

MASTERY OF LIFE



*History and legend
relate . . .*

THESE MEN WERE ROSICRUCIANS

What is a Rosicrucian?

One who has learned, or is learning, a philosophy of life—a path to confident living.

Today there are thousands of men and women who enjoy the influence, the comfort, the personal power, the unique science of living as taught by the Rosicrucians.

Their lives reflect the personal accomplishments and understanding that come with the mastery of life.

The men you see here were Rosicrucians—or associated with those who were. They were inspired and moved by the teachings and knowledge of the Rosicrucians.

As these teachings inspired these men, so can they inspire you.



ISAAC NEWTON

English philosopher and mathematician. Discovered the law of gravitation. Experimenter in wave bands of color. (1642-1727)



CLAUDE DEBUSSY

Most famous french composer. The outstanding figure of the impressionist movement in music. (1862-1918)



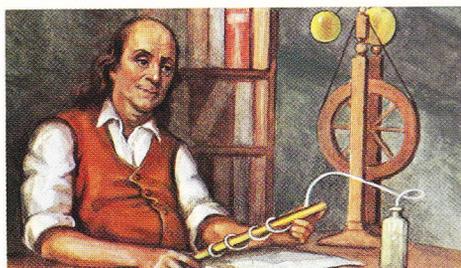
GOTTFRIED LEIBNIZ

German philosopher and mathematician. At one time secretary of a Rosicrucian body. Court librarian for life. (1646-1716)



FRANCIS BACON

English philosopher. Credited with emphasizing the need of science to employ inductive reasoning and experimentation. (1561-1626)



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

American statesman, author, and celebrated inventor. Well known for his early electrical experiments. (1706-1790)



RENÉ DESCARTES

French philosopher. With him began the period of modern philosophy; he proposed a basis for truth. (1596-1650)



FOR YOUR ENLIGHTENMENT

*Before you read
this booklet . . .*

. . . place yourself in a quiet, restful mood—alone if possible. do not skim. If you do, you will gain little.

This booklet will help you attune yourself with the knowledge of life which has led many famous men to secrets which made them leaders of men.

The knowledge described in these pages will not teach you *things*. It will not make you a master chemist, industrialist, author, engineer. It will not make you a master of assorted *facts*.

But it will make you a master of *life*—because it will teach you how to learn; not *what* to learn.

Start on the first page. Don't miss a passage, a line, a word. Follow carefully the thought progressions, and *think* as you read.

You have come to the Rosicrucians, we believe, with a mind free to think, to question, to act. You are one of the rare knowledge seekers.

We welcome you to our private domain.

Arthur C. Piepenbrink

ARCHIVIST

The MASTERY OF LIFE

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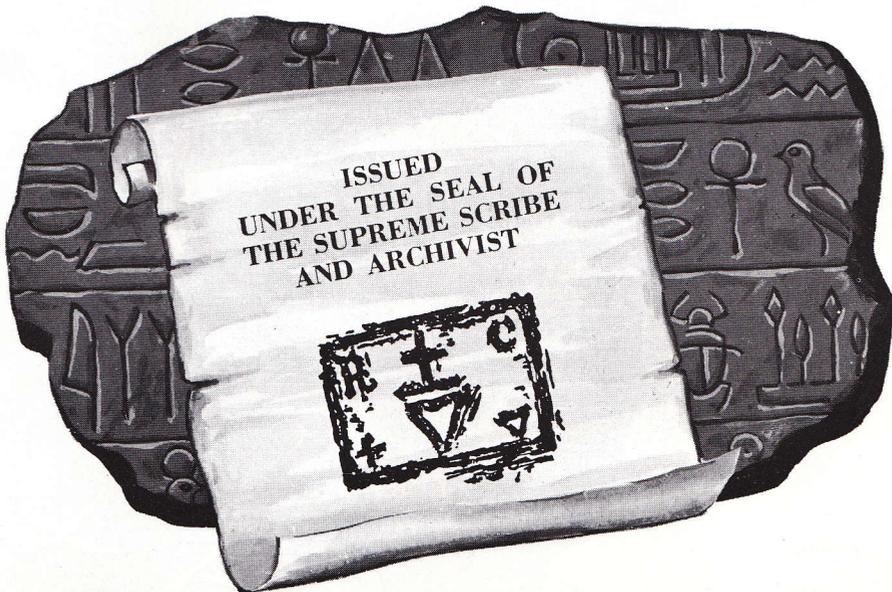
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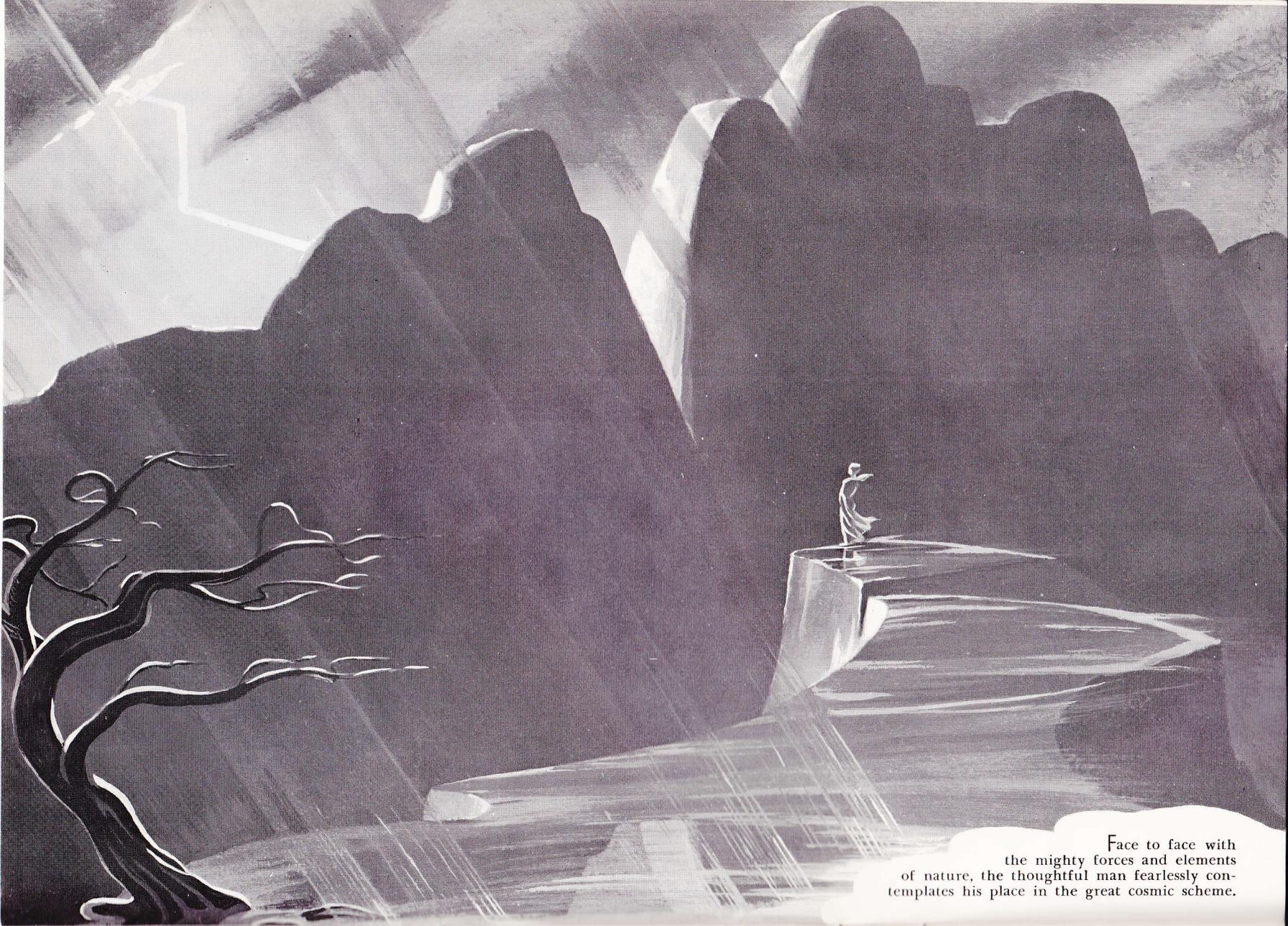
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Twenty-Third Edition

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LITHO IN JAPAN





Face to face with
the mighty forces and elements
of nature, the thoughtful man fearlessly con-
templates his place in the great cosmic scheme.

The Mystery of Being

“Thirty years ago, a young doctor sat by a desperately ill baby on her death bed. The parents were frantically begging for help, every treatment failing to aid. The parents became grief-stricken to the point of death. I am the doctor who had that experience.

“This experience created a desire in my mind to know why people are born and why nature allows such a great difference between members of the human race. The hunger for knowledge drove me to laboratories and libraries for the answer—but I am still searching and determined to know.”

These are the words of a prominent physician. Unintentionally, he has spoken for millions of men and women who today harbor the same thoughts.

This *inequality of man* is apparent to most of us. You know persons who are radiant with health from birth and seemingly immune to disease. You know others whose lives are preyed upon by numerous ailments which rob them not only of enjoyments but of simple comforts. Also, there are those men and women whose every plan becomes a successful venture. Each enterprise they enter turns into a golden opportunity—as if they had the touch of the fabled King Midas. Around them, however, a multitude of unfortunate beings live and struggle.

What makes one man more successful than another? Is it training in *just one line*? You know that is not true! You cannot make a good businessman out of a youth who has been taught nothing more than buying and selling. You cannot make a good physician out of a man or woman who has been taught only the principles included in the restricted four years in medical college. There

The Rosicrucians—an august fraternity whose doctrines, hinted at by the earliest philosophers, are still a mystery—to the unworthy. I do not blame them for their discretion. — Lord Edward Bulwer-Lytton.

(A Rosicrucian.)

appears to be some *unknown element* which some seem to possess, or have discovered.

In your youth, *you* feared things which you later came to recognize as harmless and really useful.

In your days of developing observation, you were puzzled by the unknown elements in life. It seemed to you that there were more elements of the unknown than of the known.

It is always the unknown in every day's activities that causes us worry, concern, perplexity, and even suffering. In years since your youth, you have become well acquainted with things once unknown. Today, you *know* them; you can see them, sense them, *prepare for them*; it is a power no one can take from you. But even now, are you fully prepared to meet all of the obstacles of life, to sweep them aside or surmount them easily? If not, begin now to investigate further the still unknown elements of your existence—the *mysteries* that make for the inequalities between men.

Real knowledge by man *about* man is, today, the greatest power any man can possess.

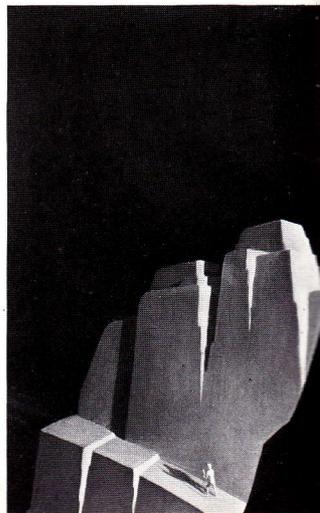
THE THOROUGHFARE OF LIFE

Let us begin with existence as we know it. Life is a thoroughfare upon which we find ourselves travelers. Behind us is our immediate beginning—*birth*. It is a vast eternity. Ahead of us is still another inevitable vast eternity—*death*. It is a mystery which either instills fear or is accepted with understanding—depending upon the experiences we have along this course of life. We did not ask for this life; yet we could not have refused it. How, then, shall we react to it? What

In our sanctuary all the hidden Mysteries are preserved intact; they have never been profaned. . . . Our science is the inheritance promised to the Elect.
—Councilor Von Eckartshausen.

(A Rosicrucian.)

Every intelligent traveler knows whence he came and whither he goes. The span of life can be freer of obstacles and so much more enjoyable if all of its purposes and ways are understood and used.



shall we do with this period of consciousness which the years afford us?

Many men and women resign themselves to the influences of their environment. They allow themselves to be drawn or impelled along this causeway of life. They are like balls of snow, rolling at a furious rate of speed down the side of a great mountain. One moment, they are free, out in the open, encountering few or no obstacles, and they are unconcerned. The next moment, they have collided with unanticipated events and happenings. They are at a loss to avoid these conditions or to rise above them. Thus they travel through the years, sometimes wondering if the vicissitudes of life, the bitterness, the pains, are worth the price, worth the occasional pleasures and snatches of peace of mind which come their way.

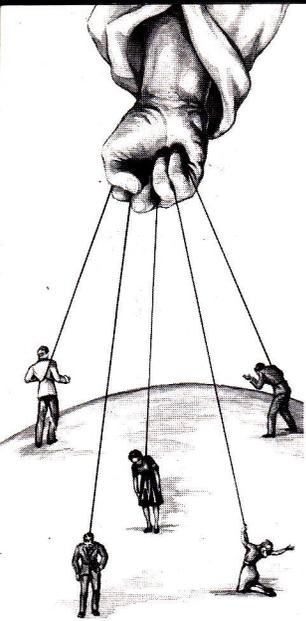
WHY ARE WE HERE?

Certainly, at some time you must have asked yourself as you looked back upon your past activities and likewise contemplated your future: "Is this haphazard existence my destiny? *Why are we here?*" Also, is there a mother who has never gazed down on the innocent babe nestled in her arms and wondered: "What does this span of existence hold for him?"

Is it not time that humanity ceases plunging into *the unknown* along this thoroughfare of life, hoping to grasp the skirts of passing opportunity? Would life not be entirely different for you if you could control your moods? If you could form desirable habits and break those not desired; if you could know how to see in the events happening about you the trends of tomorrow, would you not be more assured and confident in the strength of such knowledge? If you knew how to develop your will power sufficiently to meet the demands upon you, and to make the right decision, would not many of your troubles, the result of indecision, disappear? If you could reach into a dependable source and

The cosmic influences are invisible, but they act upon man. Heat and light are intangible and incorporeal; nevertheless, they act upon man, and the same is true of other invisible influences.—*Paracelsus*.

(A Rosicrucian.)



Humans are not the puppets of fate. The roles we each play in life can be intelligently and personally directed by ourselves.

The Adept only converses at his best with the Adept. Around him is a sacred circle, and within it only the Elect are allowed to enter. The Brotherhood of Consecrated Lives admits all who are worthy; and all who are excluded, exclude themselves. —“Fra.” Elbert Hubbard. (A Rosicrucian.)

produce helpful, constructive, intelligent ideas at a time when an important thought, a useful plan, meant the difference between discouragement and achievement, would you not feel equal to any circumstance? Certainly, such a life would be far superior in its advantages.

DOES FATE CONTROL US?

Do not be deceived by some inadequate philosophy. Millions of humans try to excuse their perplexity or helplessness during this earthly span by saying to themselves and others that they are dependent upon the *decrees of fate*. These fatalists proclaim that infinite powers have predestined their every act and it is useless for them to intervene. The fatalist, by such a belief, denies his power to reason, his will, and faculty of choice. Yet these very faculties are evidences of man's true relationship to the universal powers about him. The power of thought and the attribute of decision argue against the notion that we are mere puppets, with every act along this span of life ordained for us in advance.

It is true that there are universal forces over which we have no control. We cannot change the inherent structure of the universe itself nor the causes that bring its forces into play. *But we can harness these forces!* We can attune ourselves with them, and we can alter or control their ultimate effect upon us. Man *can* enjoy a great deal more mastership over his environment than he presently does. He can arrange the affairs of his life so that he can use the forces of life as an ally. Like a sailor turning his sails to the wind, like a generator directing the flow of electricity, or like nuclear fission heating water for power, man can harness the other forces of his existence. This is not a religious question; it is a philosophical question, *one that concerns you and your life*.

Success in life means *mastership*, and mastership means utilizing every inner force and power of the

being, as well as every *outer* force. Man's creative abilities do not rest in the muscular strength of his body, nor in his fertile imagination. He must be able to bring his mental imaging into *material expression* daily, hourly. To do this, he must be able to use *other faculties* than simple visualization. Furthermore, he must use these powers according to the purpose for which they were intended.

A BLUEPRINT OF LIVING

Since we are part of an orderly universe, with its majestic and immutable laws, *above and below*, then there also exists for man, as part of this great cosmic scheme, a true purpose in life. By knowing this purpose, by relating it to his existence each day, man discovers himself. He becomes the rightful master of his dominion—this world—and relegates suffering, misery, and ignorance to their proper places—and apart from himself.

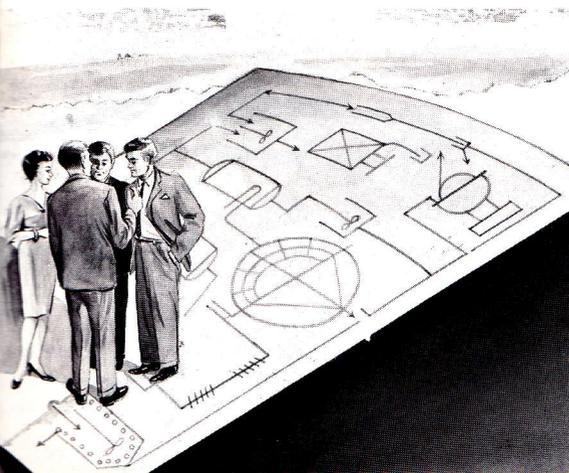
Certainly, you have instinctively felt that there was more to life than you have already experienced. Let us assure you that there is a *true blueprint of living*. Even those occurrences which have been painful to us are part of a chain of causes which can be made useful if we understand them. Those who continuously suffer misfortunes and whose lives are not as progressive or inspiring as they would want them can experience marked changes when this cosmic blueprint is followed.

Did you ever stop to think why you do the things you do? Is it not often because you had no alternative—because there seemed nothing else to do, and you took the chance that it

True happiness consists not in the knowledge of good things, but in good life; not in understanding, but in living understandingly. Neither is it great learning but good will that joins men to God.—*Cornelius Agrippa*.

(A Rosicrucian.)

Life is what you make it. An intelligent plan well directed can provide personal power and attainment.



might turn out for the best? Millions of humans throughout the civilized world today live just like that, taking blind chances—and these same millions often wonder, therefore, if the life they live is really worth while.

CREATIVE FORCES WITHIN YOU

Within man there are constructive creative forces always at work and always attuned with the creative forces of the Cosmic. These forces must repair the damage done to the body, overcome the strains and stresses upon the mental system, and guide the indecision of man's mind in the right direction. From the natural forces operating throughout the universe, certain harmonic vibrations, ethereal energies, and vitalizing powers affect man's being and change the nature of his physical body or react upon his mental efficiency. Thus man is hourly a complex being, influenced by forces and potent principles of a serious and important nature.

Man must understand these things if he is to become a success in life and use his *freedom to act* in a wise manner. He must either live completely in harmony with the forces in and around him or at variance with them. There is no middle course.

An understanding of natural, cosmic laws is the only means of mastery of life. For hundreds of years, the Rosicrucians have been able to prove this to men and women through their remarkable teachings.

What it is, this *blueprint of life*, this plan for mastery, and how it may be obtained will now be revealed to you.

There is an invisible bond with the power beyond. Like a silver thread your inner consciousness binds you to the universe.



The Golden Secret

Several thousand years ago in ancient Egypt, man first began his investigation of those mysteries which surrounded him. The first and most stupendous discovery he made was *the duality of self*. He learned that in addition to his physical body, with its limbs and organs, there was some ethereal nature or element of his being. Man then became, for the first time, truly self-conscious, or rather conscious of *the greater inner self*.

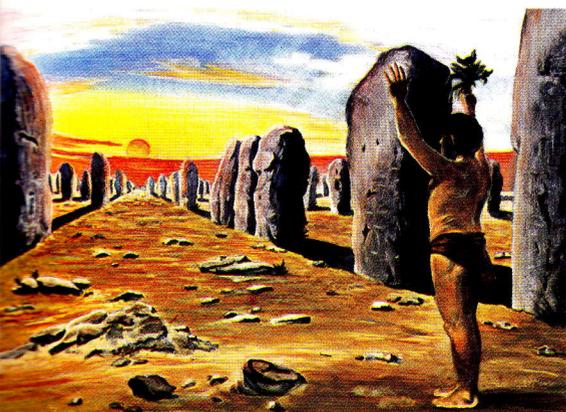
Whence came this ethereal essence of his nature or *self*? It could not be affected by that which pained the body—by heat, cold, or hunger. It could be active, *think and conceive*, while the body was at rest or even asleep. Moreover, what would happen to it at the end of life—or death? Was it indestructible? Did it survive? With such questions as these confounding the minds of the early Egyptians *and yet intriguing them*, man began a search that has never ceased on the part of intelligent men and women everywhere.

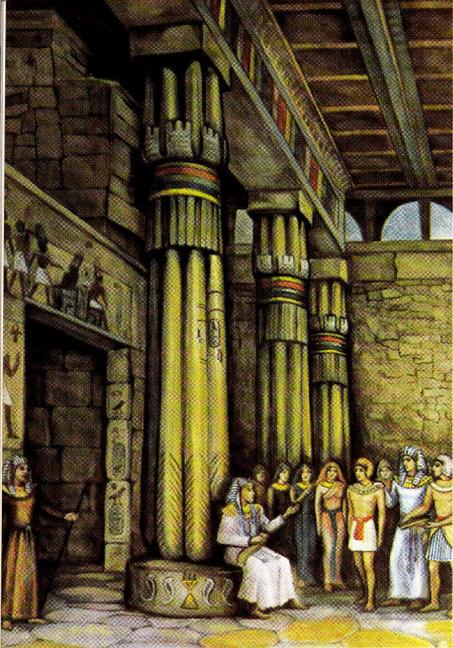
In the common phenomena of everyday life—in the observation of the coming and going of the seasons, in the ebb and flow of the tides, in the waxing and waning of the moon—these early men discovered the law of cycles, the periodicity of all nature. With the seasonal death of plant life and its recurrent birth in the spring, they found the resurrection of nature—a *strange immortality*

No business, no movement, no activity on the part of man or a group of men can become any greater than the thinking minds and consciousness of the people who are back of the movement.—*Dr. H. Spencer Lewis*.

(A Rosicrucian.)

Artist's conception of Neanderthal Man (Stone Age) standing between rows of monoliths making a salutation to the rising sun. The phenomenon was one of the earliest mysteries to man.





In the great temples of the Nile, the brotherhood met secretly as a school of arcane wisdom.

He who knows most grieves most for wasted time.—Dante. (A Rosicrucian.)

in living things. In the regular journey of the silvery specks or planets, and the apparent path of the sun across the heavens, men discerned the infallibility of nature and the suggestion of a great universal order pervading all things. All of this heightened their inquisitiveness.

THE ANCIENT WISDOM SCHOOLS

What was man's relation to the heavens and the earth? Did these forces affect his daily affairs and the cycle of his existence? These further questions, like great spades, served man to dig beneath the surface of his own consciousness. Since as remote a period as 5000 B.C., *certain men and women* have sincerely and without fear or prejudice not only probed into the earth or scanned the heavens above, but have investigated the mysteries of their *minds* and *selves*. They formed themselves into arcane or *mystery schools* for the acquisition and study of such knowledge—and for the mastery of life.

Much of the startling wisdom they acquired was reduced by them to writing on stone tablets and papyrus rolls—but the greatest portion was secretly conveyed from one to another by *word of mouth*. Sir E.A. Wallis Budge, renowned Egyptologist, in one of his learned works, relates with respect to these mystery schools: "There must have been a progressive development in the 'mysteries' and it seems as if some of them were entirely unknown under the old kingdom. It is impossible to doubt that there were 'mysteries' in the Egyptian rites, and this being so, it is impossible to think that the highest order of the Kheri-Hebs (Masters) did not possess esoteric (inner) knowledge which they guarded with the greatest care. Each, if I read the evidence correctly, possessed a 'gnosis,' a 'superiority of knowledge' which they never put into writing, and so were enabled to enlarge or diminish

its scope as circumstances made it necessary. It is, therefore, absurd to expect to find in Egyptian papyri descriptions of the secrets which formed the esoteric knowledge of the Kheri-Hebs."

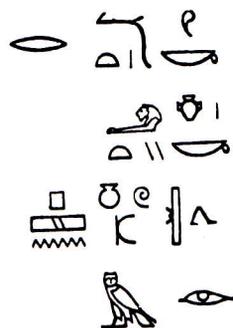
The disclosures of these ancient investigators are astounding even to the scientific world today. The eternal truths they unveiled—the facts, the hitherto unknown laws of nature—made them "masters" of fear and liberated them from the undependable elements of so-called chance and luck. What they were able to accomplish in their lives, to do for friends and members of their families, how they were able to utilize nature's forces to do their bidding were the cause of the legends that have come down to us today about the *ancient miracle workers*. To the *uninitiated*, to those still steeped in ignorance who were dwelling in darkness and doubt, these sages and mystics seemed to be performing miracles.

To those of the mystery schools who knew, these demonstrations were not magical processes but rather *the simple application of a knowledge* by which man can direct the laws of nature and the faculties of his own being. With the same understanding, what they did, *you can do*.

THE SUPPRESSED KNOWLEDGE

Truth makes men free. Consequently, those who sought it and attempted to expound it to their fellows became the objects of persecution by tyrants. The tyrants were *the ancient dictators* who sought to dominate the lives and thinking of men and women to further their own personal gain or their beliefs. For example, the Roman Emperor Justinian was

Socrates, great Athenian philosopher, condemned to die by drinking the poison hemlock because he taught the esoteric (inner) wisdom which set men's minds free.



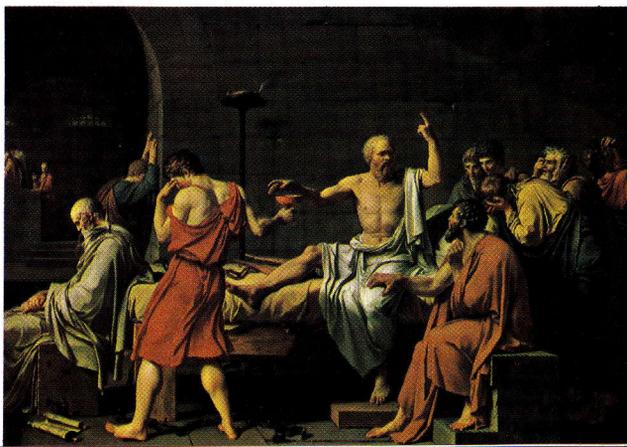
"Make not thy mind to be divided for the sake of thy tongue."



"Let all thy plans and behavior have a sound foundation."

(Above is an example of the ancient wisdom teachings of Egypt, written by Amen-em-apt, magistrate and scribe of a wisdom school. He lived during the XVIII Dynasty, 3350 years ago! His title in the mystery school was Ger-Maâ or "Real Silent One." Translated from Papyrus number 10,474.)

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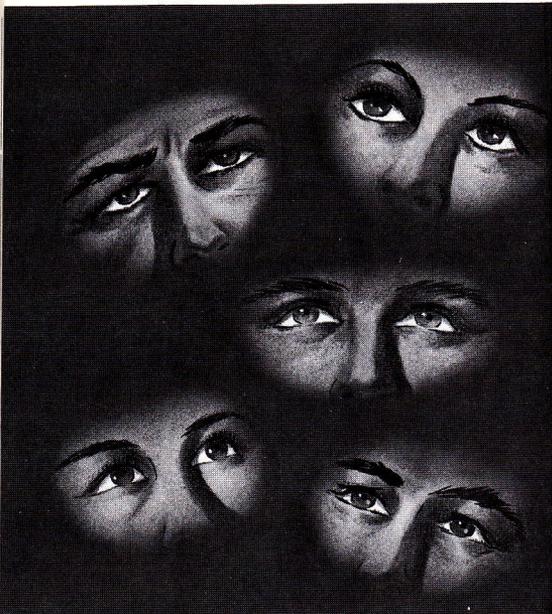
one of these. He was a misguided religious zealot who issued an edict in the Sixth Century seeking to abolish all the mystery schools. He considered the men and women who had acquired personal power and confidence in themselves from the unusual knowledge they had discovered a menace to the orthodox and often superstitious dogmas which he wished to promote. Thus it became necessary that this wisdom be *secreted* and kept for the *inquiring, courageous few* out of the multitudes.

This amazing knowledge, which secret brotherhoods have preserved, is available today to the seeker for personal achievement and the mastery of life. *It exists for you*—for everyone with an open mind. Its efficacy, its great power, can be applied to the affairs of your life with startling beneficial results.

STRANGE EXPERIENCES

Let us face facts. Your life is influenced by many inexplicable things—phenomena and happenings that you sometimes cannot quite explain or overcome. You may call them *uncanny*. Perhaps you seek to push them into the background of your consciousness. You may even laugh about them to others. Nevertheless, they are often the direct or indirect factors in preventing you from realizing some ideal, something you are seeking to attain or accomplish, or from freeing yourself of worry and strife. Have you, for example, had these strange experiences? You have met persons for the first time who have been presentable in appearance and in speech—and yet immediately a wave of distrust and dislike for them

You are several selves and personalities in one. Stop being a stranger to yourself. There is no greater adventure than exploring the frontiers of the mind.



would sweep over you. Why? It is a manifestation of *the human aura*—an invisible, magnetic radiation from the human body which we can detect. It either repels or attracts—and it is scientifically demonstrable. This emanation also has a most practical *mystical power* which was known for centuries to the students of the mystery schools, to the sages and adepts of old.

Have you ever entered a room that depressed you? The room, perhaps in a home, hotel, or office building, might have been clean, orderly, and even attractively furnished; yet while in it you were unable to accomplish your best work or feel at ease. Do you know that intense emotional outbursts, hatred, jealousy, and anger *can* and *do* affect material substances so that every room in which they occur takes on a depressing environment? *These are not superstitions*—not suppositions—but the effects of little-known natural laws around us. Obviously, understanding them, as do those who have this esoteric knowledge, makes for *the mastery of such circumstances*.

USING YOUR INTUITION

You have often had the experience of an *intuitive impression*, a hunch or idea that was most enlightening but seemed to come from nowhere. Do you know that intuition can provide an answer for almost every question, a solution to many predicaments in which you find yourself? Do you know that it can aid you in keeping the affairs of your life in order? Do you further know that this *intuitive knowledge* is part of a universal cosmic intelligence which pervades the entire universe and every cell of your being and that you can command it to serve you—that you can draw upon it as you will? While millions of men and women rely solely upon their brains and the training which is given to them through education, those who know the esoteric wisdom wait for no hunches. They do not rely solely upon their outer minds but are able to draw upon the vast resources they possess and which also exist in the cosmic forces around them.

Be persuaded first to apply thyself to the Eternal Mind, entreating Him to grant thee understanding; then seek knowledge with diligence and thou shalt never repent having taken so laudable a resolution.—*Francis Barrett, F.R.C.* (A Rosicrucian.)

Psychologists today say that man uses only a fraction of the inherent power with which he is imbued as a human being. The secret brotherhoods have known for centuries how to command and use much more of this power to round out and enjoy an enriched life. Hundreds of the so-called mysteries are understandable and workable laws of the universe to those who master this esoteric (inner) knowledge.

“Why,” you may ask, “is not this knowledge generally and widely disseminated to mankind today? Why, if such illuminating truths exist and are available to man, is he deprived of them?” We have shown what occurred in ancient times when the attempt was made to teach man these simple truths. They were often suppressed. Even today, such knowledge cannot be taught to everyone. To those who are sincere in bettering their own lives and advancing humanity, such knowledge becomes a power for good. On the other hand, in the hands of the selfish and the bigoted, the same knowledge might become a factor for misuse and further persecution of the ignorant and the helpless. But today, as we have said, it has survived because of the careful guardianship of the brotherhood mystery schools and societies.

Life is a mission. Every other definition of life is false, and leads all who accept it astray. Religion, science, philosophy, though still at variance upon many points, all agree in this, that every existence is an aim.—Mazzini. (A Rosicrucian.)

The oldest of these *humanitarian societies*, worldwide in extent and *not a religion*, is the Rosicrucians. It offers you this knowledge, as old as time, for the fullness of life, free of any religious intolerance or political or other prejudices or biases.

Attune yourself with those who are successful and happy. Cooperate with nature's laws and revel in the power that comes into your being with the dawn of each day and abides like an unseen guest in your home, your office, your places of meditation and pleasure.



The Mysterious World Within You

THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT YOURSELF



THE TOUCH OF LETTERS AND OBJECTS CAN IMMEDIATELY CONVEY IMPRESSIONS OF PAST TRAGIC EVENTS.



THE HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS CAN BE INSTANTANEOUSLY EXTENDED OUT OF THE BODY TO REMOTE PLACES AND EVENTS.

ONCE MEN AND WOMEN

were reluctant to discuss or admit strange phenomena in their lives. Experiences, happenings, and events which could not be explained by the limited knowledge of their period were left untold—and *uninvestigated*. Ignorance and prejudice relegated the not-understood functions of the mind and of the inner faculties of man to the category of supernaturalism—and mystery.

The courageous, the thinkers, the lovers of truth during such times had to make their inquiries into the secrets of nature behind closed doors. They feared a bigoted public opinion.

Today, this sham, hypocrisy, and prejudice are abolished. Many welcome truth with open arms; they no longer look upon her with suspicion or as an unwanted guest. These unique truths, which once had to be concealed and well guarded in the age of darkness, are now *brought to light* by the Rosicrucians. Strange happenings are made understandable; they are shown to be useful laws, which make for greater mastery and enjoyment of life by the individual.

There is no supernaturalism. Everything occurs by cosmic, natural law. There are no mysteries, except as our ignorance and misunderstanding make them appear so. There is no greater thrill than exploring the nature of yourself and the universe in which you live. There is no greater confidence than that which is born from understanding. There is no greater power by which you can achieve, than that which arises from a useful knowledge, such as the Rosicrucian teachings contain. Now, in the *privacy* of your home, the nature of *all* such phenomena, not just a few illustrations shown above, will be revealed to you in an intelligent, simple, fascinating way.



MENTAL IMPRESSIONS AND SIGHT AND SOUND SENSATIONS CAN BE COMMUNICATED AT A DISTANCE WITHOUT PHYSICAL MEANS.



HUMANS RADIATE A MAGNETIC ENERGY REVEALING THEIR TRUE PERSONALITY. THOSE IN THEIR PRESENCE CAN SENSE IT AT ONCE.



CHANGING THOUGHTS INTO THINGS. WE CAN MENTALLY CREATE USEFUL REALITIES FROM OUR IDEAS.

Pharaoh Akhnaton, Traditional Grand Master of
the Ancient Egyptian Brotherhood of 1350 B.C.



PART THREE

The Age-Old Rosicrucians

The Rosicrucians are a fraternal order. They are a body of progressive men and women, interested in exhausting the possibilities of life by a sane and sensible use of their heritage of esoteric knowledge and the faculties which they possess as human beings. This knowledge which they cherish, and to which they add further contributions, embraces every realm of human endeavor and every phenomenon of the universe known to man.

They are men and women such as you would meet in any gathering of thinking, open-minded, and inquiring people—yet they are to be found in every walk of life, from the humblest to the highest. Your next-door neighbor, perhaps the man or woman who works in the office or shop with you, may be a Rosicrucian.

In our Monastery library the sacred, secret manuscripts of the Rosicrucians furnish a never-failing supply of rare knowledge; the supply seems to be inexhaustible in its richness of illumination.—*Friar Dudley Everleigh.* (A Rosicrucian.)

The Rosicrucian traditions which have come down by word of mouth, and those which are so often related in literary reference works, tell how the Order had its birth as one of the mystery schools of secret wisdom in ancient Egypt during the 18th Dynasty, or the reign of Pharaoh Akhnaton, about 1350 B.C. Its *fascinating symbolism* and rituals relate it definitely to the illuminating wisdom of the sages of Egypt and the great centers of learning of the ancient lands of the East. Its first member-students, it is further traditionally related, met in the secret chambers of the Great Pyramid. In the magnificent temples, as candidates, they were

initiated *into the great mysteries*. These legends also recount how its adepts, its great masters and teachers, imparted some of their wisdom to the builders of King Solomon's magnificent and symbolic temple. Many tomes, rare books, and documents of several centuries ago, reposing in the archives of the Rosicrucian Order in this country and in Europe, describe its early spread from the Orient to Europe in ancient times, and the great influence it had upon the minds of men and women thirsty for knowledge.

THE WESTERN WORLD ROSICRUCIANS

The Rosicrucians first came to America and to the Western world in 1694. Under the leadership of Johann Kelpius, a Master of one of the Rosicrucian Lodges of Europe, a small band of members who sought *freedom of thinking* and of speech and the right to search for truth wherever it might be found, desired the liberty of the new land to the west. They landed in what is now the great city of Philadelphia, and their first colony was located in what became the famous Fairmount Park of that city. Their descendants built a colony at Ephrata, Pennsylvania, and there they constructed the first astronomical observatory in America and the Western world, also the first paper mill; they organized the first American symphony orchestra and developed the first botanical gardens. Their later leaders and members actively participated in the founding of the United States of America as a nation.

The picturesque old dormitory used by the unmarried women members of the Rosicrucian Colony established at Ephrata, Pennsylvania, over two centuries ago.



NOT A RELIGION—NONPOLITICAL

Since its earliest inception, the Rosicrucian Order has kept free of religious sectarianism and affiliations, desiring rather that each member follow the dictates of his own conscience in religious matters. It has never been involved in political controversies and has consistently fought *superstition*, ignorance, and fear as the greatest enemies of man and the obstacles to his mastery of life.

Today the Rosicrucian Order, as a vast, progressive movement, has Lodges and fraternal Temples throughout the civilized world. It no longer has to be secret in the sense that it conceals its identity. In beautiful Rosicrucian Park, San Jose, California, at the See of the International Jurisdiction of the Order for The Americas, British Commonwealth, France, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, and Africa, the Order maintains for its research and *for the benefit of its vast membership* wherever they are located a research library, science laboratories, a planetarium for astronomical studies, a museum of Egyptian antiquities, an art gallery, a physical science museum, and extensive administration buildings.

It is today known by its traditional and authentic complete title, the *Ancient Mystical Order Rosae Crucis* (abbreviated AMORC and used in that manner for simplicity).*

When nature's many mysterious activities are understood, man is able to conquer the so-called "evil influences" which beset his path in life.—*Rev. George Banning*. (A Rosicrucian.)



*The following are but a *few* of the many well-known, impartial literary and reference sources referring to the Rosicrucian history and current activities of the A.M.O.R.C. The references appear under the subject of "Rosicrucian."

Encyclopaedia Britannica, 14th Edition; Winston's Cumulative Loose-Leaf Encyclopedia and Dictionary; Funk and Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary, 1950; The World Book; Concise Encyclopedia; Everyman's Encyclopedia.

Manifesto



Au Nom et Sous les Auspices de la PUISSANCE SUPRÊME

CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL des ORDRES ORIENTAUX PAIX - TOLÉRANCE - UNION!

It is decreed that since the A.M.O.R.C. with its S.S. and See in the Valley of San Jose, California, is the only authorized sector of the ancient Fraternity of Rosicrucians perpetuating the true traditions and principles of the R+C in North and South America, with authenticity recognized by all the ancient Initiatic Orders forming this Conseil International Federation, therefore, the said S.S. and its Imperator (ad vitam), Th... Ill. Fratre H. Spencer Lewis, F.R.C. 33° 66° 95° S.I., and his hereditary successors shall be the exclusive representatives and Sovereign Officers for North and South Americas and their affiliated countries, of all the Initiatic Orders composing the FUDOESI, with authority to establish and maintain such Orders in the aforesaid countries.

This decree was unanimously endorsed by vote of all the Sovereign Officers and recognized delegates of the fourteen Orders composing the FUDOESI at its International Convention in Brussels, Belgium during the week of August 13th to 18th 1934 A.D., and attested by the following principle officers of the said fourteen Orders who were personally present:

[Handwritten signatures and names of officers, including: Victor Blanchard, H. Namy, M. M..., S. I. II, and others. Some signatures are accompanied by small circular or square emblems.]

PROOF OF AUTHORITY

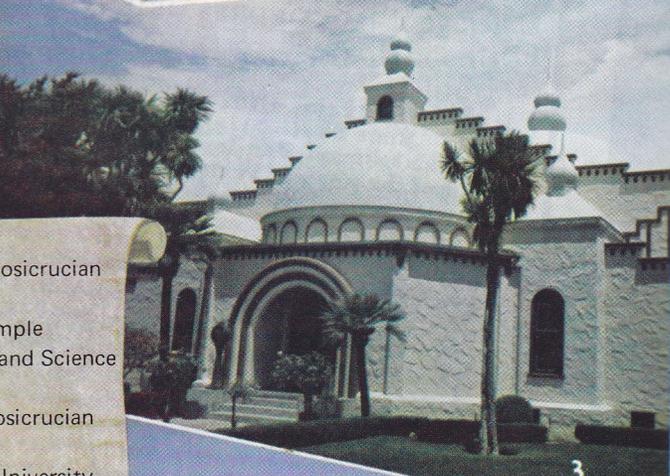
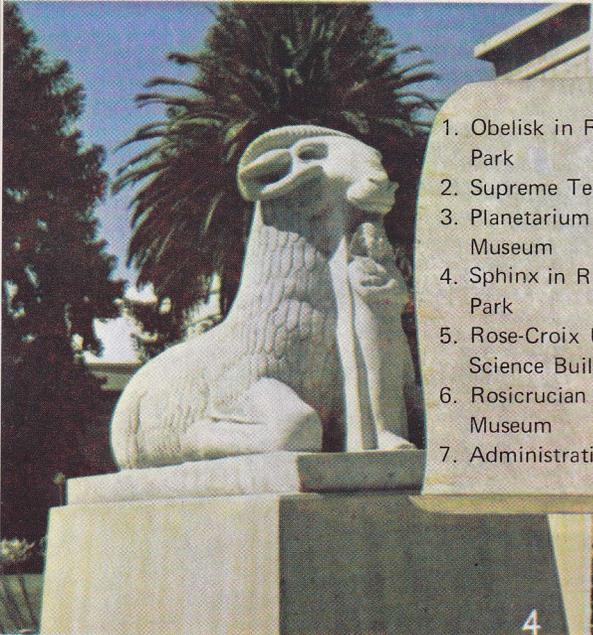
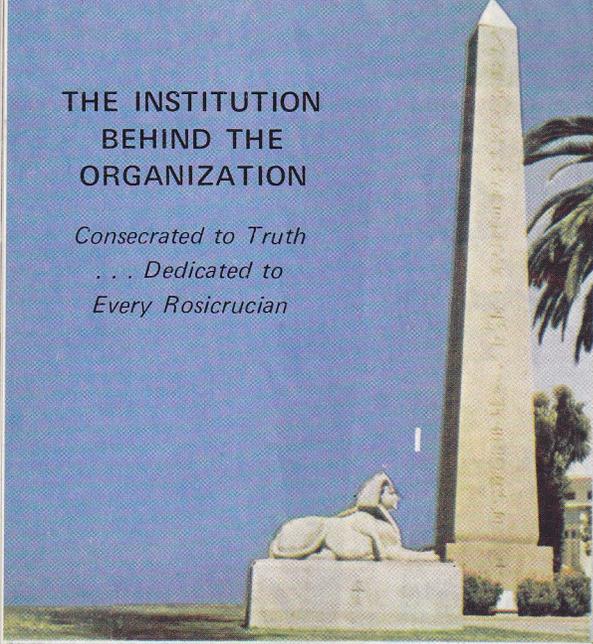
A signed and sealed Manifesto issued in Brussels, Belgium, by a federation of the authentic, historical, mystical brotherhoods and Orders of the world. It declares the A.M.O.R.C. to be "the only authorized sector of the Ancient Fraternity of Rosicrucians perpetuating the true traditions of the R + C in North and South America." The full-size original is one of the many documents in the archives of AMORC which establishes its world-wide affiliation with the Traditional and Ancient Rosicrucian Order.

Seek not too eagerly after the grace of devotion, sensible sweetness, and tears; but let thy chief care be to remain inwardly united to God by good will in the intellectual part of the Soul.—Albertus Magnus.

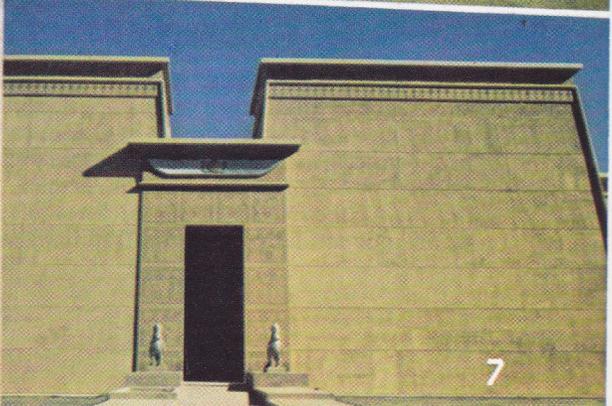
(A Rosicrucian.)

THE INSTITUTION
BEHIND THE
ORGANIZATION

*Consecrated to Truth
... Dedicated to
Every Rosicrucian*



- 1. Obelisk in Rosicrucian Park
- 2. Supreme Temple
- 3. Planetarium and Science Museum
- 4. Sphinx in Rosicrucian Park
- 5. Rose-Croix University Science Building
- 6. Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum
- 7. Administration Building



What Rosicrucian Membership Provides You

THE MANY BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE



The Rosicrucians offer you the opportunity to reshape your life, to add to it those necessary elements which make for personal satisfaction and full living. They can help you find yourself, so that each day becomes a joyful experience and not a haphazard existence or an ordeal. You are required to make no changes in your usual business or social affairs to receive this age-old yet ever-new personal guidance of the Rosicrucians.

Regardless of race, religion, social conditions, or where you live, you can share the privileges of personal, *private* membership. Further, regardless of how much you have read, what colleges or universities you may have attended—*or even if you have never attended any*—the Rosicrucians offer you through their teachings a message of hope, fellowship, and a dependable, unique source of knowledge not obtainable elsewhere.

Can you spare just a little time to give to personal fascinating reading which requires *no laborious study* or tedious memorizing? If so, then you are well situated to receive the many following membership benefits:

God is a Number
endowed with motion,
which is felt but not
demonstrated.—*Balzac*
(A Rosicrucian.)

FIRST

Rosicrucian System of Guidance

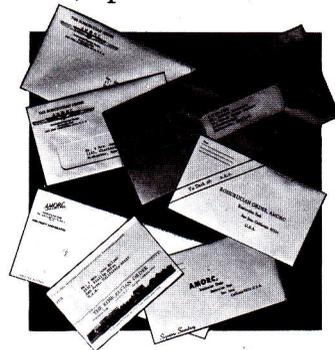
The Rosicrucian monographs or lessons constitute a fascinating revelation of the mysteries of life. However, this great *human engineering* done by the Rosicrucians, this building of lives and this implanting in them of the factors of confidence, success, and happiness, is *not* accomplished by any impersonal, correspondence-course method of merely extending knowledge to the member. Each lesson also takes into consideration the need for the quickening of the consciousness of the individual. It seeks to awaken his dormant talents and to develop his personal powers rather than to cram his mind with cold and often-times useless facts.

The member, in the privacy of his own home, is made to realize that he is comprehending and *mastering* his environment and affairs, as well as just learning. No one is accepted or permitted to remain as a mere student of a system of study.

HOW THE LESSONS ARE PREPARED

The supreme executive of the Rosicrucian Order, known as the Imperator, decided that the Rosicrucian teachings for this private, personal kind of membership could not be put in book form like texts on accountancy or mathematics, which infrequently change. Any method for issuing the Rosicrucian teachings *must be kept flexible*.

This is so that new discoveries—which Rosicrucian researchers are consistently making—may be included that members may enjoy the benefits which they make possible. Thus these teachings are



There is no chance, no
destiny, no fate
Can circumvent, or
hinder or control
The firm resolve of a
determined soul.
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.
(A Rosicrucian.)

issued in manuscript form, four for every month in the year. Their wording is in large, *easy-to-read type*. Suitable illustrations are included with them whenever it is necessary to make a topic especially clear. No expense is spared by the Rosicrucian staff to assure the member of getting the utmost from his membership.

NO COLLEGE EDUCATION NECESSARY

Educators have often highly praised the presentation of the personal, private Rosicrucian instructions at home. Anyone able to read and understand his daily newspaper would be able to comprehend with great pleasure the marvelous but most simply presented truths which these lessons contain. The mastery of any subject, the Rosicrucians know, is shown by stating it simply, and in *this*, the Rosicrucian monographs, or lessons, excel.

ARRANGED IN EASY STEPS

The student is introduced to each topic in its order. Gradually and simply, a truth, the solution of a mystery, vital knowledge, a useful fact, or a bit of information merges into another. The member is *not plunged* into a maze of terms and phrases which he cannot understand and which annoy and fatigue him. The lessons are arranged by degrees and grades, each following in its proper order. The lessons, or monographs, are mailed to the member in *sealed envelopes* by first-class mail.



As Brethren of the Rosy Cross, our personal endeavors, our minds, our laboratories, clinics, and institutes are devoted to the rebuilding of the human race and the advancement of civilization.—
Dr. H. Spencer Lewis.
(A Rosicrucian.)

LITTLE TIME REQUIRED

You will be required to devote only one hour to one hour and thirty minutes once a week to obtain *the vital value* from the lessons. During the rest of the week, while walking, riding, or even working, you will find that, without interference with your affairs, you can try some of the principles you read. In fact, you can use them frequently in mastering daily problems.

Some of the *fascinating truths* Taught

BELOW are indicated *but a few* of hundreds of fascinating subjects taught and thoroughly explained as part of the Rosicrucian system of guidance. The limits of space herein make it impossible to list more of these topics of truth which will be extended to you as easily understandable lessons.

The subjects shown are all included in the Rosicrucian teachings, but they are presented to the member in a different order from that listed here.

Care of the Body.
Intuition and Judgment.
Using Mental Powers at Will.
The Mysteries of Time and Space.
Man's Five Senses.
The Human Consciousness.
Drawing on Inner Forces.
Inquiry into the Nature of Soul.
Mystical Laws and Principles.
Mystery of Matter—Cohesion, Adhesion, Magnetism.
Meaning of Ancient Symbolism.
Attaining Cosmic Consciousness.
Development of Personal Magnetism.
Fundamentals of Mental Attunement.

What the Mystics of the Orient Taught.
The Human Aura and Its Vibratory Effect.
Regeneration—Health and Adding Years to Your Life.
Rosicrucian Mystics and the Creative Power of Mind.
Experiments on Thought Transmission.
Discourse on Experiments in Creating Life out of Nonliving Matter.
The Creative Power, the Cosmic Mind.
Experiments with Color, Thought Vibrations, Sound, and Light.
Human Emotions and Instincts, and Their Relation to Personality.
How to Improve Your Daily Affairs.

SECOND

A Lodge At Home

A unique method of Rosicrucian *personal, private* membership is "the Lodge at Home." Your "study corner"—or a part of your sleeping room—may become your temple, your Lodge, without expense or interference with the interests of any member of your family. You select *one*

A Lodge Night at home. Many husbands and wives will want to enjoy Rosicrucian study together. In this case, a second companion application must be requested and filled out by one of the parties. Dues for the second person are then very nominal. For further information on this plan, please write for details on Companion Membership.



night a week—any night will suffice—and that becomes *Your Lodge Night*. At that time you review and contemplate the wonderful disclosures which are included in your lessons.

THIRD

Demonstrations ...

Simple Experiments

There is nothing that establishes confidence in what is offered as a fact or as a principle of nature like being able to test it personally and experience its “working” yourself. True knowledge is experience, for you never truly know a thing until you experience it. Thus wherever possible every Rosicrucian lesson making some emphatic declaration that a thing “is,” or “does,” has some simple little experiment which you—whether a housewife or a businessman—can perform to prove to yourself the accuracy of the statements made. These experiments require no scientific equipment or knowledge of science and will take but a few minutes to perform each week. Many are not of a physical nature but rather are *mental* experiments. As these laws of nature perform at your command, you immediately begin to sense a new-found power, and you know you are on the path to the mastery of life.



Rosicrucian alchemists in the Middle Ages conducted experiments secretly in garrets to avoid persecution by the superstitious masses. Their discoveries have advanced knowledge. The results of their labors contributed to our heritage of useful information today.



FOURTH

Signs of Recognition

You will receive a membership card establishing your affiliation with the international jurisdiction of The Americas, British Commonwealth, France, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, and Africa of the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC. You

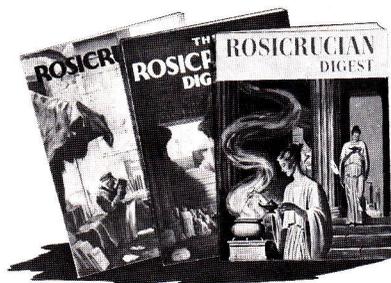


will be instructed in the traditional signs of recognition, and you will be given the passwords and grips which will entitle you to admission into the various Lodges and Chapters of the Order throughout the world. Wherever you go you will be recognized in Rosicrucian Lodges and Chapters by such signs, and greeted as a Frater or Soror of the Ancient Mystical Order Rosae Crucis (AMORC). Likewise, you will be given most inspiring, impressive, symbolic initiations into the various degrees of the Order. These beautiful yet simple ceremonies have a moral which will linger long in your mind as a happy experience.

FIFTH

Fascinating Monthly Magazine

The *Rosicrucian Digest*, official publication of the Rosicrucians, is *issued free* to you each month as one of your many membership privileges. It is a leading periodical for *self-improvement*. It contains well-written, simply presented articles which contain useful facts, facts which you, regardless of your station in life, can apply with much benefit to yourself. Its articles on natural phenomena, mental and physical science, mysticism, travel, and its unusual photographs of ancient cultures and peoples, contributed from throughout the world, will fascinate you.



Good always flows in the channels it has once selected.—*L.C. de Saint-Martin*. (A Rosicrucian.)

SIXTH

Personal Attention

A system for determining your *personal progress* and understanding throughout the degrees or grades of the Rosicrucian guidance has been established. Periodically, simple examinations will be given to you and, by their results, ways and means of further aiding you in your use of the teachings are then prepared. Reports of your personal welfare are requested from time to time. By them the Rosicru-

cian staff will always be acquainted with your needs and requirements and thus be able to extend you any special services within its province.

SEVENTH

Various Departmental Facilities

Facilities of the various departments of the Rosicrucian Order are at your disposal as a member. Each department has as its ideal to contribute to your personal enlightenment, and to that perfection which is your right as a human being. Such departments include that of correspondence for answering your communications and necessary questions, the *Council of Solace* to aid you with certain personal problems, the Research Library that arranges to provide you with special information which you may need, the cultural assistance of the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum, the research activities of the various laboratories of the Rose-Croix University of the A.M.O.R.C., and the scientific demonstrations in the Science Museum and Planetarium. *They provide useful information and facts in simple language.* How you may use, as your membership privileges, these facilities and others too numerous to be listed in this limited space, will be fully explained to you as a member.

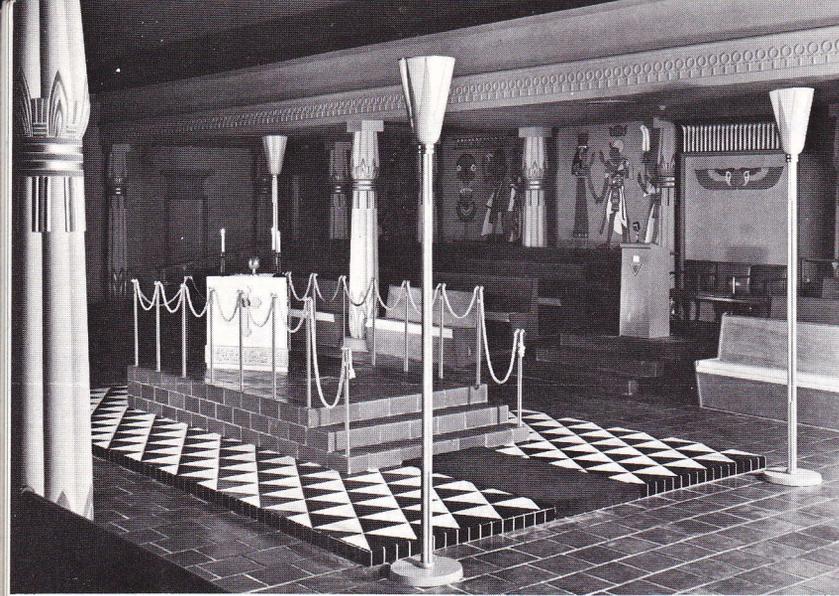


Left: The Rose-Croix University. Unique research is conducted here and the findings passed on to members in *simple language* which they can use to enlarge their personal power and scope of living.

Below: The Rosicrucian Research Library. Its information on nearly all subjects—in addition to the teachings—is made available by a unique plan to members no matter where they reside throughout the world.

Page Twenty-Seven





Left: The Supreme Temple at Rosicrucian Park, where fraternal convocations are held.

EIGHTH

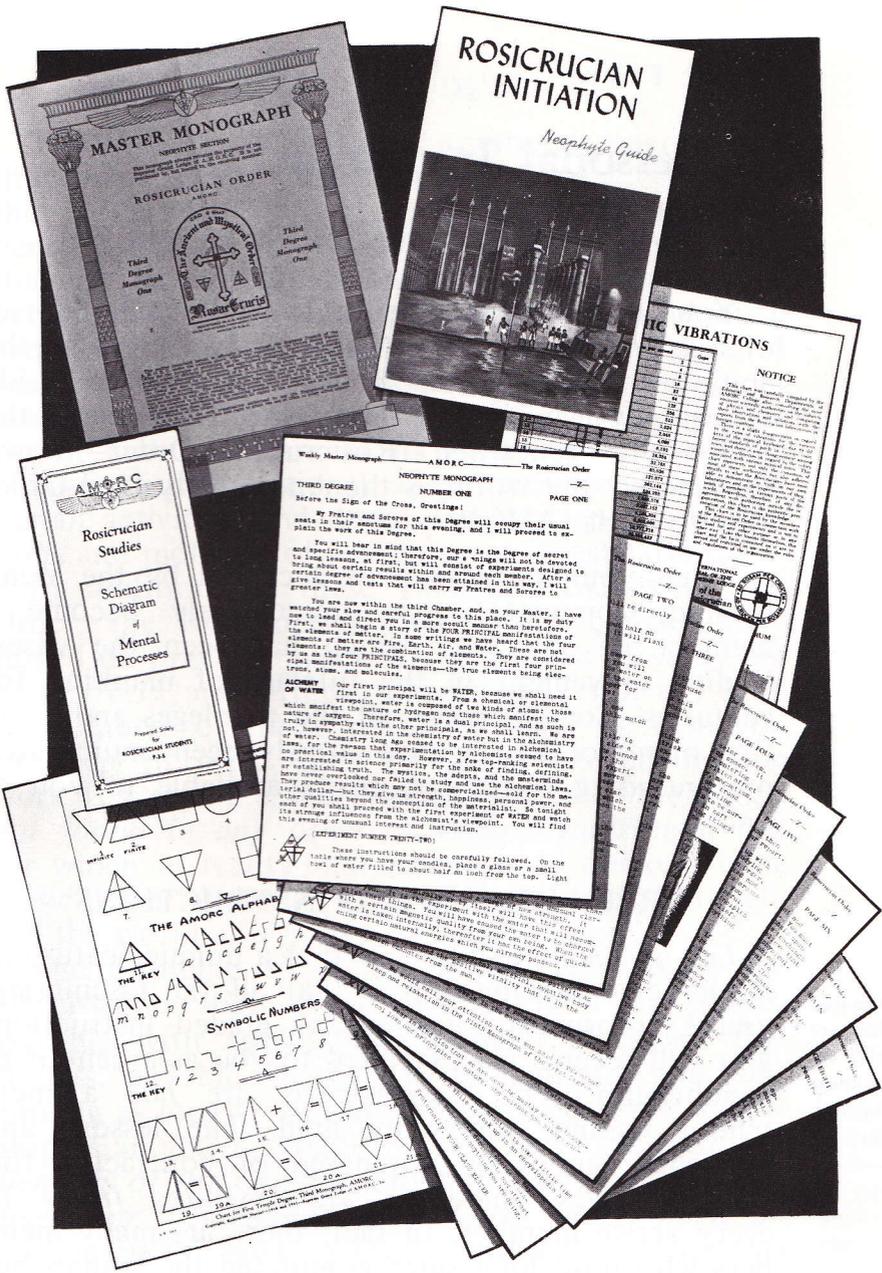
Intimate Association

As a Rosicrucian member, you will be associated with the largest and *oldest* fraternity in the world devoted to man's personal development through the utilizing of his natural powers of mind and the simple and yet little-known laws of the universe. Many are the prominent men and women in history who were proud to disclose their Rosicrucian membership. You will become *united in thought and purpose* with thousands of individual members and those in Lodges and Chapters throughout the world. This association with those of like mind, with its exchange of ideas, is a valuable benefit, for it causes us to grow inwardly *and in accomplishment* as we become stronger in our convictions.

Below: One of the annual International Rosicrucian Conventions held in Rosicrucian Park, San Jose, California. Members from all over the world attend. Attendance at a Convention is not necessary, however, to derive the full benefit of Rosicrucian membership.

You will also have the opportunity of *personal association* in a Rosicrucian assembly or temple with others when you have reached a certain stage in the teachings of the Order.





A ROSICRUCIAN LESSON

The illustrations above show, reduced, the interior and exterior of an individual lesson sent regularly to each student. In addition to personal letters—as many as are needed to answer your questions pertaining to the studies—the lessons are accompanied by all necessary charts and diagrams to further explain and make perfectly clear the interesting subjects. You are also given certain experiments and tests whereby you can PROVE and DEMONSTRATE to yourself the efficacy of the principles and teachings. The lessons are printed in large, typewriter-style type, easy to read, and graded so as to advance step by step.

PART FIVE

A Personal Invitation

WE INVITE YOU TO BECOME A MEMBER

You are not being solicited to study some courses of lessons. You are being courteously invited by the application, which you should find attached inside the back cover of this book, to affiliate with the historically renowned Rosicrucian Order—known throughout the world as the Ancient Mystical Order Rosae Crucis (AMORC).

When your application is accepted by the Membership Committee, you immediately become a member of an Order which has been the wisest leading movement in the tutelage of mankind for centuries. Consequently, all the privileges and benefits, many of which have already been enumerated on preceding pages, are made available to you at once.

FREE LESSONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

Let us again remind you that a unique feature of Rosicrucian membership is that all the fascinating, useful, informative lessons and graded instructions you will receive are extended to you as a benefit of membership. The Rosicrucians are *not* a mere school issuing studies by mail. The lessons and teachings cannot be purchased or contracted for. The teachings, therefore, are *extended freely* to every active member. In fact, there are many members who have long since completed the studies but retain membership for its many other benefits.

Ignorance is the true original sin. Men are bankrupts morally because they do not know the gold mine that is in them.—*J. Brierley*. (A Rosicrucian.)

FEES AND DUES

The Order is strictly a brotherhood, operating in that sense as do other fraternities. Membership in the Rosicrucian Order carries with it the many benefits *distinct to all fraternities* and many others that are *unique*. As in fraternities, there are membership dues, payable monthly, and a nominal "registration fee." This fee and monthly dues of small amount are the donations on the part of members to the general operating funds of the Order, and take care of its extension expenses, its building funds, national and international humanitarian activities, and donations to scientific expeditions and methods of research and investigation.

In addition to these general activities of the Order, the Rosicrucians conduct the courses mentioned on previous pages. These courses of study are given *freely* and without charge or fees of any kind to members of the Order. Therefore, we wish you to keep in mind that the study and instruction work is a separate and distinct feature of the Order, *not found in any other fraternal organization*, and for which in reality our members do not pay. (The Rosicrucian Order, AMORC, is registered throughout the world as *a nonprofit organization*.)

The Supreme Council has purposely made the "Registration Fee" very nominal. It is ten dollars, payable with application. Monthly dues are five dollars, payable the first of each month and continuing as long as a desire is expressed for membership as an active student.* *These fees include all the benefits of the Order's activities. There are no other fees, nor assessments, nor books which must be purchased in order to study, and no limitations to the degree of advancement that members may make in their studies.* The monthly magazine, the *Rosicrucian Digest*, is also sent gratis to all members taking the studies by correspondence from the Rosicrucian Grand Lodge.

The Eternal Truths are revealed through spiritual meditation, and make all men who receive them the Magi of their time.—*Sir Edward Kelly*. (A Rosicrucian.)

* Reductions in dues are made for longer term payments, as follows:
Dues paid semiannually: \$27.00

Final Instructions

VERY IMPORTANT

There are several ways in which this booklet may have come into your hands. It is intended for careful and discreet distribution only to those who seem worthy of admission into the Order.

It may have been handed to you by someone who wishes you to realize that there is something vital in life that may answer your desires and end your quest. It may have been passed along to you by a friend or acquaintance who feels that it will arouse an inquiry in your mind. Therefore, there may be no application blank or letter of invitation enclosed. In that case, if you feel interested, write at once to the Grand Secretary and ask for an application form. If your inquiry appears to be sincere, the Secretary will invite you to file an application with him.

You may have written to the Rosicrucian Order for this booklet and it may have come to you accompanied by a letter and with the Application Blank attached in the booklet. It is then *a direct invitation for you to become a member*, issued after your request has been properly considered.

How To Proceed

FIRST: Carefully fill out the Application Blank. The answer to each question is important and will be treated as strictly confidential.

SECOND: Having answered all the questions in the Application Blank, sign it accurately. Enclose with it the Registration Fee of Ten Dollars.

THIRD: Mail your Application and Registration Fee promptly to the Grand Secretary. Register your letter if it contains cash, and if you send a check or money order make it payable to AMORC FUNDS.

Acknowledgment should reach you within two weeks or less. If you do not hear from the Secretary in that time, write to him in detail. If your application is rejected for any reason whatsoever, your Registration Fee will be returned to you with a frank explanation.

Address all mail to

ROSICRUCIAN ORDER (AMORC)
ROSICRUCIAN PARK, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95191, U.S.A.

The one remains, the
many change and pass;
Heaven's light forever
shines; earth's shadows
fly.—*Shelley*. (A Rosi-
crucian.)

Become united with

ENLIGHTENED MINDS EVERYWHERE

TRUTH knows no barrier! The A.M.O.R.C. (not a religion) is one of the oldest *authentic* organizations and societies perpetuating the *ancient truths* for the advancement of mankind. By becoming a member of the Rosicrucian Order, A.M.O.R.C., -you will be brought into contact with other great mystery schools and their renowned teachings throughout the world. This is a rare privilege and a great additional benefit you will enjoy. Become in tune with the times—and the thoughts of the greatest minds everywhere.



EGYPT



SO. AMERICA



HOLLAND



ENGLAND



INDIA



ORIENT



AUSTRALIA

The matter contained in this booklet is officially issued through the Supreme Council of AMORC. The Ancient Name and Symbols of the Rosicrucian Order are Registered and Protected by the United States Patent Office exclusively in the name of AMORC. (The initials A.M.O.R.C. indicate the *authentic* Rosicrucian Order.) The above name and the symbol below are also registered in Great Britain, Dominion of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, and several other nations.

The use of the cross in Rosicrucian symbolism has no religious significance. The cross predates modern religions, and its symbology is fully explained to the beginning student.

