

Echoes From Mt. Ecclesia

JULY 1913

NO. 2

Oceanside, CA

Virginia L. Kenney, Editor

Getting Ready

My! but this has been a busy month on Mount Ecclesia, for it is no easy matter to go into the hotel and restaurant business without experience; but willing hands made light work, and we have grown by overcoming obstacles.

The office force made a sewing-bee to get the table and bed linen in order; some of the earliest arriving ladies helped. The men folk erected the tents, and don't they look inviting, with their new floors, their white cots and stands against the canvas. Rollo Smith laid the floors on which other students erected the tents, carried in the comfortable iron cots and a "white city" sprang up as if by magic. Mr. Heindel worked with the rest. He connected the large hotel range and put in a hot water system, wired the grounds and tents for electric lights, and lectured at night. (And oh! my! he was such a strange specimen of humanity, with his black face and hands that I would not even think of introducing him to the new students, merely mentioning to them that the "plumber was also one of the members.") All of us wonder how one man can do so much both physically and mentally, always laughing and as happy as a boy.

By the way, many have remarked that the Rx. F. School is unique in the demeanor of all present: laughter, fun and jolly good fellowship is the order of the day, and there isn't a long face in the crowd. Even in classes the tension is frequently relieved by an innocent joke or good-natured banter, for Mr. Heindel takes

the position that when the attention is thus momentarily diverted, the mind recuperates, and students grasp the ideas presented more readily. Thus, the deepest studies seem like play.

Starting the School

The inaugural address was inspiring, of course, but one point in particular struck a chord in the breast of the hearers and which must find an echo in every student's heart, whether absent or present. Mr. Heindel said that when he was dismissed from the Temple in Germany, the Elder Brothers gave him this parting admonition and counsel: "Never try to attract money, not even to build the Ecclesia or Sanitarium. Buildings are dead, no matter how beautiful; aim rather to interest men and women of noble souls, that this movement may be endowed with their life, for only thus can it become a living factor in the world's work. If you adhere to this policy, buildings of commensurate dignity will come in time, as required by the work; but if ever you make these priceless teachings subservient to Mammon, the light will fade and the movement will fail."

What an awful responsibility! Thank God, neither Mr. nor Mrs. Heindel care aught for money, save as needed in the work, and it is truly a wonder what they have done in the 20 months which have elapsed since Headquarters was established, and all on voluntary contributions. Surely the "widow's

mites" have been carefully expended.

Our Work and Play

You want to know about the Classes, of course! Alice Gurney, of Sacramento puts us through our physical paces in physical culture, and teaches us how to wag our tongues artistically. In the Elocution class, Flora May Kyle, of Portland, Or., taxes our mentality with elementary Astrology, and the advanced class in Astrology is led by Francis Smith, of Seattle, Wash. Friend Francis has studied the stars in their courses, and being a master of music, we presume he has also studied the song of the spheres; at any rate, he has undertaken to awaken the resonance of our vocal organs in a choral class. Mr. Heindel has the class in Anatomy correlated with the mystic teaching, also Astro-Diagnosis. He is most ably assisted by a manikin who patiently submits to vivisection. He smiles serenely when his vital organs are removed, just as if he enjoyed being the central attraction. There is only one exception—when Mr. Heindel removes his face and exposes his skull, the smile changes to a grin. Miss Francis Lyon, of Brooklyn, N.Y., has a class in the Science and Harmony of Color, a study which will be very valuable in connection with the actual process of healing, when the Sanitarium is built.

Headquarters is very beautifully located, overlooking the San Luis Rey Valley, and the well-known San Luis Rey Mission, mentioned in Helen Hunt Jackson's *Ramona*, is situated about four miles distant; beyond we see Mt. St. Jacinto and Greyback, with their snow-capped summits. Our Saturdays, being entirely free from classwork, the students have decided to set aside that day for outings. On Saturday, June 14th, twelve of our students decided to go to the San Luis Rey Mission, whose beautiful

white buildings can be seen from our grounds. They just filled the auto and on their return, all stated that they had enjoyed themselves "hugely," so much so that they immediately began to make up a party to go to the Pala Mission and Pala Indian Reservation, which are about 25 miles distant. Oh! we are a jolly crowd and we have a jolly good time making up parties for surf and plunge bathing, picnics, etc., etc. Of course, you must know that we have a lovely view of the Old Pacific and Mount Ecclesia.

For Information

For the information of students who have not had a prospectus but who wish to attend the School at Headquarters, we may say that the school is open to those students who are affiliated at Headquarters only, and that the rates are \$1.00 per day, \$6.00 per week, or \$25.00 per month. This very reasonable charge is for board and room only and does not include tuition. It is contrary to the principles of the Rx. F. to charge for teaching, but all who attend are expected to contribute towards the expenses of the School.

As accommodations are limited, it is advisable to apply for admission in advance. The applicant must give birth date, and state when he or she would like to commence the study, so that it may be determined if the time is propitious. A booking fee of \$5.00 must be enclosed. If the application is accepted, this will apply on the first week's board from the time specified; if not, it will be returned.

Students who cannot come at the time for which they have made reservations would oblige the trustees by informing them as early as possible, so that the vacancies may be assigned to others. Failure to do this brings financial loss to the Rx. F. and keeps waiting students from profiting by the teaching.