

Natal Astrology (Hermetic System)
Stature, Temperament, Disposition and Mental Ability
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Issued under the auspices of the Brotherhood of Light.
Serial No. 105 Course X--C.
Box 1525, Los Angeles, Calif. May 1922.
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Part III. Stature, Temperament, Disposition and Mental Ability
by C.C. Zain

To give an accurate description of a person's physical appearance from the birth-chart alone is made difficult by the circumstance that in some countries, and here in the United States in particular, there is a mixture of so many different races. Saturn, for instance, rising in the chart of a Scandinavian will produce one dark for his race, but not as dark, perhaps, as the native of sunny Italy who has the Sun as rising planet. The latter may be quite light in complexion for his nationality, yet dark in comparison to fair races.

And the same thing is true as to size and lineament. For a tall person of one nationality may be of but middle height when compared to the standard of another land. Yet here in the United States we have people from all lands, and the children of parents who came each from a different race. Therefore, such rules as can be given for height, weight, and complexion, may only be taken as accurate when the comparison is made with other members of the same racial descent.

The same difficulty is encountered in describing the temperament, although in lesser degree. For it might not require a very vivacious Frenchman to appear as lively as a very active Finn, and a Sicilian who has a very modest disposition might be quite as revengeful as almost any Irishman.

But when we come to mental ability these race characteristics are much less pronounced. This is due to the similarity of education given children through out the Western World, when they receive education at all. Although, due to race-characteristics we do find that these of certain nationality are more given to art, or music, or science, or business. Jews, for instance, take to business and the stage, but apparently not to mining or agriculture.

Consequently, in judging stature, temperament, disposition and mental ability, due consideration must be paid to the line of racial descent if the judgment is to prove accurate.

Of course, due to the circumstance that the body is but organic matter built through the process of replacement into a replica of the astral form; and that the latter is organized by states of consciousness forming thought-centers to which every planetary relation and zodiacal position must precisely correspond; so, every position in a birth-chart indicates some peculiarity of the physical form. Nevertheless we find that there are certain specific relations in a chart that in a general way govern the physical form.

Chief among these is the sign on the cusp of the Ascendant, and any planets that occupy the first house. And in considering planets in the first house give precedence, as a rule, to the one nearest to the cusp of the Ascendant, and less notice to those further removed. Note also

that any planet within fifteen degrees above the Ascendant is to be regarded as having an influence over the first house being in orb of the conjunction with the Ascendant. Further, it will be found, as a rule, that a planet near the Ascendant will impress its description upon the person even more strongly than the sign on the Ascendant; though in all cases the influence of both sign and planets should be combined.

Thus in the chart of King Edward VII., we find Sagittarius 27 on the Ascendant and Jupiter in Sagittarius 21, with both Saturn and Mars in the first house in the intercepted sign Capricorn. (See *Thousand and One Nativities*). His description was that of Jupiter in Sagittarius, because Jupiter in its own sign was nearer the cusp of the Ascendant, even though in the twelfth house. In the chart of Abraham Lincoln, however, (see frontispiece) we also have Sagittarius rising, and giving a very different form. If this chart is precise Neptune, a planet tending slightly to weight, is a little closer to the Ascendant than Saturn, although both planets are in conjunction with it. Nevertheless, the influence of Sagittarius and Saturn seem to outweigh the tendency to weight given by Neptune, and by Jupiter being in a stout sign. Also, Saturn marked the expression of the mouth and the complexion; for he was dark, raw-boned and six feet four in height.

When there are several planets in the first house, however, the planet nearest the cusp of the Ascendant will mark the appearance more certainly. But usually the body is smaller and more compact, and the more numerous the planets in this house, the smaller and more compact the body. Such a person is very energetic and ambitious, but small in stature.

Next importance to the rising sign and planets in the first house, as an index to personal appearance, is the sign in which the planet ruling the sign on the cusp of the Ascendant is found. If there is a planet in the first house, it is chief ruler of the personality, any one of the planets that occupy the first house having more influence over the personality than the planet merely ruling the sign on the Ascendant. But in all cases the planet ruling the cusp of the Ascendant is a co-ruler of the personality, and when there is no planet in the first house, or within 15 degrees above the Ascendant, it becomes the chief ruler of the personality. And it is found when this planet having an influence over the personality is in a long sign, it tends to heighten the stature, and when it is in a short sign, it tends to shorten the stature below what would be expected from the rising sign alone.

The sign in which the ruler of the Ascendant is found, however, is not of equal importance as an index to appearance with the rising sign, but exercises a secondary modifying influence. Thus in the chart of Napoleon I. the Aquarius decanate of Libra is rising. Libra is a tall sign, although the middle decanate is not so tall as the other two. No planets are in the first house, therefore, Venus becomes the chief ruler of the personal appearance. And Venus is found in the first decanate of Cancer. Cancer is not a tall sign, but tends to plumpness, and Napoleon was notably short and inclined to be rotund.

As a third influence, and as a rule having very much less influence over the personal appearance, the Sun-Sign may be noticed. Its influence over the size and structure of the body seems mostly to be strongly in evidence in those cases where the body markedly in weight and general contour at different ages in the life. It is not uncommon, for instance, for a plump child to grow tall and thin at maturity. Nor for a thin child take on weight at his prime. Also, persons that are slight or heavy at maturity sometimes assume the opposite tendency with age. And where these conditions exist it will usually be found that the form at one period of life tends toward the rising sign and planet, and at the other period; usually the former period tends toward the contour given by the Sign-Sign.

There is still a fourth factor that should be considered here, even though it has very little influence over the size and weight of the body. For the planet ruling the chart as a whole

usually impresses its stamp upon the countenance. It may or may not be the planet ruling the rising sign, or a planet in the Ascendant. It is, however, in all cases, the most powerful planet in the chart; $\frac{1}{2}$ position by house, by sign, and by aspect being taken into account.

Sometimes two or ore planets will be so influential in a chart that it is difficult to determine which one is most powerful, even as in some people it may be difficult to tell which of two or more races predominates in the blood.

But usually some one planet in the figure stands out supreme, either by its elevation, angular position, or the many powerful aspects it makes; $\frac{1}{2}$ those to the Sun being especially important. Thus in the chart of Napoleon I. (See Thousand and One Nativities) Sun, Mercury and Saturn are in the 10th. House. But Saturn is the closest planet to the cusp of the 10th., is the most elevated planet in the chart, and is very closely in opposition to the Moon. Therefore, I consider Saturn the dominant planet in the chart. And while Napoleon's $\frac{1}{2}$ s achievements were largely military, they were prompted by Saturn urging him to further ambition. And though Saturn was not shown in his physical structure, it marked his features in his famous attitude of deep meditation with arms folded and down-cast eyes.

To take another instance where the ruler of the rising sign is certainly not the ruler of the chart as a whole, let us examine the chart of Kaiser Wilhelm II. Of world-war notoriety (See Thousand and One Nativities). Here we have Cancer rising, with no planet in the first house. The Moon, chief ruler of the personality, is in Scorpio, therefore we expect to see a body of the Cancer type somewhat modified by Scorpio lines. But certainly he is not a person dominated by the Moon. Both Neptune and Mars are in the 10th house, Neptune being in its own sign and closer to the M.C. than Mars. Mars, however, is almost exactly trine to the Moon, ruler of the personality, and the ruler of the personality is in Scorpio, a Mars sign; $\frac{1}{2}$ so I conclude that Mars has more influence over the life than Neptune or any other planet, and is really the ruling planet of the chart. And the defiant attitude, as well as the most striking facial expression, is that of Mars; $\frac{1}{2}$ being quite the opposite to that of Napoleon.

As I have given a table showing the Personal Appearance indicated by each Planet and Sign in lesson No. 89, it need not here be repeated.

I have also, in lesson No. 46, given a brief analysis of the twelve signs of the zodiac, there stating the dominant idea of each as a phrase of two words, which when memorized serve admirably as a key to the whole influence of the sign. And in lesson No. 47, I have in a similar manner briefly analyzed the nine planets, giving a single key-word to each which when memorized instantly calls to mind the associated qualities.

But of far more importance than merely knowing the usual influence of any sign or planet is to know its worst tendency and its best quality, and how the former may be transmuted into the latter. So in the next few pages I shall treat of both planets and signs from this point of view. There are no bad planets and no bad signs. Each is equally important in world-economy. Therefore, when a planet or a sign is exceptionally prominent in a birth-chart it becomes an asset if its better side be developed through transmuting the less-desirable influence. And to indicate the best and worst influence I shall employ a key word, which when memorized will facilitate remembering the other details.

It would be possible to give a key-word for the best and worst trait of each of the 36 decanates also, but to render the matter easier to remember, I have deemed it advisable to give only the key-words relating to each sign. Then as the decanates have a sub-rulership of other signs, the key-word for the other sign may be used as a sub-influence, or secondary factor. Thus if the best qualities of the third decanate of Aries are to be found, it is necessary

only to remember that the best quality of Aries is Leadership, and that the best quality of Sagittarius (it is the Sagittarius decanate) is loyalty. Therefore, Leadership and Loyalty are the best qualities of the last decanate of Aries.

ARIES;½The Aries person to be at his best requires the zest of competition. He feels the need of combat in some form, and ever strives for personal leadership. He is extremely optimistic, and this often leads him into undertakings that are too large for him to handle. In fact, one of the things he should avoid is having too many irons in the fire at one time. His enthusiasm often leads him to rush into controversy before he has had time to examine the justice of the matter. And once he has taken up arms in behalf of a cause he is very difficult to dissuade. He is bright and lively, is a good mirror, likes politics, and may attain brilliancy in conversation. He is apt to be rash in love, and to overwork in business. His best quality is Leadership.

His worst quality is Officiousness. His desire for leadership causes him to interfere in the affairs of others where he should not. He should learn, therefore, instead of diffusing his energy, to concentrate his powers of leadership to the chosen field of his endeavor. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Egoistical Series.

TAURUS-- The Taurus person is steadfast in mind and in habits. He follows a certain routine in the performance of his tasks, and very much dislikes to change his methods in any way. He is thorough in all he undertakes, and is given to perfecting the small details, and can not be hurried or pushed or frightened out of his rather deliberate pace. He is obedient to his employer, and very persistent in all that he undertakes. He has not the initiative for new undertakings, nor the courage for taking too much risk. Rather is he conservative in both thought and action. He is very reliable and efficient in taking care of other people's possessions, at banking, at agriculture, and also at accountancy. His best quality is Stability.

His worst quality is Obstinacy. So he should early in life form the habit of being steadfast toward Truth and Justice. For when this attitude becomes thoroughly fixed it will then not be difficult for him to give way in smaller things in order to maintain this original purpose. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Possessive Series.

GEMINI-- The Gemini person has a very active brain and is at his best which his intellect has full scope for work. He is very restless, and must constantly express himself in some way. Often he becomes a valuable talker, and may talk so much about the unimportant details that the important information is obscured. He can do any number of things well, for he is very dexterous. His best quality is Versatility.

His worst quality is Changeableness. He not only changes his point of view, but can follow so many occupations without difficulty that he frequently does not stick to one long enough to make a marked success of it. He can do so many things well he will not put up with disagreeable things in one occupation because he can always go to work at another. He therefore should realize that any one task can be made worthy of all his ingenuity and talent, and that instead of changing occupations he should change his methods in the one he has chosen. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Thought Series.

CANCER-- The Cancer person is exceptionally emotional, and above all else craves the sympathy of others. Due to his extreme sensitiveness and mediumistic tendencies environment is most important in his life, for he tends to absorb all the conditions he contacts. He therefore should choose his associates with much discretion. His best quality is Tenacity.

His worst quality is Touchiness. He becomes greatly upset upon hearing any unpleasant

news, or when he fancies he has been slighted. The fear of ridicule is torture to him, and keeps him from asserting himself to advantage. But when he has a friend or an idea or a purpose to cling to, he does so with utmost patience and persistence. He should, therefore, absorb the idea that people in general are sympathetic and friendly, and that those who are otherwise are not worth thinking about. With this thought a part of himself he will no longer refuse to accept the very opportunities he desires when they are presented. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Feeling Series.

LEO-- The Leo person has great faith and trust in other people. And other people usually respond to this faith by endeavoring to live up to expectations. He does not demand of subordinates that which is impossible of fulfillment. He is a good entertainer. His best quality is Kindness.

His worst quality is Domination. He has a great thirst for personal glory, and wants a position of authority. He is much better at deputizing work than at taking orders from others. And sometimes he feels he should have a position of importance, when in reality he is quite incapable of filling it efficiently.

He should, therefore, early realize that kindness may often best be expressed through service rather than through giving orders, and that the greatest glory is to him who serves best. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Will Series.

VIRGO-- The Virgo person loves to deal with facts rather than with theories. He inclines to statistics, and often is a walking encyclopedia of information. He takes orders readily and with once ingenuity and originality in executing them. Hence he becomes a good accountant and good public servant. His best quality is Analysis.

His worst quality is Criticism. His powers of discrimination, and his practicality discern instantly the flaws in other people and their plans. His assimilative functions are sensitive, so he should use care in selecting his food, and this leads him sometimes to be ever fastidious and fussy. He becomes exceptionally valuable to executives who have plans. For he can dissect a proposition of any kind and find all its weak points. Also how these may be strengthened. But to be at his best he should early realize that it takes just as keen discrimination to find the good points in people and in things as to find these objectionable, and that this is even more profitable information when applied. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Analytical Series.

LIBRA-- The Libra person is a lover of perfection. He is courteous and kind, and greatly craves understanding and companionship. As a rule he should not live an isolated life, but follow his social inclinations. His best quality is Affability.

His worst quality is love of Approbation. He has a great dislike for injustice, and a revulsion at getting his hands or clothing soiled. Consequently he should never follow an occupation that will interfere with his sense of the fastidious. His natural tendency is to dabble in many things, and thus develop in true proportion. But unfortunately for him, the world pays for high efficiency in some single direction, hence he should specialize. He should choose some occupation where he meets people personally. He is a lover of harmony, and so dislikes to hurt another's feelings that he can not say No. He should early realize that he will be better liked by others in the long run if he has the character to render firm decisions and to be uninfluenced by flattery. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Equilibrium Series.

SCORPIO-- The Scorpio person is very intense in his likes and dislikes, and whatever he finds to do he does with his whole might. He possesses a natural healing magnetism, and is

never at a loss for a way by which difficulties may be overcome. His best quality is Resourcefulness.

His worst quality is Troublesomeness. He believes in duty, and often takes special pains to see that others fulfill all their obligations to society. He should early realize that his advantage is in concentrating his energies on the solution of his own problems, and in overcoming the obstacles to his success, rather than in insisting upon the proper conduct of others. He should also learn that his success at times depends upon his willingness to take second place, and that asking questions is not a serious acknowledgement of inferiority. Unlike Libra he can be trusted to grapple with the most difficult and disagreeable tasks. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Desire Series.

SAGITTARIUS-- The Sagittarius person can both give and take orders. He is naturally an executive and both in thinking and in deed goes straight to the mark, caring more for effectiveness than for elegance. He is buoyant and cheerful, and should follow an occupation where there is plenty of opportunity for mental activity. At the same time he also requires fresh air and exercise. Recreation is very important to him, as he tends to burn up his vitality through over-intensity. His best quality is Loyalty.

His worst quality is Sportiveness. He is philosophically inclined, and unless given opportunity for open-air recreation is apt to develop morbid self examination. He is very frank and outspoken in his opinions, and invariably is caught if he attempts deceit or dishonesty. He lives at his best when he has found a work in life so interesting to him that it becomes a game in which success is the hazard. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Comprehension Series.

CAPRICORN-- The Capricorn person is methodical and very ambitious. He is inclined to convention, and thinks much of worldly success, money and station. He has a faculty for bringing together dissenting factions, for synthesis and economy. He is at his best when given responsibility, and can shoulder it successfully. His best quality is Diplomacy.

His worst quality is Deceitfulness. He willingly bends the knee to those above him in rank or ability, and at the same time delights in receiving homage from those under him. He is a good manager, too much inclined to carry other people's troubles and make their responsibilities his own. But in his management he ever keeps in mind his own advantage. He should early realize that the greatest advantage any person can have is integrity of character and devotion to the welfare of others. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Utility Series.

AQUARIUS-- The Aquarius person understands human nature better than any other sign. He knows just what to say and to do to produce a given effect upon those with whom associated. He is a master psychologist. He is very progressive, interested in the latent developments of science and invention, finding it easier to learn through hearing others talk than through the study of books. He is greatly concerned regarding politics and religion, and views things from the standpoint of the welfare to society at large. His best quality is Altruism.

His worst quality is Argumentation. He will frequently take the opposite side of a question merely for the sake of discussion. And his enthusiasm is apt to be too greatly expended in theoretically solving the difficulties of mankind rather than in efficient action. He should learn that wisdom must be accompanied by practical application if it is to accomplish anything worth while. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Knowledge Series.

PISCES-- The Pisces person is inclined to be plastic, and thus much influenced by

environment. He should be thoroughly interested in and enthusiastic about his choice of work.. He is impressionable, psychic and emotional. His best quality is Sympathy.

His worst quality is Worry. He has high ideals, and loves harmony. And because he is so sensitive to discords and to thoughts of others he is inclined to magnify the importance of slight adversity, or imagine adversity that never comes to pass. He is at his best when working in the spirit of Universal Brotherhood. And to work thus effectively he must early cultivate the faculty of finishing every thing he starts; otherwise there will be restrictions cropping up that will cause him to drop his work before completion. And, being deeply religious, he should realize that he is responsible only in so far as he has ability, and that he should trust Deity with other details. Thoughts ruled by this sign belong to the Belief Series.

SUN ;½ The Sun person rarely works for others to advantage, unless he is given full charge of his department. He is in his natural sphere of endeavor when he has received political appointment. He always is at his best when at the head of something. His best quality is Rulership.

His worst quality is Dictativeness. He needs early to learn that undue assumption of superiority really weakens his authority and that consideration for the opinions of others and sympathy with their views will tend toward getting better service. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called the Power-Urges.

MOON-- The Moon person has much curiosity, and is subject to ever-changing needs. He loves notoriety, and is at his best when he is either before the public or coming constantly in touch with masses of people. His best quality is Adaptability.

His worst quality is Inconstancy. He should early learn that if he is to achieve fame, or to be favorably known by the public, that he must cultivate the power to persist in some one endeavor to the point of exceptional ability. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called Domestic-Urges

MERCURY-- The Mercury person is an excellent agent. He is at his best where he can attain his ends by writing, talking or travel. His best quality is Expression.

His worst quality is Restlessness. Clerical work of all kinds appeals to him, as does accountancy. He is decidedly clever, and learns a new task with great rapidity. He should learn however, from the fable of the tortoise and the hare, that the race is not always to the swift. And that the highest form of expression for his mentality can only be attained through protracted concentration. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called the Intellectual-Urges.

VENUS-- The Venus person needs social expression to be at his best. He is fastidious, and loves grace, music and the artistic. He is unfitted for a life of solitude and needs companionship. His best quality is Affection.

His worst quality is Pliancy. He is entirely too desirous of pleasing others and seeking the line of least resistance. He is not fitted for hard or heavy work, but needs employment where charm of manners become an asset. He should early realize that he more often truly pleases others when he asserts strength of character. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called the Social-Urges.

MARS-- The Mars person must have an outlet for his abundant energy in either constructive or destructive work. He becomes a good manufacturer, surgeon or mechanic. His best quality is Initiative.

His worst quality is Harshness. He should early realize that there is greater satisfaction in building up than in tearing down, and that undue sovereignty and antagonizing others hinders constructive enterprise. There is more opportunity for initiative in fighting disease, ignorance and poverty than in combating any human foe. Thoughts ruled by this planet are called Aggressive-Urges.

JUPITER-- The Jupiter person gravitates to the professions, and also has ability to sell to others on account of his jovial personality. Menial employment is beneath his dignity, and he chafes under too much restraint. He does well, however, at merchandising. His best quality is Benevolence.

His worst quality is Conceit. He always has a good opinion of himself. And he should early realize that Deity permitted others than himself to have correct opinions, and that true charity demands that he give them due consideration. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called the Religious-Urges.

SATURN-- The Saturn person loves efficiency, economy and organization. His best field is that of business man. He is shrewd and can buy to advantage, but in selling he does better to employ another. His best quality is System.

His worst quality is Selfishness. He will abandon trickery when he realizes that honesty is the best policy. He has a horror of waste, and can wait patiently for his plans to mature. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called the Safety-Urges.

URANUS-- The Uranus person is at his best when swaying the multitude with his magnetic oratory, or when engaged in some unusual pursuit. He is unconventional, abrupt, and tends to take extreme views. His best quality is Originality.

His worst quality is Eccentricity. He is always in favor of reformation of some kind. And he should early learn that conventional action and moderate views in most things will enable him the better to impress others with the sanity of the one essential reform. One step at a time should be his motto. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called the Individualistic-Urges.

NEPTUNE-- The Neptune person has a lively imagination, and the power to get others interested in his projects. He is a good promoter, but dislikes any kind of hard work. He is not given to system, and dislikes discipline. His best quality is Idealism.

His worst quality is Vagueness. He dislikes the mental labor of critical analysis of his ideas, preferring to believe what he wishes to be true. He should early learn that the only valuable ideals are those which can be made practical. The thoughts ruled by this planet are called Utopian Urges.

For many reasons, and particularly in selecting a vocation and close associates, it is of extreme importance to judge correctly the temperament and disposition. But a temperament and disposition are not merely physical, moral or mental, it becomes necessary to consider several factors. And most important of these is the Ruling planets of the chart, selected as indicated on a previous page. It is the most influential planet in the map, all things considered, and contributes more than any other single factor to the disposition.

Second in importance is the Personality, given by the rising decanate and sign, and any planet in the first house, a planet in the first house or within fifteen degrees above it being more influential than the rising decanate and sign. Aspects to the planet which is chief ruler of the Personality, and aspects to the Ascending Degree, indicate temperamental traits.

Third in importance is the Mentality, as shown by the sign and decanate occupied by the Moon. Aspects to the Moon show mental traits.

Fourth in importance, in so far as temperament and disposition are concerned, is the Individuality, as shown by the sign and decanate occupied by the Sun. Aspects to the Sun indicate deep-seated traits of character.

Let us now very briefly apply these rules for determining Temperament and Disposition to the two charts previously mentioned.

We have already decided that Saturn is the Ruling planet in the chart of Napoleon I. He therefore was a lover of efficiency, economy and organization. His best quality was System and his worst Selfishness. The strongest aspect to Saturn is the opposition of the Moon, a Separative aspect; showing that ambition and domestic tendencies are in deadly conflict.

The Aquarius decanate of Libra is rising. It is the decanate of Independence pictured by the Dragon; and these people usually find expression in conflict. They have originality and tend to become leaders of some progressive movement. Venus, chief ruler of the Personality, receives good aspects from Uranus, Neptune and Mars. This gives magnetic power, vision, and energy. Best qualities Affability and Altruism. Worst qualities Approbativeness and Argumentation.

The mentality is polarized in the Virgo decanate of Capricorn pictured by the Southern Fish, symbolizing guidance from the spirit side of life. It is the decanate of Idealism. Best qualities Diplomacy and Analysis. Worst qualities Deceitfulness and Criticism. The Moon's opposition to Saturn tends to bring the Selfish qualities into prominence.

The Individuality is polarized in the Aries decanate of Leo, pictured by a Crow, symbolizing emotions associated with creative energy, and giving a decided love of power. It is the decanate of Ambition. Best qualities are Kindness and Leadership. Worst qualities are Domination and Officiousness.

As Saturn is the dominant planet and in the house of honor, his other qualities both good and bad become the means by which Self-Aggrandizement may be attained.

In the chart of Kaiser Wilhelm II., it seems that Mars is the dominant planet. Here also we find Honor and Power the controlling motive, the ruling planet being in the Tenth house. But the best quality of Mars Initiative, and its worst quality Harshness, these being the outstanding features of his life.

Having the third decanate of Cancer rising, the Research decanate, his personality has for its best qualities Tenacity and Sympathy, and for its worst qualities Touchiness and Worry.

The Mentality is polarized in the Cancer decanate of Scorpio; the Attainment Decanate; having for its best qualities Resourcefulness and Tenacity, and for its worst qualities Troublesomeness and Touchiness. The Moon, which also rules the Ascendant, is in trine to Mars and Neptune, making him energetic and visionary; and opposition Uranus, giving originality but tending to separate from friends and inheritance.

The Individuality is polarized in the Uranus decanate of Aquarius, the Originality decanate, whose best quality is Altruism and whose worst quality is Argumentation. And the Sun is trine Jupiter and in opposition Saturn, giving him Religious tendencies coupled with intense Selfishness.

But as Mars is the dominant planet, these other traits and inclinations are all made subservient to Martial ends.

Of course such a brief outline as has been given of these two charts should be but the framework about which a more comprehensive analysis of the temperament and disposition may be built. And as such it will prove valuable. But it must not be forgotten that Temperament and Disposition are but the more habitual external manifestations of the indwelling character.

To be more explicit, the most important single factor in determining either Character or Temperament and Disposition is the Dominant planet in the chart. Starting in either case with this, we do not proceed in the same order; for Character is more deep-seated and stable, those qualities more difficult to change, yet which may not casually be so apparent. But the Temperament and Disposition are the more superficial qualities which catch the eye of the observer and are quickly and commonly recognized. Therefore, the order of importance in Character Reading is-- Dominant Planet, Sun-Sign, Moon-sign, Rising-sign and Planet. But in judging Temperament the order becomes Dominant Planet, Rising-sign and Planet, Moon-sign, and lastly Sun-sign.

And in Judging Mental Ability still another factor must be considered. For while the Sun-sign signifies the Individuality, the Moon-sign the Mentality, the Rising-sign and planet the Personality, and the Dominant, or Ruling, Planet, the planetary family to which the Ego belongs, the method of expressing the thoughts is largely determined by the planet Mercury.

The Moon by sign, position, and aspect reveals the kind of information most readily assimilated by the Subliminal Mind. The general trend of mental activity is thus shown by the Moon. But the method and facility with which these thoughts, and those arising from inherent qualities of Character and Personality, express is largely determined by the sign and aspects of Mercury.

And it should be noted that every aspect to the Moon and Mercury either harmonious or discordant increases Mental Capacity and Ability. Every planet aspecting the Moon shows sub-conscious trains of thought concerning the things denoted in the chart by the planet. If the aspect is harmonious these thoughts will be pleasant, but if discordant they have disagreeable associations.

Thus in the chart of Theodore Roosevelt the Moon opposition Mars certainly does not decrease the mental capacity. On the other hand it lends energy to it, and shows strong currents of aggressive thoughts passing through the subliminal mind. These attracted antagonism to him, but did not lessen his mental power.

So also in the chart of Napoleon the Moon opposition Saturn did not lessen his mental capacity but gave depth to his mentality, although it contributed largely to his downfall; because the subliminal train of thoughts engendered were discordant and separative. And in the chart of Herbert Spencer, the intellectual genius, the Moon being opposite the Sun and square Mars did not diminish his mentality, but it did give him much unhappiness and impaired his health.

In the chart of Abraham Lincoln ability to express his thoughts was not impaired by Mercury being square Neptune and Saturn, for his English was classical and his power of telling anecdotes unequalled. Neither did Mercury opposition Moon in the chart of Mary Baker Eddy hamper her in the expression of her doctrine. And Goethe, with Mercury in opposition to Uranus and square Saturn, is renowned for the power of his literary

expression.

Of course, if the discordant aspects are too strong and too many, and the rest of the chart not strong enough to support it, the mind breaks under the excessive activity and strain. But for mental activity the Moon and Mercury should have strong aspects. And the best of all aspects for mental expression is an aspect between Mercury and the Moon. For then the Subliminal Mind has an open avenue, as it were, through the brain, and Mercury finds the expressions at hand with which to externalize with facility and precision whatever is recognized within.

The Brotherhood of Light
Box 1525, Los Angeles, Calif.
Serial No. 105, Branch Letter -- C
Course X, Branch of Science; ½ Natal Astrology
Part III
Stature, Temperament, Disposition and Mental Ability

Examination Questions

1. What planet gives adaptability?
2. Persons of what planet have not force of character enough to assert themselves sufficiently?
3. Persons belonging to what sign tend to have too many irons in the fire at one time?
4. Why in the United States is it so difficult to judge the exact personal appearance from a birth-chart?
5. What influence upon the height and weight of a person has the sign in which the ruler of the Ascendant is located?
6. What is the most important factor in judging temperament and disposition?
7. What is the factor second in importance in judging temperament and disposition?
8. What is the factor third in importance in judging and disposition?
9. What is the factor fourth in importance in judging temperament and disposition?
10. What planet governs the expression of thought?
11. What planet shows the general trend of mental activity?
12. Aspects to what planet show sub-conscious trains of thought?
13. Do discordant aspects to the Moon lessen the mental capacity?
14. Do discordant aspects to Mercury impair mental expression?

15. How may the Pisces person overcome his worst quality?
16. How may Saturn person overcome his worst quality?
17. To people belonging to what sign is environment of special importance?
18. People of what sign can do so many things well that they seldom stick at any one occupation long enough to make a marked success of it?
19. Why is it valuable to know the best and the worst tendency of each sign and planet?
20. Which planet in the 1st house has most influence over the personal appearance?
21. Which has the most influence over the personality, the sign on the Ascendant or a planet in the 1st house?
22. What influence does it have on the size of a person when there are numerous planets in the 1st house?
23. How much influence has the Sun-sign upon the personal appearance?
24. In what way may it be determined which planet rules the birth-chart as a whole?
25. What is the worst quality given by the planet Jupiter?

(page with an astrological chart, here is only birth data given)

Birth-chart of Dr. J.M. Peebles, pioneer spiritualist, noted traveler, and lecturer on matters of occult.

Dr. Peebles passed to the spirit side of life Feb.15th, 1922 at 12-30 P.M. at the age of 99 years, 10 months and 23 days