



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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ARCHIVE

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New Books this week

ONLY two to tell you about: **Ben Dykes** has published his third – and probably final – book on Persian Nativities: Abu Ma’shar’s **On Solar Revolutions**. The author was a 9th century Persian (787–886 AD), the leading astrologer of his day, and the author of a variety of texts. Turns out, the Persians did in-your-face solar returns. They included the natal chart (of course), the profection chart (the natal advanced by 30° per year, see Lilly’s **Christian Astrology vol. 3** for details), the solar return, the lord of the year, navamsas (here termed, “ninths”) and lots more. Prof. Dykes laments the fact that this book, and, presumably, many others, represent only a fragment of surviving Arabic texts. As

amazing as it seems, what was brought out of Palestine by the Crusaders nearly a thousand years ago is still all we have. And if you’re curious, I’ve heard there are some rather good astrologers in the Islamic world. I’ve also heard that few Moslem leaders publish their actual birth data for fear that astrologers in competing countries will find their weaknesses & exploit them. (They publish phony data instead, Yassir Arafat & Muammar Kaddafi among them.) Right now is a really bad time to ring up your local Islamic Library & ask to check out some rather obscure books, but greater cultural sharing between the Christian North & the Islamic South is long overdue. (Do I hear, “Peace”?)

THE other new book is Panwar’s and Mishra’s **Predicting Through Dwadashottari Dasha**, another of the conditional dashas. This one is restricted to navamsha ascendants that are ruled by Venus, i.e., Taurus & Libra. It’s 112 years, the order is Sun, Jupiter, Ketu, Mercury, Rahu, Mars, Saturn & the Moon. The Sun gets 7 years, each of the following planets gets two more years each, which means the Moon gets 21.

Maybe the reason I never figured out Vedic astrology (I know all the vocabulary) is that I’m a fatalist & don’t believe/don’t know how to forecast. Maybe that’s it.



A Final Inquiry

IT therefore would follow that the Nativity indicates the general destiny of the life, for the soul, once incarnate, cannot reverse its choice. Further, although a nativity cannot represent the condition of the soul in its extra-spatial and supra-temporal state, it can represent its present relation to material things & its possible psychological reactions. It is in fact the record of its past successes and failures in its attempts to adapt itself to an alien condition. Self-consciousness and intelligence, and pain too, result from an acute perception of its essential unlikeness to that which is around it, and therefore we say that evil aspects denote vigor of mind and sometimes even of body.

The greatest difficulty of practical astrology, I think, is to differentiate between what will affect character & what will work out in terms of destiny. . . — **The Zodiac and the Soul**, 1928

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

				Notes	
17	05:25	☾	△	♁	Void
	05:35	☾	♁		
18	22:00	♀		♁	
19	01:38	☉	♁	♁	
	06:58	☾	△	☉	
	13:59	☾	□	♁	Void
	14:18	☾	♁		
	18:48	♀	♁	♁	
	20:02	☾	♁	♁	
20	10:07	☉	♁	♁	
	18:49	♀	♁	♁	
	20:00	♀	SR		
21	06:36	♀	♁	♁	
	09:56	♁	□	♁	
22	00:59	♁	♁	♁	
	01:09	☾	♁	♁	Void
	01:38	☾	♁		
23	05:27	☉	♁		
	20:36	☾	♁	☉	

Extracted & adapted from **AstroAmerica’s Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. Get yours!

August 17

1807–First steamboat, NY to Albany

1862–JEB Stuart takes command

1908–First animated cartoon, Paris

1970–Venera 7 launched, to Venus



STAR OF THE WEEK



REGULUS alpha Leonis 29 α 59

Notes: A triple star, flushed white & ultramarine, situated on the body of the Lion. From Regulus, a Little King, and often called Cor Leonis. . .

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Mars and Jupiter. . .

If rising: Great honour and wealth, but violence and trouble, sickness, fevers, acute diseases, benefits seldom last, favour of the great, victory over enemies and scandal. . .

If culminating: Honour, preferment, good fortune, high office under Government, military success. If with Sun, Moon or Jupiter, great honour & ample fortune.

With Sun: Power, authority, great influence over friends, honour and riches, but violence, trouble & ultimate disgrace & ruin, sickness, fevers, benefits seldom last.

With Moon: Occult interests, powerful friends, danger from enemies & false friends, gain by speculation, public prominence, great power. . . — *from Fixed Stars*, by Vivian Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

The Quincunx

THE quincunx is another matter. It is based on the distance from the Ascendant to the Sixth House of a condition or situation which must be cured or long-endured; and from the Eighth House to the Ascendant signifying something so visibly amiss that eventual freedom is obtainable only when that planet changes direction, either Direct by taking strong action on the native's part or Retrograde by retiring from an impasse by running away from it as in taking **French Leave**; or changing Signs, abandoning former enmity.

A retrograde planet in a quincunx aspect shows by its house position the department on Earth where we are required to face up to the fact that our ego is refused full-scale possession of early opportunities, but we are nevertheless equipped to make up for it. "The world is so full of a number of things that we all can attain to the status of kings" if paraphrasing is in order here in the interests of astrology?

The quincunx always makes us settle for less in the long run: any gain has its price, but the native is aware of satisfaction in paying it, thus willingly. Adaptation brings a period of forced reorganization but things are never again as unsatisfactory as before. If it is by double quincunx shown by the Yod (Hebrew: hand) it may be considered the Hand of God intervening on our behalf by "Divine Intervention". Thus, any quincunx brings more or less benefic aid. — **From Outer Space to Planet Earth**, 1982.

August 17 Birthdays

1786—Davy Crockett, Tennessee
1786—Queen Victoria's mother born
1893—Mae West, Brooklyn

Exclusive: Part 2 of—

Vivian Erwood Robson (1890-1942) Curator Turned Astrologer

by **Hugh S. Torrens**, 1989

Professor Torrens is a Professor Emeritus at the Department of Geology, Keele University (North Staffordshire, UK). He is especially noted for his research into the history of geology and early geologists. Among which, to my surprise, was Vivian Erwood Robson. — Dave

AT some stage, whilst still an undergraduate, Robson had come into contact with the English ammonite worker **Sydney Savory Buckman**. This seems to have been after the publication of Part viii of Volume 1 of Buckman's major work, *Yorkshire Type Ammonites*, after 15 June 1912. Buckman's personal copy of this (in the Buckman family's possession) contains his later manuscript annotation that Robson had subsequently reported to Buckman the existence of another copy of the rare work by Martin Simpson *A Monograph of the Ammonites of the Yorkshire Lias* (1843), and which Buckman had in course of revision. This new copy was to be found in the library of the British Museum (Natural history).

Other evidence of Robson's involvement with Buckman comes from Vol. 2 of the same work: on p. D of Part xviii (1919) Buckman noted that 'Mr. V.E. Robson has given very considerable assistance in the preparation of the MS and in many other ways'. The Robsons also helped Buckman with material that they had collected, and either Vivian or his father must be the 'Dr. Robson of Birmingham' who obtained specimens of the ammonite *Wachneroceras* and associated stratigraphic data, from a quarry at Kayes Cement Works, **Long Itchington** near Southern in Warwickshire on which Tutchter, the Bristol-based palaeontologist, reported in 1917. This was in a paper commenced in the winter of 1914-1915, the data for which must have been gathered earlier.

Fourteen of Robson's letters to Buckman over 1913-1921, and one of Buckman's of 1915 returned to him by Robson, have survived. The first is dated 11 March 1913 and shows that the two had already been in contact for some time before this. With this first letter Robson sent Buckman eleven **Yorkshire ammonites** (perhaps collected on a Robson family holiday in their native county?). The second letter (30 June 1913) was delayed by the intervention of Robson's final examinations at Birmingham. It shows that Robson had unsuccessfully examined for Buckman the Samuel Sharp collection of Jurassic fossils, which was already in the Uni-

versity Geology Museum at Birmingham, in case it contained any type ammonites from Yorkshire needed for Buckman's work. Robson's letter also shows that he had then hoped to spend a month or two after his finals doing private palaeontological research in London. In his third letter (29 July 1913) this had become a reality and he then further offered to carry out additional research for Buckman in London 'for the pleasure and experience it will give' him. August found Robson researching enthusiastically in London, both for Buckman and himself. In the next letter, Robson sent measurements of some Sowerby type ammonites that he had located and studied in London.

In September 1913 Robson applied for his first geological position, as a Demonstrator and Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Geology at **University College, Aberystwyth**. The Department had been opened only in 1910 under its first Professor, O.T. Jones. Robson's printed testimonials survive and comprise that from **Lapworth** and one from Buckman which again speaks of his valued assistance in connection with Buckman's *Yorkshire Type Ammonites* revision. Other testimonials were from the London-based dealer in fossils and minerals Francis Henry Butler, who had known Robson 'for many years past', one from the Birmingham-born and based physician and amateur geologist Theodore Stacey-Wilson, one from the then Erdington-based Baptist cleric and fellow amateur geologist Rev. Benjamin Oriel and a final one from the veteran petrologist and stratigrapher John Wesley Judd. All spoke of Robson's enthusiasm and knowledge of palaeontology (in particular, ammonites). In the event Robson was short-listed but was only placed second, and the post went to Stanley Smith who had been working on Palaeozoic corals and had graduated from both Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Cambridge University.

— *to be continued.*

August 17 Birthdays

1904—Leopold Nowak (Bruckner)
1920—Maureen O'Hara
1929—Francis Gary Powers



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ELECTIONAL ASTROLOGY

Part 73: Nursing Children

WHEN the nurse first feeds the child let the Moon be in conjunction, sextile, or trine to Venus, and if possible in Taurus or Libra. Venus is best placed in one of the first six signs, especially Taurus or Cancer.

Take care to fortify the radical Moon, Venus and ascendant.

For Weaning Children

LET the Moon be remote from, and in no aspect with, the Sun, and let neither be in Taurus or Libra. Some authors, however, favour the Moon in Libra and also in Virgo from the twelfth to twenty-fifth degree, which constitutes its twelfth mansion. If the Moon be in an earthy sign the child will be fond of eating herbs, roots and vegetables; if in Leo, it will be a meat-eater; if in a watery sign, it will be fond of fish; and if any of the other signs it will have no marked preferences. In general, however, weaning may be satisfactorily undertaken when the Moon is in Scorpio or Aries, remote from the Sun, and in square or opposition to Venus.

Sending Children to School

Fortify Mercury, the Moon, and the lord of the ninth in both radical and electional maps. Let the Moon be in conjunction, sextile, or trine with Mercury, and if possible Gemini or Virgo. Fortify the ascendant and its ruler also. — **Electional Astrology**, by **Vivian Robson**. This concludes this series. Next week: The Student's Corner.

Galactic Center

THE gravitational center around which the Sun revolves. Astrology has hypothetically placed this at 0° Capricorn, which is exactly confirmed by recently published results of thousands of calculations of spectroscopic radial velocity measurements, and other thousands by the parallax method of determining proper motion, by Charlier, Stromberg, Wilson, Campbell and More, and Smart and Green. In consequence the astronomers have arrived at a position of the center of the Milky Way Galaxy at R.A. 270°, declin. +29.7°. Therefore at the time of the Winter Solstice, the Galactic Center is a few degrees South of the Sun.

The Sun's actual travel is estimated at 200 miles per second in orbit. As it is placed about 30,000 light-years from the center of the Milky Way Galaxy, one complete orbit is estimated to require 200 million years. Its apparent motion towards a point near Wega in the constellation Hercules, as measured by nearby stars, is 12 miles per second—which should not be confused with its computed actual rate of travel.

The plane of the Sun's orbit is presumed to be approximately that of the Galactic Center, which is inclined to the Earth's orbit by about 50 degrees.

GRADIAL TRANSIT, ARC OF. A term employed by Sepharial to indicate the arc a planet traverses from its birth position to its progressed position, when in any given year it is activated by a major transit through the arc. As this arc increases in size from year to year, it affords a possible explanation of the observation that with advancing years transitory aspects become operative for longer periods and in cumulatively increased potencies. — **Encyclopedia of Astrology**, by Nicholas de Yore, 1947.

Births and Babies

Pregnancy and related matters come mainly under the dominion of the fifth house. Questions in this category come in infinite variety. Some ask if they are pregnant—hoping that they are, others make the same query—praying they are not. Boyfriends ask if their girlfriends are pregnant, and some if they are the true father of the child. Others just want to know if they will ever have a baby.

The following framework through which the astrologer may determine whether a woman is pregnant was laid down by **William Lilly**.

Indications of Pregnancy

The lord of the Ascendant or the Moon in aspect to the ruler of the 5th house, or a benefic in the fifth house; in mutual reception or involved in a translation of light; and free from affliction.

A dignified Moon in mutual reception with any planet at an angle.

The lord of the Ascendant or fifth house in good aspect with, or in mutual reception with any angular planet.

The lord of the Ascendant in good aspect with the cusp of the Ascendant from a good house.

The Moon in the seventh house in good aspect with the lord of the seventh in the eleventh; or the Moon in the eleventh in good aspect with the lord of the eleventh in the seventh.

The Moon in the tenth house applying to the lord of the Ascendant or lord of the fifth house by good aspect, or by bad aspect with mutual reception.

Jupiter in the first, fifth, seventh or eleventh house unaspected by Saturn or Mars, with those malefics slow in motion or retrograde.

Fruitful signs are Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces. — **Horary Astrology, the Art of Astrological Divination**, by **Derek Appleby**

