

4 June 1962

PREFACE

Last term most of you studied the individual human organism as a three-storeyed chemical factory for transforming coarse matter into fine – a human refinery. Using the same figures, we can study within the Solar System the Great Laboratory of Organic Life on Earth as a very big refinery built on the same plan. The interpretation of the successive steps depends on another diagram you had called the ‘Diagram of all Living’. Those of you who were not here then must just follow the general plan without worrying about the figures. It may be possible for you to carry away a feeling that every process in the creation, maintenance and evolution of living beings on the earth is connected and related to a plan which could only have been conceived by a Mind, or minds, far higher than our own. You can take this scheme just as an hypothesis, every step of which must be looked into and confirmed before it is accepted.

Mr. Colin Lucas writes as follows:

THE COSMOS OF ALL LIVING. FOREWORD

We are used to thinking of the sun as a fiery ball, and the planets as separate inorganic entities which revolve around it. Life on earth appears to us as an isolated event, unrelated to the solar system as a whole. But if, through the Doctrine of Cosmoses, we begin to study the sun as it really is – not as it appears to us, but as it might actually appear to itself, difficult as that may be to conceive – we begin to find a different picture emerging. We realise that the sun exists for a much longer time than we ever supposed; that the planets are in the nature of a sheath, or a delicate film surrounding the central core; and that the whole body of the solar system, of which we know but a tiny fragment, possesses some quite unknown shape in the Milky Way. Failing to grasp the significance of the sun’s total form, but knowing at least that it is not as we had supposed, we turn to the fact that it is alive. And then we remember that the principles underlying each cosmos are the same, and that we ourselves, miraculous as it may seem, are built on the same pattern as the sun is. Applying the same principles to each, we find by degrees that a quite new conception of the sun begins to appear, and in this conception every thing has its place.

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THE COSMOS OF ALL LIVING

1. The sun – the solar system is alive. And being alive, it eats, breathes and receives impressions. The energy it assimilates in this way is converted to different levels within itself, and used for various purposes. In man, these processes are described in the three-storeyed factory, or food table. But the sun also has its food table, and the principles are the same.
2. The food cycle of the sun has a period of the order of several thousand million years. During this period, which corresponds on our scale to man’s digestive period of twenty-four hours, physical energy is absorbed into the body of the solar system, probably in the form of planetary matter, comets, etc., from outer space. This matter, when absorbed and condensed, is what we call ‘metals’. It is in fact the ores and other inorganic substances of which planets consist.

3. 'Metals' form the note DO in the food octave of the sun. The next note RE is 'minerals'. Now the presence of minerals in the planetary world presupposes the existence of plants. Plant life is in fact the carbon in the first triad, for it enables minerals to evolve from metals. Plants 'feed' on metals, and as a result, minerals come into being.
4. And the third note MI in the food octave is 'plants'. The existence of plants in the planetary world depends on the presence of invertebrates. Invertebrates, of which the classic example is the earthworm, prepare minerals for conversion into plants. Invertebrates 'feed' on minerals, and as a result, plants come into being. Invertebrates are in fact the carbon in the second triad.
5. But at the third note MI of the food octave a shock is introduced. It is at this point that life enters the body of the sun – the solar system is quickened and begins to breathe.
6. Now the breath of the sun corresponds to the birth and death of organic life. Its period is of the order of the ice ages – say thirty to fifty thousand years. And with the continued breathing of the sun – with the continued passing of the ice ages, living creatures evolve under the sun's influence – plants, invertebrates, vertebrates...
7. These first three notes of the air octave – plants, invertebrates and vertebrates – are like a huge generator within the solar system for the production of vital energy. It is by the coming and going of all living, over periods of thousands of years, that vital energy is released. And so the whole solar system becomes alive.
8. This quickening that occurs with the entry of the air octave also enables the food octave to continue. And in the continuation of the food octave the words 'plants', 'invertebrates' and 'vertebrates' have a second meaning. They refer, not to vital energy, but to different levels of physical matter – fine states of matter on the borderline between matter and energy, equivalent perhaps to hormones, vitamins and similar substances in our own food table. The mass of life that we see on the earth's surface is in fact, on this enormous scale, a delicately balanced complex of different substances, each with its own peculiar reaction, its own intelligence.
9. But it is in the entry of impressions at the third note of the air octave that our real interest lies. Impressions, for the sun, are concerned with mankind. Man is in fact the source of energy on which the psychic life of the solar system depends – each individual man is so to speak a 'quantum' of psychic energy, on the scale of the sun.
10. The first note DO of the impressions octave is called 'vertebrates'. And the name 'vertebrates' in this third sense refers to mankind, to humanity. The continuation of the impressions octave refers to levels of being – to the development of different levels of being in humanity – in mankind as a whole on the biggest possible scale.
11. All the higher qualities that man could possess already exist in humanity – in the first note DO of the impressions octave. But on this level of being they remain unexpressed – they remain so to speak unmanifest. And in this form they cannot be released and circulated – they cannot be of use to the sun.
12. In order that these higher qualities may be released and circulated there have to be, within humanity, conscious men or 'angels' who already possess a higher level of being and can show man the way to acquire it. 'Angels' are in fact the carbon in the

first triad of the impressions octave. They 'feed' on vertebrates, and as a result 'man' evolves.

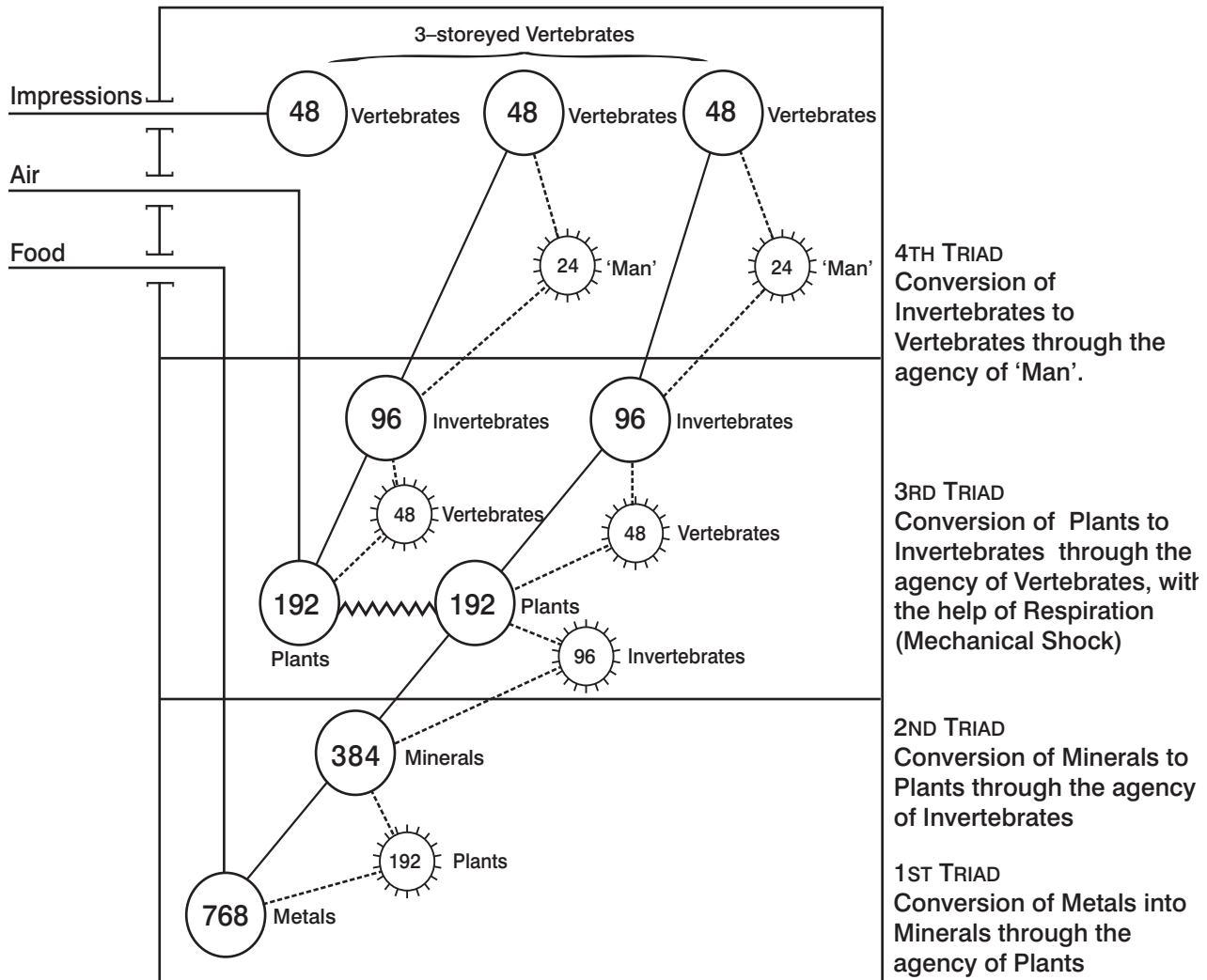
13. The evolution of 'man' from vertebrates is the first step in the development of consciousness within the solar system. The next step, from 'man' to 'angels' presupposes the existence within humanity of a still higher level of being – of 'archangels'. Archangels are the carbon in the second triad of the impressions octave. They 'feed' on 'man'; and as a result, angels come into being.
14. Now 'Man' in this sense refers to self-conscious man, the word 'angels' refers to those who have cosmic consciousness. And the step from self-consciousness to cosmic consciousness can only take place with the help of higher Knowledge – by means of direct access to Truth. That is why the intervention of archangels is necessary, for archangels are beings who know all Truth.
15. And at the third note MI of the impressions octave there is an interval. Now it is at this level that the highest form of energy enters the solar system. This energy, which we have called 'creative energy', works through the medium of cells. When the sun creates, it is through the individual cell, the germ cell, that this creation becomes manifest in the world of all living.
16. Now the creative energy of the sun creates physical forms – it works through the medium of cells to produce variety of species; and the creative energy of the sun creates life – it works through the medium of cells to conceive and to reproduce; but its third function is in relation to consciousness – to the higher qualities than man possesses; his creative powers, his desire for knowledge, the beauty that he seeks, the mercy, the love that is in him – all these must be fixed so deep and so strong in mankind that they cannot disappear through the countless generations that pass between one moment of the sun's consciousness and the next. And it is only the creative energy of the sun, working through the medium of cells that can achieve this. The creative energy of the sun is like a great breath, which quickens the inner life of humanity.
17. And the final step in the development of consciousness within the solar system is the evolution of archangels. In order that angels may evolve into archangels the intervention of a still higher principle, the 'eternal unchanging' is necessary. The eternal unchanging 'feeds' upon angels, and so archangels come into being. Archangels are a permanent conscious principle within the solar system – a principle which cannot be lost or destroyed.
18. So man is a cosmic phenomenon. And the fulfilment of his inner life, his consciousness, is an essential step in the evolution of the sun. If he could unite himself with the cosmos of All Living, all his possibilities would be fulfilled.

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THE GREAT LABORATORY or Food Table of a Solar System

An account of the stages in the generation of life, intelligence and Consciousness on a planet for which, in a given epoch, conditions make it possible.

STAGE 1. The Metabolism of Food and Air with one mechanical shock



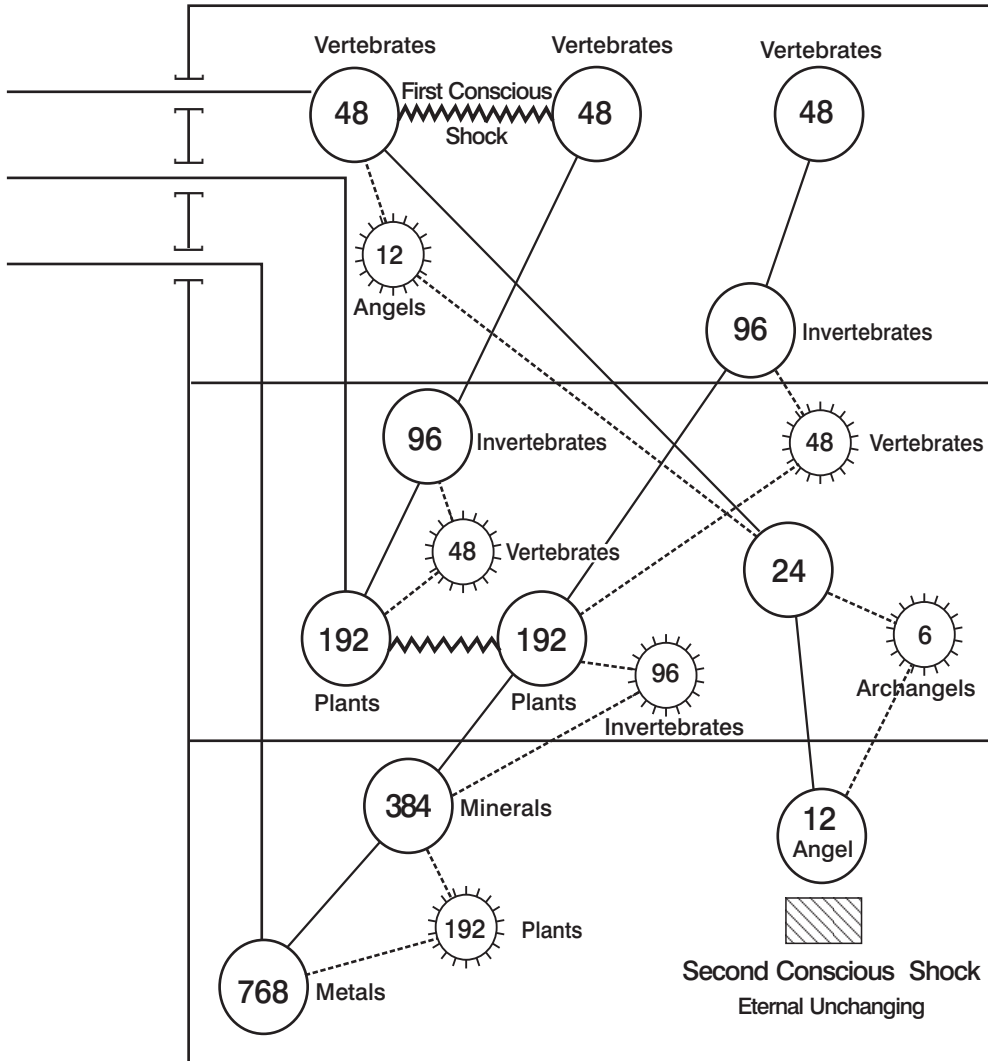
Stage 2 will show the effect of the *First Conscious Shock* in bringing about two more triads:

5th Triad Conversion of Vertebrates to 'Man'

6th Triad Conversion of 'Man' to 'Angel'

Stage 3 will show the effect of the *Second Conscious Shock* in the conversion of Self-Conscious Beings to Cosmic Consciousness.

**FOOD TABLE OF DEUTEROCOSMOS
SUN – STAR
THE GREAT LABORATORY**



Note: For convenience we have not shown the continuation of the Air Octave from Mi 48 to Sol 12, or the Food Octave from Sol 48 to Si 12

Part 1. Food Table before Conscious Shocks

Takes the Great Laboratory from Metals to Vertebrates.

Part 2. First Conscious Shock

Takes Vertebrates to 'Man' and 'Angel' through the influence of Angels (Planetary World) and Archangels.

Part 3. Second Conscious Shock

Takes Angel to Archangel and Eternal-Unchanging through the influence of Nebular World.

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