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THE WORK OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Every now and then it's necessary to go back to basics. For example, a baseball player mired in a hitting slump may be advised by the coach to modify his stance in the batter's box; in football, a defensive lineman may occasionally find he needs to improve his blocking technique; a political party may be compelled to revisit its guiding principles after a stinging defeat at the ballot box; even a virtuoso violinist may sometimes practice long tones while checking for proper intonation. Similarly, members of the Theosophical Society benefit by periodical reflection on the Society's purpose and mission in the world.

The Theosophist is often asked what practical good the Theosophical Society is doing in and for the world, and the answer is simple enough and direct to the point of the question. We work with ideas, and we try to show men that there is nothing more practical, stronger and more forceful than an idea. Ideas shake civilizations and over-throw them. Look what has happened in the past. What brought such changes about? Ideas. . . .

Show me something more practical than an idea. If ideas overthrow civilizations, they also build them up. The whole work of the Theosophical Society is to fill the minds and hearts men with ideals of grandeur, inspiring them to ever nobler, more unselfish, and altruistic objectives; to give men and women thoughts that they can live and die by. Show me something more practical than this. This is our main work. (*Messages to Conventions and Other Writings*)

Dr. G. de Purucker was a deep student of *The Secret Doctrine* and the author of several outstanding books on Theosophy. Although he wrote these words nearly seventy years ago, his message is just as vital and relevant today as it was then.

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