The great weakness in our art of today lies in the fact that it does not disclose concrete proportion of the right type. When we compare our design with that of the past, we find it weak where the old work was strong. The most characteristic element of the design of the past is the bonding or knitting together of composing units. This was due to the use of symmetry, but we of today must turn to the Greek for the correct meaning of the word. To the classic designer of the past it meant simply the relation of the part to the whole. The relation of a man's hand length to his stature would be an example of symmetry. The height of a column compared to the height or width of an abacus, or column and entablature relationship, or both of these to the building as a whole, would be spoken of by the Greek as symmetry.

But there is something more to symmetry than interrelationship of parts. There is the design conception as a whole. This is the dominating symmetry factor. When this is fixed, everything else depends upon it. The design history of the past shows us that artists have fixed this dominating symmetry in at least two ways: one way by the use of the regular figures of geometry, such as the square and the equilateral triangle, or by lengths of line determined by some measuring unit; the other by employing areas possessing peculiar properties of measurableness.

Through the invaluable contribution of the late Jay Hambidge, considered by the London Times the most significant art contribution to the world in 2000 years, we have recovered the entire fabric of ancient design planning methods. This type of symmetry has been named Dynamic Symmetry—a law for proportioning the elements of design used by the Ancient Greeks and Egyptians.

Civilization has been searching for these so-called "lost secrets" of Egyptian and Greek design for more than two thousand years, but with little success. That America is dawning on a new day of art is apparent, for following a great period of commercial expansion and a World War, we parallel ancient Greece, at the beginning of the Periclean Period.

The world in recent times has been going through a formative state. It is not barbaric, because civilization is too sophisticated. It is not decadent, because there has been nothing to decay. Decadent periods always follow those of full fruition. There has been no design period of full or ripe fruit since that of the Gothic. That was 400 years ago, but today artists who are already using Dynamic Symmetry are actually creating new design, reflecting our own life and times.

The underlying principles of Dynamic Symmetry are to be found in the architec-
Preface: In its search for truth the world, in travail, looks forward and tries to fortify itself by the experiences and attainments of all the epochs of the past. At present, in the literature of many nations, there has been brought to light an ancient legend about a miraculous stone, the possession of which is said to be the guarantee of the power and possibilities destined to humanity. Undoubtedly, our readers will be deeply interested to acquaint themselves with the fragments of the legends in which is mentioned the miraculous stone.

LEGEND

Some Prophecies From the East

When above the chalice the flame shall coil in a ring, then My time approaches. From thee, City of the World, I take the victory of the stone. To my land I restore the fire, for the time is come.

On the Island of Lanka lieth the stone, hidden because of the treachery of Ravanna. It will depart over the sea. In its wake, as the tail of the comet, happiness is still alabaster, but not for long.

Let the hundred steps of China greet the flamebearer. But Passedvan bears away the stone. And the sands transmit the fire, for the time is come.

Through the desert I come—I bring the chalice covered by the shield. Within it is a treasure—the gift of Orion. O thou flamebearer, remember Lab-Nor and spread thy tents—Kuku-Nor—the steed hastens.

And in the temple of Judaea, the flamebearer tarried not. And with Passedvan it left behind the ruins of China. Reach not for the stone, Lun, it will come of itself if thou knowest how to await it.

But by treason the servants of the temple unwarmed the stone from the Ruler of India to exalt a foreign land. Let the mountain of Pride conceal the stone for a while. Let the new conqueror guard the treasure. Let the City of the Stone be glorified. But the path of the treasure is ordained. It is time for the stone to return to its home.

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When above the chalice the flame shall coil in a ring, then My time approaches.
I am learning the prayer: Forsake me not, My Lord, I have gathered all my strength. Forsake me not, for I come unto Thee.

On Mount Ararat lies the fiery stone. A knight of Novgorod killed himself over the stone because of unbelief. The great freedom of Novgorod proves the possession of the treasure, but heresy diverted the fulfillment of the miracle.

The best relic of the power of the stone is symbolized by the serpent’s stone—token of a wise possession.

The follower of night sought to regain possession of the stone. But the treasure was ever the token of Light. Not for long did sly rulers possess the stone, being unaware that striving for right alone can rule the fire of the stone.

Uroil Zena, spirit of the air, bore to King Solomon the stone. Proclaimed the priest into the receptive ear: “By the will of the Lord of Powers I entrust unto thee the treasure of the world.” “So be it,” said the King, and carried the stone into the Temple. And all that night possessed him to carry part of the treasure on his person. Then the King summoned Ephraim, the goldsmith of the tribe of Judah, and bid him receive from Tazlavoo the dark stone containing the crystal of life. And over the Temple. But the thought possessed him to carry part of the treasure on his person.

The ruler Kurnovoo, laden with gold, received from Taxlaven the dark stone containing the crystal of life. And over the gold the Ruler wore the stone.

Out of the book of Tristan called Lun: “When the Son of the Sun descended upon earth to teach mankind, there fell from heaven a shield which bore the power of the world. In the center of the shield between the three distinct marks, were signs of silver predicting events under the rays of the sun. The sudden darkening of the sun threw into despair the Sun of the Sun and he dropped and shattered the shield. For ominous was the constellation. But the power remained in the central fragment—there, touched the ray of the sun. It is said that King Solomon severed the central portion of the stone for his ring. The legend of our priests also tells of the shattered shield of the Sun. It is a most grievous error to deny the stone. Verily, I myself have seen this fragment of the world—I recall its shape-length of my little finger-gray luster like a dried fruit. Even the signs I remember, but did not understand them. Truly, I had in my possession the stone, and I shall find it. It is said the stone comes of itself; it cannot be taken. If so, I shall await it. For its sake I shall take myself to the desert, unto the end of my days.”

When the Emperor of China possessed the treasure of the sun, he erected for it a temple of the color of the azure sky. When the little princes with the bride peered behind the door for a long time, the Emperor said: “The fox is leading you. You feel the joy of the world.”

Remember the iron crown of the Long-bards; that, too, is a trace of the stone. Not long did the stone rest near the mountain of Pride. Many are the envoys from the East. The camel brings the stone to Tibet. Across the desert they carry it and with it a new power. And its last flight to the west lighted up an unheard-of kingdom of an unsuccessful union of western nations. In each ray of the East they already seek the stone. The time will come, the dates shall be fulfilled. Designated is the ordained way, when of itself the stone will come from the East.

Tibet and the new country shall go forth to meet the seven stars under the sign of the East. Prepared is the treasure and the enemy will not take the shield covered with gold.

Time will come, the dates shall be fulfilled. Designated is the ordained way, when of itself the stone will come from the East. Tibet and the new country shall go forth to meet the seven stars under the sign of the East. Prepared is the treasure and the enemy will not take the shield covered with gold. Awaits the stone!

There is nothing truly valuable which can be purchased without pains and labor.

Keep before thee the idea of what thou wouldst attain. Thy steadfast thought will be a prayer and prophesy working out its own fulfillment.

THE GLORIOUS SONG OF OLD

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold,
"Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
From heaven’s all-gracious King—"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the gloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O’er all the weary world;
Above it’s sad and lonely plains
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er its Babel-sounds
The blessed angels sing.

But with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong.
And man at war with man hears not
The love-song which they bring;
Oh hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

And ye beneath life’s crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Whose forms are bending low,
Whose forms are bending low,
With painful steps and slow,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on
By prophet-bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Come round the age of gold,
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendor bring,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

EDMUND H. SEARS.