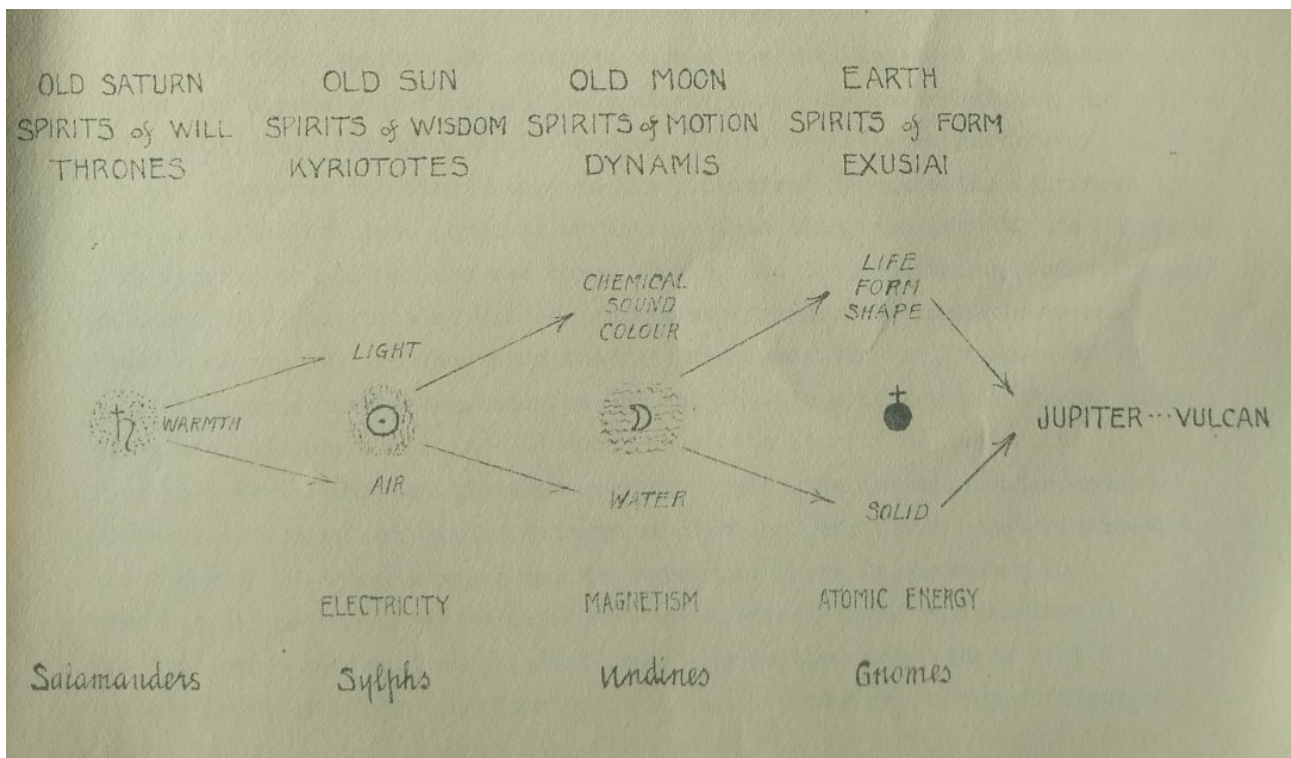


## AGRICULTURE and the ELEMENTAL BEINGS.

Notes on four lectures given by Dr. Rudolf Hauschka to  
The Experimental Circle of Farmers and Gardeners at their  
Annual Conference at Peredur

Jan. 10 - 14 1960.

In his first lecture Dr. Hauschka showed how the Elemental Beings are related to cosmic evolution and their place in it. He described how, in old Saturn, the Spirits of Will conceived the first artistic picture of Man and completed the first stage in his evolution by converting spiritual fire or enthusiasm into physical warmth; at this time, the germ of the fire spirits or salamanders was born. During the old Sun period, under the guidance of the Spirits of Wisdom, warmth was transformed into higher and lower elements of light and air; the rhythmic laws, especially those of breathing, came into being, and the germ of the air spirits, sylphs or elves was laid down. During old Moon, under the Spirits of further material differentiation took place; with the formation of sound or chemical ether, out of the weaving of light and dark, water materialised, and the germ of the nixies or undines appeared. Here Dr. Hauschka laid great stress on the close relation between chemical laws, musical laws and the forces of world order. Subsequently, in the early stages of the Earth period, guided by the Spirits of Form, the creation of the shaping life ether was accompanied by densification into solid matter, and the germ of the gnomes appeared.



During the earlier stages of evolution, rebellious spirits were at work. In the Sun period, Lucifer stole some of the light ether which has now become electricity; in the Moon period, Ahriman stole some of the ordering forces which have turned into magnetism; and now another Being, whom Dr. Hauschka refused to name, has stolen some of the forces of form, and is converting them into atomic energy. When any of these forces are put to use by mankind without full understanding, harmful Elemental Beings are created.

At this present stage in Earth evolution, the Hierarchies have withdrawn but, in order that their functions may continue, the Elemental Beings are here to fill the gap until man can consciously take over their work. The gnomes are offspring of the Archai, undines of the Archangels, sylphs of the Angels and salamanders are begotten by the Group Souls. In Lemurian times some organisms were unable to live in fire and so were not ready to receive the human ego; higher Beings, mainly Spirits of Motion, were sent to guide them and became the group souls of animals. Other higher Elemental Beings are also mentioned by Rudolf Steiner, such as those governing the seasons, day and night, the phases of the moon and the courses of the planets. An Elemental Being is created when a man forms a close working relationship with an animal - for instance a shepherd and his dog or an Arab and his horse,

The Elemental Beings are imprisoned in the created world, but they have a great longing to be free, to be replaced by the force of the human ego. They can only be redeemed by man's healing thoughts and deeds, by his conscious grasp of the ideas in the spiritual background of nature; redemption can however be unconsciously accomplished by eating. We must no longer merely enjoy nature; we must start giving instead of receiving; become active creators in place of being passively created. For example, the Elemental Beings of the full moon are pulled down at the new moon; they can be redeemed by cheerfulness and serenity in the human rhythmic system. The Elemental Beings of the seasons are imprisoned in winter and are redeemed by piety and devotion, especially at Christmas. The future condition of the earth depends on how man thinks about it now.

At this stage, Dr. Hauschka described his experiments with bio-dynamic seeds, in which the Elemental Beings can feel at home; (seeds from a shop did not respond). He sealed his seeds in ampoules with a little water; as germination proceeded, a delicate pair of scales recorded how matter was created and destroyed in a rhythmic way, according to the time of day, barometric pressure and the phases of the moon. A French scientist obtained somewhat similar results when working on the iodine content of certain algae, and concluded that the iodine must be in a half-created, fluctuating state. Dr. Hauschka went on to maintain that the earth must be alive, and that its crust was comparable to the bark of a tree. Herzelee also demonstrated the creation of matter when wheat germinates: he concluded that plants form the soil, and not vice-versa.

The earth is getting old and wrinkled. The wrinkles set up adverse currents of all kinds, electric, magnetic, fluid and even radio-active. The vegetation on an estate in Germany was starting to suffer severely from such currents, but after fourteen years of bio-dynamic treatment, which is essentially rhythmic in its nature, the wrinkles have gone. All healing and all the activity of Elemental Beings is rhythmical, so all medicaments must be rhythmically prepared. Even slightly radio-active water loses its activity when rhythmically treated in the right way. A plant is a physical manifestation of rhythm; in it, time relationships have become spatial.

When vegetable substance decays, micro-organisms are found, and the modern attitude demands that they should be killed, if the substance is to be preserved. Decay is really the withdrawal of electric organisation, so from our point of view, we should seek ways of retaining etheric structure. For example, red rose petals in a jar of water were exposed during seven days on living soil, for two hours at sunrise and sunset, but were insulated from all exterior forces for the rest of the time; they gradually dissolved into a dark red solution with enhanced scent which has kept for twenty-seven years. The petals in a control jar, left out on a table, turned brown and went mouldy; while those exposed only at mid-day and midnight had a peculiar poisonous appearance, though free from mould. Again, mistletoe juice, left out on a table, showed a steady deterioration of living design in capillarity pictures, which, by the seventh day, were dead; a sample of the same juice, exposed only at dawn and dusk, showed a different kind of deterioration up to the fourth day, and then began to develop an enhanced life picture, culminating on the seventh day. These experiments needed special zodiacal sun conditions for success.

At sunrise and sunset, particularly strong forces, backed by Higher Beings, are at work from Pisces and Virgo respectively, but at noon, Ahriman works from Gemini. We shall, more and more, base our lives on these rhythms and even factories will find it advantageous to cease work in the middle of the day.

Seven is the basic rhythm of all evolution and the cultural epochs. It is even expressed in the days of the week, each of which has its own character; Wednesday is the day of essential decisions. After the despair of Golgotha, we are now at the Wednesday stage in the cultural rhythm of the earth; we are at the bottom of the curve and have to decide whether to start the upward path and live with Christ in us, or continue on the descent and die with Lucifer and Ahriman.

Turning to the mineral world, Dr. Hauschka arranged seven characteristic metals in their order of brilliance, which also coincided with their property of emitting sound, and then added the further properties shown in the table below. In this table, "speed" is a measure of the daily change in position of each planet as seen from the earth, and "colour" is the colour of light seen through a very thin film of the metal.

PLANETS	METALS in order of Brilliance & Sound	CONDUCTIVITY of heat.	CONDUCTIVITY of Elec.	SPEED	COLOUR
Moon	Silver	100	100	392	Violet
Venus	Cooper	74	77	36	Dark Blue
Mercury	Mercury	68	76	32	Green Blue
Sun	Gold	53	73	30	Green
Mars	Iron	17	20	18	Yellow
Jupiter	Tin	15	13	4	Orange
Saturn	Lead	8	10	2	Red

The iron group of metals, cobalt, nickel/chromium and manganese, all have very similar conductivity values. They illustrate particularly well how all the Elemental Beings can work in the mineral world, though this is mainly the sphere of the gnomes. These metals were all formed when Mars crossed the path of the Earth and left some of its substance behind. Iron is the only naturally occurring magnetic substance, and it also has the property of combining with carbon; it connects the cosmos with subnatural magnetism; and subnature is redeemed by the iron in the blood which bears the human ego. Cobalt gets its name from the German word for gnomes, whom the old miners blamed for the way in which iron seemed to have become hardened and densified: it is iron plunged more deeply into the earth and is less active, but it can be magnetised and is used to protect iron. Nickel (derived from Nük, a male water spirit) is toughened iron and has slight magnetic properties; it is stronger catalyst than cobalt. The air spirits work in chromium, which no longer reacts to subnature, i.e. is non-magnetic. It is full of colour, has a definite relationship with light and is the best mordant for dyeing; it protects iron from rust. Manganese dioxide is an even stronger catalyst than nickel: it throws out and dissolves impurities in glass making. Potassium permanganate owes its colour to the fire spirits in the manganese, but, then ferrous sulphate is added to the solution, the colour disappears, as the power of the iron releases the spirits. These descriptions were vividly illustrated by test tube experiments, which showed a gradation of colour and precipitation effects when ammonia was added to a solution of a salt of each metal.

Chemistry is full of interesting knowledge, but contains no wisdom unless seen with a spiritual background. There are two ways of initiation. The first is up from Moon to Sun by the path of individual meditation; this is useless for doctors and scientists, for, although individually they can perceive the spirit background of nature with their ego fire, clear concepts of this background can only be formed collectively. They must therefore follow the course down from Saturn to Sun by

communal effort. (e.g. "When two or three are gathered together.... .."). Scientific research teams on the modern pattern are probably an Ahrimanic manifestation of Saturn initiation.

Dr. Hauschka introduced the subject of Elemental beings in machinery with an account of the attitude of Max Eyth to his joint invention of the steam plough with Fowler in Britain; Eyth was a Swabian and therefore lived on good terms with the Elemental Beings. Men in his earliest physical existence was entirely dependent on the Elemental Beings for his livelihood, but as soon as he started making tools and simple machines, he slowly absorbed whole processes into himself, and thus began the redemption of the Elemental Beings previously responsible for them. This progress reached a high stage in the craftsmen of the Middle Ages and continues into the present; but redemption in nature has barely started, and now power-driven machinery has introduced a new problem. In developing the consciousness soul, it is possible to build up a personal interest of love and full understanding with a steam engine, or even a motor car, and so bring into being beneficial Elemental Beings. There are, however, few people who really understand electricity and magnetism, let alone atomic energy. Consequently, machines driven by such power are taken over by Ahrimanic beings which throw out the human ego; future generations may develop the ability to come to terms with them. Nevertheless all modern machines work in an Ahrimanic way, and it is an urgent task to start designing machinery in harmony with etheric, astral and moral forces.

We must try only to use machinery which we fully understand and to use it in an unselfish and unegoistic way. We create Elemental Beings in ourselves when we use machines. Every lie creates a 'phantom', which causes illness in the physical body; they can only be redeemed by complete truthfulness. Unsocial use of machines creates "ghosts" in the etheric body; they can be redeemed by beauty, e.g. in the design of factory buildings. Fanaticism, e.g. among trade unions or employers, creates astral "demons" which are to be redeemed by goodness and devotion. All these Elemental Beings cause personal and social disease and prevent right relations with the realm of helpful Elemental Beings.

As the various sheaths of man have hardened through the ages, the art of healing has progressed from the purely, occult means of the mystery priests, via the temple sleep of the early Greeks, to the use of medicaments. Substances to be used as medicaments must be rhythmically humanised, thus releasing Elemental Beings who, in their thankfulness, raise the patient in sleep to the sphere of the Archai, where he obtains the picture of true health, and reorders himself accordingly. This has always been the object of healing, first through Isis, then Sophia, and now through Christ.

Dr. Hauschka illustrated his lectures with many myths and fairy tales. There are not illusions or fantasies, but records in picturesque form from the natural clairvoyant experiences of men before this innate power disappeared.