# CONTENTS

Publisher's Note .....x

Introduction, by Christopher Schaefer ....xii

### LECTURE 1

DORNACH, 29 SEPTEMBER 1917

Insight into the events taking place in Russia at the time. Metaphysical world influencing current events. Sukhomlinov's failure as a sign of the times. Papal Note. Connection between materialistic attitudes and powers of destruction.

Pages 1-12

### LECTURE 2

#### DORNACH 30 SEPTEMBER 1917

Discrepancy between intellectual and moral development. The human organization in sleep and in the waking state. Wisdom-filled impulses projecting from the realm of sleep into everyday life. The spiritual and social impulse in the works of Johann Valentin Andreae. Humanity getting younger, with Lloyd George as typical representative of his time.

Pages 13-25

#### LECTURE 3

### DORNACH, 1 OCTOBER 1917

Present habits of thinking not in accord with reality. Christ's words: 'My kingdom is not of this world.' Search for perfection is materialistic illusion—Woodrow Wilson as 'saviour of the world'. Right attitude to the truths of spiritual science when these are made known—deviations from this. Two measures which had become necessary with regard to private interviews.

Pages 26-41

#### LECTURE 4

#### Dornach, 6 October 1917

The elemental spirits of birth and death. Their activity in the service of the gods. Rule over these spirits passing into human hands—a similar process in Ancient Atlantis. Inevitable transformation of virtues into faults, and of



constructive powers into destructive ones. Ricarda Huch instinctively aware of this. A modern tendency: to take a stance rather than go through the effort of finding the truth.

Pages 42-54

### LECTURE 5

### DORNACH, 7 OCTOBER 1917

Changes in the way the environment is experienced, from Ancient Greece to the present time. Earth dying and bodies withering away—these facts reflected in Eduard Suess' geological work and in Franz Brentano's psychology. Inner life of man separating from physical body. Augustine's and Calvin's dogmas of predestination. Eugenics as an echo of Atlantean practices. Psychopathology as a sign of the times. Medicines used to 'get rid of the spirit'.

Pages 55-68

#### LECTURE 6

### DORNACH, 8 OCTOBER 1917

Living world of thought around us and dead thoughts within us. The head as a legacy from old incarnations of the Earth—rest of the body as manifestations of cosmic Hierarchies condensed by luciferic influences. Spiritual bonds with environment and interpretation of dreams during fourth post-Atlantean epoch. Need for inspired ideas on social aspects—Jacob Boehme and Saint-Martin aware of this. Importance of intuitive and prophetic faculties for the teaching profession.

Pages 69-83

### Lecture 7

### DORNACH, 12 OCTOBER 1917

Lack of 'weight' in the usual historical texts. Luther as someone belonging to the fourth epoch but who lived at the beginning of the fifth. Consciousness awakened on account of deception in the past. Need to overcome illusion in future. Trial by fire as part of the inner path today. Significance of the concept of karma in education. Harmful nature of premature intellectual development. Right attitude to those who hold different views. Relationship between teacher and pupil as an inner one.

Pages 84-100

#### Lecture 8

### DORNACH, 13 OCTOBER 1917

Present desire to find simple, unified concepts. Inadequacy of such concepts in the face of reality. Rudolf Kjellén's and Albert Schaeffle's analogy between

organism and State not acceptable. Social life of the whole Earth as an organism. Abstract theories refuted by reality. West looking to the past. Wilsonianism. East breaking with the past. Abstract nature of theosophical ideals and the need for genuine knowledge.

Pages 101-116

#### Lecture 9

# DORNACH, 14 OCTOBER 1917

Battle between the Archangel Michael and the ahrimanic powers from 1841 until the autumn of 1879. Fall of the spirits of darkness and its consequences: individual people taking hold of materialistic impulses—statement made by Henri Lichtenberger as symptomatic of this. Bacterial diseases and moon influences as consequences of similar battles in earlier periods of earth evolution. Examples of ahrimanic way of thinking in modern science. Influence of spiritual world on actions of people today. Mirroring of events in the world of the spirit in this world. Soloviev and perception of the Russian folk spirit.

Pages 117-128

#### LECTURE 10

### DORNACH, 20 OCTOBER 1917

Many ideals far removed from reality. Certain ideas spread in the eighteenth century and their consequences. Wilhelm Weber's *Thirteen Lindens*. Prejudice, ignorance and fear helping the ahrimanic powers. Modern science studying the past, and the need to gain perception of what lies in the future. James Dewar's views as example of inadequacy of notions held at the time. Activity of ahrimanic spirits in monistic theories. Need to bring spiritual thinking into physical sciences. Need to transform education. Significance of happy childhood memories for adult life.

Pages 129-143

#### Lecture 11

### DORNACH, 21 OCTOBER 1917

Growing inwardness of inner life—science-based civilization becoming more external. New impulses in education to counteract ahrimanization of inner life. Relationship of humans and animals to Sun and Moon currents. Thoughtfully told tales, based on animal and plant world, as an educational necessity—partly achieved in Brehm's work. Impoverishment of ideas through specialization. Example of a genuine connection made between impulses to observe given in spiritual science and a specialist field: Roman Boos' book on the Collective

Agreement. A valuable essay by Boos contrasted with empty phrases used in another essay in the same issue of the journal *Knowledge and Life*.

Pages 144-158

#### LECTURE 12

#### DORNACH, 26 OCTOBER 1917

Spirits of darkness cast down, and this the cause of events which happened at the time. Mission of spirits of light in earlier epochs of earthly evolution: promotion of blood bonds; mission of powers of darkness: to free human beings from those bonds—the situation reversed in the nineteenth century. Darwinism as an impulse from the past; Goethe's theory of metamorphosis as a power for the future. Human beings tied to the Earth through heredity, getting free of the Earth by becoming spiritual. Indianization of Europeans living in America and the way to overcome this tendency.

Pages 159-172

#### LECTURE 13

# DORNACH, 27 OCTOBER 1917

The intentions of the spirits of darkness: greatest possible development of human acumen and limiting human relationship to the spirit to spiritistic methods. Michael's victory provides possibility for human beings to connect with the spirit—counteraction from spirits of darkness. Events in nineteenth century as consequences of the battle in the world of the spirit. Oswald Marbach and Goethe's Faust. Woodrow Wilson as 'world schoolmaster'. Goethe's achievement brought to expression in a poem by Marbach.

Pages 173-187

#### LECTURE 14

# DORNACH, 28 OCTOBER 1917

Angels and archangels and their role in history and in the human organism. Physical reproduction to cease in the sixth or seventh millennium. Aims of spirits of darkness in relation to humanity growing younger. Fritz Mauthner and Darwinism. Discrepancy between life of thought and life of will—its effect on modern social democracy. Relative newness of history as a science and need to bring in the life forces of anthroposophy. Maeterlinck's book on bees. Illusory talk of democracy. Francis Delaisi on democracy and world of finance. Alexandre Millerand and Raymond Poincaré as examples of financial concerns influencing political activities.

Pages 188-206

# APPENDICES:

1. The First Goetheanum 209
2. Ahriman and Lucifer 211
3. The Etheric and the Astral Bodies 213
4. Cosmic Evolution 215
5. Rosicrucianism 217
6. Woodrow Wilson 219
7. Friedrich Nietzsche 224
8. Franz Brentano 226
9. Conrad Ferdinand Meyer 229
10. The Hierarchies 231
11. Herman Grimm 233
12. Charles Darwin 235
13. Ernst Haeckel 238
14. Platonism and Aristotelianism 240
15. Goethe's Scientific Work 242
16. Friedrich Schiller 244
17. Fritz Mauthner 246
Notes 248
11065 270
Rudolf Steiner's Collected Works 261
Significant Events in the Life of Rudolf Steiner 275
Index 291