The Los Angeles Weakly Newsance

1280 EXPOSITION BOULEVARD — LOS ANGELES 7, CALIFORNIA

Issue No. 17 — MARCH, 1951 — Sixth Year of Publication

NEIGHBORS NO LONGER!

Mr and Mrs. Franklin Chester Johnson, who have been pursuing musical activities in this Exposition Park district for several years, last month elected to strike out for greener pastures. They rented out their commodious residence at 1038 Leighton avenue and chose a new abode at 701 Weber street in Pomona. Pomona is well known to Southern Californians as the farming community *par excellence* of Los Angeles County, and of course as the annual site of the Los Angeles County Fair—about the largest county fair in this country. Claremont College is not far from Pomona. The town is some 29 miles east of Los Angeles.

According to a clipping from the Pomona *Progress-Bulletin,* a housewarming was held at Trelle Bar Ranch, the Johnsons' new home, at which a number of their friends and acquaintances played and sang. This writer, naturally, was not present, since the transportation situation is absolutely impossible.

do you need any ruled forms?

This is to notify our readers, and we ask them to notify their friends and acquaintances, that we now have facilities for producing many kinds of business forms, legal forms, personal records, etc. Dotted lines, dash lines, and ruling are available, all at a fraction of usual printing costs.

Truth vs. Error

The above title may sound like the standard phrase-pattern of a certain well-known religious denomination, but hold your horses, this is not going to be a religious discussion!

It all started about a fortnight ago, when we took part in a philosophical exchange of views, the question having been raised, "Is it possible for a human mind to go through life, untouched by error?".

Our own comment was in the negative, calling to the others' attention that all of us entertain certain erroneous ideas and behavior patterns that we would be absolutely lost without. Certain fictions of law, of custom, of etiquette, of grammar, are so *useful* to us that it is even hard to imagine what it would be like to be deprived of them.

In fact, a story, later made into a play and a movie, entitled *Nothing But the Truth,* enjoyed a great popularity some years ago. It was based on the terrifying consequences that befell a young man who made and kept an agreement to tell the truth and nothing but the truth for just one day. The "white lie" and the "mental reservation" are many times more common than the average person ever supposes.

Now, of course in the limited space of this paper we hardly have the room to cover a subject like this with anything like the thoroughness it deserves. We shall have to confine ourselves to but one aspect of it. Prudence dictates that we select a topic on which none of our readers is apt to have strong feelings...indeed, something that you may even criticize as being "trivial". We ourselves do not have any propagandizing zeal or deep bias on the matter to be discussed, so it seems quite adequate

(continued on page four)

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STUDIO

6013 Morella avenue,
North Hollywood, California.
Telephone SUnset 1-7241

****write or telephone the above address for further information.*

<<< >>>

ANNOUNCEMENT:

There will be a RECITAL at the Kraska Studio, 14259 Vanowen street, Van Nuys, California, on the 18th of March, 1951 (Sunday) at 8 o'cloch p.m.

The pupils of Donna Maria de Bourbon and Mr. Albert Kraska will sing, and will be accompanied by Mr. Kraska.

A varied repertoire of selections will be presented.

Catalog of Musical Compositions.

As is well known to most of our readers, the editor is a composer of music, having produced some sixty pieces for all sorts of instruments and combinations, ranging from an unaccompanied violin to full orchestra. As is usual with contemporary composers, everything that can possibly be played on the piano has been arranged for it...thus the collection is almost entirely accessible to the solo pianist. A number of public performances have occurred, and there is promise of more.

For a certain number of the compositions, prints by the Ozalid process are available. These can be had from us at prices from 50¢ upward, depending on length. As soon as funds for the purpose are at hand, certain other compositions will be sent to the music printers. Meanwhile, a complete catalog is in preparation, which will list all the compositions and the arrangements that have been made of them. An additional page will contain samples of some of the themes.

Please feel free to ask for as many copies of this catalog (probably 4 pages in length) as you can put to good use. It is requested of all our readers that they take every opportunity to acquaint their musically-minded friends with the fact that this catalog will shortly be issued.

FIDDLE-FADDLE

Friends of ours, who have a music store in Hollywood, on famous Vine street, were taken by surprise one day when a breathless high-school girl rushed in and asked: "Do you have a thousand violins?"

"And what use could you *possibly* have for that many?" was the reply. "We haven't a dozen fiddles in the store!"

"Why, didn't you know—" she came back—"*'1000 Violins'* is the latest popular song."

"Oh!...."

THE ZITHER

The mystery film entitled *The Third Man*, that appeared a few months ago, touched off quite a fad for the zither, a musical instrument rather neglected in recent years. Zither music, composed and

(Continued on page 3)

ZITHERS (continued)

performed by Anton Karas, comprised practically the entire musical background for the whole film. The music played was on the best-selling lists for records for quite a number of weeks, not only in the original zither version, but also in about a dozen different arrangements for different styles of dance orchestras. However, it must be noted here that the recordings by others than the composer seemed trite and banal beside the original. The reason for this, of course, was that the original performances contained subtle nuances that could not possibly be expressed in musical notation, these shadings being chiefly in the rhythm department.

Unlike the violin and violoncello, which have become quite standardized and "frozen" in their design, the zither takes on a protean variety of shapes. Thus it is not too easy to define a zither exactly. Perhaps this is all to the good, for it allows instrument-makers to express their originality, and the players to select an instrument suited to their mood and personality. The basic assumption seems to be that a zither should have two sets of strings, one set controllable by a fretted fingerboard of the mandolin variety, and the other set without a fingerboard and used as "open" strings, *i.e.*, always the same note from the entire vibrating length of each such string.

Properly, an instrument having no fretted fingerboard but only the "open" strings just mentioned, and otherwise resembling a zither, is not a *zither* but instead a *psaltery*, if the strings be plucked. If they be struck with little hammers, then the instrument is a *dulcimer*, known in Europe also by its Hungarian name, *czimbalom*.

Zither is a word ultimately derived from the name of an Ancient Greek stringed instrument, the *kithara* (κιθάρα), this word having generated numerous progeny. The *guitar* (in Spanish *guitarra*), and the *cittern* (an instrument common in early barber-shops and tuned like the banjo-ukulele), the *chittarone* and several other obscure instruments belong to the kithara's family etymologically, if not in nature.

It can be truly said in this case that the Greeks had a word for it!

MORE DEFINITIONS FROM THE CYNIC'S DICTIONARY

FENCING [fĕn´-sĭn] *Tn.* The most swordid of sports.

BACKGROUND MUSIC [băk´ground mū´zĭk] That kind of music preferred by those persons who have little or no *musical background.*

JALOPY [já-lŏp-ĭ] *n.* An automobile in such a condition that everything on it makes a noise *except* the horn.

FILE [fīl] *vt.* To put things away in a box or drawer in such manner that no danger will exist of their ever being found again.

CHESS [chĕs] *n.* A game in which you have nothing to lose but your self-confidence. It trains the mind thoroughly and superbly--for playing more chess.

COIN-OPERATED SCALE [koin´-ŏpĕrātĭd skāl] *n.* A penny-catching device installed in stores, which interferes unwarrantedly with one's *right of weigh.*

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NEW STUDY BEGUN

Yours truly, deciding that life wasn't quite complicated enough, accepted the offers of certain friends to help him learn Greek. The subject will be pursued at an extremely leisurely pace, as there is no hurry. In a way, it does not represent the taking up of a new language, because the Greek vocabulary has been used in the formation of many hundreds of technical, scientific, and artistic words, all the way from *actinic* to *zymotic*, and these words are common to most European languages. Nor is the grammar entirely unfamiliar, for it follows the pattern of the Indo-European language family. A set of Greek type for this Varityper machine was secured, and this of course has uses for mathematical work (the University professors are becoming aware of our mimeographing business) as well as for the language itself.

αβγδεζηθικλμνξοπρσ(ς)τυφχψω ΞΣΗΦΩΘΔ Γράφω μὲ στοιχεῖον Ἑλληνικόν.

(continued from preceding page)

sion here. Some very erudite, thorough, clever, systematic, ingenious, and reasonable plans have been worked out for spelling reform during the last two hundred years. We have neither the leisure nor the patience to add to their number, and the schemes that already exist contain at least four or five excellent solutions to the problem. Let nature take its course. Some time in the future, say 100 or 200 years from now, the divergence between English speaking and spelling will become too great to be borne any longer, and some plan will be put into effect. This has already happened with Spanish, German, Portuguese, Russian, Bulgarian, and Norwegian, to say nothing of the drastic reform in Turkish, so there is no reason to suppose it impossible for English. Here, at least, is one problem we can safely leave to our grandchildren.

No, the question here is, "What can phonetic spelling teach us about truth?" First, by our coming to an acute realization of the difference between conventional spelling and an accurate representation of actual speech, we come to have a new respect for the *spoken* word, which is a "living" thing, and less worship of the "dead" letter. Then, by an attempt to pronounce words spelt the ordinary English way as though each letter had one sound only and as if there were no silent letters nor two-letter combinations, we not only strengthen this first realization, but we become more history-minded; for example, the *k* in *knife, know, knave,* was once fully sounded—it might be said that we write it because this spelling tells the truth about the words *as they were spoken in the Middle Ages.* The same is true of many other silent letters: *g* in *gnaw; gh* in *eight; w* in *write;* and so on.

Then, by reading (or at least making a sincere attempt to read) phonetically spelled texts, we learn the important truth that people in different parts of the country or different countries do not pronounce the same words alike—their spoken words are seen for what they are, and shed the strait-jacket of a false uniformity. This enlightenment is a shock the first time you experience it. Also, phonetics leads us to a fuller appreciation of *poetry,* for poems depend on sound for their effect. We learn that there are not just five English vowels, but as many as sixteen, depending on the speaker's dialect.

Then we learn about syllable stress, and the intonation of a sentence, and about the *breath groups:* in speech there are no spaces between words—we do not even pause for all the punctuation marks. If ..... you ..... stopped ..... between ..... each ..... word ..... of ..... a ..... sentence like ..... this, ... in speaking, the effect would be frightfully grotesque. Whatyouactually do istorunthewords alltogether inconvenient-sized lunches, likethis. Listen to yourself talk for a few moments, and you will see that this is true. *Now, did you ever think about this before?* If you did not, then you obviously have been the victimeof an untruth, even though that untruth may be trivial to your way of thinking. This means that the grammar of spoken English is nothing at all like the grammar of written English taught us in school. The popular writers are sometimes aware of this fact and dare to come out now and then with a spoken form like *useta, coulda, aint, didja, woncha, nope, yeah, un-unh, 'snouse,* etc. Custom, you see, is not logic. Because everyone is taught something is so, does not mean it is true. The point is not to stop using these convenient fictions and untruths, but to know them when you see them—to know that they are inaccurate representations of reality. Don't just take things for granted. Use your noodle! That's what you have one for. If you are the kind of person that lets others do their thinking for them, you will not have read this far.

Remember, also, that there is no absolutely perfect phonetic spelling, as we pointed out near the beginning of this paper. There are all degrees of accuracy, as the schemes shown elsewhere on another page will show you. Our world has no absolute black and no absolute white, but an unlimited variety of intermediate shades. And so with truth—phonetic or otherwise.

* * *the end* * *

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NO SOAP!

Doubtless many of you have wondered what was the cleaning agent in the new synthetic detergents—or "soapless suds", as they are also called. Chemically, they are known as sulfonated fatty alcohols. Sulfuric acid is used in making them. They have the great advantage over ordinary soaps of not forming a "hardwater scum". The calcium and magnesium salts of these detergents are soluble in water, while the calcium and magnesium soaps are insoluble curd-like substances. Some of these new detergents will even remove the bathtub ring formed by ordinary soap.

THE QUINTUPLET HABIT

It is with mixed emotions that we must again inform you that our white persian cat, Ming Toy II, has once more presented us with *five* kittens. This makes three litters, and there were five kittens in each litter. Since the fathers were different each time, it becomes quite a coincidence. Since there has been quite a demand for the previous kittens (we have only one kitten left out of the previous ten) it might be well to get your kitten orders in early. Further particulars will be furnished when the kittens are a month old. They were born on the 7th of this month. Remember: these mousetraps go after the mice themselves; they do not wait around for the mice to come to them. And they require no setting.

MUSIC STORE NOW IN NEW LOCATION

Several months ago, the musical instrument and repair shop of Mr. Elihu Evenchick, then on Vermont avenue near Exposition, was moved to 962 North Vine street, in Hollywood, which is quite convenient to the studios and other places frequented by musicians. It is just below Santa Monica Boulevard.

A wide variety of music as well as instruments is carried, and you are likely to find anything from an Accordion to a Zither. Also, lessons are available.

One recent Saturday afternoon, when a friend of ours drove us over to Hollywood, we stopped in at this store, and quite unexpectedly were treated to an interesting rendition of passages from several piano concerti, played by Ruth Pasternak, concert pianist. Her performance was characterized by remarkable evenness and fluency.

LOS ANGELES IMITATES SAN FRANCISCO

Currently the center of our downtown district, Pershing Square, a one-block park frequented mostly by those who love to argue and carry on debates and make speeches, has been torn up for the construction of an underground garage which will park umpteen hundred cars after 1952. What we really need underground are subways.

DIANETICS

In 1950 a new science made its début. Called *dianetics*, from the Greek word διάνοια, "thought, intellect", it deals naturally enough with the mind and the improvement of its functions. Discoveries in a number of unrelated fields, when collated by Hubbard, the originator of dianetics, pointed the way to a new method of dealing with psychosomatic illnesses, aberrations, neuroses, and various other troubles. Not only this, but means exist for helping the normal individual (that is, the person who is termed "normal" by current standards) to become more efficient, more effectively intelligent, and to reach a higher degree of well-being than has ever before been attained. This kind of person who by dianetic processing has reached this superior status is called a "clear". Naturally, such remarkable results are not obtained overnight. But the fact that a "clear" can be obtained at all shows that we have something really new—something hitherto quite inconceivable. Even those not completely cleared by dianetics have often become "releases," which means they have been freed of all their chief difficulties...and who will say that is not worth while?

While it is not a religion or faith-healing system in any way, still dianetics will not make a person give up whatever religion he may belong to, nor on the other hand will it make a churchgoer out of an unbeliever. There has been some misunderstanding on this score because of the rather mechanistic terminology and method of dianetics. But the analogy between the mind and an electronic calculator, for example, is so useful for the purposes of dianetics that one just uses it whether in the final analysis it be true or not. There are other assumptions that have been strongly criticized, but it ought to be remembered that what matters is that *they work*, and their ultimate truth can be worried about afterward.

Hypnotism is not used—dianetics is a system for *waking people up* out of their former half-alive condition, whereas hypnotism—true to its very name—*puts people to sleep*. Nor is there any autosuggestion of the Coué variety; this sort of thing is shunned.

Moments of pain and/or unconsciousness, during which the organism records things that later on in life have aberrative effects, are called *engrams*. The process of removing the effects of engrams is known as *auditing*, and requires the assistance of another person. It is most unwise to attempt to audit oneself. The fact that it is possible to hypnotize or psychoanalyze oneself does not gainsay the preceding statement.

The book *Dianetics* has sold several hundred thousand copies and is available at any library or bookstore. They hope to issue a magazine later.

Your editor has had some twenty hours of auditing, and is quite convinced that it works.

EXAMPLES OF PHONETIC SPELLING

(Or should we have said, "Igzamplz uv fonetik speling" ?)

(It would be both foolish and pointless to have entered on as extensive a discussion of phonetic spelling as was presented in this issue, without giving at least some concrete example of the systems that have been proposed. We have not the space, and you have not the patience, to take up every system. That would use up a good-sized book! Let it be emphasized again that this is neither propaganda FORnor AGAINST spelling reform. It is simply a presentation of what has been accomplished in that field. However, try to learn one lesson from these examples: In English we write one language and speak another. Incidentally, just why "The Lord's Prayer" is chosen by most spelling reformers to show off their brainchildren is a mystery to us; we must not be accused either of religious zeal or of irreverence on this account.)

INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ASSOCIATION ALPHABET used in good language textbooks and by eminent teachers and phoneticians the world over. American pronunciation shown here.

ɑʊɹ fɑðɪ hu ɑrt ·In hɛvən, hæloʊd bi ðaI neɪm; ðaI kɪŋdəm kʌm; ðaI wIl bi dʌn ɒn ɹθ æz It Iz In hɛvən. gIv ʌs ðIs deɪ ɑʊɹ dɛɪlɪ bred, ænd fɔrgIv ʌs ɑʊɹ trɛspəsəz æz wi fɔrgiv ðoʊz hu trɛspæs ɡɛnst ʌs; ənd lid ʌs nɑt Intu tɛmteɪʃən, bʌt dilIvɹ ʌs frʌm ivəl. eɪmɛn.

ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL ALPHABET USED used by those who prefer accent marks to new letters.

aur fa:ðər hu art in hevn, hælöud bi ðai neim; ðaï kiŋdəm kʌm; ðai wil ... ənd lid ʌs nat intu temteiš n ....

GLOSSIC a conservative sort of reform proposed about sixty years ago by a group English and Swedish professors.

Owr fahdher, hoo ahrt in hevn, halloed bee dhii neym; dhii kingdum kum; dhii wil bee dun on erth az it iz in hevn, Giv us dhis dey owr deyli bred, and forgiv us owr trespasiz az wee forgiv dhoz hoo trespas agenst us; and leed us not intu tempteyshun, but deeliver us frum eevl. Amen.

GIMXAIKOII SPEK ("American Speech") a proposal for not only simplified spelling, but also simllified GRAMMAR. Small letters are abolished; this is the converse of the International Phonetic Association alphabet, which instead abolishes capital letters.)

FƆTHQR ƆV ƆIZ, HU BE IN HXVN, HOLI BE NXEMƆV YU. KINGDQMƆV YU KQM, WILƆV YU BE DUDƆN QRTH CZ IT IZ IN HXVN. GIV TUƆIZ THE DXEI BRXD, CND FARGIV TU ƆIZ DXTSƆV ƆIZ CZƆIZ FARGIV DXTORZ ƆVƆIZ; CND DU NƆT LEDƆIZ INTU TXMPTXESHQN, BQT DELIVQRƆIZ FRQM EVQL. XEMEN.

WINGFIELD'S FWNETIK ORTHQGRCFI. Uses only the 26 ordinary letters, but with new values.

Qur Fqdhr, hy qrt in hevn: hclwd bj dhqi neim. Dhqi kixdm kam, dhqi uil bj dan, on rth cz it iz in hevn. Giv as dhis dei qur deili bred, cnd forgiv as qur dets cz uj forgiv qur detrz. Cnd ljd as nɑt intu temteishn, bat djlivr as frqm jvl. Eimen.

NOAH WEBSTER'S DIACRITICAL MARK SYSTEM. Used in Webster's dictionary.

Our fä´ŧħēr, hōō ärt ĭn hĕ´vėn, hăl´ōd bē ŧħī nām; ŧħī wĭl bē dȯn ŏn ẽrtḥ ăz ĭt ĭz ĭn hĕvėn. Gĭv ŭs ŧħĭs dā our dālĭ brĕd, ănd fôrgĭv´ ŭs our trĕspȧsez ăz wē fôrgĭv´ ŧħōz hōō trĕs´păs ȧgĕnst´ ŭs. And lēd ŭs nŏt ĭn´tu tĕmptā´shŭn, bŭt dēlĭv´ẽr ŭs frŏm ēv'l. Amĕn.

FAWNETIX, kontinnyud

The late George Bernard Shaw was quite a champion of spelling reform. While he did not leave behind him a perfected system, his recommendation was for a system something like Pitman Shorthand—*i.e.*, a system of entirely new, easily-written characters that had little or no resemblance to any present alphabet. Speed of writing was one reason for this; the other was that he did not want to write anything in a new spelling that might correspond to a vulgar or taboo expression in the old spelling...and there is a decided risk of just that in some of the reform systems proposed hitherto.

It seems you just have to humor these reformers--they get bad *spells* every once in a while!

SPRING CLEANING

About a month ago, we repainted the bathroom, kitchen, back porch, and dining room. This sort of thing is, of course, very strenuous. As this paper was being assembled, we were in the process of trimming the palm trees and cleaning out the yard. Palm trees, as you all know, were imported into the Southern California area a long time ago to create the illusion of a subtropical climate. They are about the most useless things on this earth, so far as the Los Angeles coastal region is concerned. Their wood is useless as lumber; their branches die off and droop, dejected and brown, which destroys their ornamental value; the rubbish removers actually have to pay for the privilege of dumping them. It is a sorry thing that such nuisances were palmed off on this fair city. Of course it is quite another matter in the interior—the desert regions. There, they raise large crops of dates.

The 18th of March, by the way, is called *Palm Sunday* by some people. After what we've gone through the last three days, we're not at all interested!

We have been forced to cut down and eliminate all our branches.

CURRENT EVENTS

Last Sunday afternoon, we had unexpected callers: Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Alexander, whom we have not seen for the better part of a year. Accompanying them was their eight-months-old baby daughter, Julia.

The previous afternoon, Mr. M. D. Barney, who conducts a philosophical discussion group, stopped in to see us, and our musical endeavors.

About a week ago we had an interesting telephone conversation with Ernest Douglas, noted organist and teacher. This summer he is to receive academic honors from one of the most famous conservatories in London, where he studied many years ago. Among his musical publications that currently are attracting attention, there is a modulation chart which enables the pianist or organist to go quickly and smoothly from any major or minor key into any other key—and this without having to turn a page!

R. Burton Rose, geologist of San Jose, was in Los Angeles last month and visited us. He told of new equipment that enables one practically to see under the earth's surface and find out many facts up to now a matter of guess or conjecture. At present he is quite active, being called away on short notice for extended business trips. In December, Mr. and Mrs. Rose, who already had two daughters, became the proud parents of a third, whom they named Barbara.

It may be recalled by some of our readers that the editor, some three years ago, became stuck on a "learning plateau" (point beyond which further progress could not be made) so far as his attempts to study Spanish were concerned. We are happy to announce that at last this is over, for we have met an instructor of Spanish, Señor Ernesto Zambrano, and as he has accepted us as pupil, we shall surely make rapid progress. He has been an actor in various Spanish language films for some years, and is in favor of Castilian Spanish.

G. Gilbert Scott has produced a number of educational devices particularly adapted to the teaching of the blind. He has given several lectures and demonstrations of these recently. Algebra and other departments of mathematics are taught by these devices. Anyone interested may write him at 1215 W. 40th place, Los Angeles 37.

DEPARTMENT OF USELESS INFORMATION

Have you ever wondered why a quarter (25¢) is often referred to as "two bits"? This is a survival of early American history. In the days of the Spanish explorers there was a coin worth 8 *reales (real* here being the Spanish word for *royal)* and these "pieces of eight", so celebrated in romantic legend about pirates and all that, enjoyed the esteem that our dollar does today—indeed, they were not too far from our silver dollars in general appearance. (Any numismatists in the audience please check us up on that if we are wrong.) The dollar sign $ is not a kind of S but instead is a kind of figure 8. The symbol $ was made by the superposition of the 8 on the eight-real coin upon the II of another coin of the period, this latter piece sometimes being called the "pillar dollar". Of course it must not be assumed that this sign $, which strikes such deep and resounding chords of devotion and worship in the hearts of average United States citizens, is the exclusive property of the United States. Far from it; it is used for the Mexican peso, and as well for monetary units all over both North and South America. Few if any other signs and marks can claim such universal recognition! Now, as we have shown that our dollar was connected with the "piece of 8", it is not so fantastic to conceive the idea of $1 being divided into eight 12½¢ bits rather than ten dimes. The name "bit" arises from the fact that the piece of 8 and similar coins were cut (presumably chopped up with an ax) into eight bits which served as fractional currency when small coins were otherwise unavailable—and in those days one can easily imagine how very often that was the case! 25¢, the quarter of a dollar, would naturally be two-eighths or two bits. In some cities, 12½¢ streetcar tokens actually exist or have existed, and there was an active movement last year for the issuance of fractional coinage—but isn't money confusing enough now the way it is?

INTRODUCING "INTRODUCING"

William Vine, actor and violinist, has perfected a patented system, embodying photographic principles, for the purpose of avoiding baby mixups in hospitals. Trademarked "Introducing," the invention serves at once as scientific and sentimental record. Interested parties may write him at Box 16974, West Hollywood 46.

The Los Angeles 7 Weakly Newsance

A Noose-paper
Issued at
Irregular Intervals

IVOR DARREG, editor

Circulation this issue, 150 copies

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QUESTION OF THE YEAR

Who will be the courageous soul that will, throwing caution to the winds, apply the principles of surrealism, dada, abstraction, and dissonant counterpoint to cooking? And will his victims live?

VIOLA AND VIOLIN COMBINED AT LAST

George Jankolov, musician and mechanical expert of 157 East Sixty-Fourth street, Los Angeles, has completed several unusual violas. These instruments have not 4 but 5 strings, tuned to C, G, D, A, and E, thus combining the tonal range of the violin with that of the viola. Having heard violin as well as viola solos performed on these instruments, we can state that both tone-qualities issue satisfactorily from the one instrument. This, of course, opens up a whole new field for original compositions as well as for arrangements (for example, the clarinet repertoire could easily be transcribed for this instrument). Though the new instruments have rather a powerful tone, they are not oversize as was the experimental "viola alta" of some decades ago. Currently, Mr. Jankolov is devoting himself to the theoretical principles underlying the piano, and we may later on hear of new developments he will have made in this quarter.

The following announcement is taken from *the Book of Life*, by M. D. Barney,

Entry *107*

INTEGRATION

1. [This concerns the meetings of a group which has been in existence for slightly more than a year, and which we have attended from time to time.]

2. Why should aspiring students attend our meetings?

3. Our group has been designed for the purpose, and is conducted in a manner intended to encourage each person to think things out for himself. In fact to derive much benefit from our meetings he *must* do so. We have no official point of view, philosophy, or creed for anyone to accept or follow, and those who attend are exposed to a wide variety of facts, ideas, postulates, interpretations, etc. This stimulates each person to do his own thinking, and each person remains entirely free to select, judge, and integrate on his own responsibility all that comes his way. Actually it is only the people who become able to do this who ever do any genuine thinking at all. Consequently, in this respect, our group is a first-rate opportunity.

4. The questions we discuss in our five-minute talks which are always related to our central subject of ABSOLUTE INTEGRATION, are those that will lead naturally, if pursued, to a new, clarified, expanded, and greatly imporved consciousness of the fundamental nature of things, of life, of the self, and of human progress and true well-being. An individual consciousness, a social consciousness, a cosmic consciousness, and an absolute consciousness that transcends anything of this kind that man has heretofore achieved can be the result of a faithful and devoted attention to the questions that come up for discussion in our meetings. What is needed for this is that each person think our subject-matter through on his own initiative, responsibility, and self-reliance, the very best he can.

5. However, much more than individual study and group discussion has a rightful place in our activity. That which is properly involved is the ever-improving application, individually and collectively, of all constructive principles, to as full extent as is possible. This is the process which we have designated by the name: *Absolute Integration*. This means, if we really move in this direction, that more and more genuine good, more and more true values, will be included in what we do, with no foreseeable end to the process. It is up to us to do the best we can in this respect continuously, by means of our own limited resources and by virtue of whatever additional help may come along.

6. As you know, our meetings begin promptly at 7 o'clock every Sunday evening in the *Brown Room* (on the third floor) of the Clifton Cafeteria "Brookdale", 648 South Broadway, Los Angeles, and that our people gather there after they have dined in some other part of the cafeteria. Also, you are aware that everyone is welcome to attend and join in our discussions, or to come merely to listen, as he or she may desire. Our speakers are those who volunteer to take the floor, without being requested to do so, and, in this respect, we practice a complete equality of opportunity.

By M.D. Barney, 129 West 2nd street, San Dimas, California. February 7, 1951.

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[Additional copies of this or a similar page will later on be supplied upon request. It is the plan of Mr. Barney's group to publish additional material covering various topics taken up, or intended to be taken up, at the meetings. There are no formal membership requirements.]

MEETINGS RESUMED

The meetings of the Creative Club For Metaphysical Research, formerly held in the Westlake District of Los Angeles, have been interrupted for some months because the leader of the club, Mrs. E. (Williams) Courtney, has been on an extended mission trip in the East. We are happy to announce that these meetings have been resumed, on Saturday eneveningss as before, but at the new address of Mr and Mrs. George Courtney, which is 1740½ WORKMAN STREET, Los Angeles 31. This is right near the General Hospital, and is easily reached by the Soto street bus line. There will be a somewhat different type of meeting than formerly, and those who wish to be the speakers will be allowed to be as impromptu as they wish. Formal advance program postals will no longer be mailed out, so be sure to make a note of the time and place of these meetings.

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