

ASTROLOGY

Congress at its Best

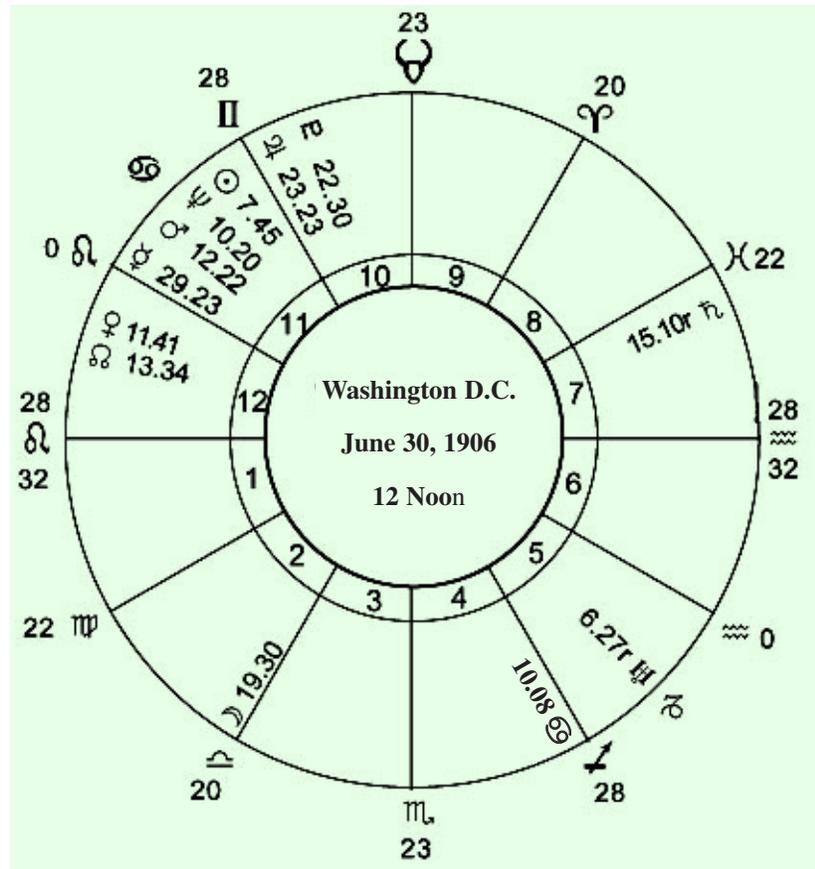
HAVE YOU SEEN those recent polls on the U.S. public's confidence in the Congress?¹ And weren't they about the same while the other party was in control?

It may be well to recall a world-wide dissatisfaction with government, since we are just not emerging from the heavy Uranus-Neptune conjunction transiting through Capricorn, sign of government. It had the same effect last century, which culminated in the 1848 revolutions that swept through just about all of Europe.² There was also turmoil in the U.S. which produced a temporary Band-Aid, the 1850 Compromise, that soon unraveled, followed by the Civil War a decade later.

It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness; it is also better to concentrate on the positive (Philippians 4:8). Why not recall, therefore, an excellent product of Congressional effort, currently marking its 90th anniversary, the Pure Food and Drug Act.³

Its natus strongly indicates its idealistic inception; consider its 11th house of ideals. It is far more heavily tenanted than any other sector. It holds four planets. Appropriately, they are all in Cancer, the sign ruling food and also protection. Yes, they are all intercepted, but that means they would become more potent as they emerge from that state later on, and that has happened.

The chart's very closest aspect to the Part of



Fortune, which helps confirm emphasis, is the quincunx to Neptune of idealism. It is the only orb either dignified or exalted, here the latter.

The 11th house is even more powerful than appears on the surface. The chart has a ring, a mutual reception of more than 2 orbs, here involving the Sun, Moon, Venus; hence the latter two by influence are also in the 11th house. A ring also strengthens a chart as a whole. And it certainly is a rarity to have all the inner orbs in the same sector, by position and/or ring; add to that Mars (energy).

Idealism without the energy to act on it is of no real value, even as “faith, if it hath not works, is dead” (James 4: 17). But here is idealism and energy.

All planets of course have solstice points, though only important if making close aspects. Those of Jupiter and Pluto make very close conjunctions to the Sun, which is also recipient of the closest planetary aspect, an opposition from Uranus.

Eight planets are in the first seven signs, the chart's subject has a spiritual life assignment. Improving the quality of society's life is a spiritual activity: our Lord spent more time healing than teaching; the Pure Food and Drug Act can be said to be healer by prevention.

Those eight planets are all in the eastern half which enhances the ability to act. This is extra important because of opposition, here indicated by all retrogrades being in the West.⁵

Let's look more closely at the eight orbs in the East. The Moon of activity is in the 2nd house of materialism. True idealism contributed to prosperity⁶; impure foods cause sickness, which is generally costly.

The Moon is in Libra of balance: the Pure Food and Drug Act helped restore balance. Those who at one time had been able to get away with producing impure products, and of whom it could be said “Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting” (Daniel 5:27), no longer would be able to do so.

The Moon is in the second decan: the activity mapped by the chart had been in progress for some time before June 30, 1906. Dr. Harvey W. Wiley (1844-1930), who for years had been studying food adulteration, had been advising President Theodore Roosevelt of its extent and danger. In 1905 he “made recommendations to Congress,”⁷ which led to the passage of the PFDA the next year.

Mercury of mental focus is in Cancer's last degree. Planets in the 30th degree are often in extreme condition. And the way the products controlled by the PFDA were being prepared at the time was extremely deplorable. The reader wishing to look into this can do no better than turn to Upton Sinclair's classic, *The Jungle*, referred to by Max Heindel.⁸

Venus of values is in Leo. What does this mean?

TO AN ASTROLOGER

Nay, seer, I do not doubt thy mystic lore,
Nor question that the tenor of my life,
Past, present and the future, is revealed
There in my horoscope—I do believe
That yon dead Moon compels the haughty seas
To ebb and flow, and that my natal star
Stands like a stern-browed sentinel in space
And challenges events; nor lets one grief,
Or joy, or favor, or success pass on
To mar or bless my earthly lot, until
It proves its fated right to come to me.

All this I grant; but more than this I know,
Before the Solar systems were conceived,
When nothing was but the unnameable,
My spirit lived, an atom of the Cause.
Through countless ages, and in many forms
It has existed, ere it entered in
This human form to serve its little day
Upon the Earth; the deathless ME of Me.

The spark from that all-creative fire
Is part of that eternal source called God,
And mightier than the universe. Why he
Who knows, and knowing never once forgets
The pedigree divine of his soul,
Can conquer, shape and govern destiny,
And use vast space as 'twere a board for chess
With stars for pawns; can change his horoscope
To suit his will; turn failure to success,
And from preordained sorrow harvest joy.

There is no puny planet, sun or moon
Or Zodiacal sign which can control
The God in us! If we bring that to bear
Upon events, we mold them to our wish;
'Tis when the Infinite 'neath the finite gropes
That men are governed by their horoscopes.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

This sign rules the the physical body's most important organ, the heart. Undeniably the PFDA deals with very important matters. Leo is also the sign of power and control, with which the PFDA is endowed and which it encounters, sometimes adversarially.

Surely a chart like this should have a message. It does, found at the chart's zenith, the sector of destiny. There we find its closest conjunction, that of Jupiter and Pluto. The former is the planet of commerce and capitalism; Pluto, the outermost planet at this time, rules limitations: commercial activity must be limited, regulated. This is confirmed elsewhere: Uranus of freedom is in Capricorn of limitations, and Saturn of restrictions is in Pisces of idealism: wise idealism demands creative restriction of freedom.

That great truth was especially vital for U.S. society nine decades ago. The philosophy of social Darwinism was popular: the survival of the fittest; if one could get away with profitable outrage, like producing shoddy goods—why not! That was how many interpreted “freedom”—but actually, it was license! The Upton Sinclair classic mentioned above, *The Jungle*, was well named, for what it depicted resembled one. There's no government in a jungle, but neither is there real freedom for any but the strongest.

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” (2 Corinthians 3:17). In that situation there is also acceptance of the laws of His kingdom. In our day, with the alarming rise in crime and lawlessness, this message of what constitutes genuine freedom is most timely. Our society has been called “vulture culture.”⁹ That sounds like a jungle, for vultures are beasts of prey. To remedy this, the Congress with best intentions and effort can do little. While it may write the best of laws, the real remedy is a higher law, God's law, inscribed on the hearts of men.¹⁰ □

—A Probationer

1. *NBC-Wall Street Journal* news poll, September 22, 1995.
2. Except England, which had wisely begun reforms, and

NO PILOTS WE

Would I were one of those who preach no Cause—
Nor guide mankind with meddling fingertips;
But let each star that moves without a pause
Shine as it list-as potent when it dips
Beyond their ken in visual eclipse
As when it blazes in a darkling sky,
Regnant and beautiful, while with mute lips
Men bow the head in worship, or in shy
And inexpressive words admit that God is nigh.

We are no pilots: let us trust our bark,
Miraculous, alert, not made with hands,
That feels a magic impulse through the dark,
And leaps upon the course it understands
From shores unknown to unimagined strands;
Resists the helm we give it, but divine—
Being itself divine—divine commands;
And answers to no compass save the signs
Encircling deepest heaven where the Zodiac shines.

—John Jay Chapman

Russia, where repression was the order of the day..

3. During the summer of 1995, when President Clinton called for restriction of cigarette sales to minors, the FDA became a vortex of controversy. *The Christian Science Monitor* August 8, 1995, p. 3. No wonder! Saturn was transiting over its natal position in the seventh house of adversaries. A Congressman from a tobacco state has been justifying the export of cigarettes by claiming the American brands have less nicotine than those of the importing nations, hence they are less deadly and actually perform a humanitarian service! The endorsement of the Pure Food and Drug Act is not to be viewed as support of drugs. The Rosicrucian Fellowship believes in natural means of healing, but there is a place—though very limited—for drugs, for instance, when one is victim of an accident or shooting, and an operation is called for.
4. *Professional Astrology*, Marc Edmund Jones, page 16.
5. *The Essentials of Astrological Analysis*, Marc Edmund Jones, pages 269-273.
6. This is confirmed by the fact that the Cancer cluster of the PFDA chart falls in the U.S. chart's second house.
7. *America: Changing Times*, Charles M. Dollar, General Editor, pages 746, 747. Hence President Theodore Roosevelt became known as “Father of consumer Protection.” *The Christian Science Monitor*, August 3, 1995, p. 20. He also read *The Jungle. To Renew America*, Newt Gingrich, page 225.
8. *The Rosicrucian Christianity Lectures*, Max Heindel, page 137.
9. *The Christian Science Monitor*, July 18, 1995, p. 18.
10. Lenin once was asked why there was so little freedom in the Soviet Union. His reply: “It is a precious commodity, it must be rationed.” It is precious, but in need of limitation only when abused and thereby a threat to society.