

# **THE FACULTY OF ASTROLOGICAL STUDIES**

## **A HISTORY**

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**Acknowledgements**

This history could not have been written without unlimited access to all the Faculty archive material. This comprised not just the official records of Council Minutes, course material and examination papers but a large amount of correspondence. The letters between the Councillors helped humanise and enliven what would otherwise have been a rather impersonal chronology of events. My thanks then go to the Faculty itself and also to everyone who shared their personal reminiscences with me.

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## **PART 1. FACULTY HISTORY, 1948-1969**

### **Introduction**

This history of the Faculty of Astrological Studies was commissioned by the Faculty Council to celebrate the Faculty's 60th anniversary in 2008. Because of the wealth of material, it took longer to write than originally planned yet charts the early years in fuller detail. It seems remarkable that despite the sixty years of Faculty history, during which time thousands of students passed through its doors of astrological learning, there is no formal written history. For sixty years, the decisions made by loyal and dedicated Diploma Holders at hundreds of Council meetings, have steered the Faculty through uncharted waters and kept it on course through many storms and setbacks. As I researched this project I found myself lost in admiration for the many Council Members who had gone before me; their hard work and commitment truly needs recording. As Patrick Curry says, 'they deserve no less, and our common history would be poorer without them'<sup>1</sup>. So I would like to thank them all and also to thank all the students without whom the Faculty would not have lasted.

I was lucky to be presented with an almost complete set of archives and the history has mainly been compiled from the Minutes of the Council Meetings and the Minutes of the Annual General Meetings. There were of course no e-mails in the early days and relatively little use of the telephone so much of the Faculty business was conducted in writing. This correspondence has helped fill in some of the human story which could not be gleaned from the minutes. John Filbey was in the process of compiling a history when he died and his notes on the Faculty's history have also helped me get a feel for the subject. I am grateful too for personal memoirs and anecdotes from past Faculty students and Council Members. With such a wealth of material it was not easy to decide what to include and what to overlook. John Filbey's notes were full of charts and statistics of student numbers, examination passes and so on, but although I have put in certain dates, times and places to help the keen astrologer calculate charts of interest, generally I have been more interested in the changing social conditions which influenced the changing face of astrology during the period and the stories of human interest which emerged.

### **'Character is Destiny' : Astrology in Britain at the turn of the Twentieth Century**

To put the foundation of the Faculty in 1948 into some sort of perspective the following is a brief account of the place of astrology in Britain leading up to that time. Patrick Curry in his books '*Prophecy and Power*'<sup>2</sup> and '*A Confusion of Prophets*'<sup>3</sup> introduced me to the history of British astrology and set me on a search to discover how the next chapter evolved. In July 1885, 'Albinus Leon' or Alan Leo (1860-1917) published a magazine called 'Modern Astrology'. In his editorial he set a challenge by saying '*The time has come to modernise the ancient system of Astrology*'<sup>4</sup>. Over the next few years he then went on to publish his series of seven pocket manuals entitled '*Astrology For All*'; the final volume being published in

1913. This period saw a general upsurge in astrological publications and a keen interest from the public who applied to receive Alan Leo's Test horoscopes. He had devised a system of delineation sheets and started the '*the first modern astrological business*'<sup>5</sup>. During this time Leo, whose real name was William Frederick Allen, had changed his name by deed poll. It was not unusual to have an astrological nom-de-plume in the days of the occult revival in Victorian times. The first Raphael was Robert Cross Smith (1795-1832) and he was followed by John Palmer (1807-1837) and then by Medhurst who took over in 1837. He in turn was followed by Wakely in 1853 and R V Sparkes in 1854. Robert T Cross (1850-1923) was the last Raphael though of course there are still the invaluable publications bearing the name.<sup>6</sup> Another astrologer who adopted a nom-de-plume was Richard James Morrison (1795-1874), who, as Zadkiel, published astrology textbooks and an Almanac to rival that of Raphael's '*Prophetic Messenger*.'

There is no concluding evidence either to suggest that the use of these names was part of the general trend towards occultism or whether they were used for reasons of anonymity in view of the law surrounding the practice of astrology. In 1824 the Witchcraft Act was updated to include a new Vagrancy Act. This prohibited '*every person pretending or professing to tell fortunes, or using any subtle craft, means, or device, by palmistry or otherwise, to deceive and impose on any of his Majesty's subjects*'. Legally, astrologers were regarded as fortune-tellers and took their place alongside palmists, clairvoyants, spiritualists and penny fortune-tellers, with no distinction made between them. Of the many prosecutions brought against astrologers perhaps the two prosecutions of Alan Leo in 1914 and 1917 were the ones which were most well-known at the time. In his defence Leo claimed that he did not tell fortunes and that he was not an impostor because he was practising a science in which he had genuinely believed. The first case was dismissed but in the second he was found guilty and fined.

Another astrologer of the time was Walter Richard Old (1864-1929) who was best known as Sefarial. He was vice-president of the Blavatsky Lodge of the Theosophical Society which Madame Blavatsky opened when she came to London in 1887. It was Sefarial who introduced Leo to the Lodge and he was soon moving in Theosophical circles under the heady influence of Madame Blavatsky. Leo saw the karmic potential of esoteric astrology and at an informal meeting on July 13th, 1914 he proposed that a new Lodge of the Theosophical society be founded in order to combine astrology with theosophy. Bessie Leo, Alan's wife was to be President and Leo himself was to be vice-president. The aim was to '*teach Astrology to Theosophists and Theosophy to Astrologers*'<sup>7</sup>. The chart details of the newly formed Lodge are 7.20 p.m. GMT, July 13<sup>th</sup> 1915 at North London.

At the inaugural meeting was a young barrister called Charles E O Carter who had developed an interest in astrology after sending away for one of Leo's 'shilling delineations'. Seven or so years later he took over from Bessie as president of the Middlesex Lodge or the Astrological Lodge of the Theosophical Society as it became known four months later. Theosophy with its karmic philosophy gave astrology new meaning. In fact Alan Leo's motto was '*Character is Destiny*'. Patrick Curry says that the shift from telling fortunes to reading character was initiated by Leo and with the addition of theosophy came an understanding of an occult inner world. The work of Carl Jung introduced further psychological depth with the concept of the psyche and the collective unconscious. In 1936 Dane Rudhyar published '*The Astrology of Personality*' which furthered Leo's work and developed a humanistic astrology, seeing the value of potential in the horoscope. Charles Ernest Owen Carter was 35

when he became President of the Astrological Lodge in 1922 and he introduced and edited its quarterly magazine 'Astrology' for over thirty years from 1926 to 1959. <sup>8</sup> On the back of this influential publication under the heading 'The Work of the Astrological Lodge of London' was printed:

*Astrology is no mere system of fortune-telling. It is a Universal Philosophy, founded on demonstrable scientific fact. The object of the Lodge is to form a strong body of earnest students, able to study and promulgate astrological truth, and to purify it from unworthy associations of all sorts. In this work we bespeak the help of every serious student, each according to his or her capacity.*

This definition of astrology appeared in the magazine until the Summer issue of 1983 when it was dropped. Part of it, without the 'founded on demonstrable scientific fact' reappeared from the Spring of 1992 but it was completely dropped from Autumn 1995. <sup>9</sup>



*Charles E O Carter*

Charles Carter was a much admired astrologer, impressive lecturer and a prolific writer. Among his best known works are 'The Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology' (1924), 'The Principles of Astrology' (1925), 'The Seven Great Problems of Astrology' (1927), 'The Zodiac and the Soul' (1928), 'Symbolic Directions in Modern Astrology' (1929), 'The Astrological Aspects' (1930), 'The Astrology of Accidents' (1932), 'Some Principles of Horoscopic Delineation, (1934) and 'Essays on the Foundations of Astrology' (1947). These



books together with Alan Leo's 'Astrology for All' series helped make astrology more widely available and understood.

A further development in the nineteen thirties saw the birth of astrology as a popular phenomenon. On the 21st August 1930, Princess Margaret was born and the Sunday Express asked the astrologer R H Naylor to write an article predicting what her life would be like. He included a forecast of events for the coming week. This was an instant success and there was an immediate request from the readers for more. The result was that in the next few years all the major newspapers carried Sun Sign horoscopes. In 1936 a private prosecution was brought against Naylor by the editor of the spiritualist journal 'Psychic News' because the editor claimed, whereas spiritualists were being prosecuted under the Vagrancy Act, by and large astrologers were not being charged. This again brought the practice of astrology into question.

During the second world war Naylor continued to make predictions and the Ministry of Information was so worried by about the effect of astrology in the form of sun-sign horoscopes in the newspapers that they set up a Committee to instigate an enquiry on the effects of astrology on national morale. Their findings were:-

*A small proportion of people, at the most one in ten and probably of a neurotic type, make astrology a major interest in their lives and allow it to play some part in forming their conduct...It would appear that the decline in religious belief amongst people...has provided the astrologers with a favourable field for their operations...*<sup>10</sup>

So we arrive at a picture of astrology in Britain after the 2nd World War. Made popular by newspaper Sun Sign columns, astrology appealed to the general public who in days gone by were the Almanac readers. Theosophy and astrology already had a following in elite and intellectual circles and in London these centred on the Lodge. It became more accessible to the middle classes through Alan Leo's and Charles Carter's books. Doubtless during this period many astrologers learned their craft from these books. The astrology tradition was soon to be passed on to a wider audience of students with the foundation of the Faculty of Astrological Studies.

### **Foundation of the Faculty of Astrological Studies**

The Astrological Lodge of London of the Theosophical Society was a thriving astrological association which held weekly meetings at 6 Queen Square, near Southampton Row in the fashionable Bloomsbury area of London. The meetings on a Monday evening were preceded by a Beginners' Class and followed by a public lecture. After that there was a 'Members Only' meeting at which topical astrological questions were discussed. Under Charles Carter's direction it was probably attended by all the leading astrologers in London at the time as well as those interested in finding out more about astrology. Amongst the latter was a young science student of the University of London called Lorenz Johannes Emanuel von Sommaruga.

He came from a family interested in astrology so had studied it early in life. According to a surviving account written by Margaret E Hone<sup>11</sup>, von Sommaruga felt that unless proper astrology classes were taught and examinations set to achieve a level of competence then astrology would 'continue to be without method and without the width or scope which a

*student would cover if he were working to the requirements of a syllabus for an examination*'. He put his ideas to the Committee of the Lodge and they appointed a Sub-Committee to study the possibility of instituting an astrological examination.

This Sub-Committee consisted of von Sommaruga and a Lodge member called Regulus, (another astrologer who continued the tradition of exotic nom-de-plumes), plus unnamed co-opted members from the Lodge. They held several meetings and presented their case to a full public meeting of Lodge members. Their final report was thrashed out at a meeting on 19th May, 1948 at 4 Eton Road, London, the home of von Sommaruga. They made the following recommendations to the Lodge: to hold examinations an examining body must be set up, a definite syllabus agreed and facilities for the training of students to the required standard would be necessary.

In order to achieve this, the report proposed that *'a body called "The Faculty of Astrological Studies" under the auspices of the Astrological Lodge should be created at the earliest opportunity.'* This Faculty should consist of a Principal, Secretary and Treasurer and other officers as necessary. There would also be lecturers, tutors and examiners but the examiners were to be elected from members of the Faculty by secret ballot. The Lodge should elect the Principal of the Faculty for a period of three years and he would appoint the Faculty officers, subject to ratification by the Lodge committee.

Further it was proposed that the tasks of the Faculty would be to draw up a syllabus, institute courses of tuition and prepare and hold examinations. Successful students would be awarded a Diploma. In addition an Intermediate Certificate should be granted to students who had reached a certain standard. Candidates should be given a number which should not be known to the examiners. Papers would be marked first by those examiners setting the papers and then by the examiners as a body.

The Faculty was to be financed from examination fees and tuition fees and examiners and tutors would be paid from this income. The Faculty should operate on a non-profit making basis and the Faculty officers would act in an honorary capacity. All matters of detail should be left to the Faculty under its Principal. The concluding sentence of the report reads, *'the committee would like to add that they have constantly borne in mind the need for setting a good standard which the students will find it worthwhile to work for, and that only in this way the dignity and high standing of the practice of astrology may be upheld'*. The report was signed by L J E von Sommaruga and Regulus.

Attached to the report are four specimen examination papers. These comprise, Paper I, Historical and General Astrology and ancillary subjects, Paper II Judgement, Paper III Methods of astrological calculations and Paper IV Practical (chart calculation). There were also specimens of the two Intermediate Examination papers. According to Margaret Hone, Lorenz von Sommaruga worked out the details of his ideas and prepared the specimen papers whilst recovering from an attack of mumps.

On the 7th June, 1948 at a meeting of the Astrological Lodge held at 6 Queen Square the members were asked to ratify the proposals and to choose the first Principal.



6, Queen Square, Bloomsbury

Margaret Hone reported:

*'As so often in life, it was impossible to choose an Inceptional Figure with complete freedom since all meetings of the Lodge began at 7.00 p.m. As Scorpio was rising at that time, but Jupiter was following in Sagittarius, it was obviously better to delay the decision till the latest possible moment before the close at 8.00 p.m., so that Sagittarius, the sign of optimism and growth and of serious philosophical study, should be rising with Jupiter as near the Ascendant as possible. The decision was taken at 7.50 p.m. B.S.T., the president of the Lodge, Charles E. O. Carter accepting the position of first PRINCIPAL of the new Faculty',<sup>12</sup>.*

The Faculty of Astrological Studies was born. The Faculty chart can be seen on the Faculty web site and at the end of Part 1, Appendix 1. Margaret Hone commented, *'It may seem strange that his decision should have been taken when Jupiter was in opposition to Uranus but this position lasted for some weeks and Mr. Sommaruga was anxious to begin so that a*

*Revisionary Course could be arranged to start in September enabling keen students to take their first examinations in December’.*

In the editorial of the Lodge’s Astrology magazine, Volume 22, no.3 of September/November 1948, Charles Carter wrote, *‘The Lodge did me the honour of electing me first Principal. My directions in the next few years are not good; however, I may be of use in laying the foundations of what should become an important factor in British astrology.’*

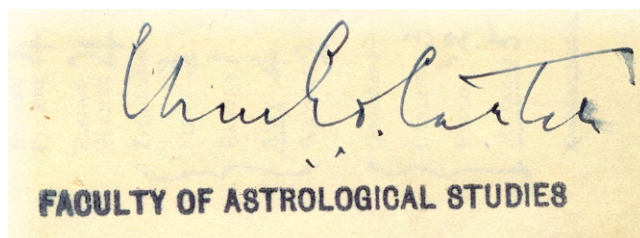
### **Early Meetings of the Committee of the Faculty of Astrological Studies**

The first meeting of the Committee of the Faculty of Astrological studies took place on 20th June, 1948 at approximately 4.00 p.m. after a Lodge Committee meeting convened for 3.00 p.m. It was held at Danecroft, 59 Victoria Drive, Wimbledon Park, the home of Charles Carter, Principal of the Faculty and President of the Astrological Lodge. The minutes of the inaugural meeting confirm the Faculty Birth Chart as follows: *‘The appointment of Principal had previously been ratified by a meeting of the whole Lodge on the 7th June at 6 Queen Square London, W. C. at 7.50 p.m. Summer Time, such time being taken for the compilation of a Faculty Inceptional Map’.*

The following officers and members of the Committee were ratified:

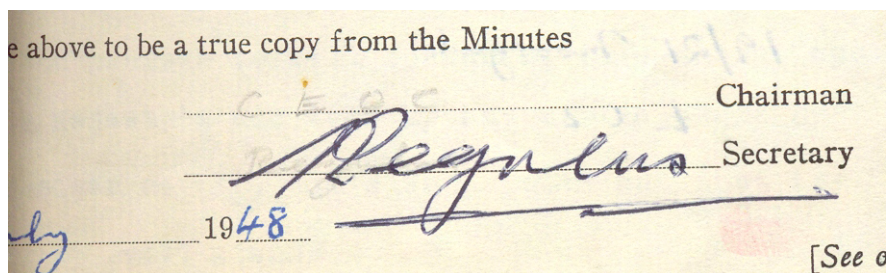
Principal:	Mr C E O Carter (already ratified by the Lodge)
Vice Principals:	Mr L J E von Sommaruga and Edmund Scott Caselli
Secretary:	“Regulus”
Treasurer:	Michael Edmund Leigh Becker Esq
Legal Advisor:	A Chubb, Esq from Child and Child, Solicitors
Auditor:	Bowen-Smith Esq
Public Relations Officer:	Mrs H Jaffe
Advisory Committee:	Mrs M E Hone “Mancunius” vacant

Details of the examinations were discussed and *‘the meeting closed, to be followed by tea provided by Mrs Carter, to whom, and to our Principal, is due our heartiest thanks for their excellent hospitality’*<sup>13</sup>. The minutes were signed by Charles Carter and rubber stamped Faculty of Astrological Studies. Appended to the minutes are hand drawn charts for the Faculty and the chart for the Foundation of the Astrological Lodge of London at 7.15 p.m. BST on 13th July, 1915 at Finchley. Mundane astrology students should note that the Faculty chart is entitled ‘Election of 1st Principal - Faculty of Astrological Studies’.

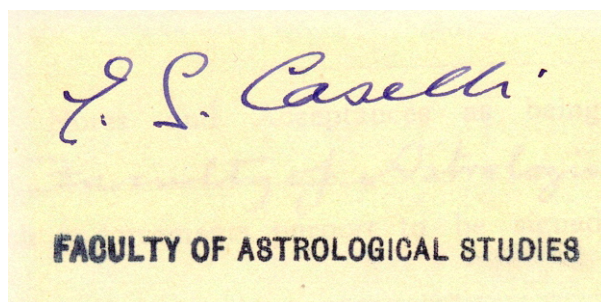


The second Committee meeting on the 12th July 1948 was at the home of the secretary Regulus at 6 Napier Avenue, Hurlingham near Putney Bridge. Not much is known of

Regulus and his real name Basil Laurence Koop is not mentioned in the minutes until he resigned in 1957. He was however a diligent secretary and produced meticulously typed minutes full of detail perhaps in tune with his profession as a civil servant.



The Faculty's initial capital of £50 was a legacy left to the Astrological Lodge by a Mrs. Earp for the benefit of astrology. It was agreed to open a bank account with Barclays Bank Limited and a copy of the Appointment of Bankers (Clubs, Associations, Societies etc.) signed by Regulus was appended to the minutes. Addressing the concerns mentioned earlier it was also agreed to seek legal opinion on the Faculty's status and liability, if any, under the Vagrancy Act and also limited liability company legislation. As for the status of the legal advisor's formal nomination it was felt that this might be an embarrassment to Mr. Chubb from a professional point of view! Once again, here is a pointer to the doubtful standing of astrologers at the time. There had been an announcement at the Lodge of the proposed examinations for December 1948 and eleven enquiries had already been received. The question of accommodation for the tuition classes was discussed together with a draft form of prospectus and syllabus. Ironically, given that Regulus wrote the minutes, he added that light refreshments were offered by Mrs Regulus. The minutes were signed by E S Caselli at the next meeting.



The problem of the Vagrancy Act caused much concern and it was discussed at length at the subsequent meeting. Mr. Sommaruga was under the impression that recent instructions given by the Home Secretary had had the effect of advising the police to use discretion in the matter and to direct their attentions to fairground quacks. Eventually it was felt that as the Faculty was a teaching and examining body it was not directly concerned with the practice of astrology. In a rare statement of political intent the minutes record that '*at a future date we must take a public stand and support any scheme to amend the act.*' There the matter was held in abeyance until it cropped up again at a later stage in the Faculty's history.

The early Committee meetings in 1948 were mainly concerned with agreeing a Prospectus and Syllabus, setting up the first course of tuition to be run for eight weeks from 21st September to 23rd November, 1948 and working on the details of the examinations. Fees for the examinations and tuition were set. These included the sum of £5 for the full course extending over one year's session; the revisionary course prior to the first examinations the fee was set at half that amount. The final (diploma) examination of five papers was to be £2. 10s. 0d. or alternatively individual papers could be taken separately for the sum of 12s.6d. The intermediate examination fee for two papers was twenty five shillings. *'Correspondence courses for provincial students would also be considered subject to demand, though it was felt preferable for provincial students to take external tuition where practicable.'*

In the 'Prospectus and Brief Syllabus of the Faculty of Astrological Studies' issued in August 1948 the Objects of the Faculty were set out:-

*The Faculty of Astrological Studies has been founded by the Astrological Lodge of London as an independent examining body in all astrological subjects. It is a non-profit-making organisation having as its functions:-*

- (1) the drawing up of a syllabus of study of astrological subjects of a high standard;*
- (2) the instituting of courses of tuition;*
- (3) the preparation and holding of examinations in astrology, both of intermediate and final standards.*

It was agreed to rent the Artists Room at Conway Hall from the South Place Ethical Society for ten Tuesday evenings commencing at 7.00 p.m. on 21st September 1948. The room could accommodate twelve people, store the easel and blackboard and would meet initial requirements. The North Room was also used. As provisional dates had been booked for the December examinations a notice had appeared in the editorial of Astrology, the Lodge magazine (pp. 70-71 of No.3 of Vol. 22.) The specimen examination papers were to be published and sold for a nominal amount of 1s.0d but the prospectus would be free.

So the first classes of what was later to be called 'The London School' were arranged as follows:- Astronomy - Mr Sommaruga, 5 lessons, Basic Theory A - Mr Caselli, 5 lessons, Methods and Tables - Regulus, 5 lessons and Basic Theory B - Mrs Hone, 5 lessons.



Subsequently, from the 5th Committee meeting until the 29th meeting at the end of 1956, all the meetings bar one were held in Margaret Hone's *'very pleasant and cosy room'* at 122 Beaufort Street in Chelsea. The minutes regularly remark on her hospitality and *'for the delightful refreshments she so sweetly affords us.'*



*Basement flat at 122 Beaufort Street*

It was during this time that the Faculty developed its structure, organised its administration and set into motion the classes and the examinations for which it had been founded. The

minutes are full of detail which give an insight into not only the astrology of the time but the social context in which it was taught. They provide a record of the process which helped establish the Faculty as a centre for excellence for students from around the world as well as a hint of the personal stories of the pioneers of formal astrological teaching. This may have heralded a new era for astrology itself, not just in Britain. Margaret Hone reported that at the same time as the conception of the Faculty, members of the University of Lille had set up a similar Faculty under Alexander Ruperti who had studied at the Alice Bailey arcane school and also with Charles Carter at the Lodge. Similarly the American Federation of Scientific Astrologers was founded on May 4th, 1938.

In October 1948 the Committee was joined by Mr. Jaques Schupbach who filled the vacant position on the committee. By this time eight students were regularly attending the classes. It was *'agreed that lecturers should endeavour to make astronomy palatable and not let it appear any more difficult than any other part of astrological theory or practice ...'* and it *'must inevitably be the first subject taught.'* The teachers' remuneration for five classes was 10s. 6d.

The first two Intermediate examinations were held on December 7th and 8th, 1948 and the Final examination of five papers were held on December 7th, 8th, 13th, 14th and 15th at Conway Hall. The Principal, Charles Carter allocated the candidate numbers and the invigilators were Mrs Hone, Messrs Regulus, Sommaruga and Caselli. The papers were all 3 hours long and took place between 6.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. There was a full set of instructions for the candidates who were not allowed to use any form of identification other than the examination number. Of the seven candidates, Miss Raynbird and Mrs. Pickford gained their Certificate and Mr Peter Carruthers gained a Diploma. It was agreed to announce the names of the successful candidates at the next meeting of the Lodge and the Certificates and Diploma would be presented at that time.

The successful completion of the examinations posed the Committee something of a problem as it brought the status of the examiners into question. Regulus suggested that the examiners should be awarded the Diploma as a special distinction though this was not to be regarded as a precedent and in future could only be awarded by the Principal in consultation with the Committee. It was agreed that the Diploma could be conferred *'honoris causa'* to the examiners. In a letter written by Charles Carter to Regulus dated 19th December, 1948, he formally stated his wishes that these Diplomas be awarded *'for services to Astrology in general and to the Faculty in particular'*, that they should be the first names in the register and that he had put them in alphabetical order. However, Regulus suggested that the first name should be that of Mr Carter himself. Accordingly the first entries in the Faculty Register of Diploma Holders are Charles Carter, Edmund Caselli, Margaret Hone, Regulus (Basil Koop) and Laurenz von Sommaruga. Mrs Hone presented the Faculty with a register for this purpose and the flyleaf bore the legend *'Herein are inscribed the names of those to whom the Diploma of the Faculty has been granted.'* For the matter of the initials to be used by Diploma holders there was the suggestion of Dip.F.Ast.S. as the initials F.A.S. were already used by the Faculty of Architects and Surveyors. However it was finally settled that the form D.F.Astrol.S. should be used to denote Diploma holders. The first Diplomas and Certificates were headed *'FACULTY OF ASTROLOGICAL STUDIES founded under the auspices of the Astrological Lodge of London'*.



The first session of classes had been of a revisionary nature in preparation for the first examinations but in the following years they had a more formal structure and much thought was put into the programme. The Intermediate classes were Astronomy (applied to Astrology), Methods of Calculation and Use of Tables as well as Basic Theory of Astrology. Basic Theory was an introduction to the reading of a birth map and later included the theory of progressions in order to *'assist in the concept of the birth map being a living, growing and progressing chart'*. The Final classes were to be History of Astrology and Methods (advanced), Astronomy (advanced) and Judgement (advanced delineation). The Committee was also keen to introduce classes on special subjects such as Psychology and kindred Sciences (applied to astrology), Horary and Mundane Astrology and other special features which could be included in the Syllabuses. Moving on from Alan Leo's traditional astrology *'...it was considered desirable for advanced students to be introduced to modern psychological methods in order that their powers of astrological judgement may be developed on the lines of modern schools of thought and not just on traditional text-book lines.'* Intermediate students *'should begin their training in interpretation along the lines of basic key-word attributes for planets, signs and house influence'* There was discussion on the 'vexed' subject of house division and it was agreed that students should express their own opinion guided by the Faculty tuition. Regulus summed up the teaching programme in the following words: *'The Intermediate syllabus teaches WHAT, the Advanced syllabus teaches WHY'*. Naturally the content of the syllabus changed over time as astrological fashions changed and that is dealt with in a later chapter.

Obviously the London classes were only a possibility for students living in or around London but the Faculty aimed to be as far-reaching as possible. Regulus offered his series of correspondence courses to enable provincial and foreign students to receive tuition until the Faculty could publish its own. He proposed to amend and extend his lessons to cover the syllabus and stated that his elementary and intermediate courses would suit those desiring to take the Faculty Intermediate Course, and his advanced course, extended into two parts with extra lessons on the sciences, horary, mundane astrology and other optional subjects, would cover the Final syllabus. *'This offer having been placed before the Committee was accepted nem com'* (with no one dissenting). The question of examinations outside London was resolved by having invigilators and the 1949 examinations included provincial candidates.

Once the examinations and the classes became part of normal Faculty procedure the Committee turned its attention to the Constitution. It was felt that this should be the concern only of the Faculty and not the Astrological Lodge. Diploma Holders could become members of the Faculty for an annual subscription of 5/- and only members of the Faculty (including the Committee who became automatic members for their term of office) could vote at the proposed first Annual General Meeting which was held on 29th October, 1949. The Principal would make a Report to the Lodge following the meeting.

Over the years there was a succession of hard-working and dedicated Committee members. In 1952 Margaret Hone commented on the Faculty's Jupiter/Uranus opposition *'this aspect has dominated the affairs of the Faculty ..... constant change in 7th house colleagues has been a marked factor. At each change, another willing helper has appeared so that 'Growth through Change' would seem to be the inescapable motto.'* An early casualty at the end of 1948 was Mr. von Sommaruga who left to live in New Zealand but he hoped *'that the Faculty would become the power of good in astrology he with others had earlier dreamed to be possible'*. In the summer of 1949 Mr. Caselli resigned over what was reported as a *'trivial*

*cause*'. He asked for his name to be deleted from the Register of Diploma Holders and the committee seemed to be more concerned with the spoiling '*the pristine excellence*' of the book than discussing Mr Caselli's reason for resigning. At this point it must be remembered that the Faculty was not an autonomous body and discussion of how to appoint a new Vice-Principal showed that '*the Principal remains our link with the Astrological Lodge and is responsible to that body..*' for drawing up a syllabus, instituting tuition and examinations. Brigadier Roy Firebrace was proposed and seconded as Vice-Principal in June 1949 to take Caselli's place although he never took the Diploma examination. In March 1952 he joined the founding members in being awarded a Diploma honoris causa. Later Roy Firebrace was to become well known for his work, alongside Cyril Fagan, in sidereal astrology and for 'Spica' the quarterly magazine he founded in 1961. During the war he had been Head of Military Intelligence and was involved in the investigation and prosecution under the Witchcraft Act of 1735 of the spiritualist Helen Duncan whose spirit guide had announced in 1941 that a British Battleship had been sunk. The position of second Vice-Principal had been held open in case von Sommaruga returned but Margaret Hone was voted into that position at the first A.G.M. held on 22nd October, 1949.

From the outset, the Committee were aware of the need for advertising and had their eye not only on Britain but also felt the need to let the rest of the world know about the Faculty. In the early years advertisements were placed in magazines which included '*Prediction*', '*Modern Mystic*', '*Enquiry*', '*Occult Review*', '*Theosophical News and Notes*, *John o' London's Weekly*', '*New Statesman and Nation*', '*Kensington Post*, *West London Observer* and *Aquarian Path* and in the United States, '*World Astrology*', '*A.F.A. Bulletin*', '*American Astrology*', and '*The Horoscope*'. '*News from the Faculty*' was a regular feature in the Lodge's quarterly magazine. There was even advertising on the London Underground but after a brief spell that was discontinued as it was too expensive.

### **The Faculty Council**

Once the classes and examinations were structured and functioning well the Committee turned its attention to the Constitution. Many meetings were devoted to the fine details but the first formal resolution passed was that the Committee should become the Council of the Faculty, the present members of the Committee forming the nucleus of the new Council. Thus the fifteenth Committee meeting held on 14th January 1950 at 7.30 p.m. was at the same time the first meeting of the Council of the Faculty. This is now more familiarly known as the Faculty Council which continues to govern the work of the Faculty. At that same meeting John Filbey (who became a tutor later that year) and Colin Evans gained their Diplomas and a personal award of a year's scholarship in the Final Class was awarded by the President, Charles Carter.

The early Council members were great benefactors to astrology and the Faculty, often waiving their tutor fees when the Faculty funds were precarious and there were also anonymous donations. A manuscript of part of William Lilly's '*An Epistle to the Student in Astrology*' was presented to the Faculty by a member of the Astrological Lodge. At one time funds were raised by selling parchment copies of the text which is now presented to successful students when they receive their Diploma. Charles Carter purchased a gift of a 'Celestial Globe' ('*accepted with expressions of admiration*') for the Faculty use and Mrs Hone presented a standard lamp with special shade and fittings. '*Four wheel blackboards in american cloth on beaver-board backing, two with the Ecliptic wheel and two with the*

*Houses wheel* were purchased at a cost of £8 each. As it was not possible to obtain regular bookings at Conway Hall, from April 1950 the classes were held at St. Michael's House, 39 Rosary Gardens in the Old Brompton Road. To support this work the Faculty School Committee was formed with Brigadier Firebrace as Chairman and Margaret Hone as Director of Studies.

Nowadays the Faculty Diploma is recognised and highly thought of in the astrological world but in the early days the Council were much concerned with its promotion. As Regulus reported in June 1950, *'the Diploma of the Faculty must be made a dignity worth working hard for, if it takes two years or more; the status of the Faculty must ever be kept at the highest level, its work must be brought to the notice of all astrologically minded people in this country, and in the broadest manner, and we must be prepared to give at least examination to students from all over the world - however they may have been trained'*. Subsequently in September, Charles Carter gave a special lecture and invitees included the editors of *'Prediction'*, President of the F.B.A., Mr Whitman, President of the Society for the Study of Physiological patterns, Miss Theodossiou, the presidents of the societies relating to Radionics and the Society of Dowzers and other allied and kindred bodies as well as the Committee of the Lodge. At the second AGM in March 1951 Charles Carter said there were four attitudes towards astrology, the old traditional attitude, the scientific attitude, the esoteric and the symbolical attitude - neither a religion, nor a science but an art of interpretation and it was to the last type that the Faculty appealed.

Following the formation of the Council and nearing the end of Charles Carter's three year term as Principal, the relationship between the Faculty and the Astrological Lodge of London was brought up. It was pointed out that the sole link with the Lodge was vested in the Principal and it was felt that the Faculty should be independent and that the Council should elect their own principal. This change would require ratification by the Lodge Committee. Although the AGM was in March the election of Principal took place in June around the time of the Faculty birthday and in June 1951 Charles Carter agreed to serve a second three year term. Although this was ratified by the Lodge the articles relating to the links with the Lodge were deleted from the new Constitution drafted by Council in February 1952 at which time a Code of Ethics was also added. It took a further two years before the new Constitution was ratified at an Extraordinary Meeting at 7.00 p.m. on 4th May 1954 (Appendix 2). The chart of 7th June 1948 is used as the Faculty natal chart but the dates of the first Council meeting on 14th January 1950 or the ratification of the new Constitution of the independent Faculty on 4th May 1954 are worthy of note for keen astrologers. The Lodge did not formally acknowledge the Faculty's independence until early 1955.

When Charles Carter resigned at the end of his second term in 1954 the title of Principal Emeritus was conferred upon him. Throughout his period as Principal of the Faculty Charles Carter remained dedicated to astrology and his views were fully reported in the minutes of the 1952 AGM.

*'In looking to the future, we could now meet those sceptics who ask 'is Astrology true?' with the concrete evidence of the results the Faculty could now show in three and a half years of existence. But we had to convince them - or make them convince themselves. So 'What use is Astrology?' The psychological approach to astrology has now had an innings of thirty years or so, and it might be that we shall get back to a more concrete approach. Certainly,*

*psychology leads to a better understanding of the character of the individual, but people prefer to forecast their possible success or failure, their health prospects and ambitions.*

*Lectures, possibly of a post-graduate nature, in the summer term might be given on these points and demonstrate the truth of Astrology. But we should. look higher, in healing and the mental outlook, and the knowledge of our own natures. We can make our own Tenth house in accordance with what is in our maps compared with the general pattern. There is an unlimited field for astrology and we should give quality rather than quantity, to meet any well-informed man and impress him that we are not talking nonsense. We must definitely now provide for our post-graduate members.’ In conclusion, he warned members ‘not to take the horoscope for granted; the new birth given to the science by Alan Leo and his team of helpers had started in a simple manner, but was now outgrown, and the presence of a fully qualified and well-informed body of post-graduates will undoubtedly have its effect in the Lodge and the world at large. Once an astrologer, always an astrologer.’*

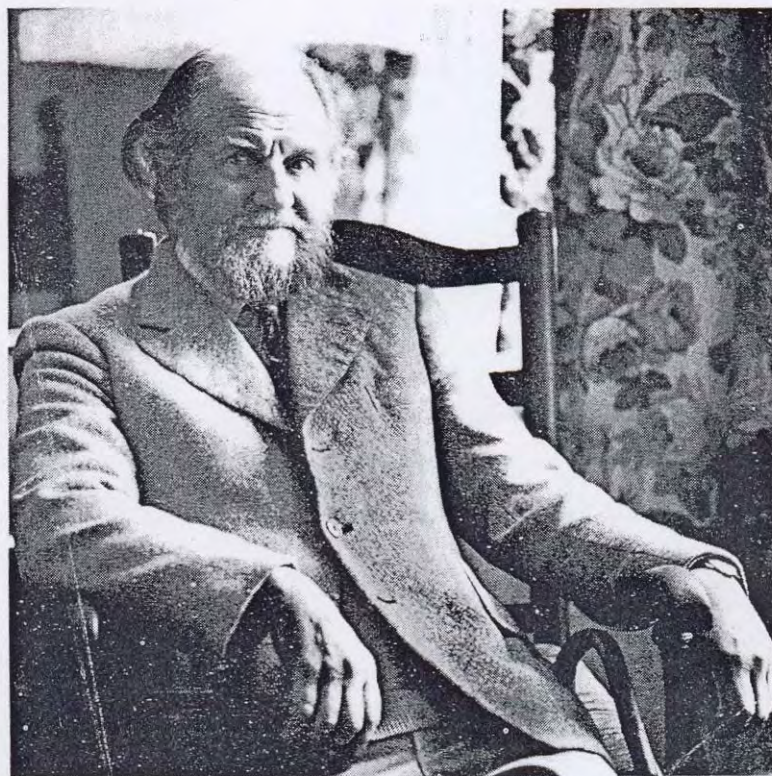
Generally the AGMs were poorly attended despite the offer of ‘*SHERRY as an inducement*’.

### **The External Course**

Up until 1952 the Faculty had relied on the correspondence courses compiled by Regulus for its provincial and foreign students but it was felt that an External scheme should be adopted with a special prospectus for External Students. Attitudes in fifties Britain are shockingly reflected in the minutes as whilst Regulus was the ‘*last to look at this in a prejudiced manner ....*’ he asked ‘*might we not be liable to be shot at if medicine men and witch-doctors went about displaying the letters DFAstrol S?*’. The adoption of Mrs Hone’s ‘*Modern Text Book of Astrology*’ (first printed in 1951 and revised and enlarged in 1955) as a standard text-book for the Faculty came up for discussion as Mrs Hone pointed out it had been written entirely with the Faculty’s syllabus in mind. At a later date John Filbey, who is acknowledged along with Charles Carter, Brigadier Firebrace and Mr R Trotter in the Introduction to the Text-Book, claimed that the text-book was a collaborative effort involving several well-known astrologers of the time. Although the Council did not feel that tuition should be limited to this book the prospectus should be amended to read ‘*All students must be in possession of a copy of the Modern Text-Book of Astrology by Mrs M E Hone*’. Although the Text-Book was generally available and listed in Fowler’s catalogue it advertised the Faculty specifically inside the cover and by inference throughout its pages and it became a source of new enrolments. Initially four students enrolled in the new External scheme and there were enquiries from as far away as Australia. The numbers grew rapidly and by the beginning of 1954 there were seventy four external students. There are no surviving copies of the Course itself, which included short Instruction Papers and Test Papers, though the Text-Book is still widely available, with the last revised edition published in paperback by L N Fowler & Co Ltd in 1990. Also included in the Course fee was the Quarterly produced by the Lodge but in 1965 this was substituted by the Astrological Journal produced by the Astrological Association which was founded on 21st June, 1958.

Margaret Hone had been one of the initial founders and worked energetically tutoring at the London Classes, getting the External Course off the ground and forming the Thursday Map Discussion Group, later called the Thursday Club, the activities of which will be described later. The Council meetings were all held at her house and she was Director of Studies. Known to be a forceful character it is not surprising that there was a clash of personalities and in September 1952 Roy Firebrace resigned as Vice-Principal and Chairman of the

Schools Committee. His Diploma *honoris causa* was never added to the register but this omission has recently been rectified. He was replaced by Miss Buddicom who acted as Treasurer. Votes on Council matters showed John Addey, another new Council member, also as a dissenter. Margaret Hone remarked that three members of the Council together with three members of the School Committee '*had charts which were strongly Leonine ... [and] Mr. Carter began to feel that he could be no other than Daniel!*'



b. 15th June 1920, 8.15 a.m. BST, Barnsely, Yorkshire  
d. 27th March 1982, 5.17 p.m. GMT, London

*John Addey*

The disagreements between Margaret Hone and John Addey were various. On the Constitution, John Addey felt that all Faculty members should have a say in the election of Councillors, not just Council members, and he wrote at length to explain his fears for the Faculty future. He said '*that their (all Diploma holders) vote will always be the best safeguard against the usurpation of authority by inferior leaders and the best guarantee of the preservation of good standards on the Council*'. A Council only electing to itself would have a '*sameness*' which produces '*sterility*' whereas '*diversity*' produces '*fertility and vitality*'. There was a blistering reply from Mrs Hone who described the early meetings as follows:- '*There was nothing but time-wasting argument and it was hard to get anything done*'. Although now Council members are elected by the Faculty membership of

Subscribing Diploma Holders, John Addey's proposals were rejected at the time in 1953. At the following

AGM Brigadier Firebrace suggested that Mrs Hone's arguments '*savoured of Fascism*'.

However as Roy Firebrace was no longer on Council and elections were held by the Council itself, Margaret Hone was elected as Principal on 29th May, 1954. The retiring Charles Carter pointed out '*the auspiciousness of the moment with Sun semisextile Venus, Moon and Sun sextile Jupiter and other good aspects to Venus and Mars.*' John Addey sent a letter tendering his resignation ostensibly because of pressure of business and Lodge work and his resignation was closely followed by that of another Council member, Neil Campbell.

### **The Faculty 1954 - 1969 - The Margaret Hone Years**



*Margaret E Hone*

Margaret Hone was influential in establishing the Faculty as a teaching and examining body right from its inception but in the years under her Principalship the Faculty became known world-wide, its status for excellence was recognised by other astrological organisations and it became financially profitable. It was a time of solid growth with the appearance of stability yet in her zeal to promote her own interests some of the finer principles of the Faculty were lost. During these years the Faculty was ably run by a small group of people but indisputably steered by Margaret Hone herself.

Two of her most faithful supporters were Miss Jacinthe Buddicom and Mrs Ingrid Mullins, better known as Ingrid Lind. At the time Ingrid Lind wrote about astrology for 'She' magazine, presenting it in a worthwhile light. She later became better known for her down to earth astrology books entitled '*Astrologically Speaking*' and '*Astrology and Commonsense*'. She remained a prominent member of astrological circles until her last public meeting in 1979 when she was presented with a gift which was jointly given to her by the Faculty and the Astrological Association.



*Ingrid Lind*

When Margaret Hone took over as Principal numbers were declining, prompting her to make this comment on the social atmosphere of post-war Britain, '*I realise that people have little time, money or inclination for such concentrated study nowadays, for a subject which is not a direct money earner*'. It is a testimony to her enthusiasm and dedication, aided by her group of followers, that she turned this situation around. Several lectures were given at the Caxton Hall in order to promote astrology and the Faculty but it was clear that the External Course which now had over one hundred students was subsidising the Internal School (the London classes). Numbers for the taught classes continued to fall despite the fact that many visiting astrologers including John Naylor gave lectures. The London School was closed in 1957.

The Modern Text-Book of Astrology was the core of the External Course and soon after Margaret Hone became Principal she hinted that it would be fair if she was given a royalty fee of 10/- per student. At that time in 1957, 2500 copies had been sold on the open market but all external students had to purchase a copy as part of their course. Her approach was a source of difficulty for Regulus, who with Von Sommaruga had formed the sub-committee of the Lodge to consider the possibilities of the Faculty and was joint author of the report on which the Faculty had been founded. Regulus had served tirelessly as Secretary since the

beginning, had tutored and helped set and mark examinations and modified his own correspondence course for external students, nine years of voluntary service. When Margaret Hone was re-elected for her second term as Principal, Regulus abstained and then immediately resigned and left the meeting. In a letter written to the new secretary, Norman Blunsdon, he stated that his resignation was irrevocable and in a dignified way declined to make comment, but gave a clue to his feelings as he expressed his good wishes to the new secretary in the *'trust that he will ever serve the best democratic interest of the Faculty, as I have ever done'*.

This marked a new period in the Faculty History when apart from honouring its objectives and aims for astrology it became a source of profit for the main players. Margaret Hone foresaw the necessity of regularising the position of the External Course which she said was *'a sort of gentleman's agreement'* which was not covered by the Constitution. Whereas the Tutors for the Internal Course at the Faculty School were appointed by the Council she ran the External course herself, took all the financial risks by providing all books, ephemerides and charts as well as paying heavy overseas postage so the profit was hers less an amount of £2 that she gave to the Faculty for each student. The minutes kept from the Faculty's inception do discuss the External Course and the Text-Book but this financial arrangement is not mentioned until Mrs Hone's written statement to the Council in June 1957 (Appendix 3). In the statement she recommended that a Tutor should be appointed to take over the External Course on the same financial basis as she had operated it and she would take the above-mentioned royalty for each student.

The qualifications for the Tutor were that he should hold the Faculty Diploma, should have sufficient time, type clearly and well, should write a pleasant letter and be patient with the less intelligent students. She recommended Jeff Mayo for the position of Tutor saying that *'for some years he has been doing calculatory work for other astrologers, has been doing all Mrs Mullins' charts for her work on 'She' and for the last year or more has been working full-time for John Naylor. For such a man, the relatively steady income from the Course will be a great help.'* She goes on to say that she would not dream of withdrawing the External Course from the Faculty *'but it is my Course and I must see that it is administered efficiently'*. Margaret Hone's stance was to have repercussions in the next few years and at this point she was the only one of the Faculty Founders who remained on Council. Nowadays all Faculty Course material is held under Faculty copyright.

Margaret Hone's written statement and the resignation of Regulus caused, in the secretary Norman Blunsdon's view, *'what amounts to a crisis in Faculty affairs'*. Immediately Miss Buddicom resigned as Treasurer and Miss Margaret Davies resigned as Councillor, followed a month later by Mr. Wiffen. In September 1957 a new Council was elected with Ingrid Lind and Maurice Machin as Vice-Principals, Norman Blunsdon as Secretary and co-opted members Jeff Mayo, Roy Allin and Dr. Wardman. At the first meeting of the new Council Mrs Hone gave her version of the Faculty History, saying the Internal School, which had had to close because there were no new students, had been the Faculty's only responsibility. The External Course was purely her own effort to which the Faculty had not contributed. She said that it was entirely her *'own affair as to who was appointed Tutor of the External Course and was not the business of the Faculty to appoint a Director of Studies, a post which was in abeyance since the closing of the Internal School.'* Obviously the question of what the Council had to do arose, to which she replied that it set the examination papers, examined the students and bestowed Diplomas and Certificates. On this basis it was agreed to allocate a



balance of £30 annually to the Faculty funds as its financial needs were small with the balance divided between Margaret Hone and Jeff Mayo in the proportion of 90% to 10% until Mr Mayo took over more of the work. This financial arrangement continued for the rest of Margaret Hone's Principalship though in 1962 Jeff Mayo's proportion increased to one seventh. In 1964 Ingrid Lind was also given an Honorarium for her services.

At the 9th AGM in January 1958, Roy Allin presented Mrs Hone with a gift from her students on her retirement from the Tutorship of the Faculty. He eulogised that if Alan Leo was the '*Father*' of modern astrology then Mrs Hone was the '*Mother*'. In reply, of the Faculty chart she said '*With Jupiter rising in Sagittarius, it will always expand somehow and I think it only natural that its expansion has been through foreign contacts rather than local ones. With Uranus in opposition in the seventh house, that is, its colleagues, it is inevitable that there will always be changes. Up to now I have interpreted this opposition as a Faculty Motto, "Growth through Change". We are at the ninth annual general meeting, at the seventh anniversary of the publication of the Text-book and the founding of the Course for External Students. In a moment we are going to have a glass of sherry and we will drink to "The Faculty may it go on with Growth Through Change".*' True that the Faculty now had students in twenty-five countries but clearly it was not appropriate to mention the Faculty's difficult Pluto aspects.

The interest in learning astrology came from all quarters and the enrolments for 1959 included six teachers from India and Ethiopia, a head of an Educational Institute, an art master at King's college, a music teacher with a degree in philosophy from the USA, a music teacher (and doctor's wife) in Wales, three secretaries, one being secretary in the Department of External Affairs in Canada, a psychologist's wife from the USA, a Nigerian with a degree in psychology, a midwife, the wife of a director of Penguin books, an army sergeant, a book-seller from Australia, a farmer's wife, a dress-designer, a commercial traveller, a shipping clerk, an American with his own general merchandise business, a semi-professional astrologer and office manager from the USA, an astrologer from Argentina, an American with a seasonal tourist gift business in the Indian Reservation country in North Minnesota, a Hungarian refugee with five or six degrees who worked with the Ex-Premier and a mother of seven children, aged forty six who was twice a grandmother and twice married. Apparently the average age of students was forty five. The standards set by the examinations were exacting and the pass mark for the Diploma was twice increased, first to 60% and then to 70% though the Certificate remained at 50%.

Without computer facilities, word-processing or e-mails the Faculty continued to teach and examine considerable numbers of students. Happily airmail post is '*one of the blessings of this Aquarian age*'. All charts were hand drawn and the workload which fell particularly to Jeff Mayo as Tutor must have been heavy, yet from January 1959 the only Council Members left were Hone, Lind, Mayo and Lumsden. Norman Lumsden resigned in 1961 and his place as Secretary was taken by H T Brockwell more familiarly known as George.

With a tenacity bordering on obsession Margaret Hone continued to elaborate on what she felt was the difference between the Faculty and the External Course - '*the two are not one*'. At a Council meeting immediately prior to the 13th AGM on 1st August, 1962 she said she had written instructional letters to be used as a correspondence course combined with the Text-Book. She stressed that when she had broached the idea of an external course it was not well received by the Faculty. As she paid £2 per student to the Faculty, the Faculty included

the External Course in their advertising. After the London School closed the only function of the Faculty was to hold examinations and to appoint an examining body. *'Mrs Home then proposed that it was no longer necessary to invite all members of the Faculty to an AGM since the work of the Council revolved round the External Course over which members had no jurisdiction'*. This proposal was accepted by Ingrid Lind, Jeff Mayo and Roy Allin (back from Nigeria), the only members present. However she conceded that a newsletter could be sent out making it clear that any diploma holder was welcome to apply to the Secretary if he or she wished to attend a current meeting of Council.

In 1965 Pauline Collett, later to become Pauline Hayward was co-opted onto the Council to be joined a year later by Charles Harvey. That year once again Margaret Hone was re-elected as Principal, her fifth three year term of office. At the time of writing, the Constitution states no Councillor may serve for longer than three consecutive terms. There were Constitutional changes at the time so that only Diploma holders could be elected onto Council. The Annual General Meeting as such was discontinued as it was felt that as there were so many foreign diploma holders *'any sort of general vote would be valueless'*. Instead there was to be a Yearly Council Meeting.

When in June 1967, Margaret Hone later had access to the Minutes Book for other reasons, she inserted a paragraph (as a correction to the Minutes of July 1966) typed in red with much underlining to point out a confusion between fees and honoraria. *'Honorary Officers cannot be paid "fees". They can be given honoraria which, in virtue of work done, are to be declared for income tax purposes. Work done by officers or other Councillors or retired Councillors for setting or correcting exam papers etc. may be paid for by fee arranged.'* A moot point perhaps which coincided with Pauline Hayward's resignation from Council. At the same time as she made the insertion to the earlier Minutes, Margaret Hone also added a further statement filed at the end of the Minutes book in order to correct the misunderstanding of *'casual instead of exact wording. We should never have got into the habit of saying "The External Course of the Faculty" when it is correctly "The Course for the External Students of the Faculty..... It was NOT "produced as the External Course of the Faculty" as Miss Buddicom puts in red letters (in 1957) ..... it was never given to the Faculty.'*

Clearly the views of the Faculty as represented by the Council did not coincide with the views of Margaret Hone who enlisted Jeff Mayo onto her side. This was understandable as he had a vested interest in the financial rewards of the External Course. Between them they prepared a four-page joint statement together with four pages of excerpts from past Committee and Council meetings' minutes and a copy of the original Prospectus and Syllabus of August 1948. A copy of this signed statement was added to the Minutes book (Appendix 4). The purposes of this statement were, (as recorded in the Minutes) firstly to put the matter clearly to Mr. Chubb of Messrs Child and Child, (solicitors used by the early Faculty Committee), secondly to inform Miss Lind and her solicitor and thirdly so that each Councillor should be informed. This followed the solicitor's advice that if the Minutes of a Meeting are read and passed by the next Meeting as being correct, it would not be easy to satisfy a Court that they were incorrect. Mrs Hone had previously asked Roy Allin and George Brockwell to stand down from the Council as they could not attend meetings so with the resignation of Pauline Hayward the only other Council members were Charles Harvey, Wendy-Jane Thomas and Ingrid Lind, the Vice-Principal. Although Miss Lind consulted her solicitor on the relationship between the Faculty and the External course and on the responsibility of Councillors in the event of any legal action being taken, nothing further

remained but for her to bow to pressure and resign. She had been a dedicated member of the Faculty since 1954 and had been Vice-principal for ten of her thirteen years of service. None of these details has ever been made public before and the uncomfortable atmosphere did not compromise the work of the Faculty which increased its enrolments from 73 in 1966 to 135 in 1967. Since the commencement of the External Course, there had been students from seventy countries.

A new Council, still headed by Margaret Hone, was elected with Jeff Mayo taking the position of Vice-Principal. Charles Harvey was Treasurer and Secretary, Miss Wendy-Jane Thomas was Assistant Secretary and there were three new Councillors, Mrs Julia Parker, Mrs Sheila Geddes and Mr Stanley Baker. George Brockwell was re-elected soon afterwards. Honoraria would not be paid but surplus funds would go to research. Constitutional changes were made so that a voting Quorum should consist of five Councillors including the Principal or Vice-Principal.

Sadly the bad feelings which had been stirred up regarding the External Course and Margaret Hone's ebullient handling of the affair were not dispersed with the election of the new Council. On the 20th April, 1968 an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council was held with all Council members present except Miss Thomas. George Brockwell took the chair for the meeting which was '*called to discuss the effect of Mr Harvey's attitude to the well-being of the Faculty and its officers, as expressed in various letters.*' The main consideration was a fear that the Faculty might be usurped by some other party and additionally the right of any member to propose the improvement of the Faculty had been called into question. Feeling that there were ambiguities in the rules of the Faculty regarding the External Course, Mr Harvey had contacted Mr Carter as Principal Emeritus and also Mr Addey. At Mr Mayo's request Mr Harvey wrote to him confidentially about the other Councillors' doubts and criticisms but Mr Mayo had forwarded this letter to Mrs. Hone. Mrs Geddes felt that as Mrs. Hone was the owner of the Course and Mr. Mayo the Faculty's Tutor, '*they should be on the Council only in an ex officio position.*' She said that she, Mr Baker and Mr Harvey had made their suggestions for the revision of the Constitution so that the Faculty would stand up under outside investigation since interest in its work was increasing. Mr Harvey said he thought recent discoveries in astrology might need to be brought into the Course and had implied that the Course was '*crippling*' the Faculty. He had not been in contact with Miss Lind as implied.

Mr Harvey reported that Mr Carter had agreed that the Faculty should use Mrs Hone's book as schools use textbooks and had also agreed with Mr Harvey's understanding that the Course was the Faculty's property but that subsequently the Council had taken a different view. Mr Baker had heard that Mrs Hone was '*autocratic*' before he joined the Council and he felt there was looseness in the Constitution, that the relationship between the Faculty and the Course had not properly been defined and he understood there had been past controversy with Miss Lind on this point. Mr Mayo had written to Mr Baker alleging a plot between Baker, Geddes and Harvey and Mrs Geddes said that Mr Mayo was turning on the people who wanted to '*save him from Mrs Hone's domination*'. They had wanted to regularise Mr Mayo's position as he had been appointed unconstitutionally by Mrs. Hone. Mrs Geddes was not in favour of a system in which Mrs Hone was in complete control.

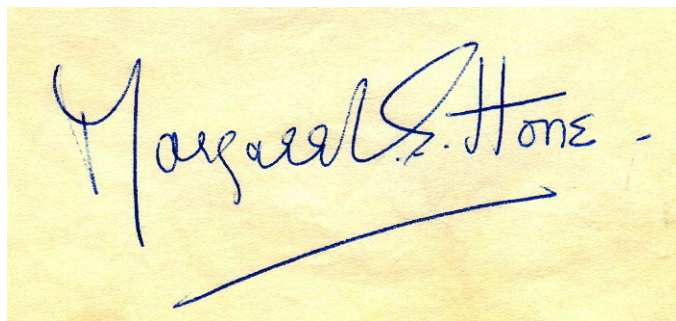
After an adjournment, Mr Mayo accused Charles Harvey of acting in an '*arrogant, lordly and abusive manner*' by contacting Mr Carter and went on to make ten further accusations

which included that against Mr Harvey's suggestion that the course had degenerated to a mere money-making concern and that Mrs Hone was dishonest in her selection from the Minute books, quoted in her statement. Mayo wound up by proposing there had been dealings with the Astrological Association which undermined the Faculty. Mrs Geddes disapproved of the way Mrs Hone ran meetings and was horrified at the way Mr Mayo had passed on Harvey's letters to Mrs. Hone yet had thought that the Extraordinary meeting should not be held as *'it would do more harm than good'*. Mr Harvey said he had attempted conciliation before the meeting but *'he, like Mrs Hone, tended to write in an authoritarian and dogmatic manner - they were both Leos; as astrologers they should understand the facts and make allowances for them'*. The inevitable conclusion was that Charles Harvey resigned and Mrs Geddes and Mr Baker said they would not stand for re-election.

There is no time given for the meeting but there are thirteen pages of Minutes which show clearly that many of the accusations were scripted beforehand. Julia Parker was Secretary at the time and she was in the habit of recording the minutes and typing them up later so it can be assumed that it is an accurate record. However it would seem that the outcome had already been decided before the meeting ever took place given that there was a second Extraordinary Meeting which followed at 3.30 p.m. At that meeting attended by Messrs Hone, Mayo, Parker and Brockwell, the following new Councillors were proposed and seconded, namely John Filbey, Pauline Hayward and Doreen Tyson.


Margaret Hone then announced her decision not to stand for re-election on the 7th June 1969, the day which would mark the Faculty's 21st birthday. Before she stood down however the Faculty Constitution was revised and checked over by Lewis Chubb, the Faculty solicitor. The new Constitution had the result of ratifying the position of the External Course and there were new Agreements with the owner of the Course for External Students and Tutors. George Brockwell had spent a great deal of time and effort ensuring the 'i's were dotted and the 't's were crossed. It is recorded in the Minutes that the proposal to adopt the new Constitution was passed unanimously at 3.06 p.m. B.S.T on 23rd November, 1968. Around this time Margaret Hone also established the tax position of the Faculty which was at that time regarded by the Inland Revenue as an unincorporated association which provided services, namely tuition and diplomas in return for payment and was thus liable to income tax. In practice the expenditure exceeded the income (not counting the donations which were not taxable) so no tax was paid in these early years.

At the next meeting on 12th April, 1969 the election of officers to start the next phase of the Faculty's history took place. Jeff Mayo was to be the new Principal with George Brockwell as Vice Principal. Tom McArthur was elected as full Councillor and Clifford Bretelle was co-opted onto the Council. At the same meeting Margaret Hone signed a Deed of Gift of the ownership of the External Course and after being signed by Jeff Mayo and witnessed by Julia Parker, she officially handed it over to him. A new chapter indeed.



Margaret S. Hone

To celebrate her retirement and the Faculty's 21st birthday Margaret Hone held a champagne reception at Miss Vera Pompei's flat in Lowndes Square on 7th June, 1949. She had been a founder member of the Faculty and Principal for 15 years; her contribution to astrological education incalculable, spreading far beyond the Faculty students. According to Mr Mayo's Report on the Courses, from 1952 to 1968 there was a total of 966 enrolments and the Faculty had been represented by students in 75 different countries or islands. By April 1969 the 1000th student had enrolled. Careful records had been kept of the source of these enrolments and over the years the following were credited:- 'Teach Yourself Astrology Text Book' by Jeff Mayo, 'Prediction' advertisement, Mrs Hone's 'The Modern Text-Book of Astrology', 'Astrology Forecast', 'Astrology and Commonsense' by Ingrid Lind, Fowler's Catalogue, 'Fate', MacNeice's 'Astrology' Book, Davison's 'Astrology' Book and many other miscellaneous sources and recommendations.



The pleasure of your company  
is requested by  
Margaret S. Hone  
at Flat 6. 1. Lowndes Square. SW1.  
(By kind permission of Miss Pompei)  
on Saturday June 7th  
Champagne at 7.15 to celebrate  
the Twenty-first Birthday of the Faculty  
of Astrological Studies  
R.S.V.P.  
Work with same address

Four months after her retirement, Margaret Hone died on 14th October, 1969.

### The Faculty as seen from outside

During the 1950s and 1960s the public interest in astrology was kept alive by newspaper articles, radio broadcasts and television programmes. An article about the Faculty, published in *The Daily Telegraph and Morning Post* in December 1950 (Appendix 5), is an example of the amount of column space that was afforded to astrology at the time. The affairs of the Faculty were regularly reported in *Astrology*, the Lodge quarterly and served to inform the astrological world of the dates of the examinations as well as reporting progress.

Out in the public arena the Faculty had a mixed reception. The secretary found cause in 1960 to write a letter to 'Psychic News' to protest over some derogatory remarks about the Faculty letters D.F. Astrol.S. However in the April 1961 copy of 'Horoscope' there were some favourable comments about the Faculty by Dane Rudyhar. Ingrid Lind was a sought after public speaker and she spoke of the work of the Faculty at the Radionics Conference at Hastings in March 1963 and the Conference of Joint Esoteric and Spiritual Groups at Kensington Town Hall in April of that year.

In 1965 there was an article in a Leicester paper by Vernon Gibb which mentioned the Faculty as a *'school for astrologers run by Miss Ingrid Lind in London. After a two year course, her pupils sit an examination for a diploma which permits them to practise the science professionally if they wish'*. Although inaccurate and misleading it does indicate the perception of the Faculty as a teaching body. The article had been syndicated to a dozen papers at home and abroad. In 1969 an interview about the Faculty's work was broadcast by the BBC overseas service.

In 1968 The Faculty Principal, Margaret Hone and the Council published thanks to Charles Carter on the occasion of his death. It was his faith in the Faculty's inception and his suggestion that the Astrological Lodge should sponsor it, which got the Faculty off the ground. His book on Mundane Astrology was sent to all Senior Faculty Students and he compiled the Code of Ethics. They acknowledged him as the finest astrological thinker and writer of their times. This tribute was sent to the two astrological journals edited by John Addey and Ronald Davidson. In deference to Charles Carter's own wishes a donation was made to the National Trust's Operation Neptune project.

Slightly later than this period, Julia Parker became quite a celebrity and in 1972 was interviewed by television appropos the supposed 'discovery' of a new planet, announced in the press. The Cambridge Observatory had been unable to confirm the or deny the presence of a new planet, but stated that one might exist outside the orbit of Pluto.

## **Awards**

The Carter scholarship was awarded on an annual basis from 1950 and was funded personally by him until funds ran out in 1967. It was replaced by the Faculty Scholarship. This award was not given in 1959 as no candidate had been eligible. Mrs Luxinger, an American interested in English astrology, gave a special prize of Llewellyn George's 'A to Z Horoscope Maker and Delineator' in 1953 and 1954. Twenty gilt (gold) medals were presented anonymously to the Faculty by an External student and the first of these was presented in 1955.

When Ingrid Lind and Roy Allin left the Council in 1967 they donated two awards to the Faculty. Miss Lind's award was to be given to the best candidate of the Diploma

Interpretation Examination. Julia Parker was the only recipient of this award which was a book token for one pound ten shillings because Miss Lind later withdrew the offer because she was not allowed to see the winning papers. Her award was replaced by the Margaret Hone Award. Mr Allin's award was for the best Certificate (then called Intermediate) Interpretation and was to *'be a book which the donor hopes will be of a type to help the winner in his/her astrological work'*. A further fifty gold medals had been made and donated. At the time the donor allowed his name to be known to the *'intimate circle (of Council members) but never alluded to in print or publicly mentioned'*. Of these prestigious awards 57 remained in 1968. Writing about the Gold Medal Julia Parker said, *'like Charles Harvey, we both missed out on the medal by a couple of marks, but we always privately joked about it, saying that it didn't really do us much harm'*. She goes on to relate that *'these were the days before Faculty Day was inaugurated, but it was usual that if Diploma Holders lived reasonably locally they were invited to collect their Diplomas and meet the Council, who would be having a meeting in someone's house or apartment.'* When Julia went to collect her award Ingrid Lind invited her to come in and meet *'the Headmistress'*.

Shortly after this period, two more awards were donated in 1972. The Jeff Mayo Award was for the best Calculation paper in the Certificate Examination. The Thomas MacArthur Award was for the candidate with the highest marks for the Calculation paper in the Diploma Examination.

The Faculty itself was given an award of Diploma in 1960 by the School of Astrological Techniques which was run by a Mr. Ralph S Schaffer. In 1968 Margaret Hone accepted the offer of honorary Vice-President of the International Society for Astrological Research founded by a Mrs Julienne Sturm in the USA.

The Faculty reserves the right to take away the award of its Diploma for breaches in the Code of Ethics, a decision which is not taken lightly. The first Diploma to be taken away with the relevant entry erased from the register of Diploma Holders was that of a Miss Erna Clay of Johannesburg in 1964. She sold an 'Astro-Analysis' purportedly written by herself but which she had ordered from Jeff Mayo, which she then presented at treble the price with his name removed.

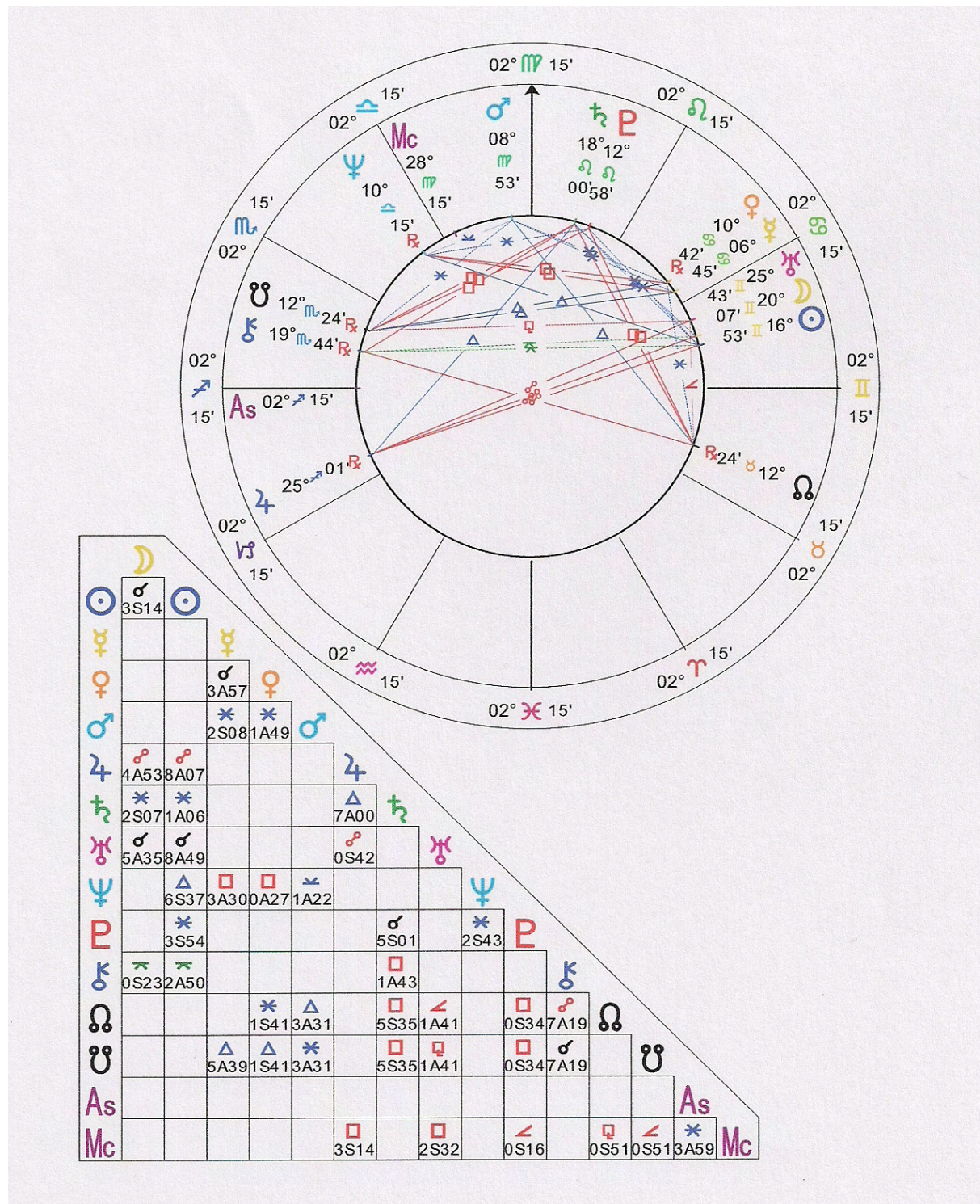
## Notes on Part I

1. Curry, Patrick, (1989), *Prophecy and Power, Astrology in Early Modern England*, Polity Press, p.2.
2. Curry, Patrick, (1989), *Prophecy and Power, Astrology in Early Modern England*, Polity Press.
3. Curry Patrick, (1992), *A Confusion of Prophets, Victorian and Edwardian Astrology*, Collins and Brown Limited.
4. As above, p.134.
5. As above, p.136.
6. Kim Farnell: Seven Faces of Raphael <http://www.skyscript.co.uk/raphael.html> (accessed 28.02.08).
7. Curry Patrick, (1992), *A Confusion of Prophets, Victorian and Edwardian Astrology*, Collins and Brown Limited, p. 151.
8. [www.charlescarter.co.uk](http://www.charlescarter.co.uk) (accessed 28.02.08).
9. Information from Nicholas Campion.
10. TNA: HO 199/454, Extract of the Minutes of the War Cabinet Civil Defence Executive Sub-Committee, 19th January 1942 - Information from Dr Vanessa Chambers.
11. Amongst the archives there is a six page account of the Faculty foundation written by Margaret Hone in 1952.
12. As above.
13. Unless otherwise noted, the quotations are taken from the Minutes of the Committee or Council Meetings of the time.



# Appendix 1. Chart for the Foundation of the Faculty of Astrological Studies

7<sup>th</sup> June, 1948  
19:50 BST - 1.00  
London  
*Geocentric, Tropical  
Equal House  
Mean Node*



**Appendix 2. The Faculty of Astrological Studies Constitution,  
Adopted by the Council, September 19th, 1953. Ratified, May 4th 1954**

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY OF ASTROLOGICAL STUDIES

1. The Faculty of Astrological Studies was established by the Astrological Lodge of London at a meeting held at the Headquarters of that Lodge on 7th June, 1948.
2. The objects of the Faculty of Astrological Studies are:-
  - (a) To raise the standard of astrological knowledge and practice.
  - (b) To institute courses of tuition.
  - (c) To hold examinations for different grades.
  - (d) To confer Diploma status on successful candidates.
  - (e) To organise and promote astrological research and discussion.
3. The Faculty shall be governed by a Council which shall consist of:
  - (a) The Officers  
The Officers shall be a Principal, two Vice-Principals, a Secretary, a Registrar, a Treasurer and such further Officers as may hereafter be considered necessary by the Council.
  - (b) The Elected Advisory Members.  
There shall be also three Advisory Members of Council.
  - (c) The Co-opted Advisory Members.  
In addition to the Elected Advisory Councillors, the Council shall have the power to co-opt up to three additional Advisory Members for a term of one year.

The Officers and the Advisory Members (both Elected and Co-opted), collectively termed the Councillors, shall jointly constitute the Council of the Faculty which shall be responsible for the management of the affairs of the Faculty.

4. Elections to the Council will be made as follows:
  - (a) The Principal.  
The Principal will be elected by the Councillors by secret ballot for a term of three years.
  - (b) The Elected Councillors.  
These shall be elected by secret ballot for a term of one year at the Annual General Meeting of the Faculty.
  - (c) The voting shall be by the retiring Councillors who shall have one vote (with a casting vote for the Principal) for the purpose of the above elections.

5. Nominations.

Nominations for Officers or Members of Council may be made by Councillors and all Members of the Faculty and shall be sent to the Secretary not later than fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting. Councillors who retire automatically at each Annual General Meeting shall not need nomination but shall be considered, if they so desire, to be eligible for re-election.

6. Membership of the Faculty.  
The following shall be Members of the Faculty.

- (a) The Councillors
- (b) All holders of the Diploma of the Faculty
- (c) Former Councillors

The Council shall have power, should it consider such a step desirable, to require from Members of the Faculty such subscription as it considers suitable.

The Council shall have power to invite any individual who has rendered service to the Faculty to become an Honorary Member of the Faculty.

## Faculty History 1948-1969, Appendices

### 7. Faculty School.

The Council shall organise and maintain in London a central Faculty School. For this purpose, the Council shall appoint for a term of one year, a Director of Studies who will consult with those who are appointed as Tutors and will report on all activities to the Council and will submit to the Council any proposal for any major change in policy or organisation.

The Director of Studies shall:-

(a) Under the general supervision of the Council, organise the central School in London and arrange for tuition in varying grades, as may be decided from time to time by the Council.

(b) Recommend for the approval of the Council suitable instructors and lecturers for the School.

(c) Be responsible for the preparation, for the approval of the Council, of the Syllabus for tuition and for the Faculty examinations.

### 8. Examinations.

The Council shall conduct examinations annually in the following grades:-

(a) Diploma

(b) Certificate

The main examinations will be held centrally in London but the Council shall arrange for candidates to be examined outside London provided that either the examination can be conducted by a local representative or suitable invigilators are available.

### 9. Honours.

(a) The Diploma of the Faculty shall be awarded by the Council to candidates who pass the Senior examination of the Faculty and in addition satisfy the Council by submission of a specimen of their astrological work that they have attained the requisite standard.

(b) The award of a Diploma carries with it the right to use after the name the letters "D.F.Astrol.S."

(c) The Council, on the recommendation of the Principal, shall have the right, in exceptional cases, to confer the Honorary Diploma of the Faculty on persons who they may decide to be worthy of this honour.

(d) The Certificate of the Faculty shall be awarded to those candidates who attain a satisfactory standard at a Junior examination.

10. The Council shall have the power to employ teachers, lecturers, examiners and invigilators and to remunerate them at a suitable rate and to hire accommodation as may be necessary.

11. The Council of the Faculty is empowered to receive donations or legacies which shall be devoted to promoting and furthering the objects of the Faculty.

12. The Faculty holds as a high aim the setting of a good standard of astrological tuition and will work to uphold the dignity of astrology. For this purpose, the Council reserves to itself the right to terminate without reason given the employment of any person should it appear to the satisfaction of the Council that such person, by his or her action, is likely to bring astrology into disrepute. The Council shall further have the right to cancel the award of a Diploma or Certificate should any holder, in its opinion, have committed acts which are likely to have a similar effect. The Council may in such a case decide in the first instance to issue a warning to the individual concerned.

13. Any alteration in these articles of Constitution may only be made after discussion in Council and as a result of a vote in which a majority of two-thirds of the Councillors support the said alteration, this majority to include the Principal and at least one Vice-Principal.

## **Appendix 3. Statement written by Margaret Hone for the Council Meeting**

at 6.30 p.m. 6th June 1957

## FACULTY OF ASTROLOGICAL STUDIES

*Principal:*

C E O CARTER, Esq., B. A., D.F.Astrol.S  
*President Emeritus of the Astrological Lodge of London*

*Vice-Principals:*

Mrs. M. E. HONE D.F.Astrol.S  
Miss JACINTHE BUDDICOM, D.F.Astrol.S

**122 Beaufort Street  
London, S.W.3.**

**Flaxman 0229**

### COURSE FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS

#### TO THE COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF ASTROLOGICAL STUDIES

Since time is short, I am writing this so that all points may be dealt with and the copy given to our Secretary for filing.

In regard to the Course for External Students, some of you here now may not be fully aware of the way in which it started. The time has now come when I feel I would rather not continue with the necessary work any more and that a Tutor should be appointed.

When I wrote the Text-book, many requests were being received from abroad for tuition. This was impossible without a Text-book on which students could work. Accordingly just before the book was on the market that is, in the latter part of 1951, I sketched out the idea of this Course and brought it before a meeting of the Council. I submitted that I would write the whole thing, based on the Text-book, and I would organise the tuition of students, taking all financial responsibility but giving the Faculty £2 on each student obtained. This would be a clear gain to the Faculty, nothing being asked in return but inclusion of the Course in the current advertisements.

As you all know, the utterly unexpected result has occurred, that the supply of Internal students has completely gone whereas, up to now, we get constant supplies of External students. We have no idea whether this also may stop in time. At present, the usual channel is that people interested buy the text-book or get it from a friend and then become keen to learn properly and apply for tuition. Some apply through the advertisement in Prediction and an occasional one through that in the Quarterly.

This means that the income tided the Faculty over the difficult years when we had to pay rent and tutors fees with not enough Internal students to cover these and now is the only source of income, out of which the only expense is the advertising, note-paper and occasional re-duplicating of stationery etc.

In the 5½ years, we have had 157 enrolments (some of these being Senior Preparatory students on less fees than Junior or Senior) 34 of these having taken the Senior Course. Thus, very roughly, we get about 30 a year so the Faculty gets an income of about £50 per year.

I have spent whatever I thought required on the Course, gradually improving the duplicating, the folder, the lay-out etc. I provide all books, ephemerides, charts etc. and pay all postages these being heavy since much has to be done by air-mail. The remainder then is mine. As I intensely dislike book-keeping, I was willing to take all the risk and say that I would take the profit however it went, good or ill.

Now in the matter of appointing a tutor to do the actual work of the Course, the matter becomes more complicated because, though I will be in charge while I am here, there is also responsibility to the Faculty. There would have been no Text-book and no Course without me and thus there would now be no Faculty but, even so, it was better to build this up as a Faculty thing, which gave it a better standing than if it had been put forward as a personally run affair.

The Course will still be mine and I shall still be responsible for it but, if a Tutor is to be in charge of the work, he must pay all accounts and hand over the same to the Faculty, as I have done. I now suggest that I appoint such a Tutor, taking for myself a royalty of 10/- per student which is what Fowlers pay me on each Text-book which I sell myself. The Tutor should then retain somewhere about £5 per student for himself. The work consists not only of correcting work sent in but of sending the Prospectus to all enquirers, often having to write letters in answer to their queries. (The cost of the Prospectus is borne by the Tutor.) Then there are innumerable letters which the students write asking all sorts of things which must be answered. Occasionally, a student joins but does no work at all and thus is more profit but others, often through insufficient education, need endless help especially with the calculatory part.

The point now arises as to how the new Tutor is to be recompensed for the work he will do this autumn on students who paid their money earlier in the year. New ones will be coming along but not so much in the autumn. I suggest that he should be guaranteed a certain amount and should be given whatever, of this amount, does not come to him from students. On a good year this might be forty or fifty pounds but since I will have to be training him this year and since it is a great advantage to be given this ready-made source of income, I suggest that £25 would be enough. Our balance at the moment is £45 and I am about to hand in another £5 making £50.

There is nothing on which this has to be spent except current advertisements. I, on the other hand, am feeling rather depleted as I have just paid out £60 for the re-duplication of the whole Junior Course of 100 copies. (Incidentally I am now going to open a post office account into which the Tutor must pay 10/- per student towards having this amount ready when re-duplication is again needed. I suggest that, if the Council thinks favourably, the Faculty might, in consideration of what it has gained through me, offer to give a certain amount of what we must pay a Tutor for this coming term, he then being ready to take his chance after that. This we must discuss in a moment.

The choice of a new Tutor is not easy as there are very few who are not fully occupied and who could devote the time needed. I would have liked as experienced astrologer but all who I know are very busy with their own lives. The essentials are:- firstly, of course,

that he should hold our Diploma. Secondly, that he should have proper time to give to this. After that, the necessities are that he should type clearly and well, should write a pleasant letter and be patient with the less intelligent students, and should be business like in keeping all stocks up, keeping the correcting file stocked with correcting matter, replying promptly to correspondence and able to explain difficulties. All students' files have to be kept in order and their money.

The man who I think fills these requirements is Mr Mayo. For some years, he has been doing calculatory work for other astrologers, has been doing all Mrs Mullins charts for her work on SHE for two years or more and for the last year or more has been working full-time for John Naylor. He has now been able to get a house of his own so has more convenience for his work and he intends to do half-time for Naylor and begin to get his own clients. For such a man, the relatively steady income from the Course will be a great help and he will get clients through it also.

Objection has been raised that he has little experience in interpretation but this is not really of first importance in the work on the Course. No new charts are to be interpreted. They are always the same ones and I have prepared envelopes of sheets of comments on these which are sent to each student as he does his own attempt. of course the Tutor must comment on the work, its successes and its omissions but the main comment is already written by myself with my knowledge of the person concerned. I also have copies of answers to the more advanced questions to which students must send their own answers. The part that needs the most patience and letter-writing is in explaining the innumerable tangles that they get into over calculation; in this, a tutor must be completely competent.

For this first term, I shall be working also, seeing the first lots of corrections sent out and giving my comments. I shall be here to deal with any of the more difficult and knotty points that arise. In February, I am going abroad for two months but even then I can be reached by air and anything difficult can be held up till an answer can be got from me.

So, what it comes to is that I hope you will approve of my choice of Tutor.... That I would like you to discuss what we can do about his guarantee for the autumn term.

#### Charts and Advertising

While I am on my feet, I would like to mention the topic of charts and of advertising. I am proposing to see whether Fowlers will take over the business of marketing the charts, stencils, cards etc. which I have designed, paying me a royalty. This will ensure that as long as the Text-book is printed, the requirements for the work will be to hand also.

I am also seeing them and Watkins about advertisement in their booklists and think it would be worth paying them something on each student gained by these.

#### **Appendix 4. Foreword and Statement for the Faculty Council Minutes written by Mrs Hone in July 1967**

#### FACULTY OF ASTROLOGICAL STUDIES

FORE-WORD

to

MINUTE BOOK. Written by Margaret E Hone, July 1967

The first enclosures in this book are:

- a) The STATEMENT in regard to the Faculty made (with legal aid) in 1967 , signed by Margaret Hone and Jeff Mayo.
- b) EXCERPTS from early Minutes or Council in regard to the COURSE FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS AND ITS STATUS.

\*\*\*\*\*

IT IS REQUESTED THAT THIS FORE-WORD AND THE ABOVE TWO EXPLANATORY SETS OF PAPERS BE TRANSFERRED TO THE BEGINNING OF ALL SUBSEQUENT MINUTE BOOKS SO AS TO AVOID THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH MADE IT NECESSARY TO PRODUCE THEM.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE COURSE FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY IS THE MAINSTAY OF THE FACULTY. OTHER THAN THE INCOME PROVIDED BY IT THE ONLY OTHER INCOME IS FROM FEES FROM CANDIDATES FOR EXAMINATION. IF THERE WERE NO COURSE FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS, SUCCESSFULLY RUN, THERE WOULD BE NO CANDIDATES, THEREFORE NO EXAMS, THEREFORE NO FACULTY.

\*\*\*\*\*

EXPLANATION OF ABOVE

In 1967 certain Councillors, (not in office in 1951.) expressed failure to understand the "gentleman's agreement" made between the Committee of the Faculty and Margaret Hone when the Course was inaugurated (1951).

For this reason, the STATEMENT was composed with reference by page-numbers in the first Minute Book, thus to provide evidence for truth as stated.

With these papers are a copy of the first part of the first PROSPECTUS detailing the first "functions" and "facilities" of the Faculty.

In short, The Modern Text-book of Astrology was written by Mrs Hone and adopted as the book to be used by students of the Internal School. Nextly, the Course was written and compiled by her for the exclusive use of the External Students of the Faculty. This included the Text-Book. The Faculty contributed nothing towards this Enterprise, all financial risk of loss or profit being taken by the owner of the Course. To provide income for the Faculty (in the hope of subsidising the Internal School which failed later) she offered to donate £2.0.0 to it for each External Student (described in the Minutes to be "clear Profit". The only return asked was that mention should be made of the COURSE in the current advertisements of the then extinct Internal School and that the COURSE should be known as the EXTERNAL STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY OF ASTROLOGICAL STUDIES.

\*\*\*\*\*

STATEMENT

This STATEMENT is in regard to matters relating to the Faculty of Astrological Studies. Copies of it may be obtained by anyone having need to confirm any of the points mentioned. (Apply Hon. Secretary)

As there appears to be some confusion about the precise position of The Faculty of Astrological Studies in relation to The Course for the External Students of the Faculty it is hoped that the following explanation will clarify the matter. Each item is authenticated by reference to the relevant Page Number in the Minutes of the Council Meetings of the Faculty, called in earlier days the Committee. The Minutes, as is customary, were written by the Secretary, read to the Council, approved by it and signed by the Principal as correct.

The Faculty was started as on a non-profit basis (2), and as a teaching and examining body (15). The task of the Faculty was first described as being to:

- a. Draw up a syllabus.
- b. Institute courses of tuition.
- c. Prepare and hold examinations.

The first Prospectus repeated these objects (21). Facilities offered by the Faculty both in London and the provinces were described in August 1948 (page 21) as Internal Tuition for London Students and External Tuition Facilities. Item 6 stated that "For such students as are unable to attend in London, the Faculty is endeavouring to make provision for the teaching of the astrological subjects contained in the syllabus".

Later in the year (facing page 46) Regulus (Mr. Koop) offered his series of correspondence courses to enable provincial and foreign students to receive tuition in the syllabus of the Faculty till such time as the Faculty could publish its own. This offer was placed before the Committee and accepted.

In view of doubts which have been expressed as to the propriety of using the name of the Faculty of Astrological Studies on the note-paper of the Course for External Students of the Faculty of Astrological Studies, it is to be noted that Regulus, as long ago as 1949 (page 48) asked for more Faculty note-paper as "a great deal of correspondence could now be expected".

In February 1949 (page 57) the question of the Faculty's own correspondence courses was brought up and fully discussed. It was decided that, at the present stage of the Faculty's finances, it could not afford the services and materials required to provide full series of lesson-papers and supervision at the present time. It was repeated that Regulus should continue as arranged (page 70).

In September 1951 (page 127) there was again discussion on the formation of an External scheme. Regulus pointed out the great difficulties. It was decided that the Schools Committee be empowered to go ahead with the new proposed External scheme, to draft a special Prospectus for External Students and for advertisements to be amended where and when necessary to refer to this new venture.

The adoption of Mrs. Hone's MODERN TEXT-BOOK OF ASTROLOGY as a standard text-book for the Faculty came up for discussion, Mrs. Hone pointing out that it had been written entirely with the Faculty syllabuses in mind and designed as a teaching book. The proposal was accepted that "All students must be in possession of a copy of The Modern Text-book of Astrology by Mrs. M. E. Hone".

In November 1951 (page 132) the Report of the Schools Committee stated that "the new External Students scheme has been inaugurated and advertisements have been amended accordingly". Courses of Instruction were in hand and being examined by certain officers of the Faculty.



## Faculty History 1948-1969, Appendices

In December 1951 (page 132) it was reported by the Schools Committee that four definite students had been enrolled and that, for each of these, the Faculty received £2.0.0d clear profit (indicating that all expense was undertaken by the compiler of the Course, none by the Faculty).

Reference must also be made to a regular item called News from the Faculty, in the magazine ASTROLOGY, edited by Charles Carter (President of the Astrological Lodge and Principal of the Faculty at that time. Under the heading of EXTENSION OF TEACHING FACILITIES (Dec. 1951) is:- "External students, as they will be called, will be enrolled as students of the Faculty; they will begin in January, etc."

Now it may be seen that though the Course nowadays is commonly called "the Course" or the "External Course", its correct name is The Course for External Students of the Faculty of Astrological Studies and that its students are the External Students of the Faculty of Astrological Studies.

No formal agreement was made by Mrs. Hone for the use of her book or her Course. The agreement was a tacit one made between colleagues who trusted each other and that was considered enough.

The two cases are much the same and arrangements for the acceptance of the book as the standard text-book of the Faculty may help to explain to those who are confused in their thinking about the Course.

Both books and Course were written to cover the Syllabus of the Faculty examinations. Both book and Course were read in draft form (page-proof) by the Principal and other officers of the Faculty and approved. Neither was given to the Faculty but the Faculty adopted Mrs. Hone's Course and book as the obligatory Course and book for their External Students.

Mrs. Hone herself offered to do the work of the Course which she did until 1957, then choosing a Tutor who she trained to carry on the work as started. Just as the publishers did their work in producing the book, making what profit they could for themselves, so Mrs. Hone did the work of the Course, making what profit she could for herself (after taking all risks and paying for the work of duplicating and so on herself).

In view of the poor state of the finances of the Faculty, she undertook to pay £2.0.0d to the Faculty for each student enrolled. The Tutor now takes the same chance of conducting the Course at a profit or loss and continues to pay the Faculty £2.0.0d for each student.

It should be noted:-

Firstly, that the book and the Course never belonged to the Faculty nor did the Faculty ever manage the production or work entailed by either.

Secondly, that those who studied the book in the Internal School were the Internal Students of the Faculty and that those who studied both book and Course were the External Students of the Faculty.

Thirdly, that the Course has never been available to anyone other than External Students of the Faculty.

Since the Course was accepted in this way by the Faculty which included it in its current advertisements as The Course for its External Students, it was correct for the Faculty to agree to the design of the note-paper being used by whoever was running the Course for the External Students of the Faculty. The Sub-heading of the Course, under the main heading of the Faculty was known to all officers of the Faculty. It was decided it should be blue to differentiate it from the paper used

by the Faculty itself, matching the colour chosen for the book-cover and for the Folder of the Course.

A question has been raised as to whether the Faculty would be responsible in the event of any claim arising not only against itself but also in connection with the Course and no doubt it would, since the Course is quite properly advertised as the Faculty's Course for its External Students, these students being enrolled by the Faculty. Although there has never been a claim since the Faculty and the Course were first started, we are investigating ways of protecting the Faculty and its officers against this possibility and we shall be making our recommendations to the Faculty shortly

Criticism has also been made that, in an advertisement of the Course under the name of the Faculty, the officers are described as of the leading teaching body for Astrology. But the Faculty are indeed a teaching as well as an examining body even though the actual work of instruction is carried out by means of the Course for External Students under the Tutorship of **Mr. Mayo**.

Remark has also been made that, in an advertisement, it is said that the Faculty enrolls the External Students but that this is not so as they are enrolled by the Course. Once it has been accepted that the heading on the paper is as it was first approved by the Faculty and is correct, then it follows that the usual letter in reply to Application for Prospectus is also correct. It is signed by the Tutor per pro the Principal of the Faculty, and the first line of the Form is: "I wish to be enrolled as an External Student of the Faculty". On enrolment, a letter, again signed by the Tutor per pro the Principal of the Faculty, is sent and its first line is: "I welcome you as an External Student of the Faculty and hope that you will find your studies of much benefit and enjoyment".

We hope that the above explanation has clarified the position and will have disposed of any doubts as to the propriety of the use of the Faculty's name in connection with the Course for its External Students.

Facilities will be given for anyone wishing to do so to refer to the original Minutes of the Meetings of the Faculty.

Signed ..... PRINCIPAL

.....VICE PRINCIPAL

Note: The statement in the Minute book is signed respectively by Margaret E Hone and Jeff Mayo.

It is followed by four pages of notes selectively taken from the Minutes to justify the above statement and part of the Original Prospectus and Brief Syllabus issued in August 1948 which mentions the External Course. Neither the original Constitution (page 145 of the Minutes) or the new Constitution, ratified in 1954 mention the External Course at all.

**Appendix 5. Daily Telegraph & Morning Post, Monday, Dec. 18, 1950**

## EXAMINATION IN ASTROLOGY

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### 16 CANDIDATES FOR DIPLOMA

#### DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

Sixteen candidates in London this week-end finished a series of examinations "to further the development of astrology by establishing definite standards of knowledge and practical proficiency."

The examinations, held in the rooms of a woman doctor, were organised by the Faculty of Astrological Studies. There were five papers, with three hours allowed for each.

Successful candidates will receive a diploma. According to the prospectus of the Faculty, they will "be entitled to use the letters D.F.Astrol. S. after their names." Questions were on subjects such as: Transits, eclipses, occultations, apparent retrogradation of planets, asteroids, nebulae and comets.

A typical question is: "What would you expect to find by way of planetary placing-in-sign if you heard of the following in relation to a person whose chart you were considering: a weak heart; beautiful feet; constant chatter and a tendency towards pneumonia?"

#### NON-PROFITMAKING

The prospectus states that the Faculty, founded in 1948 by the London Astrological Lodge of the Theosophical Society, has no commercial and object and is nonprofit-making.

Mr. C.E.O. Carter, a barrister, is principal; vice-principals are Brig. R.C. Firebrace, for some years British Military Attache in Moscow, and Mrs. Margaret E. Hone. A year's tuition, with one evening class a week "during the three terms of the school year," costs £6 6s.

Of the 16 candidates who finished their examination yesterday," Mrs. Hone said, "I expect about 12 to pass.

"The time has come when some status must be obtained by a capable astrologer, so as to differentiate him from the many who offer to do all sorts of

horoscopic work without giving any guarantee that they are able to do this efficiently."

To furnish me with my own birth map and "astro-analysis" she said her charge would be £4 4s. It would entail 15 or 16 hours work, with the aid of a costing accountant, who did the intricate mathematical calculations involved.

Her astro-analysis formula states: "Owing to the prevalence of certain misunderstandings, it has been thought well to include the following statement before all work: Astrology does not constitute an art by which the future can be foretold. This would be fortune-telling and is not possible."

#### COURSES IN STARS

Gifted people with a profound knowledge of the stars are competing for diplomas in astrology. Most of the rest of us, however, will continue our own amateurish attempts to divine what lies in store for us. Let us confess the shapes lurking ahead generally give us nightmares. There is, however, no compulsion about facing the future. Others, wiser or more cowardly than we, prefer to have no sense of ills to come, nor care beyond to-day.

Not so, of course, the astrologer. He is of sterner stuff. Carefully observing the position of the stars, he plots his course upon the Chart of Life-and if we let him, will do the same for us. He has, it is clear, all the advantages. Meeting, for instance, a lady with a weak heart, beautiful feet and a tendency, like so many ladies, to constant chatter, any good candidate for the new diploma will know at once whether he has met his fate. He will doubtless know, too, whether he will get his diploma.

#### For Astrologers

CHRISTMAS present hoped for by sixteen budding astrologers: that they may write the letters D.F.Astrol S. after their names. They have just taken the examinations of the young Faculty of Astrological Studies, and the D. Stands for the diploma they will get if they pass.

The candidates were of all ages, among them a professional

musician, a woman doctor, a Cambridge MA, an ex-ship's engineer and a nursing sister from a London hospital. Men and women were about equally divided. Full course takes two years.

For astrologers are campaigning against quacks, charlatans and fortune-tellers. The diploma study course is an attempt to put their art on an honourable basis.

#### Astro- Analysis

Head of the faculty is a barrister, Mr C.E.O. Carter, who became interested in astrology in the 1914 war. Director of Studies is Mrs Margaret E. Hone who, with Brigadier R.C. Firebrace, for some years our Military Attache in Moscow, is one of the viceprincipals. There are four lecturers and classes are held in the consulting rooms of a woman doctor in the West End.

Horoscope is a word not used by the Faculty: it prefers "astroanalysis." One of these costs you about four guineas. Basis of working one out is the Nautical Almanac, and it takes about 16 hours of abstruse mathematical calculation.

What use is astrology? I was told: "It helps people to know themselves so that they can use the tendencies in them for the smoother running of their lives."

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