



## Metaphysics gaining in popularity

Answers to questions with no logical of natural reasons, the search for self-identity and purpose, knowing someone's words before they speak. It's all part of metaphysics and parapsychology and it's all the focus of an overwhelming and increasing interest.

"I could even put a figure on the increase," said Mrs. Sol Lewis of the Michigan Metaphysical Society in Berkley. "But there has been a tremendous surge in the last 10 years."

People are searching for a relationship between man and the universe, she said. By examining the supernatural or extra powers they might find some answers.

"People are looking for themselves, they are looking for their own identity, trying to find out what makes

them tick," she said, adding that the chaotic world situation is also sending people to outside forces.

But in that search or even as spectators, there is a great deal of misunderstanding by the general public, she said.

For example ESP, extra sensory perception, isn't one kind of power. "It is a heading under which clairvoyance and all of the phenomena come under," explained Mrs. Lewis.

While metaphysics and parapsychology are reaching academic levels, they don't hold answers, knowledge or even relief for everyone and often draw criticism and skepticism.

Below, three such topics are discussed by persons who study and practice them: numerology, psychometry and hand reading.

## Psychometry

By CHRISTINE WALDEN

Irene Rucinski placed a ring on the tip of her left index finger and slowly began turning it. Eyes closed, brows furrowed, she began predicting a future and describing a past.

Mrs. Rucinski is a psychometrist. A ring to her is like a fortune teller's crystal ball. But she deals with "vibrations" which she says objects transmit and which she can feel and translate.

The vibrations are put there by the owner of the object, she believes. She explains that somehow the individual's energy source is absorbed by the object, which in turn causes the vibrations.

PERHAPS IT was Peter Hurkos who first brought attention to psychometry. His assistance in police investigations

gave him and psychometry nationwide publicity.

Since then, interest in psychometry and other aspects of metaphysics and parapsychology has grown. But Mrs. Rucinski is careful not to attribute her powers or those of others to a special "gift."

"Generally you say it's a gift given to you from God. But it's something that each individual has a tendency for and as you work at it, the power increases," she explained her belief.

Six or seven years ago, Mrs. Rucinski said she discovered her "tendency." Today, she said, she uses it primarily for experiments and demonstrations.

"I generally don't do it for individuals, unless a person is really in need," she said.

SHE DOES use psychometry for archaeological digs. Recently

she made her first attempt to help archaeologists determine the past of an area outside of Milwaukee.

"I told them it was the first time I'd ever done anything like this," she said. "They just told me to do whatever I wanted."

The archaeologists took Mrs. Rucinski to the area in question. In a few moments, she kicked off her shoes and began running through the woods.

"Anytime I'd come to something I would stop and give information and take off again."

Two other psychometrists who visited the area at separate times came up with the same conclusions as Mrs. Rucinski, she added. The conclusions are being checked by historians and are proving, she said, to be quite accurate.

Of course, Mrs. Rucinski doesn't profess to be 100 percent correct.

"Occasionally I have been completely right. But no one can be right all the time. They say, however, that if a psychometrist is 30 percent correct, he is good."

Mrs. Rucinski said she has an 80 percent accuracy rate.

PSYCHOMETRY neither scares nor overpowers her. When she reads an object for an individual, she explained, she does so not to program the person but "to give them information so they can avoid something."

She also, unlike some other psychometrists, said she transcribes directly from vibrations to words. For some psychometrists, she said, the vibrations come through as pictures which are then described.

For her, she said, "The vibrations come through as words. It's like my mind is an open channel, a hollow tube."

## Numerology

By SHIRLEE IDEN

What's in a name?

Do numbers vibrate for you?

Well, if they do, you should look into numerology.

Numerologists and those that believe in this metaphysical practice think there's a great deal in a name and a definite vibrancy to numbers.

Elaine Lewis, herself a numerologist, calls it a very old, occult science.

"It's a form of study of vibrations that deals with numbers and with letters," she said. "It can give insights into an individual's character and personality. It can tell a person what career they're suited for."

NUMEROLOGISTS believe that each individual in some way has chosen his own name, even his own parents.

"It's a free-will factor" is the way Mrs. Lewis puts it.

In what is called a numeroscope, a practitioner of numerology assembles his findings.

Raw materials for a numeroscope are simple: first, your passive birth name, then your current name, that is the name you now carry whether it is a nickname or married name.

The other important ingredient is your birth date.

From these, believers say they can cite personal characteristics, predict personality type, and tell whether a person is shy or aggressive.

"IF YOU believe in reincarnation, and most metaphysically inclined people do, then you believe you are the sum and substance of all you've been in past lives," she said.

Mrs. Lewis said the number two indicates you have balance.

"If seven is your mental or mystic number, you have artistic or creative tendencies," she said.

"You can learn why you react in certain ways to certain things or people and you can learn a great deal about your own motivations."

She said she's a number one.

"Although you could say I'm a pioneer or leader, I'd rather be a co-chairman than a boss."

NUMBER FOUR people, she thinks, are very organized but have to be guided.

"If the letters F or O are dominant vibrations, then home, families and possessions are all important."

She stressed there are two sides to every vibration.

"Hitler, for instance, had many negative aspects to his personality, but he had the ability to get people to do things because of his vibrations."

If you understand your own vibrations, she believes, you can foresee what challenges will come into your life and at what age level you will be beset by crises.

"You can also pinpoint a personal day that is your special, good day," she said. "You can get rapid insight when the proper mechanics are applied if you understand the positive and negative factors."

"Numerology is the simplest of all applied sciences or any of the ologies. It's a vastly interesting subject, but a very simple study."

It is said that the ancient Chinese and Jews used numerology believing that all numbers vibrate and each letter of the alphabet has a numerical value.

## Hand reading

By LORAIN McCLISH

Camille Clerhents is a devotee of hand reading. She calls it "the science of hand reading because it is based on invariable laws."

The study is not to be confused with palmistry.

"Palmistry is limited," she says. "Hand reading begins as you approach someone and see how a person carries his hands. Then shaking hands reveals an emotion. The touch, the color of the skin. The structure of the hand. A closed fist is a closed mind. A criminal's hand is always out of proportion to the rest of his body or it has some distortion, just as his mind is distorted."

She says she studies the shape of the hand, each finger, each flange on each finger and the width or narrowness of the nails. Skin texture is included in her study and manual work does not affect the facets of one's character she says she can detect in her study.

ALL OF THESE points in the hand have to do with one's basic personality, she explains.

"Test this yourself. The next time you meet one of your set-in-their-ways friends, look at his thumb. It will be straight, rigid, inflexible. It won't curve back."

Another test she described is to look at the hand of someone you consider successful. "He is sure to have a large span between his thumb and fingers. The more excessive the span, the broader the mind."

Health is told in the fingernails, she believes. As each nerve ending in the finger is connected to an organ in the body, Mrs. Clements says tiny spots on the nails "are the

clues which tell me if you are a candidate for a heart attack, liver trouble, why you can't have a child or what have you."

MRS. CLEMENTS has been at her study for about 15 years and has been connected with two societies concerned with metaphysical research.

Out of this affiliation she has been involved with matching up palm prints with astrology charts, which has proven to her satisfaction that the "palm is a miniature horoscope with all the planets in your horoscope charted on your hand."

Every mount and every depression in the palm has a meaning, she believes, and the past is mapped out. Abilities and weaknesses are there, as well as hereditary factors, she says.

So are thoughts, she adds: all those minuscule lines are the ideas you have brewing and they will grow on the hand, and change as you drop those ideas or bring them to fruition.

The future is told in your palm, she explains, but "most predictions are potential. There is no such thing as a complete, mapped out destiny. We are still free to guide our lives to their own destiny."

"Most of us are constantly maneuvering ourselves to our own fate. If you are marked for a fate, it's because of your own doing and that is going back to the basic structure of the hand and not doing something about the weaknesses we know we have."

She concluded, "But the more you know about yourself — and that's the reason to study the hand — the more apt you are to do something about it."