

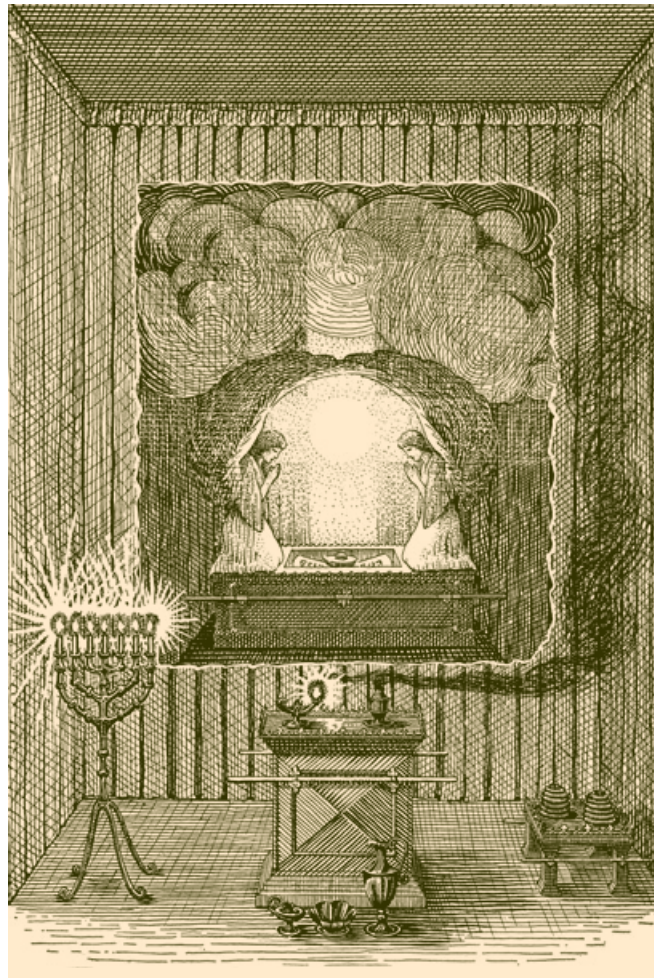
MYSTIC LIGHT

What's in the Next Room?

MEN ARE ACCUSTOMED to think of each hour as a separate room, but the prophet while he is in the here-and-now draws something from another dimension of the space-time continuum. The non-inferential pre-science of things to come is beyond the scope of those natural laws which now enjoy scientific recognition, but science is looking into this unsuspected power. Charles Richet, a physiologist trained in scientific observation and accurate reporting, has testified on the basis of ample evidence: "There occur premonitions that can be explained neither by chance nor by perspicacity, and are sometimes verified in minute details."

Victorian science fell under the sway of a naive materialism which minimized the immaterial facts of consciousness. Illumined egos since Plato have deplored the tendency to drag everything down to the material husk. The greatest realities of life are neither visible nor tangible. The greatly wise in all ages have climbed the altar stairs of prophecy to confront that mental causal plane which is intermediate between absolute essence and material manifestation. They have pierced the veil of their tomorrows.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, the physician-poet, noted "the clairvoyance of the faculties in intense emotion." However, researchers agree that the consciousness proper must be in a state of receptive passivity. The subject has halted active thinking and is released to another realm of mind. Then striking awareness "enters the mind by a route other than the recognized senses," as J. Hattinger



East and West Rooms of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness
Through living in the world as the Hall of Service, the aspirant evolves an inner light that illuminates the Holy of Holies wherein all spiritual realities can be seen and known.

puts it in *The UltraPerceptive Faculty*. Warcollier opines that well authenticated parapsychological evidence "may revolutionize our concept of mind as much as the discovery of radium revolutionized that of matter."

Many distinguished modern thinkers agree that today's research into the supernormal is throwing a new light on the nature of things. Tyrrel concludes that precognition has been "revealed under the strictest conditions that science can demand. The evidence for precognition—the most paradoxical, perhaps, of all the supernormal phenomena—

is very considerable.” Dr. Osty asserts: “Twelve years of experiments with many metagnomic percipients...have given me absolute certainty that there are human beings who can foretell the future.” Among the other great names in parapsychology research are J. B. Rhine, Waldemar Kaempffert, Gardner Murphy, and William McDougall. .

Albert Einstein has shown time to be no more than a coordinate or dimension along with the three spatial coordinates. Ever since Kant carried through the first psychical research project, evidence has accumulated that the space-time barrier is not absolute to extrasensory or supersensory perception.

The paranormal sensing of events remote in time or space takes us into a new world, but it is not so rare as some think. We all are moved as much by the attraction of the future as by the impulsion of our yesterdays, though our greatest prerogative is free choice in the fleeting present. “Delphi and a Pythoness reside in every human breast,” observed Holmes. We all know instances of uncanny “business vision.” Future events cast their shadows before” more often than the public hears about it. Authentic present-day seers do not try to bolster the authority of their act or utterance by saying that some propitious power moves or speaks through them, but the worth of what they accomplish stands on its own merit.

In every great crisis of history, leaders open to divine guidance have risen to show the way. When the future passed before Joseph in holy vision, he said of his wonderful foreknowledge “It is not in me.” The human molders of destiny have relied upon God’s help for their support, hence we see the hand of God in history. Cosmic intelligence reaches the human soul insofar as it participates in the Oversoul. When the vision of the prophet is unsealed to behold this wisdom, it is in no narrow personal sense that he exclaims: “My Soul hath spoken and foretold.”

Moses Maimonides, that honest critical thinker of the thirteenth century, penned the following contribution to esoteric Judaism and universal religious understanding in his famous *Guide for the Perplexed*:

Prophecy is given either in a vision or in a dream.

The first degree of prophecy consists in the divine assistance which encourages a person to do something good and grand. (We’ve all felt it, but are we grateful to the Source?)

The second degree is this: A person feels as if something came upon him and as if he had received a new power inducing him to speak by the holy Spirit.

There are other classes of actual prophets, rising to the most intimate divine communion. When the prophet relates, ‘The Lord said unto me,’ of course he need not add the explanation that it was in a prophetic vision.

Today scientific investigators are leafing through the occult pages of the past with a new appreciation, It is a matter of belief and background whether one calls the superior intelligence of universe God or Cosmic Mind, but certainly the nature of being transcends the narrow bounds men have accepted. “Seek and ye shall find,” Christ Jesus counseled.

Precognition occurs in matters that concern us deeply. To gain conscious access to the tablets of fate, the individual must attain a certain interior release. A kind of receptive emptiness, free from active thought, transcends time as measured against the Sun and stars. Masters of the East and West have developed techniques of mind control to make this possible without any threat to sanity. Probably systematic foreknowledge is not for everyone, and we cannot dispute the fact that non-intuitive thinkers have done some very useful work within their own limitations. As a safeguard against dogmatic denial, however, they ought to reflect on the words of their own Herbert Spencer: “There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all argument, and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance. That principle is condemnation before investigation.”

How does this relate to what is “in the next room” for you and me? The first-century Stoic philosopher Epictetus has answered the most consequential question that challenges every human mind:

We ought to come to our interior divination without desire or aversion, as the wayfarer asks of a guide which of two roads leads to his journey's end. If the wayfarer be utterly in earnest, he inquires with no wish to go by any road, however pleasant, except that which leads to his proper destination. In the same way ought we to come to God as a guide; as we use our eyes, not asking them to show us things as we wish, but receiving the appearances of things just as the eyes present them to us....Though the good man be granted the foreknowledge of difficulties on his roadway of duty, he will not turn to an easier road but keep to the course consistent with his end.

A later philosopher summed it up in a nutshell: "Duties are ours; results are God's." When there are dangers on the road that we ought to know about, either to avoid them or to bear them bravely if they be the necessary price of our mission, we have access to that knowledge. Understanding drives out fear. Coming events of deep concern to you or your dear ones may very well be foreseen, and the shaping will can change them if the causal structure be yet in the tentative stage. Prescience is part of man's power to understand and control his destiny

Thus we have seen that it is no mere parlor trick for the mind to free itself from time. After a bad dream or hunch, many a person has cancelled his passage on a train—later to read of its crash. If you are "heading for trouble," a premonition thereof might help you avoid what would have been in store for you along the path marked out. The future is a set of probabilities which we can sometimes deliberately alter when we know what they are. Ideas proverbially "work out their own fulfillment." Epictetus pointed to the hardest duty: "The good man will cooperate even with personal hardships to come if thus only can he promote the Divine purpose."

Our process-careers are extended in time as well as space, connected with past and future. Consciousness is related to time in a way that established science has hardly begun to consider. Many a clearly reported prophesy which was later

confirmed by the event suffices to jolt materialists from their narrow grooves. We should be thankful that pioneer scientists are beginning to explore the paranormal for the higher dimensional realm is as subject to law as the world we perceive through our bodily senses. The prophetic phase of consciousness ought to be subject to conscious development by the many when more of its laws are known.

Great occultists in all ages have identified the supersensible causal plane above the the dense material level to which most are bound. A "psychic stream" runs through the bed of time. We can look upstream or down, instead of confining ourselves to the moment that is rippling by.

Sir Auckland Geddes, an English physician, reported a time-binding experience to the Royal Medical Society at Edinburgh in 1937: "I was free in a time-dimension...wherein now was equivalent to here in the ordinary three-dimensional space of everyday life...a psychic continuum spread out in time like a plasmic net." J. W. Dunne, a British aeronautical engineer, set forth an illuminating theory of "serial time." He wrote down dream recollections on awakening, and some of these dreams came true in real life. As the spark of life moves along the wire of time, it should not forget that further reaches of the wire are already there. Seeing without their eyes is common among the highland seers of Scotland. "In today already walks tomorrow," is a common saying among them. Dr. Samuel Johnson was deeply convinced of "second-sight," which is really the primal vision. Hugo noted that the phenomenon is very common in dangerous situations when one's energies are sharply focused. American folklore abounds in stories of what might be called "ordinary prophecy." Mary Miller Beard reminds us that

"Poets often see, as in a glass,

Far-off events before they come to pass."

The supreme mystery of life is clarified by the fact that man can anticipate futurity and see the hidden things of unborn days. He who has once withdrawn the dark veil need have no blind fear of what is waiting for him in the next room. □

—Ben Finger