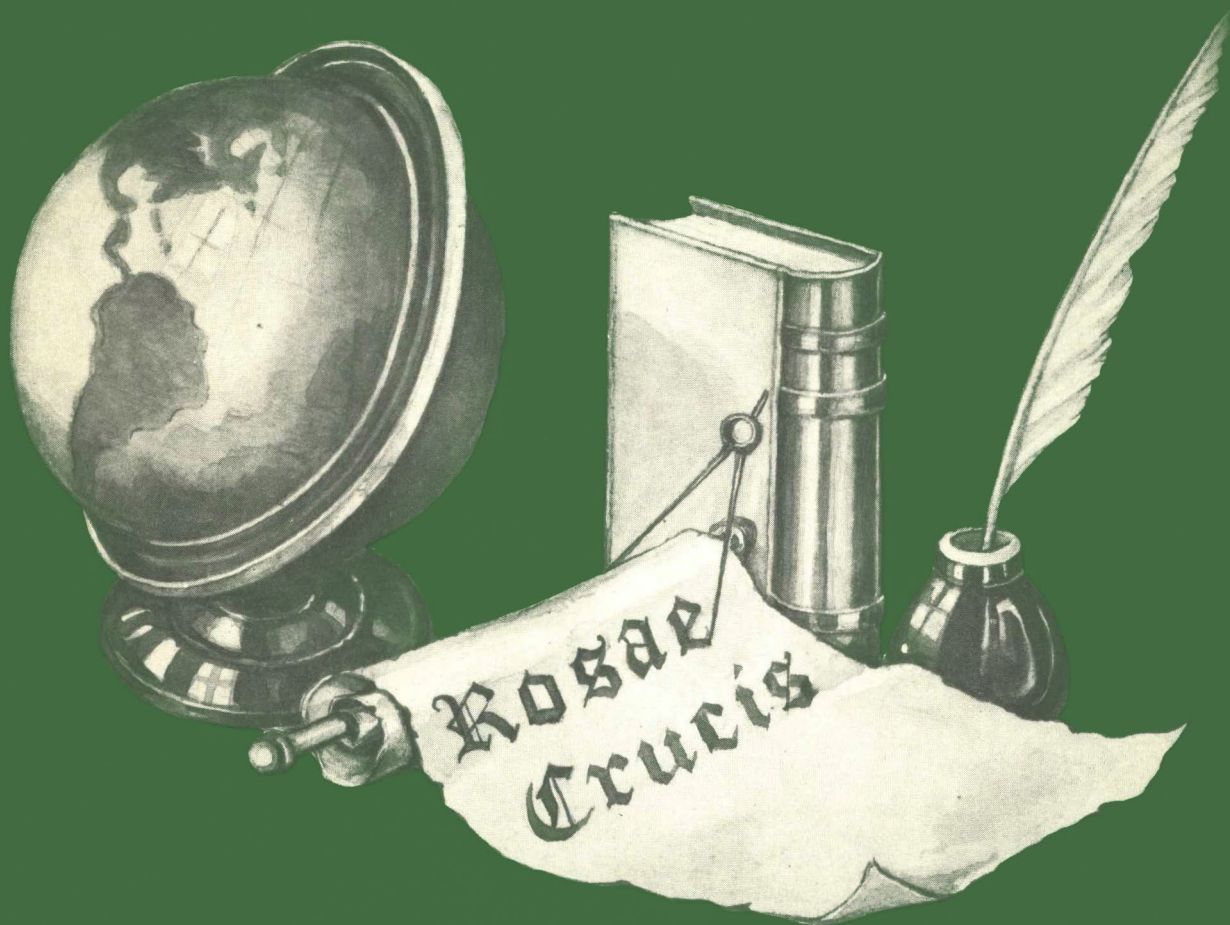


MAN AGAINST DARKNESS



MAN AGAINST DARKNESS



by Ben Finger Jr.

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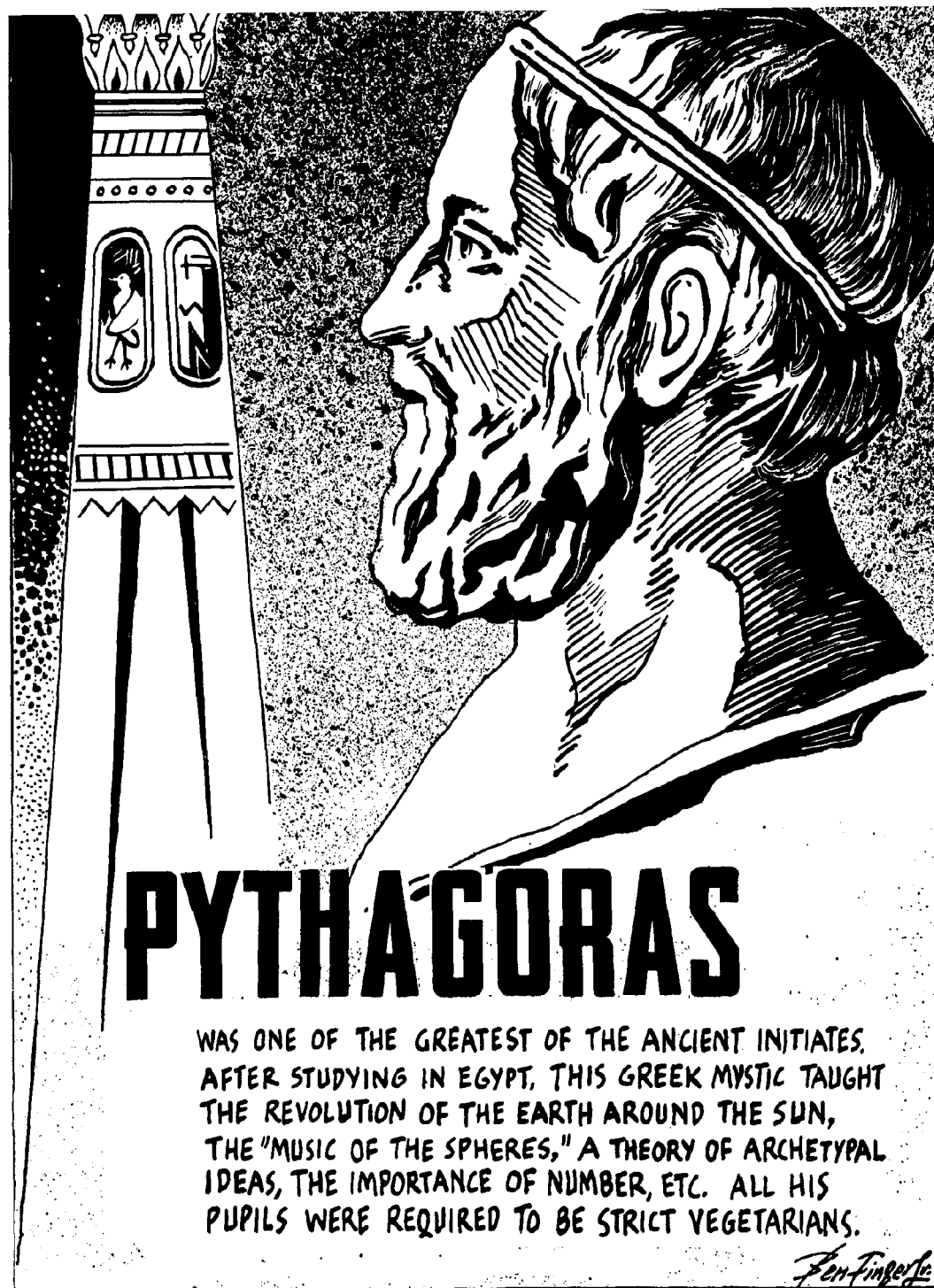
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BECAUSE OF THEM

the men illustrated in the pages that follow—we enjoy a world wherein ignorance, disease, intolerance, and poverty are swiftly becoming things of the past.

HEROIC PIONEERS—OPEN MINDS . . . these illustrious individuals often sacrificed their very lives in the interest of their ideals and humanitarian aims.

It behooves us to cherish the heritage of enlightenment they bequeathed to humankind.



PYTHAGORAS

WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST OF THE ANCIENT INITIATES. AFTER STUDYING IN EGYPT, THIS GREEK MYSTIC TAUGHT THE REVOLUTION OF THE EARTH AROUND THE SUN, THE "MUSIC OF THE SPHERES," A THEORY OF ARCHETYPAL IDEAS, THE IMPORTANCE OF NUMBER, ETC. ALL HIS PUPILS WERE REQUIRED TO BE STRICT VEGETARIANS.

Zen Finger Inc.

China's Wise Men of Antiquity

Confucius

BLENDED INTUITION AND SCIENCE AS CHINA'S GREATEST HUMANIST! HE APPLIED REASON TO THE RE-CREATION OF THE SOCIAL ORDER, STRESSING THE GOLDEN RULE AND RESPECT FOR UNIVERSAL HUMAN NATURE. "ALL WITHIN THE FOUR SEAS ARE BROTHERS."

CONFUCIUS ADMIRER THE REASONABLE MAN WITHOUT EXCESSES, WHATEVER HIS PLACE. "LEARNING KNOWS NO RANK. BE NOT ASHAMED TO ASK THOSE BENEATH YOU."

Mencius

WAS THE ETERNAL OPTIMIST IN HIS ESTIMATE OF MAN. "THE TENDENCY OF MAN'S NATURE TO GOOD IS LIKE THE TENDENCY OF WATER TO FLOW DOWNWARD."

MENCIUS SPOKE OF WARRIORS AS CRIMINALS.

MENCIUS REFUSED TO ACCEPT PAY FOR HIS PUBLIC SERVICES, PREFERRING TO EAT HIS OWN BREAD AND SPEAK HIS OWN MIND.

THIS DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL PHILOSOPHER GAVE FORTH A BROAD CODE OF HUMANISM, OF LIVE AND LET LIVE. "SEEK YOUR OWN PLEASURE, BUT DO NOT INTERFERE WITH THE PLEASURES OF OTHERS!"

Ben Fieger Jr.



OTHER EMINENT CHINESE ARE
MO TI, LAO TSE, AND PO CHU-I
THE POET OF LOVE AND SORROW.

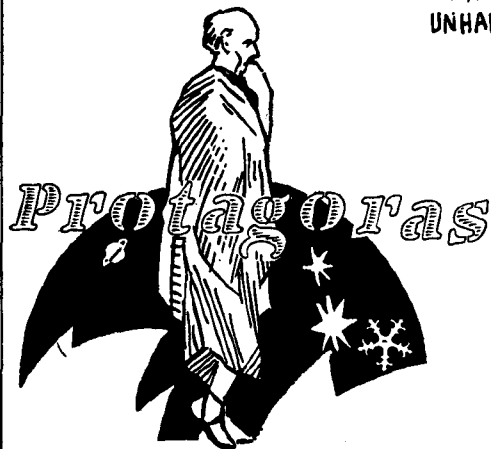


Democritus

WAS FAMED THROUGHOUT GREECE FOR HIS NOBLE MORAL IDEALISM— COUPLED WITH A BELIEF IN THE PROCESS-ULTIMACY OF ATOMS AND THE VOID. "TO DO WRONG IS MORE UNHAPPY THAN TO SUFFER WRONG," SAID DEMOCRITUS.

HOMER

CRIED OUT FOR MORE LIGHT, EVEN WERE IT ONLY LIGHT TO DIE IN. HE INHERITED A SEMITIC CULTURE OF MANY CENTURIES. HIS POETIC GODS WERE NOT INHUMAN MONSTROSITIES, BUT HUMANLIKE.



THE FREE-SPEAKING SOPHIST, FOUNDER OF EUROPEAN GRAMMAR AND PHILOLOGY, SAID: "MAN IS THE MEASURE OF ALL THINGS."



DIOGENES THE CYNIC LIVED IN A TUB, AND CARRIED A LANTERN WITH THE ANNOUNCED HOPE TO SEE ONE HONEST MAN.



Anaxagoras & Xenophanes

ATTACKED TRADITIONAL CONCEPTIONS OF THE GODS, THE FORMER AT THE PRICE OF EXILE!

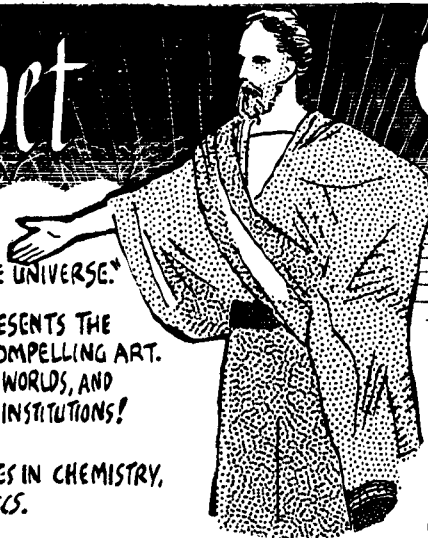
Ben Fawcett Jr.

LUCRETIUS Poet

"THE LIVELY FORCE OF HIS MIND HAS BROKEN DOWN ALL BARRIERS, AND HAS MADE ITS WAY FAR BEYOND THE GLITTERING WALLS OF THE UNIVERSE."

"THE NATURE OF THINGS," BY LUCRETIUS, PRESENTS THE PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE OF EPICURUS WITH COMPELLING ART. IT TELLS OF ATOMS CONCENTRATING INTO COUNTLESS WORLDS, AND TRACES THE EVOLUTION OF LIFE AND MAN'S SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS!

LUCRETIUS ANTICIPATED MANY MODERN DISCOVERIES IN CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS, OPTICS, ANTHROPOLOGY AND GENETICS.



THE CRIPPLED SLAVE

EPICURETUS MADE FREEDOM AND HEALTH HIS INSPIRING THEME: "EXTERNALS ARE NOT IN MY POWER. WILL IS IN MY POWER. WHERE SHALL I SEEK THE GOOD AND THE BAD? WITHIN, IN THE THINGS WHICH ARE MY OWN... ONLY THE EDUCATED ARE FREE! ... EVERYTHING HAS TWO HANDLES, THE ONE BY WHICH IT MAY BE BORNE, THE OTHER BY WHICH IT MAY NOT."



LUCIAN

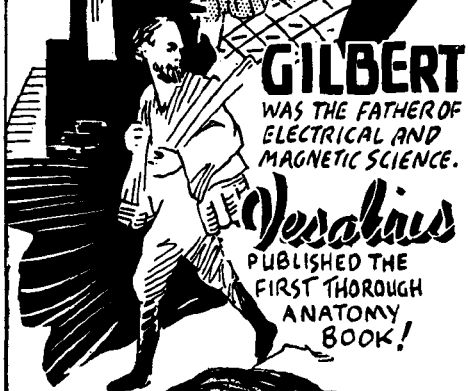
SATIRIZED PHILOSOPHIC OBSCURANTISM WITH ITS "AMBIGUOUS QUESTIONS, KNOTTY DISPUTES, PERPLEXED THOUGHTS, ... SOLEMN TRIFLES." LUCIAN NEEDED NO SUPERNATURAL PANTHEON. WELL-TRAVELED, HE TOOK VARIED PATTERNS OF CULTURE WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR AND AN OPEN MIND.

Ben Fingers Jr.



COPERNICUS

FOUNDER OF MODERN ASTRONOMY SHOWED THE TRUE RELATIONS OF THE EARTH TO THE SUN AND PLANETS.



GILBERT

WAS THE FATHER OF ELECTRICAL AND MAGNETIC SCIENCE.

Vesalius

PUBLISHED THE FIRST THOROUGH ANATOMY BOOK!



PARÉ

APPLIED THE LIGATURE TO TORN ARTERIES AS A WAR SURGEON, AND REINTRODUCED PODALIC VERSION IN OBSTETRICAL SCIENCE.



MAN WAS UNWILLING TO SEE HIS PRECIOUS PLANET SUBORDINATED TO A PLACE IN THE SOLAR SCHEME.

WHEN GALILEO FOUND MORE EVIDENCE FOR THE COPERNICAN THEORY, HE WAS FORCED TO RECAT.



FRANCIS

Bacon

"MEN HAVE ENTERED INTO THE DESIRE OF LEARNING... SELDOM SINCERELY TO GIVE A TRUE ACCOUNT OF THEIR GIFT OF REASON, TO THE BENEFIT AND USE OF MEN, BUT AS IF THEY SOUGHT... A COUCH... OR A TERRACE... OR A TOWER... OR A FORT... OR A SHOP..."



Ben Tinker Jr.



**THE
SPANISH INQUISITION**
CLAIMED 341,042 VICTIMS!

SHADOWS of BIGOTRY

HAVE EVER BEEN
FOUGHT BY BRAVE
MEN OF FREEDOM...
MANY OF WHOM HAVE
BORNE **MARTYRDOM** AS
MADMEN, REBELS, AND HERETICS!

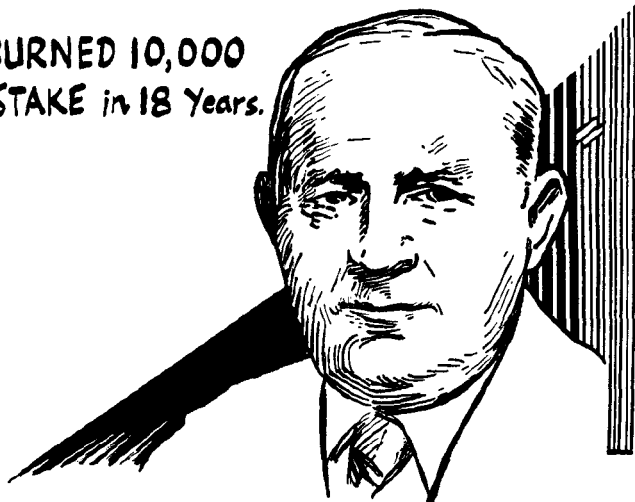
TORQUEMADA BURNED 10,000
VICTIMS AT THE STAKE in 18 Years.



JOSEPH

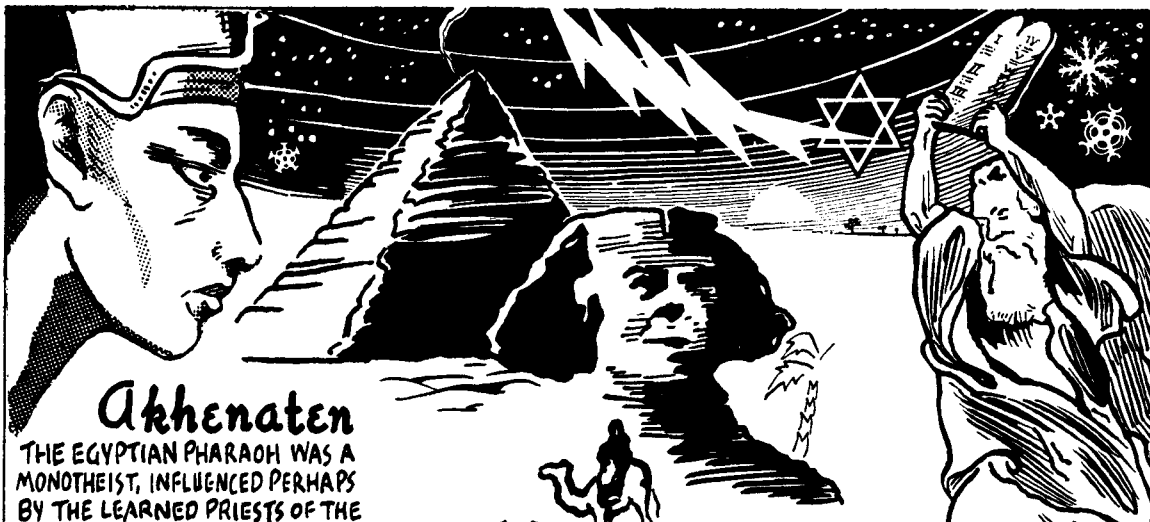
McCabe

SPENT 12 YEARS IN A MONASTERY,
THEN RENOUNCED FORMAL CREED
TO DEDICATE HIS LIFE TO RATIONAL
LIBERALISM AND CANDID
HISTORICAL SYNTHESIS!



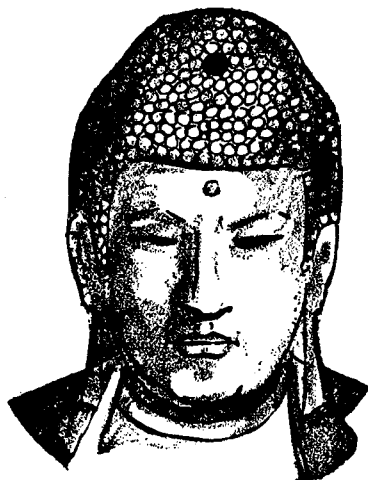
DR. CHARLES FRANCIS POTTER
HAS FOUGHT VALIANTLY TO FREE THE
HUMAN MIND FROM INTOLERANCE. HE
IS THE FOUNDER OF THE SCIENTIFIC
RELIGION HUMANISM, PREMISED
IN FAITH IN MAN. HE HAS WON
NATIONAL FAME FOR HIS HIGH
SERVICE TO SOCIAL REFORM!

Ben Fingers Jr.



Akhenaten

THE EGYPTIAN PHAROAH WAS A MONOTHEIST, INFLUENCED PERHAPS BY THE LEARNED PRIESTS OF THE COLLEGE OF HELIOPOLIS. BROAD INTERNATIONALISM AND DEMOCRATIC HUMANITARIANISM LIT HIS HEART!



Buddha

SAID: "BETTER TO FEED ONE GOOD MAN THAN WORRY ABOUT SPIRITS AND DEMONS." HE MADE IT PLAIN THAT PEACE COMES NOT FROM OUTSIDE GODS BUT INNER AWARENESS. THIS GREAT INITIATE STRESSED NATURAL AND SOCIAL LAW, AND THE EVOLUTIONARY CYCLES OF LIFE.

Ben Finger Jr.

Moses

LED THE JEWS OUT OF SLAVERY INTO FREEDOM, OUT OF ETHICAL CONFUSION INTO THE WISDOM OF THE DECALOGUE.

CHRIST

TAUGHT:
"THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU."

"TO THAT GREAT AND SERENE MAN I GLADLY PAY THE TRIBUTE OF MY ADMIRATION AND TEARS.

"HE WAS A REFORMER IN HIS DAY. HE WAS AN INFIDEL IN HIS TIME.

"HE WAS REGARDED AS A BLASPHEMER, AND HIS LIFE WAS DESTROYED BY HYPOCRITES WHO HAVE IN ALL AGES DONE WHAT THEY COULD TO TRAMPLE FREEDOM AND MANHOOD OUT OF THE HUMAN MIND."



PERICLES

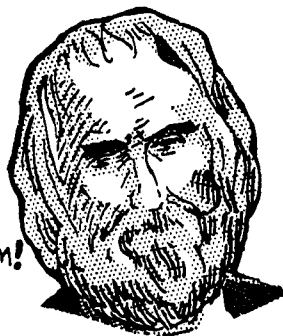


SURROUNDED HIMSELF WITH A SCINTILLANT CIRCLE OF ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS TO LAUNCH THE ATHENIAN GOLDEN AGE. HE ENDEAVORED TO LIFT THE PEOPLE TO HIS OWN WISDOM. "FIRST WE HAVE STRIVEN TO BE FREE," HE SAID, "AND NEXT TO BE HAPPY."



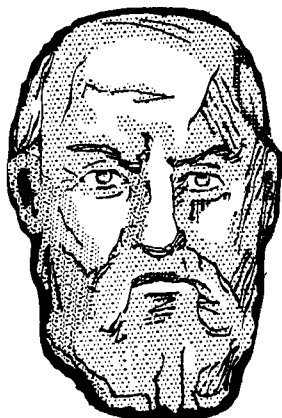
EURIPIDES

IN HIS "MEDEA" STRESSES THE EQUALITY OF THE SEXES. "TROJAN WOMEN" INDICTS WAR. THE GREAT DRAMATIST DEPICTS SLAVES AS HUMAN BEINGS, GLORIFIES FREEDOM!



ARISTOTLE

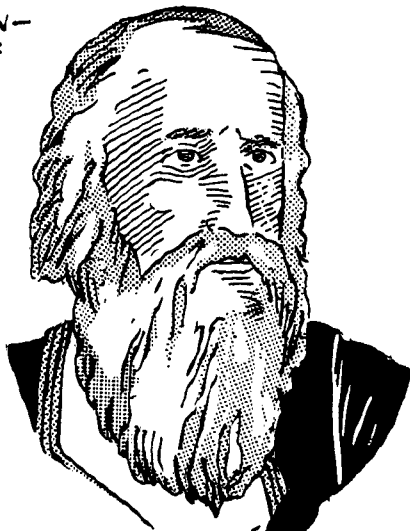
—MASTER OF THOSE WHO KNOW— ORGANIZED THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS TIME IN THE "ORGANON."



SOCRATES

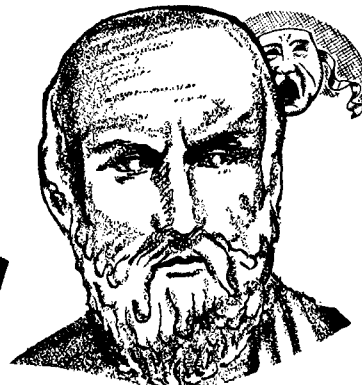
TAUGHT MANKIND TO HONOR CANDID, OPEN-MINDED CRITICAL THOUGHT!

Ben Finger Jr.



PLATO

IN HIS "LYSIS" STRESSES THE ULTIMATE FULFILLMENT INVOLVED IN A BEAUTIFUL HUMAN LIFE. THE IDEAL SOCIETY OF THIS MODERN MIND WOULD EQUALIZE THE SEXES.



ESCHYLUS said:

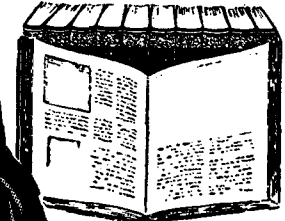
"I HOLD MY OWN MIND AND THINK APART FROM OTHER MEN." THE OLD MYTH OF THE FIRE-BRINGER HAS BEST EXPRESSION IN HIS "PROMETHEUS BOUND." PROMETHEUS SYMBOLIZES THE UNCONQUERABLE MIND.

"FRESH STARTING POINTS"

Locke

WROTE THE PHILOSOPHICAL BIBLE OF THE DEISTS, HIS "ESSAY ON THE HUMAN UNDERSTANDING." HE DEPLORED THE TENDENCY TO RECEIVE OPINIONS UNEXAMINED.

"IT IS PLAIN, IN THE GREAT... CONTRARIETY OF OPINION... AMONGST THESE SEVERAL PARTIES, THAT THERE IS MUCH FALSEHOOD... IN MOST OF THEM."



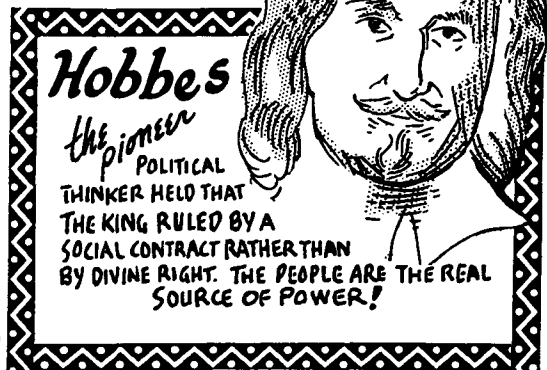
Evolution
WAS
SUGGESTED
BY
DESCARTES

AND HE STRESSED THE IDEA OF PROGRESS THROUGH EDUCATION IN HIS "PROJECT OF A UNIVERSAL SCIENCE TO ELEVATE OUR NATURE."



WAS A MONISTIC THINKER, KNOWING MAN AS PART OF UNIVERSAL NATURE. HE SAID OF EDUCATION: "NO MAN CAN BETTER DISPLAY THE POWER OF HIS SKILL AND DISPOSITION THAN IN SO TRAINING MEN THAT THEY COME AT LAST TO LIVE UNDER THE DOMINION OF THEIR OWN UNDERSTANDING."

Benjamin Franklin



the pioneer
POLITICAL
THINKER HELD THAT
THE KING RULED BY A
SOCIAL CONTRACT RATHER THAN
BY DIVINE RIGHT. THE PEOPLE ARE THE REAL
SOURCE OF POWER!

PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE

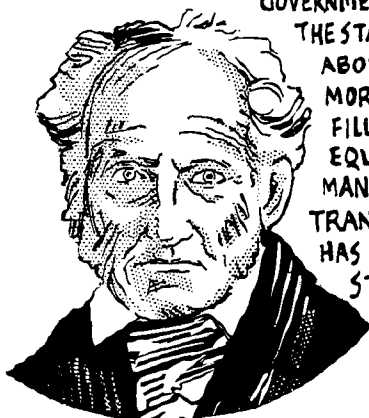


Kant ENJOYED A THOROUGH SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION, AND WROTE MANY PAPERS ON SCIENCE SUBJECTS. HE OPENLY REJECTED SUPERSTITIONS, AND DID A WORK ON NATURAL RELIGION WHICH THE PRUSSIAN GOVERNMENT SUPPRESSED!



Hegel

KNEW THE UNIVERSE AS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THOUGHT VIA A CONTINUOUS PROCESS OF **THESIS, ANTITHESIS, SYNTHESIS!**



THE STARRY HEAVENS ABOVE AND THE MORAL LAW WITHIN FILLED HIM WITH EQUAL AWE. MANY A NEO-KANTIAN TRANSCENDENTALIST HAS FOLLOWED IN HIS STEPS!

Schopenhauer

"EVERY PARTICLE OF SPIRIT WE CAN REPLACE WITH MATTER, AND EVERY PARTICLE OF MATTER REPLACE WITH SPIRIT... IF WE DIVIDE ALL THINGS INTO WILL AND MANIFESTATION, IT SPIRITUALIZES EVERYTHING."

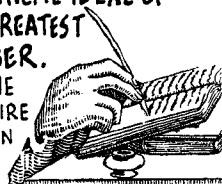
Ben Fischer Jr.



Bentham

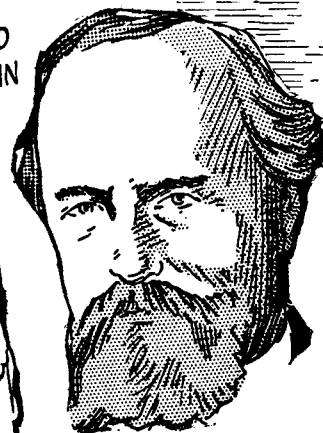
VOICED THE ETHICAL IDEAL OF UNIVERSALISTIC HEDONISM, THE GREATEST HAPPINESS TO THE GREATEST NUMBER.

"THE DAY MAY COME," HE SAID, "WHEN THE REST OF THE ANIMAL CREATION MAY ACQUIRE THOSE RIGHTS WHICH NEVER COULD HAVE BEEN WITHHELD FROM THEM BUT BY ... TYRANNY."



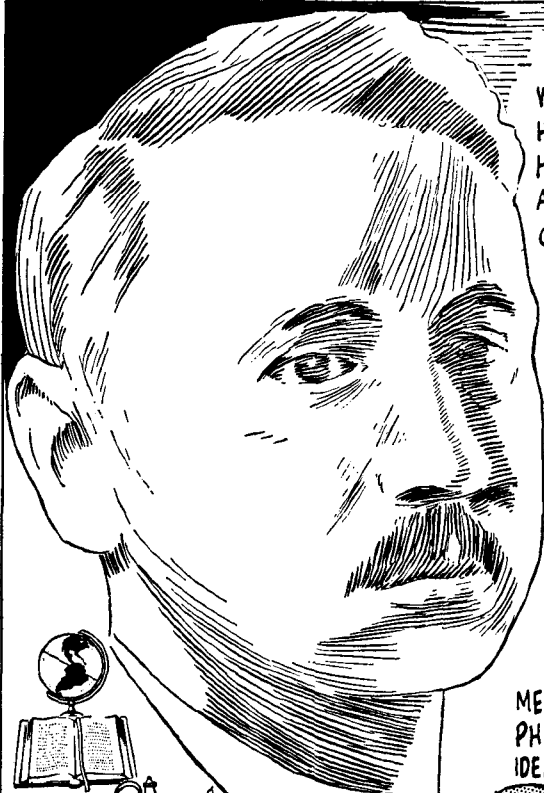
PHILOSOPHY

WILLIAM **JAMES** JUDGED HUMAN EXPERIENCE TO EXPLAIN HUMAN VALUES, AND BOLDLY ACCEPTED THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE.



JOHN **DEWEY** PRESENTS PHILOSOPHY NOT AS A CONSOLATORY VERBAL REFUGE, BUT IN THE SCIENTIFIC TEMPER! MAN IS "STILL AT THE

MERCY OF HABIT, OF HAPHAZARD, AND HENCE OF FORCE." NEWER PHILOSOPHY HAS A SOCIAL FUNCTION. "WE ARE WEAK TODAY IN IDEAL MATTERS," SAYS DEWEY, "BECAUSE INTELLIGENCE IS DIVORCED FROM ASPIRATION."

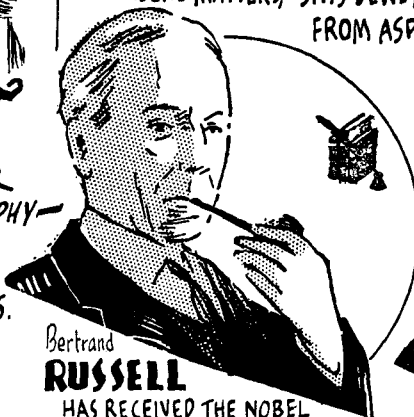
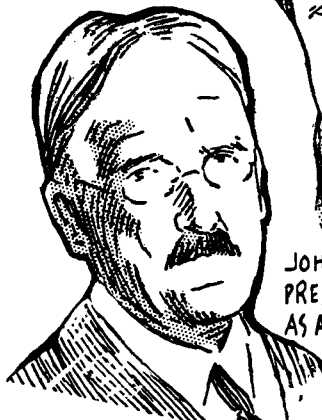


WILL

DURANT

HAS DONE MORE THAN ANY OTHER MODERN TO POPULARIZE PHILOSOPHY— IN "THE STORY OF PHILOSOPHY," "THE MARCH OF PHILOSOPHY," MAGAZINE ARTICLES AND LECTURES. HE SURVEYS HISTORY WITH A PHILOSOPHIC EYE IN "OUR ORIENTAL HERITAGE," "THE LIFE OF GREECE," "CAESAR AND CHRIST," AND "THE AGE OF FAITH," UNITS OF A BIBLE OF CIVILIZATION YET IN PROGRESS.

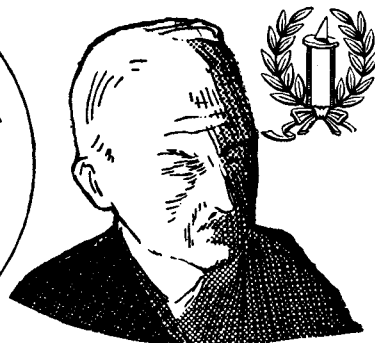
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Bertrand

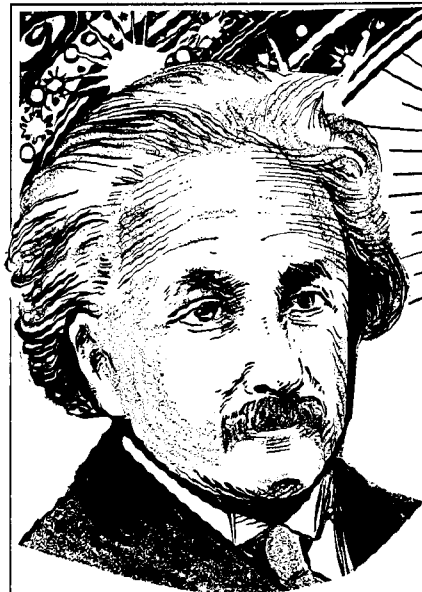
RUSSELL

HAS RECEIVED THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR HIS UNORTHODOX PHILOSOPHIZING. HE DEFINES HIS SOCIAL AIM AS "THE DISCOVERY OF A WAY BY WHICH MEN CAN LIVE TOGETHER WITHOUT MAKING EACH OTHER MISERABLE."



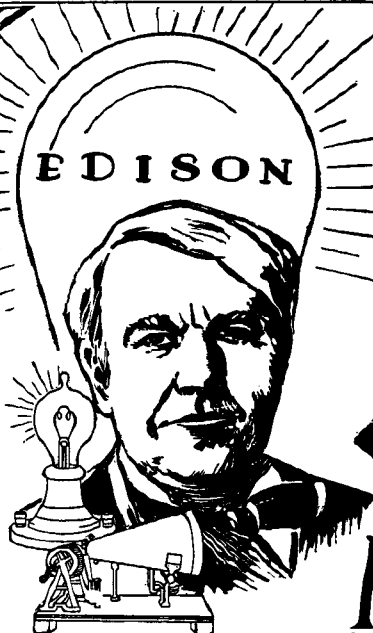
HENRI **BERGSON**

FINDS COSMIC IMPLICATIONS IN THE VITAL SPARK OF THE CREATIVE INTELLECT. "IN MAN ALONE IS CONSCIOUSNESS ABLE TO OVERCOME THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY MATTER."



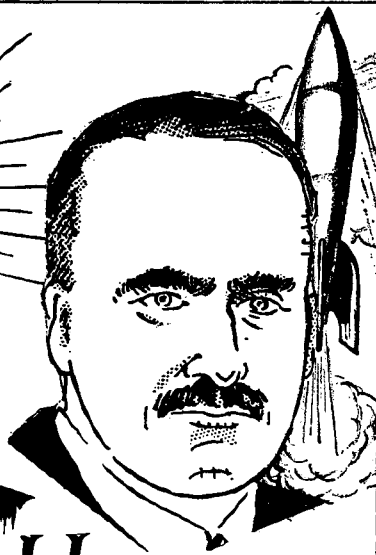
EINSTEIN

HAS REVEALED THE EQUIVALENCE OF MASS AND ENERGY, THE MYSTERIES OF THE SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM, AND IN HIS GREAT UNIFIED FIELD THEORY THE IDENTITY OF ALL ENERGIES.



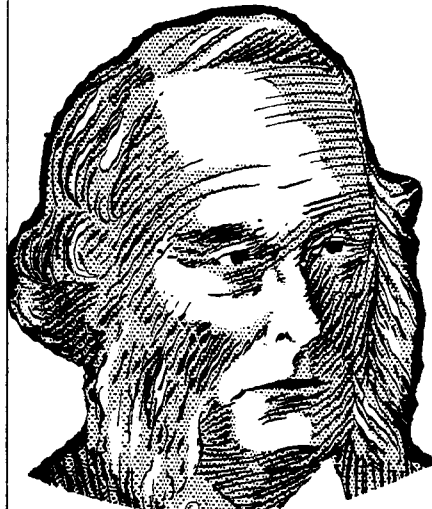
EDISON

THE "WIZARD OF MENLO PARK" WAS LABELED A DULLARD IN SCHOOL. HIS ELECTRIC LIGHT EXPERIMENTS LONG SEEMED TO BE "A CONSPICUOUS FAILURE," AND HE WAS REPORTED TO HAVE "NO SCIENTIFIC STANDING." HE INVENTED THE KINETOSCOPE, PHONOGRAPH AND "TALKIES."



Haldane

PREDICTS THE UTILIZATION OF SUN AND WIND FOR ENERGY, COLD LIGHT WHERE NO RADIATION WILL BE LOST AS HEAT, SYNTHETIC FOOD FROM THE CHEMICAL LABORATORIES, ART EVERYWHERE TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY, IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION, THE END OF WAR, THE ABOLITION OF DISEASE AND THE PROLONGATION OF YOUTH!



Lister

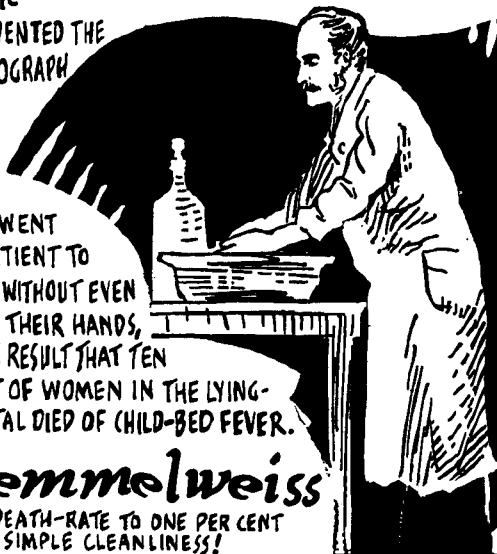
PROCEEDED FROM PASTEUR'S WORK TO DEVELOP AN ANTISEPTIC TECHNIQUE THAT REVOLUTIONIZED SURGERY!

Ben Fingers Jr.

FOR LONG, DOCTORS WENT FROM PATIENT TO PATIENT WITHOUT EVEN RINSING THEIR HANDS, WITH THE RESULT THAT TEN PER CENT OF WOMEN IN THE LYING-IN HOSPITAL DIED OF CHILD-BED FEVER.

Then Semmelweis

CUT THE DEATH-RATE TO ONE PER CENT VIA SIMPLE CLEANLINESS!



THE ROSICRUCIAN ORDER, AMORC

Purpose and Work of the Order

The Rosicrucian Order, AMORC, is a philosophical and initiatic tradition. As students progress in their studies, they are initiated into the next level or degree.

Rosicrucians are men and women around the world who study the laws of nature in order to live in harmony with them. Individuals study the Rosicrucian lessons in the privacy of their own homes on subjects such as the nature of the soul, developing intuition, classical Greek philosophy, energy centers in the body, and self-healing techniques.

The Rosicrucian tradition encourages each student to discover the wisdom, compassion, strength, and peace that already reside within each of us.

www.rosicrucian.org