

# SPIRITUAL RADIO

by the

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## INTRODUCTION

The title of this little book expresses adequately, we feel, the nature of its contents.

The present popularity of Radio for purposes of instruction and entertainment is a remarkable phenomenon, the full significance of which we have hardly yet grasped.

History repeats itself. "First that which is natural and then that which is spiritual" (I. Corinth. 15:46) seems to be the prescribed order in which true knowledge is unfolded.

Butler's famous "Analogy of Religion" does not precede but follows the advance of science during the earlier part of the eighteenth century. It also served as a corrective (not necessarily a rebuke) to the rather excessive zeal of the Wesley preachers and other leaders of the contemporary Evangelical Revival.

Henry Drummond, towards the end of the nineteenth century, made a similar contribution through his religio-biological studies and more especially through his "Ascent of Man" and his still more celebrated "Natural Law in the Spiritual World." An evangelical himself and a close personal friend of D. L. Moody,

Drummond nevertheless possessed the truly scientific mind and instead of taking up the mental attitude known today as "fundamentalist," he actually vindicated his ideals of Gospel Evangelism by a scholarly appeal to Natural Science and more especially to the (then) recently developed doctrine of Evolution. His less known book, "The New Evangelism," is also well worthy of study in this connection.

So today, when there is an extraordinary revival of interest in the Christian Healing message and when itinerant evangelists can fill a tent with seven thousand people nightly for five consecutive weeks or build a magnificent tabernacle on the Pacific Coast and install a colossal Radio equipment for carrying the healing message far and wide, it behooves the more conservative Christian philosopher to sit down quietly and analyze these marvelous spiritual forces which are being released. He will seek to understand them, to correlate them, to apply them wisely and constructively. Nor will he allow his first blaze of enthusiasm over his discoveries to disturb his equilibrium or cause him to abandon impulsively the "old ways." The old Books (whether Bible or Prayer Book) will glow with fresh inspiration as the new light shines upon their pages; the old sacraments will convey new potentials of spiritual energy; the old lights and colors and vest-

ments will symbolize the “beauty of holiness” more appropriately today than they ever did—and less mechanically. Simple Christian rites, sacramentally administered—such as Baptism or the Laying-on of Hands (whether for Ordination, Confirmation or Healing)—will become vehicles of Divine Power adequate to the complex needs of the busy days in which we live.

“Spiritual Radio” is vindicating the work of the great Mystics of Christian history; it is demonstrating that the “Interior Life” is not limited to the seclusion of the cloister but produces a robust type of Christian manhood and womanhood that makes for leadership and achievement in the marvelous age in which our lot is cast.

All great epochs in human development have had their special prophets and seers, and the new Renaissance faintly indicated above has already been heralded by such men as Archdeacon Basil Wilberforce of England and Archbishop Frederic H. Du Vernet of Canada. The following brief essays from the pen of the latter are indeed fragmentary; but they reflect the true spirit of the pioneer in the realm of spiritual discovery and we esteem it no small privilege to offer to the Christian public the first tiny volume of basic material on the subject of Spiritual Radio.



Some of these essays appeared in the columns of the "Canadian Churchman" and we here acknowledge with gratitude the kind permission of the Editor of that paper to reprint them in booklet form. Some have also appeared in the pages of "The Nazarene" and some were sent to us by Mrs. F. H. Du Vernet shortly after the death of the Archbishop, in response to a request from the undersigned. The essay entitled "Radio Mind" appeared in the *Radio Journal*.

A larger volume is in preparation, which will contain an account of the life and work of Archbishop Du Vernet and which is being written by the Rev. Robert Connell, M. A., rector of St. Saviour's Church, Victoria, British Columbia.

I should like to mention here that my own interest in this subject dates back several years to a course in Therapeutic Psychology which I took at The Weltmer Institute, Nevada, Missouri.

My preceptor, Professor Sidney A. Weltmer, D.S.T., was tremendously interested in the problems of Telepathy, and in his book, "The Healing Hand," he has devoted several chapters to this subject. *Inter alia* he says: "In September, 1907, my associates and I started an experimental study of telepathy, in which I was usually the sender of the messages and in which a varying number of people in different parts of the

world—sometimes as many as eight thousand—each Thursday night endeavored to receive the message which I sent. This experiment has been continued almost without interruption since that date, and while it may not have resulted in the conclusive evidence which we expected to quickly reap when we began our work, as to the reality of multiple transmission and reception with one sender, it still has taught us a great many lessons and has given me unusual opportunities for experiencing telepathic phenomena.” (page 79). Further on he says: “If the theory of thought being a vibration is true, and if thought takes its place among the imponderable agents, heat, light, sound and electricity, which are modes of motion, then we will see at once the difficulty of bringing into practical use this faculty of the unconscious mind, or of demonstrating to the unthinking the fact of its existence.

“Let me illustrate: In wireless telegraphy instruments have been so delicately constructed that they can throw into vibration that rarefied form of matter known as ether, in which electricity manifests its activities, and instruments have been so delicately constructed that they will respond to the vibrations sent out by the first instrument. The one instrument is called the transmitter, the other the receiver. It is

clear that some force must go from the transmitter to the receiver. It is easy to demonstrate that such a force exists, that it does its work; but how much further on could we go in the investigation if there were no code of signals to enable us to interpret the vibrations? \* \* \* Until, therefore, some means of interpretation shall have been discovered, thought-transference will have no practical importance save in the healing of disease.

“If the time shall ever come when some code of interpretation in thought-transference analagous to a code of interpretation in telegraphy shall by common consent become known to men, then, and not 'till then, can thought-transference be of any importance in sending messages. It is of importance in the healing of disease by establishing the same vibrations in the passive mind that are held by the positive mind.” Those interested in Professor Weltmer's experiments and conclusions should read the book above quoted, especially chapters 6, 7, 8 and 29. This book (“The Healing Hand”) can be obtained from the Nazarene Press. Price \$1.25 postpaid.

Some will ask why a book on Spiritual Radio should be published by The Society of The Nazarene. We reply that a part of our object is to study and apply the teachings of Jesus. We regard Him as the Su-

preme Master and Exponent of spiritual forces and it is part of the Church's duty and privilege to learn the fundamental principles upon which Christ's work depended. To quote Prof. Weltmer once more, "He seemed to have a clear view of it all; no matter at what point He listened. He seemed to get the harmonies out of those places; no matter to what He turned He seemed to be able to read its history from the beginning.

"He understood the processes, mental, spiritual and physical of the mustard seed when He told you if your faith were like it you could do as it does that is, you could do all that you were intended to do.

"We cannot conceive for a moment that we can do these things without preparation. But the world is being prepared for it. Wherever the Christian religion has been preached all of these things, these wonders of the present time have been foreshadowed in that teaching. Paul foreshadows it when he says, "Now we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face."

Swedenborg saw these things and developed from them his famous doctrine of Correspondences and the recent revival of interest in his books and teachings is significant. It is simply a new emphasis upon sacra-

mental philosophy—that every outward and visible achievement of science adumbrates some inward and invisible spiritual reality.

Archbishop Du Vernet has applied his principle to the modern development of electrical science which is popularly known by the name of “Radio” and the reader will see from a careful reading of the following essays that he has furnished the key by which we shall eventually solve the problem above stated.

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## Chapter I.

### DIVINE HEALING

All healing is divine. This is true whether medicine, surgery, suggestion, faith or prayer be used to assist. God exercises His healing energy in accordance with the laws of the human body, mind and spirit, and not otherwise. He never contradicts the laws of His own creation.

Comparatively few as yet realize that it is the subconscious mind which controls the involuntary actions of all the vital organs, such as the heart, the lungs, the stomach, the liver, etc. This is done through the medium of the nervous system and muscular reaction. Mind energy acts upon vital energy. Vital energy acts upon nerve energy. Nerve energy acts upon muscular energy. This is the chain of life.

The subconscious mind is the storage battery of latent energy. This latent energy, which is spiritual, mental and vital, is divine. It is the releasing of this latent energy which causes bodily healing. How to release this latent energy and apply it either to the body as a whole, through the law of diffusion, or to a particular part of the body through the law of locali-

zation, requires some intelligent understanding of the subconscious mind, which is the law of suggestion.

An idea floating on the surface of the mind is not a suggestion, though it may be the starting point for one. Only when an idea is buried in the subconscious mind does it become a suggestion, for when once there it is seized by the subconscious activities of the soul and vitalized. How can a thought on the surface be made an energy in the depths of the mind? With some people this is best done in quiet moments by meditation while relaxing. With others a mental shock is needed to sink the idea. With others again an overwhelming emotion, such as religious ecstasy, is required to drive it deep. A suggestion given just before passing into natural or artificial sleep is certain to work most powerfully because then the subconscious mind is in the ascendancy. We classify suggestion according to its method of application. A suggestion given in any way by ourselves to ourselves is auto-suggestion, and when given by another to us is hetero-suggestion. Oral suggestion is when the idea to be suggested is embodied in a sentence and spoken either as a firm command or as a repeated affirmation.

Visible suggestion is when some outward sign or symbol is used to bring the idea vividly before the

mind. Medicine is often more effective as a symbol than as a substance.

The laying on of hands, anointing with oil, the seeing of cures, etc., are visible suggestions. Telepathic suggestion is when the thought is transferred without word or sign from the conscious mind of one person to the subconscious mind of the other. Distance is no obstacle to this. Strange as it may seem, a suggestion of healing sent by radio-mind is sometimes more effective when the patient is unaware of it, especially if he is inclined to be skeptical about it. Many a dying infant has had his vital energy revived by a mother's love working through telepathic communion.

The next generation may understand the healing power in radio-mind, but even this generation may realize something of the energy in collective telepathic suggestion. When ten thousand people concentrate their minds on the healing of one person, the psychodynamic effect must be tremendous. Prayer for the sick is not an outgrown superstition. Absent treatment is not a foolish fad.

The suggestion of faith is when an ordinary suggestion is reinforced by the absolute confidence that the desired result will be effectually obtained. The suggestion of religion is when this faith is founded upon belief in God. This is the most powerful suggestion



known to modern science because it brings the subconscious mind into touch with the Infinite so that the latent energy of the soul is quickened into "newness of life." St. Paul says: "The spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."

In every case of bodily healing there is always an element of suggestion to release the latent energy of the soul. However, this energy may be assisted from without by diet, medicine, surgery, or nursing, and however it may be intensified from within by suggestion, faith, prayer or intercommunion of spirit, it is this energy which heals and this energy is divine. The mists of prejudice and superstition will roll away when we come to realize that it is in the subconscious mind that the finite and the infinite meet and mingle.

## Chapter II.

### CREATIVE THOUGHT

Every thought unless it is trivial carries with it an associated feeling. When a great thought has revolving round it a glowing emotion there is produced a powerful motive. When the will releases this powerful motive in a definite choice there results energetic action which produces something which never existed before. This is what is meant by creative thought.

In mechanics creative thought produces helpful inventions; in art it produces beautiful pictures, and in morals it produces noble lives.

The scientific way of transforming character is by the renewing of the mind. Modern psychology has established beyond dispute this law of the human mind. The life follows the thought. If a man thinks impure thoughts and holds these in his mind, it is only a question of time and opportunity before he becomes unclean in his life.

If a man thinks kind thoughts, noble thoughts, good thoughts and holds these in his mind, he will unconsciously grow like his thoughts—kind and noble and good.

### **New Thoughts and New Life**

Instead of the old thought of selfish regard which has been dominating his life in the past let him put into his mind the new thought of brotherly love as taught by Christ and inspired by His Spirit.

Instead of the old thought of fear and terror which plays such havoc with the soul, let him put into his mind the new thought of trust and hope. Instead of the old thought of envy, hatred and malice, which will poison any disposition, let him put into his mind the new thought of kindness and goodwill as taught by Christ and inspired by His Spirit. Instead of the old thought of enervating depression and fancied disease let him put into his mind the new thought of invigorating cheerfulness and vitalizing faith in God.

It is by these and such like new thoughts that a man's mind is renewed and his character is transformed. St. Paul says: "Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."

### **Psychological Law Always Works**

This psychological law is as constant and as certain in its operation as is the law of gravitation. The life follows the thought. The meaning of the Greek word for repentance is a change of mind. This is something far more vital than a mere sentimental feeling. What

we think we become. Thought is creative. Change the mind and you change the man.