



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera!

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Alan Leo's Astonishing Theory

from *Casting The Horoscope*, c. 1903

THE REAL ZODIAC: ITS BEARING ON THE PHENOMENON OF RETROGRADATION

IT is advisable at the outset to clear the ground of two possible misapprehensions. The first is that this "real" zodiac is some transcendental zodiac that does not really concern us very much in a practical sense. That is not the case: the zodiac referred to is the zodiac of the ordinary Ephemeris.

The second of these possible misapprehensions is, that what is to be set forth is some new theory to be approached with reserve and possibly suspicion, and in any case hardly a matter which the average student need trouble about. That also is not the case. The idea itself can be found in a

modified form in *Solar Biology*, a book published many years ago, and some time ago it was again brought forward, (rather by implication than direct statement) in *Modern Astrology*. It is not a new idea, it is simply an old idea that has been too long overlooked. It therefore needs to be carefully examined, and unless found wanting properly reinstated in its due place.

The zodiac, as usually conceived, may very well be represented by a clock-face, in which the centre represents the Sun and the numerals the twelve signs. The various planets are then thought of as moving round in a similar way to the extremities of the two hands, at different speeds and distances from the centre, but nevertheless moving through each sign with unvarying uniformity. In fact the tips of the hour and minute hands might be taken to represent Jupiter and the earth respectively, since the period of Jupiter is about twelve times that of the earth. Hence Jupiter will pass through one sign while the earth passes through the whole circle of twelve signs, just as the minute hand passes once round the clock from XII. to XII. while the hour hand passes from V. to VI. The Ephemeris corroborates this, showing Jupiter

(continued, page 6)



Alcoholism and Drug-Taking, continued:

It is for this reason that people with much Water in their natiivities seek alcoholic stimulation; they desire to supplement artificially their horoscopical deficiencies. Drunkards sometimes have much Fire in their maps, but in such cases the vice is generally due to getting into bad company rather than a real psychological need. Scientific astrological theory would aim at supplying these deficiencies in a harmless and rational way. For example, a person whose horoscope lacks Fire may develop this faculty by exercising it. He should read books and attend plays that deal with sport, travel, adventure, and similar themes; he should devote time to games and to social life, and, above all, he should seek the company of those in whom the Fire element is pronounced in such of its forms as he desires to develop. It is interesting to note the expression, so often used to a morbid or negative person, "Get out of yourself". This is exactly what the Fire person always does do, and the Watery seldom and with difficulty, with the result that he may see, artificial stimulation.

— *Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology*, \$18.95. [Buy](#).

2014 MAYNARD CALENDARS

ALMANAC K

for the week (all times GMT)

25	00:21	☾ ✖ ☉	
	04:50	♀ ✖ ♃	
26	07:34	♃ ☐ ♃	Rare
	10:52	☾ ☐ ♂	Void
	14:56	☾ ☿	
27	20:02	☾ ♂ ♀	
28	07:20	☉ ♂	
	10:55	☾ Δ ♂	Void
	12:00	☾ ☉	
	14:01	♀ ♂	Hooray!
	14:53	☾ ☿	
	23:18	☾ ♂ ♀	
01	04:06	☉ Δ ♃	
	08:00	● 10☿39	New Moon
	16:25	♂ SR	The next day
02	11:05	☾ ✖ ♀	Void
	15:41	☾ ♃	
	16:20	♃ SR	The day after that
	20:04	♀ ☐ ♂	
03	14:54	☾ ♃ ☉	
	19:14	☉ ✖ ♀	

Extracted from *AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020*. [Buy](#).

Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

SKAT delta Aquarii 9 ✖ 04

Notes: A small star situated on the right leg of Aquarius. From Al Shi'at, a Wish, or Al Sak, the Shin Bone.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Saturn and Jupiter. It gives good fortune and lasting happiness.

With Sun: Sensitive, emotional, psychic; criticism and persecution through mediumship, but help from friends.

With Moon: New and influential friends, associated with companies, public position, but little prominence, valuable gifts, love of respectable women.

With Mercury: Peculiar events, occult interests, psychic, many friends.

With Venus: Psychic, occult interests, friends among opposite sex, favorable for gain.

With Mars: Energetic, mechanical ability. . . —from *Fixed Stars*, by Vivian Robson. [Buy](#).



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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

The Ruler of the Horoscope

IF Aries or Scorpio is on the Ascendant, Mars is the native's dynamic guide for life, setting an example of indomitable will, independence & energy that will be required in the environments to which the native will be led. It may be a troubled life and certainly active, with need for fortitude. If Aries, quick to anger & quickly over: if Scorpio slow to anger & never forgotten – which affects this contacts; if Scorpio, the native rarely leaves off his armor & likes to retire within it. There will be rashness leading to failures, accidents or surgery, due to taking on more than he can handle.

All 1st & 8th House matters are important & come up as major incidents sooner or later. There is an inopportune death or divorce in the family, upsetting the whole environmental pattern with the guide disposed to let the native battle it out by himself, having equipped him to do just that. The mate will be easy to get along with (the 7th ruled by Venus) though there may be one major separation or divorce, and a period of financial stringency. Children play a small role & are seldom missed.

If Capricorn is on the Ascendant, Saturn is the ruler, both guide & taskmaster, leading the person into environments where patience, thrift, tact & self-discipline will be necessary in handling the limitations & responsibilities he will meet. The death or misfortune of a family member, delays & obstacles, often a handicap or physical difficulty or disability may be expected of this guide. All 10th House matters & people take precedence, the career most of all. Marriage is either quite early or quite late & ended by the mate's death. Home life is upset & children soon on their own.

– **All Over The Earth Astrologically**—
Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson, 1963. **Buy.**

THE RIGHT THEORY OF ASTROLOGY

Planets as Directors

THE right theory of astrology, the one that, try as I might, I cannot knock holes in, says the signs of the zodiac are the twelve fundamental energies of the Earth itself. The right theory of astrology says that these energies vary according to the Earth's relative placement among the Sun, Moon and planets. As our position changes, the net effect of other celestial bodies upon the Earth changes the twelve fundamental energies of the Earth itself.

The right theory of astrology then says the Earth radiates the result to everything that lives, grows, creeps, crawls, flies or is otherwise found on the surface of this planet. As the right theory of astrology declares the Earth – a living entity – to be a complex mass of vibrations, then whenever any solid object on the Earth is split or cleaved or broken into pieces, those pieces will take on the Earth's net vibration as of that instant. Such as the moment when a crop is harvested. Or when a mother gives birth to a child. All of which is strict physics.

SO the question this week is what, exactly, is the relationship of the planets to the Earth itself? How do we disentangle planets from signs?

What do we mean when we say that gold (Leo) is ruled by the Sun, that sheep (Mars) are of Aries, that bulls (Taurus) are from Venus, while the right eye of a woman is ruled by the Moon?

It is clear that the planets are external forces and that the Earth merely reacts to them, but it is not clear the Earth would or could have “unbiased” reactions. It is, for example, one thing to be told to *love your land of birth*, it is another to rebel against its government, remembering that rebellions invariably have unintended consequences.

After puzzling this for some time, I hit upon the analogy of directors and actors. Such as in the theater or cinema.

The planets are *directors*. The twelve signs of the zodiac are *actors*. The houses of the natal chart are the *stages* wherein the drama *unfolds*. Aspects are the *relationships* between the various directors, as interpreted by the actors in their various roles.

So we have a dozen actors, with seven principal directors (Sun, Moon and five classical planets) with various assistant direc-

tors: Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, Chiron, Ceres, Sedna, etc. The net results, for good or ill, will be in the specific combinations. Mars, as a director, does rather well with Aries but rather poorly with Taurus.

When it comes to rulerships, we only concern ourselves with the apex. We do not classify animals or plants according to signs, but attribute them directly to pure planetary energies. Marigolds are ruled by the Sun. Nightshade is ruled by Saturn. But when we look in detail at any single specimen, we give the rulerships of the various parts of the body, for example, to the twelve signs and then judge the condition of those individual parts to the planets that rule the signs in question.

The eyes, for example, are under the overall rulership of Aries, as they are in the part of the body, the head, that is ruled by that sign. Then, in an exception to the rule, we give the Sun rulership of the right eye and the Moon the rulership of the left and judge the resulting vision according to the sign, degree and aspects of the two. Which is for men. The Sun/Moon rulerships of the eyes are reversed for women.

Which also becomes another way of forecasting. When planets transit the natal chart, the sign of the natal planet should also be considered.

Suppose transiting Saturn is in Scorpio, a sign which, overall, represents intensity and finality. Suppose natal Mercury is in Aquarius, a sign which represents legs and ankles. Suppose we have reason to fear the transit may manifest as a physical ailment. Saturn in Scorpio square Mercury in Aquarius might produce *water* (Scorpio) in the *ankles* (Aquarius), an *unpleasant* (Saturn) and *stressful* (square) outcome. Which then limits one's *mobility* (Mercury).

The reason we suspect a physical ailment is because Mercury, in this case, is the *chart ruler*, in other words, the ruler of one's life. Mercury rules two signs, Gemini and Virgo. We know that Virgo rules the intestines, so if Virgo is rising we ask if there is any way that a malady in the intestines might lead to swollen ankles. Offhand I can't think of one.

Mercury ruling Gemini is another matter. Gemini rules the lungs, the lungs power the heart. When the heart is weak it is unable clear the body of excess water which invari-

ably turns up first in the feet and ankles.

So with a Gemini rising we now have two testimonies of a problem with air, Gemini and Aquarius both being air signs, when a malefic squares Aquarius from the watery sign of Scorpio. As Scorpio is inconjunct to Gemini, we may say the effect of transiting Saturn in Scorpio would be both stressful (square) as well as unexpected (inconjunct).

The analysis can be continued by noting transiting Saturn was in the 6th house, where it created health problems (the 6th being the house of health and doctors) that would remove me from my daily activities, Mercury being in the 9th. The 9th house, to me, is any location which is out of the ordinary (the 3rd), and which has to do, not with facts (the 3rd again), but *belief systems*. Which is to say, being away from home (in a hospital) to deal with doctors (the 6th) with philosophies of medicine different (square) from my own.

THE extract from Alan Leo on pg. 1 of this week's newsletter was first brought to my attention by the **Rudhyar Archival Project**, where it was attributed to pg. 247 in Leo's **Casting the Horoscope**. As copies of Leo's book are plentiful and as I happen to own two of them, I eagerly went to that page.

Only to find an ephemeris for the year 1885. Searching Rudhyar further, I found the same excerpt on pgs. 199-200 of his **Astrology of Personality**, but without the page number from Leo's book. Whereupon I sat down and laboriously went through Leo, until, on pg. 128, I found it. I then restored it to its larger context for this week's lead article.

I would love to give Leo the credit for my theory, but I had conceived it fully a year earlier. I am astonished that Leo—or at the very least, those in his immediate circle—had grasped the truth, that the zodiac of twelve signs is of the earth, not the sky. I am equally astonished both they, and Rudhyar, failed to realize what they had in front of them.

Rudhyar quotes Leo and then continues with,

In other words, this “aura” represents the collectivity of the whole solar system in relation to the Earth. The Earth spins around within it, *just as any individual moves within his own environment* . . . (Rudhyar, pg. 200)

Which, if it were right, would be a zodiac that lays upon the Earth like the smogs of Los Angeles. An external zodiac, of stubbornly unknown origin.

In attributing the zodiac directly to the Earth itself, I then hypothesized that all planets had zodiacal energies and that the relative

placements of these planets, in their orbits around the Sun (the Moon's around the Earth), produced astrology as we experience it.

Then, in seeking a mechanism, I chanced upon the work of **Stixrude and Cohen** and their theory that at the center of the Earth was a single 1500 mile crystal. Remembering vaguely that some meteorites were **crystalline**, I then speculated the crystal in question was hexahedrite, made of iron and nickel.

I then began a study of crystals. I learned that galena, an hexagonal crystal of lead, had the ability to transform radio waves into ordinary electricity, which is the essence of the unpowered crystal radio.

I also learned that when quartz, an hexagonal form of silicon and oxygen, is put under mechanical stress, it has piezoelectric properties, one of which is to convert electricity into radio waves.

It was then a simple matter to speculate that a massive crystal of hexahedrite would, like galena, convert the Earth's overall energies into radio-like waves, while, at the same time, like quartz, would intercept and convert the “radio waves” from other planets into “earth currents.”

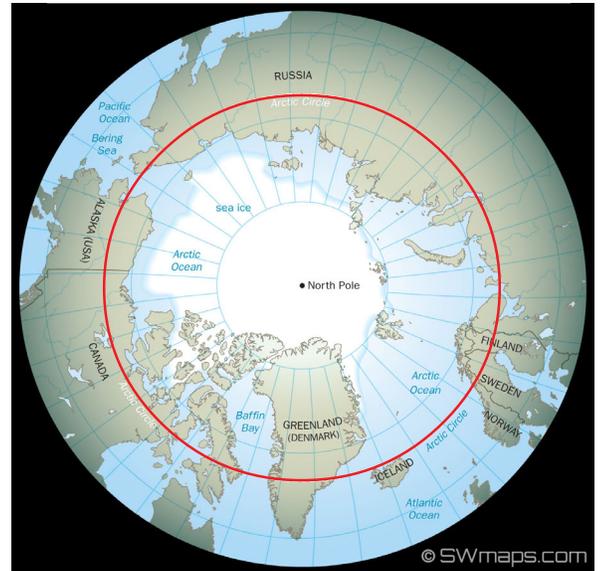
Even if hexahedrite did not convert radio into electricity as well as galena, even if it did not transmit as well as quartz, the sheer size and mass of a 1500 mile crystal would easily be the most powerful single factor in the Earth as a whole.

It was also clear the totality of what the Earth was transceiving, while similar in many ways to radio waves, was far greater in scope than traditional radio itself.

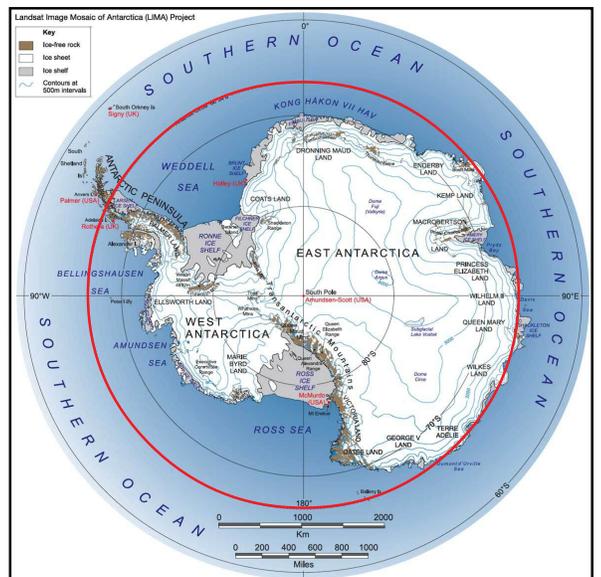
Which brought me to **L. Edward Johndro**, a radio engineer/astrologer. He is said to have compared astrological energies to radio waves, a theory which I have not yet found anywhere. This may perhaps be because he, like Leo and Rudhyar, stubbornly persisted in the mistaken belief that the zodiac is external to the Earth. Such that his work has, to date, been misunderstood. It is



Above, the hexagon at Saturn's north pole. Below, the effects of polarity. The North Pole: Water surrounded by land.



The South Pole: Land surrounded by water. Arctic/Antarctic circles shown in red.



said he died ignored and embittered.

Which brought me to **John H. Nelson**. Around 1950 he was hired by RCA to make daily radio transmission forecasts. At the time shortwave was used for international broadcasts, which is susceptible to interfer-

ence on an erratic basis. Nelson guessed that solar radiation determined overall static, and then further guessed the angular placements of Mercury, Venus and the Moon to have a further effect. Which greatly improved his forecasts, but still left him with much unexplained static. Lacking a theoretical justification, driven by curiosity, he expanded his work to include aspects from planets all the way to Pluto, and achieved forecast accuracy greater than 90%. Four times daily, which is every six hours, from the 1950's to the 1970's.

Eagerly he told the world of his discoveries, only to be condemned as an astrologer! He used a heliocentric zodiac, and aspects based on 7.5 and 18 degrees. Which, as it happens, account for all astrological aspects. Know that his use of heliocentric aspects has never been squared with conventional geocentric aspects. Know also the difference, between geocentric and heliocentric, becomes very small with planets from Jupiter outwards.

FINALLY in this survey is George McCormack. Who, in his work on **weather forecasting**, noted the power of the MC/IC axis, midheaven to 4th house cusp. Which Sapharial had noticed half a century before. While the Ascendant/Descendant is increasingly tangential as one moves away from the equator, the MC/IC axis always passes directly through the center of the Earth itself. Planets exactly on that axis are therefore in direct polarity with the Earth. Which is to say, in direct alignment, planet-crystal to Earth-crystal.

All of these men, perhaps more, anticipated my theory that the zodiac is *of* the Earth and *in* the Earth, that astrology is simply the study of Very Large Crystals. While my change, from an *external* zodiac to an *internal* one, has profound results, the change is really trivial, and at least three centuries overdue. I do not want to be the author of a radical new theory. I want something consensus-based.

This theory will subordinate science to astrology and change the world, provided astrologers themselves do not smother it in "**brown sauce**," in other words, that we fight our way to a simple and direct astrological language.

This past week Chris Brennan had a new **Astrology Podcast**, interviewing Vedic astrologer Kenneth Miller. It's an excellent interview. At the beginning Chris mentions two upcoming conferences, one in May in Seattle, and one in September in Phoenix. How, I wonder, does one get an invitation to speak at a conference? I haven't a clue.

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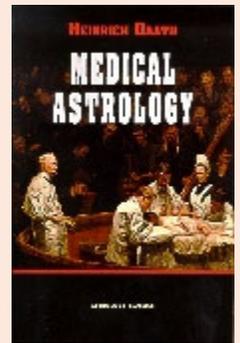
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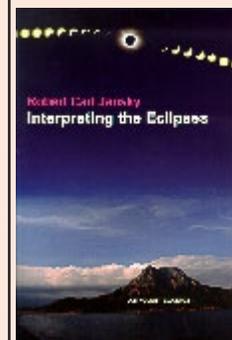
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in Leo 12° on January 7st, 1908, and in Virgo 14½° on January 7st, 1909.

From this point of view, then, the Sun does not really pass through the signs, but only *appears* to pass through that sign which is opposite to the one in which the earth is at the time. Attention is often drawn to this in elementary astrological manuals and probably in most cases no real harm is done thereby.

WHERE THE ANALOGY BREAKS DOWN.

For when we come to examine this analogy closely we find that it breaks down. Thus, to return to our illustration of Jupiter and the earth, we find from the Ephemeris that on January 7st, 1908, Jupiter is retrograde, *i.e.*, moving backwards in the zodiac. But the clock-hand never moves backwards. What, then, is the meaning of this discrepancy between fact and illustration?

The discrepancy is generally explained as due to the circumstance that the zodiacal positions are calculated from the place of the planet as seen from the earth, and not as seen from the Sun or from a point outside the plane of the solar system such as the pole star. This explanation is quite legitimate and is true so far as it goes. If anyone will experiment with a watch, turning the minute-hand slowly round and considering how the movement of the tip of the hour-hand would appear to a tiny insect stationed on the minute-hand at a *little distance* from the centre he will see that this is so. In fact from the insect's point of view, in certain positions of the minute-hand the tip of the hour-hand would appear to be moving in the contrary direction from that apparently taken by the centre of the watch (representing the Sun), the motion of which latter would always appear as direct and never retrograde. The insect, of course, is supposed to be incapable of realising its own motion, just as we are incapable of realising the motion of the earth since we partake of it.

The reader is strongly urged to take out his watch and try this for himself; he will find the experiment both interesting and instructive. First he should ink round a small circle about a quarter of an inch in diameter in the centre of the watch-glass, to mark the insect's orbit, and then set the hands to twelve o'clock. This position will (from the insect's point of view) represent *Sun in Virgo 0° opposition Jupiter in Pisces 0°*. Now let him turn the hands slowly forward, and imagine a line traced through the insect and the extremity of the hour-hand. A needle may be used to represent the line. This line

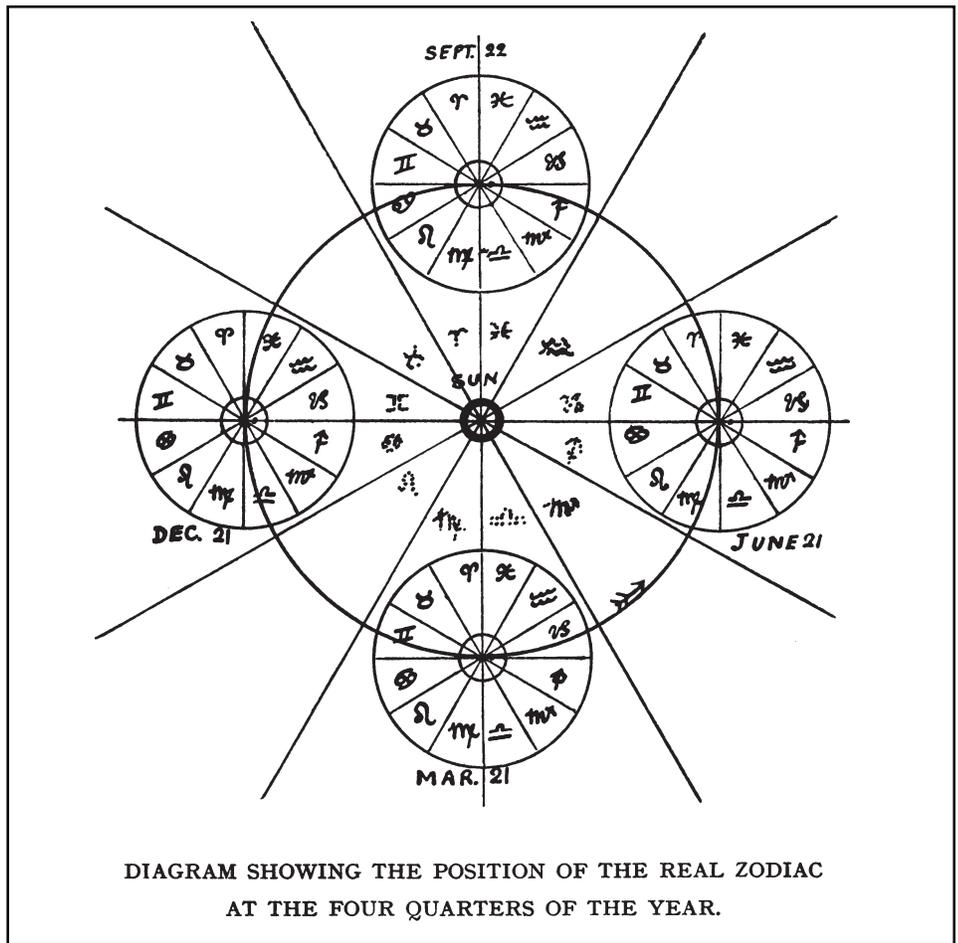


DIAGRAM SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE REAL ZODIAC AT THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE YEAR.

will, at the start, run through the XII., but as the hands move onward its extremity will pass slowly backward towards XI., until the minute-hand reaches to about III., when the line's extremity will come to a standstill and commence to move slowly forward, passing XII. once more and reaching 2½ minutes past XII. when the minute-hand is at 32½ minutes past. This position will represent *Sun conjunction Jupiter in Pisces 15°*. The end of the line or needle will then continue to move forward till the minute-hand reaches IX., then back again for a short distance, till when both hands have reached I. the same series of relative movements will begin to repeat themselves.

This is a homely illustration, but it is sufficient to make plain what is meant, and if a clock with a good large dial is available so much the better. The larger the dial, the more clearly can the retrogradation be seen and its cause understood. The line or needle represents the ray of light from planet to earth.

WHERE THIS ANALOGY BREAKS DOWN TOO.

When further examined, however, this analogy too will be found to fail us. For although Jupiter is thus seen to *appear* to pass into Aquarius, it is quite clear that in reality it has done no such thing, but has been

moving uniformly through Pisces the whole time. And this fact proves a great weapon in the hands of astronomers, who say, naturally enough, "While the planet is actually in one sign you are attributing to it effects supposed only to be due to another sign—and yet you call Astrology a science!"

This criticism the student is usually unable to meet, in spite of the fact that he may know quite well, from his own personal experience, that Jupiter retrograde in the end of Aquarius behaves altogether differently from Jupiter in the first degrees of Pisces. It is to help him to give a logical and coherent reply that this chapter has been written. For convenience the argumentative method will now be abandoned and the didactic assumed, without however desiring that anyone shall take as an 'authoritative' pronouncement that which does not appeal to his reason or intuition as truth.

THE EXPLANATION.

The zodiac that we use is really the EARTH'S AURA. It is a sphere or ovoid, the poles of which coincide with the poles of the Ecliptic, and its middle or equatorial plane is the Ecliptic: it would appear to be identical with the "crystal sphere" alluded to in the passage in *Modern Astrology* al-

ready referred to. For some reason at present unexplained, this sphere is polarised in one direction; that is to say, it remains always in one position whatever the place of the earth in its orbit, in this respect being comparable to the ordinary mariner's compass, the circular card of which always floats with its N. pole pointing in one direction. This sphere is divided into twelve parts like the sections of an orange, and it is these sections which constitute the "signs" of the zodiac. We are, however, chiefly concerned with its equatorial plane, for it is this which we measure in signs or degrees, and which determines the zodiacal position of a planet.

Now it is clear that since this sphere of aura remains constantly 'floating' in one position while the earth journeys round the Sun, the Sun's ray will successively pass through each one of the signs. If you place a lamp in the middle of a table, and walk once round the table, always facing one particular corner of the room, the rays of the light will have shone upon each part of the head in turn—the nose, left cheek, back of the head, right cheek, and so on. This is so simple that it seems unnecessary to enlarge on it, and we will therefore turn to our diagrams.

THE SUPPOSED ZODIAC.

The diagram (*previous page*) shows the position of the earth in its orbit at the four quarters of the year, March 21st, June 21st, September 22nd, and December 21st. The

Sun is in the centre of the figure, and the twelve radii show the lines which determine the *supposed* zodiac which has been usually explained in the manuals as the zodiac employed by astrologers. Whether there does really exist such a "solar" zodiac we do not know; probably there does, but in any case it is *not* the one used by astrologers, nor do we at present know anything of its influence.

THE REAL ZODIAC.

The zodiac we use consists of the smaller circle depicted round the earth; of this four positions are shown, corresponding to the dates mentioned. The Sun's ray, as will be seen, shines through those parts of the zodiac which we know as the first points of Aries, Cancer, Libra, Capricorn, respectively, and it is the vivification of such portion of the aura by the power of the Sun that produces those characteristics which we classify as "Sun in Aries," "Sun in Cancer," etc. The positions of the earth when the Sun is in the remaining signs are not shown, to avoid overcrowding the figure. A little thought given to this diagram will soon make the whole matter clear. For simplicity the orbit of the earth is shown as a circle instead of an ellipse, as it properly should be, and the arrow shows the direction of the earth's movement in its orbit.

It should be explained that the plane of the figure represents the plane of the earth's orbit. The pole of the earth is shown as a

large dot a little away from the centre of the tiny circle representing the earth. Through an error of the artist it has been put on the wrong side of the centre; it should be at an equal distance on the opposite side.

It need hardly be mentioned that this "aura" does not turn round each day with the rotation of the earth on its axis, but that the earth spins round *within* it, like the wheel in a gyroscope.

What it is that keeps the zodiacal sphere constantly polarised in one direction, we do not know. It is known that the Sun, with all its attendant planets, is moving in a direction which may be indicated by placing a pencil in the centre of the diagram, nearly at right angles to the plane of the paper, but inclining slightly in the direction of the sign Capricorn. It is possible that the streams of force which cause this motion may have some affinity with that part of the aura constituting the cusps of the signs Cancer and Capricorn, thus tending to keep them always parallel to the same plane; just as from similar causes the compass needle always points to the north. This is only offered as a suggestion.

Whereupon Leo continued his explanation of retrogrades.

The past as prologue.