A345 Sunday Address 17th December 1961 St Mary Abbots Place, London Christmas Carol Service

Text: blue carbon copy from MB's typescript. There is possibly an extra word, 'than' in the sentence near the end beginning, 'There is nothing than surer than man's realisation in time of the Christ spirit'. We have omitted it. At the end, we think the phrase 'many visitors from outer, radiant ones' must contain 'planets' rather than 'ones', or else it should read 'many visitors from outer space, radiant ones'. The title was chosen for this project, as the address does not seem to have gone into print at any stage.

Context: this is the usual short address of the carol service, details of which are not given by MB other than the two readings: Luke 2 : 2-17 (the familiar reading about the shepherds) and an unspecified extract from White Eagle's teaching. A longer-than-usual message from Brother Faithful is included at the end, and he mentions the final congregational carol, 'O little town of Bethlehem'. White Eagle does, however, thank the Choir. There is references to several members who have passed into the light. Among brothers, the list we retain for this period is indeed longer than usual, and includes 'Lilian' Lang (28 Jan 1961), Betty Simpson ('White Rose'), 18 Nov 61, Victoria Blair ('Naomi', 1 Feb 1961) and Dorothy Haycraft (Théophile, 23 May 1961). Among these Betty Simpson will have been particularly missed, both because of the number of close friends she had in the Brotherhood, and also because her passing was so recent.

General Notes: in referring to those who have passed on recently, White Eagle seems to imply that passing over from the physical life and entering into spirit are two separate initiations (or maybe he means that both earthly birth and death are initiations). If the first inference is right, it is more likely that the second initiation he refers to is the one known as the Second Death, when the soul leaves behind completely anything that is 'earthy'. White Eagle speaks at some length of the influence and importance of the teacher Jesus, and then of the Star. A note at the end says, 'A happy Christmas, we all wish you' – a nice recognition of the group that is present, rather than the one spirit speaker. *References*: none

Historical note: Brother Faithful, in his closing remarks, mentions the first home of the Lodge, Pembroke Hall. He says that before the bombing in 1940 it was 'due for demolition', something which has not, we think, been recorded elsewhere. He also reminds us that 1961 has been the Silver Jubilee year of the Lodge, and tells the congregation that the Lodge will be closed until 21 January while a new (parquet) floor is laid.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved children who are now living on earth, we in spirit bring you our Christmas message. We would at this moment help you to raise your consciousness to a higher level; to the heavenly state; and there you will be receptive to the love of all your loved ones in spirit.

There is a vast congregation here with us, and your own dear one is so close to you now because you have created the right condition, the right mental and spiritual condition through which they can make certain contact with you. Since last Christmas several of the members of the White Eagle Lodge have passed onward into the light, but because they are in the light they are not cut off from your spirit. And here we have to tell you that they have passed through the mists of the earth, maybe the mists of understanding, the mists of physical suffering – because, remember, that in what you on earth call death the soul takes a major initiation. Birth into this world is a major initiation for the soul; and birth from this life into the life of spirit is another initiation.

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Those who have come to our world bring to you now all love and reassurance that all is now understood. All is light because they have been brought into the Temple of the Christ spirit. Oh yes, this happens to the souls who leave the earth. They enter into that glorious life, and they find at-one-ment with the Christ life. There is no separation for them. They have not lost you. They are very aware of you, but they are aware of you in spirit. Earthly things fall away from them unless there is a special need for them to be brought into contact with earthly things. But they are in spirit with you: with your spirit in the consciousness of Eternal life. This is what may be called cosmic consciousness – but do not think that cosmic consciousness cuts them or anyone away from their loved ones, their brethren. Oh no, life just becomes greater, broader, higher, deeper. Life becomes complete in God.

And so they come to you now at this Christmas Festival. And we ask you all to remember this, and do not put them away from you – thinking with your lower earthly mind that they have gone from you and at some future date you will meet them. In spirit there is no separation, which you will all learn in time when you touch the centre of truth.

Christmas time, the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ, is a most momentous occasion. And you will notice, as the years pass and humanity spiritually evolves – which it must do more and more – notice will be taken of the spiritual significance of Christmas. Many of you may think that Christmas has become very material and that it is used only for man to materially profit by it, but you are not right in thinking this, because as we have already told you, as the years increase there will be an increase of the Christ spirit from the lowest level of man's consciousness right up to the highest. It must be so, because humanity has to be brought along the path of spiritual unfoldment.

Now you are only a small gathering, but in the years hence there will be extremely large gatherings listening to the message from the world of spirit.

The birth of Jesus Christ is a momentous event because of the power, the spiritual power which is gathering around the earth and stimulating in the hearts of humanity the love of one another. You say at Christmas time [that] it is the children's time. 'Oh, it is all very well for the children.' But remember the words of Jesus, 'A little child shall lead them'. It is the heart of a child which can accept the blessing, the vibration, the power, the truth from higher levels of life. Children see, and they hear, invisible choirs, invisible children – invisible to the ordinary, what you call 'normal', individual. But it is because people shut away all the impressions of the spirit life and of spiritual truth that they are unable to see like a child sees the companions who are walking life's path with them. Jesus gave so many profound truths in simple illustrations.

Now, all through the ages, for millions of years, mankind has been slowly, slowly evolving. Through those ages, messengers, teachers – give them what name you will – but advanced souls of the human race, not only on your earth planet but of other planets from outer space have come to this earth. Jesus is a Great One, but there have been many Great Ones in other parts of the world. They have come to races which are now extinct and unknown. They have come to continents which are beneath the sea. All the way through the evolutionary path of mankind these messengers have come from time to time, usually in the space of two thousand

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years. But Jesus the Christ – although there are many on the earth plane today who ignorantly deny the existence of the birth of Jesus – Jesus today is growing in influence and beauty in the mind of man. Jesus, who has been to the earth on former occasions, is the One through Whom the Christ Light shines for you. And He brought an increased message from other Messengers. We mean by this that the spiritual truth has been growing stronger and clearer as man himself has evolved and is now able to comprehend the deep meaning of the message of Jesus Christ.

Before many years have passed, mankind will discover material proof, records of the birth of Jesus. We know this is true. You will see. Records will come to light which will silence all critics and all unbelievers and those who deny the true being of Jesus Christ. Remember that in your atmosphere are the waves, many, many waves of Light, waves of sound; waves which were unregistered until man was able to invent the instruments to register and catch these waves, and you are only now at the beginning of the manifestation of waves of communication from your own solar system.

We tell you that Jesus Christ, a messenger was and is a teacher; a messenger from another planet. But this does not mean that he is not still the Son of God, Christ the Son, the Light, Christ the Creator. The spirit of Christ in man is the creator of his conditions, of his life and of his heaven. And you are – all of you – *you* are the instruments for this Christ love.

Remember the words you have heard earlier in this Service. The Christ is born in the human heart. We of the Brotherhood, the ancient, ancient, ancient Brotherhood of the Star, we know that what we say is true. And the Star is and always has been the symbol of the Christ spirit. All the Brethren through the ages have seen the Star and followed the Star. And the Star leads man to heaven, leads man to reunion with his Creator – and all life.

O children, children of earth, do not be despondent about the future! For the future is yours. There is nothing than surer than [*sic*] man's realisation in time of the Christ spirit and the joy of life. Look forward as well as looking within, and respond at all times to the Christ love.

We thank the Choir for the beautiful rendering of the carols and for all of you who have sacrificed to make this service so beautiful and so powerful. All around you are heavenly hosts. The story in the Bible is true. It is true in essence. The angels sing their praise of the Lord Christ, welcoming His spirit here, uniting you with your loved ones and with the heavenly hosts now.

Now, we leave you. We leave you, but remember the Star and where it leads. And wise men follow the Star. It is truth.

The blessing of the Christ mass be with you. And He stands in your midst in a blazing Light. His garments are shimmering with Light. So powerfully He stands, reaching out to you. He will give you strength in times of distress. Be at peace, for He comes to bring peace to your heart and goodwill to all men. He works for the cessation of war and conflict. *Wars shall cease!*

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When man is ready, many visitors from outer radiant ones [*sic*], will descent again to the earth as they did in far-off days. All these things you will learn when you are ready to understand.

Now, God be with you, dear, dear brethren of earth.

A happy Christmas, we all wish you.

Brother Faithful:

During this Service I have been wondering how many there are present tonight who were with us at the very first White Eagle Christmas Service back in 1936, when the Lodge first started in Pembroke Hall, not so very far away from here. Pembroke Hall – which was a little church hall building perhaps 100 years ago and with many inconveniences and due for demolition – but it was the first home, and we hope a blessed home of the White Eagle Lodge.

And since then the work and message has gone far and wide to many countries, to many people and deep into the minds of men. Especially during this Jubilee Year as a blessing come to this White Eagle Lodge here in St. Mary Abbots Place because we have had, after fifteen years of waiting, the central heating. Notice how beautifully warm it is – and light, more light – and immediately after this Service the floor is coming up and we are having a new floor, a warmer and quieter floor than at present. So a very special blessing has again fallen upon all you people here in this chapel and I hope you will join us in being thankful.

It means we cannot re-open until Sunday the 21st January, but if you are hungering for a White Eagle Service, come to New Lands on January 14th at 3.30 by car or rail and there will be another service.

Thank you very much and in case I cannot speak to you all at the end, a very happy and blessed Christmas to one and all of you. To every one of you, God bless you.

This brings us to our last congregational carol; one of the most beautiful: 'O little town of Bethlehem'.

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:

spiritual unfoldment, spiritual contact, light within, path of service, path of the soul, spiritual path, nativity, yule, winter solstice, communion, masters, great teachers, prophets