

The
PHILOSOPHER'S
A Monthly
Magazine **STONE**

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SERIAL RECORD

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If you are interested, a complete file of Dr. Mystery's articles will be invaluable to you. They will be continued. The language and form of expression used are as originally given and may at first be difficult to understand. However, they cannot be changed without altering their meaning.



The

PHILOSOPHER'S STONE

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

RUTH B. DROWN, *Owner and Publisher*

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Induced Interest

Dr. Mystery



YOU have all experienced the fretful impatience with any intruding subjects which do not bear upon the theme nearest the heart; the obligation to listen respectfully and patiently to a foreign topic when your interest is upon some selected theme to which you are partial. Here is a great base for self-discipline, for a training, which can bring to the soul who will master, a great harvest of satisfaction and power. The soul who is doing thoroughly and with the highest ideals that which he is doing at the present moment, is doing all that can be done. But the one who is fretfully wishing to do more, wishing that the situation would permit him to do more, and, yet failing to do that which he really can do and not really trying to bear with his delays and disappointments heroically (although his ideals and ambitions may be very philanthropic and desirable ones) is not so wise in his fulfillments as is the

one, who, with an adaptability, with a ready sympathetic compliance, will meet any situation from which there is no escape, with heroism; not with resignation, and who will adapt himself speedily and relate himself at once to a situation that he has not been able to govern, with the motive and the will to know how to better govern. There are many sympathies and confidences brought to us at untimely moments, we think, situations with which we are willing to deal but which we may not choose to have come and thrust upon us at a moment when we have balanced ourselves up for an on-gong along a certain, special line of achievement, and we feel the discord of the intrusion. It is here that we must bear in mind that there comes to us only such things as we need to meet and master. If they come to us and we cannot peaceably, harmoniously postpone them or set them aside then, it shows to us that they came to measure our strength and manner of meeting them, there and then; and, if we remember just at that moment, it is not so much what does happen to us as the way we meet it and deal with it, the ability within us to quickly turn ourselves into relation to the situation, until, if there is any question as to our mastery over it, we have demonstrated that we are masters. So, if undesirable intrusions come to us, we must re-

member just then and there to check ourselves from that impatience, thus relating ourselves by way of sympathetic interest, and question, "Why now; why this?" I do not mean to resignedly let yourself drift into it and accept it as it floods in upon you, but I mean to turn to it, still positive, still receptive, still conscious that you are the manipulator of the situation, ask it its motive, its nature, its worth and learn to understand it. Oftentimes impatient mothers, impatient friends could turn and deal with a situation and dispatch it within five minutes, nobly and gloriously, to the benefit of both parties concerned; while, in this non-relating, unsympathetic, disappointing, impatient manner, you become mixed up with the situation, instead of qualified to stand over it and manipulate it. You also waste time floundering among the situations. Sometimes you find yourself disqualified; you find your lack of sympathy blinding you, for you are unable to hear the "still small voice" and to see "the guiding light" that might enable you to find the few words of council, comforting and blessing the seeker, and also sending yourself on your way victoriously triumphant. It is at this point we wish especially to teach you, to impress you, how the little things, the little blocks with which the greatest edifices are builded, how the little trials that

oppress these situations, these interests and sympathies, how the little solicitations for the well-being of others, how the practice of being able to joyously, cheerfully set aside your chosen satisfaction by yielding it up to another, give to the soul, who is consciously practicing them, who is discriminatingly, intentionally and thoughtfully inducing them, his opportunities to become a master.

It is such souls, in such practice, who bring themselves speedily to a place of spontaneous and habitual practice of constructive living. As well as thinking, of a constructive radiating example to other lives, which brings to the earth more sunshine and more harmony. The heralds of the greatest truths must ever be the patient ones who can possess interest in things, even that seem irrelevant, entirely foreign to their chosen theme; who can so quickly and sympathetically adapt themselves to the emergency of the moment, that wherever they stand, whatever they are facing they are at their very best. This study, practice and teaching continually emphasizes that we are not to be one-pointed specialists, but that we are to develop a symmetrically rounded-out character that is adaptable, and, above all else, a character that is aware of its relation to the source of all wisdom, all power, all love, all faith. And, when we have *this*

consciousness aroused within us--that we have these mighty resources--we come to a place where (if a problem is brought to us which we have never contemplated, of which we have never studied the technique) the spirit, nevertheless, is revealed to us; and, with wisdom and accuracy, we can draw upon the source of wisdom within the potentialities of our own Divine Consciousness and with unerring definiteness guide the seeker after truth, with a wisdom, a strength, a love and a faith that are a baptism unto him, and an expression for us. If we do not fear our inability to council well and wisely; if we knew that our desire for this inquirer is for his best good and happiness; if we have nothing involved in the meeting of the demand; if we simply answer to the appeal of a soul in his need, with an earnest call into our inner consciousness that we can help him, we are safe, for we have bridged the chasm and created the triangular current. And through our at-one-ment with the forces of all wisdom and all power and our at-one-ment with our brother we are able to, indeed, say, "Thou, I and My Father are one," and, "His knowledge and that which I know, you know." And so, in this feeling for knowledge upon any specific course the earnest student and practitioner can bring himself to a place where the spoken word and the message from his heart will heal.

The Earth

God made the Earth a Perfect Place
Where we might learn more of HIS Love and
Grace,

And in us this Desire HE so Strongly Implanted
In Time Each will Know the Benevolence Granted

Down through the Ages this Burning Desire
Has Lead to Experiences both Great and Dire,
But the Plan GOD Intended is still Intact,
And Patiently Waits for us to React.

His Law of Love and Perfect Wisdom,
That Like Produces Like in every Decision
Gives us the Liberty to Decide and Choose
The Pattern of Life we care to use.

But the Law is Immutable, and all must Know
We are bound to reap whatever we sow,
So, when we are ready to Open our Heart
The Flow of Love and Good will start.

The Prayer that we Pray to The Heavenly One
"Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done,"
Is fulfilled to the Letter in Time and Space,
To the Extent we Believe in HIS Love and Grace.

Bertie Lee Carter

The Third Eye

Vera Stanley Alder

The possible fruits of a deeper understanding of various aspects of life have been considered, such aspects, for instance, as the planetary influences by whose aid we develop, and which we can study through astrology and numbers, and by their manifestations through Colour, Sound and Form. A little research has brought to light the possibility that the discoveries of men of science today may coincide with the knowledge of the mystics of all times, with a difference only of presentation and nomenclature, and the fact that the Mystics always postured an ultimate Cause and Law behind all phenomena, while present-day scientists seem afraid to link up with such big issues.

Finally we have considered the perfecting of our physical life through more intelligent control of diet, exercise and the human relationship.

Let us now draw away the Veil still further and take a peep at what may be the future awaiting man when he struggles out of the rut of materialism and

finally takes the reins of his life into his own hands. It looks as if the Powers that Be are tantalizing humanity into making this effort, because they are allowing hints and bits of knowledge to filter through in a more *general* way than ever before. We find all sorts of unexpected people playing enthusiastically with these jewels as if they were bright new toys. On every hand we hear glib talk of trances, visions, healings and divine guidance. We hear of intimate relationships with the 'Masters', of mystic experiences upon the 'Path'. We are given full details of 'Initiations', reincarnations, and Magic Black and White! Hundreds of societies and cults with scores of 'Teachers' have sprung up everywhere like a mushroom growth---and of course they mostly claim to be the especial instrument of the 'Great White Lodge'.

Now, it may be that many of these people are childish, and that some of them remain materialistic and jealous, and even profiteer with their spiritual goods!

Nevertheless, two things stand out.

Firstly, there is a growing widespread demand for enlightenment on these subjects, and a deepening sense of the existence of such knowledge. Secondly, everything that is being given out everywhere bears the same stamp, posts the same laws, and makes

fundamentally the same promises, in spite of superficial and surface differences. It would all appear to come from one original source, and that source to have been the very ancient teachings of the greatest Sages and Mystics of all times, which has existed the world over in much the same form.

And although people are still perhaps infantile and naive over the treasures of knowledge so freshly represented to them, yet their interest is intense and their numbers are growing.

Furthermore, as in all their various forms these teachings yet tally in laying emphasis on brotherhood, unselfishness, generosity and Peace, they would seem to form some kind of opposition to the propensities for slaughter, oppression, greed and selfishness which are causing widespread havoc in various parts of the world.

True, among these cults are to be found many cranks, hypocrites and other undesirables; but these people would exist in any case. They may have more chance of regeneration where they are. It is necessary always to distinguish between the Teaching and the Teacher; it is possible to learn beautiful truths from a very unbeautiful character, who in that way may be working off his 'Karmic' debts.

The great revival of interest in 'occult' subjects

knowledge to be assimilated in the next. Certain it is that fifty years ago there was an intense pioneering activity in research, both 'occult' and scientific'. The Theosophists, Christian Scientists, and Spiritualists, the Hypnotists, the Mesmerists and Healers resulted from these activities, to which were drawn many eminent men and women of the time, who have left behind a wealth of printed records of their studies and testified experiments. Much or all of these results may be doubted by the sceptics---but there is no smoke without fire. The impartial enquirer will do well to observe that in all these diverse activities much the same type of manifestation, information and mysterious laws appears to have come to light.

Those who were studying these things from the mental and philosophical angle were headed by a remarkable woman called H. P. Blavatsky, whose strange personality seemed much divorced from her profound and level-headed writings. She made a deep and exhaustive search into ancient Eastern mystical records and produced almost an encyclopedia upon the subject in her *Secret Doctrine* and other books. The Theosophists, headed by Annie Besant, carried on the work. During the same period a very ancient sect called the Rosicrucians were allowed to begin to give out a little of their knowledge to the

public. Much of this work was accomplished by Rudolph Steiner and men like Max Heindel. The less intellectually inclined were provided for by the Spiritualists, Christian Scientists, Mesmer, Dr. Coue, and others.

Everything was done by fair means, and possibly foul, to awaken people to a sense of the potency of the inner worlds. The seed thus sown germinated and persisted. Today there is a big field of these activities, which excites little comment because it has grown to be a part of the life of the public.

What are the principal elements of the more exalted of these teachings?

We hear first of all of the great Plan for the evolution of humanity, which through Spirit ensouling seven great Races and dwelling on seven great Continents, of which Lemuria and then Atlantis were the first two. The earth itself is to have seven successive incarnations before becoming spiritualized. All this is only a tiny little cog in the wheel of Planetary Evolution. Planets come into successive births just as does humanity, both individually and collectively, and so do Solar Systems!

Presiding over our Solar System is the Hierarchy, and all their staff of graded helpers, mentioned in the Bible as the Seven Spirits before the Throne, the

Archangels, Angels, Cherubin and Seraphim. Humanity is in the School of Earth, graduating to be qualified to fill such exalted positions in the dim future. The first to pass these mystic examinations (called Initiations) will be ready to replace those of the celestial company who are promoted to higher positions. Having attained such status They have no longer any need of earth-lessons, but They sometimes elect to come back to help humanity and set them an example of the perfect human life, as did Jesus Christ, the Buddha, and many others in earliest history. In fact, we are told that the gods themselves instructed humanity at the dawn of history, at which time humanity was entirely conscious of the inner worlds and had gradually to learn to become aware of the crystallizing Physical Plane.

The gods, or those members of the hierarchy who are in charge of the elements and the different forces of Nature, have always been appreciated throughout the ages and worshipped in excellent symbolical form by such people as the Egyptians, the Assyrians and the Chinese. All these faiths in their original root form acknowledged the One God over all. For instance, if we study the revival of that pure religion as it was cultivated by King Akenaton, we will see that he founded it upon a former faith existing

thousands of years previous to his time, which worshipped the one God.

We are told that humanity has had to pass through a long dark Age of Materialism in which to learn to master physical matter by its own means. This accomplished, it will rise once more from the 'Maya' or 'Illusion' of the importance of matter and focus its eyes upon the real inner world of causes and realities.

Human beings were built originally, we are told, with a special organ with which to register the *finer* vibrations of the physical world, the realm of the ethers.

This organ was known as we have said, as the 'Third Eye'. The 'Third Eye' is placed between the other two, at the root of the nose, and has its seat near the Pineal Gland. It is said that the earliest people of all used only that middle eye, and were known as the Cyclops. We are told that during the embryonic development of the human species, at first man's only organ was one which he used to feel with, and to differentiate between heat and cold. In time this organ recessed, and the *first sense* of touch spread all over the nervous system and through the skin. Apparently man's second organ to develop was his one 'Eye', which he used to see all 'non-solid'

matter (which was all that existed at the time), As the earth solidified man developed his own physical eyes with which to view the solid world, and his second organ recessed, its etheric sight spreading all over the nervous system and having its seat in the solar plexus. It is said that each of man's five senses will eventually spread all over his body in the same way.

The capacity for sight in the 'lower' non-solid etheric portion of the physical plane is therefore one of the most primitive involuntary functions, which man shares with the animals. It is only when this ability is brought by will-power and training under the control of man's higher faculties, and made to work in conjunction with the centres in his head, that it becomes of real value. Thus co ordinated, all three activities are often loosely classed under the heading of the 'THIRD EYE', and for the present it will simplify matters if we sometimes do this also.

As physical eyesight developed, the etheric eye recessed, but although dormant at present in most people, it is only awaiting development and training to be reawakened. This training is a part of deliberate mystical development, which was well understood and thoroughly provided for in the ancient temples. No high ruler or Pharaoh was eligible with-

out such training. The fact of his finished apprenticeship was announced by a nob upon the forehead of his statue, representing the awakened 'Third Eye', or by a serpent's head rearing from his own to show that he had raised the Kundalini.

The Chinese mandarin wore a peacock's feather in his headdress to represent the same development.

The functioning of the 'Third Eye' puts the individual in touch with the greater part of the physical world, all that part which is invisible to the physical eyesight. The physical world is divided, as is all else, into seven interpenetrating planes or strata. These are solid, liquid, gaseous and four kinds of ether. The physical eye can register or 'see', the vibrations of the first three. The 'Third Eye' can voluntarily register or 'see' the vibrations of the four ethers.

Certain creatures and types of activity (such as human beings and waterfalls!) have their final outer expression in solid form.

Many other beings and types of activity have their final outer expression in ether form or 'etheric matter' as it is called. For instance, we are told that the angels have an etheric body as their outer coat instead of a solid physical one as we have, and that this is because aeons ago, at the time when they went through the 'human' or individualizing stage, the

ether was the densest condition of matter in existence.

When the 'Third Eye' is opened the individual begins to see all the manifold creatures and activities of the ether, and he approaches much nearer to the causes and realities of life. The mind can have power over everything which it can visualize. Therefore while man is thus studying and learning to comprehend life in the ethers, he is able to develop the power to use and control some of his life.

He sees, for instance, exactly what his thoughts are and what happens to them. Once he has thoroughly comprehended the region of thought he uses and controls his thinking apparatus to much greater purpose..

He also studies the records of the earth's history which exist in the ethers in photographic form . He also gains an acquaintance with the plane described as the Fourth Dimension, the power to penetrate with one's sight or consciousness in every direction at once, and backwards and forwards through time.

Time and Space are physical attributes, but only an infinitesimal fraction of their limits can be apprehended by the senses while using their fleshly encasements.

The Yogi or Sage who wishes to know truth at first hand, and to study the working of the universe, sets

himself earnestly and patiently to reawaken his 'Third Eye' into activity, using time-worn tested methods. He proceeds to study the conditions in each of the four ethers. He gradually accustoms himself to discriminate between and sum up the unaccustomed intricacies of interpenetrating mobile and changing activities. The task is extraordinarily difficult and unimaginable to the ordinary man, but the Sage has access to instruction and help of which many of our less advanced mediums and psychics of the West are ignorant.

Truth is the essence of Purity, and therefore, as the Sage knows, can only be contacted by one of a like vibration.

Therefore the wise one acknowledges the first step to be the attaining of a condition of Purity---Purity of Motive and Purity of Living---a very little understood condition!

He next works to bring the brain under the complete subjection of his will instead of at the mercy of outside influences. By a series of carefully planned exercises he trains his mental equipment in much the same way as a dancer trains her muscles. The dancer gains complete control of her body at the cost of tremendous work and sacrifice. The Sage, for about the same cost of effort, gains complete control of the mind.

The mind is a very powerful instrument. We cannot say much about it at this juncture except that it can be compared with material of electrical constituency which has, if concentrated to one point, the same burning quality as fire. If a mind is divided upon several thoughts its burning force is dispersed in various directions. If concentrated upon one point it becomes as a burning-glass to the 'Sun' of its own Ego.

The effort of the Yogi, or any spiritual aspirant, is directed towards achieving one-pointedness of the mind. With this sharp instrument he can then bore through all the shells of illusion to the very truth and essence of all life. He can also deliberately wield and mould with his mind creative patterns which will help to shape the future. He is no longer confined to the haphazard creative efforts of the average man. He can create from the inside with the invisible sources of things.

With such capacities he can head, prophesy and teach from the source of Truth. Such attributes the true Christian also is dedicated to seek, because they are the 'gifts of the Holy Ghost'.

To do these things, however, it is not enough to have opened the 'Third Eye', or the Eye of the Soul. This knowledge of the universe must be linked with

the highest creative force within the body before creative activity can follow.

The seat of this creative force is in the throat, in the Thyroid gland. When the magnetism of the soul dominates the body it draws up reserve force from the base of the spine, when it was used for the animal nature, to the throat, as we mentioned in the description of the Kundalini serpent. This fire of creative force can then be used for inspired creative work of various kinds. But the highest expression of the power of the throat centre lies in the spoken word. God *spoke* and created the world. Christ spoke and called to the dying to arise and walk.

Man is a god in the making, and the goal is waiting before him. When once he has set his feet firmly upon the path of attainment his earnest aspirations will burn the dross out of his body and mind. Then by degrees the centres of force within his seven major glands will be enabled to function. These centres, named by the Indians *chakras*, connect him with the knowledge of and power consciously to work in the different plans of matter.

Man's whole mentality can by this means be re-oriented and changed from a limited conception of third-dimensional objective life to a broad understanding concerning the why and the wherefore of the

universe and his own part in the scheme of things. He achieves a telepathic union with the Mind of the Being whose body is his solar system, sometimes spoken of as Cosmic Consciousness.

The science of self-development along these lines usually includes special dieting, fasting, breathing and posture, but the principal aspect of this training is known as Meditation.

The practice of Meditation is creeping into various of the Western cults and occult societies, under different guises, and, alas, in some cases, in incomplete and misconceived forms. However, the germ of the idea has already taken root in the West, and as everything is speeded up nowadays it may come to be more quickly understood than we could expect.

The third factor which is necessary for this attainment of man is the heart. Sequestered in one of the ventricles of the heart is what is called the 'seed-atom' of man's physical body. It contains a minute image of the man himself, and his own body is said to be a large replica of it. This seed atom is the little record, the actual essence of the man's personality, the link or channel between him and his soul. It holds the 'silver-chord' to the heart, and when it is severed and 'death' occurs the seed-atom leaves the body and is preserved in the subtler realms until the

man's reincarnation, when he is formed from it again.

We can say, therefore, that the actual man himself, his real personality, his essence, his memory and all of him that will endure, dwells, in the last analysis, within the heart. For this reason all that man learns, through training and combining his physical brain with his higher mind, must be linked with his heart before it is really his. Christ said 'As a man thinketh in his *heart* so is he', and 'Where a man's heart is there will his treasure be.'

The function, action and quality of the heart is Love. Love in its broadest sense is the desire for reunion with the divine Spirit of the Creator which permeates all life. Love is the magnet which holds all life together. Its attraction is so strong that nothing can resist it.

Through the direct access of the heart to the Divine Spirit of Love or Truth come those 'intuitions' which are always more reliable than the 'thought-out' processes of the brain---everything which you can love you can understand. Put limitations to Love and you limit life. That is what most of us do. We confine our love to one or two people and possessions, and close ourselves to the rest of life.

To reach the divine Truth, therefore, the heart must desire it, the heart must love it above all else. And

then the power of the heart will link the man within it to his illumined mind and brain, the active Pineal Gland and Pituitary Body. The perfect Triangle will have been formed, the Triangle that has been drawn and symbolized and named in so many tongues.

Then the birth of the God in Man takes place-- 'Unless ye be reborn' We must quote the Christ in this connection because His great work, we are told, was to flood the earth permanently with His own great Spirit of Love, to make it possible for humanity to attain this rebirth of the Soul through the pure straight channel of the Heart alone. Since His coming it has no longer been necessary to have strict occult training and deep mental development before spiritual heights can be achieved. From then onwards the heart has been able to reach illumination through direct union, through love and worship, with the great Christ spirit, and through following the standards set by Its embodiment in the man Jesus.

The sacrifice of the Christ spirit in thus bearing the heavy mantle of earth vibrations in order to support the faltering heart-beat of humanity has been greater than we are able to imagine. Humanity would appear to be very slow in taking advantage of it, and seems hardly able even to grasp the standards set for it as yet.

'Love thy neighbour as thyself'---so simple and so

clear! and quite enough to change this tortured earth to a lovely place.

'Be ye wise as serpents and harmless as doves.' Here again we have the serpent as the age-old symbol of the Kundalini serpent which rises up the spine and links together the great Triangle. We can gather that Jesus Christ taught His disciples the science of Meditation. Often He took them apart into a high place (or plane). We read that one of them even reached the 'third Heaven' and learned there of things which no man is allowed to tell.

The Buddha sat in Meditation for years until he had gained access to the Universal Knowledge.

Such great spirits have done much of the preliminary work for us and have shared with us their knowledge, so all we need do is to profit by it.

It is not necessary for all of us to travel the occult path, to study deeply and to train as mystics. We are all at different sages along the 'Path'. We must not over reach ourselves or we will have to retrace our steps. Many of us, in fact, may choose, subconsciously, to continue with our most vital inner development only during our hours of sleep, and to withhold our growing knowledge, for the time being, from our little waking brain. But it is never too early for any of us to take the quickest way--- to begin to learn to

love, and to clear out all the accumulated rubbish of false thinking, intolerance and greed which is robbing us of the Light of Life.

Whether we choose to approach the Truth through the discipline of study, complex thought and abtruse language, or through the discipline of self-sacrifice and service the essence of that which we seek remains the same---too simple for words or brain, just a letting go of fear and ambition for the self.

We are trying to overcome habits of thought embedded in our personalities for centuries. For some of us this may only be possible at our present stage through the constant drilling of words, words, words! Others may be able to short-circuit them by a tremendous effort of Love.

But however the goal is approached, and however it is achieved, let it be borne in mind that the gate of man's deliverance, his birth as a god in human form, is heralded by the reopening of the 'Third Eye', after which he will remain no longer blind to everything in life except the tiny excrescence which we call the Physical World!

* * *

The Fragrance of Truth joins the future to the past. "Rejoice," she whispers, "for thou shalt end thy way in the Land of My Eternal Presence."

The Power of Poetry

Norman M. Douglas

*"Blessings be with them, and eternal praise,
Who gave us nobler loves and nobler cares,
The POETS, who no earth have made us heirs
Of truth and pure delight by heavenly lays!"*

Wordsworth [*The Poets*]

As the air we breathe---though seeming as nothing---shares in building and sustaining our bodies as much as does the food and material we can see and taste, our dreams and the songs of our poets share in the building of our homes, cities and nations. In truth, as the dreamer's awakesness is given to effort, aught that we have or enjoy today was at one time a dream or a song: hence, in trusting our dreams and singing the songs felt in our heart, we have lived to realize the hopes of our yesterdays and, with new strength and urge, faced the realities of tomorrow.

While the dreamer and the poet is---as we have seen---an important factor in the founding of a society, a state or a nation, he is also the herald of coming events. In every crisis---for instance, in Lincoln's

day, with the event of slavery threatening the unity of the nation, with statesmen and national leaders debating the issues involved, with orators addressing the populace thereon and with soldiers being mustered therefor Clio's voice is heard in:

"Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide

In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, for the good or evil side."

While Decisio nanswers with:

*"A house divided against itself cannot stand---
Liberty and slavery cannot dwell together in any land---*

Hence, if we are to preserve the unity and strength of this nation

Slavery must be abolished!"

And, though yet the forerunner, no sooner has Mars set his pawns and spread his dark mantle than the Minstrel Boy is heard in---

*"Tramp, tramp, tramp the boys are marching---
Cheer up, comrades, they will come. . . ."*

While all through the strife---whether that of our Civil War days, the wars of Ancient Babylon or the great conflict of World War number two, the poet and singer lightens the hearts of Mar's men with winged words or, often in actual combat, gives us such grim realities as those found in fighting bards

like Lieutenant Ray Smith. Although a recent issue of poetry magazine was graced with *ten* of his poems, we use, (in acknowledgement and thanks) for illustration, the first verse of his poem *German Deads*

*"Crouched in a silent trance he watched the road,
By one small bullet's magic pained to stone.
He did noe see our armor churning in
Past that scarecrow outpost of the dead.
But others out of the dark, the mud and rain,
Cried Kamerad,! cried Help! and sobbed, and bled ."*

In view of the foregoing---and apart form the fact that Lieutenant Smith was winner of the Bridgman Poetry Award in the three successive years, as well as being awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on the fighting front and a member of the valiant force that came to the rescue of the trapped 101st Airborne troops of Bastogne---or that he was with the 5th Armored Division which fought with General Patton in the Saar region, such not only proves the universal scope of Pegasus' wings when Muse rides, but---conforming the versatility thereof--reveals that strange vigil known to the dreamer and the poet; as in the case of a certain Francis Scott Key when, courting Helios, he saw "By the dawn's early light, What so prouddy" had been "Hailed at the twilight's last gleaming" and, "Where the foe's

haughty host in dread silence" reposed, this sleepless lark was outdoing Aurora when---though "Dimly seen through them mists of the deep" his awakens carols

"What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,

*As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream . . .*

In truth---and ere we leave this particular phase of our subject, were it not for the poet, most of the courage, fame and glory, for which the flags of all nations wave, would be as valor unfurled, heroism unsung and courageous acts---such as the rising of Old Glory on Iwo Jima---a few lines in history.

Recently it was revealed that the flag of Italy---for which so many Italians had fought, bled and died ---was derived from the poet Dante and owed its vesture of *red, white and green* to three lines from Canto 30 in the Divine Comedia:

*"Crowned with laurel on her WHITE veil,
Appeared a woman to me in a GREEN cloak,
Appareled in the color of living fire [RED]*

While the flags---the standards of courage and symbols of victory---owe much to the bard or singer, such is the power thereof, a poem or song is known to have caused the outcome of a conflict and the saving

of a nation. While, in times of peace---as was the case during the depression of 1932, when the long looked for prosperity failed to be "just around the corner"---when negative conditions became worse, and hope seemed gone, the president---in desperation--appealed for a poem or a song that would end the depression. Verily, such a request---coming from a man not given to poetry---but an engineer and designer given to cold logic and concrete things, does but show the power of Muse under any and all circumstances. Nor was such a request unreasonable; for---during the historical European depression wrought by the panic and plague of 1679, when conditions became near unbearable and hope seemed shattered, a mirthful beggar known as "Augustine" emerged from a pest hole singing "Ach! Du Lieber Augustine, Augustine---Augustine!" and, rallying the stricken people around him with song and jollity, started all Europe on the road to recovery:-with the result that a statue was erected in the Neustiftgasse at Vienna in commemoration of this songster and the song that saved Europe.

As for the power of Muse in times of depression---or when Mars is chafed with armor, we could go back to the earliest struggles of man and find examples such as those offered in the foregoing. Verily, with the early Jewish warriors---and especially in such

conflicts as when the Jews were defeated and taken captive to Babylon, it was their poets that revived them with the needed strength and courage to keep the faith and rise above defeat. Tired, weary and beaten---"By the rivers of Babylon"---sang their poets,

"We sat downs

Yea, we wept when we remembered Zion.

*We hanged our harps upon the willows
In the midst thereof.*

*For they that carried us away captive
Required of us a song;
And they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying,
'Sing us one of the songs of Zion.'*

*How shall we sing the Lord's song
In a strange land?*

*If I forget thee, O' Jerusalem,
Let my right hand forget her cunning.*

*If I remember thee;
Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth;
If I prefer not Jerusalem
Above my chief joy. . . ."*

Surely such songs---as Joseph Auslander wrote, "May be more useful than money or food. The things we eat or wear are pleasant to our bodies. But if we

are desperate with weariness or grief we cannot sit down to a banquet or enjoy the color and shape of a new garment. Words that heal and hearten may be what we need. After we have had them the feast will delight us and the garment prove a joy."

* * *

INCONSISTENCY

Which one of us would early rise
To see the sun mount in the skies?
We're so contented counting sheep,
And catching up on beauty sleep.

And who of us would turn around
To see the dew upon the ground?
There's so much work that must be done,
Our duty calls, and off we run.

Or do we even dare to stall
To watch the raindrops gently fall?
We have no extra time in stock,
And both our eyes are on the clock.

Then when the rainbow, overhead,
Streams brightly forth, we look, instead,
At some small task that's next in line,
For rainbow gazing, we've no time.

And even when the day is done

The moon and stars replace the sun,
Our fleeting hours won't justify,
The briefest gaze into the sky.

The flowers, the birds, each lovely scene
Means nothing in our day's routine.
For we've no time to stop and stare,
And gaze at things we know are there.

But if to earth, some day, God came
And called each one of us by name,
You bet, we'd go, at any cost,
And never count that time as lost.

And yet, He calls us every day
And let's us know in every way,
But we, poor mortals, thru life plod,
And always turn our backs on God.

Edythe C. Mansfield

* * *

Never are there barriers for the fragrance of the
soul; time is but her chalice, silence her herald, and
distance her helper and her friend.

The Prophet represents that Sun which neither
knows of rising nor of setting.

Great skill is required to be able to lift each par-
ticle of life to the level of *life*.

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