

ASTROLOGY

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Being a tract on the Planetary Influences on the Extraction of the Oil of Metals

Hans W. Nintzel

Students of the Paracelsus Research Society working on the preparation of oils from various metals often asked: "Why do the results of extractions differ so much from time to time"? Many oils can be extracted in a matter of hours, whereas in other cases it may take weeks or months or longer. In one particular case, there was no visible results after a period of two years! One can then safely assume that no oil will **ever** appear.

These unsatisfactory results lead to several hypotheses based on topical astrology: The exact moment of time during which the menstruum was poured onto the metal was recorded in a number of cases, and the corresponding horoscopes were erected. Such a horoscope may be compared to a horoscope of conception, a "natal horoscope". For it is certainly not the moment of birth of the oil, but, rather, the moment at which the whole operations commences, or is "born".

Similarly, our lab records were searched for such experiments where the exact temporal starting points had been recorded, and the corresponding horoscopes were calculated.

We started by erecting the midnight horoscope of the day in question as well as the horoscope of the exact time of conception. (*i.e.*, the pouring on of the menstruum) But it soon became clear that in most cases it was sufficient to erect a simple solar horoscope where the first house is formed by the sun's sign. This horoscope was easily obtained by consulting an ordinary planetary ephemeris.

We then proceeded by listing all relations between the planetary positions among themselves. But this arrangement was not very conclusive, since it was not possible to draw a unique conclusion about possible relationships between the reacting substances and their horoscopes. The position of the planet Vulcan was then added to our list. Carl Stahl's Ephemeris for Vulcan was consulted. At this point a clear pattern emerged. The best way to understand what follows is by means of analogies. For the correspondences are easier to interpret as analogies. *e.g.*, one can consider that the sun represents the soul as well as the alchemical sulphur. The theory of analogy and the introductory astrology lessons as taught at PRS is all that is needed for understanding the following:

The Sun thus represents the alchemical sulphur. The planet Mercury represents the alchemical mercury and the menstruum. The planet ruling the metal being extracted will represent the alchemical salt. The planet Vulcan represents the "inner fire". As alchemy teaches, the regulation of the fire is of extreme importance. Since the menstruum used is the very volatile and etheric substance as taught in the TERTIA class, the regulation of the fire is the only variable that has to be given some special emphasis in this process. All the other planets are relatively unimportant and need not be considered in the horoscope. The only planets that need to be considered are the planets representing the alchemical sulphur, mercury and salt and the inner fire.