

In this Beautiful City

A236 Sunday Address 6th February 1952 Glasgow Lodge Evening meeting

Text: from a clear carbon copy of an original typescript (unknown typist); no editorial markings, although the title, 'White Eagle's Address given at the Glasgow Lodge' and the date have been typed in after, as has a substantial correction later. The title, 'In this beautiful city' has been created for the current project. In the middle of this address, the phrase 'particularly when the earth is in the summer solstice' is puzzling, and it is just possible there is a mistranscription here – not least because the earth will never be entirely at the summer solstice; the other hemisphere will be at the winter solstice. 'When the earth reaches the summer solstice' would make sense.

Context: Glasgow Lodge; no indication of format in which it was given, but the Invocation implies that it was in a service. A Wednesday. GEC and IC had travelled to Glasgow between Sunday 3 February and the day of this address, and were to go on to Edinburgh after. On the Saturday, in Edinburgh, they conducted the wedding of Mary and Allan Hershey (see address of 10 February). It is said to be given in an 'upper room'. White Eagle often uses this as a figurative term for the higher consciousness but, the phrase coming in the opening words of the invocation, it is probably to be taken literally. It also seems to be addressed to known followers rather than a new public.

Although there is no question at all about the date, White Eagle speaks of 'this summer sunshine' and one wonders if there was an unseasonably mild spell at the time.

General notes: a longer than usual address, beginning with a keynote of how to release oneself from the bondage of earth. There is something of a prediction given, that in the Aquarian Age man 'will be able to reveal and force the secrets of the beauty of mother earth' – this would seem to be already happening today, in the twenty-first century. There is also an Aquarian consciousness in the statement, 'in this new day people are being drawn together in groups'. White Eagle very correctly uses the word 'psychic' in its sense, 'of the psyche'.

Towards the end, White Eagle draws attention, as he does in other addresses, to the multiple channels for the flow of light to the Earth a hundred years previously, and names Spiritualism, New Thought and Christian Science (elsewhere, Theosophy is included in this list). But he makes a very particularly clear distinction in this address between the work done in his Lodge and the work done in Spiritualism. 'It has a different purpose.'

The end of this talk offers a rather beautiful evocation of a phrase used many years later as the title of a White Eagle book: 'Beautiful Road Home'. And the final paragraphs are a particularly clear evocation of the difference between White Eagle and the group who are with him when he speaks. 'There are many souls here with you tonight...'

References: Jesus's words in the Garden of Gethsemane, 'Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done' are to be found at Luke 22 : 42. 'I, if I be lifted up, will raise all men unto me' is John 12 : 32.

Invocation:

Dear ones who are gathered in this upper room, we wait for the outpouring of the Power and the Life and the Wisdom of God. We forget the physical and the diverse claims of life on the Earth. We look up to the Source of all Life, our Creator. We worship Thee as Father, Divine Will; and Mother, the Wisdom, Divine Revelation; and Son, the Cosmic Christ, the Master, the Light, the supreme Light, the Presence, the physical manifestation of Light.

Holy and Blessed Trinity of Life with whom mortals dwell, we pray to go into closer relationship with Thee. We pray for the growing inner realisation of Thy presence. We pray

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that every soul incarnate here, in this upper room, may be given a clearer, truer vision of the life beyond the limitations of flesh. We pray, O Lord, that these children of earth may obtain a vision of the great concourse on the heavenly planes, of those who are the true companions of the spirit while they journey through the darkness of matter. Dear Lord, may the sweetness of Thy Love be scattered like incense upon these dear children that they may seek communion, spirit with spirit, seeking to be lifted up from the turmoil and inharmony of the lower life. May the Presence of the Cosmic Christ Spirit bless and sanctify this work.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

White Eagle's Address:

Dear ones, we would speak to you in simple language, remembering that truth is ever simple, though many believe that truth must be clothed in high-sounding phrases if it is to carry weight and impress people who do not know. Truth hardly needs any language save that of love and goodwill – realisation of the all-pervading beauty and love of God. This is the way, in this new day: people are being drawn together in groups; and in these groups there are lessons to be learned. It is only with the experience of these lessons and the overcoming of them that the soul is able to advance into that state of heavenly bliss that all souls hope one day to attain. Passing away from the physical body does not necessarily release the soul into that heavenly bliss which everyone must work for – this treasure, this prize.

Now, beloved ones, let us not lead you into thinking that we have not passed along a similar path to your own, that we do not understand the difficulties and heartaches of the human heart – the pain, the disappointments, the sorrow which you all feel as you tread the path of spiritual development. We are speaking to you not as the general public, but as souls who have responded spiritually and with harmony towards divine illumination and seek freedom from the earthly pains and fears. You would not be in this room together if you had not awakened to the higher consciousness of spiritual being, for we know each one has in his or her own particular way encountered the joys and sorrows as you have come up against human nature in your spiritual search. But, my children, human nature is a great friend to the soul of man.

While you are held down to earth by earthly thoughts and desires, you are going to suffer pain – because earth is the life of illusion, of unreality. This will pass away. But there is something else that you desire with your heart and with your soul which will never pass away; and the purpose of man's life here on earth is that he learns to live in harmony with divine law. And as he adjusts his nature to these divine laws he attains for himself freedom from bondage. The soul reacts from the effect of material things and of earthly matter, and by his own freewill and selflessness he resolves to release himself, to raise himself onto those higher and more beautiful planes of consciousness. This is for you, my brethren, whoever you are, whatever you are.

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We do not wish to confine you to anything. We *know*. We have seen. We have shared in these divine pleasures. We know what is waiting for you here on earth. We know what you can attain to and you will. We want to help you to the happiness which we know is waiting for you.

You know, my dear ones, the earth is a taskmaster, and it holds you down. It causes a mist to form before your spiritual eyes. You cannot see, you are engulfed in gloom and fog, your heart is heavy, you are lonely and lost – and just above you, all around you, are your companions, the companions of your spirit. You do not think they know, but they do, and they understand you. They long to help you, but you will not let them. Do not think that your spirit friends are going to bring to you the jewel prize which your soul is seeking, for they are not. They will bless you and inspire you and be helpful, but they cannot give you freely that which you must earn for yourself.

Now, it seems as if the old White Eagle is lecturing you, but this is not so. My dear ones, we come to bring you truth, to give you a few gems of truth. They may be as food to you, they may help you in your earthly life on this planet. That is our work, to help people, not to fly away into the heights away from their work and the joy of living on earth. The spiritual path is so lovely that life becomes very beautiful – life becomes, through striving, a beautiful experience. We come to help you to obtain that degree of tranquillity and serenity of spirit, to attain understanding of life and the purpose of life and the reason why things happen as they do – to you and to the whole human race.

You have heard us say that you are approaching the new day, the new age, and as astronomers will tell you it is the age of Aquarius, the age of brotherhood; it is also the age of the mind, the truth, the mental age, and in this age there will be great scientific progress. There will be great things revealed. Man's mind is so developing that he will be able to reveal and force the secrets of the beauty of mother earth and in this he will find a great responsibility.

Then with this progress and the development of man's mind there will also be a spiritual development taking place, an expansion and unfoldment of his inner consciousness. You can make no mistake about this lovely quality of man's soul or the Christ quality. Call it what you like, it is the same thing. Call it the Son of God, if you like, but this quality in man's soul must develop, grow, expand like a rose expanding in the summer sunshine. Man is responding like the earth to this summer sunshine – we are speaking spiritually, of course – and acts of this kind are spiritually taking place in the hearts of humanity.

Now do not be pessimistic and say, 'we cannot see it'. That is a wrong attitude of mind – wrong thought and word. You are all susceptible to the influence of the lower mind, but must work continually to be governed by the higher mind, the Christ self, reminding yourself that the lower mind is the mind of the earth. The higher mind is the love quality in man's soul which must develop: it must grow to keep pace with this modern earth, this scientific race, if humanity is to survive.

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Now, as we were explaining, this outpouring of the spiritual sun – particularly when the earth is in the summer solstice – is affecting humanity and becoming stronger as truth is being revealed and the minds of countless souls on your earth planet are responding to its stimulation. This is why there are so many drawing together into groups. Some may be low and simple, some may be great, some may be set up by you on earth, but remember that God is all wisdom, love and power – omnipotence. He knows the plan and however incomprehensible it may appear to you, remember that there is good working through it and when it has fulfilled its purpose, its usefulness is over and it will disappear – fade away.

We are trying to bring you the consciousness of tremendous love towards your companions on earth. The time is now for this communion and unfoldment, for tolerance and kindness towards one another.

Now, it is not lightly stated that this is only one facet of the jewel: that there are many aspects of the physical life – and, of course, of all psychic power and psychic life. Remember, children, that there are degrees of soul-awakening and manifestation of the powers of the soul. The psyche of every man and woman is developing, expanding, and what takes place in the soul is called psychic. Many things are psychic which you do not recognise as being psychic, but all souls experience a feeling which comes under the term psychic. Man is body physical, soul or psyche and spirit divine. Light, divine wisdom, love, will, power – this is all within man, the sweet and pure embryo of the master man. The Christ Light, the Son of God, may be realised, my brothers, my sisters, by all inspired with the beauty of His mind, and this realisation comes to man if he lives each day sweetly and simply, guided by that inner power, light or life, call it what you will – God, the Son of God, the Light within.

Now, many people confuse the light within them with their own desire, with their lower self, the self which is self-willed and wants its own way, but let us remember that the true self does not want its own way at any time. It says 'Thy Will, not my will be done'. *O God, we sanctify our lives to Thee. We know that Thou art all love and all wisdom.*

Now, my brethren, remember this, that life is governed by law. Whether you believe it or not, it makes no difference. There is the law of birth and the law of death and you cannot deny it. You cannot say you will not be born; it is the law, and the whole of your life is governed by law. You may agree with this or not – it is of no consequence to the law – but comply with the law in your life and you set in motion the God-forces which come from within. You set in motion beneficial rays, and you see clearly the spiritual path which lies before you. When your thoughts are only for your physical body and you neglect to develop your soul and spiritual bodies, it is the reaction of the law that you suffer in some way or another. We are not condemning you, we are only telling you that the law is made and is unalterable.

Try to establish a way of radiating light, of being the Light in all things you do. Try to be as perfect in all your actions as you can. Endeavour to cast out all unpleasant and unkind thought. Now perhaps it is better if we say, do not think about them but so saturate yourselves

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with the Divine Light and Life that the pull of the earth is weakened, and you then more easily react to the radiation of the Spiritual Sun. We do not concentrate on the unkind side of life, but concentrate rather upon the pleasant and harmonious aspects of life and the fulfilling of God's Will.

Now we could talk to you for hours and hours if you were interested, but you are limited by time, space and events which we understand, but we have one more point to make clear.

About a century ago – you know this story, but it is surprising how quickly you forget – about a century ago, there were certain streams of light concentrated upon the earth and received by the more evolved souls. These streams of light were directed by the great ones in the spirit world. There must be great ones – you may become such a being yourself in the course of evolution. These great beings meet in a temple or lodge – call it what you will – they draw together and take counsel and they receive their instructions from a higher plane still, and so on, higher and higher up to the spheres of light, to the Central Point of Light. And these rays are radiated or directed down from the planes of light, and those responsible at that particular time for the development of the human race receive what we might call directions. They see the need, they see that the mass mind has arrived at a certain point on the scale of evolution where it can absorb certain presentations of truth and receive further revelations. Man's mind, his conscience, his understanding, can accept certain truths presented to him. This process goes through age after age.

Now about a century ago, there were rays of truth directed onto this earth which resulted in a stimulation of light through many channels, through these advanced souls who were willing to accept and propagate the teachings which came to earth. You know and can look back and recognise them for yourself. And so these streams of thought came to awaken the human heart and stimulate light into action through man's conscience, to enable him to develop a sense of comprehension as a result of these radiations of truth from the higher planes.

One of these radiations of truth came to earth and was interpreted on earth in what you call Spiritualism. Now that was only one of a number of messages sent to teach truth to those who aspired to know more of God's divine truths. Its purpose was to break up materialism; to give proof to your mind and understanding to your human heart of the continuation of life after the death of the physical body. That was its purpose, to break up the materialism of the then scientific – what can we call it? – revelations, when people were becoming immersed in scientific discoveries and were losing sight of their spiritual vision, of the teachings of their Creator contained in the Holy Bible.

The people were cast down. They suffered, and through that suffering they were able to respond to the hope and comfort that Spiritualism brought as they realised that their loved ones beyond the veil were the companions of their spirit. This awareness of spiritual companionship came to break up materialism and awaken man to the truth, 'Thy Will be done on earth, as it is in heaven'.

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It is this work that we wish to make clear to you all and to the Lodge here in this beautiful city, that the work established here which is called the White Eagle work, is not the same as Spiritualism. It has a different purpose. It is a movement which has commenced under the direction and by the will of the Great White Spirit. It has a purpose to fulfil and does not cut across any other religion or New Thought or Spiritualism or Christian Science or any of the many rays of truth which we are experiencing today. The White Eagle Lodge has its own particular work to do and those who dedicate themselves to the work of the White Eagle Lodge must understand this.

People who have received comfort through the knowledge of spirit communion and the continuation of life after death progress upwards. They become hungry for knowledge, for spiritual food. They are evolving, but they do not understand what is happening to them. This White Eagle work comes to help these brothers who have arrived at that particular stage on the path of spiritual evolution. The workers chosen therefore come together into groups, here on this particular ray of development, to give opportunity for the dispensing of spiritual truth and to help with the planning of the work with others – so that the souls who are seeking can taste, if only briefly and intermittently, the sweetness and beauty of spiritual fragrance at that level.

At that level they desire love, tranquillity and harmony, but also at that level they must struggle with turmoil, disruption, self-will and the desire for power and domination – until there comes this intervention of the spirit, absorbing the darkness of the lower self and allowing the higher self to function. We do not always retain that side of harmony and loveliness. There are times when we feel discontented, and the point is that although you may fall into a state of discontentment and you become disillusioned, remember this, my brethren, the sun is still shining and if you look up – raise yourself to that higher level of serenity and realise your true nature, all the difficulties will fall away. It is the work of the law.

The White Eagle work is to help you to reach up to your higher self to that higher level of tranquillity, harmony and beauty, and when the soul reaches that level he is able to see that love is the fulfilling of the law of life. He becomes a pure channel for the expression of those God qualities and he unfolds the consciousness of his innermost being which is the Divine urge within.

The next important item in this work is a setting into motion of the spiritual life, which is spiritual law. When you set in motion that law it is magic – and remember, we are dealing with white magic. You are striving to make it white and pure and that can only be done through the love in your hearts, and if you deviate from that spiritual life, your power becomes less than white – a serious thought. White magic is set in motion by love and it is an occult power. Now it is not transferable. Do not think that because we say this we do not want you to accept this occult power, because no-one but you can choose whether it is to be anything but white, or grey or even darker. It is of great importance to every one of you – and when you go into a lodge or sanctuary you are bound to impart a power which is magical. And that white magic should radiate through your own life and touch your friends, which

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means this: that if you abide within the Infinite Divine Law you are going to create great heavenly beauty.

Think, dear ones, spiritual life and spiritual law are very beautiful, but why are they beautiful? Because those who are in the spheres of light create beautiful conditions by the beauty of their soul and spirit, and this is what has to be done on earth. The vibrations from atoms of matter, of physical matter, have to be transmuted and raised so that the earth receives a similar transmutation to perfect spiritual life from the influence of the physical bodies of mankind, and all are helped in the journey back to the Central Light. Remember you are returning home, to your true home, and as you return home you are demonstrating that you are a follower of your own great Master, Jesus, who said: 'If I be raised up, I raise all men unto me'. And this is your responsibility.

My dear ones, when you learn to go inwards as well as outwards, when you learn to go within the soul, you ascend in consciousness and there you find a beauty, heavenliness – a serenity. You will see with your inner eye and hear with your inner ear that which awaits every soul who chooses to travel the path of the spirit.

Now my dear ones, there are many souls here with you tonight. You may not think we are with you. We know that some of you come to visit us when you are asleep. You come in your spirit bodies and we gather together and we talk to you just as we are talking to you now. There are some of you here who pray for enlightenment and we come to help you. Life is difficult and you do not understand why you suffer – but we do. We do not condemn anyone living. We do not deny the difficulties, we do not judge anyone. We only love you, longing to help you – that is all.

Now this work, this spiritual growth and unfoldment, must go on. It *will* go on. It will grow to create a centre of light. Now you, my children, have the opportunity given to you to help in this work. It is a very great opportunity. We appeal to you, children. We know some of you have been brothers. This is still so. We need your help and ask you to give that help freely. There may be difficulties in the way, but God will help you to the solution of these difficulties, to expand the light within you. Follow the light of your pure loving spirit and it will be forging the simple work, not for any one individual, but for the whole earth, as far as the light is concerned, projecting its radiance over the whole earth. Do not hesitate – give of your best.

It is 'White Eagle' who is now the speaker – the personality you are listening to – but the ray of light comes from behind. Come children, [may] the Great Holy Spirit bless your efforts and bring to you the tranquil mind and the joyous heart. Bless you. The eternal peace of the Great Silence be with you now and forevermore.

Amen.

The search matches with either words and phrases, which appear in the text, or the following 'key' words and phrases, which are similar in meaning to those in the document:

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spiritual unfoldment, spiritual path, illumination, enlightenment, initiation, intuition, community, unity, inner light, sending out the light, spiritual law, psychic studies, spiritual science

