

OCCULT ANATOMY AND THE BIBLE

Part II



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Chapter VII

The Etheric Body and Its Role in the Sensitization of the Composite Man

The mere looking at externals is a matter for clowns, but the intuition of internals is a secret which belongs to physicians.—Paracelsus.

The greatest discovery in the next fifty years will be along spiritual lines.—Charles Steinmetz.

The etheric body (or etheric double as it is also called) properly belongs to the physical realms—for, although not ordinarily visible to physical sight, it is composed of attenuated physical substance. It belongs in fact to the twilight realm of matter where subtle and hitherto little known forces operate just beyond the range of visibility. Into this twilight realm material science is each year penetrating a little farther. Many and wonderful are the inventions which even now result from a knowledge of its forces; for here science is endeavoring to control the mystery of the atom. And here, in a way not yet understood, interior mental forces become externalized into what we recognize as an exterior physical world.

The term "ether" used to describe this borderland of matter is by no means clearly defined, either by occult or by physical scientists. However, occultists have seen the etheric forces by means of their extended vision, and have described them in terms of their own coining. Scientists, on the other hand, have discovered the laws governing phenomena of certain lower ethers and many valuable inventions have resulted. So we know the ethers by their products. New Age science is destined to meet with traditional occult science in this area, with benefit to both.

Marconi, famed as the inventor of wireless, is usually

regarded as the first to use the etheric forces in radio transmission, thus opening the door to that vast development of intercommunication that is so rapidly drawing all peoples of the world into a close-knit human fellowship. These and similar developments in that subtle etheric realm are possible because of the interpenetration of the physical by the etheric. The latter is sometimes referred to as a network of forces.

Just as our planetary body is permeated by these invisible yet potent forces, so is the physical body of man. They constitute a field of force, an etheric double. And just as the Earth's etheric envelope is the means by which universal and solar life flow into our planet, so the etheric double interpenetrates man's physical body and is the channel for the inflow of vitality or life force from the surrounding network of global forces.

Life could not exist on Earth without this etheric envelope, since it is the medium for those forces in nature that animate forms. Occultists reverently refer to Universal Life as the Christ Consciousness or the Christ Life. Again, we speak of the "World of Life Spirit," meaning not only one of the planes of spirit-matter, but also an exalted state of consciousness in which only the One Universal Life is recognized. The Supreme Master of human evolution, Christ Jesus, is the world's outstanding example of what the attainment of this Universal Life Consciousness can mean.

By the Law of Reflection, familiar to all esotericists, this high plane of Universal Life is the prototype of the etheric realm and its manifold phenomena. Things visible and tangible in the etheric realm are signs and tokens of great powers resident in the higher realm of Life Spirit or Christ Consciousness. This means that there is a very intimate connection between the Christ Life and the life forces which operate in the twilight realm of matter, into which material science is now groping its way.

Through mental, moral and physical discipline according to spiritual law, a new etheric sheath is actually

formed within and from the refined essences of the etheric body. This second etheric structure is a prerequisite to all initiatory development. Hence, without the etheric body progress through higher spiritual planes or states in Initiation would be an impossibility.

THE FOUR ETHERS

Occult science teaches that the ethers are capable of division into four states or properties of varying degrees of density, each having its own special function.

The densest of the four ethers is called the Chemical Ether because it is the field of activity for chemical forces which underlie the structure of our material universe, and in which is realized the alchemist's dream of transmuting one element into another. It is so nearly material that only a slight extension of sight is necessary to see it. Its basic color is dark blue and it is sometimes observed under the appearance of blue flames as when gas is turned very low; or it may have the appearance of thick mist or smoke. In this ether the New Age chemist will be able to study activities of chemical forces which he knows now largely through their results and not by direct observation. In the human organism this ether seems to take the form of prisms through which the colorless solar energy radiates, assuming a rosy hue. These prismatic ether atoms seem to be embedded in the center of the physical body atoms.

The Chemical Ether is a twofold current possessing a positive and a negative pole or function. (All spirit or life is dual in manifestation, expressing itself as positive-negative or masculine-feminine.) The positive etheric current attracts and builds the physical atoms of the body; the negative current disintegrates and eliminates them. Thus, we may describe the Chemical Ether as a whirlpool of forces into which new molecules flow through the positive pole and out of which old molecules flow through the negative pole. These molecules have actually been recognized in some instances as pertaining to known substances.

To the lay mind this process suggests that vital electricity converts the body into a kind of electromagnet for attracting or holding elements needed in body building and for rejecting or eliminating those not needed, the flow of the life force corresponding to the turning off and on of a current.

The second ether known to occult science is called the Life Ether because it is concerned with the propagation of the species, whether plant, animal, or man. Physical science is eagerly anticipating the day when it can study these life forces at first hand; this it has not yet done, but the time is not far distant when anticipation will be actualized, as now intimated in the remarkable work done with carbon compounds and in new experiments in biological electricity. Yet instruments and inventions alone will not suffice. The scientist himself must become an instrument of investigation. This New Age development is not unknown to a few great modern scientists, some of whom are already partially clairvoyant without being aware of the fact.

The Life Ether is also positive and negative, and in it is to be found the secret of sex; hence, knowledge of this ether will give to biological science control of the sex of unborn infants, and even of adults. Sex hormones are crystallizations in this ether. Differentiation of the sexes as we know it today will seem very crude and primitive to future generations, in whom the ideal masculine and the ideal feminine will find adequate expression without the perversions and inequalities which burden the race today. The vital fluids (including blood) are generally crystallizations in the Life Ether. To the etheric vision, blood is seen to course through veins in the form of a gas which reminds one of the legend that certain Spirits known to oriental mythology were said to have fire in their veins instead of blood. Ancient Greeks thought that the veins of their gods were filled with *nectar* instead of blood, a hint again of the miraculous powers stored in this Life Ether.

These two ethers, the Chemical and Life Ethers, surround and interpenetrate the physical form, constituting

its matrix. The Chemical Ether reveals itself as a blue field whilst the color radiation of the Life Ether is a rosy or orange hue, which varies somewhat according to species and status in evolution but is always present where life is to be found. In the plant kingdom it is a delicate pink-orange, the color of a certain lotus known in the Orient. In the human kingdom it is described as the color of new-blown peach blossoms, a deep pink with a suggestion of blue or violet overtones.

These are the ethers most commonly observed. A higher degree of spiritual perception is necessary for investigation of the two higher ethers known as Light and Reflecting Ethers.

Motion and color characterize the planetary Light Ether. It is an ether which sparkles and flashes with all the hues of the rainbow. It is sensitive to the presence of light, whether from the Sun or from artificial illuminants, under which it beats or pulsates with a wing-like motion while "seeds of light," many or few according to the intensity of the light, float about in it—probably the *photons* of physics.

Light Ether also has a connection with the blood in human beings, as its positive current infuses the blood with heat and controls circulation as well. The negative current operates through the five senses, especially sight. Although the basic color of the Light Ether is said to be that beautiful golden effulgence ascribed to the Christ Ray, it actually displays all the colors of the spectrum. Because this ether is the avenue for *Sensation* (by vitalizing the nerves), its sensitization by spiritual thought makes it a channel for sensations which ordinarily do not register in the brain—i.e., the eye begins to see colors not usually visible, the ear to hear sounds not usually audible, etc. Even the sense of touch is stimulated so an individual can *feel* the etheric currents both in his own body and in the atmosphere. Biological electricity is an expression of the negative pole of Light Ether as biological heat is an expression of its positive pole.

Most attenuated and refined of all etheric substances is the fourth or Reflecting Ether. This substance is beautifully clear and luminous, and is truly a reflector of eternal Truth as transcribed upon the Scroll of the Ages. It, too, has its positive and negative aspects, but this ether is scarcely physical at all in any known sense of the word. It is the avenue through which thought makes its impress upon the human brain.

The masculine or positive aspect of the Reflecting Ether works through the brain and voluntary nervous system, promoting reason and creative activity; the negative or feminine aspect operates in and through the involuntary nervous system promoting intuition, feeling and memory. The positive pole of the Reflecting Ether is, therefore, the special channel of the Ego; the negative pole, that of the Race Spirit or collective "soul." The Ego is now gradually taking over the functions formerly governed by the Race Spirit, the "God of our Fathers." It is therefore invading the sympathetic system, awakening it to new life under control of individual will, and discovering many new and miraculous powers latent therein. The work of Initiation stimulates both aspects of this ether into new and higher activity. No ether is more important than this Reflecting Ether in the mysterious labor of Initiation.

The Reflecting Ether in its negative aspect is the subconscious mind of nature and of man. It is the blue-white crystal in which the seer reads certain records, but it is not the true Memory of Nature—found in a higher sphere.

THE FOUR ETHERS AND THE FOUR KINGDOMS OF NATURE

It is only through inner-plane investigation and the development of superphysical faculties that man is able to stand before the mysteries of nature and comprehend something of their wonders. The distinguishing characteristics of mineral, plant, animal, and man become understandable only in reference to their four-fold etheric struc-

ture. All four of the kingdoms of life on our earth share in the activities of the positive and negative currents of the Chemical Ether, for there could be no dense physical form of any kind without it. The minerals in general, however, do not have a vital principle; that is, they do not live and grow as the higher kingdoms do. Plants, animals, and man have a form, and that form is built up and eventually destroyed by the activity of chemical forces. But they have something more than this: they have a vital principle by means of which they grow and live and perpetuate their kind. This activity is due to the presence of Life Ether in all three kingdoms.

In animals and man we again find two distinguishing principles which plants do not share, namely, the ability to move about from place to place and the generation of blood heat. These are due to the activity of the Light Ether. However, the Light Ether is also active in the plant kingdom to a degree, for solar forces active in the positive pole of this ether circulate the juices of the plant, while the forces operative in the negative pole are concerned in the deposits of color. They have also built a rudimentary nervous system whereby plants experience simple sensations. Some psychic investigators say that plants feel pain and physical well-being much as we do. The late Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose of India set forth extensive data based on experiments in a laboratory in support of this belief.

By sensitive instruments, Sir Bose measured a plant's reactions to varied treatment. For example, he discovered that its reactions were more marked when the plant was torn than when it was cut; furthermore, that these reactions could be eliminated by anesthetizing the plant—the process involved being the same as that used to prevent pain in a human being during an operation: temporarily driving out the etheric body. By experiments of this kind it has now become evident to the physical scientists that plants possess what may rightly be termed a rudimentary nervous system.

Besides elementary physical functions performed by the sparkling iridescent Life Ether, its exceeding sensitivity enables it to register mental impulses that inhere in the next higher or Reflecting Ether. Due to such receptivity it is able to take on the form of the golden Christ Star, which is the basis of all Initiation.

The Reflecting Ether, as we have indicated, is the bridge between soul and body, between soul and Spirit. It is the Bridge of the Gods, the connecting link between the interior soul world and the exterior world of matter. On the one side it reflects the physical world; on the other, the spiritual. The Ego must learn to see only reflections from the spiritual, which is the real or archetypal world. The negative pole of the Reflecting Ether is the storehouse of the Subconscious Mind, not of one man alone but of the race collectively and of the lower kingdoms. Through it all evolution is carried on. Through the positive pole, the active, conscious work of genius, or epigenesis, goes forward, an expression of the forward-moving impulse of Divine Creative Energy.

Already it is becoming a commonplace that, as Dr. Millikan stated, "electricity and matter look like different aspects of one and the same thing. There is proof that electricity is material; there is evidence that all matter is electrical." But even a generation ago only the occultist dared make such statements, among them Madame Blavatsky, who said boldly that *electricity is life*.

In his book, *Why We Behave Like Human Beings*, Professor George A. Dorsey writes, "The problem of the origin of life is locked up in the origin of matter and death—a vague, shadowy line crossed from day to day in the chemical laboratory. *Life* has been produced in no man-made shop; *protoplasm*, the chemical matter of life, has been. It does everything but live."

To Professor Dorsey's statement the occult scientist adds that his "vague, shadowy line" is no other than this traditional etheric realm known for countless centuries to the occult world. It is here that the man of science must

come to know and possess himself of powers whereby he will at long last make protoplasm *live*.

THE ETHERIC BODY: ITS COMMON APPEARANCE

Before it is possible for a person to function on superphysical planes he must possess body sheaths composed of superphysical substances. That the Ego does possess such vehicles is the claim of clairvoyant investigators.

The etheric body surrounds and permeates the physical and usually extends a couple of inches beyond it, often having the appearance of a luminous, slivery mist. Many persons can now see this etheric envelope, which proves that evolution is gradually refining our senses and points toward a time when everyone will possess faculties of clairvoyance. A number of colleges and universities have made interesting experiments along this line with the surprising result that about one-third of the students were able to see the outlines of the misty body herein described.

Although the etheric double appears vapory and insubstantial, its substance and function are very real and very important to life in the body. Through it alone the vital essence of the Sun, the Solar Ether (invisible sunlight), is able to reach the body. Without it the latter would be inert and incapable of function.

The student who is intent upon observing the etheric double for the first time will find that the most auspicious occasion for observation is where someone is standing before him under the stress of high inspiration—for example a minister, a lecturer, or singer. On such occasions the etheric body grows beautifully luminous and expansive, giving to many their first authoritative proof of the existence of these finer sheaths of the spirit. Revelations such as this, coming unsought and unheralded, have inspired many to investigate the mysteries of the inner worlds.

THE ETHERIC BODY IN HEALTH AND DISEASE

The principal function of the etheric body is to serve both as a receiving set and a transmitter for Solar Energy

which enters the body by means of the spleen. The well-being of this etheric sheath is necessary in the processes of assimilation and excretion; hence, an abundance of fresh air and sunshine are prime essentials to health.

No argument is needed as to the need for sleep if the body is to be kept vibrantly attuned to health-giving powers of the universe. It is during sleep that the greater part of the process of restoration takes place. The reason for this period of seeming unconsciousness being Nature's greatest restorative is found only upon inner-plane investigation. It is known to the occultist that during sleep the Ego actually rises out of its body, although in an unconscious condition as a rule. During this separation from the body it becomes thoroughly permeated with the life-giving forces of the inner worlds. If it were possible to dwell consciously in these life-giving forces at all times, awake or asleep, we should be immortal—for the inner planes are the true Fountain of Youth closer to us than hands and feet, if we but knew how to avail ourselves of its life-giving waters.

The more highly sensitized the two higher ethers become by reason of the spiritual life of an individual, the more easily does that person attune himself to these vital forces and the longer do the effects of restoration remain with him. Thus occurs a paradox. Ofttimes in a crisis a so-called frail person whose life is centered in eternal values can pass through the ordeal valiantly, whereas a more robust individual largely living a life of the senses will break completely. The sensualist draws so heavily upon the life forces of the etheric body that they require replenishment more frequently, which accounts for their not being available in time of need. Paracelsus spoke truly when he said that the healer who deals only with the visible body is concerned with but half a truth and will never be able to find conclusive answers to the problems of health and disease.

When the Ego and its sheaths have been restored by the vibrant rhythmic life forces circulating through the Desire World, those forces then work upon the two lower

ethers. Being replenished, the latter automatically restore the physical body—of which they are the matrix, the source and sustainer of its life. The phrase “to radiate health” is applicable only to anyone whose etheric body is in a positive or healthy condition, for then this body truly does radiate lines or rays of silvery, misty light in all directions. These are felt as an exhilarating force by all who come within their immediate area of influence.

In illness the lines of force of the etheric body droop. If the illness be prolonged or chronic in nature, the etheric body becomes emaciated and the lines of force lose their vibrancy and elasticity. In cases of nervous depletion “holes” appear in the ethers just over the affected areas of the physical body.

To maintain a condition of health, the etheric body must vibrate in harmony with the keynote of the archetype of the physical body, which in turn vibrates with the keynote of the indwelling Ego. If this keynote is disturbed or gets out of tune, the vital sheath can no longer perform its proper functions and ill health may ensue. The desire body is a prime source of all disease. This sheath is also called the “astral” or “emotional” body; in it commonly invisible feelings, sensations and emotions take on visibility to clairvoyant sight. Fear, worry, anger, and lust are among the principal causes for lack of attunement between the Ego and its incarnational sheaths. *Be still and know that I am God* is a powerful remedy with which to restore the subtle rhythms to their pristine attunement in Spirit.

Anesthetics deaden or extinguish the sense of pain because they sever the connection between the archetype and the etheric body, forcing the etheric body partially out of the physical. If this process is carried too far death results, as is well known. The unconsciousness induced by an anesthetic is, therefore, not at all the same as the unconsciousness of sleep which is restorative and causes no break between the archetype and the etheric double, the latter remaining in normal interpenetration of the body. After unconsciousness has been produced by an anesthetic the

etheric connection must be re-established; hence, the long period of time often necessary for recovery from its effects.

The question is often asked, Why do we not become conscious outside the body when we are forced out under anesthetics? The answer to this question involves knowledge of the after-death condition. Immediately after passing from the body in death, practically all persons are asleep for a period of time which varies according to the temperament of the individual. Materialists who believe that death ends everything may remain unconscious for weeks, months or even years because of a sort of self-hypnosis. Eventually, however, they do awaken. When forced out of the body by anesthetics the Ego is in a sleep similar to that which follows death.

It is only in the case of persons who are already on the threshold of initiatory work that consciousness continues, as reported in rare instances where an individual found himself completely awake outside his body while an operation was performed upon the unconscious dense body lying on the operating table. Often, too, we hear of “astral journeys” being taken under such conditions. These experiences, however, come only to sensitives who will awaken quickly on the inner planes following death. It must be remembered that the anesthetic trance seldom occupies more than a few hours—scarcely long enough for the Ego to awaken on inner planes.

EFFECTS OF PAST CAUSATION ON THE ETHERIC BODY

The etheric body may well be designated as the “tally sheet” of the Ego. All the varied experiences of vast cycles of earth lives have left their record upon the etheric sheath. Here the clairvoyant can study the effects of past sins and past good, former sorrows and former joys. All are indelibly inscribed upon this shining scroll.

Human races and civilizations rise and fall with a regularity like unto that of ocean tides. As the ebb of degeneration is about to set in, its first mark appears in

the etheric body of the race. Here also may be found the reason for certain so-called incurable diseases, such as leprosy or tuberculosis. Misdeeds unexpiated or made right in the past have left their record in the etheric mould and must work their way out for liquidation. The fear, hatred, and lust of past incarnations are bearing fruitage today in widespread suffering and sorrow.

It is said by reputable occultists that the self-same atoms of matter are used again and again by a reincarnating Ego, and this would apply with equal force to the ethers. The "young" soul makes but little impression upon the substances in which he works. The more advanced the Ego, the easier is the task of impregnating the ethers with its own individual rhythms. Since at rebirth the ethers thus impregnated are automatically attracted to the Ego which impressed its forces upon them, we have an explanation in part for the resemblance between successive incarnations of the same Ego. This also explains why it is easier to trace incarnations of an advanced Ego, an "old soul," than of one less advanced.

THE ETHERS: THEIR SPIRITUAL FUNCTION

As the two lower ethers are media for transmission of life and vitality to the physical body, so in like manner the two higher ethers are media for spiritual forces constituting a matrix for a spiritual or *soul body*. Living a life of spiritual aspiration automatically attracts these two ethers, with their luminous blue and gold coloring. They suffuse the entire body of an illumined individual and surround it as an aureole of light. In the words of John, such an one appears to be walking *in the light as He is in the light*.

In many works of occult fiction the Initiate appears clothed in robes of blue and gold, indicative of the beautiful soul body of one who has attained to high spiritual status.

No phase of soul development is ever lost by an Ego

during its long incarnational progress. The essence of its soul experience is forever retained by the Spirit. When a new body is assumed for another incarnation, this spiritual essence is the magnet by which like is attracted to like. Thus it is that evidences of an "old" or "wise" soul are readily discernible even in early years. In our time, the *infant prodigy* has become a familiar phenomenon. When such a child is studied clairvoyantly, its head is seen to be surrounded and permeated by bands of woven light composed of Light and Reflecting Ethers attracted to this particular Ego during many lives of spiritual endeavor. Many early artists were possessed of inner sight. The halos they depicted about the heads of Christian Initiates in childhood—the Virgin, the Child Jesus, John the Baptist, and others—were actualities and not illusions. As such a child develops, and years become avenues for further spiritual progress, these bands of light about his head unfold and extend over his entire body, later spreading out on all sides in a radiant auric mantle. This is a glorious vision to the seer. Even to those who cannot as yet see, the mere physical presence of an illumined one brings a benediction.

Everyone possesses an etheric body, composed of the two lower ethers, the outline of which is easily detected in a semi-darkened room by many observers; but the scintillating radiance of the soul body, formed by the two highly attenuated ethers, is discernible to the very few only. In the first place, this soul body is not often developed to a point where it is visible to one with a high degree of spiritual vision. Secondly, where it is so developed, few have awakened the inner faculties with which to see it. The vision required comes by trained and sustained concentration, and such concentration is acquired by only advanced unfoldment.

As previously stated, the Chemical and Life Ethers work particularly with the physical body. The colorless Solar Ether enters through the etheric spleen and then passes upward into the solar plexus where the seed atom

of the etheric body is located. The forces inherent in the etheric seed atom distribute this ether throughout the entire nervous system. This etheric substance is the particular sustaining element of the nerves, and when the latter is functioning properly it appears to be suffused with a silvery rose mist. Previous mention has been made of the fact that depleted nerve force is evidenced by the appearance of open spaces or dark "holes." These usually appear over nerve centers, for these centers are focal points where etheric substance is massed to be rayed out along nerve channels of the body.

The two higher ethers, Light and Reflecting, in their physical aspect enter the human body by way of the brain. They pass into the lungs and are taken up by the blood, thus reaching the heart where the seed atom of the physical body is located. These two ethers play an important role in the transmutation of the blood and the refining and spiritualizing of physical body atoms.

As the processes of body spiritualization continue, the Light and Reflecting Ethers are propelled by the force of the etheric seed atom in the solar plexus to gain entrance into the lower part of the spinal cord. Having united with the forces centered there, they ascend like luminous threads of light to the head.

Each of the four ethers has a particular seat in the physical body where its forces center and from which they radiate. The densest of these, the Chemical Ether, centers in the heart, its operations governed by the seed atom of the physical body located in the heart.

The Life Ether (the propagation ether) operates from the solar plexus, the "sun" of the lower part of the body. At this center the seed atom of the etheric vehicle has its point of contact with the physical envelope, a fact which suggests to us something of the importance of the solar plexus relative to health of body. It is not possible for the life forces to be maintained without the assistance of the solar plexus which is, in very deed and truth, the body's center of vitality.

The two spiritual ethers play a dual role: each has a physical as well as mental-psychic function. The Light Ether correlates to the desire body with which it has an affinity, and it is rooted in the seed atom of the desire body located in the liver. Since the Light Ether is the channel for sense perception, we have here a suggestion as to the psycho-physical origin of the ancient cult of liver divination and of the belief that the liver was the seat of the soul. In the process of spiritual awakening the Light Ether begins to vibrate in the pituitary gland, the "feminine" organ of spiritual impulse, thus opening vision into the inner planes.

The Reflecting Ether has its root in the seed atom of the mind situated near the frontal sinus. Here is the entrance into the sanctuary of the body temple, the adytum of the Ego who has learned to build body-temples through long incarnational ages. In spiritual awakening, the Reflecting Ether vibrates to the keynote of the pineal gland, the "masculine" organ of perception commonly known as the "third eye." Since this ether is the channel of memory and for powers of the subconscious mind, its awakening confers the faculty of *remembering* past lives, while the awakening of the Light Ether and pituitary gland confers the power of *seeing pictures* impressed upon Akashic Records.

THE ETHERIC BODY AND THE SILVER CORD

The silver cord is the connecting link between the Spirit and its earthly body. The links composing this cord are formed of inner-plane substance of varying degrees of density. Something of the importance of the silver cord is indicated by the existence of a large body of symbolic literature on this subject. The twelfth chapter of Ecclesiastes in the Bible is a notable example.

The Masonic Craft gives much valuable information relative to this cord under the symbolism of the cable tow. Albert Pike states in *Morals and Dogma*, "Man after the fall was left naked and defenseless against the just anger

of Deity. Prone to evil, the human race staggered blindly onward into the thick darkness of unbelief; bound fast by the strong cable-tow of the natural and sinful will."

Pike's statement has reference to a time in the dim distant past when human Egos were first being brought out into phases of objective manifestation. It was then that Jehovah God literally ensouled the expanding human Spirit with His own life principle, the basis of all evolution in form. All humankind was then connected with this great and brooding Over-Soul by certain tenuous gossamer threads of projected spirit substance. By this connective link Jehovah was able to guide and direct the evolution of the human race.

Since the "fall" into mundane conditions, this tenuous cord no longer binds man to an external God, but has become the means whereby the God within, the Spirit, guides and controls its outer body sheaths.

In man's current stage of evolution the silver cord begins its development during the first four months of prenatal growth. There are at present three parts of this cord in all adults. In this connection it is interesting to note that the Brahmans of India are at a certain time invested with a cord of three strands, so arranged as to make three-times-three, and representing, as does the cable tow of the Masons, the growth and function of the tripartite silver cord.

The first appearance of the silver cord during the prenatal epoch is as an etheric projection from a seed atom of the embryonic heart. The second is a projection from the liver, composed of desire stuff. These two strands grow toward one another, meet, and unite at the focal point of the etheric seed atom in the solar plexus. This union occurs in the fourth prenatal month and marks the first contact of the incoming Ego with the objective world; it is commonly called the *quickening*. From this time the prospective mother is conscious of the indwelling life and the incarnating Ego is conscious of outer-plane rhythms, but in a dim and dreamy way.

After birth begins the development of the third strand of the silver cord, consisting of mental substance and rooted in the center of the forehead. This third part of the cord grows down through the body to the liver where it meets the second part already rooted in the liver since prenatal days. Their conjunction marks the age of maturity (approximately twenty-one).

During waking hours the tripartite cord ordinarily remains twined around the solar plexus; but in sleep, when the Ego rises out of its dense body by way of the head, the silver cord, being attached to the higher vehicles, rises with it and may be seen projecting from the top of the sleeper's skull. When the Ego is sufficiently spiritual to take "soul flights," the cord is visible as a shining thread of varying thickness stretching from the soul body to the dense physical body lying asleep. Yet we are not to understand from this that the entire cord goes out of the body; only the third part, composed of mental substance, does this, for it is the elastic segment of the cord. This sensitive cord carries impulses from the sleeping body to the wandering Spirit, calling it back in times of stress or danger.

As previously pointed out, the junction of the first two segments of the cord marks the quickening, at which time the incoming Ego is definitely and irrevocably committed to incarnation. The union of the second and third segments marks the birth of the adult, or the birth of the mind. New Age humanity is destined to experience a further development of this mystic cord, from the mental seed atom in the forehead to the physical seed atom in the heart. Its junction with the etheric segment in the heart will signalize the blending of the head and heart forces, understanding and love, into a golden spiritual fulcrum of soul wisdom. This fourth link or segment of the silver cord and its final welding into place in the heart heralds the new Initiate birth. Such was the new birth by spirit which the Master explained to Nicodemus "by night."

We have described the first three segments of the cord as composed of etheric, astral, and mental substance. The

student will now observe that the growth of the cord is correlative to the development of the four ethers of the body; the first three ethers are matured in the three septenary periods prior to adulthood. At twenty-one the Reflecting Ether is organized sufficiently to serve as the basis of adult consciousness, but it is not fully matured until the age of twenty-eight—which is, therefore, one of the turning-points of the life cycle of a human being. The fourth segment of the silver cord, an acquisition of the new race, will consist of Reflecting Ether; its juncture with the seed atom of the heart will open to the conscious mind all memories of past conditions of evolution, both on the inner and outer planes—that is, all incarnations and their celestial interludes.

That esoteric Masons such as Albert Pike understood the far-reaching and beautiful meaning of the silver cord is evidenced by the importance given to the twelfth chapter of Ecclesiastes in Masonic rituals. This chapter is a vivid and definite teaching of the initiatory Rite of Resurrection and Immortality. In the symbolism of this rite the golden bowl is the brain, the fountain is the heart—the two vital centers connected by the fourth part of the silver cord in the body of the Illumined. The pitcher is that great vein (avenue of transmuted light essence) which carries blood to the right ventricle of the heart (fountain). The cistern is the great artery which receives the blood (now a transmuted light essence) from the left ventricle of the heart. The wheel is descriptive of the radiant, luminous center of light which the heart becomes in the body of such an Initiate (Son of Wisdom).

THE SILVER CORD AND CREMATION

The foetus is purely vegetative in its activities. After birth, animalistic energies are manifest. Later, with adolescence and adulthood, intelligence is born, followed by the crowning of the life with the light of spirituality.

The Ego is linked to its chain of vehicles, as pre-

viously described, by the silver cord. So long as this cord is unsevered the Ego can feel the effects of post mortems, embalming, and cremation. It remains intact for about three and one-half days after death.

In the new science of death, wherein man will be taught how to care for those who are making the Great Transition, we shall come to understand that the greatest service we can render our departing loved ones is not grief and lamentation but silence and prayer. There is an interval, varying in length of time, immediately following the cessation of heart-beats during which the silver cord is unbroken. The Ego floats in a dreamy condition above its physical shell, still attached thereto by the cord and still able to feel everything done to that shell. In this semi-conscious period the Ego is reviewing its previous life in the body, and its whole attention needs to be concentrated upon this review. Because it is outside the dense body, the records in the negative pole of the Reflecting Ether are now visible to it; the life just ended unrolls like moving pictures before its gaze. Any condition which distracts the Ego from this recapitulatory panorama lessens the benefit received from it.

One of the Masters has thus spoken of this sacred interval of silence and preparation for the new and larger life: "Tread softly while the record of the present is being inscribed upon the veils of the future." The average period required for the recapitulation is not more than three and one-half days. Although very many Egos awaken sooner, the full three and one-half days should be allowed, since only a trained clairvoyant could know for certain if the Ego were awake earlier. At the end of the three-day period the funeral may be held and the body disposed of in whatever way is deemed best; the Ego is then free to go into higher realms of being.

Unless the Ego is sufficiently advanced to be able to sever at once all contacts with the physical world, when the silver cord breaks at the end of the recapitulatory period, there is always an "earth pull" which hinders ad-

justment to the new life in spirit. Cremation helps to free such Egos from their interest in the earth, for when the body is disintegrated they feel that their last hold on the physical plane is gone. Hence, the occult scientist generally prefers cremation to burial.

EVIDENCE OF THE CONTINUITY OF LIFE

*"When thou, clay cottage, fallest, I'll immerse
My long cramped spirit in the universe."*

As humanity approaches the borderline of the Aquarian Age the veil between the seen and the unseen becomes more and more tenuous. Ever increasing numbers are learning the true significance of that triumphant declaration of Paul: "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

Wars have been aptly termed by Max Heindel, as operations for the removal of spiritual cataract. Through nerve tension, sorrow, and fear the ethers part for many hitherto unseeing eyes, and the forms of beloved "dead" are plainly discernible.

During such times of travail, and for several years following, many of the "best sellers" have for their theme some aspect of transition from this plane to the next and communication between the living and the so-called dead. Judge Hatch's *Letters of a Living Dead Man*, transmitted through Elsa Barker, and Sir Oliver Lodge's communications from his son, Raymond, in the volume titled so simply *Raymond*, are products of World War I. Among the most arresting so far produced by World War II are *Many Mansions* by Gina Cerminara and *Lychnate* by Lord Dowding, England's Air Chief Marshal. He relates numerous experiences with members of his forces who made the great sacrifice and whom he contacted after their death. He tells of helping them to adjust themselves to their new surroundings, and how many of them continued to aid

their brother airmen who remained in physical bodies on this side of the curtain of death.

With the ending of hostilities, Lord Dowding took to the lecture platform and through all the length and breadth of England he bore the greatest of all messages for the solace of the sorrowing: "There is no death." This same banner of hope and consolation was borne aloft after World War I by the eminent author of the Sherlock Holmes stories, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Thus good comes out of evil—in war as in all else, for out of it came and continues to come the divine compensation of firsthand knowledge.

The question of the continuity of life has always been of paramount interest to the human mind. Cicero, the famed Roman historian, recounts the following: Two friends started upon a journey together and, upon entering a certain city, they went to an inn to engage rooms. The place being crowded, one of the men took lodging in a private house not far away. During the night this man was awakened by the voice of his friend who had remained at the inn, calling for his help. Dismissing the thought as merely foolish fancy, he again fell asleep. Once again the friend called him, and this time appeared before him, saying, "I have been murdered and my body has been hidden in a cart in the field." The next day the friend's story was verified and the body discovered in the place described.

Manifold are the latent powers within man awaiting unfoldment. In time we shall evolve the "blessed eyes" and the "blessed ears" whereby we may see and hear that our beloved ones have never died, that they are "nearer than breathing, closer than hands and feet."

There are those who yet continue to inhabit garments of flesh but who have already experienced the Great Transition commonly termed death. Those who have known this experience realize how slight is the change that occurs in the time of passing. The difference between "here" and "there" is largely a matter of vibration. The casting

aside of the sheath whose work is done may be compared to the shimmering cadences of music that sift through the air at sunset time. The Ego knows no agony of separation, but only relief indescribable and an added vibrancy, a lightness of spirit that seems to breathe the fragrance of infinite vistas and ever-expanding horizons.

There comes an indefinable feeling of oneness, a great, divine upsweeping tide of unity which seems to pervade and harmonize all that lives on all planes of manifestation. All the rhythms are singing a joyous paean of life, not death; of beginning, not ending; of bliss superlative, not sorrow. One who has known this experience can truly chant triumphantly, "O, grave, where is thy victory?"

The knowledge of occult scientists relative to inner-plane truths is continually finding verification in the discoveries of material science, as evidenced in a recent interview with a noted British scientist, Sir Edward Fish, one of the world's experts on wireless who conducted research with Marconi. He stated that he sees no reason why it will not soon be possible for the living to communicate by wireless with the dead. He asserts that it is all a matter of vibration: "Everything in our consciousness is the result of different vibrations and all matter is made from electricity. Because of this, the development of radio science might allow us to get in touch with the dead. Today we can contact only the material. It is not so fantastic to contemplate a time when radio communication will be advanced to a stage where we can contact the spiritual." "Research will have to discover," he adds, "the range of frequencies used by the dead; then there is also the problem of discovering a nexus, the borderline between spirit and matter."

The occult scientist has always affirmed the uncharted powers resident within the two higher ethers, the Light and Reflecting Ethers. When the implements of material science become sufficiently sensitive to contact these higher forces there will be no further barrier between us and the "dead." The actual discovery of immortality

will have become an established and immutable fact, scientifically demonstrable in terms of our everyday consciousness.

THE MINISTRY OF INVISIBLE HELPERS

*The soul soars upward on its journey through the night,
With every sense wide open,
That it may catch the beauty and the power,
The wisdom and the love of higher realms,
And then with fresh renewing of its powers,
It seeks its earthly home, the tenement of flesh,
And through the wakeful hours of sun-crowned day
It weaves the vision of the night on earthly looms,
That man may step by step
Attain the promise of the spheres.*

— Luise B. Brownell

The consciousness of the average individual is limited at present to his waking hours, during which time he takes note of and functions in the outer objective world by means of his five physical senses. Man possesses in latency, however, numerous other faculties which belong to his inner finer, invisible vehicles. Each thought, word, and deed of daily life sets its seal upon sleeping centers, either sensitizing them or drugging them into greater insensibility. Meat, alcohol, and tobacco produce a marked effect in dulling and deadening these higher centers of contact. Concentration and meditation upon high and holy things are potent techniques for their awakening.

The first important step is the establishment of a certain rhythm within the body, the purpose of music in initiatory Temples. Early Church music served this same purpose of attuning worshippers to the rhythms of the Christian Mystery Temple. Gradually the chasm in memory between day and night is bridged.

It is always night in some parts of the world; hence, there is always a time and place for the ministrations of

Invisible Helpers. In hospitals, homes where death has entered, riots, wars, fires, floods, the entombment of miners and at scenes of various natural catastrophes, the harvest for service is always white and the laborers few.

Another important field open to Invisible Helpers is that of influencing the minds of world leaders and those who are in charge of governments. Much work along this line was done during World Wars I and II which prevented even greater chaos and confusion than was experienced. If workers can only surround key figures with an atmosphere of calm and confidence in a time of crisis, instilling in them an incentive for serving the highest good of all concerned, the Powers of Darkness will have been weakened and the Forces of Light correspondingly strengthened. Of such service the Psalmist testifies: "He giveth his gifts to his loved ones as they sleep."

The work of Invisible Helpers is invaluable in assisting the newly deceased to make proper adjustment to inner-plane conditions. Helpers also instruct newcomers on the other side to protect themselves from the swirling psychic currents of the lower Desire World, the purgatorial realms.

Disembodied Egos oftentimes express gratitude to loved ones still upon earth for having been freed by cremation instead of through the longer process of disintegration, despite their opposition to the idea of cremation during life in the body. However, as already stated, it is not good that a body be cremated within three days after death. This is according to the ancient Hebrew tradition as indicated in the *Apocrypha*, where we read that Adam's body was not buried until three days after his passing. In Sir Oliver Lodge's *Raymond*, a time limit of seven days is suggested during which cremation should not be performed, for in many cases the Spirit is still within the body or attached to it for some time after death. Raymond tells of a man who was to be cremated two days after death, and in whom the silver cord was yet actually intact. Raymond did not understand this situation, but the occultist would say that in such an instance the man was really not dead at

all and might have been resuscitated had proper means been taken. Since the cremation was set to be carried out, "spirit doctors" arrived to break this connection of the silver cord with the body and to assist the Spirit before cremation, thus sparing it much suffering, Raymond reported.

The Ego relinquishes its dense body at physical death, rises in its etheric envelope, and relinquishes that to rise into the astral. After the experiences of Purgatory and Heaven, it relinquishes its astral sheath to rise into the mental realm called the Second Heaven. This is the home of the average Ego, who has little of that abstract mentality requisite to rising into the sublime reaches of the Third Heaven, which may well be designated the "heaven of the sages."

In the Second Heaven the Ego remains for many centuries, working in full consciousness and preparing for its own future periods of evolution in time and space. All of this work is done mentally, for here "thoughts are things" and the thought forms generated are archetypes which create the outer world.

Evil souls, however long confined to purgatorial realms, eventually cast off their astral shells and ascend into heaven worlds; but their cast-off shells continue to float about on the psychic currents of Purgatory and are sometimes inhabited temporarily by evil, newly discarnate entities, or by elemental spirits of subhuman evolutions who roam about deluding credulous psychics and even innocent persons who have left the body in sleep or death. An important task of the Invisible Helpers is to invoke astral fire to consume these shells, for there is a fire of the soul which is just as real as any fire we know on earth, and that fire is an agent of purification in the hands of Invisible Helpers.

The hours of night are mystic and occult hours, the time always associated with fantasies and dreams. It is during night time that the words of the poet come true when he says that "the dream and the dreamer are one."

The subtle and mysterious forces of Cancer, the sign which governs night, together with her planet, the Moon, the great night star, hold sway during the hours of darkness.

During these magic hours the Spirit is free and untrammelled by the flesh; free to roam through earth and air at will; free to soothe and serve wheresoever there is need; free also to drink of the mystic waters of life to which the Master so often referred, those Eternal Waters that spring from the fount of Cancer, the great Mother. Those who learn to partake of these living waters shall never thirst again, declared the Master.

It is before the mighty Cherubim—the Hierarchy of Cancer — that the consecrated Invisible Helper makes his supreme dedication. He goes out nightly, joyous in his mission, in the spirit of that beautiful prayer given by the Rosicrucian School: "Tonight while our physical bodies are peacefully resting in sleep, may we, as Invisible Helpers, still be found faithfully working in the vineyard of Christ, for as Spirits we need no rest."

SLEEP, INITIATION, AND DEATH

At the hour of death, the Wise One with mind fixed upon Me, goeth straight to Me without doubts or mischance. But he who fasteneth his desires upon aught else, if there be to him a greater God, material or otherwise, than Me, to that God of materiality goeth that man. Each goeth to that which is his Ruling Passion—strong even in death.

—Bhagavad Gita

Sleep, death, and Initiation are but varying manifestations of life. The principal difference between the living and the so-called dead is that the latter no longer possess a physical body and its corresponding etheric or vital envelope. The Ego, sheathed in the remainder of its vehicles, remains intact. Hence it is that feeling, knowledge, and perception are doubly sensitized, for the desire and mental

bodies are undisturbed in their functionings. Only the physical, which acted as an incubator for these higher bodies, has been removed. Therefore, the love and understanding of our beloved "dead," instead of decreasing, is enormously magnified.

Because the Ego still remains in possession of the same desire and mental vehicles, its desire and thoughts undergo little change at the transition from "life" to "death." The act of passing from the visible into the invisible does not transform a sinner into a saint. Habit and inclination attract one to congenial Spirits "over there" exactly the same as here. In both realms are various degrees and forms of activity to which one may be attracted, high and low. The inner worlds are planes of ceaseless activity. Each new arrival soon finds his own place and sphere, whatever it may be.

The surroundings and environment of children are most wonderful and beautiful. Innerplane substance is highly amenable to the power of thought, and lessons are given to children which deal largely with the constructive use of the imagination. They learn how to remake their lives, their bodies, and their environment by thought power. Their games are all symbolic of soul growth and they are taught to endow their toys with life. The Disney productions are somewhat similar in their appeal and educational value to inner-plane instruction. Especially applicable to the state of children in the heaven-world are the lines of the poet:

*I am gone before your face,
A moment's worth, a little space,
When ye come where I have stepped
Ye will wonder why ye wept.*

Sleep and death have been termed "twin brothers" by Greek poets. This is because the processes are similar. In sleep the Ego leaves the physical and etheric bodies behind, taking with it the desire and mental bodies. It is the possession and use of these two latter vehicles that give

clear pictures and vivid memory to dreams. The role of the etheric body during sleep is that of refreshing and resuscitating the physical.

In the final process of death the physical no longer needs refreshment, so the etheric is also withdrawn, thus leaving the physical body motionless, inert. Having finished its work, it is ready to be reabsorbed into the elements from which it came.

When the Ego goes out in sleep there is usually a brief period of unconsciousness before the varied activities of the "night life" begin. In death also, there is generally an interval of unconsciousness before the newly "dead" is adjusted to conditions of a new life and environment. During this interval the recently released Spirit is sensitive to impacts from both the objective and subjective realms, hence the importance of surrounding our departed ones with love, prayer thoughts of upliftment, and God's speed into the new life. This will be an inestimable blessing and of such benefit that it will go far toward liquidating unfinished karma between the individuals for whom and by whom this service is rendered.

A mystic has thus aptly described the intimate relationship between sleep and death: "Death is the great Initiation of which sleep is but the minor mystery."

INITIATION

Occult scientists comprehend something of the nature and functions of man's fourfold body—physical, etheric, desire, and mental vehicles. While treating them separately, it must be remembered that they function as a unit under the direction of the indwelling Ego. In sleep there is a division between the physical-etheric and astral-mental, as previously described. A similar division takes place in death, but here the division is between the physical body and the other three sheaths, the etheric sheath also separating from the physical body of which it is the matrix and double.

There is yet another division which occurs in the case

of Initiation. For the vast majority intervals of sleep are mere periods of unconsciousness. This is due to the fact that their astral and mental sheaths are entirely unorganized and untrained. In order to be awake and alert when out of the body, a long and arduous preparation is necessary, prefaced and accompanied by high thinking and pure living. First, certain perceptive centers must be developed in the higher vehicles—centers possessed by everyone but usually in a crude form, mere "sensitive spots" in the aura. In time these "sensitive spots" will develop into eyes of the soul, just as "sensitive spots" in the heads of those pre-human creatures which became man developed into physical eyes. However, the eyes of the soul will not become localized as are bodily organs of vision, but will be coextensive with the soul body itself. Other senses will be similarly distributed throughout that organism. The consciousness which ensouls this all-seeing, all-feeling, all-hearing, and all-knowing body is beyond the grasp of our present powers of imagination.

Following the development of perceptive centers which confer full super-physical sight upon an Initiate, a cleavage is effected between the higher and lower aspects of the desire body and between the higher and lower aspects of the etheric body. The lower part of the desire body is the "animal soul;" it consists of desire stuff drawn from lower regions of the Desire World, avenue of all sensual feeling. This animal soul must be laid aside as the first step toward Initiation—which means embracing a disciplined spiritual life.

Cleavage between the two higher and two lower ethers is more difficult to bring about. In oriental schools this work is not generally countenanced, attention being centered upon astral and mental substance. It must be noted, therefore, that the cleavage which takes place is not within the etheric double proper—which, strictly speaking, consists primarily of Chemical and Life Ethers—but between the double and the two higher ethers which, as we have said, still are unorganized and formless in the average

individual. Before the cleavage can take place, this formless substance must become formed, the unorganized higher ethers must be organized. This is done through meditation and contemplation. As music is known to produce certain geometric patterns, so particular modes of meditation produce definite patterns in the Light and Reflecting Ethers. The pattern among Christians is generally called The Star or the Christ Star. When that Star shines in an aura a Teacher appears, as the Magi came to the infant Jesus at the shining of His Star. This Star is formed in the two higher ethers, but the esoteric work involved cannot be disclosed publicly as it endangers health if improperly done. It leads to Initiation by severing higher ethers from lower. None need fear that he will be overlooked by the Teachers. They cannot fail to see the Star when it shines in the inner world, and they come from far places, for the Star indicates to them that another "Little One" awaits their holy ministrations.

By concentration of mental forces, by their right use in meditation, together with "living the life," spiritual organs of perception are developed in the higher vehicles and the Star shines forth. One who lives almost entirely in this "upper atmosphere" will experience no unconsciousness either in death or sleep. Said Hermes, the great Egyptian Master, "Happy is he whose vices die before him. In such a one the vital body dissolves like a silver cloud and the spirit moves on into the High, the Beautiful, and the True."

Initiation is the highest achievement of our present human evolution and will form the chief cornerstone of the religion of Aquaria. It is described by Nellie Burget Miller simply and directly as "a stage in the soul's journey from the darkness of the material realms into the light of spiritual consciousness." Only by means of the expansion of vision gained through Initiation, can the oneness of all life be fully comprehended and true meaning of brotherhood realized. Hence, it is the most vital factor in the life of man and in the enlightenment of the age.

Chapter VIII

The Blood—An Arcane Mystery

*The fruit is man regenerated by the oil and wine,
by the Flesh and Blood of Christ.—Paracelsus.*

EARLY DEVELOPMENT

The blood is one of the most baffling of many mysteries connected with the human body. We know that it is the principal factor in body building from the time of conception until "the silver cord is loosed and the spirit returned unto God who gave it."

In common with all other vehicles of individualized Spirit, the peculiar essence called blood has undergone tremendous changes in its evolutionary career. Nor have these ceased. Even greater changes will take place in the future as man's body gradually outgrows its material expression and puts on immortality. So we must consider the blood as it was constituted in the past, as it is conditioned at present, and as its transmuted state will be in the future.

Within the Earth is stored all the elements to be found in our human organism, including those which constitute the blood. In the very early stages of our earthly evolution, our blood was not red as it is today, but was a white ethereal substance similar to the milky juices of certain plants which are evolutionary relics of that time.

During this period man existed in an etheric condition. His body (if such it can be called) was attached to the etheric envelope of the Earth as an unborn babe is attached to the placenta in the uterus by means of the umbilical cord. During this period—which one may rightly consider a prelude to evolution—the etheric currents of the Earth circulated through etheric embryos suspended in its atmosphere. Occultists call these etheric currents "the Milk of Nature." They still exist in the etheric envelope of our

globe and still circulate in and about and through us, but with a difference. When our body organism became definitely physical, the etheric currents specialized within it crystallized into the "mysterious essence" we call blood. This circulates through the human body as the mother-currents circulate through the etheric body of the Earth, whereas magnetic Earth currents now enter our etheric double only. Therefore, in a very special sense the blood is a product of the vital body. It is rich in the life ether which is the primordial Milk of Nature, but its red color is due to another evolutionary innovation which took place at a very early period.

After the Lords of Forms (celestial Beings represented by the constellation Scorpio), assisted by others, had fashioned bodies into something of their present form, the fiery Angels of Mars depolarized the iron in the Earth; and also in the blood stream of human bodies. By means of this Egos could produce internal heat and awaken to a realization of their selfhood. Man's awakening to himself as an Ego was roughly coincident with his being cut off from the nourishing Earth currents. Certain corresponding elements in the blood were then dissolved, and human consciousness became dimly aware of an egoic self, the "I." Blood then became red due to the presence of iron, and with the development of red blood a new creature was born upon the Earth. According to Moses, "the life of the flesh is in the blood." The Law of Moses contains many significant precepts relative to the blood which cannot be fully understood apart from their occult interpretation.

The flowing of sacrificial blood was a mystic part of the earliest forms of religious ritual. To the people of that period this was not the cruelty it is for us today. A human being was greatly advanced in his evolution when his death was accompanied by the flowing of blood, and this he knew intuitively. Moreover, the sacrificial victim understood that his blood flowed back into the great magnetic reservoir of the Earth and continued circulating through

the people for whom he voluntarily surrendered his body. He thus entered into the sacrifice in a willing spirit and would gain enormously thereby. He was certain, too, of immediate rebirth. And he could sense angelic Beings of the heaven worlds, so did not feel frightened or alone.

In modern times the accumulated evils of races are precipitated in wars where blood is shed on a vast scale, thus accomplishing the same purpose as blood sacrifices in primitive religions. We cannot hope to avoid such social upheavals and global blood-letting until we purify our minds and emotions and "die daily" by means of voluntary love offerings in a spirit of true fellowship.

The circulatory system displays the celestial wisdom and the aeons of evolution behind it. If all flesh and bone were removed from a body, leaving the blood vessels only, there would still remain the outline of a human figure. The blood circulates through arteries and veins, the arteries carrying pure oxygenated blood from the lungs to every part of the body, refreshing and nourishing it. The veins carry devitalized blood with its impurities back to the heart and lungs for cleansing. Astrologically, arterial blood is ruled by Jupiter and venous blood by Venus. The task of blood purification is truly a labor of love to be performed by the Goddess (Angel) of Love.

The blood is continuously supplying the body with an infusion of oxygen and taking away waste in the form of carbonic gas. Oxygen is body fuel; carbonic acid is its ash or waste.

In addition to the veins and arteries, blood circulates through tiny threadlike capillaries which must be studied with the aid of a microscope. These capillaries form a fine network over every part of the body, penetrating into bone, muscle, skin, and brain. It is via the capillaries that the blood passes its food essence into body tissues by a process called *osmosis*. One of the most important functions of heart and arteries is to keep a balanced supply of pure food and oxygen continuously passing into the capillaries to maintain the body in good health that it may be an ade-

quate and responsive instrument for giving expression to the creative energies of spirit.

The red globules in the blood attract oxygen, and it is these which give the blood its red color. The watery part of the blood in which the globules float is the plasma. This contains substance in dissolution, some of which is retained by the body while the rest is carried away as refuse.

Without the work of oxygenation, the Ego could not occupy a body at all, for it is through absorption of oxygen that the blood is renewed. When blood containing the accumulated poisons of the body flows through the lungs and there contacts oxygen, a process of combustion takes place whereby the poisons are removed and the blood charged with new life.

As previously stated, the blood is the medium through which the inner man—the Ego, the I-identity—rules his body in our present state of evolution. To some extent hypnotists and spirit controls push the higher vehicles out of the physical body and incorporate a part of their own desire and mental vehicles into the body of a person so controlled. This has a tendency to nucleate and liquefy the blood, for nuclei in the blood furnish a vantage point for the operations of outside entities and the liquefaction of the blood makes it less amenable to the control of the indwelling Ego. It is also to be noted that an important work of Initiation concerns the transmuting of the Saturnian skeleton into the Jupiterian body, and any interference with the blood hinders this process since red cells of the blood are actually manufactured in the marrow bones of the skeleton.

The esotericist goes a step farther and adds that the blood assists in the alchemy of spiritualizing the skeleton. When studied clairvoyantly within the body, etheric blood is seen as a refined, vibrating light essence. The higher the attainment of the individual, the more rarefied and luminous becomes his blood. Early church legends about saints whose blood became white refer to this high state

of spirituality, wherein the body becomes radiant by reason of this effulgence.

Every aspirant to inner knowledge must begin his work by purification of the blood. For this reason he learns to sustain his body with a pure and harmless diet, eliminating all food procured at the cost of pain and suffering to animals. He guards his every thought, word and deed, for he learns that his life and environment are pictured in his blood, and that his life is fashioned subconsciously in accordance with these pictures. The misuse of the creative force within man's body, his use of improper foods, and impurity in thought and speech tend to thicken the blood. Man of the coming Age and race will not inhabit so dense and inert a vehicle as he has to work through at the present time. As previously stated, the blood assists in the alchemy of spiritualization and, together with the desire body, in the process of re-creation. According to the divine pattern, man must come to "walk in the Light as He is in the Light." The Supreme Teacher said that only the pure in heart shall enter the Kingdom.

The occult scientist also states that red blood has a particular correlation to a well-developed desire body. The evolution of the desire body began in the Third Creative Day (Moon Period). At this time the circulatory life essence, later to become blood, also made its initial appearance. This essence was white, and it was upon this peculiarly sensitive desire-stuff that the Lucifers began to concentrate their influence by use of the vibratory red ray. This has always been the color used to stimulate desires and to incite passion in both animal and man. It is so used by the Black Magician in serving his own purposes.

In the animal kingdom only vertebrates have red blood, for it is a necessary accompaniment of an individual desire body. The seed atom of the desire body does not come under the control of the Ego until the Ego has learned to manufacture red corpuscles. These little bodies (round in human blood) are about 1-3200 of an inch in diameter. They compose about half the blood content and their office is to

attract oxygen through the Fire Forces of Earth and Sun.

White corpuscles are germ centers and owe their origin to destructive or negative thinking. There is only one of these to approximately six hundred red corpuscles. In this we have another example of the love and care of those Great Beings who are aiding us to build bodies that will eventually win immortality.

The red corpuscles of animals contain a nucleated point not found in human blood. This is the center through which the Group Spirit controls its species. During that portion of the prenatal period when the mother's influence is most active, the blood of an infant is also nucleated. This nucleated center disappears at the time of quickening, after which the Ego becomes the controller of its own body. In involuntary mediumship and cases of extreme and prolonged obsession, the blood shows a tendency to become gradually nucleated.

The custom of family intermarriage was for the purpose of making the blood tie between Egos as potent as possible. The similarity of family characteristics and customs kept the blood in approximately the same rhythm, making it easier to impress pictures of ancestral life upon the subconscious mind with the least inaccuracy or distortion. Each succeeding generation thus lived as much in the past as in the present. In this manner family, and later, tribal instincts were fostered, Egos becoming increasingly amenable to Race Spirit influence.

International marriage is the great corrective for racial egotism. It tends to break down barriers of race, habit, and custom, all of which have a crystallizing effect upon the blood. One of the beneficial results of World War II will be expansion of universality through international marriage.

At the present time the blood of each individual contains only the pictures of his own personal experiences, and his subconscious mind has access to them. Up to the time that marriage outside of the family was initiated, individuals were ruled by a family spirit (Angel) which

entered the body by means of the air and inspired and helped each Ego to control its vehicles. When marriage outside the family began, Egos had arrived at a point in the self-conscious evolution where they could begin to depend on self, where they were to cease being God-guided automatons and become self-governing individuals. The greater the mixture of blood, the less the indwelling Ego can be influenced by the race or family spirit. Unmixed blood gave us ancestral assistance when it was needed. Mixed blood makes for independence of outside help. The evolving god within must be independent.

Everything in man's environment (the objective world) is pictured in the blood, and subconsciously man fashions his life according to these pictures; that is the reason why familiarity with vice makes one tolerant of it. In primitive man, introspection was very strong. Instead of relying upon his own judgment when he was called upon to meet emergencies, he immediately resorted to the ancestral pictures in his blood and acted according to the collective experience of his tribe.

Unmixed blood expressed the power of ancestral life; mixed blood expresses the power of personal experience, for experiences of former lives express themselves as mental faculties. Unmixed blood and introspection give negative clairvoyance; mixed blood makes positive clairvoyance possible of attainment. When one is taken violently out of the body, the impurities of the lower nature, carried by the venous blood, cling to the Ego. If at this time the blood flows, a distinct cleansing is sensed by the Ego.

The blood and the two nervous systems, the sympathetic and cerebro-spinal, are intimately associated in their esoteric functions. The sympathetic system is the special field of action of the subconscious mind. When egoic consciousness is focussed there it perceives the outer world as pictured in the blood, by means of primitive clairvoyance. Through the agency of this inner picture—consciousness, focused through the subconscious mind—man originally built his body with its internal organs. The Ego

was not then in the body, but it held the body image within its consciousness. It is this ancient ancestral picture-consciousness which has since sunk below the threshold of our waking mind and now constitutes the subconscious mind, as it is known to modern psychology. While the Egoic consciousness was turned inward, man was necessarily unaware of the outer world. All he knew of it was what he saw in the reflecting ether of his own blood stream.

Red blood corpuscles are first formed in the marrow of the bones. In early Lemuria, the "coats of skin" into which man descended were a soft, cartilage-like body. The hard bony framework of the present physical body belonged to a much later stage of evolution.

It was part of the work of the Third Creative Day to organize the planets (then existing in an etheric condition only) so they might be separated from the central Sun at the dawn of the Earth Period. The separation of Mars reduced its influence over the iron in the Earth; and when the planetary Spirit of Mars finally withdrew its influence completely, that metal became available for use by nascent humanity as soon as its evolution permitted. Its use became quite marked in the latter portion of the Lemurian Epoch, when red blood developed.

The solar iron was not wholly identical in nature with iron as we know it today. It differed just as the elements which astronomers detect in the Sun are not identical in condition with the same elements found upon Earth. There was a still greater difference in that early period.

To the occultist, iron and oxygen are the basic fiery elements essential to the highly individualized blood of our present civilization. Behind this blood stretches a long and involved history through many ages and lands, under the aegis of a great and varied host of celestial Intelligences, among which the solar and martian influences predominated. Iron is the basis of all separate existence or individualization, through the manufacture of red blood. Oxygen is the basis of the delicately balanced organs through which the aerated blood operates. It is considered

a solar element by occultists due to its special connection with certain little-known activities in "invisible sunlight." Thus, at the present time the "heat of the blood is the vantage ground of the Ego, and the Lucifer spirits from Mars dissolve iron in the blood to attract oxygen, a solar element."

PRESENT CONSTITUTION OF THE BLOOD

The Ego controls the dense body by means of the blood, which is its particular vehicle.

—Max Heindel

The blood is formed by the mesoderm layer of the ovum and is correlated, as previously noted, with the work of the Third Creative Day (Moon Period) where it had its inception. Blood vessels proper appear correspondingly late in an embryo.

Up to approximately the fifteenth year a child's red marrow does not make all the red corpuscles. Most of them are supplied from the thymus gland, which is the largest gland in a foetus but gradually diminishes as the blood-making ability develops in the growing child. The thymus gland contains a supply of red blood corpuscles given by the child's parent. So long as he draws blood from that source, he does not realize his own individuality.

A very young child cannot make its own red corpuscles because its desire body is not sufficiently developed to act as an avenue for the Martian forces which promote assimilation of iron from the blood and its transmission into haemoglobin. To compensate for this lack, there is stored in the thymus gland a spiritual essence, provided by the parents, which enables the child to accomplish the alchemy of blood processes until its desire body matures and becomes active. When the thymus gland atrophies, usually near puberty, the child draws from its own desire body the necessary martial force with which to manufacture its own blood corpuscles.

The creative life force, which later manifests as sex, begins to be stored in the blood between the ages of seven and fourteen. These are most important and crucial years in the life of a child, for this great force can later become a consuming fire or it can be transmuted into dynamic soul power and soul light. Advanced Egos usually show definite signs of marked growth between the ages of seven and fourteen, thus evidencing work in previous lives with the spiritualization of this life essence.

Great sages of all ages have been unanimous in their declarations concerning the occult significance of the blood. Empedocles, in 480 B. C., stated that the "blood is life." Goethe, with true Initiate knowledge, put similar words into the mouth of Faust when, having made an incision in his hand, he watched the blood flow. "O, man! thus escapes man's liquid fire."

The Bible, vast treasury of occult lore that it is, contains numerous references to the profound mystic significance of the blood. For example: "And the priests shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the Lord at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the Lord. And they shall no more offer their sacrifice unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations . . . For the life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for the souls" (Leviticus 17: 6, 7, 11).

The "sacrifice of devils" has reference to evil practices common among those skilled in secret arts at the time the records were written. Since *the blood is life itself*, it holds a power that can be used for good or evil. On the occasion of the Last Supper and when passing the cup or holy grail, the Master taught its sacred use: "This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." Also, "I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God shall come."

Leviticus contains much hidden teaching in relation

to the occult significance of the blood. The origin of the Covenant of the Blood dates back to the Lemurian Race. Its first mystic ceremonial was observed at the time of the separation of the sexes into male and female forms; at this time there was a "fall" in the substance and texture of blood. The Blood Rite commemorated the change from the androgynous state of man's being into the dual sex state of the present time. This Rite was a part of the ceremonial of the earliest Mystery Temple teachings.

After puberty the thyroid gland becomes the body's blood arbiter. This minute gland, situated in the throat, regulates the blood rhythms of the body. Esoterically, this small organ is the link between the lower and higher self (personality and Spirit). The causes underlying many baffling maladies will some day find their true diagnosis in this fact. William Harvey, who in 1628 first discovered and publicized the truth about blood circulation, gave as a general diagnosis of all disease: "Health means a free circulation. Disease means an impeded circulation." The illumined healer of the future will study circulatory rhythms of the blood relative to the soul growth and the moral and spiritual development of the patient. Initial soul rhythms which govern blood circulation have their origin in the heart, and this organ will ultimately become the chief light of the body, both physically and spiritually.

The straggler Angel, Lucifer, really signifies temptation by means of heat in the blood. The liver is the seat of the desire body. *Lived* spelled backwards is devil. For this reason Lucifer is often depicted in the red robe, horns, and tail of the traditional devil.

The Grecian legend of Prometheus bound to the rock with vultures gnawing at his liver is another illustration of the power of the desire nature (centered in the liver) to cause suffering.

So long as the skeleton was on the outside of the body, consciousness was centered in the sympathetic nervous system; but when the skeleton became embedded in the body, consciousness turned outward and became centered

in the cerebro-spinal nervous system. Desire currents then swept outward from the liver, and red blood turned the will of the Ego inward upon itself, while his vision focused without.

The human Ego has now evolved to a much higher state and has learned to fashion its physical temple on a solid bony structure possessing semi-fluid red marrow. Red corpuscles, as previously noted, are supplied during prenatal life and in early childhood by the thymus gland and later they are manufactured in the red marrow of the bones. These minute red corpuscles of the human being are un-nucleated. Thus, they bear the signature of the Ego's attainment of individuality. They know no master save their own Ego. To be subjected to the power of an alien (as in hypnotism and obsession) is one of the most terrible of fates, and demands the heaviest of all punishments for the offending agent.

The physical work of these red corpuscles—which are circular in shape and so flexible that they fold together and pass through almost infinitesimal openings—is to carry oxygen from the lungs and to distribute it to all parts of the body. This they can do because iron attracts oxygen.

Lymph is blood plasma which passes through the walls of the capillaries. It bathes cells and carries away that which they do not need, then joins the great drainage system whereby blood is returned to the heart. Lymph has its own circulatory system which begins with minute capillaries into which it passes by filtration. These capillaries unite into larger vessels termed lymphatics and empty into veins that unite to form the *vena cava*.

There are seven hundred lymph-nodes situated in various parts of the body. These vary from the size of a pin-head to that of an olive seed. They may be termed the policemen of the body for they are on continuous guard duty to keep the human organism free from all forms of harmful bacteria.

The blood must infuse several billion body cells twice a minute throughout physical existence. The arteries which

carry blood from the heart contract and expand with its every beat. It is estimated that in fifty years the arteries have contracted and expanded three billion times.

The great aorta is an inch in diameter. This divides into innumerable branches, ultimating in capillaries so minute that thousands of them are required to contain the blood of the aorta.

In the spleen are manufactured the white corpuscles. From there they gain direct entry into the blood, the normal proportion between white and red corpuscles being one white to about six hundred red. These white corpuscles are created when the desire body has gained influence over certain organs belonging to the etheric double, of which the spleen is one. Hence, the more a person yields to violent emotions the more rapid is the increase of white corpuscles in his body. The physical danger is that an excess of white corpuscles may interfere with the oxygen and iron supply of the blood (haemoglobin) with anemia or leukemia as a result. Psychologically the danger is even greater. If an individual habitually gives way to anger or other forms of passion—in other words, if he loses control of himself—then these white corpuscles are liable to become nuclei in which outside elements can imbed themselves and open the way for spirit control and obsession. In the light of this knowledge Max Heindel spoke of the white blood corpuscles as “lost opportunities.”

The work of white blood corpuscles, science notes, is perhaps the most complicated process taking place within the human organism. A white corpuscle swallows a bacterium whole and then breaks it into bits in a way which parallels the digestive process in miniature. It then selects such elements as it requires (similar to absorption) and moves away or rejects those it does not require (analogous to excretion).

In recent experiments, a Philadelphia physician, Dr. Edmond J. Farris, has discovered that a change does take place in the blood stream during times of stress, fear, and excitement. In experimentation with sudden and unusual

noises the lymphocyte count (one of the white corpuscles) rose sharply. "Blood curdling," he declares, "is not fantasy, but fact."

In the coagulation of blood taken from a human body the highly individualized work of the Ego may be observed. In its coagulated state, the blood of every individual is seen to be different from that of every other person. Upon its minute particles are inscribed the "soul signature" of the Ego to whom it belongs. It has been said that every drop of blood contains a picture of all the past, and that in it the future is being prepared.

Science has made tremendous discoveries about "blood interpreting" in the past few decades. It is now possible to detect disease, racial characteristics, paternity and many other things. Later, blood analysis will be extended to include pictures of past lives and an outline of future events.

The blood registers every thought and emotion, for during every moment of waking, thinking or feeling, life is transmitted from the surrounding ethers to the lungs by breath, and there makes its impress upon the blood. It is an occult maxim that he who controls the blood controls the man. Herein is the basis of Mephistopheles' power over Faust. As the latter signed his name in his blood, he also signed away his prerogative of free-will, man's highest God-given right. The modern analogue of Goethe's famous drama is *The Devil and Daniel Webster*, given a screen production under the title *All That Money Can Buy*.

The blood is at present the most highly individualized factor in the human body. Man was assisted by hosts of celestial Beings in the building of every bodily organ; the blood alone is the product of his own individual labor. As already observed, when a child has dissolved nucleated blood furnished by his parent and has begun to manufacture his own blood, he begins to realize his individual and independent existence. He becomes "I," and the sacred mysteries of his own innermost being reveal themselves to him alone. The blood is the most complete ex-

pression of this "I." Its development, further individualization, purification, and eventual transmutation are *entirely dependent upon the will of the Ego*. In this fact is found the reason for the extreme caution necessary in the performance of blood transfusions.

BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

Medical Science has developed an elaborate system of blood typing to facilitate blood transfusion from one individual to another.

A transfusion usually produces a clotting of the red corpuscles, termed *agglutination*, due to the fact that the fluid part (serum) of one blood type contains a substance which reacts to something in the corpuscles of the other blood. There are two agglutinable substances designated as A and B, and four general blood types. Of these,

Group 1 contains neither A nor B; Group 2 contains A; Group 3 contains B; Group 4 contains A and B.

The serum agglutinates whichever of the substances the cells do not contain. Such agglutination will occur within twenty minutes or not at all. The blood of persons belonging to the same group are compatible. Extreme care must be taken that the blood of donor and recipient are not antagonistic.

The four blood groups are found to occur in different proportions in different races, corresponding to the four alchemical principles of Fire, Earth, Air, and Water, which mark the progression of every race and individual. All diseases and healers come under these same groupings and will eventually be so tabulated and classified.

Specialized blood pathology enumerates four principal groups which may be tabulated in this fourfold relationship:

1. Characteristic feature is change in haemoglobin, number of erythrocytes, diminution (anemia) or increase (trythemia). Air.
2. Leukocytes, leukemia, and leukopenia. Water.

3. Clotting mechanism (hemorrhages). Earth.
4. Parasites (malaria). Fire.

Blood transfusion always produces a karmic tie between donor and recipient. The "blood banks" established to meet present emergencies upon far-flung battlefields will have a powerful effect in dissolving barriers between races and nations and will tend toward the binding of all peoples into one vast fellowship under Christ Jesus.

After receiving several transfusions from the same individual many persons have evidenced characteristics similar to those of the donor. Certain donors, on the other hand, have had interesting contacts with individuals to whom they have given blood, at the time when the latter passed from the physical world.

All beings lower in the evolutionary scale than anthropoid apes will die if human blood is injected into their veins; they cannot endure its higher potencies. All animal blood is nucleated and, as before stated, these nuclei form the basis of control by the animal Group Spirit.

As humanity progresses in individualization the time will come when blood transfusion will no longer be possible. Initiates who earn their powers through lives of pure and self-sacrificial living will be the first to pass beyond the possibility of blood transfusion.

In the very nature of its work, the blood is an expression of the universality of spirit. It knows no limitation or divisional operations but gives itself freely and equally to all parts of the body. If it restricted itself, or withheld its flow from certain organs and gave preference to others, the entire body would soon manifest chaos and dissolution. Equality and Oneness are its operational keynotes.

THE BLOOD — FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

THE BLOOD IN REGENERATION

Generation is always associated with the shedding of blood; regeneration with the transmutation of blood. All

the world is enmeshed in the former but few as yet have any concept of the latter, although it is the central mystery of the secret teaching given by the Master to His Disciples at the Last Supper. He said, "This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."

The blood is essentially a fire element and, as we have seen, it comes under the influence of Mars and the Sun—Mars representing the lower desire nature, and the Sun, the Spirit. The more spiritual a person becomes, the more etherealized is the blood. Material or negative thinking, heavy foods, alcohol, and indulgence of the sense life lower the vibratory rate of the body and liquefy the blood.

Medical science is just entering upon important discoveries in connection with blood crystals. The higher the individualization of a person, the more distinct are the patterns of his blood crystals. The time will come when not only secrets of heredity or concealed tendencies will be discoverable in the blood, but also lines of progression extending from past lives. Medical science will yet come to understand the occult verity that the blood is the seat or home of the Ego. Paracelsus declares that "The mere looking at externals is a matter for clowns, but the intuition of internals is a secret which belongs to physicians."

The red of Mars is slow to be changed into the golden transparency of the Sun. To lift and transmute the power of Mars is the work of our present evolution. Difficult indeed is the path and arduous the labor. "The path is so narrow," writes Esdras, "that leads unto this blessed place (of transmutation) that but one man can walk on the same; on one side is Fire and on the other is Water."

Only by high thinking and pure living may an aspirant to the holy Mysteries come to understand the process of changing blood *heat* into blood *light*. This the Christ taught Peter, James, and John on the Day of Transfiguration. It was also part of the initiatory process by which Elijah was translated into heaven in a chariot of fire and light.

Blood may be divided into three parts: serum, which comes under the astrological signature of Cancer; red matter, Scorpio; and fibrin, Pisces. This makes clear the meaning of Boehme's statement that "there would be no blood if the Tincture of Fire and Light were not in Water" for it is the fiery Hierarchs of Mars and the Sun, operating in the field of the Water Hierarchs of Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces which create the mysterious substance we know as blood.

Blood is the most powerful agent involved in the intricate process of bodily regeneration. Here, as in all other departments of spiritual work, regeneration is concerned with the proper blending of Fire and Water. Oxygen, a solar element, is a constructive fire force. Alcohol is also a fire product, but belongs to the destructive fire forces. The effects of alcohol on the blood are serious and far-reaching, for it not only precipitates impurities and weaknesses here and now, but its malefic influence extends into future embodiments. The "taint of alcohol" sets a mark upon egoic powers that will require long ages for its full eradication. The wave of alcoholism sweeping the world today tends to generate a materialism so dense that the words of John will be fulfilled: "And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehendeth it not."

Oxygen, the constructive fire element, is of first importance in sustaining life. Man could not live many minutes without it. As oxygen is the prime element in our present Earth Period, so blood is the special vantage ground of the Spirit at this stage. When the blood has been transmuted into golden light essence, oxygen will be superseded by another and more rarefied Sun element. Blood that is saturated with alcohol is not susceptible to this spiritual alchemy, nor will the unregenerated be able to breathe in the new element. As a consequence, destruction will again overtake many Earth dwellers even as it did in the days of Noah—though not through a deluge, but from the new element that is even now descending upon Earth and infiltering the air with its fiery substance.

The most profound and important event in the entire world's history was the flowing of blood on Calvary. In preparation for this supreme event the Master taught the Twelve that "This cup is the new testament in my blood." Man can comprehend this "new testament" only when he enters upon regenerated life.

The beginnings of this sublime transmutation were effected by the Master when He shone as the Sun on the Mount of Transfiguration. The processes involved in this transmutation were taught by Him to His most advanced Disciples, Peter, James, and John, during the agony in the Garden. The drops of sweat and the flowing of blood refer to the before-mentioned blending of the inner essences of Fire and Water, a process consummated on Golgotha. With the flowing of blood on Calvary a tremendous spiritual power passed into the center of the Earth. This power has been operating ever since to further forces working for the establishment of a new and regenerated order.

Flowing of blood tends to cleanse an Ego from the taint of egotism which has been engendered throughout long ages of material existence in which man has come to feel himself as separate from the rest of the universe. Christ came that egotism might be changed into altruism and the sense of separateness be replaced by a spirit of universality. Such are the effects flowing from the sacrificial blood shed on Calvary. The ultimate fruitage of that sacrifice will be the fulfillment of the prophetic vision that beheld the time when men would "beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruninghooks."

It is in commemoration of this little understood mission of Christ that the early Church established the Feast of the Precious Blood, a mystery which was known for millennia before Christ but which had to await His coming for its fulfillment. It is significant that this feast occurs in July when the Sun is in Cancer, the home of the Cherubim, guardians of the sacred life essence. The Archangels, of

whom Christ is chief, occupy the opposite sign of Capricorn. Assisted by Angels, they guide man in the use of this holy life force. It will be remembered that it was the Cherubim who expelled man from the edenic state because of his misuse of the divine creative substance.

"Many talk of the Lion, few know it." The waters of Eternal Life flow from the wounds of the Lion of Judah. Blending of the *White* and the *Red* was demonstrated on Calvary and in the Garden of Gethsemane where Christ first shed His sacred blood in His divine agony. The soul of the world is *red* through generation. It must be made *white* through regeneration. The Christ came to earth to inaugurate this glorious work. The elect, those who make themselves worthy, follow in His steps. Few realize the magic power stored in blood that is pure, and what marvels can be accomplished thereby. In only one way can the purity leading to that power be attained and that is by "living the life."

Paracelsus gave the following instructions to his disciples: "Take blood shut up in the pelican (self-sacrifice) until the third part of the pelican is filled (three preliminary steps). Then shut in the retort and seal hermetically (inner work connected with the magic of transmutation). In this way you will arrive at the magistracy (mystery) of blood as we have taught in the book *Concerning Preparation*."

The rites of both white and black magic are founded upon the alchemical changes which take place in the blood. The White Brother builds up power by transmuting his own blood; the Black Brother, by the use of another's. It is in the practice of black magic that we discover the origin of the sacrifice of virgins before temple altars and the massacre of the innocents in revenge of the Holy Birth in the time of Herod. It was to gain possession of the highly magnetized blood of the pure and holy John the Baptist that Herodias caused him to be beheaded. She was a skilled Black Magician belonging to one of Egypt's powerful cults of evil, and wished to use the powers concentrated in

the blood (or life) of this holy man in order to prolong her youth and beauty.

THE HEART IN RELATION TO THE BLOOD

Man is a universe in miniature; the heart is his sun and the seven principal organs are his planetary chain. Ethereal life from the Sun circulates through this planetary system as blood from his heart circulates through his body. The solar circulation requires eleven years, the interval which shows an increase in Sun spots. Sun spots indicate the presence in the Sun of certain so-called "stragglers" of the Second Creative Day (the Sun Period). However, they are glorious archangelic Spirits, holy and radiantly beautiful, and seem dark only by contrast with their more advanced brethren, even as the Sun spots themselves are more brilliant than anything we can conceive of on Earth and appear dark only by contrast with the rest of the solar orb. Similarly, in an individual aura, the karma of each Ego leaves its impress upon the etheric heart. This constitutes the "sun spot" of the aura, and may be seen by one possessing extended vision.

Paracelsus writes that "There are many wonderful virtues in the blood exceeding all belief. Blood exists out of the best root and most potent fountain of the heart. In this can exist no defect, for it has conditions according to the nature of the heart, and is the costly treasure of the whole nature with all that is therein."

The heart is one of the most perfect of all bodily organs and the one most intimately sensitive to spiritual thought. It is destined for a marvelous evolution in the next two or three millennia.

It has been said that objective consciousness is the result of a conflict between the desire nature and the life impulses of the etheric double, each striving for supremacy. In the plant kingdom the etheric vehicle, with its vital forces, is predominant, so the plant has no individual consciousness such as man has. It is the battle of desire which

awakens consciousness of the outer world. This desire was originally stimulated by dynamic angelic forces outside the human sphere of evolution, and their energetic impulses led to the loss of Eden.

It has been observed by esoteric investigators that, physiologically, this conflict between *desire* and *life* for dominion over the physical body is evidenced by the fact that the desire body has invaded the spleen, gateway to the etheric body, and that the life or etheric principle has set up its stronghold in the heart, the organ most intimately connected with the blood, wherein the Ego dwells. Thus, the life principle is enthroned in the heart and blood stream, and operates to eject selfish desires which taint the blood with egotism.

Originally the heart was entirely controlled by the desire body, for it is an involuntary organ; but with the building of the voluntary nervous system, the heart is gradually being transformed into a voluntary muscle. This the Initiate has already accomplished, which accounts in part for his immunity to disease and his power to indefinitely prolong physical life. This will eventually become the heritage of all mankind, for when the heart has been brought under the complete control of the Spirit, the blood, which contains the essence of life, can be withheld from brain areas involved in destructive activities and sent into areas now generally dormant, but which, when thus vivified, confer immortality and the esoteric powers following thereupon.

The work of Initiation must always be accompanied by purification of the blood, for if the blood remains impure spiritual consciousness is distorted and the vibratory rhythms of the entire chain of vehicles is lowered, thus opening the way for the ingress of undesirable entities of the lower Desire World.

Rudolph Steiner, the eminent occultist, writing of the circulatory systems and in particular of the blood, states that their "rhythms depend upon the mysterious connection between breathing and movements of the heart."

In the Hippocratic Collection of 340 B. C., *The Treatise on the Heart* contains the following item of special interest to the esotericist: "The heart is the home of the blood and in the left ventricle some subtle change of blood into spirit takes place." The occultist understands that the left ventricle of the heart contains the individual record of life, presided over by each person's guardian angel. This record becomes the arbiter of his after-life experience.

H. P. Blavatsky, writing of the wonders of the heart, says that "The heart is the King of the Body and its most important organ. Even if the head be severed from the trunk, the heart will continue to beat for half an hour. If wrapped in cotton wool and put in a warm place, the pulsations will continue for some hours."

In the heart is a spot that is the last to die—a spot, marked by a tiny violet light, which is the seat of life. This is also the first point of life in a foetus.

The following definition of occult anatomy by Paracelsus embraces the deeper meanings of the subject and indicates that these are possible of apprehension by a mind illumined by the Spirit: "The man is then dismembered and analyzed and thereby we see what is bone and what is flesh, arteries, etc: also, where these be situated in the body. Yet this is the last thing and the other is more, being that which shall cause new life in man (alluding to the first means of life) through transmutation wherein may be learned what is blood; of Salt, Sulphur, and Mercury is it composed.

"Also what is the heart; of which kind of Mercury and of what kind of Salt and whatsoever there be in the entire body; and this is the true anatomy. Thus is the foundation of the Beginning and therefore must the physician be born.

"But this kind of birth be hard to comprehend, also 'tis a difficult matter whereof to hold speech with them that will not quiet their fancies, and who would trust to their heads rather than walk in the way of wisdom."

Again, Paracelsus writes: "All things are contained in all things . . . The spleen follows the course of Saturn. The gall is in nature like Mars. By reason of senses do the kidneys unfold. Venus brings forth the fruits of the body. As Mercury, so do the lungs work. Jupiter runneth his spirit in the blood particularly in sleep to moderate all violence. As to the other stars ye should remember that they are also in the body."

Modern esotericists declare that the blood is formed in the marrow of the bones under Saturn. Jupiter rules the red arterial blood that carries nourishment to all parts of the body. Venus rules the venous blood which brings the impure blood back to the heart to be cleansed. The Sun rules the heart, the central seat of the blood. Mars rules the iron in the red blood and attracts oxygen, the solar element. Mercury rules the lungs which are the focal point of blood oxygenation. The serum (watery substance) is ruled by the Moon and Cancer. The fibrin (stringy substance) is ruled by Jupiter and Pisces. The iron, or red coloring matter, is ruled by Mars and Scorpio. Or once more to quote Paracelsus, "There is a star behind every process going on in man. All the forces of heaven have their corresponding activity in those parts of the body that are expressive of their powers."

The Role of the Ductless Glands in Spiritual Attainment

PHYSIOLOGY AND THE DUCTLESS GLANDS

There are two species of philosophy, one of heaven and one of earth. The philosopher is acquainted with things of the lower sphere, the astronomer with things above. In their medical aspect, philosophy is concerned with Earth and Water in man, and astronomy with Fire and Air.—Paracelsus.

In the above quotation, the element "Heaven" correlates with the mysterious "fifth essence" of the alchemist, an element whole in itself, containing the lower four elements in a spiritual unity. It is sometimes called AZOTH, a word symbolizing "alpha and omega," the first and the last.

In occult anatomy this spiritual essence is most active in the chain of etheric centers which material scientists deal with under the name of *endocrine glands*, glands of internal secretion. It is a curious and thought-provoking fact that esoteric teachers of the Orient taught for many centuries the existence of certain centers which they defined as foci of spiritual power. It is now discovered that these centers are situated almost exactly in various ductless glands. The word endocrine is derived from two Greek words, *endon* (within), and *krinein* (to separate).

The seven principal endocrine glands are the pineal and pituitary in the head; the parathyroids, thyroid, and thymus in the region of the throat and chest; the spleen and adrenals in the abdomen. We may also include among these glands the pancreas and the gonads which have an endocrine function in addition to the one ordinarily known.

The endocrine system is the anatomical sphinx.

During centuries of research by anatomists and physiologists the function and purpose of the endocrine glands remained undiscovered. Not until the present century were their functions studied and reported upon to any extent.

Theophile de Borden, a physician at the court of Louis XV, was among the first to state clearly the function of internal secretions. Eustachias, an Italian anatomist, reported the discovery of the adrenals in the year 1563. However, for long after this the study of the ductless glands consisted largely of picturesque speculations. In 1716 the Academy of Science in Bordeaux proposed as a subject for competitive essays "What Is the Use of the Suprarenal Glands?" In 1850 Curling, an Englishman, connected the thyroid with goiter. Continuing on the subject, we quote the following from an unidentified newspaper clipping.

Living in Paris in 1886 was a young physician, well prepared scientifically and alert both to aid his patients and to advance the healing science to which he had dedicated his life. His name was Pierre Marie. To him came in quick succession, two women suffering from a curious combination of symptoms. They had frequent severe headaches, the cause of which could not be discovered. In addition, both of the women complained that their features had so altered since the beginning of the headaches that even close relatives sometimes failed to recognize them. Their faces had grown broader and coarser, the bones of their legs seemed to be growing thicker, even the palms of their hands were becoming daily broader and the fingers thicker and more bony.

Perhaps if only one such curious case had reached Dr. Marie he would have thought little of it. Physicians, then as now, saw many patients whose condition proved peculiar and difficult to understand. But two such patients at the same time, both with the same

symptoms and with symptoms as curious as these were, was too great a challenge to Dr. Marie's curiosity to be ignored.

He studied his two cases very carefully. Each developed, as the illness progressed, what was clearly a tumor of the brain. Further investigation showed that the brain tumors were located precisely at that little, neglected appendage just underneath the brain which anatomists knew about but did not understand. Both of the unfortunate patients were suffering, Dr. Marie proved, from a disorder of the pituitary gland.

That was the first clue to the purpose of the pituitary and to its duties in the human body. Dr. Marie and other physiologists followed up the clue. We now know that it is that small pituitary gland, no larger than a cherry, which directs the growth of the human body, so that normal children grow normally and not into giants or dwarfs.

Indeed, the rare individuals who do develop into giants or dwarfs do so, it is now known, chiefly if not entirely as the result of some derangement of the pituitary gland. Not even the whole of the pituitary needs to be involved in the derangement. Small as the whole gland is it contains three separate parts, only the foremost one of which, as it lies in its small saddle in the base of the skull, is the one that makes the human body grow as it should or as it should not.

Among the more important recent studies on the subject is the treatise by the late Dr. Louis Berman of Columbia University, entitled *Glands Regulating Personality*.

"There are in the body," writes Dr. Berman, "certain glands which, though small in size, are important in function. They are now known to be connected with growth, metabolism and nutrition. They also maintain or upset mental balance by certain secretions which they pour into the blood. Their disordered condition can throw man into a permanent condition of fear, anger, despondency, until

he becomes a drug addict—drugged or hypnotized, as it were, by the action of these little glands.”

Such pronouncements as these are intensely interesting to the occultist. He knows they are based on truth as far as they go. There are no other organs in the human body that require for their understanding more knowledge of the inner vehicles of man and their action and reaction on the physical body.

The glands with which physiology has made us most familiar may be defined as organs which produce useful chemical secretions. The liver, for example, produces bile, the glands of the mouth secrete saliva, and so on. These glands have ducts through which their products are channeled into the parts of the body they specifically serve. Thus bile goes into the intestines, saliva into the mouth, the secretion of the sweat glands onto the skin.

Now such is not the construction and office of the glands with which we are here concerned. They are seated more deeply into the body and possess no ducts through which to pass their secretions into a specific organ or area of the body. They are *ductless*; they have no canals to the exterior; and their products enter directly into the bloodstream and the lymphatics. They serve the body as a whole. They are, in fact, a mediating set of glands between the more external and larger organs in the body and the set of psychical centers situated in the vital or etheric body.

These glands, as already noted, are also called the endocrine or hormone-producing glands. The word hormones comes from a Greek verb meaning “to arouse” or “to set in motion,” and is used by science to describe a substance which is formed in one organ of the body and then conveyed by the blood to another organ upon which it has a stimulating effect. The word endocrine refers to both substance and gland. Deprived of their own especial endocrine substance, neither the muscles nor the cells of the body could function.

The occult scientist has knowledge connected with the ductless glands which is not accepted by *materia medica*,

but which sheds much light on some of the problems that baffle the physical investigator. One important fact is that these small organs do not belong to the physical body, but to its vital or etheric counterpart. The ductless glands and the blood are the highest expressions of this more subtle etheric body. Since all occult development is intimately connected with the etheric double, we can realize how important it is to have an understanding of the nature and function of these glands in relation to the processes of regeneration.

These endocrine glands had their beginning in the Second Great Creative Day (Sun Period). Their ultimate development belongs to the Christian or Sun Initiation, a stage of development attained only after entering into the Greater Mysteries, which embody the highest teachings of this present Earth Period (Fourth Creative Day). It is significant that knowledge of these glands remained hidden until now, when the Ancient Wisdom and esoteric Christianity is again coming to light. Our understanding of the spiritual and physical significance of their functions is developing parallel with this restored spiritual science and initiatory teaching. The endocrines are especially sensitive to psycho-mental influences, and they will reveal more and more of the curious and remarkable powers which are the concomitant of Initiation. These additional powers are treated at length in Chapter VI of this anatomy series: *The Two Nervous Systems and Their Relationship to Spiritual Development*.

THE PINEAL GLAND

The pineal gland is a tiny organ resembling a pine cone, as its name indicates, which is concealed in a “cave” a little above and behind the pituitary gland at the base of the brain and behind the eyes. It contains nerve cells similar to those in the retina of the eye. Spiritually considered, it is the most important and mysterious gland in the entire endocrine system. It makes its appearance dur-

ing the first month of foetal life. Its size and shape are regulated largely by the mental and spiritual development of the individual. In a remote past the pineal gland was the organ whereby pre-human man contacted the physical world. Physical science corroborates this statement of the occultist when it declares that "All vertebrates possess this relic of the third eye, which was an early organ for the purpose of sensing light and shadows." In the near future this same organ will be our connecting link with inner realms. We may properly refer to it as an organ of inner-world contact. It secretes an etheric light substance in a manner resembling the pine cone's exudation of resin. From this we can understand why Egyptian Temple neophytes wore pine cones bound around their heads to signify their degree of spiritual proficiency.

The pineal gland is the masculine organ of regeneration. In biblical symbology it is Joseph, Father of the Christed man. It is the receptacle for the seed atoms of the desire and mental bodies before these bodies are formed. The organs of generation and regeneration correspond closely in their physical features. The pineal gland is similar to the male generative organ, and is situated between four protuberances called the *corpora quadi-gemina*. Of these four, the two lower are called the buttocks and the two upper the testes. From the protuberance or pointer in the pineal gland invisible electric sparks flow downward, magnetically attracted by the powers resident in the feminine polarized pituitary body. These contacts are of a spiritually regenerative nature. They form the higher counterpart of the physical generative function. It is indeed a wondrously constructed parallelism between the center of generation at the base of the spine and the center of regeneration at its apex in the head. At the one level man experiences physical marriage, at the other, the consummation of the transmutative life which results in the spiritual union of the polar opposites within the individual and which is esoterically termed the Mystic Marriage.

THE PITUITARY GLAND

The pituitary gland is located in the skull just behind the root of the nose and is enclosed in the *cella turcia* (Turkish saddle), a depression in the sphenoid bone. It is a small double-structured gland, the two parts of which are called the pre-pituitary or anterior lobe and the post-pituitary or posterior lobe.

Subnormal secretion of the pituitary gland results in low blood pressure and general body sluggishness. Children thus afflicted are mentally retarded, apathetic, easily discouraged and lose self-control quickly.

The general effect of supernormal secretion is high blood pressure with excessive nervous and mental activity; also it leads to aggressiveness tending toward domination and imperiousness.

The anterior lobe controls growth of the skeleton. When this lobe dominates, the individual is generally tall, with large hands and feet and a prominent nose. Giants represent over-activity of the anterior lobe; dwarfs, under-activity of this lobe. Its removal causes death. The extract from the posterior lobe is pituitrin, familiar even to laymen by reason of its use in obstetrics. Both the posterior and anterior lobes play an important role in sexual growth and activity, and the secretions of this double gland produce a distinctly feminine or a distinctly masculine type of body, depending on which of its secretions predominate.

The pineal gland, which as previously noted, is masculine in its regenerative nature, is located in the posterior end of the third ventricle; its feminine polarized opposite, the pituitary gland, is situated at its anterior end. The anterior lobe of the latter originates in the embryo as an outgrowth from the mouth cavity which in the fourth week meets the posterior down-growth from the brain. These two parts then develop together into the adult pituitary gland, but the history of their separate origins remains visible in the gland-cleft which persists in adults. The posterior lobe, it may be added, which had its origin in the

brain's down-growth, technically called the *infundibulum*, represents an outgrowth from the sympathetic nervous system and is composed of nerve tissue.

Material science has discovered that the pituitary gland influences activity of the ovaries, the female generative organs, and that it is also concerned with the mysterious processes of puberty. It has been discovered that this gland, like the pineal, appears in the first month of embryonic development and connects through openings with both the mouth and the spinal cavity. At this stage the Ego stores up in the pituitary gland spiritual forces that will later be drawn upon in the further building of its body after birth.

In biblical symbology the pituitary gland is represented variously as, for instance, by Noah's Ark, by the Cherubin hovering above the left side of the Holy of Holies, by the new moon worshipped by the twelve tribes, by the laver of purification in the Temple, and by the blessed Virgin Mary.

THE THYROID GLAND

The thyroid gland is located in the throat and consists of two lobes, one on each side of the trachea, or windpipe. Two of its most basic functions are to aid in the maintenance of mental balance and to assist in the formation of habits. Its removal always causes death, since it is the link connecting spirit and personality, a veritable bridge between the objective and subjective planes. Its reactions are dual, being both physical and spiritual. Its secretions, when sufficient, produce nervous energy and clear, quick perception; when insufficient, dullness, laziness and lack of self-control. Hyper-thyroid individuals are emotional, irritable, easily upset. They are extremely vivacious, continuous conversationalists; invariably nervous, restless, erratic and unstable, craving excitement and activity, and subject to violent emotional outbursts. When the thyroid becomes tumourously enlarged, the effect is goiter.

The thyroid gland is one of the most important in the glandular chain as it is closely interrelated with all the others; it also helps to control growth of the physical body and is the link between the brain and the organs of generation. Situated as it is, the thyroid has an important function in the development of the larynx as man progresses from his present terrestrial to his future celestial state. The spiritual essence of the thyroid aids in this development.

The processes involved in refining the body are materially helped or hindered by breathing, which blends the powers of the air and the blood. "In breath," declares the late eminent occult scientist, Rudolf Steiner, "man shows whether he is united with the lower demoniac or the higher Christ principle." The gill-like appendage of early humanity has become the intricate "voice-box" of the present, and it will become a spiritualized new organ or "holy cup" in the future. The thyroid will increase in spiritual power tremendously.

Roy Graham Hoskins, author of *The Tides of Life; the Endocrine Glands and Bodily Adjustment*, says, "The thyroid is a regulator of energy in adapting one to his environment." Anton J. Carlson, in *The Machinery of the Body*, adds that the thyroid "is a specific necessity for the development of the reproductive mechanism in males and for the lunar cycles in females." Dr. Carlson refers here only to the physical aspect of the Moon cycle. The occult scientist knows that the spiritual effect of the thyroid may be equally powerful, particularly from the time of New to Full Moon.

In advanced individuals the thyroid's spiritual secretion aids in developing the larynx as a center of power wherefrom the spoken word becomes a healing and a blessing. It is the flower that blooms in the throat. The word thyroid is formed of two Greek words: *thyra*, meaning a door, and *oidos*, signifying a likeness.

Involution is the process by which the Spirit first descends to dwell in physical form. In so doing it impregnates the physical with the spiritual, thus giving to the

personality the likeness of the higher nature. The words of the Christ sound through the ages: "The shepherd (the Ego) that enters by the door (the celestial archetype) is the shepherd of the sheep (the body atoms)."

THE PARATHYROIDS

There are four small glands closely associated with the thyroid. These minute bodies are approximately the size of wheat grains and are situated in the epithelium of the anembryonic bronchial cleft. They are paired, two on each side of the thyroid.

The parathyroids have close relationship to the nerves. A deficiency in their secretion causes paralysis and affects the muscular control of the face. Their removal causes death, usually in from twelve to forty-eight hours.

In the processes of regeneration as related to the reconstruction and perfecting of the two nervous systems of the body, these four minute glands will play an important role in establishing complete polarity. It is under conditions of perfect polarity that the Initiate body is built. Such a body is so charged with the emanations of spirit that it possesses a lightness and buoyancy which make it almost superphysical; at the same time it possesses an inner strength and resilience which lift it beyond the devastating ravages of disease and dissolution. When the full power of these small glands is released the body will become in very truth the temple not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens.

THE THYMUS

The thymus, a pinkish gland, is located in the upper part of the chest. It lies between the two pleural sacs, in front of and above the heart, and back of the sternum. The thymus is not an enduring organ. It attains its greatest size and activity during prenatal development and begins to atrophy about the second year after birth, disap-

pearing entirely at puberty. A substance composed largely of the mother's blood is stored in this gland during the prenatal life of the child and becomes a source of nourishment to the embryo. The vital ethers in the mother's milk sustain this gland, but when the child is weaned the gland begins to dissolve into lymphatic and fatty tissue. The mother who nurses her child has a closer tie with it and, therefore, a greater influence over it than one who does not, because the vital ethers from her milk are circulated in the bloodstream of the child.

A child cannot form its own red blood corpuscles in the marrow bones until its desire body is born at puberty, so until that time it is dependent upon the substance furnished by its parent and stored in the thymus gland during intrauterine life for the manufacture of its red blood. The thymus is, therefore, the gland of childhood. With rare exceptions, by the age of twenty-one only vestiges of its characteristic tissue remain to indicate the place where it once was.

The thymus not only regulates the child's bodily growth but has some influence on its mental development as well—as shown by an investigation of four hundred idiot children which revealed that seventy-five per cent had no thymus, although the thyroid was present in a normal condition.

The thymus gland secretes a substance necessary for the hardening of eggshell. When it is removed in pigeons their eggs are laid without shells; but when they are fed thymus extract the eggs become normal again. If a hen's eggs are too soft-shelled, these also become normal if thymus extract is added to a fowl's diet.

A phase of thymus activity was finished when man and mammal began to incubate eggs within their own bodies.

THE SPLEEN

"The spleen is the foetus incubator for the red blood cells and after birth becomes the incinerator for the red

blood cells," writes Professor Dorsep, former Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago.

The spleen is the largest ductless gland in the body. It lies between the stomach and diaphragm. Its duties are numerous and important, including the manufacture of red and white blood corpuscles, the storing of iron in the blood, and as an aid to digestion. It has a potent effect upon the nervous system, both directly and indirectly because this gland is, perhaps, the principal link between the physical body and the etheric double. The spleen controls certain nerve essences (vital sugar fluid). This gland's etheric counterpart is the gateway for solar ethers which energize the nervous system, and without which the nerves could not function. The solar forces pass directly through the spleen to the solar plexus and are thence distributed throughout the body, being visible to clairvoyant vision as lines of force which carry impurities out of the body. The spleen is the great Sun station of the body. It differs from certain other important glands in that its removal is not of serious consequence, the etheric organ continuing to function as usual due to its powerful organization.

THE ADRENALS

The adrenals, or suprarenals, receive their name from their position just above the kidneys. They are the size and shape of a large bean. The removal of one produces no noticeable result, but the removal of both is always fatal within a few hours. In the human embryo each adrenal begins as two organs which later unite into one with two parts, an outside cortex or bark and a medulla or core. The cortex arises from the middle germ layer and is derived from the Wolffian body. The medulla is part of the outer germ layer and is derived from the same tissue as the autonomic nervous system. Their importance is second only to the brain and no other organs in the body are so well supplied with blood. The cortex is masculine; the medulla, feminine.

The secretions of the cortex aid in the development of

masculine characteristics such as courage and aggressiveness; the medulla favors the feminine traits of gentleness, affection, and the power of healing. The latter's influence throws "oil on troubled waters" by allaying anger and soothing frayed nerves. The ancients associated these minute glands with the kidneys, organs which they held in high reverence. When animals were offered in sacrifice, the kidneys were removed with appropriate ceremony and within the sacred precincts of the Temple.

The adrenal cortex correlates with the masculine or voluntary nervous system, and bears a close relationship to the cerebrum or masculine brain.

Adrenalin, the hormone of the medulla, was the first endocrine secretion to be isolated. Its principal constituent is the same as a gland secretion found in the skin of a toad. An early Chinese toad-skin preparation was a well-known remedy for dropsy and heart trouble. This hormone is a powerful heart stimulant and was so used in Europe until 1775, when it was supplanted by digitalis.

Adrenalin exerts influence upon all smooth muscles energized by fibers of the autonomic nervous system. This places a large responsibility upon it, and great is its influence on human destiny. Physical science has now raised the question as to whether the adrenal glands are a "brain" which takes charge when man is confronted with an emergency that threatens his well-being.

Adrenalin "sets one up"—speeds the heartbeat; draws blood from the spleen, kidneys, and intestines, thus reducing their size; sends blood to brain and lungs; orders the liver to give the blood more sugar (energy); makes blood coagulate more rapidly, thus lessening the danger of excessive bleeding from injuries. It wins battles and makes heroes. Its lack, contrariwise, produces fear and a tendency toward cowardliness.

Generally speaking, therefore, we may say that the adrenals are energy glands. When functioning normally they produce both physical and mental strength and alertness. These glands are a curious re-echoing of the mascu-

line-feminine capacities of the Spirit. In certain disturbances of the adrenals a person of one sex will manifest the habits and characteristics of the other. These marked changes can usually be traced to a prenatal state in which the original rhythm of the archetype was changed. If this disturbance occurs after puberty it will reverse sex characteristics. Such are negative or inharmonious reactions.

As the race evolves it will develop equally within each individual the dual masculine and feminine qualities. The adrenals will then function in a positive and constructive manner only, becoming active agents in establishing perfect equalization or polarity.

THE GONADS

The gonads are the sex glands of men and women. Their influence upon the physical, desire, and mental bodies has been studied and tabulated throughout the ages. Yet physiologists know comparatively little concerning their functions. These glands are located in the sacral (sacred) region of the body near the base of the spinal column. They contain an oily secretion from the blood and are the seat of the generative processes in the body. It has been discovered that they are the center of the disease called prostatitis. In degeneration, the gonad's solution becomes diseased and malodorous; in normal generative life it is a clear fluid, more or less volatile; in regenerative processes, as the blood becomes purified and more gaseous, the "oil" becomes "mercurial"—alchemically fixed, as the Ancient Wisdom describes it—and capable of infinite transformations and multiplications. Under its benign influence the body may become the white manna from heaven.

Gonad is a Greek word for *seed*, a term used for both testes and ovaries. The gonads are not necessary to life, but they are necessary for the continuation of the race or species. They secrete a hormone which supplies the impulse back of sexual behaviour.

Adult female gonads contain ova in various stages of development. The ova or germ cells develop in the Graafian follicles. When ripe an ovum bursts through the wall of the ovary and escapes. The ruptured follicle reassembles and enlarges for seven days, filling the rent in the ovarian wall; then it breaks up and is absorbed before the next ovum matures. If the ovum is fertilized, the follicle continues to develop for three months and persists until the end of pregnancy. The ruptured and changing follicle is called *corpus luteum* (yellow body) on account of its color after the escape of the ovum. The hormone of the ovary has been called an "extract of the contents of the Graafian follicle."

Removal or atrophy of female gonads arrests the expression of secondary sexual characteristics.

Male gonads contain spermatozoa. These develop into germ cells and fertilize the ovum. Absence or atrophy of male gonads produces certain changes in the larynx and skeleton, and checks the development of the reproductive mechanism. It also results in an enlargement of the adrenal cortex and the pituitary gland, diminishes thyroid growth and checks thymus development. Removal of the gonads in either sex produces certain endocrine gland changes.

The practice of transplanting monkey glands to a human body is a travesty on the highest and noblest impulses of nature, and nature sees to it that her laws remain inviolate. Science recognizes that germ cells do not survive transplanting. It is known that the gonad lives only a short time afterwards. Most of the cells die in a few hours. Those surviving can at best produce only temporary restoration. True rejuvenation must be a spiritual process, lifted high above mere bodily functions. Dr. Carlson, previously quoted, says rejuvenation by gland grafts is a biological fantasy and a catering to sexual degeneracy; he adds that if "the transplant be from goat or monkey, the surgeon is the monkey and the patient is the goat."

The gonads normally function as endocrine glands; consequently, the two sexes differ in structure and be-

havior. Specialization in bodies is older than civilization. Sir Arthur Keith, the English scientist, says, "No legislation can blot out structural differences which have taken geological epochs to produce." However, substitution of gonads does effect such changes. An instance is on record of two female birds that displayed all the natural instincts of the female, laid eggs and mothered young. The female organs were destroyed by tuberculosis and were then replaced with male organs, which was followed by male behaviour. Sex characteristics depend on sexual hormones and sex-transformation in adults is possible.

In the light of the foregoing the following statement is interesting physiologically and psychologically: "Between the two beings so complex and so diverse as man and woman, the whole of life (he might well have added the entire cycle of earth lives—Ed.) is not too long for them to know one another well and to learn to love one another worthily."

The endocrines are so new to science that but little has been verified relative to their mutual interdependency. Dr. Carlson has verified this much: "Gonads cannot function if thyroid, and possibly pituitary and adrenal cortex, are sub-normal. Removal of thyroid and probably gonads stimulate the pituitary; thyroid extract appears to stimulate adrenals and pituitary; also heart, liver, and kidneys; removal of the thyroid stimulates the parathyroids and removal of the gonads retards the atrophy of the thymus and tends to produce changes in the pituitary and adrenal cortex."

It is said further that the removal of the thyroid is followed by cretinism in children, a congenital condition characterized by stunted physical development and sometimes deformity. In adults the removal of the gland causes myxedema, a roughness or scalliness of the skin. Removal of the parathyroids results in death, as does also the removal of the pancreas and the adrenals. Loss of the pituitary gland brings on infantilism in children and impotence in adults. Removal of the thymus is followed by

sexual precocity; of gonads, by sex infantilism in children, and atrophy of the secondary sexual characteristics in adults. About the removal of the pineal gland nothing yet is known, but esoterically it would tend to render more difficult the acquisition of higher mental faculties and positive clairvoyance. The negative clairvoyant would not be affected to any great degree.

Most of each endocrine may be removed from animals without apparent loss in function of its internal secretion. The scientific inference is that no endocrine normally works to its full capacity in an animal body. This is because their bodies are not yet closely enough attuned to spiritual rhythms of the inner worlds.

The anatomy of the endocrines is almost an untouched field, although they are known to shape the body features, hair, stature; to determine racial characteristics, personality, intellectual, and moral leanings. We must look to the endocrines for an answer to puzzling problems in connection with all these.

Arrested development of these glands, or their overstimulation, brings such abnormal conditions as overweight, underweight, cretinism, idiocy, mental disorders, sexual malformations, and general rundown conditions of the body. Consequently, the medical world turns more and more often to these sphinx-like centers of power for solutions to physical problems.

The following glands fall into three categories: The pineal and pituitary glands have to do with the Spirit; the thyroid serves as a link between the Spirit and personality; and the two adrenals, spleen, and thymus glands, relate most closely to the personality.

Intensive study of the glands and their far-reaching effects in human life tends to develop a more sympathetic and tolerant attitude toward the idiosyncracies of others, since these are often induced by conditions that are not easily remedied—sometimes having their roots in previous lives and, therefore, requiring changes that may extend considerably beyond the immediate present.

PSYCHOLOGY AND THE DUCTLESS GLANDS

A new concept that higher forms of life are being governed by a "glandocracy," with the glands of internal secretion as supreme rulers exerting absolute control over an individual's functions from conception to death, and also over the relations of men and women and other vertebrate animals to each other, is presented by Dr. Charles R. Stockard, Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College of Cornell University. We quote:

In this glandocracy, according to the new concept, chemical messengers, or hormones, are sent out by the various glands to distant parts of the body by means of the bloodstream to keep the body going as a functioning, integrated whole, biologically as well as psychologically.

These chemical glandocrats determine not only the purely physiological functions of the organism but also have the first and last word in the makeup of the personality, in the relationship between the sexes and between small and large groups of individuals.

"Recent experiments show," Dr. Stockard said, "that even such an emotion as mother love, with its supreme significance to the preservation of species, is dependent on the action of one of these 'glandocrats,' a chemical messenger known as prolactin, sent out by the pituitary gland located at the base of the skull.

"A virgin rat completely oblivious to the presence of young rats and with no reaction to mother them," Dr. Stockard pointed out, "will become entirely different in her instinctive reactions after a few injections of prolactin. After such injections she eagerly adopts and mothers as many young as may be placed with her."

Dr. Stockard did not indulge in speculation. Some of the scientists present, however, jocularly remarked that this "glandocrat," prolactin, originally discov-

ered by Dr. Oscar Riddle of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, may harbor the secret of international peace and amity between men and nations.

"If a way could only be found," a scientist was overheard to remark, "to persuade some of the apostles of hate now in high positions to submit to a few injections of prolactin we may bring about peace on earth and good-will toward men by Christmas. The millennium may yet be brought about by chemical means."

From his extensive experiments in studying different constitutional types, Professor Stockard presented a new concept of the relations of the glands of internal secretion, or endocrine glands, to the nervous system. "The experiments" he said, "show the glands' great general importance to society as influencing the instinctive behaviour of man."

"From a survey of their activities," he added, "it is realized that the endocrine glands occupy the position of high command in coordinating the functions and behaviours of all our bodily organs and tissues. They influence in a most profound way our instinctive nervous reactions. They bring about that harmonious balance which we think of as the joy and vigor of perfect health, and they are an important part of the material basis for human temperament and the temperamental foundations of personality.

"Very gradual shifts in influence among the members of this high command are responsible for the constitutional and personality changes during the different periods of our lives, and more pronounced disagreements and violent disruptions among the members of this glandular oligarchy, metabolism and nervous and mental functions."

"The nervous system and the endocrine system," Dr. Stockard explained, "are the two mechanisms that integrate the parts and functions of the bodies of man and higher animals into an harmonious whole. More-

over, the influences of the nervous and endocrine systems reach out beyond the single individual to integrate behaviours between the sexes and among the different life periods in perpetuating the vast social scale."

The effects of the ductless glands is new to material science, it is true, but their activities in the development of the race have long been known to occult science. During the course of vast evolutionary epochs the activity of specific sets of glands changed the entire anatomical and physiological structure of evolving life, together with its environmental habitudes.

Material science agrees now with occultism that children are born with certain glands active which determine their physical growth and their emotional reaction to life; also, that at certain definite ages specific glands are stimulated into renewed activity. It is always the dominant gland that controls the personality.

Louis Berman, the late eminent endocrinologist, in chapters dealing with *Glandular Dominance of Maturity*, lists five general types:

Pituitary: Sufficient: Large bony frame, clear thinkers, creators, ideal masculine type.

Pituitary: Insufficient: Small delicate skeleton, weak muscles, mentally sluggish, lacking in stamina.

Thyroid: Sufficient: Excess energy, rapid perception, magnetic, perpetual workers.

Thyroid: Insufficient: Lack of self-control, tired, dull, lazy, and retarded.

Thymus: Sufficient: Angel-child type, graceful, beautiful, alert, but not fitted for life's conflicts.

Thymus: Insufficient: In infancy leads to precocity, both physical and mental, with early maturity.

Adrenal: Sufficient: vigor, energy, efficient worker, great internal driving power.

Adrenal: Insufficient: Physical and mental bankruptcy, neurasthenia or nervous prostration.

Gonad: Sufficient: High voice, light-hearted, emotional.

Gonad: Insufficient: Special mental and medical problems.

The pineal is not listed as its work is largely with the psychic and spiritual natures of man. The work of this gland will receive lengthy tabulation when man has evolved a purely spiritual system of psychology. Material science, however, has learned that the pineal does retard reproductive gland activity and, conversely, the gonads have a tendency to obstruct the pineal.

Dr. Lazell writes most interestingly in his *Anatomy of Emotion* that the "God-given life of protoplasm is destined for a higher expression than mere animal existence." "Spiritualization begins undoubtedly in the emotions," he declares. "The lifting from instinctive emotionalism into spiritualization produces certain effects through or by the glands, whose secretions, or hormones, are poured directly into the blood. These hormones are chemical messengers which continually change the reaction of the nervous tissue, especially the sympathetic, and also the reactions of the muscles which it supplies. In order to carry out this dual action, these glands are arranged in pairs and their secretions have opposing effects. Without them nervous tissue could only act instinctively and there could be no element of choice between the two sets of impulses."

The modern concept of physiology and psychology are that the secretions of some, if not all, of these glands are controlled by the emotions. Dr. Ivo Geikie Cobb, author of *Glands of Destiny*, and other authorities on the subject state that most men and women who have controlled history were, in turn, controlled by their own endocrine glands, "those little things ranging in size from a grain of wheat to a chestnut." A notable illustration of the power of the endocrines to change the course of a life is found in the case of Napoleon. Again quoting:

Napoleon would not have lost the battle of Waterloo if his pituitary gland had not become defective, pre-

venting the great military genius from making those quick decisions for which he was famous.

Napoleon had a superior brain, capable of inventing new military strategy, but what made him master of Europe was a powerful set of endocrine glands. Had these been only average he would have been a valuable adviser to some aggressive personality who would have used and taken credit for Bonaparte's ideas. The glands boss the rest of the body but it seems that the thyroid is a sort of boss of the others, or at least, like a coxswain, it sets the stroke for the others. Also they act and react on each other.

In Napoleon's system there was a weak sister in the chain and though it might have done well enough for an ordinary slow-living mortal it finally broke down under the terrific strain of his life. This was the pituitary gland situated at the base of the brain whose job it was to control the growth of the bones. That it was not over-vigorous in youth is indicated by the Corsican's short stature. When his historic career began, it had to work overtime as shown by the instantaneous decisions Napoleon was perpetually making and which is another function made possible by the pituitary.

When the conqueror of Europe made the bad decision to invade Russia, probably that gland was already beginning to falter. The laggard gland had fallen still further behind during the exile at Elba. By that time the world had learned most of his military tricks, and now he could invent nothing new as proved by the big test at Waterloo. He not only failed to handle this decisive battle with his old brilliance but is said to have actually fallen asleep for a while in the midst of it.

These things would lead the modern endocrinologist to suspect pituitary deficiency, but the autopsy, performed after his death at St. Helena, proved that this was an actual fact, though the surgeons of that time knew nothing of what the endocrine meant.

VITAMINS AND ENDOCRINES

There has been discovered a direct relationship between peculiarities of the personality and deficiency of vitamins. These, in turn, are being correlated with endocrine functions.

THYMUS REQUIRES VITAMIN B

Size and influence of thymus wanes with puberty and adolescence. It is closely related to nutrition and growth. A storage organ, it protects the body against debilitation from loss of food. The thymus has been termed the "barometer of nutrition." It becomes *smaller and may completely atrophy* due to excessive malnutrition. Vitamin B restores the thymus to normal functioning.

ADRENALS, GLANDS OF COMBAT, REQUIRE VITAMIN B AND C

Each gland is double; the outer or cortex produces internal secretion and intercortin; the inner portion or medulla produces adrenalin. Intercortin and adrenalin are inventions for massing all the strength of muscles and blood for meeting an emergency. Internal secretion of the cortex controls brain growth and development of sex glands. The removal of the adrenals, as said before, means certain death in a few days, thus indicating some function pertaining to the continuance of life. Malnutrition produces enlargement of the adrenals. By deficiency of Vitamin C they become twice their natural size and weight. Deficiency of Vitamin A *increases* the amount of adrenalin. Deficiency of Vitamin B *decreases* the amount of adrenalin.

PARATHYROID GLANDS REQUIRE VITAMIN D

These four minute glands lie in such close proximity to the thyroid that they were for a long time considered to be part of it. They are the regulators of the calcium intake of the body. These glands are not present in fish as

there is so much lime in the sea that fish do not need a regulator. Fish manufacture Vitamin D in the liver. Parathyroids are, however, present in all land animals, to conserve and regulate the calcium supply. They enlarge in calcium deficiency as the thyroid enlarges in iodine deficiency. When there is a life deficiency in the food the blood extracts it from the bones to fill its lack. Vitamin D foods facilitate assimilation of calcium by bones and relieve the strain on the parathyroids. Parathyroid deficiency causes extreme sensitivity of the nervous system. The parathyroids and calcium metabolism have a definite relation to a neurotic constitution.

Calcium foods are milk, cheese, carrots, turnips, oranges, prunes, beets, and apples. Vitamin D foods are egg yolk, cod-liver oil, liver, fish fat, and foods treated with ultra-violet light.

REPRODUCTIVE GLANDS: THE TESTES AND OVARIES REQUIRE VITAMINS A, B, C

Vitamin A and B give off radiations similar to X-ray and radium. These rays produce powerful effects upon living matter, being channels for inner-plane forces. Deficiency of A produces interference with the ovarian hormone that regulates the rhythm of feminine sexual cycles. When these rhythms are upset they become irregular, hence inharmonious, causing a reduction of fertility. Deficiency of Vitamin B produces general degenerative atrophy of the ovaries. Vitamin C is necessary to ovarian nutrition. A, B, C, are the building stones for formation of healthy ova. Vitamin E is especially related to the uterus and reproduction. Deficiency of E in the male results in marked disturbance in sperm production, pronounced deficiency resulting in sterility.

PITUITARY GLAND REQUIRES VITAMINS B AND E

The pituitary is the gland of many hormones and functions. It controls growth in childhood and adolescence,

sexual development and sexual metabolism. It is necessary for proper evolution of the reproductive glands. The post-pituitary regulates the water balance of the body, blood pressure, gastro-intestinal tract, and influences the fatty and sugar metabolism. It also determines the pigmentation of the skin. There is more Vitamin E found in the pituitary than in any other gland. A deficiency of Vitamin B castrates it physiologically and psychologically. It is as important for the pituitary as is Vitamin E for the testes and placenta.

Normal functioning of the pituitary involves the metabolism of manganese. Manganese foods prevent pituitary strain. These include potatoes, lettuce, agar-agar, wheat germ, liver, peanuts, walnuts, and almonds.

Copper foods are necessary to the blood. Oats, almonds, kidney beans, peas, asparagus, corn, lentils, and barley are among the highest in copper.

THYROID GLAND

Iodine, the key substance in the thyroid gland, is the controller of vitality and growth; also the protector against injuries and intoxicants. It secretes thyroxin and needs a continuous supply of iodine foods which are found principally in sea products.

ASTROLOGICAL CORRELATIONS WITH THE DUCTLESS GLANDS

As there is a zodiac in heaven, so there is a zodiac in man: as there is a firmament in heaven, so a firmament in the body. Heaven operates in us.—Paracelsus.

The ductless glands occupy certain important and sensitive points in the body. Their origin may be traced to the early beginnings of the evolution of man. There have been periods when they functioned actively, and others when they remained dormant. In future races they will possess a high spiritual power in connection with extended consciousness and the awakened faculties of the Initiate.

The ductless glands have been aptly referred to by one knowing their spiritual significance as "interior stars," for the reason that they are correlated with the planets of our solar system. As a constellation of interior stars, the glands may be styled the Pleiades of the microcosm.

The Sun and Neptune rule the pineal gland; Uranus and the Moon rule the pituitary body; Jupiter, the adrenals; Mars, the gonads; Mercury, the thyroid; Venus, the thymus; the Sun, the spleen. The parathyroids respond to both Mercury and Neptune.

It will be noted that the highest spiritual planets, Neptune and Uranus, exert their influence through the spiritual head centers, the pineal and pituitary. Mercury, the messenger between gods and men, operates through the thyroid, the center which connects the personality with the Spirit. Previous reference has been made to the thyroid as the passageway between the higher and lower natures of man.

As Paracelsus has stated, "Heaven operates in us. Each star in our solar system has a special influence over an interior star."

The seven principal ductless glands are the Seven Spirits before the throne of the indwelling God. When illumined and awakened to the Spirit's bidding, man is lifted above the sphere of mortality and functions at will among the "redeemed."

The pancreas is a long, flat gland behind the liver and to the right of the spleen. It produces both an internal and external secretion. The internal, which controls the amount of sugar in the liver, is termed insulin; the extract which acts upon the starches in the intestines is the pancreatic juice. Excessive sugar taken in the body produces too much strain upon the insulin supply of the pancreas and oftentimes diabetes is the result.

The pancreas, together with the liver, is under the rulership of Jupiter.

There is a close and harmonious relationship between

the secretions of the pancreas and the adrenals, the latter also coming under the expansive rays of Jupiter. An affliction from Jupiter restricts this interaction, with untoward effects upon both the physical and emotional natures.

The stimulating and molding forces of the great starry Hierarchies are active in every phase of human development on all planes of being.

The powers of Aries-Libra, focussing through the pineal center, accelerate the purification of desire and its transmutation, which then tend to awaken the effulgence of the pineal gland or third eye, the principal spiritualized organ of the head.

The pituitary controls the growth and form of the skeleton. The forces of Taurus-Scorpio lay the foundation of this work, Taurus bearing the celestial pattern and Scorpio (the Lords of Form) reproducing that pattern in material form.

The Lords of Gemini and Sagittarius center the dual powers of polarity through Mercury upon the thyroid and the parathyroid glands.

The thymus is the gland of mother-love and sustenance. It is here that the spiritual forces of Cancer-Capricorn concentrate. The sustaining and protecting powers of Cancer are encircled by the hardening and restricting forces of Capricorn. Thus the outer shell is formed to protect the interior Cancer force which is developing within.

The Lords of Leo, the Hierarchy of Spiritual Fire, and of Aquarius, the Lords of Spiritual Air, infuse the etheric spleen with their vibrant life. Under Aquarius new Sun rhythms will be contacted which will extend incredibly the present life span.

The gonads respond to Virgo-Pisces in higher life and to Taurus-Scorpio in lower. The masses respond to the lower sense impulses of Scorpio and Taurus; the regenerate respond to the purity of Virgo and the chaste Neptunian ray of Pisces. The gonadic force must be lifted in order to unite with the pineal gland and pituitary

body in the intricate processes of the Mystic Marriage.

The adrenals, the glands of body balance, responded in their early inception to Libra-Aries. In the spiritual transmutation of the body, secretions generated by the emotions must become the equilibrating, harmonizing forces of new regenerate life. The old Adam man must become the new or resurrected Christed Man.

THE DUCTLESS GLANDS AND THEIR PART IN THE MYSTIC MARRIAGE

The seven most important centers of the ganglionic system are represented in John's Revelation by the seven churches. The physical body is a crystallization of the inner or invisible bodies, and the ductless glands are the special centers or channels through which higher spiritual forces must pass into the dense vehicles. As previously noted, the four glands located in the trunk of the body are the expressions of the personality; the two in the head are expressions of the Spirit; the thyroid in the throat is the bridge between the group below and the pair above.

The regenerative processes through which the personality of man must pass are described in Revelation in the messages to the seven churches. The same work is given in the Seven-Ray Formula of the Mystic Marriage ascribed to the founder of the Brotherhood of the Rosy Cross, who bore the symbolical name of Frater CRC. As man progresses spiritually the ductless glands will become a most important study for illumined anatomists. They are veritable shining mileposts marking the path to human regeneration. "What I say unto the churches, I say unto all, Watch!"

The endocrine glands are the "open sesame" to hitherto locked gates leading into unexplored fields of God's great domain of Life and its wonder working in man's bodies, visible and invisible. Only as one's mind broadens and his five limited senses begin to comprehend something of the wonders of Spirit and its composite projection—

the multiple interpenetrating bodies of man—can one understand the full significance of Paul's words when he said: "Eye hath not seen and ear hath not heard the wonders which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

The pineal gland contains a fluid or life essence which, in the process of regeneration, becomes a living light, illuminating the body from within so there is no necessity for the outer light of Moon and stars, as St. John states in Revelation. In the death processes this pineal fluid crystallizes into a sand-like substance familiar to material science. Its investigations being confined to the domain of the tangible world, it does not accept occult findings in regard to the higher phase of pineal activity.

The biblical parable of the house built upon sands, which the waves may destroy, applies physiologically to the pineal gland of average man who lives an ordinary sensual, materialistically limited life. When, through spiritual culture, the pineal essence is transformed into a living light substance, it is like unto the house founded upon rock, which neither wind nor wave has power to shake from its foundation.

As the seven glandular centers of power in the body of man are awakened by pure and holy living, they become luminous by reason of a spiritual current which passes through the body and augments the spiritual life force as it is lifted to the head.

It is in this process of overcoming, so frequently alluded to in Revelation, that the sleeping serpentine fire within the spinal canal is awakened and begins its ascent to the head as a stream of golden light. The serpentine fire is as subtle as the serpent from which it takes its name, changing in color and increasing in luminosity as spirituality unfolds. It is tinged with an ethereal ray of blue, pink or green, in accordance with the characteristic note of the aspirant's temperament. Where the development is primarily through the mentality, the ray is blue; through the heart, pink; through service, green. Only a small por-

tion of this spirit essence passes into the fourth ventricle in the head where it becomes yet more ethereal, a heavenly manna, the mystic bread served at the marriage feast. There the bride and groom are the pineal and pituitary organs, and the third ventricle is the bridal chamber or Hall of Initiation where the new Christed consciousness is later born.

The golden glory which floods the third ventricle gradually overflows and encircles the head, and eventually the entire body, with the luminous halo or aura of the Saint or Initiate who "walks in the light." When this light has been attained by humanity, we shall all know fellowship, one with another.

From certain glands concerned with generation is secreted a small amount of oil. As emotions become purer, this oil tends to increase, both in potency and volume. Then the atomic vibratory rate of the entire human organism is lifted and mental poise is achieved. Gradually, poverty and lack on all planes disappear, along with their familiar attendants, fear and selfishness.

This secretion is the "fixed oil" of the alchemists. It has been known by many names in various Schools down through the ages. It is the great transformer on all planes of being, yet its effect is always the same. The body is the land and in regeneration this oily substance becomes its means of illumination.

The Foolish Virgins of the Bible represent those who live in so unwise a manner that this oil is wasted and is, therefore, unavailable for regenerative purposes. Hence they are unfortunately "asleep" when the Bridegroom comes, unaware that the doors to the marriage feast have been unbarred.

The Wise Virgins are those who live so that this oil is conserved and becomes luminous. They keep their lamps trimmed and burning. Thus they are prepared to meet the Bridegroom and with Him to enter joyfully the sacred precincts of spirit, there to partake of the royal marriage feast.

Chapter X

The Desire Body

In the seventh chapter of this book it was observed that since ethers at the threshold of the ordinarily perceived Physical World are simply a rarefied condition of matter, but slight physical development is required for their investigation. In fact, thousands of people who have given no special thought to either psychic or spiritual development have seen, and are continually seeing, one or more of them without knowing there is anything unusual about the experience. As the Aquarian Age draws near the number of persons sensitive to the finer ethers will increase year by year. Even now there are cases on record among pioneering scientists where etheric vision is momentarily opened in the course of particular investigations.

The etheric region may be designated as the atomic and sub-atomic areas of the material world. Invisible to human senses as now developed, ether is none the less a substance belonging to the Physical World, though raised to a higher vibratory octave than physical matter. This being so, it is gradually yielding up to material scientists many mysteries that for centuries have been known only to occultists.

It is quite otherwise with the Desire or Astral World. Unlike the region of the ethers, the realm of the Desire World is another plane of being. It is not just a finer gradation of matter. Actually, it is non-material; it is astral. While it flows in and through the Physical World, interpenetrating the chemical and etheric regions of the physical and constantly influencing all activities within this sphere, it is of a different nature and subject to laws other than those operating in either the Physical World or the higher worlds of mind and spirit.

Students unfamiliar with occult terminology will

have no difficulty in understanding the Desire World if they think of it as *the world of the heart's desire* or simply as the *Soul World*; for this "World" or state of consciousness corresponds to what orthodox theology describes as "hell" and/or "heaven" where the Spirit abides after physical death. The orthodox heaven is a place of inconceivable bliss, every heart's desire being fulfilled through God's infinite goodness and love. The occultist prefers to give this "place," this state of consciousness another name. It is generally known in Western Wisdom Teachings as the Desire or Astral World.

When, in later infancy, a child begins to be conscious of its environment, at first it is not aware of the substance of things. It does not realize that certain solid objects can bruise its body or that sharp objects will pierce it. Nor does it have a sense of distance. Even an adult is not able to perceive with his physical senses the atoms comprising the substance of material forms, including his own body. In a similar way, when first entering the Desire World untrained clairvoyants see its forms but not the nature of the substance of which those forms are composed. This being so, observations recorded are not uniform, some being based on clearer seeing and deeper understanding than others. This accounts for the variation in the visions of Church saints, who may be mystical Seers but not necessarily trained clairvoyants. Consequently, their conclusions are not always corroborated by the findings of occult scientists who have made a study of that world.

The Desire World is composed of what may best be described as *force-matter*. Unlike ether, desire substance is not just a finer gradation of chemical matter. Physical instruments cannot penetrate its secrets. It is the world of life, feeling, emotion. As our bodies with their physiological functions consist of material substance, so our feelings, sensations, and emotions assume tangible form in the force-matter of the Desire World, each type having its own particular form, color, and rate of vibration. It is not incorrect to say that the emotional states of mankind

combine to form a globe-encircling, globe-penetrating "cloud" or "aura" which, in every sense of the word, constitutes a world of its own.

The Desire World is not a space-time realm. It belongs to what mathematicians call the "fourth dimension;" and the aura, the feeling body, is in fact a fourth dimensional body. Its senses (sensations) are, by its very nature, keener than those known to man when in a physical body—as is evidenced, for example, by the ecstasy accompanying that soul-transporting experience known as Illumination.

The force-matter of the Desire World is in continuous motion, pulsating in a brilliant kaleidoscopic array of ever-changing lights and colors. Its basic "substance" is *soul light*, out of which everything is formed. Where soul light is either partly or completely absent there exists the condition spoken of in the Bible as "outer darkness," where dwells unregenerate Spirits until purged of the base elements in their natures. This is the purgatorial region of Catholic theology, the hell of Protestant orthodoxy.

Force-matter or basic soul light is both positive and negative, masculine and feminine, in function. The term *fire* and *water* as applied to the masculine and feminine principles, respectively, derive from the Desire World—for here the masculine qualities now manifest in fiery, glittering radiations familiar to every Seer, while feminine soul qualities are visible as most exquisite colors seen in clouds of light having a distinctly watery appearance, a water such as no one on earth sees with physical vision. As evolution advances feminine souls display more and more of the fiery masculine qualities, while masculine souls take on the ethereal beauty of the feminine.

In our present state of unfoldment desire is the main-spring of action. It motivates our conduct and thought. Such being the case, angelic Beings inhabiting the Desire World are of prime importance to our development.

The dominant laws of the Desire World are those of Attraction, Metamorphosis, and Transformation. Added to these is the Law of Repulsion, the force of hate and self-

assertion that prevails on lowest levels of this world. Fairy tales are beautiful illustrations of the ever-changing substance of this realm, where form is not fixed as in the Physical World but constantly metamorphosizing.

The Desire World is the home of innumerable Beings who operate in divers subtle ways to influence man by means of his desires and emotions. Their activities are sensed but their presence is unperceived by the vast majority of people. To the activities of these denizens of that realm man owes his inestimable opportunity for growth through experience, by which he is building increasing moral strength and beauty and achieving mental vivification—for in our present stage of development the average man's mind is but dimly awakened.

As previously stated, the principal element of the Desire World is soul-light, the chief function of which is transmutation (metamorphosis). It is readily amenable to the power of thought. Both the Archangels (Hierarchy of Capricorn) and the Angels (Hierarchy of Aquarius) are active in the higher heavenly region of this world, whereas the Lucifers have charge of the lower purgatorial levels. The Lucifers' activities, however, are not confined to these levels but are now extending into the heaven realms as well.

How the two divisions of the Desire World, the higher planes where the force of Attraction holds sway and the lower where the force of Repulsion is dominant, are related to human experiences and the manner in which they operate are the subject of this lesson.

Man is a free agent. He can revel in unbridled passion (low desire); he can elect to live, as do the majority, by drawing to himself proportionate amounts of both high and low desire substance; he can follow the spiritual path, as do true aspirants, and thereby lay hold of transmuting, transforming powers having their source in the higher planes of the Desire World. In these higher planes is the Fountain of Life, the Fountain of Youth long sought for by medieval alchemists but entered only by those who give their all to the Quest.

ACQUISITION OF THE DESIRE BODY

According to the chronology of Genesis it was the Third Creative Day, the Moon Period according to occult terminology, that certain divine Beings called Lords of Individuality (Libra) radiated from themselves the nucleus of man's archetypal desire body. The opal is ruled by Libra; if we think of the play of colors in that precious stone it will help us to remember this correlation of the Lords of Libra with work on the desire body which is opalescent in appearance.

At that stage of evolution we had not yet acquired a physical body, nor had our solar system reached its present state of density. Man's body and surroundings had "descended" only to the etheric level. Any indication of chemical elements making up the present physical world would have been sub-atomic and discernible only by instruments, such as the most delicate of modern science, and by the most abstruse mathematical calculations. It was nothing more than a magnetic field of life, visible to inner senses at the close of the Period as a sphere of "fire-fog" and definitely "watery" in appearance.

The germinal desire body was a thought form. This filmy vehicle has not yet fully assumed the pattern and symmetry of a human being but appears somewhat similar to a luminous ovoid or sheath of color surrounding the physical body and projecting several inches beyond it. As before noted, desire substance sparkles and radiates light and color in continuous motion. The colors and movements vary according to the emotion which is dominant, or with the prevailing sensation. Thus, passions and desires are mirrored therein with accuracy. In primitive or undeveloped persons, where the nature tends largely toward gratification of the physical senses, the desire body appears to be smoldering. This smoldering effect is varied by heavy dull colors—predominantly dark red, dull brown, and muddy green, with splashes of grey and black—and is practically static. Intense feeling will give rise to momen-

OCCULT ANATOMY AND THE BIBLE

Most texts on anatomy treat the human body strictly from a physical viewpoint. This volume considers the subtler bodies in the light of esoteric science correlated with the wisdom of the bible. Man is more than just a physical being and the interrelationships of all of the vehicles becomes increasingly important to the understanding of how to release his hidden potentialities as well as how to work with the energies of healing.

Occult Anatomy and the Bible will be found to be a fundamental treatise for achieving a total picture of the human being from the archetypes created by the soul for the building of the vehicles to full maturity. And from here to the next evolutionary steps to be achieved as we take the path of return to the perfection of form and function.

Corinne Heline

Born to the aristocracy of the Old South into the prominent Duke family, she received a classical and religious education that was to prepare her for her life work. She was a life-long student of the ancient mysteries devoting her time to study and meditation. The Rosicrucian adept, Max Heindel, became her teacher and associate at Mt. Ecclesia in Oceanside, California where she met another New Age pioneer, Theodore Heline who was to become her husband and to undertake the publication of the inspired writings that flowed through her. Her monumental work, *The New Age Bible Interpretation* in 7 volumes was followed by many other works interpreting the ancient wisdom in terms of the needs of the day. She was truly a New Age Pioneer, opening the way to vast new fields of investigation for those who would know and be a part of the coming world of the Aquarian Age. Her consciousness far transcended that of her day, and while she had physical plane teachers, her inspiration came from the immortals who overshadowed her, the greatest being our lovely lady, the Madonna who was the light of her life from early childhood.