include nuclear development, science is

responsible for the greatest problems the world has ever known. Philosophy as a major branch of learning is now largely theoretical and the term is usually applied to miscellaneous forms of abstract mentation. Religion, however, seems to be regaining public influence. In some parts of the world this influence seems detrimental, but in the United States it is generally beneficial—it is helping to fill the moral vacuum resulting from excessive materialism. A major breakthrough of practical idealism can find considerable public support against the encroachments of competitive policies. Virtue is on the increase among the general public and must sometime enlighten their leaders. International trade also brings a responsibility. When we do business with foreign people, we must clearly prove that our way of life supports honesty and integrity. If the world loses faith in this country, it will be a great catastrophe. The legal profession could be faced with a curtailment of its fees and this in itself will relieve the courts of interminable litigation.

Important executives may be confronted with health problems, and administrators including foreign diplomats may face physical danger. The tendency of leadership in 1985 is conservative, but rather more attentive to the wishes of the people. While extravagance is a major dilemma of the hour, even those who enjoy it recognize its dangers. The reputation of America will improve in the estimation of foreign countries and strengthen the foundation of international trade. The budget cannot be balanced, but there will be a gesture of frugality which will meet with international approval. This major constructive trend will gain momentum in 1985 and will have lasting influence upon the people of the nation. The media will find it appropriate to support progressive changes in national policy.

The Senate and the House of Representatives will face many difficult decisions. Strong feelings will be expressed and some executive recommendations will meet with opposition. Sickness and retirement may challenge the balance of power, and the privileges of lawmakers to act upon their own initiative may be questioned. Younger men and women will rise to prominence in government to

oppose many traditional policies. State, city, and county governments will come into conflict with national policies and refuse to support regulations which are adverse to community security. There will be strong local objections to gambling and lotteries. Senators and congressmen will become more informed in international affairs and recommend better United States relations with foreign governments. The image of the United States will improve internationally and there will be a tendency to bow-out of embarrassing situations. Relations with Near Eastern countries will require constructive planning and the United States will be inclined to disentangle itself from interventions in remote places. Important trade agreements may be reached and the country regains much of its leadership in world affairs.

Internal conditions of the country will require thoughtful consideration. The public is becoming weary of the exploitation from which it has suffered for a number of years. Many people feel that they are totally mistreated by the officials who are supposed to be protecting their interests. Much attention must be given to the needs of average citizens. Exploitation of the sick has reached scandalous proportions and is contributing heavily to the national debt. Jurisprudence is becoming a scandal in the legal world, and everywhere extravagant leadership is resulting in popular indignation. Suitable recourse must be taken to prevent the further abuse of power. The penal system is not solving the spread of crime, and law enforcement agencies must be supported if reasonable security is to be expected. The punishment for crime has little constructive effect and emphasis must be shifted to prevention. Law enforcement agencies cannot operate effectively unless they are supported by a strengthening of popular integrities. Exposés of crime will become increasingly frequent resulting in a discovery of the delinquencies of prominent citizens who have never been suspected of dishonesty. Espionage and sabotage must be faced and curbed as much as possible. So-called refugees may actually be anarchists, terrorists, and agents of foreign powers. The secret empire of narcotics will be confronted by strong corrective measures implemented by qualified law enforcement agencies, and this will pre-

vent many young people from becoming addicts. Penalties for accidents or crimes involving narcotic addiction or alcoholism will be stringently enforced. Cases of misuse of charitable funds will also be under investigation. This will result in marked improvement and higher ethical concern for the protection of the public good.

After several years in which the negative aspects dominated the national chart, it is pleasant to realize that the trends for 1985 are the best we have seen for some time. It is appropriate to note, therefore, that important constructive changes affecting almost every department of the national life are strongly indicated.

The public mind is beginning to accept personal responsibility for the future of the nation. Constructive laws will be enacted. There will be a strong surge of idealism. Religious groups will be more cooperative with each other and support improvements of the social structure. Several important events contribute strongly to ethical reforms, and the public in general will exercise a greater influence in national government and international relationships. A large part of the population will work together to strengthen international friendships. It should be the beginning of an entirely new relationship between the governing, the governed, and the self-governing.

Indications for a few cities may be of interest. Boston becomes involved in an intensive building program. Old structures will be either demolished or modernized. Housing for private families, condominiums, apartments, and retirement settlements are given priority. There could be some political scandals and a flurry of religious complications. Politicians will be planning for prosperous futures and conditions in general show considerable progressiveness.

In Chicago transportational facilities will be given much attention. The public schools will be under special emphasis. A scandal may involve the utility system. Business conditions should be better than usual and the climate a little less rigorous. Important meetings and gatherings will contribute to business improvement. The press is in some trouble and there is popular disapproval of deteriorating morality.

In the community of Los Angeles, there will be rapid increases in population and foreign communities will become little worlds in themselves. The climate will be eccentric. There could be some stir in the political structure, but in this city such changes are of little interest. Reasonable prosperity may be expected. There is some danger of climatic severity and minor seismic events. The people will maintain their determination to avoid a higher rate of taxation. The tourist trade will remain helpful. Educational institutions will be well supported if they emphasize the idealistic aspects of higher learning.

The community of New Orleans should make every possible effort to live within its means. The economic condition is insecure, employment is not favored at the moment, and the city could be depressed by the eclipses of 1985. Citizens should support their community and make every endeavor to maintain a practical budget.

Long Beach may suffer from climatic difficulties and it will be necessary to protect the community against natural disasters and an increase in the crime rate. It would be appropriate this year for the Chamber of Commerce to advertise throughout the nation the advantages of living in this community or its environments. Labor disputes may also arise and cause considerable anxiety.

This should be a good year for New York, many things will happen there which will be meaningful to both the country and the world. Strenuous efforts are made to glamorize urban living. The city will become a vital political focus in the advancement of programs for world peace. In 1985 New York will be more prominent as a celebrity center.

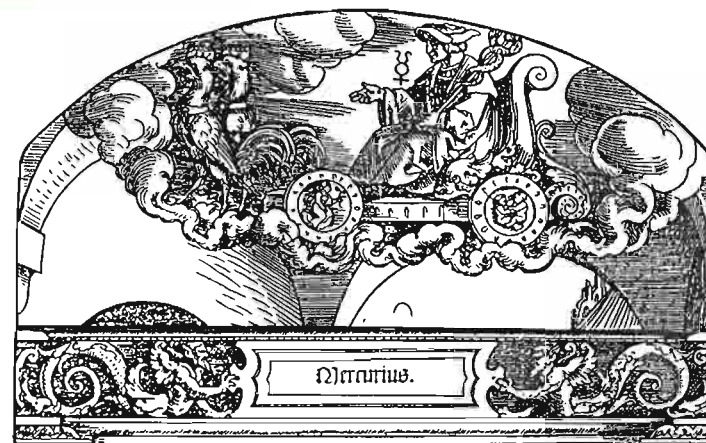
Citizens of Philadelphia, in the true spirit of brotherly love which is the keynote of their community, will work together, live together, and probably pray together. As a center of idealism, it may contribute to the improvement of industrial ethics and financial honesty.

San Francisco may be in some financial trouble. Several large corporations must reduce their employment, and credit for local expansion will be difficult to find. Weather conditions suggest

some severity and unexpected storms may come in from the sea. Narcotic traffic and epidemical ailments are noted. There may be increased shipping and the harbor will be busy. The eclipses of 1985 could contribute to juvenile delinquency and emphasize the pressing need for improving ethics and morality of the young. Funds to maintain the functions of the city might result in a bond issue. The average person, however, will not be seriously involved.

In Washington, D.C. there could be a wave of concern for the well-being of small business, employment opportunities, reduction of the cost of living, and such activities as will increase public confidence. Changes are in the air and some of them are long overdue. There will be a resurgence of patriotism with renewed confidence in the future, and determination to strengthen and reform the American way of life. There could be major upsets in the political structure and less tendency to remain aloof from the concerns of middle class thinkers. There is strong emphasis on the curbing of armament and major changes in the federal tax structure. A strong impulse develops to encourage private firms and corporations to take over public utility and transportation systems. Religious privileges will be expanded and summit conferences of one kind or another will result in some reduction of world stress and tension. This may be the beginning of an important reformation of governmental structures.

Unusual weather conditions may be expected throughout the nation. It is apt to be wet and cold along the western coast with storms on the Great Lakes and river flooding worse than usual. The humidity will be high along both coastlines, high winds at sea with emphasis upon coastal shipping, are indicated. Atmospheric pollution can afflict the middle west, and transportation accidents due to adverse weather conditions may show a marked increase. Late fall and winter will be especially severe in New England and in the Appalachian areas. Older persons must protect themselves as much as possible from flu and virus infections. In Alaska, the climate may be unusually moderate and the Hawaiian Islands should be warm, but somewhat more rainy than usual.



WORLD TRENDS FOR 1985

(Lecture Delivered on January 13, 1985)

In these confused times, it is not possible to delineate in detail all aspects and configurations of a mundane horoscope. It has always been my policy to be specially mindful of the benevolent testimonies. Some specialists in the field believe it a moral responsibility to emphasize impending disasters, but I subscribe to the theory of one of the older masters of the art who warned that direful prophecies may contribute psychologically to their own fulfillment. Fortunately, the world chart for 1985 reveals a number of cheerful placements and sidereal invitations to essential progress.

In the world chart Mercury, the ruler, is in conjunction with Venus and both enjoy the benevolent influence of Uranus. It may be appropriate, therefore, to assume that there will be a marked increase of thoughtfulness, common sense, and kindly feelings. More than in recent years, the peoples of various nations may think constructively and cooperatively about the arbitration of their difficulties. It does not necessarily follow that intellection will become universal, but there should be increasing awareness that

selfishness, unreasonable ambitions, and the desperate determination to accumulate wealth regardless of integrities endangers the survival of the race.

In many parts of the world, militaristic efforts to support political causes will lose their attractiveness. Living and working conditions should improve, and there will be strong emphasis on the technical aspects of education. Indications are that public health is generally better. There should be less unemployment, and working conditions should be improved. There are likely to be fewer strikes and labor disputes and the public in general will be increasingly aware of the essential facts of living.

While the general trend indicates marked improvement, certain complications are likely to arise. Increase of honesty will penalize dishonesty, and those who have been living by programs of exploitation may become violently displeased. Exposés of corruption will arise on many levels of human society, but it will become increasingly difficult to maintain dishonorable projects. One slightly disconcerting prospect is in the area of taxation. Governments will raise funds for many possible and impossible purposes, and legislators will devote much time trying to protect public and private extravagance. The trend toward socialistic objectives and policies will spread, but may form a workable partnership with the democratic aspirations of most nations. At the moment, the world is one vast invalid. Up to now, medical attention on the social, economic, and political levels has been impossibly expensive and those experimenting in this direction have decided that the remedies are sometimes as dangerous as the ailments. With these few cheerful remarks, we turn our attention to the world trends for 1985.

Throughout the world from one cause or another, indications are that the condition of the people in general is more cheerful. The real cause is better thinking resulting from saddening experiences. Mistakes ultimately clear themselves when their consequences become unendurable. A universal reformation is in the air, and champions for social change will arise in practically every section of the earth and level of society. It is becoming generally

evident that we are not prepared for the situations that must be faced and the victory of facts over policies should be notable on every hand. In the fall of 1985, there is apt to be a collision between reactionaires and progressives in several parts of the world, but it appears that serious consequences are almost certain to be averted.

The financial situation offers some interesting possibilities. There will be greater stability than has been expected and several major changes in the credit structure. Money will be available for homes, small business, education, and non-profit activities. It will be discovered that insolvency has been endured when it was actually unnecessary. The financial structure in general will begin to distinguish clearly between the use and abuse of money. Financial losses are often the result of false philosophies concerning the role of wealth in the broad plan of world progress.

The dangers of catering to corruption in the field of the arts will become apparent and a series of disillusioning occurrences will demonstrate beyond doubt the destructive effect of immoral entertainment upon both young and old. In 1985, a series of dangerous and disillusioning events will arouse public indignation. An entirely new theory of amusement comparatively free of vulgarity is in the making and is likely to have several important effects. Less emphasis upon profit and more upon contributions to social progress is signified and as this trend develops, it will become obvious that the trials and tribulations of the past have not been in vain. We can summarize the financial situation by noting that popular indignation demands better quality with substantially less expense.

Transportation and communication present a somewhat more complicated annual forecast. Nearly all moving vehicles must be handled thoughtfully. Defects of manufacturing are dangerous and expensive. Accidents involving young people will increase. Shipping will become increasingly dangerous. There could be accidents to railroads and some public concern over air transportation. The press may be under severe criticism and subject to expensive lawsuits. Censorship of books and pornographic publications will be more severe, and several journals will be forced out of business.

Military activities will endanger travel, and neglect of appropriate upkeep affects most moving vehicles. Late spring and late fall may present special danger to local buses and trams. Short trips could be more than normally hazardous, the dangers increased by alcohol and narcotics. Delays in travel and a marked deterioration of postal and telegraph facilities will be annoying, but, for the most part, not especially dangerous.

In many countries minor political squabbles can bring local disaster. The effort of large powers to dominate small countries will continue. Weather conditions throughout the world indicate strong winds, floods, and probably minor earthquakes. Disasters in mines and public buildings will be due largely to neglect and failure of health measures. Crops will be adversely affected by climate and squabbles arise when minor political parties attempt to harass the dominant administration. Taxes on lands will rise, so will property values, but sales will be less frequent and litigation over property will continue throughout the year.

The death rate will be down generally, but indications are that sickness and death among small children will increase, and epidemical diseases are noted among the less developed nations. Educational facilities are apt to be involved in unpleasant controversies especially among groups working for progressive reforms. Places of amusement are apt to be in financial troubles, public morals are depressed, and the levels of social relationships will continue to fall. International diplomats must be careful to avoid participation in the internal affairs of foreign nations. Regional outbreaks of violence continue to endanger the unity of various states and nations.

Most countries feel impelled to extend defense programs. Larger powers, however, are beginning to realize that competitive armament is only justified when one nation wants to take over the government and territory of a neighboring state. By this fact alone, militarism disgraces itself. World health, apart from war or revolution, is especially subject to psychological and neurotic ailments. It appears, however, that these fears will have a tendency to diminish.

Civil service or its equivalent is being subject to so many hazards and conflicts that a general reorganization of this entire segment is overdue. There is always danger of strikes and labor outbursts, but this year irresistible forces will be confronted by immovable circumstances. Very little will be gained by labor outbreaks and the public, including a considerable part of labor, is not in favor of economic agitation. In some countries, however, labor is so deeply involved in politics that the desperate effort to avoid enslavement will perpetuate minor forms of violence. It is difficult to estimate health patterns, but aggressions and despotisms of all kinds nearly always result in famines and family displacements ending in tragedy. It would seem to me that public indignation will bring about benevolent changes in 1985.

Although planetary aspects indicate mixed blessings, I do not believe that there will be a major war in 1985. It is quite possible, however, that small conflicts between countries or within them will arouse public indignation. The trend toward fragmentation in which small groups set up arbitrary political boundaries will continue to plague the world in general. These intrigues have been built upon by opportunists ambitious for power and will tend to prevent the advancements of the major projects which countries are striving to bring about.

The bond of marriage is under pressure in most parts of the world, and all permanent relationships are threatened by selfishness and self-interest. An unusual number of divorces is indicated with a curious complication. Many divorced couples are likely to remarry for reasons that have not yet been clarified.

Most countries are competing in world markets and as mechanization intensifies the sellers will increase in number and the buyers will diminish. In all parts of the world, women will become increasingly important economically and politically. In some areas, their progress is hindered by tradition or religion, but they will gain in influence and in economic status. The stars are favorable for the arbitration of disputes on all levels, but some people seem determined to go against the heavenly portents.

There is some agitation to increase taxation, restrict benefits,

and eliminate exemptions in the realm of taxes. Mistakes are becoming very costly and it has seemed apparent that they must be financed by the victims. A number of experiments will be tried, but every change will be bitterly opposed.

The death rate will be lower except in those areas which suffer heavily from man's inhumanity to man. Even in these regions public indignation may exert a healthy influence. Various executive bodies, political, industrial, or theological will be locked in disputes with numerous resignations and some expulsions. The struggle for freedom from debt, and the balancing of world trade goes on and on and in this coming year economic warfare is likely to become increasingly dangerous for many smaller nations. There are some good aspects, however, and a growing tendency is indicated to realize that intense competition is the death of trade and also the trader. There are clear indications that many countries are destroying themselves and each other by the desperate effort to live beyond their means.

One of the serious trouble spots is that part of the chart involving the triad of religion, philosophy, and science. Heaven says that these are three parts of one system, but this important truth is not generally recognized. Because of extreme loyalty to decadent ideas, nearly all branches of higher intellectualism are now unrealistic. Philosophy, which should be the reconciler of higher learning, has fallen into a materialism by which it is largely incapacitated. Science has emancipated itself from sickly idealism and is locked in a private universe. Religion at this moment has the greatest opportunity which has come to it in the last thousand years, but has never recovered from sectarianism nor recognized the unity of those spiritual convictions that could bind up the wounds of moral decadence.

Moral integrity is necessary to survival and the great religions of the world are basically dedicated to convictions that could solve most of the world's problems. In 1985 this could change according to the chart, while the dickering will go and religious intolerance will perpetuate misery, in many areas there will be a breakthrough into the light of religious unity. Also open for correction is the

legal system and the time has come when a worldwide code of laws should be agreed upon and supported by all peoples. From the beginning, jurisprudence has depended upon religion to make the witness swear that he is telling the truth.

World trade should be brisk and, in spite of uncertainties, travel for business or pleasure will continue to flourish. Higher education must become contemporary and graduate young people who know how to handle the responsibilities of life widely and happily. In this area also, spiritual commitments are of the greatest importance.

Whenever anything goes wrong in this world, the government is held responsible. Whether the leader of the state is elected by the consent of the governed, born to the job, or has elevated himself with the aid of the military, he is supposed to function for the benefit of the governed. It would seem that leaders will be under a variety of hazards in 1985. Older statesmen may pass on or retire because of infirmity. Some will die from natural causes, but there is always danger of assassination. There is less incentive to overthrow an administration on the grounds of the need for immediate change. This will be a poor year for leaders to alienate their constituencies. Abdication of leaders is also possible and several heads of state may long for the pleasures of private life. Aspects also indicate a prevailing distrust in leadership and occurrences revealing corruption in high places.

Many countries concerned with maintaining the credit necessary to meet the expenses of government in times of emergency are apt to find greater resistance to long-time loans. Substantially, money will be a little tighter. There is also trouble in store for the aristocracy of wealth. It is a mistake to parade extravagance under present world conditions. Without a more equitable distribution of means, the ends will always be troublesome. With half the world in desperate trouble every possible effort should be made to prevent the exploitation of innocent people.

On the more optimistic side international relationships between nations appear to improve with better confidence and stronger mutual understanding. The protection of displaced persons has

received so much public attention that atrocities of this kind result in strong public indignation. In most countries, the prevailing regime is not strong enough to survive too much of this indignation. The media brings it to the attention of the whole world and secret conspiracies are soon exposed. In countries where rulership is vested in parliaments, senates, or cabinets there is the probability of considerable conflict among them. Governments may fall requiring special elections or the intervention of the military. There will be considerable emphasis upon efforts to increase benefits to those in need of special services and to help refugees to fit themselves for useful citizenship. The United Nations will be under extreme pressure and major changes in policies will result in general improvement of its humanitarian activities. In the area of world relationships a greater kindness and friendliness will become evident.

Several nations will unite efforts to curb criminal and terrorist organizations. Restriction of the flow of narcotics will meet considerable success, with more severe penalties for all concerned. Accidents and suicides should be less numerous. Charitable institutions will be successful in raising funds for worthy objectives, but scandals in this area may cause public concern. Those guilty of major crimes will receive longer sentences and the procedure of probationship will be considerably tightened. Reforms will include some process by which convicts can become self-supporting or make positive contributions to society. International laws will be revised to permit law enforcement agencies to unite their efforts to reduce loopholes available to those seeking safe asylums in other countries. In this year, efforts will increase to prosecute wealthy or powerful persons who have long regarded themselves as immune from such procedures. There is a strong trend against the exorbitant cost of medical care and hospitalization. In time, this will lead to the tightening of Medicare benefits and government regulation of fees for various services. As usual, most nations will make new provisions for the protection of the elderly and the infirm.

The network of espionage and sabotage will continue to spread, especially among small countries that are vulnerable to political

corruption, but will be less effective than in the past. Public opinion, supported by news media, will have increasing effect in favor of moderate governments. Benevolent organizations and fraternal societies will have a better year with more persons interested in uniting their efforts toward the correction of moral, ethical, and physical delinquencies. The peoples of the world, regardless of race, national background or economic status, will demand, and secure a greater influence in decisions affecting world peace and individual security.

There will be four eclipses in 1985—two of the sun and two of the moon. There is an eclipse of the sun on May 19 in Taurus and another on November 12 in Scorpio. There are two lunar eclipses—one on May 4 in Scorpio, and another on October 28 in Taurus. All four are in intersepted signs. The Taurus eclipses involve a considerable part of South America, and those in Scorpio affect eastern Asia and Australia. Great Britain and Ireland will also be adversely affected.

The eclipses in Taurus suggest natural disasters and also ideological controversies. Groups that should be working closely together will be enervated by arguments, prejudices, propaganda, and traditional allegiances. The public good will be sacrificed to the satisfaction of old grudges. The eclipses in Scorpio may precipitate earthquakes, floods, and epidemical diseases resulting in considerable loss of life and property damage. Efforts to improve the condition of peoples will be hampered by the ulterior motives of leaders and the spread of malicious propaganda, especially in areas where the eclipses are visible.

Climatic forecasts are difficult but it appears that in general, the trend should be somewhat on the dry side with variable winds. Weather predictions may be seriously disturbed by erratic air currents originating in mountainous regions. There could be some droughts in agricultural regions, and the prevailing climate could result in various types of infestation. Harvests are also likely to be affected as the result of warfare in regions already in serious difficulties. Unfavorable weather conditions could seriously affect travel and increase danger of accidents on public conveyances. The

fact that the eclipses*are intercepted may be fortunate in matters of climate.

Because of the number of benevolent aspects, many countries will be more successful in preventing problems or solving them, so it is appropriate at this point to take a quick glance at a number of the world's significant nations.

AFRICA

This group of countries enjoys considerable astrological support in 1985. There is a strong trend toward cooperation, mutual support, and improving leadership. Some brilliant leaders will emerge with practical directives including emphasis on education and native industries. Living standards should rise markedly, racial problems will be arbitrated, and it is inevitable that the African peoples will assume complete control of their continent in the not so very distant future. A league or union of African nations is also in the making and will provide a blueprint for future projects. Efforts of foreign nations to take over some of these emerging countries is a real danger, but better leadership will provide an adequate solution. There is a good probability that Africa can become self supporting by taking advantage of skills which can be rapidly developed. There will be small setbacks, but the main trend is most hopeful.

ANGOLA This country is faced with mixed circumstances. There seems to be a subversive force of some kind working against the best interest of the people. There are also a number of emotional pressures which delay united action. There is a blessing upon the improvement of education and valuable health programs, but the young people have a divided allegiance and anxieties relating to the future of their country. A minor outbreak probably originating from outside interference may be intensive, but short-lived. Considerable outside financial assistance will be fortunate as there might be a health crisis in late summer or early fall.

EGYPT Nineteen hundred eighty-five should be a very impor-

tant year for the Egyptian people. The chart indicates that this country could become a major power. It can contribute to the liberalizing of the Moslem world and also build a bridge of constructive relationships with members of other faiths. Constructive leadership is promised for the internal affairs of the country. Beginning early in the year, a series of events will focus attention upon Egypt as an arbitrator of inter-racial and inter-religious stress and tension. Conferences are likely to be held which may bring Egypt the censure of ultra-conservative Moslem groups, but many of the potential difficulties can be successfully solved. There may be some monetary problems, but they will be successfully handled. A prominent Egyptian may be in physical danger in the spring. There will also be major advancements in education, improvement of industrial skills, and a favorable relationship with world markets. Important archaeological finds in a remote area of southern Egypt may focus attention upon the scientific and archaeological resources of the country.

ETHIOPIA Conditions in this nation remain unsettled. There are indications of improvement, but a power struggle continues to deplete the resources of the country and devitalize the imperiled citizenry. Ever since the departure of Haile Selassie Ethiopia has been the victim of foreign intrigues and internal tyranny. Local groups in their struggles for domination are gradually destroying their own national identity and are losing their struggle to establish an independent country. Serious health problems may arise; local industries are neglected; education is imperiled; and the standard of living is collapsing. On the bright side however, a positive move to integrate the nation is on the way and improvements are liable to be more obvious after July.

LIBERIA For many years, Liberia managed its own affairs with dignity and reasonable efficiency. More recently, however, it has taken on the general confusion which is endangering the survival of modern civilization. The year appears generally fortunate for this African nation which was guided during its formative period

by the help and advice of the United States. The administration becomes more progressive and humanitarian with genuine recognition of the needs of the people and the responsibilities of the political structure. Liberians will be more optimistic and aware of the potentials of their country. The governmental structure will become more progressive, better laws will be enacted, and the financial credit of the country will reflect its internal improvement. There will be unusual progress in arts and crafts, and exports will include a variety of handicrafts. With reasonable care it can avoid the disturbances which afflict most of the African continent. Living conditions will show steady improvement and opportunities for employment contribute to the cheerful atmosphere.

MOROCCO The people of this country must exercise self-control and avoid becoming embroiled in factional disputes. The country continues to suffer from the confusion of 1984 and actually the end does not seem to be in sight. There is less emotional stress and the people are taking life less seriously, but very little is being solved. Most of the utilities are in short supply and even the religious life of the people is disturbed and conflicting. Relations with surrounding countries are uncertain and the eclipses are not helpful. The keynote seems to be "watchful waiting." Moroccans must be as inconspicuous as possible in world affairs for at least another year.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

These two areas we will consider together although their destinies are not entirely similar. Australia is in a cycle of expansion. Areas of neglected land will be developed and there should be a considerable boom in housing and industrial installations. There is still opportunity to build interesting and useful careers in many fields of endeavor. This is also true in New Zealand, but some volcanic activity is possible. Climatic conditions are unsettled and there may be a minor virus epidemic. Accidents in sports may be more prevalent. Minor political unrest will be intensified during the months ahead, but is not likely to reach serious proportions.

The economic condition is stable and altogether these areas are among the more fortunate regions of the year.

THE BALKAN COUNTRIES

ALBANIA AND BULGARIA We combine these countries because of their locational proximity and their general condition politically. This year young people will become increasingly restive for lack of opportunities for self expression and the building of successful careers. A small political uprising may be in the making in either or both of these countries. The church is likely to play a positive part in the unrest. There may be small gains and some improvement in education, but the stars do not indicate a major change.

GREECE Citizens of this country continue to have economic difficulties. Private citizens are rugged individualists and are not accustomed to working together. The Eastern Church is apt to be harassed by the Moslems—the concept of pan-Islamism is spreading through much of eastern Europe. There is considerable propaganda in the air and the present government is precariously poised. Tourism proves helpful and programs to restore ancient cultural monuments are gaining considerable support. The improvement of sanitation and living conditions is immediately necessary. In these times particularly, the world should be reminded of its indebtedness to Greece for the foundations of science, philosophy, religion, and the arts. Weather conditions may be unfavorable for agriculture and there is continuing danger of earthquakes. A prominent Greek leader is in some personal danger.

HUNGARY Hungarians must avoid political involvements that could lead to violence. Young people may be difficult to control and underground movements must be especially careful. There is some danger that alcoholism and narcotic addiction will increase with a corresponding rise in the accident rate. Patriotism and traditional allegiances will be strengthened, but there is increasing

danger of water and air pollution and virus infections. Financial matters will improve. There will be some encouragement for private enterprises. Benefits for older people will increase. Censorship may be tightened and religious freedoms curtailed. Patience is important this year, but, for the most part, conditions will drift along as they have in recent years. Heavy storms may be expected in the early fall with considerable property damage.

ROMANIA There seems to be much optimism among the Romanians. Economic conditions improve and there is a strong drift in the direction of the free world. Trade becomes brisk and loans for the improvement of industry can be secured. The Romanians will gain some participation in government and leaders will be inclined toward tolerance. There are improvements in education and religion will continue to support the moral life of the people. The standard of living will rise moderately, tourist trade will be encouraged, and fairs will prove attractive to foreign capital. The national spirit is strengthening, and family life is more secure. Every possible effort should be made to avoid involvement in armament projects, or troubles with adjacent countries.

TURKEY Turkey will play an important part in Eastern European affairs. Leadership within the country will improve and indications are that the Turks will attempt to reconcile the religious disputes which are endangering peace in the Near East. As a Moslem country, it wishes to function amiably in its relationships with the nations of the free world. Some internal strife may arise, probably in the late summer, but it will be controlled. Relations with Greece should be more constructive and Turkey should have a good international press. There could be further natural disasters in the general area of Asiatic Turkey. It is not likely that there will be much dialogue between Turkey and the Soviet Union, and discussions will be cautious. Turks will travel more outside of their own country and trade will improve. The standard of living should rise markedly, crime will be dealt with promptly, and a kind of Protestant-Islamism will attract and hold younger persons. There

could be an epidemic of intestinal flu in the late fall and winter when the weather is likely to be unusually severe.

YUGOSLAVIA This could be a strenuous year for Yugoslavians. Their unique type of socialism maintained by President Tito is being eroded away. The Yugoslavs in general will do everything possible to preserve an open policy. They have established a brisk trade with other countries and as a result their economy is on the healthy side. There will be strong public objections toward interference with the internal affairs of the country. National leaders are developing diplomatic skills which will prove effective in many cases. The emphasis for the year is the protection of the rights of the people. Due in part at least to internal difficulties, the Soviet Union may feel it prudent to overlook the revivals of religion and the strengthening of incentive business policies. Folk arts have a good market and the public mind is dedicated to the ultimate restoration of national freedom.

EUROPE

AUSTRIA This should be a better than average year for the Austrians. Financial conditions in general show considerable improvement. Essential foods will be available at reasonable prices. There is less inflation, the currency should strengthen, and a program for the updating of transportation and railroading contributes to increasing prosperity. Relations with neighboring countries should be genial and there is strong emphasis upon tourism. There are excellent weather conditions for winter sports and vacationers will find Austria attractive. Entertainment facilities offer a variety of amusements, especially instrumental music and ballet. Educational facilities will improve and the monetary system will be relatively stable. Naturally lighthearted Austrians will not have too much to complain about in 1985. In this country, the private enterprise system also gains in strength. Relations with surrounding countries will offer special inducements to attract foreign students. Fashions and styles will emphasize charm and grace with traces of

romanticism. The weather will be pleasant with emphasis upon light breezes and showers. The winter should not be severe. Accidents in moving vehicles, especially river boats, may cause concern.

BELGIUM This small country will gain importance as a center for conferences and diplomatic gatherings. For the most part there will be significant results of a constructive nature. The government is protected and the ruler will be increasingly popular. There is sickness and danger to an important person. There are indications of reasonable prosperity and visitors will be treated well. Religion will gain in influence. Education, especially in the arts, will attract painters, sculptors, architects, and designers of formal gardens. The spring of 1986 may seriously complicate the people of Belgium, especially politically, but they will probably come out all right.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA It will be most advisable for the Czechoslovakians to act discreetly and patiently in matters of politics. Adverse propaganda could lead to serious consequences. Secret police will be active and existing privileges and opportunities could be threatened. A serious accident involving transportation may reveal conspiracy or sabotage. Many of the basic utilities have been long neglected and require modernization to protect the public health. One fortunate area is concerned with education indicating marked improvement in the higher institution of learning. Religious values are still under pressure, but private worship will increase and there will be little evidence of atheism. Public health improves, there is some advance in housing, but unemployment remains a major issue. Some funds for the modernization of transportation, including shipping, are likely to become available in the summer or fall.

FRANCE In 1985, the French will be busily engaged in the glamorization of their country and the refurbishing of their national treasures. Paris will be prominent in the news and tourists will

observe a new friendliness and courtesy. It could well be that the French will over-spend themselves and be forced to retrench by summer and late fall. Patriotism will increase and practical efforts will be made to solve the agitations of ambitious minorities. Peasants and agriculturists generally will find good markets for their products, and climatic conditions are on a favorable side. The government is insecure, but this is a tragic and proverbial weakness. Efforts to militarize France will receive very little enthusiasm within or outside of the country. There is a mounting interest in religion and the church will have considerable influence on the level of government. Health will be fair, but alcoholism and narcotic addiction will become increasingly difficult to control. A warm summer is likely and the rainfall could be lighter than normally expected. There will be concern over speed limits and the accident rate will rise. The French art world will produce more works of value and inspirational content. Health in general will be good. Small children should be given more supervision and guidance.

EAST GERMANY A new progressive atmosphere is rising in this region with the hope that the Berlin wall can come down. Normal relations with West Germany are contrary to the Soviet controlled government and, while there may be some minor improvements, it is unlikely that the hopes of the East German people will be realized in the near future. It is recommended that any major endeavor to unite the two Germanies had best be postponed until a later year. The effort to indoctrinate the East Germans with Soviet ideology has been for the most part unsuccessful. Young people reject regimentation and political indoctrination, and as they grow older will demand and gain new freedoms and privileges.

WEST GERMANY West Germany is doing considerably better and its prosperity should continue throughout 1985. There is emphasis upon heavy industry, electronics, automobiles, and precision instruments. The level of employment is not bad and should improve shortly. Housing facilities will increase rapidly and political scandals will be handled quickly and effectively. Foreign

capital will be gratefully received, but there may be danger of strikes and labor disputes. The several political parties are in conflict, but in major emergencies, common sense will prevail. Industrial accidents may become more numerous, but basic health is reasonably good. The entertainment field is expanding and fine arts are still popular. Anti-establishmentarians remain a highly visible problem, but the air should gradually clear.

GREAT BRITAIN Mixed blessings are indicated for this country, but there appears to be considerable protection. Great Britain is disturbed by eclipses, but there is improvement in education and the British public is still essentially loyal to its government and its way of life. Its educational institutions are increasingly progressive and free from political interference. The Church of England is accepted by its membership without serious reservation and is likely to become a major factor in the moral life of the Britishers. They still enjoy public functions and maintain a high reputation for their museums, art galleries, churches, and libraries. Most of these were damaged in World War II, but have been properly restored. Certain difficulties are inevitable. The country is small and has always lacked the raw materials needed in industry. The various strata of society unite when need requires and one example of that may be the arbitration of intellectual differences in June or July of 1985. The royal family is under some affliction and there could be both sickness and public disapproval of certain events. The gradual disintegration of the British Commonwealth will become a problem for the entire world. Some structure must be developed to prevent the political and economic exploitation of the newly established democratic states which have neither the strength nor experience necessary to self-government. Revision of tax laws is urgently needed and the exploitation of benefits and privileges will be under serious consideration.

IRELAND Both North and South Ireland will have difficulties for some time to come. There are afflictions which include two eclipses and a serious opposition. While the situation has unfortunately been intensified by religious antagonisms, other factors are

certainly involved. The feud has drifted along for over a thousand years, but there is a good possibility that sober thinking could do much to ease the tension. The Republic of Eire demands the dissolution of all ties between England and North Ireland. There seems no valid reason, however, why the two groups cannot live peacefully together. Neighbors do not have to go to the same church, but they can be friends. There is likely to be another outbreak of violence in May or June, but there is also a possibility that it will lead the way for the final solution of the dilemma. In the meantime, South Ireland is expanding its markets and trading with many foreign nations, including the United States. There are many skilled artisans and artists whose products have a substantial market. Some difficult situation is in the making however. It could be in the form of a major disaster in transportation or a serious virus infection; an outbreak of political or religious terrorism might also meet the astrological indications.

ITALY The Italians are apt to be very busy this year quietly combating their underworld. A general housecleaning of organized crime is in the making and all respectable countries hope that the effort will be successful. The task will be difficult and dangerous. The government is strengthened and may have the courage to take on constructive projects that are long overdue. Radical elements within the country may be faced courageously and the Vatican, which has the same ruler as Italy, may cooperate with constructive programs and support educational reforms. A crisis in narcotics is pending, but the Italians in general will support useful and practical reforms. The present government is somewhat shaky, but this will not prevent the attack on organized crime. Mount Etna in Sicily could become active.

NETHERLANDS The portents for the Netherlands appear to be favorable. The government is strongly supported, but there is some concern over subversive activities. Relations with surrounding countries will be mostly good and the financial situation is secure. Foreign trade is likely to be brisk. Indications are that women will gain political and economic recognition. Young people

will become seriously concerned with the well-being of their nation, and there could be a higher standard of morality and ethics in the entertainment field. Climate may leave something to be desired and ailments to the respiratory system are indicated. The accident rate may be high and special care should be given to public transportation. Religion will enjoy a substantial revival and the country will have favorable coverage in the media.

POLAND Conditions in Poland will not greatly improve in 1985. There will be further curtailments in religion, and the privileges of private citizens will be further restricted. There will be special stress among those who load and unload ships. Efforts to intimidate the Polish people will cause further outbreaks of patriotism. Damage to public buildings due to arson may cripple industry. The financial condition will probably worsen with considerable privation and further unemployment. Underground liberation movements continue to embarrass the communist controlled government. As may be expected, health is depressed and many persons will suffer from ailments due to malnutrition and the prevailing anxiety. There may be some improvement in the spring of 1986.

PORTUGAL Portugal will suffer some confusion on a political level and progress in most areas will be uncomfortable. Some political confusion develops, but the nature of the Portuguese people is patient, kindly, and pacifistic; unless foreign nations interfere, there will be marked improvement by the end of this year. Heavy storms along the coast are likely to cause serious damage and work a hardship upon the country's economy. There should be advancements in education and the social services. Friendships with foreign nations will be strengthened and commerce, though somewhat weatherbeaten, will be maintained. Exports of handicrafts, antiques (or reasonable reproductions thereof), fabrics, and manufactured goods will be brisk and foreign markets will expand. A good advertising program would be beneficial. Religion continues to exercise a constructive force, and older people especially find courage and hope in their faith. There could be strained rela-

tions between Portugal and Spain, but the Portuguese bear their difficulties with dignity. Conditions in Portugal also improve in 1985.

SPAIN This country will be rather upset. Political stress is strongly indicated and some kind of a power struggle between groups or factions is likely to spread. Unseasonal weather conditions endanger crops, and sickness to animals may require special attention for a period of years. The government is not secure and outside interventions add to the troubles of the day. Relations with France may improve, but difficulties with the Basques will not be easily solved. Disputes over land, leases, mortgages, and the like increase. Heavy weather is detrimental to the food chain and also endangers shipping. Foreign trade may be better, but it is possible that it will be damaged by complications due to laws relating to policies affecting the balance of trade. Tourism will be helpful and the long enduring feud over the possession of Gibraltar is on the verge of solution.

SWITZERLAND This country, with a highly democratic form of government, is proof positive that several cultural groups can dwell together in social harmony. There is strong emphasis on this country in 1985, and it may become a valuable force in the maintenance of peace in Europe. It continues to exercise its function for international banking, at least for the balance of this year. It may have a number of unsuspected customers, especially among Near Eastern potentates. The planets indicate protection of the health and prosperity of the country and, in this case, also indicate conferences, delegations, and committees deeply involved in international problems. The United Nations in Switzerland is likely to make a major contribution toward world peace and the limitation of armaments. A diversity of weather may be expected. Mountainous areas are afflicted with dangerous storms and avalanches. On level plains where cattle are raised and dairy products are the principle source of income, unusual inclement weather may bring sickness to the stock. In the lower altitudes, prosperity will be probable and the financial condition of the country in general invites

tourism and the establishment of industrial sites.

U.S.S.R. The horoscope of Soviet Russia indicates that its government is seated firmly on an intellectual level of thought and action. The regime is skeptical on religious matters and dedicated largely to the spread of political socialism. Two or three trends are notable. One is an increasing dependency on religion and higher idealism. Napoleon noted that countries could be conquered by atheism, but could be governed in times of peace only with the help of religion. Educational barriers will be lowered and scientists will be encouraged to explore the unknown aspects of universal law, but only for the benefit of the Russian political system. There will be greater emphasis upon the well-being of young people with firm laws against intemperance and pornography. Efforts to limit world armaments will reach some measure of success, but the accomplishments will remain marginal. The Soviets will make an all-out drive to complete their controls over Poland and Afghanistan. They will have some success, but trouble is likely to arise in other areas. Efforts to form a lasting pact with China will end largely in conversation. Serious disputes are apt to arise on the highest level of the governing body of the Soviet Union. A power struggle is likely and those of moderate minds will be returned to private life or worse. In recent years the trends have been toward the importance of private enterprise. In this area, there will be a serious setback. A campaign will be implemented against any trace of religious idealism in the public school system or scientific institutions. Efforts to expand in central or eastern Asia will be strongly resisted and might lead to a crisis, but the Soviets will refrain from open violence. It appears that Russia and the United States may iron out some of their difficulties.

THE SCANDINAVIAN BLOC

By keeping a firm attitude Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland can exercise a strong influence in the world around them. The year will be much as usual, but certain anxieties linger on. To maintain their independence, this group, with the exception of Finland, must cooperate whenever and wherever emergencies arise.

They can depend upon considerable assistance from other nations if needed. The internal conditions of these countries are good. They have a substantial foreign trade and, with the exception of small minorities, are well disciplined. The influence of religion will strengthen, the crime rate will be lower, and public education will put greater emphasis upon moral and ethical conditions. There are some health problems to high government leaders, but the end of the year will show an improved economy and competent leadership.

THE NEAR EAST

This region will be under considerable stress throughout the year. A lasting peace does not seem to be in sight. Antagonisms—racial, political, and religious, will be difficult to defuse. The Emirates will attempt to maintain peace in their own sheikhdoms, but in most of the other nations it is almost impossible to trace a consistent policy. We can only say that Moslemism is constantly increasing in strength and is heavily burdened with sectarian strife.

IRAN Ruled by a fixed sign and subject to erratic memories of past glories, Iran is a good example of religious despotism. There is very little probability that any Islamic problem will actually be solved this year, but some valiant attempts will be made to reduce the difficulty. The forecast indicates continued economic depression, ultra-conservatism in the Moslem sense of that word, and a fanatical determination to move life back to the eighth century A.D. Political ambition also plays an important part in the continued strife between countries who formerly lived together in comparative peace. A few powerful Moslem leaders are determined to compete with Russia for the complete rulership of the human race. Until young people have something to say in the Moslem world progress will be tragically slow. There will be serious health problems for Iran and much unemployment. Many workers are wound up in religious disputes, and most industries are faced with broken down machinery and little hope of replacement. The condition of women is regrettable, but this may be a vulnerable

area which can lead to constructive change.

ISRAEL Conditions in this little country are going to remain more or less critical. Israel is afflicted by eclipses and these always work a hardship upon political leaders, the legal profession, and the advancement of education. This year there will be much squabbling among politicians which will result in few solutions. The financial situation is bad, but there seems to be some help in sight. The needs of Israel greatly exceed the resources of the country. The principal available asset is the determination of the people to protect their homeland at all costs. It looks as though the death rate will remove a bitter enemy of Israel. The little country is in need of better public relations. It seems likely that one or more heads of Near Eastern nations may become sympathetic to Israel in an emergency. Travel in Israel is increasing and this trend will continue. The area is sacred to the Jewish people, the Christian world, and the Moslem faith. It is time for them to get together and protect the land that is sacred to them all. We should have outgrown fanatical attitudes. The Israelis must also use every means possible to overcome political discords within the country itself. There may be critical periods in May and November.

THE FAR EAST

AFGHANISTAN This country is apt to be in grave difficulties through most of 1985. In the long run however, the spirit of the Afghanistan people will have constructive results. Intervention of outside powers will prove beneficial and, in the late spring, there are fortunate configurations of a protective kind. Health problems due to privation and exceptionally bad weather conditions will be faced courageously. The people are characterized by powerful dedications, both religious and political. They are likely to survive because they are ruled by Capricorn and, in 1985, Saturn, their ruling planet is in the powerful, fixed sign of Scorpio. Their greatest asset is dedication to the principles which they regard as just. After the middle of the year there might be at least a temporary armistice, strongly supported by world opinion.

BURMA This country has been in the doldrums for a number of years, but the chart for 1985 indicates a marked improvement in the government of the country and its relation to other nations. Tourism will increase, the archaeological treasures of the country will invite serious study, and the standard of living will rise. The Buddhist religion will have a strong revival, and the arts and crafts of the people will find foreign markets. The drug traffic will be largely curbed, financial conditions will improve, commerce may be more brisk, and there is advancement in education and medical care. The exporting of timber will be better regulated and the people in general will provide inducements for tourists and investors.

INDIA There is no easy solution to the complex problems of India. For ages it was divided into feudal states with local rulers of varying degrees of ability and integrity. There is very little precedent for the emergence of a successful political democracy. The central government is not strong enough or sufficiently experienced to cope with the existing conglomerate. Once the smaller political units determine to become free and independent states, it will be extremely difficult to control this trend. In 1985 there are a number of good aspects which may be of great value if they are properly utilized. Again there is strong emphasis upon control of the birth rate. Public morals must be raised in every way possible if morale is to improve. Financial reforms must be implemented to lessen the temptation of dishonesty. The time may come when local autonomy is indispensable to survival. Religious, racial, cultural, and geographical groups have had little experience in mutual cooperation and it is probable that minor political outbreaks will occur throughout the year. In spite of the confused perspective, the country as a whole should move forward toward greater stability, but the process will take considerable time.

INDOCHINA Under the general heading of Indochina, it seems best to group the Khmer Republic (formerly Cambodia), Laos, Vietnam, and Thailand (formerly Siam). All these countries were bound together originally by Hinayana Buddhism and later they were strongly influenced by France, except Thailand. Currently all

of these areas are under stress and have been the victims of political terrorism. Due to a strong influence from the free world, conditions in these countries may improve somewhat, but refugees are still willing to face the danger of death to escape the present regimes. Thailand, though burdened with refugees, has considerable planetary protection. Sabotage and espionage complicate the rights of the Thai people, but its first line of defense is to see what happens where political tyrannies take over. Thailand is prosperous, its arts and crafts improve, the standard of living rises, and moderate reforms that are truly beneficial contribute to the general atmosphere of progress. Foreign investment increases, exports from Thailand find a ready market, visitors are well treated, and Buddhist religion still has a large and devout following.

Generally speaking, the people are satisfied with their way of life. It would seem that the despotic regimes that have terrorized these areas will be subject to considerable change. More moderate leadership is necessary to solve the internal troubles and expand trade to outside areas. Nature nearly always punishes political and social corruption and helps to bring about constructive changes. Floods are likely to occur in the late fall. Counter revolutions may arise suddenly and religion can be the power behind needed reforms.

INDONESIA Conditions in Java, Bali, and Sumatra are under favorable sidereal influences, but there may be some anxiety over the danger of outside political infiltration. Weather conditions should be moderate, but there is some danger of seismic activity and virus ailments. The government is more benevolent and local leaders will act moderately if emergencies arise. The several religious groups will be tolerant and cooperative. Trade with neighboring Asiatic countries appears to be brisk and profitable. Educational opportunities for women will be established and there will be important advances in health and hygiene. Accidents will be somewhat more numerous and atmospheric disturbances and storms at sea are likely. The main improvement is in the quality of leadership which will be better equipped to bring industrial investments into the area. Unsettled conditions in neighboring states

will cause some apprehension, but military aggression appears to be unlikely this year.

JAPAN This will be a very active year for the Japanese people and benevolent aspects predominate. There is considerable emphasis upon the finances of the nation. Commerce expands and there is a strong effort to create new markets in lesser developed countries. This may result in slightly strained relations with mainland China which has the same idea. This year, Japan will introduce several important inventions; some in the electronic field and others which will contribute to the health and safety of industrial workers. Industrial leaders of various countries will attend important conventions in Japan. There should be some revision in tax laws, also constructive regulation of trade balances will be pleasing to several countries, including the United States. There are health problems affecting elder statesmen, but the chances of recoveries are good. Japanese minorities in various countries will be important in the establishment of factories and trade outlets abroad. Strenuous efforts will be made to curb juvenile delinquency. Japan will join several other countries in an all out effort to eliminate the drug traffic. Educational programs will include strong idealistic emphasis and religion will gain in influence as the first line of defense against materialistic pressures. There will be a mild attempt to strengthen military defense, but most of the budget will be devoted to the improvement of medical facilities and pension plans. The accident rate may be high and pollution as the result of industrial installations will be the cause of some worry. There may be earthquakes, as usual, and fires may result in heavy property loss. Attention is likely to be centered on the Hokkaido and defense forces on that island will be increased.

NORTH KOREA Those living in this area are becoming restive and disillusioned against their administration and migration southward will almost certainly increase. Efforts to arbitrate the conflict between the two Koreas are not likely to produce any useful results and may prove dangerous for South Korea. In the north conditions are improving somewhat, but leadership is in the

hands of persons incapable of making much needed corrections in political policies and unwilling to endanger their own security. Many of the old Korean monasteries in the Diamond Mountains are now under communist control and the futures of the monks and their monasteries are threatened. World opinion could influence the North Korean regime to some degree.

SOUTH KOREA There is considerable improvement for the South Koreans. Government becomes more responsible and is attempting to advance the public good. Foreign trade is increasingly brisk and Korean communities in Europe and America are adjusting to their new way of life with hope and gratitude. The infiltration of professional agitators and terrorists from the North must be given careful and strict attention. Relations between South Korea and Japan improve and there is likely to be better understanding with Red China. This is especially obvious in the trend toward free enterprise and private business. Health seems good. Negotiations between North and South Korea will naturally result in migrations to the South. Agents from the North Korean government can infiltrate the southern area for the purpose of expanding the policies of the North. This procedure will alienate many potential friends and accomplish no practical good. Working conditions improve, the standard of living rises moderately, and there are useful changes in the educational structure. The religious life of the people is strengthened and, with certain minor setbacks which are natural to the times in which we live, the South Koreans will do well.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA In 1985, the leaders of The People's Republic will give much attention to the improvement of foreign trade. This will require further departures from the teachings of Comrade Mao. There will be cautious experiments in capitalism, private ownership, and larger participation of the people in affairs of government. The major problem is a lack of a continuing political and social program. New personalities develop their own ideas which are often conflicting. It has become obvious that if China expects to profit from the capitalistic system, it must

be prepared to establish a long-range economic policy. These adjustments dominate the concerns of the People's Republic of China for most of 1985. There may be a major collision between Chinese socialism and Russian communism. The majority of the Chinese people will make only marginal gains in living conditions. There will be advances in communications with Western nations, but the long range policy of the mainland Chinese will not be basically altered. Natural disasters including severe flooding will be likely. A prominent Chinese official will be responsible for a financial scandal.

Communist China may press its control of Hong Kong and this will tarnish its image throughout the free world and the emerging nations. Some tension may arise between China and Japan and relations with Taiwan will be of international concern. Communist China is apt to solicit the United States for technical assistance with industries which require advanced technology. Western China, coming under Russian influence, may press this advantage politically. Eclipses warn of seismic disasters and a sharp increase in the death rate. Disputes and dissatisfaction originated in the peripheral areas may threaten the security of the central government. Religion will be tolerated, but its political privileges will be severely limited. The new regime will finally realize that it is wiser to recognize the great philosophical systems—Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism which are so often depicted together in paintings such as "The Vinegar Tasters." If China is wise, it will advance the new by supporting the old. The People's Republic of China will develop more cordial relations with the United States and the British Commonwealth and it is likely that the Chinese government will be more friendly, at least so far as appearances are concerned. Some unusual situation may arise over the Philippines which will drift towards association with Asia. In China, tourism will be considered useful and better facilities will become available for travelers by the end of the year. China must be deeply involved in the practical aspects of social adjustment with the outside world.

TAIWAN Relationships between the People's Republic of China

and Taiwan remain strained. In 1968, a postage stamp was issued for the mainland showing the entire nation of China in "red." It was issued in Canton and almost immediately withdrawn from circulation because on the stamp Taiwan was reproduced in white instead of red. Taiwan will be prominent in the press in 1985 and



may become an international political issue. Astrologically speaking, I feel that Taiwan will again survive the year and continue its positive and progressive social and economic policies. The financial situation will have much to do with the survival of this country. It has established for itself a substantial place as an industrial country, and a great amount of foreign capital is invested there. At this moment, mainland China cannot afford to damage its potential industrial ties by an aggressive move against Taiwan. Internally, the people of free China have established an excellent record in many areas including education, industrialism, technologies, and perhaps even more important, religion. It has recognized the importance of those basic integrities which only a substantial faith can provide. There will be advances in housing and transportation. The little republic is economically sound and attracts many students of eastern religion. There is some danger of sabotage and attempts will be made to damage the integrities which have protected Taiwan up to the present time.

LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

The Latin American countries present so many minor involvements that it seems practical to group them under a general

heading. Conditions are not especially favorable due in part at least to pressures from foreign areas. Sporadic revolutions and revolts are almost inevitable and it is sad to say that they will accomplish little of lasting importance. Conflicts with the Roman Church will prove detrimental, and those attempting to establish constructive policies will have small chance of success and may be in personal danger. Natural conditions are unfavorable with disasters and adverse weather conditions contributing to stress and tension. Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are likely and the public mind is agitated and resentful.

Lack of efficiency can have tragic consequences, and monetary conditions are poor with continued emphasis on inflation and unemployment. Argentina will enjoy some improvement on the financial level. The Brazilian government is unstable, and some outbreaks of political agitation can be expected. Venezuela makes important contributions to the stabilizing of Latin American psychology, and Colombia cooperates in the reduction of drug distribution. Mexico is still in serious economic straits with much suffering among the people. By midyear the military will further complicate the issue and, at least minor revolts appear to be inevitable.

CANADA

Our northern neighbor seems to have a better than average year. Political situations settle down, religious agitations seem to subside, trade relations with the United States are better, and relations between Canada and Great Britain markedly improve. There is some danger of damage to crops in western Canada and a heavy winter will bring some suffering. The employment situation looks better and further deposits of valuable minerals may result in a marked improvement in the economy. An idealistic leadership will help to solve immediate needs of older people and the education of the young includes greater moral and ethical influence. There could be an emergency caused by a small group of activists causing serious fires in industrial installations and transportational facilities. Such difficulties will be handled quickly and efficiently.

FORGOTTEN HEROES OF AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

When Hernando Cortez gazed upon Mexico City for the first time, he remarked "that it was the most beautiful metropolis in the world." Possibly what impressed him the most was the style of architecture. There were great triangular shapes as unadorned as the pyramids of Egypt, massive temples, and glorious palaces with the bright sun shining upon their walls, towers, and gateways. Before they were finished, however, the conquistadors had destroyed all this grandeur, leaving nothing but rubble and the wreckage of conquest.

The missionaries who followed the Spanish knights with their shining armor and prancing horses destroyed nearly everything that the Spanish overlooked. They enslaved the surviving natives and combined conversion with enslavement. Gradually, the jungle closed in, and the conquistadores having failed to find the treasures that they sought eventually departed. Chiapas was deserted even by the native inhabitants, and the peninsula of Yucatan became once again a dry jungle with no surface water.

Charles-Etienne Abbe Brasseur de Bourbourg (1814-1874), a French antiquarian, attempted to decode the Mayan hieroglyphs, but was unsuccessful. He did, however, gain considerable insight bearing upon the secrets of Mayan culture. From the *Catholic Encyclopedia* we learn that he was an indefatigable student of American Indians, of the past and present. He made long journeys to Mexico and Central America and collected a large number of manuscripts and artifacts dating from earlier times. He published a number of works between 1857 and 1871 and, while some of his findings are now disregarded, modern interest in his endeavors is markedly increasing. It has been said that except for short notes no biographical material of importance is available concerning him.

We have in the PRS library de Bourbourg's translation of the *Popol Vuh*, the Senate Book of the Quiches. This was published in the French language in 1861. In the PRS collection there is a se-

cond copy of the same work completely interleaved with manuscript notes in French, finely written. Those interested in this subject may also consult in our library his *Histoire Des Nations Civilisees du Mexique et de L'Amerique-Centrale*, Paris, 1859. We are especially fortunate in having de Bourbourg's translation of *Manuscript Troano, Etudes sur LeSysteme Graphique et la Langue des Mayas*, two volumes, folio, Paris Imprimerie Imperiale, Paris, 1869. This work includes a complete colored facsimile of the *Codex Troano* and an elaborate lexicon of Mayan glyphs. There are notes, probably in the autograph of Augustus LePlongeon or his wife, and our copy is from LePlongeon's library. There is a similar example in the Archaeological Museum in Merida on the Peninsula of Yucatan.

Early Americanists who maintained that the Amerindian civilization of Mexico and Central America should be given serious consideration labored in vain. Nearly all important archaeological finds were made in North Africa and the Near East. It was assumed that there was nothing interesting to be found in the Western hemisphere. Exploring the dripping jungles of Chiapas or the waterless regions where the old and new empires of the Mayas once flourished was physically unhealthy and financially unrewarding. Even the Spanish conquerors finally gave up in despair.

The trend is now changing. The political chaos in the Near East is not tempting to modern researchers. Much of the world is closed to exploration, and there are heavy penalties for smuggling ancient artifacts from one country to another. When I was in Mexico City, the laws were not as strict as they are now. Information about the necessary regulations can be obtained from reputable dealers. I picked five Zapotecan items guaranteed to be original. After they were paid for they were turned over to the archaeological museum for comparison with material already in ample supply. If they were duplicates, they could be exported, but if they were not duplicates, they would be taken over by the museum and the money would not be refunded. I was comparatively lucky and was able to bring out three of the pieces I had selected.

The quiet lives of the Yucatecans were disturbed when Fre-



Early Zapotecan urn to contain the cremated remains of the dead. In the collection of the PRS.

derick Catherwood and John Lloyd Stephens were welcomed by a salute of thirteen guns just before they vanished into the western wilderness. These two resolute men met for the first time, strangely enough, in Jerusalem. It was on the last of September, 1839 that they formed an enduring partnership, one an antiquarian, and the other a highly gifted artist. Stephens was born in New Jersey and it was assumed that after he graduated from Columbia College, he would become an attorney. Catherwood was a Londoner who studied architecture at the Royal Academy and gained a considerable reputation for his ability in architectural and archaeological draftsmanship. It is recorded that the first time they gazed upon the runis of an ancient Mayan metropolis partly buried by encroaching jungles and inhabited largely by garrapatas they were overwhelmed by the immensity of their project. The regions they were to explore were not especially healthful and both suffered from recurring attacks of malaria from which they never entirely recovered.

The skill of Catherwood was so great that the smallest details of an inscription on a monument were correctly represented and his drawings are of great value to modern scholars. Comparison between Catherwood's pictures and modern photographs reveals clearly the deterioration of the ancient monuments. As the regions have had few visitors, the damage is not the result of vandalism, but the gradual aging and crumbling of the stone itself. The difficulties of Stephens and Catherwood were multiplied by the more or less hostile attitudes of the natives who may have had a dim memory of how the Spaniards had treated their remote ancestors. Also the two explorers had little or no understanding of the magnitude of the project with which they were becoming involved. There were literally hundreds of curiosities well worthy of examination. The civilizations of the Itzas extended over a vast area and most of their runis were completely overgrown by a dense underbrush from twelve to fifteen feet high. Progress was slow and paths had to be carved out with machetes.

In the old days, the city of Progreso was the port of entry to the Peninsula of Yucatan. The water was too shallow to permit large

ships to dock. On my trip there in 1934, before we could land, the presence of the Mexican immigration officials was mandatory. It was not certain just when they would appear—perhaps they would come today and if not, tomorrow. An old traveler observed that it was an unwritten law, but strictly enforced, that the dock officials were entitled to a free breakfast or lunch. If another ship had already served them the morning meal, we could scarcely expect them until lunch time. This was the same port where Stephens and Catherwood entered the country, but conditions were considerably different. The launch that picked us up and carried us shoreward had a far more important cargo according to the native mind for it included several blue denim bags filled with noisy roosters for local cock fights.

We decided that our first visit would be to Uxmal. We were required to rise at five A.M. which was an indecent hour for the local population. By special arrangements, we had a private car provided by the Ferrocarriles de Unidos de Yucatan. The incredible vehicle proved to be a one-cylinder, gasoline driven, contraption that ran on the railroad track for lack of any other possible thoroughfare. After a rough trip of two and one half hours, the



The incredible vehicle which transported travelers in the general direction of Uxmal, taken in the 1930's by MPH.

track ended in a typical Mayan Indian village consisting of thatched huts and a church far too large for the community. At this point we were met by a Ford automobile and driven by a Mayan boy over fifteen kilometers of the worst road on earth. This highway was originally built for the Empress Carlotta of Mexico so that she could visit the ruins in her imperial carriage. There had been no maintenance since that time and the Ford crawled over huge boulders and around the sides of sharp rocks in the middle of the road. The fact that the farmers were burning their corn fields that day did nothing to improve the quality of the air.

In a condition approaching exhaustion we reached the ruins of Uxmal (pronounced Ushmal) and, as we entered the ancient city, we were confronted by a strange pyramidal structure, its sides gutted by rain and its crest surmounted by a fortress-like house with black, yawning, window-shaped openings. This is generally referred to as the "Casa del Adivino," the House of the Dwarf—more often referred to as "The Temple of the Sorcerer." It must be remembered, however, that the names and purposes assigned to

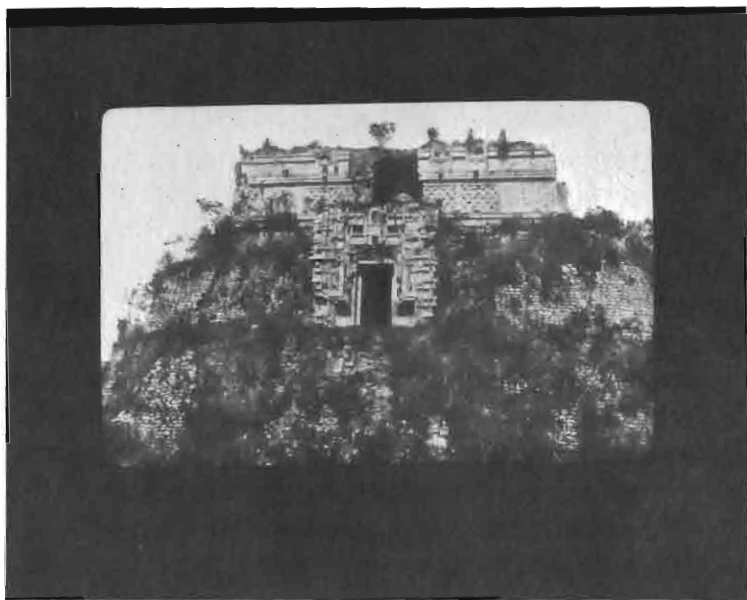


The Casa del Adivino which dominates the ruins of Uxmal. MPH photograph.

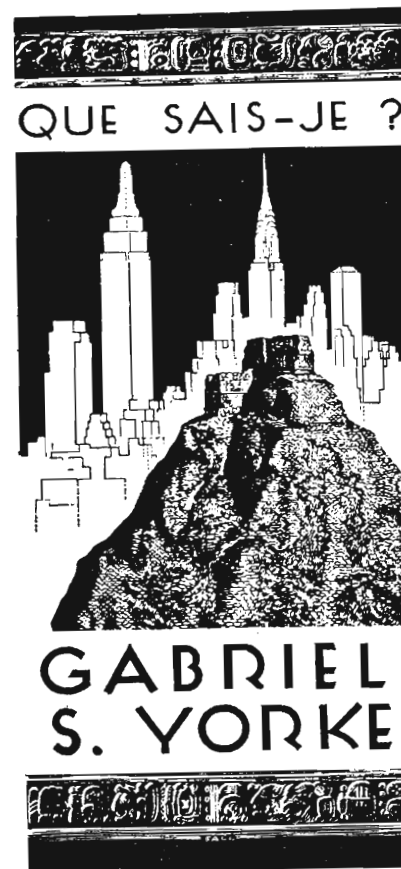
the ruined buildings are largely conjectural.

The Casa del Adivino rises to a height of about 150 feet above the completely level area on which it stands. There is a broad stairway ascending one side of this pyramid, but it is so steep that only a skilled mountaineer could climb it in safety. When I was there, a heavy iron chain anchored above could assist those adventurers who insisted upon reaching the summit. Catherwood provided an engraving of this edifice, largely obscured by dense overgrowth. LePlongeon tried to clear the site and, when I reached it, no vegetation remained.

In the bookplate by Kenneth Fagg for Gabriel S. Yorke, the Casa del Adivino is featured with the buildings of a great modern city in the background. Mr. Yorke visited Yucatan on his travels and photographed the mysterious temple of Uxmal. The words of Michel de Montaigne in the upper part of the plate translate, "What do I know?" It seems reasonable to assume that Mr.



Photograph of the Casa del Adivino by Augustus LePlongeon taken about 1890. From a photograph in the PRS collection.



Bookplate of Gabriel S. Yorke by Kenneth Fagg.

Yorke's bookplate is a tribute to the ruined cities of the Mayan empire.

The Casa del Adivino faces a large open square, the boundaries formed by four long buildings. This quadrangle is now identified by the somewhat ridiculous title of the "Casa de Las Monjas" or the "House of the Nuns." The main building is 280 feet long, and the facades are elaborately carved with grotesque masks, strange latticeworks, and a riot of symbols through which twist the coils of the sacred feathered snake. Everywhere, this reptile rears its plumed head and graciously distributes its folds and coils to the



Detail from a facade in the House of the Nuns at Uxmal showing the serpent motif. Photograph by MPH.

architectural requirements of the buildings.

The buildings were originally decorated in several colors, but the pigments have almost entirely disappeared leaving only an occasional trace of reds and blues. Some experts have noted that many of the stones fitted into the various buildings bear on their reverse sides mason's marks similar to those found in India and upon the cathedrals of Europe. A peculiar red hand, apparently made by dipping an actual hand in red paint and pressing it against the masonry, appears in odd places and is also the subject of much discussion. The policy is to deny the most probable explanation. When Dr. LePlongeon traced this red hand to an oriental custom, he was considered mildly demented, even though the same device appears among the Plains Indians in North America.

The House of the Nuns faces the "Ball Court" where the national game of the Mayas was played. On the far side of this is a most imposing structure called "Casa De Los Gobenadores," popularly known as "The House of the Governors." It is 322 feet in length and every inch is covered with carvings. It has been said of this building that it is perhaps the most curious architectonic ensemble on the American continent.

While wandering in these astonishing ruins John Stephens writes,

"Over the cavity left in the mortar by the removal of the stone were two conspicuous marks, which afterward stared us in the face in all the ruined buildings of the country. They were the prints of a red hand with the thumb and fingers extended, not drawn or painted, but stamped by the living hand, the pressure of the palm upon the stone. He who made it had stood before it alive as we did, and pressed his hand, moistened with red paint, hard against the stone. The seams and creases of the palm were clear and distinct in the impression. There was something lifelike about it that waked exciting thoughts, and almost presented the images of the departed inhabitants hovering about the building. And there was one striking feature about these hands; they were exceedingly small. Either of our own spread over and completely hid them; and this was interesting from the fact that we had ourselves remarked, and heard remarked by others, the smallness of the hands and feet as a striking feature in the physical conformation of the Indians at the present day." See *Incidents of Travel in Yucatan* by John L. Stephens, New York: 1843, pages 177-78.

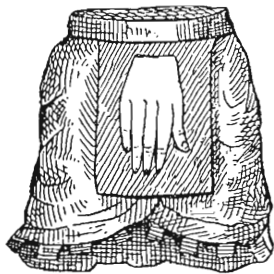
Mr. T.A. Willard took it for granted that the mystery of the red hand was fully explained in the writings of Fra Bernardino de Sahagun. The red hands represented the marks of servants offering themselves as sacrifices to the rain god. It seems to me that this explanation overlooks the simple fact that these red hand impressions are found in all parts of the world where the sacrificial concept would be meaningless.

In 1919, Arthur C. Parker, a thirty-second degree Mason, was invited to attend a secret lodge of the Senecas in southeastern Canada to witness their ritual. It was here that he heard the legend of Red Hand, a culture hero who could hold conversation with the Great Mystery. He loved all creatures of the earth and spoke the languages of birds and animals. Red Hand was slain by a poisoned

arrow, because he would not reveal to his assassin the secret of his spiritual power. When the animals discovered that their brother-friend had been killed, each of the creatures gave part of himself to restore Red Hand to the world of the living. At last, the bear came forward and, grasping the hand of the martyred hero, raised him to life by the strong grip of its paw. Mr. Parker himself considered the ritual of Red Hand to be part of an esoteric doctrine that was distributed throughout the world in a remote time. See *American Indian Freemasonry* by Arthur C. Parker, Buffalo, 1919. (See *America's Assignment with Destiny*.)

Augustus LePlongeon, also a Freemason, was especially intrigued by the House of the Governors in Uxmal. It was here that he discovered a torso carved in stone wearing what appears to be a Masonic apron. On the front of this apron, a human hand is carved. This unusual artifact substantiates the belief that esoteric rituals were practiced by the Mayas. LePlongeon discourses on this subject at considerable length in his book *Sacred Mysteries Among the Maya and Quiches*, New York: 1886.

If the ruins of Uxmal appear shrouded in magic and mystery, Chichen Itza, for many centuries the capital of mayanpan and of the whole empire of the Itzas, even in its ruined state, conveys the impression of a great metropolis. Mexican archaeologists have speculated that in the days of its glory, Chichen Itza had a population of a million and a half. Uxmal is purely Mayan, but Chichen Itza shows several civilizations superimposed over ancient founda-

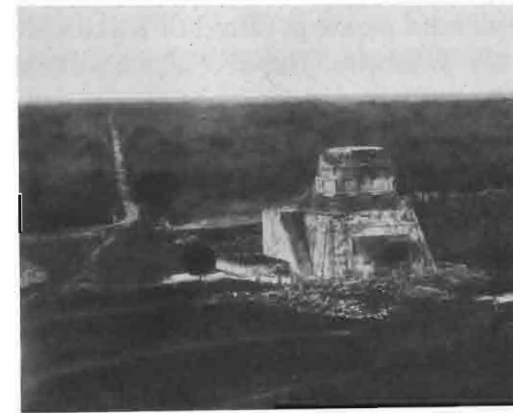


Masonic apron found by LePlongeon in the House of the Governors at Uxmal.

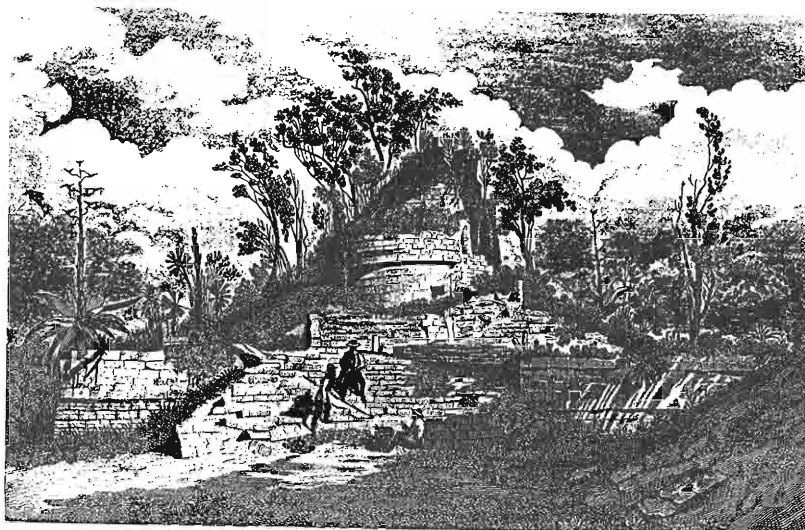
tions. Most of the larger buildings and many of the smaller ones have left traces of six or seven different periods of construction and reconstruction. In recent years, several groups of archaeologists, some financed by American institutions and others by the Mexican government, have restored many of the ancient sites scattered about the peninsula of Yucatan to something resembling their original appearances.

The journey to Chichen Itza from Merida is long, but tedious rather than arduous. The excavated parts of the city may be roughly divided into three groups of buildings. The first group is dominated by the great pyramid of Kukulcan, who was often referred to as the "Feathered Serpent." The second group, referred to as old Chichen Itza, is celebrated for its confusion of miscellaneous artifacts. The third group contains the famous observatory and the only three story building yet found in the area, also called the "Nunnery." The pyramid of Kukulcan stands at the entrance to the city and has been restored by the Mexican government. The structure is about 110 feet high and there are indications that it was originally a great calendar.

From the top of the Castillo, an excellent panorama unfolds to the viewer. On one side is the House of the Warriors, the great Ball



The road leading to Chichen Itza with the House of the Tigers which is part of the Ball Court in the foreground. Photograph by MPH.



The astronomical observatory at Chichen Itza, a drawing by Frederick Catherwood reproduced from *Incidents of Travel in Yucatan* by John L. Stephens, New York: 1843.

Court, and the Tiger Temple. The latter building is rich in sculpturing and the Carnegie Institute has contributed to its reconstruction. I photographed the House of the Warriors together with the elaborate structure of columns adjacent to it. The picture was taken from the summit of the pyramid of Kukulcan. On the top of the House of the Warriors, there is a platform supported by a number of atlantes figures (an architectural term for dwarf-like supporters). On the upper platform there is also a stone carved figure of the Mayan rain god, Chacmool. The rows of columns were probably covered to provide a shaded area, but the roofing has long since disappeared.

Catherwood has provided us with an engraving of the Ball Court at Chichen Itza as it appeared in 1843. The small building in the central background was reserved for dignitaries and judges. The court was walled on both sides, and in the right foreground of Catherwood's engraving is a structure now described as the House of the Tigers. LePlongeon made an interesting drawing of this building which is also in our collection. He failed, however, to ac-



Detail of the Ball Court at Chichen Itza together with various excavated objects. A drawing by Frederick Catherwood reproduced from *Incidents of Travel in Yucatan* by John L. Stephens, New York: 1843.

curately indicate the heads of the plumed serpents which form a kind of gateway to the structure on the upper level. I photographed one of these serpent's heads with two young Mayan children. The Ball Court as it appeared at the time I was in Yucatan shows considerable reconstruction, is probably accurate. A lot of miscellaneous fragments of carvings were spread out on the surface of the court and, on the wall at the upper right, is the ring through which the players had to propel the ball with a blow of the hip. There are various descriptions of the penalties inflicted on the losers after the Toltecs conquered the area.

Between the ruins of Chichen Itza and old Chichen there is a curious building called Akab Tzib, more commonly referred to as the "House of the Writing in the Dark." It is believed that it was originally intended as a place of initiation into the mystery rites of the Mayas, or more correctly, the Itzas. LePlongeon took a definite fancy to this building and declared that important artifacts and records were buried there. He discovered a curious image



Two Mayan children standing beside one of the stone serpent's heads in the House of the Tiger. MPH photograph.



The House of the Writing in the Dark. MPH photograph.

which he photographed and then reburied because the Mexican government deliberately hampered his research programs. Even today, this building has a curious effect upon those who seek to solve its hidden mysteries.

The symbol of the red hand also appears on the interior walls of this structure. According to John L. Stephens, there was a great stairway in the middle section of the interior leading to the roof. This stairway has since collapsed, but was originally about forty-five feet in width. It is assumed that a second story was included in the plan, but this was never finished. That the building was of deep religious significance is supported by the bas relief of a priest or deity seated on a throne holding a baton. In front of this figure is an incense burner and there are accompanying panels of glyphs which have not yet been deciphered. Willard seems to feel that there are secret chambers that remain to be discovered. (See *The City of the Sacred Well*, page 64.)

There is no surface water in Yucatan, and the natives depended upon natural wells called "senotes." There is an exceptionally fine senote at Chichen Itza, and the city was sometimes described as "the place of the sacred well." It was supposed that the rain god Chacmool was propitiated by offering human sacrifices to the deity of this well. The legend increased and was further complicated by the report that great treasures of gold and jade were thrown into the well. Mr. Edward Thompson made a one-man project of dredging the sacred well, and left a detailed list of his findings.

In many respects the most massive and imposing of the structures in Chichen Itza is the Nunnery. It was very serviceable on at least one occasion. When the Spanish conquistador, Montejo, was attempting to subdue the rebellious Indians of Yucatan, his expedition suffered numerous reverses. With his remaining soldiers he took refuge in the upper part of the Nunnery which had a chance of surviving a long siege. The Mayas camped around the foot of the building convinced that they could starve out the conquistadores. Montejo, recognizing the seriousness of his plight, erected a scaffolding from which he suspended a large bell. To the tongue of this bell he tied a rope and fastened the other end to the tail of a



The House of the Nuns at Chichen Itza. It was here that Montejo defended himself from the rebellious Indians. MPH photograph.

hungry dog. Just out of the reach of this dog he placed several pieces of meat. Under the cover of night, Montejo and his soldiers climbed down the back wall of the Nunnery and escaped into the jungle, heading for their ships. The hungry dog, reaching for the meat, rang the bell all night. It deceived the Indians who decided that Montejo was saying his prayers expecting annihilation the next morning.

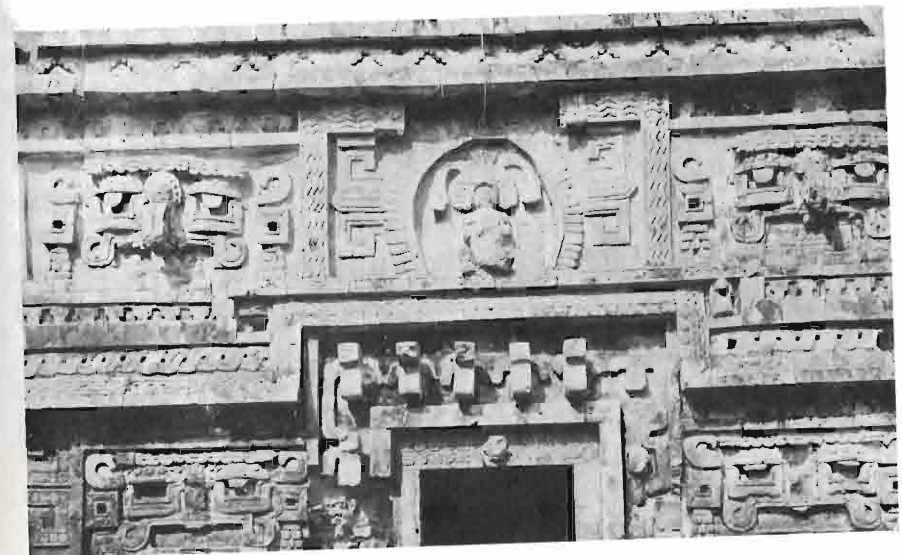
At the left end of the Nunnery is a beautiful little building referred to as the Ecclesia, or chapel. Over the door is a splendid carving showing the father-god of the Itzas; Itzamna seated in his radiant egg as creator of the world. In his book *Sacred Mysteries Among the Mayas and Quiches*, LePlongeon writes,

“Effectively, in the tableau we see represented a luminous egg, emitting rays, and floating in the midst of the waters where it had been deposited by the Supreme Intelligence. In that egg is seated the Creator, his body painted blue, his loins surrounded by a girdle; he holds a sceptre in his left hand; his head is adorned with a plume of feathers; he is surrounded by a serpent, symbol of the Universe.”

“Porphyrius, speaking of Jupiter, the Creator in the Or-

phic mysteries, says, ‘The philosophers, that is the initiated, represented him as a man, *seated*, alluding to his immutable essence; *the upper part of the body naked*, because it is in its upper portions (in the skies) that the Universe is seen most uncovered; *clothed from the waist below* because the terrestrial things are those most hidden from view. *He holds a sceptre in his left hand* because the heart is on that side, and the heart is the seat of understanding that regulates all the actions of man.’”

Catherwood presents a fine engraving of the Ecclesia and, at the right, a corner of the House of the Nuns and Stephen adds a few details. We learn that the facade of the Ecclesia is twenty-five feet high and its width approximately thirty-five feet. He notes the figure with the headdress of feathers in the circular niche over the doorway, but makes no attempt to identify the image. Stephens is delighted at the plants and shrubs growing on the roof and hanging over the cornice and fringework. He stated that this vegetation



From a photograph by Augustus LePlongeon showing the Ecclesia or chapel. Over the entrance is Itzamna, seated in the radiant egg of the sun.

added greatly to the picturesque effect of the elegant facade.

A road leads from the well to the great pyramid of Kukulkan. It is with a picture of this ancient path that we plan our departure from Chichen Itza.

Even in recent years, many of the ruined cities of Yucatan are almost inaccessible. To reach one of them, a great deal of patience and daily doses of quinine are necessary. Robert Stacy-Judd was deeply impressed by the ruins of Labna. Of this remote city he writes, "The most remarkable building—rather, remains of a building—is the magnificent opening known as the Labna Arch. It is the finest example of the Mayan arch, if I may use the term, in the whole of the known Maya ruins area; and it is one of the instances where a curve is employed. In most cases the so called Mayan arch consists of two sloping walls which converge in straight lines until they almost meet at the top. It is singular how near these geniuses of a vanished race come to solving the principles of the true arch." See *The Ancient Maya*, Los Angeles: 1934.

Catherwood provides us with an excellent view of the great Labna Arch. When designing the archway leading into the library of our Society, Mr. Stacy-Judd chose this ancient Mayan arch as



The road from the sacred well to the pyramid of Kukulkan. MPH photograph.



The famous arch in the ruins of Labna from an engraving by Frederick Catherwood. This motif is the source of the arch at the entrance of the PRS Library.

appropriate to the general design of our building. In his book *Kukulkan, the Bearded Conqueror*, T. A. Willard was deeply impressed by the surviving architectural details for the ancient city of Labna. He mentions a patio or plaza and the beautiful arched gateway for which Yucatan is famous. He describes the arch as a ten-foot span and says that the artistry, both architectural and decorative, "could not be surpassed by that of any civilization of the world ancient or modern."

We are indebted to Mr. Stacy-Judd for the privilege of publishing a curious work entitled *The Merida Document*. It was found in some odd rooms adjoining the cathedral in Merida which were demolished. According to the foreword by Mr. Willard, both he and William Gates, Research Associate of the Johns Hopkins University, the Merida Document was a significant contribution to researchers in Mayan philology.

The Library of the Philosophical Research Society has an extensive collection of material dealing with the Aztec and Maya

culture. Nearly anyone researching in this area will be able to consult basic texts. Many unusual items have not yet been adequately classified, and we invite qualified scholars to communicate with the Librarian. It would seem most appropriate for thoughtful persons to contemplate the cultural treasures of the great civilization that flourished in the Western hemisphere long before the establishment of the colonial systems by foreign powers. Natives of the Central American areas had an advanced and sophisticated written language, a more accurate calendar than that used in Europe, and a valuable pharmacopia much of which still demands expert examination. These people had no monetary system, were not aware of the use of the wheel, were outside of the stream of the bow and arrow weaponry, and developed a style of architecture which has since influenced public buildings in many nations. They lived under an admirable legal code, and practiced mystical religious disciplines which may have originated in Asia. Therefore, we pay a small tribute to those pioneer explorers who have made possible an increasing interest in the foundations of Amerindian ethnology.

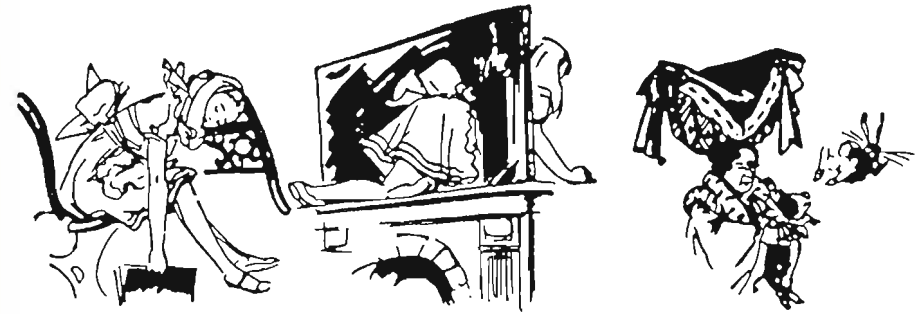
The January 1985 issue of *The China Clipper*, a journal devoted to Oriental philately, illustrates a curious label on a Chinese letter which contains the following statement, "To eat an animal when only a few ounces of beans will yield equal nourishment is a vandalism."

"Success is not a harbor but a voyage with its own perils to the spirit. The game of life is to come up a winner, to be a success, or to achieve what we set out to do. Yet there is always the danger of failing as a human being. The lesson that most of us on this voyage never learn, but can never quite forget, is that to win is sometimes to lose."

—Richard M. Nixon

"The truth is more important than the facts."

—Frank Lloyd Wright



Curiouser & Curiouser

A DEPARTMENT DEDICATED TO ALICE IN WONDERLAND

DEMOCRITUS

Johann Caspar Lavater in his *Essays on Physiognomy*, London: 1789, includes an engraving of the Greek philosopher, Democritus, who advanced the atomic theory of Leucippus. The portrait, while obviously a product of imagination, was from a painting by Rubens, delineated on copper by William Blake. Very little is actually known concerning the life of this ancient scholar. He was born circa 460 B.C. and died in 370, but even these dates are not certain. Laertius says that Democritus lived more than a hundred years and it has been said that he died of no ailment, but simply old age. Near the end, he lost his appetite and passed away without pain to be buried at public charge.

This philosopher came of a noble family, and it is generally assumed that he was born in Abdera, a town in Thrace. Among the teachers of Democritus were Leucippus and Anaxagoras, but he is said to have differed from Anaxagoras on a number of subjects. He was greatly influenced by the Pythagorean philosophy. While he could not have known Pythagoras personally, he chose to be regarded as a Pythagorean, and built his atomism on Pythagorean monadology.

He traveled extensively in Egypt where he studied geometry from learned priests. He also resided for a time in Persia and later

reached India, where he contacted the gymnosophists. He reached Ethiopia, but was specially addicted to the wisdom of the Egyptians and lived in their country for the greater part of eighty years. In order to advance his studies, he retired to desolate places and carried on his contemplations in darkness. Some say that he finally blinded himself to escape the interferences and interruptions caused by sight.

On one occasion, the Senate and people of Abdera sent a special message to Hippocrates. They asked his assistance in curing the ailments of Democritus. It seemed that this philosopher, who was extraordinarily learned, wandered about the community laughing at people and ridiculing the common activities of normal persons. Several followed his example and disturbed the complacency of the neighborhood. Most often, Democritus would burst into an uncontrollable laughter whenever he saw an important personage. Some felt that the only way he could control his humorous outbursts was to close his eyes and this contributed to his resolution to blind himself by gazing directly into the sun. When he could no longer see, he also held humanity in higher estimation. He wrote on a number of subjects including the causes of sounds, music, agriculture, various diets, and medical procedures, but he gained his lasting reputation in the field of physics.

According to Democritus, the principles of all things are atoms and vacuum. All bodies must consist of atoms. Cicero says that Democritus, building upon the contemplations of Leucippus, became the outstanding exponent of atomism. Socrates came to the conclusion that liquids were not wet, but were minute dry particles that, flowing over each other, gave the impression of moisture. The atoms of Democritus, also dry, were of various sizes and moved about in vacuum, which was merely the absence of themselves. Everything that existed was made up of invisible units which, moving about according to their own natures, assembled in vast quantities to result in visible forms. Cicero also doubts that this concept of atoms actually originated with either Leucippus or Democritus, but originated at a very ancient time with Moschus, a Phoenician who lived before the Trojan War. In any event, the basic concepts were also refined by Pythagoras in his doctrine of

monads. The philosophy of Democritus is summarized as follows in *The History of Philosophy* by Thomas Stanley, the third edition of which was published in 1701:

1. Atoms are the first and original bodies continually moving in the infinite, denominated vacuum, in which there is neither high nor low, nor middle nor last, nor any extreme. The motion itself has no beginning, but came from eternity.

2. This concept assumes that motion is of but one kind, oblique, but Epicurus differs on this point and insists that there are two motions, direct and declining.

3. The minute bodies moving in space are entangled with one another, hit against one another, rebound, separate, or associate with each other; thus producing all compound forms.

4. These motions and their consequences are the result of necessity by which it is implied that necessity is fate, justice, and the providence which made the world.

According to Democritus, the soul is a kind of fire and heat which are essentially atoms of a very refined quality. It is the soul which gives motion to all living creatures. It is respiration that sustains the soul which in turn sustains the body. All the atoms, both of the soul and the body, are preserved by ethics. The purpose of living is not pleasure, which was an early misunderstanding of his philosophy. The chief end of conduct is to attain a serene, secure state of mind which is not distracted by any fear, superstition, or irrational passion. One is not valiant because he vanquishes his enemy, but one is valiant who subdues himself. If a person exceeds moderation, the sweetest things prove the most bitter. To survive, a person must either be good or cultivate the appearance of goodness. The moral sentences of Democritus include the following:

Of wounds, the worst is that which turns to gangrene. Of the diseases of the mind, the most fatal is avarice.

The hopes of wise men may come to pass, but those of fools are impossible.

Civil war hurteth both parties; the harm is equal to the victor and to the vanquished.

It is defrauding of others to desire to speak all and to listen to nothing.



Democritus.

Among the moral sentences of Democritus is one related of him by the Emperor Julian. On occasion, Democritus was not able by sympathetic discourse to comfort King Darius of Persia, who was grieving over the death of his beautiful wife. Finally, the philosopher promised that he would restore the queen to life provided the king would supply such things as were required to perform this miracle. Darius told him to spare nothing which he thought might help him to accomplish this purpose. Democritus then told Darius if he could write on his wife's tomb the names of three persons who had never grieved, she would return to life. Darius, confused,

finally said that no man was completely free of sorrow. Democritus, who was called the laughing philosopher, smiled broadly saying, "Can you then, the most unreasonable of all men, weep with such confidence as if you were the only person that ever suffered affliction, and yet are not able to find through all the ages of mankind even one who had no cross to bear?"

Of the nature of the universe, Democritus believed that there were an infinite number of worlds in the infinitude of space, all generated and subject to corruption. He conceived the sun to be of great size and said that the moon contained plains, mountains, and valleys, and Cicero tells us that he was exceedingly skillful in geomancy. Anaxagoras noted that Democritus described comets as masses of luminous atoms.

He also believed, according to Plutarch, that water causes earthquakes: the earth being full of water, and when great storms fill the subterranean caverns, it makes the grottos shake. He also attributed the inundations of the Nile to the melting of snow which occurs annually in distant mountains.

Most of the writings of Democritus have not survived, but early authors quote some briefly. For example, he wrote a treatise entitled *Of the Planets*, in which he declared that there are more than seven planets. There is also mention of the great Platonic year, including a description of the rising and setting of the stars, equinoxes, solstices, and the like. Under music, this philosopher included rhythm and harmony, poetry, the meters of verses, of sweet sounding and harsh sounding letters, of the versifying of Homer, and finally a dictionary. He did not fail to consider health, and prepared a program of diets for its maintenance and the relief of illness.

While modern thinkers will not agree with many of the findings of Democritus, it cannot be denied that he contributed to the findings of modern science. His researches were based upon observation and reflection, and he was without the equipment necessary for evaluating the productions of his own mental faculties. He was one of those early pioneers whom Sir Isaac Newton referred to as "the giants" who laid the foundations of modern science.



Happenings at Headquarters



Those who attend our regular Sunday morning activities have seen the handsome oriental rug on the auditorium stage. This valuable floor covering is the gift of Dr. James Ingebretson and we are most grateful for this wonderful example of oriental weaving. The accompanying photograph gives only a faint impression of this exquisite example of eastern weaving.



We want to express our gratitude for the unusual number of books and magazines donated to our Spring book sale. Included was a small group of rare items to our fields of interest which have seldom been offered on the public market, donated by Gilbert and Ron Hogart. The sale included material from the library of Edgar Cace and a number of out-of-print items donated by the Creelman family, including first editions of Mr. Hall's writings.

In the Spring, 1984 *Journal* we announced the passing of Mr.

Wilbur Morgan one of the most dedicated supporters of our activities. We are happy to reproduce herewith a sonnet especially dedicated to Mr. Morgan. The author of this poem asked to remain anonymous, but he talked with Wilbur on the last occasion when he was able to visit our Society.

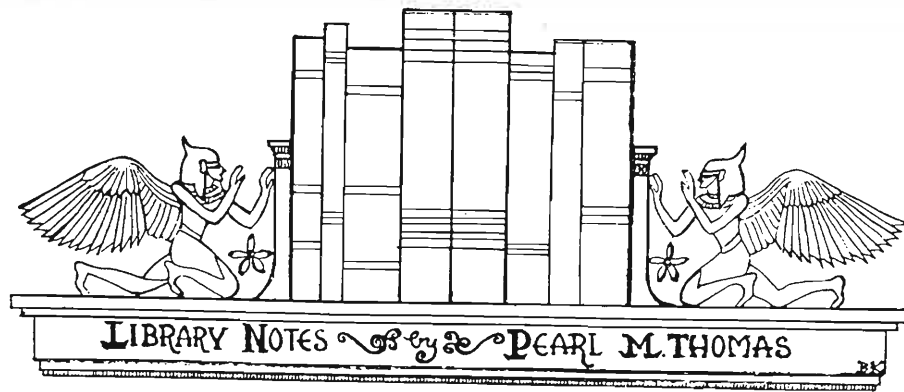
A Sonnet Anonymous

*Once in a great while does one come along
So steadfast, so fixed, so true to his Source,
He communed without words, silent his song—
Pain ruled his life but he kept to the course.
He reached out to help in so many ways
And offered his hand to anyone down.
His big heavy frame he dragged through the days,
Duty's call answered with never a frown.
He never complained, but gave of his best,
Left behind body to mingle with earth,
Enjoying, at last, a well-deserved rest,
While Karma prepares a happy rebirth.*

*For Wilbur Morgan these lines have I penned,
In Memory of a very dear friend.*

There have been several very interesting additions to the library collection by gift or purchase. Outstanding is the 1701 edition of *The Essays of Sir Francis Bacon* including the *Table of the Colors of Good and Evil*, *A Discourse on the Wisdom of the Ancients*, and an essay on the *Character of Queen Elizabeth*, now published in English for the first time. Also worthy of note is *A New Approach to Maya Hieroglyphs* by W. Jos. De Gruyter, Amsterdam 1946, illustrated with folding charts translating various glyphs—a scarce item and a useful handbook on Chinese secret societies, past and present under the title *Swords of Silence* by Charles Glick and Hong Sheng-Hua, published in 1947. This is a valuable source work on the subject.

Happy birthday to Richard De La Barcena—who is very much missed by all of us.



“NEW YORK, NEW YORK”

My adventure with New York began as the plane approached Kennedy Airport; the view of Manhattan Island below was enthralling. The sunset seemed to be just for us and New York was unbelievably beautiful. By the time I was on my way into town, it was a dark, sparkling night and the city lights were doing their best to hold me spellbound and succeeding.

The place where I spent over a week was a condominium built high above the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA). Tall buildings have always held a particular fascination for me and from the twentieth floor of a forty-four story building I was kept busy, just absorbed in the view.

Looking out of the floor-to-ceiling window in the living room area, I could see Rockefeller Center, National Broadcasting Company, American Broadcasting Company, and down 53rd street, tall buildings almost to the Hudson River. In midtown New York you are in walking distance to almost anything you wish to see. If you need a taxi, there are usually at least ten to choose from. I learned that most of the streets are one-way, so that the cab I would order should be headed in the right direction for the location I wanted; which would save circling three-and-a-half blocks. I had thought London was loaded with cabs—they claim over 8,000. New York admits they have over 11,000 and I am inclined to ac-

cept this figure. However, according to good authority if it is raining or snowing, the cabs are conspicuous by their absence. I am now speaking from experience as the weather was great—no rain (except at night), no snow and lots of sunshine. On one day it was warmer in New York than in Los Angeles.

Thanksgiving morning we walked over to Broadway and viewed the Macy Parade from a third floor office in a bank building—warm, comfortable, with a spectacular view of the parade. After taking a few pictures, I realized that the building I was getting in my line of vision was the New York Cultural Center at Columbus Circle. The twelve, sixty-foot helium figures in the parade were just a short distance above us. The parade ended with Santa Claus, immediately followed by street sweeper trucks who cleared the debris. The efficiency was so impressive I even took a picture of that.

I enjoyed all of the museums that time and opportunity allowed me to visit, but, when all is said, the Metropolitan is certainly the most outstanding. It has everything. And lots of everything! It is the largest and most important museum in the United States, and the fourth largest in the world—surpassed in size only by the British Museum, Leningrad’s Hermitage, and the Louvre in Paris. It has an annual attendance of over 6,000,000, is the richest of any museum in the United States, and contains over 500,000 works of art. To take it all in would be an achievement for a lifetime. In the two days I spent there it was only possible to scratch the surface of this vast collection.

At one of the four restaurants located in the Metropolitan, I enjoyed a period of quietude and was seated at a table where I could view the upper and lower portions of a marble Ionic column from the Temple of Artemis at Sardis. This pillar is beautifully lighted and is located in the foyer of the restaurant.

Modern art has never held any particular appeal for me, but there is a goodly possibility that I do not bring enough understanding to it to appreciate its intrinsic value. With this thought in mind, and the fact that I had a family membership card made available for entrance to the Museum of Modern Art, I set forth to attempt to broaden my viewpoint.



Entrance to Metropolitan Museum, New York.

This museum is outstanding in many ways, and one has to accept this whether or not they are in accord with modern art forms. The museum gets no funds from federal, state, or city sources. It does charge an admission but this is very reasonable.

In 1919, when it was first organized, there were three outstanding women, often referred to as "The Ladies" who conceived



Ionic column located in one of the dining rooms of the Metropolitan Museum.

the idea of creating a shrine for modern art. They were Abby Aldrich Rockefeller (mother of Nelson Rockefeller), Miss Lillie P. Bliss, and Mrs. Cornelius J. Sullivan. The Rockefeller Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund have poured millions into this project. The current president of MOMA is Blanchette Rockefeller (Mrs. John D. 3rd), the daughter-in-law of Abby Aldrich Rockefeller.

Through five decades, the maintenance of this museum has not always been easy, but there have also been numerous assets in its favor including many generous contributors. Alfred Hamilton Barr Jr. who, at age twenty-seven, became the first museum director has been called the "most powerful tastemaker in American

art" by the New York Times. He continued with MOMA in various capacities until his retirement in 1967. It was Barr's plan to make the museum an inclusive monument. It is actually six museums within one, and all are extremely important. For example, Barr included a department for photography, a new concept which has been followed by many other cultural centers throughout the country. As an interdepartmental institution, the museum attracts a million visitors with varied interests.

The location of MOMA in the very heart of the big city is much in its favor. It has a warm, friendly atmosphere, and does not overwhelm. There have been many times when the idea of moving the center has been seriously contemplated, but that idea consistently was cut down. The museum was enlarged by six stories giving ample room for its many departments. Above that, a forty-four-story condominium tower was built. Construction was started in 1980 and condominiums were opened for selling in 1984. Blanchette Rockefeller was one of the first to buy an apartment.

The brochure describing the museum is so well-done that one can actually follow it without the slightest confusion. In the Painting and Sculpture galleries, there are separate rooms for the works of each painter: Picasso, Kandinsky, Klee, Matisse, Monet. Sections are set aside for Surrealism—Dada, Miro, Cubism. There are departments for Prints and Illustrated Books, Architecture and Design, Photography, a beautiful sculpture garden named after Abby Aldrich Rockefeller. How can one possibly avoid finding something of interest?

Another modern museum in New York which should not be overlooked is the Solomon R. Guggenheim on 5th Avenue, between 88th and 89th streets. The museum is probably as well known for its architecture as for its contents. Guggenheim commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright in 1943 to build a suitable edifice to house his fine collection of modern art. For sixteen years Wright struggled with the city building codes but in the end it was finally completed. This was one of his last works, and one of his most controversial.

The only window is an enormous glass dome, ninety-five feet above the floor. Visitors should take an elevator to the top and



The large dome of the Guggenheim Museum in New York is the only window in the building.

walk down the half-mile to the ground level. It is a gradual slope and the pictures are set in cubicles along the curved walls. Each cubicle is about fourteen feet in width, allowing several good sized pictures to be placed in each section. The collection contains works from the late 1800's to the present.

I spent my last day in New York visiting the Roerich Museum and thoroughly enjoyed it. I had been told that I should contact the Museum before going there, so this I did and had a very pleasant talk with a lady who was extremely helpful in directing me there and informing me of the rather extensive activities of the Museum. Classes in music and art as well as philosophy are held regularly.

The Roerich Museum has been located for better than twenty years in a former townhouse at 319 West 107th, about one-half block east from Riverside Drive and the Hudson River. On my arrival, I was given a warm welcome when I mentioned my connection with the Philosophical Research Society and allowed to

wander about on the three floors, taking as many pictures as I wished. The portrait of Nicholas Roerich reproduced here was done by his son, Svetoslav Roerich. The other picture (*Song of Morning*, 1920) represents one of the first of Roerich's paintings that I had ever seen, and that is quite a story.

Back in the mid-1920's, a well-known magazine of that era, the *Literary Digest*, one issue came out with a magnificent cover, reproducing an oil painting depicting the Winter Palace of the Dalai Lama of Tibet. The Potala (or palace) itself was white with



Portrait of Nicholas Roerich, by his son Svetoslav.

its central highly revered section in red tones, surrounded by pure, brilliant colors—purples, oranges, deep greens—the lofty, Himalayas in intense whites with a clear, clear blue sky. The picture was actually breathtaking. On seeing this cover of the *Literary Digest*, I checked the pages for the article which would be accompanying it. There, as part of the article was the picture reproduced here. Only recently have I seen this picture in its true colors. Even in black-and-white it is a fascinating piece. And then to see the original at the museum!

According to the story the painting was done by the Russian artist, Nicholas Konstantinovich Roerich (St. Petersburg, 1874-1947) whose interests were manifold: archaeology, law, history, many forms of art, including stage settings, philosophy, and world peace. Under the name of the *Roerich Peace and Banner Societies*, a dream of Roerich's for many years started to take form. It was designed to protect principle areas and buildings (like hospitals and cultural centers) against attack in case of war by flying the peace banner created by Roerich. This banner has three red spheres on a white ground with a red circle surrounding it. Much symbolism has been ascribed to it. It made considerable progress, and over fifty member states agreed to abide by its humanitarian precepts. Roerich, in 1929, was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize for his untiring efforts to create greater harmony between nations. Unfortunately, the world is apparently not ready for such altruism.

Many years ago, a beautiful, many-storied building was erected by the Roerich interests at 310 Riverside Drive in New York City. Its purpose was to create a place, not only for a vast array of paintings by Nicholas Roerich, but also as a center for outstanding philosophers to visit, to stay, or to lecture. The first few floors were devoted to the paintings by Roerich, set up in groups according to the various periods of his interests or locations where he spent time to do considerable painting—including early works done in Russia (where he was born), Finland, and England.

In 1920, the Chicago Art Institute invited Roerich to America to bring his paintings for exhibitions in many large cities. In this country he created considerable art work at Monhegan, Maine; at



Original paintings by Nicholas Roerich at the Roerich Museum in New York.

Santa Fe, New Mexico, at the Grand Canyon, and in California. Later, in India, Mongolia, and Tibet he carried on extensive art work, producing nearly 500 paintings in a period of five years. In all, he did over 7,000 paintings of which nearly 1,000 are in Russia. Museums in Leningrad and Moscow have several halls reserved for his art and many of Roerich's works are privately owned. He is also represented in the Louvre in Paris, the Victoria and Albert

Museum in London, and the National Museum in Stockholm.

In the early 1930's, Manly P. Hall was invited to deliver a series of lectures and classes at the Roerich Museum. George Roerich, one of the two sons of Nicholas and Helena, lived in a penthouse apartment at the top of the building and it was here that many interesting persons congregated, Manly P. Hall among them. Here they carried on lively discussions on many topics. In the group were Claude Bragdon, Paul Brunton, and Talbot Mundy, the author of *Om, The Secret of Ahbor Valley*. These authors are well represented at the PRS Library. We also have George Roerich's book, *Trails to Inmost Asia*, describing five years of exploration with the Roerich Central Asian Exploration (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1931).

Mr. Hall did not have the opportunity to meet Nicholas and Helena Roerich for they spent their last years in India, in the heights of the Himalayas for the sake of Madame Roerich's health. Helena Roerich, in her letters, often spoke of Manly P. Hall and recommended that her students be familiar with his writings.

According to the *Editor's Briefs* from Volume V of the *Horizon Magazine* (1931), forerunner of the *PRS Journal*, Manly P. Hall planned originally to spend a month or so in New York, but extended his tour to include a series of three lectures a week at the Pythean Temple until the end of March. During the six months of his extended eastern tour, MPH presented over one hundred lectures and radio talks on Station WOR, averaging four or five lectures each week. To this day, people coming into the PRS Library often tell me that they first heard Mr. Hall in New York, and have continued to do so on the west coast.

I mentioned to my relatives, near the end of my visit, that it is quite likely that I would not be back again. "At my great age" it seemed that I should refrain from too much activity. The family had a small conference and came to me with the suggestion that I must come back, but "just don't go to so many museums and stay so long in each." I loved it! The thought of perhaps seeing more museums (short visits, of course) and their wish to share their surroundings with me, made me feel good. I'm a lucky lady!

The EDITOR'S BRIEFS

Mr. Hall's opening lectures at the Roerich Museum, 310 Riverside Drive, New York City, were phenomenally successful from the standpoint of both attendance and enthusiasm. He will give two courses of lectures for this organization during January and February, speaking every Saturday evening on the *Occult Anatomy of Man* and every Tuesday evening on *The Astrological Key to the Universe*.

On December 28th at the historical old Episcopal church, St.-Marks-in-the-Bouwerie, a special astrological service was conducted. This unique service which included an astrological ritual in which the various officers impersonated the constellations, was a definite departure from orthodox churchianity. Mrs. Evangeline Adams, internationally known figure in astrological matters, introduced Mr. Hall who spoke on *The Relation of Astrology to Religion*.

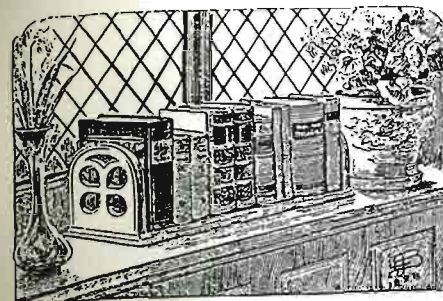
On Christmas and New Year's days Mr. Hall broadcasted over station WOR and will continue with a weekly broadcast every Sunday afternoon while he remains in New York. There is a very genuine interest in philosophy and kindred subjects in the great metropolis at this time.

Although Mr. Hall's permanent address while in New York will be 310 Riverside Drive, he can usually be located more readily by paging either in the magnificent public library with its million and a half books or in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they have just unloaded an immense collection of Egyptian and Oriental art objects. He expects to open his public lecture campaign about February 1st.

A page from *Horizon Magazine*, Volume V, p. 130. This page was reserved to describe the various activities in which Manly P. Hall was engaged while in New York.

There is much I have had to leave off, such as my visit to the New York Public Library and the fabulous Pierpont Morgan collection which I am saving for a future issue.

[All accompanying photos in this article by Pearl Thomas.]



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