Symbolism of the Blood and the Nervous System

A. Blood and the nerves the two primary phases of evolved organisms.
   1. This not primarily a biological discussion.
      a. But concerned with the cognate division in the field of Consciousness.
   B. Most primitive organic forms have these two phases undifferentiated.
   C. Genetic primacy belongs to the blood.
      1. In embryo the blood system develops before the nervous system.
      2. Plant life precedes animal life.
      3. Pre-cultural stage of the races precedes cultural differentiation.
   D. Genetic or historical priority does not necessarily imply metaphysical or logical primacy.
      1. Two views possible.
         a. That which follows in time inheres in and is derived from that which precedes.
            (1) Spengler, Keyserling, the Vitalists, the Humanists, the Pragmatists, the Instrumentalists, etc.
         b. That which follows in time may be an emergence of that which is metaphysically a priori.
            (1) Kant, Buddha, Shankara, the Rationalists, the Idealists, etc.

II. Ultimate resolution of the problem of primacy probably impossible.
   A. The division into blood-men and nerve-men lies in deeps too profound for surface resolution.
      1. To find and act where he belongs is the duty of each.
   B. The primary criteria of each class not recognized by the other.
      1. Hence resolution of difference not possible.

III. Division is that of Life vs. Understanding.
   A. Blood men find the profound in the dreamy or unconscious deeps of Life or Becoming.
   B. Nerve men find the profound in the acute, high-noon consciousness of emancipated Understanding.
      1. Emancipated Understanding is Understanding freed from sense.
         a. Pure metaphysics and pure mathematics.

IV. Division is that of Mysticism vs. Occultism.
   A. The Mystic grounded in the felt.
      1. Employs cognition as an instrument only.
      2. Example of the Sufis.
   B. The Occultist grounded in Understanding.
      1. Penetrates to ultimates through subtilized cognition.
      2. Examples of Buddhism and the Vedanta of Shankara.

V. The Doctrine of the Heart vs. the Doctrine of the Understanding.
   A. Two Heart Doctrines.
      1. That which accepts and moves in and through Becoming (Samsara)
         a. Mystic, non-cognitive intuition.
   B. Heart Doctrine of "The Voice of the Silence".
      1. Not a contrast between Head and Heart, but Eye and Heart.
         a. The Eye represents Sense and Ritual.
         b. The Heart represents super-sensuous or emancipated Understanding.
   C. Distinction between super-sensuality and purified sensuality.
      1. Both are roads to Spirit.
      2. The former essentially ascetic, the latter non-ascetic.
      3. The former Discriminative, the latter Creative.
VI. Significance of the division upon the present political and social issue.

A. Conflict for primacy between Life and Understanding reflected in similar conflict between politics and economics.
   1. Politics close to Life.
      a. Primary instrument psychology.
   2. Economics close to Understanding.
      a. Primary instrument calculation or logic.

BB Roosevelt and Hoover as symbols of this conflict.

C. Caesarism vs. money power.
   1. Not a choice of ideals but of that which seems least undesirable.

VII. Fundamental conflict probably ultimately resolved on a higher level.

Life and Understanding equal moments of a higher synthesis.