



The Rosicrucian Order

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THE CONCURRENCE

This Week's Consideration of a Famous Opinion



¶ We are asked to remember that "Whatever thou canst create in thine imagination and see with thine inner eye, can be created externally, and given life and form in compliance with the laws of the material world." Henry Cornelius Agrippa, writing early in the 16th century, expressed this thought somewhat differently, but his meaning is clearly the same.



There is also a certain virtue in the minds of men of changing, attracting, hindering, and binding to that which they desire; and all things obey them when they are carried into a great excess of any passion or virtue, so as to exceed those things which they bind. For the superior binds that which is inferior, and converts it to itself; and the inferior is, by the same reason, converted to the superior, or is otherwise affected, and wrought upon.

—HENRY CORNELIUS AGRIPPA, 1486-1535

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To the Members of the Esoteric Hierarchy, Greetings!

It has been found that man cannot use his creative energy in too many ways at the same time. Overindulgence in sexual intercourse is sure to use up a great amount of this creative energy and leave little in the body for other purposes. On the other hand, musicians or artists who devote many hours of the day and night to the creation of beautiful things have little sexual potency and often become impotent so far as producing offspring is concerned. Eventually desire for sexual intercourse is eliminated because the creative energy in their bodies, accustomed to exercising itself through the mind in creating things under mind power, no longer exerts itself through the sex organs.

The old proverb about burning the candle at both ends indicates that you cannot use creative power for too many miscellaneous purposes or you will use it faster than it can be accumulated. It is not as though this creative energy from the universe were inexhaustible no matter how much you use. It flows mildly into the human body and must accumulate there from day to day in order that it may be applied and used intelligently and moderately.

This must be kept in mind in connection with the excerpt you were asked to consider: "Whatever thou canst create in thine imagination and see with thine inner eye, can be created externally, and given life and form in compliance with the laws of the material world."

There are two ways of interpreting this paragraph: One that it means that whatever man can visualize or imagine or create in his imagination can be brought into material realization. In other words, if you imagine a magnificent building, it can be materialized through having builders create it out of building materials. If you visualize a beautiful picture, it can be created in material form upon canvas or some other material. If you visualize a bridge, a boat, an automobile, a garden, a table lamp or anything else, it can be built or made by hand or by machinery.

Another way to interpret it is to say that whatever man can visualize and create in his imagination, he can also create through mental power out of the nothingness of space or out of the electronic energy of space, not by using materials as a builder erects a building out of bricks, but by using only the creative power passing through us and the power of mind to control and direct it. This latter explanation the mystics of old held to be true. They knew well enough that man could build those things imagined by bricks, cement, stone, marble, or metal. There was no mysticism or mythical philosophy or secret of nature involved in such creating and building. But the question remains: Can the human mind create things out of invisible matter, such as electrons? Is it possible,



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for instance, for you to sit in your sanctum and imagine and create in your mind a beautiful flower and then apply the creative energy flowing through you, and concentrate it and direct it to such an extent that you can create a beautiful flower right in your room? Or, if not this, is it possible to visualize a home, an automobile, or some other beautiful or needful thing, and by attuning with the Cosmic bring it into realization through attracting the conditions which will produce it?

In the matter of creating and attracting the things we want, we should not be limited by the materialistic opinions and philosophies of today. The materialistic sciences tend to make man believe that his mind does not possess creative power and that man does not possess control over the creative forces of the universe. That philosophy is absolutely false, as you will learn. In asking you to give thought to how far the creative power of man's mind—the Divine mind in man—can go in creating the things he wants and needs, I want you to analyze the possibilities from two points of view: First, what you believe from what you have read and what you understand; and second, what you hope for. In other words, how far do you believe the power of mind can go in creating things, and second, how far do you wish the mind could go in this creative ability?

At first thought, you will probably wish the mind could go the full limit in creating things. A little more thought, however, will suggest that that would be dangerous and would give entirely too much power to the average individual. If all individuals, or even those mystically trained, possessed unlimited creative power, a hodgepodge of independent creations would result! Some would make laws and create new standards of conduct and methods of living while others would create ways and means of neutralizing them. Some would create new inventions and new methods of doing things while others would create the very opposite things to destroy them. Thus, it would seem wise that God has limited man's creative power to some extent. But what is that extent? What are the limits you would put upon man's creative power?

In creative imagination, man is unlimited. There is hardly a thing that he cannot imagine or create in his imagination. He can create absurd, ridiculous, foolish, dangerous things as well as good and useful and practical things. We know that one of the great sources of trouble in the world today is the fact that man can create, with his hands and with his mind, destructive instruments such as guns, bombs, poison gas, invisible rays, highly destructive chemical lotions, and so forth. Man has found a thousand ways to injure, cripple, destroy, and to make life miserable for others, either individually or in large groups. Man has also found ways of creating sociological and economic standards, rules, and conditions that make thousands of persons unhappy and uncomfortable.



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On the whole, it may be said, man has created, invented, and produced more good and beneficial things than evil. Every now and then a new invention is patented that will contribute to the joy, happiness, peace, prosperity, and health of thousands of persons. The motion picture has probably done more than any other recent invention to contribute to the pleasure, joy and entertainment as well as the education and culture of millions of persons. We recognize the evil found in some motion pictures and we recognize that the motion pictures can be used for an evil as well as for a good purpose. If all the motion-picture possibilities were turned in evil directions, however, they would not last, because there are enough right-minded persons in the world to overcome that evil.

The average individual who insists upon betterment of conditions and the upliftment of mankind keeps the world improving instead of going backward. The reason these persons succeed is that the Cosmic is back of their plans and desires for goodness, and does not support schemes and devices for evil. Even if the Cosmic were not back of such persons, there would still be enough of them to make it impossible for evil to succeed and continue. There are not enough evil-minded persons in the world to succeed in overcoming the good. The world keeps on improving, therefore, despite the fact that here and there a generally destructive or evil period occurs. All the good things done by and through man, nevertheless, have been created by man after a Cosmic or Divine inspiration.

It may be thought that God and the Cosmic create—or could create—all the good things without man's entering into the process at all. It should be remembered, however, that many of the things that have contributed to our happiness, health, success, and progress have to be made of material things in material form. Here is where the assistance of man enters into the divine scheme. God and the Cosmic use men and women as channels for producing those things needed to advance civilization and to improve the well-being of mankind.

Philosophically, we may say that God created the telephone because of the service it renders to mankind; but God did not create it in heaven as a perfected instrument, drop a sample of it into the lap of man and let him make duplicates of it. God inspired the idea in the mind of man, but man created the details and methods, applying natural laws, and working out the practical ends of the telephone. Then he made models and specimens of the device he had created in his mind. He drew upon the raw materials of the earth, and upon the natural laws of vibration and electricity, and combined them to construct a device called a telephone. Still other minds had to create the machinery to produce them and duplicate the original model. It was man then who created the telephone even though it was God who inspired it.



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This is likewise true of the thousands of wonderful things we have, including the ink in our inkwells, the pens with which we write, the typewriters, the lead pencils, and other simple things of ordinary correspondence. It is equally true of the furnishings in our homes, our food, our cooking utensils, automobiles, trolley cars, railroads and airplanes. In the same way it is true of our clothing, watches, reading glasses, lamps, and the forms of light in our homes as well as of the machinery that makes our clothing and the furnishings in our homes.

These creations are creations in the mind, but I want to mention creations that are outside the mind. The things I have been talking about have come into existence through an idea created in the mind. The hand of man then worked out the idea in material form by using materials already existing in or on the earth. It is possible for an individual to create mentally a material thing without using his own hands to produce it. What he creates may have to be manufactured or partly assembled or put together by someone else, but the mystic can create the idea, start the process, and claim to be the creator of it.

How this can be accomplished we shall discuss next week, offering an experiment by which it can be individually demonstrated.

May Peace Profound abide with each of you.

Fraternally,

YOUR CLASS MASTER

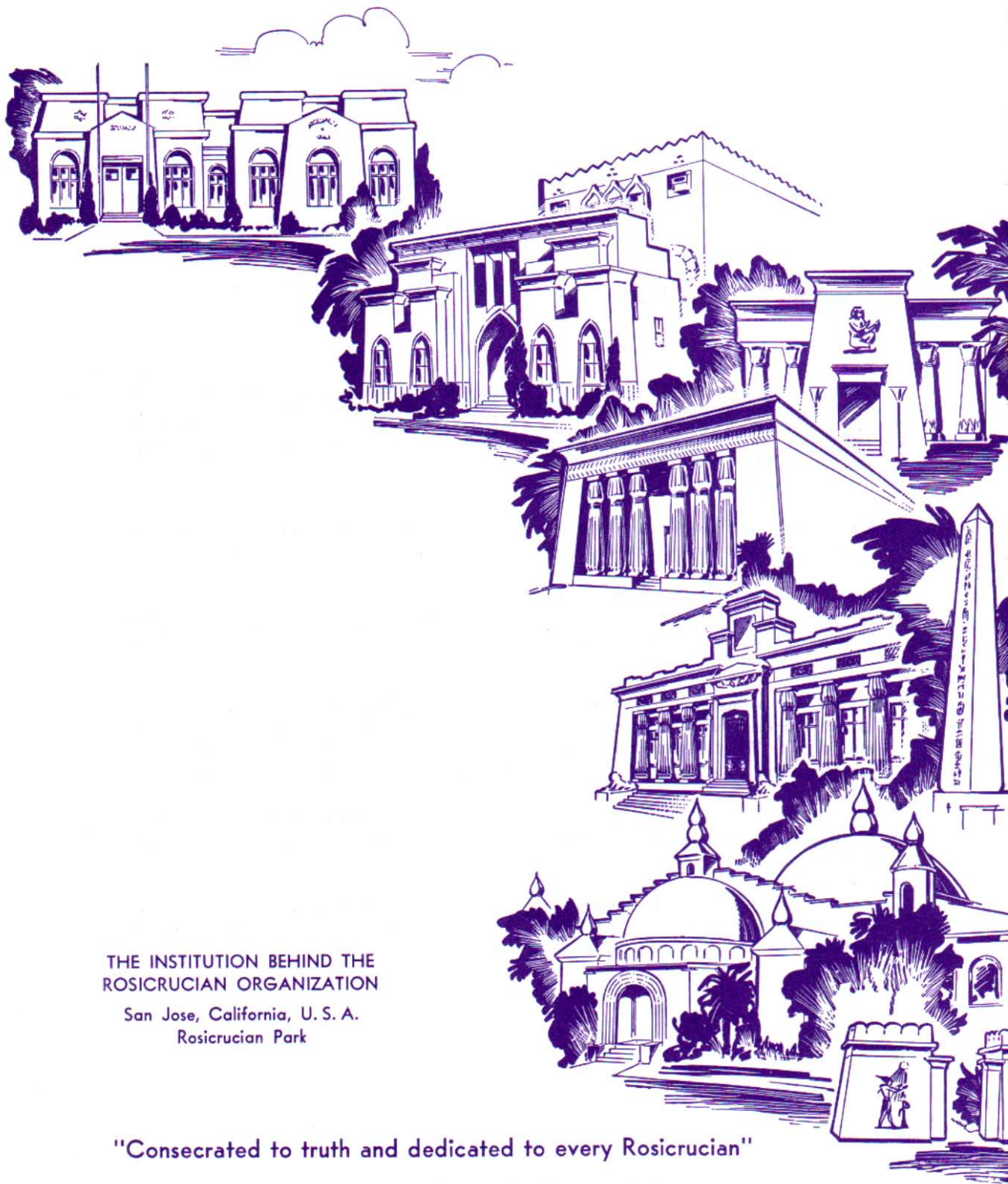


Summary of This Monograph



Below is a summary of the important principles of this monograph. It contains the essential statements which you should not forget. After you have carefully read the complete monograph, try to recall as many as you can of the important points you read. Then read this summary and see if you have forgotten any. Also refer to this summary during the ensuing week to refresh your memory.

- ¶ Man cannot use his creative energy in too many ways at the same time. Overindulgence in any one way, or for too many miscellaneous purposes, depletes it faster than it can be accumulated.
- ¶ Keep in mind: "Whatever thou canst create in thine imagination and see with thine inner eye, can be created externally, and given life and form in compliance with the laws of the material world."
- ¶ Two ways to interpret the above quotation are: (1) That whatever man can create in his imagination can be brought into material realization by hand or by machinery; or (2) That whatever he can create in his imagination can be brought into manifestation by mental power by direction and control of his creative energy.
- ¶ We should not be limited by the materialistic opinions and philosophies of today in the matter of creating and attracting the things we want, for man's creative imagination is unlimited.
- ¶ As a channel used by the Cosmic for producing those things needed to advance civilization and to improve the well-being of mankind, man has created, invented, and produced more good than evil.



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