

COMMENTS ON REPORTS OF PREVIOUS FRIDAY
NIGHT EXPERIENCE
OCTOBER 7, 1937

Dr. Buck's book "Cosmic Consciousness: With the consideration that he plays a little too much from the standpoint of a doctor, but apart from that a very good book; but there are a number of cases he gives there--I wish you would note the fact if you read it--that in many instances they don't reach the depth indicated by some of these. I don't suppose any of you can really appreciate the significance of some of these statements that are so simple. Now, if one were to break into that intermediate realm of SUBTLE-FORM CONSCIOUSNESS, which is more often done, it is possible, if you are a good seer, to produce volumes, as Swedenborg did, that can there be observed in some of those realms that . . . in the formative realms of holy and super-holy states, but you step beyond the highest level of form, and you get into a region almost impossible to say anything about, and to be able to hold self-consciousness, even for a moment, in that region is an achievement; a matter of NOTHINGNESS, SILENCE and DARKNESS from the relative point of view. You will notice that it doesn't have the actual value of the consciousness that has gotten there. The consciousness is reversed.

There are two kinds of silence, two kinds of darkness, two kinds of void. There is the silence that is merely the absence of sound, that is, lower sounds. There is darkness that is real darkness. There is the void or the that is like death, and then there is superior Silence that is spelled with a capital S--that is a power which can swallow sound if one becomes enveloped in that; surrounding sounds seem to be absorbed in it as though a mightier power actually consumed that silence. This is the Silence where the VOICE OF THE SILENCE is heard.

In the same way there is a superior darkness, that absorbs our ordinary light, so that our ordinary light comes to have the value of darkness, and this superior darkness is known as SUPER-ORDINARY LIGHT.

And the Superior Void is just precisely that upon which all void, all that is ponderable is produced. It is real substance. Thus, a glimpse, what you call the Nothing-- glimpsed the Substantial that I have been referring to in this sentence.

Now with those glimpses, no matter how brief they are, the meaning I am trying to get at is bound to come clearer.

In introducing the subject tonight I might speak about the lines on the board and it happens that I can introduce the general idea of Karma from that. I might say a word about the genesis of the idea. I was sitting one warm noon . . . Eldorado Creek . . . the old gold country of California where the Argonauts used to be, I was there alone, putting in my spare time reading a certain work of Shankara. A thought suddenly struck me with a great deal of force that the SEEN WORLD, the EXPERIENCE WORLD, ACTUALLY WAS EMPTY, and the GENERAL FULLNESS WAS TO BE FOUND IN THE REVERSE DIRECTION, namely, where our SENSES REPORT EMPTINESS and where OUR THOUGHT REPORTED EMPTINESS, there actually was FULLNESS. All that proved to be the KEY that broke

the ground in the preliminary sense to what followed. Just as simple as that. It means then that THE AWAKENED CONSCIOUSNESS IS ALMOST A SYSTEMATIC INVERSION OF THE VALUE OF THE SUBJECT-OBJECT CONSCIOUSNESS. Now look at the correspondences. In a certain form of physical . . . the eyeball is actually turned back. I mean, the vision is turned around, reversed. Symbolically that corresponds to what we do in terms of significance, a turning of the valuation into a reverse sense. Don't pay any attention to the eyeball, or, leave all physical processes outside. Just ignore that. Work simply with significance or values. Now, we are in the habit because, I feel and see this, this therefore is substantial; this has a value. Just reverse it... and in the opposite direction, where the senses and thought report nothing, there actually is something. See--you carry that through systematically, and you find another WORLD, if you do it successfully.

Now then, what is that other WORLD in its purity? We can approach that in an abstract idea without being up there. We are here and up there--it is all around us. Let us assume that the original state is a primeval consciousness--substance and energy all at once. Let us think of it as spread out through some kind of space. Now this consists of every possible quality, attribute, etc. in combination with its own opposite, just as for instance the upness is in combination with the downness, a positive is in combination with a negative, and so on, balances throughout. EVERY POSSIBLE VALUE OF CONSCIOUSNESS IS THERE, AT ONCE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITS OWN OTHER. FULLNESS IN EVERY SENSE. ABSOLUTE CONSCIOUSNESS. And suppose, in that condition where there can be no manifestation, that IT IS THAT STATE. A step towards manifestation is to be produced. Suppose you want to arouse a SPECIFIC CONSCIOUSNESS OUT OF UNIVERSAL CONSCIOUSNESS. Now here you have completeness; something that cannot become more, only--that is my book--but this is beyond time, includes the future (?) and the past in the immediate day. There is only one thing that can bring out a specific consciousness, and that is a sort of blanking out of a portion of the fullness; let us say, have one aspect of the thing negate its own other, producing a certain zero, and that would be equivalent to a TENSION in the PERFECT EQUILIBRIUM, and the tension would have the effect of FORCING CONSCIOUSNESS TOWARD IT IN A SPECIFIC SELF. The real SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY TENSION IS PAIN, disturbed balance. Hence we have the first truth of Buddha--the fact of pain. PAIN IS AS FUNDAMENTAL AS MANIFESTATION ITSELF. Disturbed balance is required for manifestation. Disturbed balance means SOMETHING INADEQUATE, something like a VACUUM IS PAIN.

Upon performance of the function of AWAKENING TO SPECIFIC CONSCIOUSNESS, we are starting on a LONG SERIES. Out of consciousness that is not self-conscious we are dealing with a press(?) of awakened consciousness. Now what is the great awakener in our own ordinary lives? NEW STATES. It is the absence of everything moving along smoothly, the interruption, in other words, pain in some way. Take your ordinary consciousness of the organic state of the body. It is perfectly normal and it has always been normal. It is a quite unconscious process. Now suppose you have a pain in the liver. At once you become conscious of a part of the body that you never knew of before; pain that the consciousness aroused by an unbalanced or

inharmonious condition of the liver, and has aroused an awareness and THAT AWARENESS is really an AWARENESS OF THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE LIVER. It BECOMES SELF-CONSCIOUS of the AWARENESS OF THE LIVER TO PAIN that you Now, we will say that you have succeeded in restoring a balance in that place. When the pain was removed the state of the balanced liver has a value of bliss in the liver. After the period of protracted pain the after effect is a STATE OF JOY and simply THE ABSENCE OF PAIN? Now what is the significance of that? It is the awareness of the normal state of consciousness, and knowing as bliss as joy; only in such way can you become conscious of the unconscious upon first arising. Most pain becomes as Buddha put it: "the first noble Truth." It is the GREAT AWAKENER OF SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS. Now in the joy sense, when one has been prepared for it sufficiently by spending perhaps thousands of years and ages going through the mineral, vegetable, animal and human phase, he develops a sufficient degree of self-consciousness to turn now to his liver or physical organs, but to PRIMORDIAL CONSCIOUSNESS itself. To be conscious of that primordial consciousness, which is awakening to supernal bliss, the bliss which was not known in the first place because there was no self-consciousness. Evolution then has brought a value of being self-conscious, through and through, in a sufficiently strong degree to be self-conscious on that level.

Now you see there comes a time when the soul is ripe for that awakening, in a greater or less degree. The awakening is actually, as I have said, in a series of steps. Most souls until they get there just go along in the old beaten paths perhaps for lifetimes. Now then when the time has come and if the steps toward awakesness are not taken, all of the future lives have practically no more significance than walking on a treadmill or making the rounds in a squirrel cage: it is just a repetition of something that has performed its service.... We are after those that are ready who, if not separated in one way or another--either by being intrigued with the idea or driven by a lash--remember; if they won't come with being fascinated by the prospect of awakening, sooner or later we come with the acid poured in the pool. I recommend keeping ahead of that state, because, one day or another we are going to get you. If you don't come the easy way you'll come the hard way--no escaping it. You know God can't permit any fraction of Himself to pass out. Strenuous methods will be used if necessary. You can have your choice. Of course, this particular phase of the work is not for everybody. There are those who are not ready. They select themselves. Now then--on to Karma.

Let us take then, THE BEGINNING OF THE PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD, THE UNIVERSE or AN ATOM, the HUMAN BEING or ANYTHING ELSE--the same essential principle applies because you are only dealing with the ROOT PRINCIPLE. In the primordial state there is no Karmic action because there is no action. It is a state neither of rest nor of motion. Something is produced by a tension, let us say, in some direction, which at once--because the primary law is a law of equilibrium--arouses the counter action which exactly balances it. You have action and reaction and in the highest level that balance has never for one moment been broken, but in another sense, in another level you may have action with reaction separated in time, and a separation in time gives the effect of periodicity. Now then, you may think of this constant play--action and reaction--never actually succeeding, only appearing to succeed in destroying the balance, so it becomes not a steady tension like two forces standing apart, but a flowing (?) motion as it were, the one impulse rising, causing

the other to catch up; you may say you have continuous impulse with continuous cancellation of that impulse and the effort of that ... you might illustrate by a vortex illustration. That vortex motion--actual substance never still for one moment, produces an effect as a body, just as that looks like a form, although water is always moving. In one sense you have a whirlpool, you can photograph it. Is the whirlpool something or nothing? The substance is the water. The whirlpool isn't the water. It is an appearance. There is nothing fixed there. The only fixed thing would be a kind of form of the whirlpool, but the continuous flowing of a substance through it--the substantial element--isn't the whirlpool that you see. Now LET THAT WHIRLPOOL represent the nature of ALL PONDERABLE THINGS--a thing that can appear to the senses, that can appear to the thought--now this whirlpool is suspended subject to that law of equilibration It is borne as a result of the ... of action and reaction. The very effort of the law of equilibration to blot out the tension arousing the ... and the whole universe into ... during the instant of that tension. On the highest plane what we might call an instantaneous tension at once cancels maybe ...4,000,000,000 years down here. You have had dreams that were extremely short--projected time may have been a long experience. Well, let us say, the dreams of Brahma (?) can produce H__ & B__ in an instant of time, as it were. (= duration). If you were to carry your own consciousness somewhere near that field of which I am speaking, where H__ & B__ has the significance of an instant. It has a tremendous dissolving force and if you are going to hold your relative, actual will, you have to set your will. I am speaking of a VERY HIGH LEVEL, but it can be done. Actually at that point you are not a gentle, passive, plastic soul in the hands of a greater power. That comes at certain stages but you have passed that, and you must be willful and work with formlessness. Then you can establish yourself as a center of self-conscious value--that comes in stages if you prepare for it.

Now Karma is the force that governs all of this manifestation. We will step right down on the ... to another level where it takes four billion years to come to another period. Karma, the law of manifesting its periodicity, means this: that a certain action, not its effect--the effect always being such that it balances the action--in one sense it is a kind of circulating motion, but in time spreads out as periodicity. EVERY STATE OF ANY OBJECT IS THE RESULT OF PRECEDING KARMA. This book is an existence occupying exactly this point that it occupies at this time as a result of Karmic forces that preceded it, and without that it could not be. The molecules that are there as a result of Karmic causes of preceding instances. These bodies that we have are sustained as bodies ... for the same reason. If the Karma were ever completely wound up, then that organism would dissolve itself into the eternal plan. Don't have much fear that you are going to dissolve by that easy route, because it would have to be a very perfect balance; not only the physical garment governing the matter, the operation of that ... all organized into a unity that makes up a person, but that person in connections, in intellectual, moral, touching other kingdoms--the animal, vegetable and mineral--all of that sort of thing would have to be reached in the perfect balance. Now there are plenty of seeds sown; and unless he could stop sowing future action--because even to draw a

breath of air is to sow a cause. Some fanatical students of yoga say that they should be ascetics to the point of breathing air, and so not robbing other creatures. I say that's going a little too far. We have the fanatics in all directions. The middle way is the nicest way.

Well, man being sustained as all creatures are sustained by Karma and Liberation being a state where you get out of this Karma, a state where you are free, a state where this DEEP PAIN OF BEING INCOMPLETE, which is the deep underlying pain as manifested, that is dissolved only by liberation and your Karma is holding one right here in bondage. How in the world are we going to work out? I will just illustrate in the human field so the point becomes clear. Let us say you cut off somebody's head, stole somebody's wife, or ordered a massacre. You were not always as saintly as you are this life. Those are matters of relativity. You have done a lot of wrong, you have to make it up. You have to balance the account, square it, do something; also, correct that particular characteristic in yourself that led yourself to the act of vehemence, so KARMA HAS GOT TO PRODUCE THAT CIRCUMSTANCE THAT WILL CORRECT AND BALANCE THE ACCOUNT TO THE OTHER FELLOW. You cut Mr. A's head off, at a great cost to yourself, possibly even of your life; at another time you rendered a service to B; you exploited Mr. C; you robbed the reputation of D; you taught E something that was very valuable; and you did all that in different lives. Now those you injured you have to render an equivalent aid, and those that you served over and above have to have an opportunity to balance; in order to have the balance you have to be available to receive both kinds of experience. Balance has to be achieved. You get into this in corporeality. You say A happens to strike here. You get a workout with A, possibly you get a workout with D. The others don't happen to incarnate, missing you, in turn, C. You have to wait 2,000 more years. In the meantime you are getting into messes with others; but you hope to get free by balancing the account. You have a difficult time. Remember, you have to balance it; let us say what you owed was \$1,000. You compensate and overcompensate and gave him \$1,001. That puts a necessity on him. And you died and he has to wait another incarnation, waiting around to give him a chance to give you that \$1.00 back. The conclusion is that it is practically impossible and if we had to liberate ourselves by balancing Karma it would be a . . . How are you going to get out of that sort of thing. The Law of Equilibrium has got to be balances. Every man has got to give every other fellow a chance to reward him--has got to give him the chance to have his experience. Karma demands all that.

The only way out grows out of this fact: That, IT IS AN ACT THAT TRANSCENDS THE FIELD OF THE PLAY OF KARMA; and we can best illustrate by thinking of it as an ACT OF AWAKENING; as when you awaken from a dream, it doesn't matter how tangled up your dream state was, you have destroyed its power by simply waking up. IT IS NO MORE A FACTOR TO BE DEALT WITH. I wonder if you can catch this simple point of logic. In your dreams, they had POWER OVER YOU because at the time you THOUGHT it was REAL. When you AWOKE, the REALITY of the dream was destroyed, by RECOGNITION. Now it isn't correct to say that the dream was, and

ceased to be.

IMPORTANT:

THE ACT OF RECOGNITION MAKES THE DREAM AS A REALITY TO CEASE TO EVER HAVE BEEN, therefore, THE KARMIC CHAIN BINDING YOU IN THE DREAM STATE IS DISSOLVED.

(That's subtle logic, if you can follow it.)

Now, let us suppose though that we are waking up from a field where there are entities. Balance has to be accomplished. What happens? At the moment of BREAKING into GENUINE SUBSTANTIAL CONSCIOUSNESS--PRIMORDIAL CONSCIOUSNESS, LIBERATED CONSCIOUSNESS, THE PRIMORDIAL SOURCE IS TAPPED (?) and THERE FLOWS FROM IT THAT WHICH BALANCES ALL ACCOUNTS: AT THAT MOMENT THERE FLOWS INTO THE WORLD FIELD THE UNIVERSAL COIN THAT BALANCES ALL KARMIC ACCOUNTS. THE LAW OF BALANCE OF EQUIVALENTS IS NOT BINDING.

The individual is there karmically free, not karmically bound. Now what happens? That all debts can be paid with this coin because it is that from which all values come. It is the gold--your funds might be renewed ... but all of as an inferior sort than this gold. You are backed with the gold that leaves every soul that receives, a step or more nearer their own liberation, hence, he who breaks away, out of bondage of time and form, to the extent that he has had Karmic contacts in this world, lifts the world; if he never does anything else, that much he has done, and the world becomes enlightened, and the storms and darkness in it become weakened to the extent of his contact. If he was one of those great powerful souls who has done ... KHAN (?)--look at the enormous contacts ... he built a karmic connection, the enormous effect such a soul had. It is difficult for such a soul to awaken because he tends towards darkness.

JESUS: "And if I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me."--set up a magnetic connection. There is a time limit. You see the field of connection of a figure set up by Buddha or Jesus doesn't operate indefinitely. Buddha said what he established would last for 500 years. The fact of the churches lasted 2,500 years. I have assumed that what he referred to the impulse, as a transmuting impulse, would endure that long. But, there have been others who came in that church, and there have been Buddhas, not so great, but Buddhas in their own right, and so there has been a restimulation. The same thing has happened in the Christian era. St. Francis would be an example--but, so far as the contact can be established, the magnetic correlation, the lifting up of such a one lifts up all the others.

You can't really save anyone against his own free will. You may pursue him, you may fall in love with him, really get him to react to you so that you can get your hooks in on him. You want to be consistently bad? Then you don't want to let yourself fall in love. That's a very great mistake. It takes a lot of skill to be really thoroughly bad. You have got to watch yourself closely, your own feelings, your own emotions. You've got to curb your altruistic emotions. You've got to come one way or another, be it good or bad. The path of darkness is very unsatisfactory, I can assure you. It's pain, pain, and pain, and ultimate dissolution in the eternal, without self-consciousness.

Here as we stand now we are a mixture of sheep and goats. I don't know ... traditionally, we are supposed to regard the sheep as the good qualities (?) ... I have more respect for the goats. They have more character. I am not so sure but what the goats have been ... character is what counts, and the goats will try. They will climb to their high points on their own initiative. I am inclined to admire them. And the sheep are mostly a kind of ... that don't act very bright. At any rate they are just followers--so I think we have overvalued the sheep and undervalued the goats. At any rate, the idea is that we have a MIXED NATURE. I would prefer to say, take some figure of speech like this: we are a mixture of pandas and skunks. We saw a bunch of them at the zoo today. I think they are a most delightful animal. For a time we are permitted to carry this mixture together, in spite of there being a war period, but one day we have got to go the path of the panda or the path of the skunk, for nature will force the separation. I prefer the path of the panda. Purity, of course, is limited so purification is to remove that symbolized by the skunk, so that those other qualities get the victory, and when victory is definite, then one will say: HE IS ON ANOTHER LEVEL, he has broken out of this travail, and broken away from all dangers, seen and unseen, safe and at home--but, even the skunk will get home by a tedious route.

Then we come to the final point, this application of karma. If an individual by his own effort can win to Liberation, then he can be effective in his action with respect to those he has had karmic contact with. If he accepts his Liberation that closes his He is in another world that is extremely desirable; not capable of being imagined here, one which no one would turn his back on once having glimpsed it voluntarily from the standpoint of mere personal preference. But suppose he does? The correlation with that consciousness, continuing in in power to such degree as he is able to carry, the advantage of the knowledge as far as that can be transformed and translated, and then focused upon the world field. Through him this transforming image, substance, consciousness can be poured into the world-field as a stream, a stream of life, that makes the water of that worldly life less bitter, and can be brought to act upon individual souls as they make themselves accessible to this action. It is utterly impossible to say "I will concentrate that Light upon an individual," because karma may set up a barrier so it cannot happen. That light is like the sunlight; and if your fruit trees are planted in fertile ground, the right conditions, the sunlight will make them grow. The sunlight may shine upon rocks and no plant grows. The sunlight is impartial, a potentiality. Actual sunlight is a very benevolent, compassionate force but it acts impartially. It acts without stint, but the plant which seeks that light will gain of it the POTENTIALITIES THAT ARE IN THAT LIGHT, and that is true here concerning the Nirvanic.

2.
HE WHO SO CORRELIZES HIMSELF WITH IT AS TO REAP ITS ADVANTAGE, WILL MAKE POSSIBLE SOMETHING FOR HIMSELF AS A PERSON AND INDIVIDUAL WHICH OTHERWISE IS NOT POSSIBLE.

Otherwise just a general sphere that is benevolent, that cannot say I pick out so and so; there is no karmic connection now. And since an individual can get himself into the position where he can get hooked with that Light, but he will have to take the bait. Jesus used the

figure: "I will throw out bait." (Book of Dead ?)--you know that is interesting. You actually find the same figure of speech (Why Angels Envy Men. Angels, commonly meaning devas, kind of spiritual entity that has not yet been human but is capable of being.) Even so, they cannot force any individual. In other words, he has got to take the bait. Man in one sense is lower than the angels physically, but potentially because he can rise to command, to and self-determined action, he after the best possible effort can rise to spiritual levels much more than the angels. SO LONG AS FOCUSSED AS CONSCIOUSNESS WITHOUT CONTENT, KARMA ...IF HE DIDN'T ALLOW HIMSELF TO BECOME CONFUSED AND ENTANGLED, HE HAS THE CHANCE TO REMAIN FREE EVEN IN THE MIDST OF ACTION, IF HE KEEPS HIMSELF CORRELATED.

COMPASSION IS IDENTICAL WITH THE LAW OF KARMA in the last analysis. Man has spiritual selfishness in most cases today for--provided one has the strength--majority may be too tired and they need the rest; rest may be for a limited period, and may be for a few million years, which is only a snap of the fingers.

SIGNIFICANCE OF WHY AND HOW THE FIELD OF CURRENT WAS BROUGHT IN LAST FRIDAY. Analysis of how--the portion that can be talked about and the portion that cannot be talked about--cannot be put into words. As to why--well, we happened to strike a moment of equilibrium. We couldn't have done it here. It would have to be too severe for the student. But, physical disturbances are sufficiently reduced in that world. The audience present was sufficiently harmonized so that the analysis was effective. It was really a reproduction of the thing I did not the seventh of August. I hadn't foreseen it. I wouldn't have said it would have been possible under those conditions, but we discovered something impossible--but the analysis actually was a discrimination, affective.

Hindu sage: "Indians attain real liberation through a path of quiescence." Usually withdrew to quiet lives. Said: "The tempo (?) of your life is action and you will have to learn the effective meditation in action. It is possible to learn to meditate about your business--more difficult--but it can be done and that's the Western way." Now that's an Indian talking, an Indian sage. I think you've got to recognize the possession of a certain power resident in the Western organism that offsets its weaknesses and difficulties. Our peculiar weaknesses and difficulties, barriers, are not met effectively by the Oriental methods. Those methods will meet the weaknesses of the Oriental constitution, not ours. We have to unlock potential powers native to the West if we are going to overcome Western barriers to recognition.