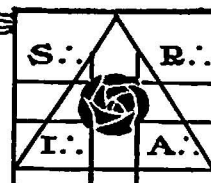
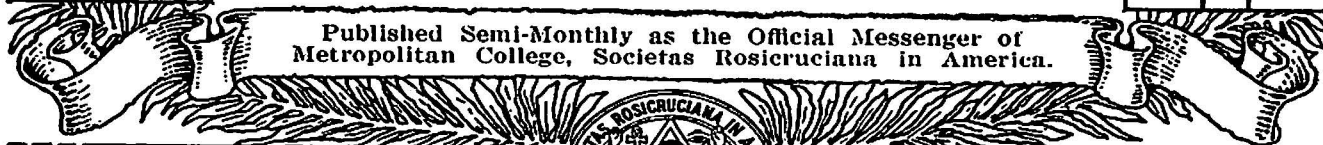


# MERCURY



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Metropolitan College, Societas Rosicruciana in America.



Vol. 4

April 21,



MCMXIX.

No. 8

The One Hundred and First Stated Convocation of Metropolitan College  
S.:R.:I.:A.:, will be held in the Adytum, 310 Lenox Avenue  
Between 125th. and 126th. Streets, opposite 125th. Street station, Lenox Ave. Subway.  
Friday Evening, April 25, 1919, at 8.00 P. M. precisely

### Work:

**CONFERRING THE DEGREE OF NEOPHYTE, 0°-0°, IN FULL CEREMONIAL FORM.**

At this Convocation the question of increasing the Initiation Fee and Annual Dues in Metropolitan College will be considered. A full attendance is requested, in order that any action taken may indicate a consensus of opinion of a representative number of the Fraters.

### Astrological Classes.

Sr. Progressia 9°-2°.

Elementary Class, 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays.

Advanced Class, 2nd. and 4th. Tuesdays.

712 West 180th St., 8 P. M. Sharp.

ALL CLASSES CONVENE AT 8:00 P. M. PRECISELY, PLEASE BE PROMPT.

### College Notes.

It was a pleasure to welcome Wor. Fr. Euclid 9°-2°, of Washington College, at the Convocation of March 14th.

On Sunday, April 6th, the Degree of Neophyte was conferred in Synoptical Form, U.:D.:, on Fr. Junillus in Camden, New Jersey. The Degree was conferred by the Wor. A.:., Fr. Reficio, IX°, the Celebrant being Rt. Wor. Fr. Paracelsus, IX°.

On March 26th, Ill. Fr. Dionysius 9°-2°, was appointed Acting G.O.C., and Ill. Fr. Cronus 9°-2°, was appointed Primus Ancient for the remainder of the Collegiate Year.

At the last Convocation, April 11th, the 100th Convocation of Metropolitan was appropriately observed. The College was Opened and Closed in full ceremonial form, with Rt. Wor. Fr. Paracelsus IX°, as Celebrant, in place of Rt. Wor. Fr. Firmus IX°, who was unavoidably absent. After the closing, a program suitable to the occasion was enjoyed by all.

Musical selections were rendered by Fraters Clemens and Apollos.

A Historical Paper was read by the Wor. A.:., Fr. Reficio, IX°.

Addresses by Rt. Wor. Fr. Roscius, 9°-2°, Fr. Rivier of the recent class of Neophytes and Sr. Concordia 1°-10°.

Fr. Lactantius 1°-10°, gave the College a talk on the newly Incorporated Flame Press, concerning which more will follow on the next page.

The thanks of the College are extended to all the Sorores whose efforts in providing refreshments for the occasion were so obviously appreciated.

Prior to the Opening of the College, the Degree of Neophyte 0-0 was conferred in Synoptical Form upon Sr. Phenecia (E. M.) and Fr. Gladius (J. N.). The Degree was also conferred upon Fr. Tenax (E. K) February 28th U.:D.:.

A Congratulatory telegram was received from Fr. Poocke, expressing his regret at not being able to attend.

### Sayings of Albert Hubbard, No. 3.

The Man with Educated Bowels will eclipse the Man with Educated Brains. However,  
You should have Both.

### High Council Communication.

The Regular Annual Closing of all Colleges of the S. R. I. A. was accomplished symbolically by the Imperator, on Good Friday, April 18th, and Reopened on Easter Morning, April 20th.

At the Special Business Meeting of the High Council held at Masonic Temple 24th Street, Saturday, April 12th, an amendment to the Constitution was adopted whereby High Council membership will be confined to Master Masons in good standing; also making it mandatory that all three of the Magi must be members in good standing of a duly recognized Consistory of the 32nd Degree, A. A. S. R. In the Election which necessarily followed such action, Rt. Wor. and Rt. Rev. Fr. Nestorius X°, becomes Senior Magus, and Rt. Wor. Fr. Paracelsus IX°, Junior Magus, the latter officer also retaining his position as Treasurer General, S. R. I. A. The Secretary General, Rt. Wor. Fr. Reficio IX°, W. A. of Metropolitan College was re-elected, as also Rt. Wor. Fr. Novius IX°, Chancellor. The Appointive Officers will be announced later.

The Holy Oils for use during the ensuing year were Blessed on Maundy Thursday, by Rt. Rev. Fr. Nestorius X°.

### Masonic Notices.

A Directory of the Masonic Affiliations of all our members is being compiled for biographical reference. All Masonic Members who may at any time become members in any additional bodies, or dimit from their present Lodges to new associations, are earnestly requested to send such data to the Editor of Mercury for filing.

MEMBERS OF METROPOLITAN LODGE NO. 1, ARK MARINER MASONS.—On and after this date, the notices of Regular Voyages of this Lodge will appear in Mercury, instead of in private circular as formerly. Therefore you are requested to watch for such notices and Lodge information in this paper.

### Metropolitan Membership Closed.

Lack of space prevented an earlier announcement that Metropolitan College had reached the Constitutional Limit, and a Waiting List had been established. This does not mean however, that no more applications will be received. On the contrary, the active members of the College are especially invited to seek out those to whom our work will appeal, and who they have reason to believe will make active, energetic, members. Such applications may be presented in due form and will be acted upon immediately and the candidate's name placed upon the Waiting List. From time to time, Candidates will be drawn from this Waiting List for Initiation IN THE ORDER OF THEIR ENROLMENT: therefore it will be seen that it is desirable to enter all applications as quickly as possible in order to ensure the earliest possible action. Our Membership Roll is being carefully revised and "Chronic Absentees" as well as those in "Chronic Arrearage of Dues" will have to give way to those who place a value upon membership in Metropolitan. Such "inactives" will be unaffiliated as their names are reached upon our Roll.

### The Flame Press.

At the last Convocation announcement was made by Frater Lactantius 1°-10°, of the Organization and Incorporation of the Flame Press, for the publication of legitimate occult literature, and such philosophy of the Brotherhood as may be published by authority. This Corporation will republish rare works of proven merit and value, some of which have never been put forth in English print before. Some rare manuscripts have already been acquired for the purpose. The Flame Press will be in a position to offer to members of the S. R. I. A. and others, all standard occult literature WORTH WHILE. It will positively NOT deal with the worthless, trashy publications, put forth primarily as personal propaganda or in support of undemonstrable theories, nor with ANY publications intended as the official organs of more or less questionable so-called "occult" organizations. Above all, this Corporation will not deal with nor provide any of the literature dealing with questionable and prurient sex theories and fads. There is an undoubted field for substantial, authoritative literature dealing with genuine spiritual science and philosophy, regardless of school, and this, it is the purpose of the Flame Press to distribute. This Corporation will begin the active work of publishing in the very near future, and has already begun work in the sale and distribution of good literature already published.

The sale of stock in this Corporation is not confined to members of the S. R. I. A., altho the work has been inaugurated by them and will continue under their auspices. A feature of the work will be the sale of rare and "out of print" works not easily obtainable.

This publishing Corporation is a feature that is helpful to our propaganda, and as such is commended to the careful consideration of all members of Metropolitan, and to others to whom this notice may come. It is worthy of YOUR support because it will shortly provide a legitimate means for the rapid extension of our propaganda on a self-supporting basis, while careful, conservative business methods will ensure a gratifying return upon one's investment.

A fine assortment of mineralogical specimens was received from Fr. Mosheim, 0-0, (West Gate College) Butte, Montana. Later, these and other specimens will be installed in the Library, 1517 Masonic Temple, 24th Street. The thanks of Metropolitan are extended to this courteous and loyal Frater for this and many previous courtesies.

# Standard Instruction in the Rosicrucian Philosophy.

By Fr. K. X°.

Number Three. (Concluded.)

## Man and his Bodies.

### Celestial Hierarchies, Vehicles of the Ego, Man-in-the-making.

(Copyrighted 1919, by Societas Rosicruciana In America)

- Man's first Physical Body** To illustrate the tremendous extent of man's involutory journey, and the consequent differentiation in the shapes of his vehicles, we may state that in the *Polarian Epoch* what is now the Physical Body was but a large, loose, misshapen, baggy object with one protuberance or organ. This organ which then protected the evolving vehicle from extremes of heat is what is now known as the **PINEAL GLAND**, and it is from the activity of this primordial organ that the sense of feeling and its protective powers is now generalized thruout the entire physical organism.
- Pineal Gland**
- Fission** Somewhat after the method of fission by which one cell becomes two, these baggy objects and their organ separated in halves, and each half into other halves, continually decreasing in size. This was a primal form of propagation.
- Thymus Gland** Another organ of tremendous importance in the development of the Physical Body and the entrance of the newly born into full consciousness is the **THYMUS GLAND**.
- Blood corpuscles and "I" consciousness** Up to the age of fourteen, this gland furnishes most of the blood corpuscles, and gradually diminishes as the blood making faculty in the growing child develops. The fact is, that the Thymus Gland is stored with a full supply of corpuscles from the macrocosmic womb, and supplies them to the infant until it is able to supply its own. Thus during the age mentioned the full "I" consciousness is not present, and only when the child produces its own supply of corpuscles thru which its individual Ego can function is the real sense of personality present, and the child really begins to sense the importance of the term "I".
- Homogeneous** It should be noted that while *all of man's vehicles* are of the same substance,—homogeneous—they differ in degrees of density. No one vehicle may be conceived of as **FINER** than another, but simply less dense and cohered.
- Four notable Hierarchs** Four notable Hierarchs for special reasons not listed among those already noted, because they belong to a different cosmic Manifestation, are known as the "Recording Angels" or "Lords of Destiny." The Hierarchies previously noted have their functions in the development of the various vehicles, but the actual placement and allotment of each individual in a given expression or life, is relegated to these beings of boundless wisdom and intelligence who see to it that each individual has ample opportunity in each expression to secure the environment best fitted to his particular requirements.
- Epochs and Periods of Man** Man may be co-related to both the **EPOCHS** and **PERIODS** as follows:
- |             |                                     |                        |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1st. Epoch, | Ethereal,—of mineral substance.     | Polarian.              |
| 2nd. Epoch, | Vital Body, of vegetable substance. | Hyperborean.           |
| 3rd. Epoch, | Astral Body, of animal substance.   | Lemurian.              |
| 4th. Epoch, | Mind actively functioning.          | Atlantean.             |
| 1st. Period | Virgin Spirit immerses in Matter,   | Saturn. Trance.        |
| 2nd. Period | Consciousness begins to act.        | Sun. Dreamless Sleep.  |
| 3rd. Period | Consciousness continuing,           | Moon. Dream Sleep.     |
| 4th. Period | Consciousness triumphs.             | Earth. Full awakening. |
- Man, seen clairvoyantly** Seen clairvoyantly Man's vehicles are indicative of his character, temperament and health.
- The Physical Body is of course too well known physiologically to require special emphasis in this Instruction, but in passing we may state that by the higher vision even the physical shows many interesting phenomena. To the clairvoyant, the state of health is clearly seen by the color and state of the blood, and just below the surface of the epidermis the various muscular striae present unfailing indications of the condition of the subject.
- Clairvoyance and X Ray** The clairvoyant vision penetrates the physical structure just as easily as the X-Ray and reveals the true condition of many things which would otherwise escape the diagnosis of the orthodox practitioner.
- Auras** The higher vehicles are observed more particularly by their auras. The Etheric Body is practically identical in shape with the Physical Body, but its aura extends beyond the periphery of the Physical Body for a short distance all around. In the Etheric Body all the ethers are active, and thus in the healthy person the aura of the Etheric Body is one of singular beauty and glows and radiates. If the person is in ill health, the position and extent of the organ affected will be indicated by an indentation in the aura of the Etheric Body exactly over the place affected, in other words the diseased or affected organ being out of harmonious co-ordination with the corresponding etheric location, the latter shows the lack of such harmony by the absence of regularity in its aura.
- Disease indicated**
- Astral Aura** The Astral Body during life is not the identical shape of the Physical Body, but is indicated by a more or less regular aura of ovoid shape extending beyond the Physical Body for from 12 to 16 inches. The trained seer can easily read in this astral aura the real character, temperament, disposition, nature, wishes, passions, and desires of the subject.

<b>Mental Aura</b>	Way beyond the aura of the Astral Body extends the Mental aura. In the case of highly developed persons it extends for a distance of many feet. It is said that in the case of a Master, or Adept, it extends for really incredible distances, but of this latter contention we have no corroborative proof.
<b>Black Aura</b>	A noteworthy phenomenon is, that on observing closely the auras of a given subject, what appears to be a solid black line seems to be close around the entire periphery of the subject's body, not more than one half inch wide.
<b>Misconceptions</b>	A correct understanding of the interaction of the various vehicles of Man will reveal the cause of many misconceptions of perfectly natural conditions.
<b>Male negative and Female positive</b>	Thus Man is termed the positive member of the two sexes. In reality only his Physical Body is positive. His Etheric Body is purely negative, and it is well known that in the process of procreation, man's function is purely impregnative, and he has absolutely nothing to do with the actual creation of the new body, other than to impregnate the egg or ovum. This impregnation or fertilization is accomplished by the Seed Atom of the future Physical Body which has been placed by the incoming Ego in the Triangular Head of one of the spermatozoa in the semen of the male, as pointed out years ago by the Rosicrucian Exponent P. B. Randolph in his designation of the "Zoas" of man.
<b>Man's office in procreation</b>	On the other hand, while the female is commonly supposed to be the negative of the two sexes, it is really her Physical Body that is negative for her Etheric Body is positive, and the real creative pole of the sexes. The mother is the one who creates the new body in the macrocosmic womb. It is she who formulates the egg or ovum that awaits possible fertilization.
<b>Woman the creator</b>	It is for this reason that woman has always been honored by the Rosicrucian Brotherhood far above the honor accorded her by orthodoxy, which de facto regards her as more or less simply an incubator. Woman as creator partakes intimately of the Divine attributes, and Deity itself is regarded essentially as the Great Mother, feminine in its creative aspects.
<b>Female Menstruation</b>	This explains the phenomena of Menstruation, which is even yet not conclusively or at any rate acceptably accounted for by medical science. The regular menstrual flow is simply nature's safety valve for the excess of blood generated for creative purpose by the Etheric Body of the female and by some Rosicrucian exponents it is also taught that the ready and copious weeping of the female is due to the same reason.
<b>Anaesthesia</b>	It can easily be seen that when the contact between the Etheric and Physical Bodies is broken, consciousness in the Physical ceases. This is the real basis for the operation of anaesthesia. The latter partially forces the Etheric Body from its concentric alignment with the Physical Body, and the latter is thus unconscious of what may be taking place in connection with it until the realignment is restored.
<b>Man's status</b>	Consider the status of Man. First Virgin Spirit, differentiated from the body of God; then Man, ultimately God, and in unconscionable aeons hence, an original Divine spark unfolded into a Divine Flame that will bring a universe yet to be, into manifestation.
<b>Man's spherical processes</b>	This sublime truth is also shown forth by Man's own involutory processes. In the period of his gestation in the womb he is more or less spherical. His body is bent <i>inwards</i> , head and feet touching. This is the period of <i>h's</i> creation. After birth, the poles of consciousness are separated, and he stands erect, polar. Ultimately, when he too, shall have run his evolutionary course and become a lofty planetary intelligence, the IN dwelling spirit of a sphere yet to be, he will resume the bent position but <i>outwards</i> , head and feet touching; the poles of consciousness reunited, and occupying the spherical condition of the star it may his to govern. This is the status of the Great Being who we call the INdwelling Spirit of Mother Earth.
<b>Purpose of Man</b>	At present it is the purpose of Man to absorb to the utmost, the solar energy which surrounds him and which is absorbed by the Etheric Body at first as a colorless atmosphere, but which after its transit thru the Spleen is transformed into a beautiful pale rose color and diffuses thruout the entire nervous system as the energizing, vitalizing force and power.
<b>Man's future vehicles</b>	As a resume of this Instruction on Man and his Bodies, we may note that long before man discards his present physical vehicle, he will have brought it to such comparative perfection, that it will be as different from the present vehicle a few millenia hence, as the present is from the Pithecanthropus of the previous Instruction.
<b>Vehicles afford opportunity for experience</b>	Man's vehicles are in themselves the answer to the oft propounded query—"what is the necessity for mortal life or expression"? The purpose of all life is experience. The vehicles afford the Ego an opportunity for the requisite experience, an opportunity in manifestation, creating, moulding, adapting, controlling, governing, and regenerating; all of which man in his ultimate creative destiny will be called upon to do.
<b>Ego's higher destiny</b>	The Ego learns to build its own vehicles—an appropriate one for each separate world region, and to perfect them in order that ultimately it may become a creator on a cosmic scale, and guide and govern the creative processes of planets and their individual waves of evolution.
<b>Parable of the Talents</b>	The purpose of Man's experience in the building of his vehicles, is simply the moral of the parable of the "Talents." (Matt. xxv-21). That he may hear his Lord,—the Absolute say unto him, <i>well done</i> , thou good and faithful (successful) servant (builder); thou hast been faithful (successful) over a few things (his vehicles), I will make thee ruler (creator) over many things (worlds and races)."
<b>Process is from within outwards and Develops Resistance</b>	Remember always that the process of building or developing the various vehicles is <i>from within, outwards</i> , a crystallizing or hardening process of the outer, in contact with the expressed and manifest forces of the Plane of Matter. This develops latent powers of resistance, toughens the moral and spiritual fibre gives self-control, and makes the experience of each individual Ego peculiarly its own.