

Symbolism of the Blood and the Nervous System

- A. Blood and the nerves the two primary phases of evolved organisms.
 - A. This not primarily a biological discussion.
 - 1. But concerned with the cognate division in the field of Consciousness.
 - B. Most primitive organic forms have these two phases undifferentiated.
Can Genetic primacy belongs to the blood.
 - 1. In embryo the blood system develops before the nervous system.
 - 2. Plant life preceeds animal life.
 - 3. Precultural stage of the races preceeds cultural differentiation.
 - D. Genetic or historical priority does not necessarily imply metaphysical or logical primacy.
 - 1. Two views possible.
 - a. That which follows in time inheres in and is derived from that which preceeds.
 - (1) Spengler, Keyserling, the Vitalists, the Humanists, the Pragmatists, the Instrumentalists, etc.
 - b. That which follows in time may be an emergence of that which is metaphysically ~~apriori~~ ^{apriori}.
 - (1) Kant, Buddha, Shankara, the Rationalists, the Idealists, etc.
- Present*
- II. ~~Ultimate~~ resolution of the problem of primacy probably impossible.
 - A. The division into blood-men and nerve-men lies in deeps too profound for surface resolution.
 - 1. To find and act where he belongs is the duty of each.
 - B. The primary criteria of each class not recognized by the other.
 - 1. Hence resolution of difference not possible.
- III. Division is that of Life vs. Understanding.
 - A. Blood men find the profound in the dreamy or unconscious deeps of Life or Becoming.
 - B. Nerve men find the profound in the acute, high-noon consciousness of emancipated Understanding.
 - 1. Emancipated Understanding is Understanding freed from sense.
 - a. Pure metaphysics and pure mathematics.
- IV. Division is that of Mysticism vs. Occultism.
 - A. The Mystic grounded in the felt.
 - 1. Employs cognition as an instrument only.
 - 2. Example of the Sufis.
 - B. The Occultist grounded in Understanding.
 - 1. Penetrates to ultimates through subtilized cognition.
 - 2. Examples of Buddhism and the Vedanta of Shankara.
- V. The Doctrine of the Heart vs. the Doctrine of the Understanding.
 - A. Two Heart Doctrines.
 - 1. That which accepts and moves in and through Becoming (Samsara)
 - a. Mystic, non-cognitave intuition.
 - B. Heart Doctrine of "The Voice of the Silence".
 - 1. Not a contrast between Head and Heart, but Eye and Heart.
 - a. The Eye represents Sense and Ritual.
 - b. The Heart represents super-sensuous or emancipated Understanding.
 - C. Distinction between super-sensuality and purified sensuality.
 - 1. Both are roads to Spirit.
 - 2. The former essentially ascetic, the latter non-ascetic.
 - 3. The former Discriminative, the latter Creative.

VI. Significance of the division upon the present political and social issue.

- A. Conflict for primacy between Life and Understanding reflected reflected in similiar conflict between politics and economics.
 - 1. Politics close to Life.
 - a. Primary instrument psychology.
 - 2. Economics close to Understanding.
 - a. Primary instrument calculation or logic.
- BB Roosevelt and Hoover as symbols of this conflict.
 - 1. Equalitarianism vs. Libertarianism.
- C. Ceasarism vs. money power.
 - 1. Not a choice of ideals but of that which seems least undesirable.

VII. Fundamental conflict probably ultimately resolved on a higher level.

Life and Understanding equal moments of a higher synthesis.