

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS: HALCYON REVISITED

Lakshmi Devi (Gertrude A. Wolff)

Assembly of Man Bulletin, No. 1

June 1960

In the days before the birth of the Assembly of Man there existed an order which bore the promise of great things. This group, known as the Temple of the People, had a fair-sized colony on the Coast south of San Luis Obispo at Halcyon. Under the leadership of Mrs. LaDue, known as Blue Star and held in reverence by all members, the community flourished and drew about it many great souls. It was here that Franklin Fowler Wolff met and married Sarah A. Merrell Briggs (Sherifa).

Some say our Assembly of Man is a reincarnation of this group; others feel it was a John-the-Baptist heralding the coming of a great Messiah. The community is still in existence but it is felt the real Fire went out with the passing of their leader.

This spring Yogi and I had occasion to visit there. Many changes have occurred, of course, but we found some who could supply us with information. There was Mrs. Lillian Harbison, an unusually sweet and fine lady who would be about Mother Sherifa's age, still holding forth in the print shop where the Temple literature was published; and there were the Eric Varians, whom we visited. It was John Varian, father of Eric and Russell, who first interested Yogi in theosophy, and Yogi says he was not easily convinced in the beginning. Russell has been gone about a year but left behind him an important institution. He is possibly the father of radar, who put his theories into practice and in 1950 began Varian Associates which today is a \$30,000,000 enterprise.

The Temple is still there, an attractive building and well kept, and nearby a tiny cabin houses that spot which, it was thought, was a magnetic center for the world.

Perhaps someday the Fire will be rekindled in this place. Perhaps its day here is ended, yet we have felt its influence and know something of it will live on, forever, we hope, perhaps as one Spark catches hold from Another.