

preventing development. Thus instead of the accomplished individual type which man had been some centuries ago, there developed instead a being uprooted from the soil, unfit for life, and a stranger to all normal conditions of life. Due to his one-sided education, the life of modern man is not the conscious expression of his Being as a complete whole, but only consists of automatic reflexes of fragments of his Being.

#### THE THREE CENTERS OF THE MIND

The mind of the modern man is split into three independent parts, which were united in ancient times. These are the intellectual, emotional, and physical centers. A really conscious perception or action can only result from the simultaneous, coordinated function of these centers. But in modern man the centers travel different roads which rarely meet, preventing really conscious behavior. In fact, a modern man consists of three different men in a single

received from the environment (conditioning.)

#### MECHANICAL MAN

Most people today give priority to the "waking state". In such people, the processes of imagination, memory, judgement, reasoning, and thinking become automatic crystallizations of his conditioning, or a review of his recorded accidental and involuntary impressions in various combinations. These combinations are formed by chance shocks which mobilize a group of recorded impressions, which then becomes the center of associations. Each shock evokes a new association, train of thought, feeling, action, etc. In this process, this center can add nothing new, or draw on the material of other centers. The world perception of such a person is always one-sided, and as a result, necessarily erroneous.

#### HARMONIOUS EDUCATION

Because of this predicament of modern man, the first task necessary for his education is to develop in each of the three

G. Gurdjieff" aims at the discovery of these new faculties, which are essential for responsible and relatively normal life. The program includes a special type of work tailored to each person--- for centers which are overdeveloped or retarded, medical problems, and theoretical studies in Western science and ancient Asiatic knowledge. The work assists the development of the hidden potential of man, and correct processes of thought and action. The students attend three classes, and are then initiated into the full system of Gurdjieff's theory, which integrates the discoveries of the "Seekers of Truth" and his own researches on "objective truth". The Institute also contained numerous laboratories, so that the theoretical principles could be independently verified by the students in their own scientific experiments, instead of simply being accepted in faith.

A Gurdjieff group meets Thursdays at 8:20 pm at 724 California Street in Santa Cruz.

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