



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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VETTIUS VALENS: Coming late Spring!

VETTIUS VALENS was born in 120 AD. As a young man he stumbled about trying to find himself until one fine day he landed in Egypt, which was the India of his day. Whereupon he began a quest for enlightenment & in the process was swindled by virtually everyone he met. Finally he chanced upon astrology and, like so many of us, his years of desperate frustration had so sharpened his mind that, once he started in astrology, he could not be stopped. He was a man possessed.

He left behind some 400 pages of the most brilliant astrological writing. His Anthologies were prized through the centuries, up until astrology itself fell out of favor.

This is yet another case where academics beat us by a mile. Specifically, Wilhelm

Kroll, in 1908, and David Pingree, in 1986, who together painstakingly restored the ancient Greek text, and most especially Mark Riley, who translated it a dozen years ago for a magazine that went bust just as he was finishing years of work. Whereupon Prof. Riley put his work on the shelf, never expecting it would see the light of day.

Over the past 20 years there have been at least two previous attempts, known to me, to bring this work before the astrological community. The first failed, the second looks to me as if it will be stillborn.

Prof. Riley's translation is brilliant, even if he wants me to call it "preliminary". It is literate, it is fluent, as a classicist he of course has a firm grasp of the Greek, and a surprisingly good grasp of the astrology. To his basic text he has written an extensive Survey. To them I will add tables, charts, glossary and an index. The result will be around 500 pages, it will sell for something like \$60.00, as the professor, who feigns indifference, will get his cut. In the coming weeks I will post peeks here in the newsletter, and will take advance orders as soon as I have an idea of the overall scope of the project. This is a major event, and I am honored to be part of it. — Dave

ASTRO MED A to Z FROM C.E.O. CARTER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA

BILIOUSNESS. This condition, whether chronic or acute, may be related chiefly to the planet Jupiter and also, I should say, in no small measure to Neptune, which appears to be closely connected to the liver. Both Sagittarius and Pisces are often prone to liver complaints, but the former, being more active (though often quite as self-indulgent on occasion), is probably the less prone of the two. Venus and the signs of Venus, particularly Taurus, often occur prominently in the horoscopes of those who are bilious subjects, but on the whole the worst aspects in this regard are probably afflictions between one or both the Lights and Jupiter, which is apt, at least during the progress of the attack, to appear singularly unlike the "greater benefic." See also under Liver.

BLADDER. This organ is traditionally placed under Scorpio and probably quite correctly, though I have not enough cases wherein it is affected to enable me to write with assurance. — *An Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology*

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

22	07:07	☾ Δ ♀	
	08:35	☾ Δ ♂	Void
	09:29	☾ ♃	
	15:34	☾ Δ ☉	
23	01:06	♂ ♃	
	06:08	♂ ♀	
	06:37	♀ ♀	
	06:57	♀ ♂	
24	11:15	☾ Δ ☿	Void
	12:46	☾ ✕	
	23:26	● 06♂00	Last Quarter
25	08:48	♀ ♂ ☉	
	17:05	♀ ✕ ♀	
	20:29	♃ □ ♀	
26	00:16	☉ ✕ ♀	
	18:09	☾ □ ☿	Void
	19:32	☾ ♃	
27	08:54	☾ ♂ ♀	
	11:41	☾ ✕ ☉	
28	02:36	☾ □ ♃	

Extracted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. Get yours!

WHERE IS SADIE HAWKINS DAY?



STAR OF THE WEEK



SKAT delta Aquarii 9 ♃ 02

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 & Jupiter. It gives good fortune & lasting happiness.

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

With Moon: New & 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, favourable for gain.

With Mars: Energetic, advancement through exertions .-. from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

The Moon's General Indications

THE first aspect the Moon applies to reveals what to expect first: if good, a good start—and if her last aspect is also good, then a good ending to the matter. If the first aspect is bad and the last good, matters get off to a bad start but end well. When her final aspect is bad it signifies an unsatisfactory end of the matter.

If all her aspects are good, little trouble if any will be experienced; but if they are all bad there is great difficulty in the attempt & no final success.

If the Moon's final aspect is to a retrograde planet there will be frustration & the case will not turn out as planned: the person is at fault if it is his ruler.

If her final aspect is parallel but to a retrograde planet, the answer to the question is "Yes; but not as expected; it is as good as done but will come too late to do any real good" as far as this case is concerned.

If the Moon's final aspect is a square, the querent will regret the course he took, and any request is sure to give offense, which will endure if that planet is a malefic in a Fixed Sign, particularly Scorpio. If the Moon's final aspect is an opposition, matters end with some separation or lack of cooperation; there is greed or jealousy in evidence, and especially if it is Saturn.

If the Moon cannot complete her final aspect because the planet leaves the Sign it is in before she reaches the necessary degree, the person will abandon the matter before it can be finished (or because he thinks it cannot be accomplished). — **Simplified Horary Astrology**, 1960. Much of this relates directly to the decumbiture Moon. — *Dave*

Astro-Med:

The Decumbiture Chart

THE decumbiture chart is as old as the natal chart. Before the advent of modern natal astrology, it was often the only chart the medical astrologer had. And while the natal chart itself is essential, medieval medical astrologers were unanimous that the decumbiture chart, by itself, was a comprehensive guide to diagnosis and treatment.

As the name implies, Decumbiture is cast for the moment when you're so sick you take to your bed, but unlike modern usage, you're not just a bit under the weather and having a sick day. A decumbiture is a form of horary, and the question it seeks to answer is if you will ever rise from it. In other words, **Decumbiture is a matter of life and death.** In modern speech, Decumbiture is when the ambulance comes. If this time was lost, then the astrologer would cast a chart for the moment the patient's urine was presented to him. **Blaggrave** termed the urine the "excrement of the blood" and said he could often foretell the state of the urine (in a sealed container) merely by glancing at the decumbiture.

Blaggrave says the rising sign of the decumbiture must describe the patient himself. By implication this means Blaggrave would change the sign on the ascendant until it did. He presumably based this on the patient's physical appearance and perhaps on their station in life.

The ascendant and the Moon were the key factors. If they were both in cardinal signs, the ailment would soon be over. If they were in fixed, the ailment would be long in duration, if in mutables, it would come and go.

The nature of the ailment was shown by hard aspects (conjunction, square, opposition) to the Moon from Saturn/Mercury, or Mars/Sun, where Mercury & the Sun are secondary. Explicit delineations were customarily given for Moon to Mars, and Moon to Saturn aspects, through each of the twelve signs, but the exact nature of the delineations varied from astrologer to astrologer.

Thus, writing in 1647, **Lilly's** 24 delineations included five in which he thought the patient would die. By contrast, Blaggrave's delineation of these same 24 aspects (Moon to Mars, Moon to Saturn, through the twelve signs), forecasts death not once. I deduce from this that Blaggrave was the better healer, though one should remember that Lilly took up medicine later in life and might have improved his skills thereby.

Here is an example. Moon in Aries, con-

junct, square or opposed to Mars:

LILLY: *If the Moon next after her separation from the Malevolent beams or aspect of Mars do also apply to the conjunction or opposition of Saturn, and she decreasing in light & slow in motion, there's small hopes of life; let the sick prepare for God.*

BLAGRAVE: *... then the sick shall be tormented with continual Fevers, with little or no rest or quietness, a continued extreme thirst, and dryness of the tongue & breast, an inflammation of the Liver, tending to a Phrensie, high & inordinate Pulses. . . . If Venus be stronger than Mars, then cooling remedies will be suitable; however 'twil be necessary to let blood.*

Times of crisis occur when the transiting Moon squares, opposes and then squares its position in the decumbiture. If at any of those times she makes hard aspects to malefics, the patient's condition worsens, or he dies. On the other hand, if at the time of the decumbiture there is a helpful aspect from a benefic (Venus or Jupiter), the sick, though he may suffer, will recover. He also recovers if, at the critical times of the squares & opposition, the benefics cast favorable rays to the Moon. (This applies as well to the Moon's semi-squares to itself.) A waxing Moon (new to full) conveys strength and hope. A waning Moon is a sign of weakness. Know these simple rules about decumbiture and the transiting Moon, and you will know, in advance, when your loved one will recover, or relapse.

If the malady lasts for a full lunar month, it is said to be chronic, whereupon the Sun replaces the Moon as an indicator.

It was not my conscious intention to publish medieval medical texts, but it seems I have. All of these are excellent and worthy of your attention:

Christian Astrology books 1 & 2 – William Lilly, 1647.

The Astrological Practice of Physick, by Joseph Blaggrave, 1671.

The Astrological Judgment & Practice of Physick, by Richard Saunders, 1677. This is a most excellent book. Ben Franklin thought highly of it.

Astrological Judgment of Diseases from the Decumbiture of the Sick, by Nicholas Culpeper, 1655.

Encyclopaedia of Medical Astrology, by Cornell. Study this one last. When you understand Blaggrave, you will understand Cornell.

Order on-line at
www.AstroAmerica.com
 Order toll-free: 1-800-475-2272

This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's masterpiece, **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**. It is now in print.

Part 27:

Character & Mind

MUTABLE signs denote intellect, vacillation, indecision, nervousness, worry, duality, adaptability, cunning. Fiery signs give energy, activity, intellect, ardour, inspiration; earthy signs are practical, concrete, suspicious, plodding, worldly; airy signs are mental, idealistic, nervous, intellectual; and watery signs emotional, imaginative, changeable, and psychic; there is sometimes a tendency to drink or debauchery, especially if Venus or Mercury be afflicted here.

The general type so indicated will be modified by the sign positions and aspects of the significators, good aspects giving the more favourable characteristics of the aspecting planets, and bad aspects the more unfavourable.

Mind. The chief significators of mind are the Moon, Mercury and planets in, or the ruler of, the 3rd house. In addition planets in the mutable signs & cadent houses also influence the mind. Mercury rules the pure intellect; the Moon, the brain & concrete mind; the 3rd house, the lower mind; the 9th the higher mind, philosophy, and dreams; the 6th the sub-conscious mind; and the 12th, the hidden, inner, and unconscious mind, and occultism.

The signs & aspects of the significators denote the mental characteristics. If Mercury & the Moon are unconnected, not aspecting the Asc., and afflicted by the malefics, especially if mutable signs are involved, there is a great danger of mental instability or madness, Saturn indicating melancholia, Jupiter and Mars religious mania, Mars alone madness, and so on. The more aspects there are to Mercury the better, even if many bad ones. . . —**A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, 1922

From:
The Key To Your Own Nativity

by Alan Leo

HEAD TO HEAD

The position of the planet Mercury in each horoscope denotes the mind, and hence the mental qualifications. This position is modified by aspects, more especially any aspect to the Moon, which affects the lucidity & clearness of the capacity for mental expression. Further, since Mercury is also related to the nervous system, and the Moon to the brain in a general sense, good or bad aspects between these two planets will have a bearing upon the general nervous condition, whether serene and well regulated, or hypersensitive, fidgety, irritable, etc. **MERCURY IN ARIES:** Your mental faculties will be quickened. You will be quick to perceive and observe, possessing a fertile and inventive brain, good at originating designs & quick in all mental work. . .

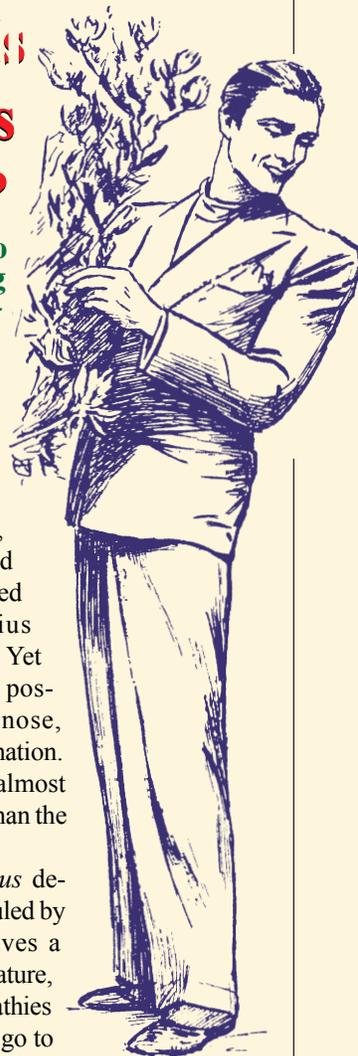
MERCURY IN TAURUS indicates that you are slow to make up your mind but that it is immovable when once it is made up. You can, however, exercise much patience and perseverance in all mental pursuits, and it makes you disposed to be sociable, friendly and affectionate. . .

MERCURY IN GEMINI. This will bring to the front all "mercurial" affairs, giving you the ability to write, and study. You would however, learn more by travelling, than by studying or reading, for Mercury in Gemini is rather against concentration. . .

MERCURY IN CANCER will cause you to be active & somewhat changeable. You will also be very ingenious, and inquisitive, grasping many subjects, and taking a wide, comprehensive view of things. Cultivate your memory, and make your mind strong, and alert. . . — **The Key to Your Own Nativity**, by Alan Leo.

Is This You?

10°–20° Leo rising
The Sagittarius decanate



Appearance of the Second Decanate:

NOTE the small head, short body and long legs associated with Sagittarius rather than Leo. Yet this young man possesses the Leo nose, mouth & jaw formation. This decanate is almost invariably taller than the other two.

The *Sagittarius* decanate of Leo is ruled by Jupiter. This gives a kind and genial nature, with warm sympathies but a tendency to go to extremes. It thus weakens the will-power of the sign as a whole, especially if Jupiter is afflicted. In the case of a married man any success attained would depend largely upon the wife.

Anrias Extra:

In studying the influence of the mind upon the nativity, the third & ninth houses are considered. The personal emotional desires and their more sublimated form of platonic friendship are associated with the fifth and its opposite the eleventh house.

— **Man & the Zodiac**, by David Anrias.

