

bargain counter at sale prices. We, today, will not keep and retain or preserve and protect this liberty except at the price which liberty-loving people have always paid. Whether or not liberty, as we know it, is to be lost to the world, depends upon whether free men and liberty-loving people everywhere are willing to pay the price of its preservation and protection.

## BE MECHANIC OF YOUR OWN MIND

By V. M. BURROWS, M.P.S.

To the ordinary driver of an automobile, the machine appears complicated when it ceases to operate in a satisfactory manner. We use it, and enjoy it, and have a great feeling of pride in the machine's power and ability to respond to the throttle or to obey the brakes. But when it "goes wrong" we at once need the advice of an expert mechanic.

The expert mechanic knows how to trace the trouble to its source. He knows how to bend metal, or cut it, or weld it, but he does not know about the ultimate nature of the metal. He does not consider it necessary or needful to understand about molecules or electrons, or transmutation of metals—all he wants to know is how to "work" the material so as to bring about satisfactory operation of the machinery. He knows how to attach wires, repair damaged insulation, or test the batteries; but he does not worry too much about the proper definition or true nature of electricity.

Why not be a mechanic of your own mind? The happiest man is the one who thinks the most interesting thoughts. Every achievement has its origin in the mind; every structure is first a mental structure. You are a complicated machine, and you alone can operate it in a satisfactory manner, or IMPROVE it.

Good thoughts come to every man of average intelligence. If you pay no particular attention to the good thought when it comes to you, it will probably disappear, never to return in the former intensity. Mix the thought with an emotion and it *will* probably return. Appreciate it, have a desire to use it for a worthy purpose, and the thought becomes translated into action and has a favorable influence on your character and a healthful influence on your mind.

It is a mistake to expect good thoughts to come, at once, in response to intense mental application. The mind of man just does not operate in that manner. Thoughts which appear today are from the subconscious mind, where they were stored as the result of thinking on previous days. Intense thinking today, means storing thoughts in the

subconscious mind—by repeated impressions or by mixing thoughts with the emotions. Later, these thoughts come up from the subconscious mind, to submit themselves to the will and judgment of the active mind.

The Operative Freemasons lifted themselves by study of the Liberal Arts, as indicated in the Middle Chamber Lecture of the Fellowcraft Degree. The Speculative Freemason of today should likewise apply himself to consideration of the Laws of The Mind.

He should listen attentively to the Lectures and seek out a personal interpretation of our Masonic philosophy.

## MEMBERS OR MASONS

By GABRIEL RUSCITTI, *M.P.S.*  
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No whole is better than its component parts. If Freemasonry is to continue its noble objective and maintain its dignified record, we must not and cannot deviate from the standards set forth by our leaders of the past. Accordingly, the induction into our Order of applicants merits the keenest of judgment. Great caution should be exercised in the admittance of new candidates.

Participation into our Fraternity with enthusiasm and reverence for its spiritual philosophy should be a 'must' in a new Mason. We believe "as one" in the teachings of Freemasonry, for, in our spiritual solidarity depends the strength and growth of our institution. This cannot be accomplished without exemplary conduct reflecting day by day thinking and living in accordance with the basic principles of Freemasonry.

It is obvious then, that the applicant being considered must possess a genuine aptitude for our work along with the desire to join. The Symbolic Lodge is or should be cognizant of this very important stipulation and in accepting applicants no circumstance, no matter how expedient, justifies ignoring the principles involved. A Freemason is duty-bound not to recommend anyone unless he is reasonably certain that he will prove a credit to the Fraternity in general and his Lodge in particular. We, in building character, like the Craft in building an edifice, have certain specifications that must be met. The plans of our Supreme Architect cannot be put to work without zealous and competent workers.

One must not lose sight of the fact the candidate is in the "dark" about everything pertaining to his undertaking. He thinks he would like to be a Freemason for one or more reasons, none of which includes