

law was discovered, the Rosicrucians studied it with great interest, but the problem facing them was to learn how to apply it, and this took centuries of study. Now, today, the fruits of those years of effort are available to all. Detailed instruction in the application of cyclic law is part of the Rosicrucian teaching and available only to Rosicrucian students, but the basic principles can be revealed and will be explained to you in this chapter.

The Cycle of Existence

Everything in the world, whether created by nature or by man has a cycle of existence distinctly its own. This refers not only to men and mountains, to machines and vegetables, but also to corporations and diseases and even ideas and emotions. All have a definite starting point and a distinctive pulsation, or rhythm of existence. These cycles are like lines drawn out for various lengths and divided throughout their length and duration into equal segments.

The line of your life can be compared to the line the captain of a ship marks on a chart for the course he intends to follow. An ocean liner going from New York to Gibraltar may take seven days, so the captain will mark on the line the position he expects the boat to be at the end of each day. But not every day will be the same. The start may be foggy and cold, the next day rough and windy, the third day warmer but with headwinds that slow the boat, the fourth day bright and sunny and so on. So it can be said that the pulsation or periodicity of the journey is seven days each with its own characteristic influences. The journey of life is much like such a sea voyage. Each life begins at a certain time and place and is divided into periods like the days of the ocean journey. The average person is not aware of these periods which present opportunities or obstacles at different times, and is therefore not prepared to meet them until they are in full manifestation. He is then handicapped in resolving them properly by his lack of knowledge of the assisting or hindering tendencies which exist in that period. Not only your life itself but every enterprise you enter into has cycles which begin at its inception. Thus the

information which follows is of value not only to you personally but may be applied to your business, or to any business or organization or project in which you may take interest.

Medical science and the students of biology and physiology agree that human life is divided into a progression of periods of seven years each. From birth to the age of seven there is a period of self-discovery in which the growing child learns his relation to the material world and begins to adjust himself to it. From seven to fourteen physical growth and muscular control are important and although the mind expands, it is a secondary consideration. Toward the end of this period the distinction between the sexes shows itself. The third period is one of mental as well as physical growth and the fourth, one of growing spiritual awareness. The fifth is a creative period and so on. Human beings were designed by the Creator to live for twenty-and-one-half periods of seven years each, or about a hundred-forty-four years. Of course, today no one lives that long. In fact half, or seventy-two years, is usually considered a good long life and those who live longer are regarded as exceptional. This shortening of the potential life span is the result of man's failure to live according to the laws of nature, but our knowledge and self-discipline are increasing and human life is gradually lengthening.

Most cycles have seven divisions like the seven days of the week or the seven notes in a musical "octave." There is a reason for this which has to do with the origin of energy itself, but here we have limited space and can consider only the effects and not their cause. There are also cycles of three, four and twelve periods, but those of seven are the most frequent.

Your Private, Yearly Life Cycle

Just as a human life is divided into periods of seven years, so each year in that life is made up of seven periods. Starting with your birthday there are seven periods of approximately fifty-two days and each one of these periods provides you with different possibilities, opportunities to be seized or problems to be solved. The calendar year has nothing to do with this cycle. This is your

private cycle and it extends from the day of your birthday in one year to the day before your birthday the next. To work properly with your own yearly cycle, get a calendar and, starting with your birthday, count off fifty-two days. Thus if you were born on January 5, circle the date and also circle February 26, which is the fifty-second day. This is your first period. Make a chart of this for the entire year so that you can always tell at a glance in what period you are. When you have done this, write or type the following and keep it so that you can always have easy access to it.

Life Cycle, First Period

(Date _____ to Date _____)

This is the period of opportunity. It is the best time to advance your interests with others who may have the power and influence to help you. This is the time to ask favors, to seek employment or loans or business concessions, to form partnerships or to make investments. This is also a good time to advance yourself among the people of your city, state or country, to build up your credit standing or your reputation. This is the best time for you to push yourself forward with determination so far as your name, your integrity and your honor are concerned.

Life Cycle, Second Period

(Date _____ to Date _____)

The second period is distinctly different. It is the best time to plan short journeys or trips of immediate importance. It is also an excellent time for moving about, if that should be necessary. In other words this is a period propitious for changes that can be started and finished within the period itself. In a business way it is a good period for movable things such as freight, cargoes, automobiles, trains, public conveyances, or even public lectures or performances which may move from place to place. It also presents excellent opportunities for those who deal with liquids, milk, water, chemicals, gasoline, oil and other products of this character. Dealing with people who are in businesses associated with the foregoing will be more successful at this time than at any

other. This is also a very good period for businesses which cater to transients such as hotels, restaurants, car rentals and similar services. However, one should not plan a change of business or start a new career or make any permanent change during this period, and contracts and other arrangements that are intended to last a long time should not be entered into. It is an unfavorable period to borrow or lend money and it is not good for starting the construction of a building or entering upon a project that requires a substantial investment. Certainly it is a most unfavorable period to speculate in the stock market or to gamble in any form.

Life Cycle, Third Period

(Date _____ to Date _____)

This period requires that you exercise discrimination and good judgment. It usually brings a great inflow of energy which makes you want to do great and important things. If directed carefully this can be the best time in the year to improve your health or build up your business or do anything that requires the expenditure of energy. However, good judgment is needed. You will be tempted to undertake projects which have no possibility of success or which may take so long to develop that you will have to abandon them before completion. But this is a great time to tackle and overcome obstacles that have blocked progress in the past, to make a strong second effort to solve problems earlier abandoned because of lack of energy. It is a great time for dealing with things that require great energy such as iron and steel, electrical machinery, cutlery, sharp instruments and fire. It is also a particularly good period to oppose competitors or deal with enemies who have heretofore been obstacles in your path. It is an unfavorable period for men *or* women to try to deal with women but on the other hand it is an excellent period for women to appeal to men when desiring favors or preferment or aid in business or social matters. Arguments and strife should be avoided because the outcome is very apt to be bad, but if you have something to sell which can be put across in one forceful interview, this is the best period.

Life Cycle, Fourth Period

(Date _____ to Date _____)

In this period the mental and spiritual nature is stimulated. It is thus an excellent period for writing books, producing plays, making plans, for all matters requiring imagination and quick thinking and the ability to express your thoughts lucidly. Your mind will be filled with new ideas which will come very rapidly, so it is important that you grasp them quickly and put them into practice before they are forgotten or pushed aside by the new thoughts which will crowd upon their heels. It is therefore a good period to act on impulse or hunches. You will be optimistic in this period but somewhat nervous and restless, which is to be expected with your imagination highly charged. It is a good period to deal with literary people, writers, journalists, book or magazine publishers, but be careful to scrutinize all legal and other documents most carefully because deception is possible and it is a period when falsehood is as eloquently and easily expressed as the truth. Most great losses through robbery or deception or misunderstood legal situations occur in this period and you should take precautions to protect yourself. However, it is a good time for study and for gaining information and knowledge, but it is not a propitious period to enter marriage, to hire help or to buy homes, businesses or land.

Life Cycle, Fifth Period

(Date _____ to Date _____)

This is the period in which it is possible for you to achieve your greatest success in your personal affairs. This is the time in your yearly cycle when your interests will expand and your prosperity increase. Your mind likewise will become a more effective instrument, sharper and clearer, you will become more open in your relations with others, move with more confidence and display sociability, benevolence and sympathy. This is the best period for dealing with the law, with lawyers, and judges, the courts, government officials, men of prominence in the profession and people of wealth. It is also a good

period to begin new ventures that may take some time to grow, to plan large business negotiations or to undertake long journeys. It is particularly good for collecting money due or for speculations in stock or real estate, but be sure to avoid every negotiation that is not completely legitimate. Also avoid any dealings in cattle or meat products or with marine affairs.

Life Cycle, Sixth Period

(Date _____ to Date _____)

This is the best time in your yearly cycle for rest, relaxation and amusement. This does not mean that business will not prosper. On the contrary, all good and legitimate business will continue with almost as much success as in the preceding period. However, now is the time to make long or short trips for the purpose of renewing friendships or for cultivating new friends, men among women and women among men, and to renew and improve friendships and relations that already exist. It is a particularly fortunate time for business matters that touch upon art, music, literature, sculpture, perfumes, flowers and personal adornments. It is a good period for a man to seek preferment or favors or business agreement or cooperation from a woman, just as the third period is better for women to obtain such favors from men. It is the best period to buy stocks or bonds for investment and to employ others.

Life Cycle, Seventh Period

(Date _____ to Date _____)

This is the most critical period of your yearly cycle. During these fifty-two days the elements in your life that are no longer needed for your development gradually fall away in order to make way for those which are new and better. Often this will cause distress and a sense of loss and may tempt you to foolish actions and decisions. Remember it is a period of seeming devolution which always precedes a period of evolution and new opportunity. Take advantage of the momentum in this period to rid yourself of the old and un-

wanted, but be sure to exercise good judgment. If there is something that has been hanging fire and is about to end, let it do so, but do not deliberately break ties or destroy relationships that have vitality and are still valuable. For the reasons mentioned, your mind is likely to become despondent and you will be easily discouraged. Remember you are being influenced by the quality of the period you are in and do not permit the pessimism you feel to warp your judgment or inhibit your decisions. The qualities of this period exert very subtle influences and it is necessary that you be much more alert than normal in appraising your feelings and your reactions to external influences. In the Fourth Period it is advisable to seize immediately upon your ideas or hunches and make quick decisions. Now the reverse is true. Impulsiveness will bring disaster. Be careful in all necessary judgments and postpone to the next period every decision possible. However, this is a good period for dealing with older people and those who by their nature or position must consider each action most carefully. It is also an excellent time for inventing things or dealing in inventions or for applying for patents or copyrights. Now you will have success in dealing in real estate, mines, minerals and all things deeply seated in the earth or in hidden places. On the other hand, it is definitely the least favorable time of your year to start anything new or launch a new business or to make new expenditures in an old one.

To a certain degree the influences of each period will overlap the one before and after it. Thus it is advisable to be careful in all judgments and actions on the last two and the first two days of each period.

If you would like to make a quick check on the reliability of the foregoing information, find the dates of your seventh period and check back over what occurred between these dates each year for the last ten or fifteen years. I am sure you will discover that your worst frustrations, disappointments and "bad luck" happened then. Try it.

Your life cycle is divided into seven-year periods and we call this your major cycle, or cycle number one. Each year likewise is

divided into seven periods, each of fifty-two days, and this is called cycle number two. We are assigning numbers to the cycles because there are a great many. We will treat with only two more, the business cycle, which we will call cycle three, and the health cycle, which we will call cycle four. This is all we have space to describe and, in fact, all that the average person normally cares to study. However, the Rosicrucians have made a thorough study of cycles and have experimented with them over many hundreds of years and they willingly teach their students all they know. These additional cycles take the influence of the moon into consideration and cover the long lunar cycle of twenty-eight days and how it breaks down into three and one-half day periods, each with its own quality and influence. Then there is the short lunar cycle of twelve hours, which in turn breaks down into four three-hour periods. Each period, short and long, exerts positive and negative influences of certain types which affect us, our lives, our business affairs, plants, the tides, fish, animals, sex, mental attitudes and in fact, everything. This study is about as involved as that of business bookkeeping, but a good student can become proficient in about six months. He can then describe with accuracy all of the aiding or hindering influences which are present at each hour of the day, week or month, and recommend the best course of action.

The Business Cycle

Everything has its own cycle of existence, marked off by periods of definite duration. This cycle starts on the day when the person or object or plan or association or business comes into existence. It is important, therefore, when considering the cycle of a business, that you know the day the business started. With an incorporated business this normally would be the day on which the articles of incorporation or charter were granted. A partnership would date its inception from the day the agreement was signed. However, there are many businesses where the starting date is not so obvious. Do not make the mistake of assuming that the tax year or the