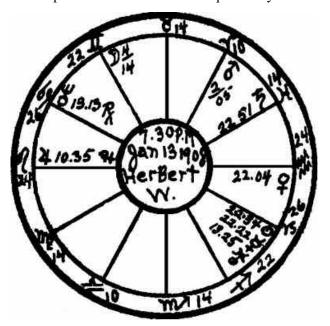
that there were four fixed signs on the angles at the time of Herbert's birth. This shows that he is a strong character, able to form his own conclusions and with sufficient stamina to stick to his ideas once they have been formed. So that although he will be of a very kindly disposition, he will also be quite firm, and this will contribute much to his success. The Moon, being significator of the mind, is in the mercurial sign Gemini and sextile to Jupiter, the planet of optimism, benevolence, and cordiality; she is also sextile to Mars, the planet of dynamic energy, who is powerfully dignified is his own sign Aries. This will give Herbert a very active and benevolent mind, quick perception and a keen imagination. Taking this together with the fact that Mercury, the light-bearer of reason, is going before the Sun and we shall find that the mental powers of Herbert are quite beyond the



average. We also find that the Sun in conjunction with Mercury is sextile to Saturn, the planet of system, order, mechanical ability, justice, and forethought; this deepens the mind of Herbert and will give him the faculty of mechanical construction and executive ability. All these things contribute to success through life. There is but one planet in the horoscope which we find unaspected and alone, the planet of love, Venus. On the other hand, we find that Neptune and Uranus are in opposition and that this occurs from the Fifth and

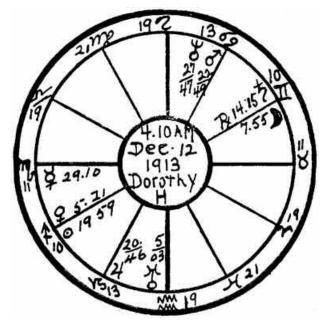
Eleventh Houses; the Fifth House governs love and courtship before marriage. Uranus, the octave of Venus, is afflicted and therefore evil. Thus we may judge that Herbert is apt to espouse some of the Uranian ideas concerning love and marriage for which society is not yet ready, and that this view may lead into clandestine relationships which will bring their sorrow and trouble in time. It would therefore be well to teach him the sacredness of the relation between the sexes and how and why it ought to be confined within the bonds of marriage under the present constitution of society. If you can help to make him somewhat more orthodox in his ideas along this line it will save him a great deal of sorrow and disappointment. Saturn, placed in the Eighth House in Pisces, the twelfth sign indicating sorrow, trouble, etc., and sextile to the Sun, shows that there is a probability that Herbert will receive a legacy, but that he will have considerable trouble on that account and it would therefore be well for whoever may be likely to leave him anything to be extra careful and particular about the legal instrument which conveys the gift, so that there is no flaw in it to cause entanglement with others or with the law.

With respect to health we find Saturn placed in Pisces, the sign which governs the feet. This is an indication of poor circulation in the extremities and consequent colds, also obstruction in the abdominal region, but as Saturn is sextile to the life-giving Sun and is not afflicted by a square or opposition, we may conclude these tendencies will probably be very slight and may be greatly minimized by care in the matter of exercise and clothing.

Dorothy A. H., born December 12, 1913, 4:10 a. m., Berkeley, California.

Here we have a delicate little lady who needs all the care her parents can bestow upon her in order to bring her safely to womanhood and to make her strong and healthy. We have four fixed signs on the angles; this is a help in strengthening the constitution, but unfortunately the Sun, which is the giver of life, is in opposition of Saturn, the planet of obstruction, and Venus is in opposition to the Moon, which is the principal factor in the health of a woman. You should be ever careful that she is not exposed to cold during childhood's years and it would be a good thing, as soon as she is old enough to understand, what is meant thereby and what is required, to give her a course of deepbreathing exercises so that she may learn to use her lungs to their fullest capacity. And above everything, be sure that you do not put her into tight clothes or have any corsets upon her; she must be left perfectly free in the movements of her body and she should be as much as possible out in the open air whenever the weather permits; that, of course, is most of the time in Sunny California.

With respect to the mind, we find that she is

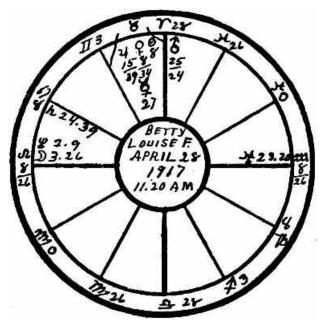


well taken care of for Mercury, the planet reason and expression, is in the Ascendant, going before the Sun. He is on the cusp, between Scorpio and Sagittarius and in conjunction with the gentle planet Venus, but square to Uranus, the planet of intuition, in the intellectual sign Aquarius. The square, however, does not interfere with the intuitional powers conveyed by the aspect between Mercury and Uranus, so we may conclude that Dorothy will be extremely bright and quick in her mental operations and that she will learn without seemingly having to apply herself at all. She will also be of a very friendly and loving disposition. But the square to Mercury and Uranus will give

her a very violent temper, and that is bad for anyone of a strong constitution, but it is exceedingly bad for anyone who is somewhat less robust. You should therefore endeavor by all means to teach her self-control, for as she grows older and the system becomes more worn, naturally the ill effects will be more strongly marked and may result in serious illness. The opposition of the Sun to Saturn, which occurs from the Second House to the Eighth, both of them governing finance, and the opposition of Venus to the Moon, which is from the same Houses, shows that there is a likelihood that Dorothy will receive one or more legacies, but also that she will have trouble in collecting them. Therefore it would be advisable to pay extra attention and care to the instruments which are to convey to her the gifts, and while she will not be what we call affluent, it may be said that she will be in comfortable circumstances all her life. So your principal responsibility as parents will be to safeguard her health that she may be able to enjoy her money and not have to spend it upon palliatives and institutions.

Betty Louise F., born April 28, 1917, 1:20 a. m., Oakland, California.

Here we have a little lady with an extremely well-fortified Tenth House: there is the life-giving Sun to be peak favor for her with those in authority, and able to help her rise socially; the great benefic, Jupiter, giving added testimony of favor, fortune, and cordial social relationship; the gentle Venus, telling of pleasure and enjoyment, is particularly strong because of her placement in Taurus, the sign which she rules. Mercury, the planet of reason and expression, is also in the Tenth House, showing conversational ability. Mars, the planet of dynamic energy, is close to the Midheaven in his own sign Aries, giving her an energetic, ambitious nature, and it is certain that she will always be a leader in whatever set she may find herself, for she has very exceptional ability. But a high position in any capacity always lays the one who holds it open to envy and jealousy from those who are not so fortunate, and Betty will be no exception to the rule. The turbulent Mars is in Aries, the sign which rules the head and square to Saturn, the planet of secret and malicious enemies, placed in the Twelfth House, the House of sorrow, trouble, and self-undoing. This shows a tendency to an overbearing and domineering manner, a high temper, and consequent trouble from people who will seek to undermine her and whose doings it will be very difficult to check because they are so underhanded. Right here is the point where you may help Betty a great deal by teaching her self-control and patience with others, also to be kind and forgiving. It is very fortunate for you and for Betty that this horoscope has been cast while she is still in her veriest infancy; it gives you a chance to work on her from the



very start of life, and by knowledge of the principal fault latent in her you may do her an incalculable service by helping her to overcome. Every show of temper should be firmly but kindly dealt with. There is a method which is used with a very considerable success and benefit to the child. It consists in placing two mirrors in a corner and whenever the child shows temper seating it in its little chair close up to the two mirrors so that it cannot possibly turn away but is forced to see its distorted features in the glass. The effect is usually magical; the child does not like to see itself in that state and after a few moments it will smile through its tears, and the fit of temper will be past. Thus, in time, they learn self control and whatev-

er is firmly inculcated during the first seven years of life, when the habits are formed in the gestating vital body, stays with them during the rest of this, their earth existence. So now is the time to begin the work of helping her.

You will find that Betty is a very restless child, for the flighty Moon and Neptune, the houseless wanderer, are in conjunction on her Ascendant. This gives her an insatiable wanderlust, but she will benefit from every change she makes, for she has a deep, powerful mind given her by Mercury sextile to Saturn, and will always come out all right, no matter how risky it may look. That is to say, except in one thing. Marriage will bring her trouble, for the Sun, Which is the significator of the husband for a woman, and Venus, the planet of love, are squared by the Moon and Neptune. Besides, Uranus, the planet of liberty and independence, is in the Seventh House, denoting marriage, and this shows that she will never submit to the restraints which are necessarily incident to married life, and consequently if she attempts this venture it will prove a dismal failure.

With respect to health we find that Saturn is in Cancer, the sign which rules the stomach, and in the Twelfth House, denoting illness and confinement. It squares Mars, the planet of fire and fever, showing that Betty is liable to digestive and feverish disorders. But we always maintain that if the ounce of preventative is applied in childhood, the pound of cure may be saved in later manhood or womanhood. So if you will be careful to teach Betty to eat right, this may be overcome. She will be very finicky about her food and have a preference for sweets and pastry, which are bound to ruin her stomach, but if you teach her to eat a good sensible diet from childhood on this also can be changed.

### Vocational Reading

John P. J., born October 29, 1898, Springfield, Illinois.

At the time of your birth the energetic sign Leo was ascending with Mars, the planet of dynamic energy, in it. Leo is ruled by the Sun, so this adds the fire of the Sun to that of Mars, and the Sun was in the Martial sign Scorpio at the time, so that

Mars and the Sun are in mutual reception and this gives you a superabundance of vital energy and force which will carry you through life under all circumstances. You will be able to do a prodigious amount of work without feeling tired, and should sickness (in the shape of fever, most likely) ever befall you, you will recuperate very quickly. Mars, the ruler of the Second and the Tenth Houses, governing finance and social standing, is trine to Uranus, placed in the fiery sign Sagittarius. Uranus is the planet of originality and invention, therefore you will have natural ability in that direction and you will succeed best in the surgical profession, as an engineer, or in any vocation where metal and fire play a large part. Neptune, which indicates large undertakings, is trine to Jupiter, the planet of opulence, in the Fourth House. The Sun and Mercury are also there, which indicates that you will have success in dealing with large corporations, in land and mines probably.

But there is a point in your character which militates seriously against your success, and you should beware of giving way to this flaw. Uranus hates restraint; it is placed in the Fifth House, governing pleasure, and is in opposition to the feminine Moon. You will be fond of "wine, woman and song," and if you yield to this you will draw upon yourself the troubles incident thereto. The Fifth House also deals with gambling and speculation; Uranus, the planet of impulse, in opposition to the Moon, the presence of Saturn there in conjunction with Venus, all tell the story of an inner liking for gambling and sport, also impulsive, wildcat speculation. Be sure to take the warning of the stars, for these things can never in the nature of them, be successful, and you are bound to lose whenever you give way to this tendency.

Emil E H., born February 10, 1903, 1:45 a.m., Chicago, Illinois.

Here we find Uranus, the planet originality and invention, rising in the fiery sign Sagittarius, and sextile to the Sun—which is the giver of life in whatever part of our existence it turns its rays—and to Jupiter, the planet of optimism, opulence, and all other beneficial qualities. This shows the

inventive genius which will confer a benefit upon humanity and reap the just financial reward for such service. It is also foreshown that you will take good care of whatever you may accumulate, for Saturn, the planet of thrift, is in the Second House, and the only danger is that you will become extremely stingy, which is as bad in another way as being a spendthrift, for there is no greater blessing to the giver than judicious giving, both from the spiritual and material standpoints.

As to the directions in which your inventive genius will find its expressions, we see from the horoscope that Saturn, Mercury, the Sun, and Jupiter are all in Aquarius, an airy sign governed by Uranus, and having rule over all things connected with air and electricity, also the ether and anything which we have not yet contacted in the line of our conquest of the world. You should, therefore turn your thoughts in the direction of the new and unconquered fields of the air, which we believe will afford the best scope for your talents. Mars, the planet of dynamic energy, is the highest elevated of all the stars in your horoscope; it is also in an airy sign and trine to the Sun, the great life-giver. This will charge you with a great deal of physical energy and inexhaustible vitality that will stand you in good stead and give you a courage that will be indomitable, so that you will be able to go ahead despite discouragements, which are the lot of all pioneers in any new ventures. You have all the chances in your favor and all you have to do is to go in and win. But do not forget to prepare yourself; you still have some years in which you may attend school and obtain the best possible education; for by knowing through education what other people have done, you will be better able to map out your own original path.

#### CHRISTIAN MYSTICISM BY CORRESPONDENCE

A course of monthly letters and lessons are issued by the Rosicrucian Fellowship to aid those who wish to probe more deeply the Mystery of Life and Being. Upon request the General Secretary may admit students to the preliminary degree, but advancement in the deeper degrees depends upon merit.

## Studies

in

# The Rosicrucian Cosmo Conception

Kittie Skidmore Cowen

### Jehovah and His Mission

N our last article we were engaged in drawing a comparison between the occult teaching that the world has passed through a number of Periods, Revolutions, and Epochs, and the Biblical record of the Seven Days of Creation, and found that the only real difference of any note was a pronounced divergence relative to the length of time required to accomplish the stupendous work of Creation.

The occult student affirms that the World was not and could not have been created in seven days of twenty-four hours, but that in our scheme of manifestation, seven great transformations of the Earth are necessary to facilitate the full evolution of self-consciousness and soul power by the evolving spirits. Three and one-half of these Periods, we believe, have been spent in obtaining vehicles. The remaining three and one-half will be required for the evolution of consciousness.

The conclusion of the occult student relative to the length of time required for the performance of this great work is quite in harmony with that of the geological scientist, who makes the statement that the rate of rain and river erosion is about one foot in five thousand years. And from this fact they deduce the conclusion that at this rate it has taken several billion years to do the work which they actually find has been done.

As to which is the most logical conclusion, that of the occult and geological scientists, or the one recorded in Genesis, taken literally, we are quite willing to leave to the judgment of the thoughtful student, while we proceed with the discussion of our next topic which is

"Jehovah and His Mission."

Who is Jehovah? Let us first turn to the *Cosmo*, page 333, for a correct translation of the word that has in the English version been rendered "God" in both the first and second chapters of Genesis. Here we read: "The Being or Beings, the name of Whom the translators have rendered as 'God' in both the first and second chapter of the English version, are in the Hebrew text, called 'Elohim' in the first chapter, and 'Jehovah' in the second chapter."

The fact that God appears to have been named in two different ways in these two successive chapters in the Bible has led to a vast amount of discussion, not only concerning the difference between the two chapters, but to the authorship as well. The argument being set forth is that the same author would not have named God in two different ways. Relative to the apparent discrepancy between the two chapters, we will say that when the light of occult understanding is brought to bear upon them, the difference is at once made clear.

Let us turn to the *Cosmo*, page 333, and read: "Had he (the author) meant the same God in both cases, he probably would not, but he was not a monotheist. He knew better than to think of God

body was started in the Moon Period and Jehovah is the highest Initiate of that Period. Jehovah helped man get control over the mind and desire body by giving laws and decreeing punishments for their transgression. The fear of God was pitted against the desires of the flesh, and it was thus that sin became manifest in the world. (See series of lectures, No. 13.)

As to the general nature of these various Racereligions let us turn to the *Cosmo*, page 371, and read: "It is therefore reasonable and logical to conclude that, at first, it was necessary to give man a religion commensurate with his ignorance. It would have been useless to talk to him, at that stage, of a God Who was all tenderness and love. From his viewpoint those attributes were weaknesses and he could not have been expected to reverence a God Who possessed what to him were despicable qualities. The God to Whom he rendered obedience must be a strong God, a God to be feared, a God Who could hurl the thunderbolt and wield the flail of the lightning.

'Thus, man was impelled first to *fear* God and was given religions of a nature to further his spiritual well-being under the lash of fear.

"The next step was to induce in him a certain kind of unselfishness, by causing him to give up part of his worldly goods—to sacrifice. This was achieved by giving him the Tribal or Race-God, Who is a jealous God, requiring of him the strictest allegiance and the sacrifice of wealth, which the growing man greatly prizes. But in return, this Race-God is a friend and mighty ally, fighting man's battles and giving him back manyfold the sheep, bullocks, and grain which he sacrificed. He had not yet arrived at the stage where it was possible for him to understand that all creatures are akin, but the Tribal God taught him that he must deal mercifully with his brother tribesmen and gave laws which made for equity and fair dealing between men of the same Race.

"It must not be thought that these successive steps were taken easily, nor without rebellion and lapse upon the part of primitive man. Selfishness is ingrained in the lower nature even unto this day, and there must have been many lapses and much backsliding. We have in the Jewish Bible good examples of how man forgot, and had to be patiently and persistently 'prodded' again and again by the Tribal God. Only the visitations of a long-suffering Race-spirit were potent, at times, in bringing him back to the law—that law very few people even yet learned to obey"

This brings humanity up to the time when the pioneers of the Race had become sufficiently numerous to require a new step in evolution. They were ready for something higher, and in taking this step we are brought into a consideration of the last and greatest of the divine measures put forth for the uplifting of humanity; namely, Christianity, which will be the Universal Religion of the future.

Before leaving this subject, however, after having disentangled from the general confusion the identity and mission of Jehovah, it may be well to look and see if we can now find harmony in the first two seemingly contradictory accounts of the creation of man, as recorded in the first and second chapters of Genesis, in the first of which it is written that he was the last, and in the second that he was the first created of all living things.

Let us note that the first chapter deals chiefly with *Form*, while the second chapter is devoted to the consideration of *Life*. The key to the meaning, then, is that we must differentiate sharply between the *physical Form* and the *Life* which builds that Form for its own expression. If we consider man from the Life side, he was created before the animals, as stated in the second chapter, but if we consider him from the Form side, as is done in the first chapter, he was created last.

And all this time, from the beginning of the creation of Form, it was Jehovah and His Messengers Who patiently and persistently coaxed, led, persuaded, and prodded nascent humanity onward and upward, until the masses were ready to receive the beautiful and sublime religion of the Son, Who was sent by the Father to take away the sins of the World and proclaim to all the glad tidings of great joy, that "Whoever will may come."

### The Hurpose of Life

W. J. Darrow

HE relation which man bears to God is analogous to that occupied by the cells of the physical body with reference to man himself. The one Life of God flows through and sustains every separate human unit in the same manner that the life specialized by the man flows through and sustains every cell of his physical body. Man is an integral part of God, and hence we actually "live and move and have our being in God." Therefore the "fundamental unity of each with all" is an absolute fact in nature.

Since all men are a part of the same Cosmic Being, the welfare of one becomes the welfare of all and what affects one, affects all.

In view of the foregoing, the mission of life may be stated as follows: First, through involution, to build a self which comprises and includes the various bodies or vehicles; viz., the physical, etheric and desire bodies, and the mind. By encasing itself in these vehicles, the Ego gains self-consciousness and self-hood to replace the "all-consciousness which it alone possessed previous to taking its sojourn in matter. The next step is to turn this individual self over to the service of the All-self; viz., all selves outside of the individual, which together form the composite entity known as humanity. In Nature's scheme humanity is the all important object. Hence the individual is of comparatively little consequence, except by virtue of such service as it is able to render to the whole.

Self-surrender is the chief factor in the process of turning the self and its faculties over to the service of the All-self. Yielding the personal will to the cosmic will is the vital element here involved. And the cosmic will is that we shall cease to separate ourselves in thought from the rest of humanity and that we shall cease to place the interests of the separate self above those of other selves. In short, that we shall stop working exclusively for self and dedicate our services to the interests of the whole.

This process of yielding the personal will to the cosmic will makes possible the assimilation ulti-

mately of the individual into the cosmic body, otherwise known as union with Deity. This is in a manner analogous to the assimilation of food into the physical body, which is possible only when its atomic or cell will has been broken down and become subservient to the will of the central intelligence, viz., the Ego.

Helpfulness is the practical expression of surrender to the cosmic will. The cultivation of sympathy for and interest in others are essential features. Overt acts must be the medium used since they involve the will and thus build the essence of the act into the character. Mere thought and wishes accomplish but little on any plane.

By giving up the self, the individual gains a greater good than can be gained by any other method. For by so doing he opens himself up to an influx of the life of the whole universe, which works out on all planes—spiritual, mental and material.

Whereas, by working for self alone, he shuts out all but the small measure of life generated or specialized by himself. Working for the all-self induces the vibration of love which attracts ultimately all good, where working for the personal self induces to greater or lesser degree the vibration of hate, which ultimately repels all good. Every act of service makes it possible for those above to extend equivalent aid to us.

Self-surrender and helpfulness produce an effect upon the finer vehicles which is of great importance. Upon the vital or etheric body the effect of altruism and asceticism is to build in the two higher ethers which constitute the soul-body. The proportion of these becomes a gauge of the degree of soul-growth attained.

Upon the desire body, the giving up of the lower self has the effect of freeing it from the vibrations of the baser emotions and passions. These vibrations are those of repulsion, hence their effect is destructive of harmony and destructive of the desire body itself.

Fear, anger, sensuality, and vanity are some of these, all having self as their object. Abandoning the lower self as a separate entity breaks the hold which these emotions previously had because there is nothing left to feel emotion for. Refusing to work for the interests of the separate self or to feel concern for its personal tribulations frees one from its attendant worries, sorrows, and mortifications. Soul-growth is then, and then only, possible to any marked degree.

The necessity of giving up the personal self favor of the All-self is seen from a consideration of the nature of selfishness. Selfishness is cancerous in character, after the analogy of a cancer in the physical body. The latter is a group of cells starting to work exclusively for their individual interests, without regard to the welfare of the surrounding cells. They thereby cause the death of the physical body together with themselves. In like manner selfishness among men unchecked would ultimately destroy the Cosmic Body of which they are a part. Of all forms of selfishness, pride or vanity is the most deadly for it is the supreme height of self-exaltation. It is the sin for which Satan was cast down from heaven.

In general, man will learn mainly only through

#### A VISION FROM THE UNSEEN

"The time will come when people will not need any form of physical phenomena to convince them of the reality of another life. There will be people who will have perfect faith in their mental communion or impression received from those nearest them on the unseen side. There will be the most perfect blending of the minds of those with the material bodies and those without. This blending will result in a ripening of spirit which will bridge for some the present chasm between the two worlds or conditions of existence."—Prentice Mulford

"An officer 'somewhere in Flanders' was overwhelmingly busy one morning with papers and plans, and told his orderly on no account was he to be disturbed, nor was anyone to be admitted to his tent. He was proportionately annoyed and surprised when he glanced up half an hour later and saw a nun standing before him. He concluded it was one of the nuns from the convent in the neighthe lessons of pain.

The present world war is an effect which man has brought upon himself as the climax of the illusion of race separateness. The war at the same time is being utilized by the leaders of humanity to teach man the necessity of a new doctrine, viz., the doctrine of universal brotherhood. And this doctrine will usher in and form the foundations of the new race, the advance guard of which is even now beginning to appear.

The principles here stated are in effect the principles of the Christian religion. Occult philosophy alone gives the scientific explanation of them. They constitute an ideal toward which we can work. This ideal may appear difficult of attainment, but this will be less and less true as we progress. In the beginning, we may be able to apply the principles here stated only from a sense of duty, but if we persist, this will ultimately be replaced by a spirit of love which makes service a pleasure rather than a duty.

In general, the race must ultimately largely attain to the principles and ideals here set forth if it is to continue it its evolution.

boyhood. Before he could ask her business she said to him: 'These papers, and all this business you are doing for your King and country may be very important, but *far more important* is it that prayer should ascend to the King of Kings.' Still feeling annoyed, he remarked only that he was extremely busy and could not attend to other matters just then. The nun left the tent without saying more.

Later, he called his orderly and asked him how it was that he had let anyone into his tent, after such strict orders to the contrary. The orderly denied that anyone had passed the door of the tent, where he had been on guard all the time, and said he was perfectly certain no one had been there.

Feeling puzzled, when he had leisure, the officer called on the Mother Superior and told her how he had been bothered by one of her nuns at a very inconvenient time, by her entering his tent without permission. She replied that she could not account for it, as it was a cloistered convent, and none of

(Continued on page 235)

## Nutrition and Health

## The Cost of a Skin

CTOBER is here again, urging us with its cooler weather to make preparations for the Winter season, and among other articles for the colder weather furs are being displayed in the various store windows to catch the eyes of intending shoppers and make them want to buy. Reader, did you ever stop to think of the cost of a skin? We do not mean in dollars and cents, but in agony and suffering of the animals, and in degradation of those who hunt them to the state or unfeeling savagery. Has it ever occurred to you that when you purchase a piece of clothing made from furs you are responsible for the atrocities which are committed in pandering to this unnecessary desire for such finery? It is worthy of note that when man kills cattle in slaughterhouses or similar places he at least takes care to do it quickly and with as little suffering as possible to the animal, but when hunting the fur-bearing animals man shows an absolute indifference to the feelings and the sufferings of his victims. Nay, he seems even to glory in them. A story is told, for instance, of a number of men and boys who pursued an otter for four hours, when she gave birth to two little ones, and she was then pursued two hours after, before she was finally killed. Most of the skins tanned for use as furs are obtained by catching the animals in traps and death does not then usually occur for many hours or perhaps several days of the most excruciating suffering and pain.

The steel trap is the favorite device used by professional trappers and the power of this dreadful instrument is so great that often it amputates the leg of the captive at one single stroke. It is in fact complained of by trappers that a great many animals escape thus, for a time at least, and it is said that on an average every fifth animal caught has only three legs; sometimes they have only two or one leg, and case is on record where a muskrat

with only one leg was caught by the tail. Just think of what an intense amount of suffering was caused that poor animal before its fur finally fell into the hands of the savage human hunter. Modern inventors have turned their ingenuity to the task of preventing the animals from escaping captivity by amputation or by gnawing a leg off or twisting it off, as some animals do in their agony, and the latest traps are therefore furnished with a device so that the limb of the captive coming directly in the center of the trap will be clutched close up to the body. When that happens, no amount of twisting or gnawing will free the captive.

The springpole is another device which the trappers use to prevent the escape of their prey, once it has been caught in the steel trap. It consists of a flexible pole set in the ground close to the trap, with the upper end bent down and fastened in such a way that it will be released by any slight wrench. The chain of the steel trap is fastened to the pole, and when the poor animal is caught and struggles to escape it breaks the cord which releases the pole and the trap with its victim are jerked into the air where the poor victim hangs and starves to death, or freezes, struggling and suffering until death releases it, or the cruel hunter comes along and gives it the last blow which puts an end to its misery.

But of all the atrocious methods used by trappers for catching their prey, the one employed in the hunt for ermine is perhaps the superlative. It consists in taking a piece of iron too heavy for the ermine to drag away and coating it with grease and placing it where the ermine will find it; the ermine then licks at the grease, and the intense cold of the iron causes the tongue to instantly freeze fast to the iron, as if it had been put into a vice. There is no possibility of escape then except by pulling the tongue out by the roots, and the frantic struggles of the poor animal cause a larger and larger area of the tongue to adhere to the iron so that the whole

inside of the mouth may become solidified and frozen by prolonged exposure to the bitter Arctic cold. This method is used in preference to "the steel trap or the bullet in order not to injure the skin which is to adorn some high and noble personage. Ermine is costly indeed, not only in money but particularly in the superlative atrocity which is used in order to secure that poor little animal's fur.

No tongue can tell or pen portray, nor can we ever realize, what the poor victims of human vanity must endure during the long hours and days of awful sufferings up there among the silences of the great white North. Just think of it, it is estimated that thirty million animals are being put to death annually for the sake of their furs alone. If all these millions could be gathered together with their broken and mangled bodies, what a mountain of death, what an evidence of our brutality and cruelty they would make! And remember, everyone who wears this furry finery is partly responsible for the cruelty and the suffering inflicted upon these poor victims of human greed, for if people refused to wear such things, the demand would cease and the poor animals would be left in peace to live their lives in their appointed ways.

It is sometimes or frequently objected by people that if we did not kill these animals or even our own cattle and eat them the earth would be overrun by them. But such is not the case! we do not eat dogs or cats, coyotes or skunks, neither are they extensively hunted for their fur or flesh. The horses are in the same category, yet these animals do not multiply beyond bound, and occultism offers the explanation that each species of animals is the expression in the physical world of a Group-Spirit which is itself in the invisible world and guides its charges from thence. Hence the remarkable instinct with which they are endowed. When these animals are prematurely killed, the seed atom which forms the Group-Spirit's nucleus is released from the dying animal and used by the Group-Spirit to quickly fertilize another of its tribe. Thus the more we kill, within certain bounds of course, the quicker the tribe multiplies, but if we refrain from killing it will not be necessary for

the Group-Spirit to fertilize the animals so often. Birth will decrease in the same proportion as death.

But returning to the question of furs used for clothing, we maintain that furs are luxuries, and it cannot be said in extenuation of the crime involved in getting them that they are essential to human life, which is the claim concerning flesh as food. Those in particular who aspire to live the higher life and attain to the higher powers cannot afford to wear these costly things. Sometime ago a lady came to Mt Ecclesia professing to be bored by society and desirous of nothing save spiritual advancement, but when it was pointed out to her that no one would follow Christ in a fur coat, she admitted that she had a thousand dollar fur coat which she would not give up under any consideration, and she left the following day, angered at the idea that such a great sacrifice should be demanded of her, and placed herself under a teacher who was more complacent in his views of life and luxuries. Besides, as a matter of fact, clothing fully as warm as furs can be obtained, and the writer knows whereof he is speaking, having traveled far and lived in high latitudes, North and South, even in Siberia and the Land of the Midnight Sun.

What has been said about furs applies also to feathers, both as regards their cost in cruelty and the lack of necessity for their use. Beautiful, artistic, and warm clothing can be made without the use of either furs or feathers, to the economical and spiritual welfare of whoever abstains from the use thereof. Unfortunately, we are forced to use leather shoes and other articles of leather because we cannot obtain a satisfactory substitute in the market of today. But sometime when the world has awakened to the Gospel of Compassion and it is considered a crime to take the life of an animal. just as it is now considered in the case of a human being, then also these articles of clothing will be substituted for other products of industry which will serve the purpose fully as well or better. 'This is where the readers of our magazine may assist in molding the world's thoughts, both by their actions in refraining from the use of furs and