

A SALESMAN

Edwin Warren - age 55; race, English; education, H. S.; occupation, salesman; civil condition, married; church, Methodist.

Introduction

Edwin Warren has spent most of the past three years in this hospital. He was brought here first as a result of going to the police station in a highly excited condition to report a case of graft in the police department in the matter of prohibition enforcement. He also stated that he was to speak that night in Hibernian Hall for Mayor O'Hara. He was so obviously abnormal that he was sent to the hospital for observation.

Personal History

Very little is known about this man's early history. He has steadily refused to give any information himself. His employer knows only that he has a wife living in Pennsylvania and that he accuses her of infidelity and of seeking to have him locked up in an institution.

He is a man of good intelligence and has apparently had a good social background. In his disturbed conditions he talks of his father as a Methodist minister. He also claims to have held some good positions. His record as a salesman is certainly excellent. He is an aggressive, self-confident, out-going person with remarkable physical endowment. He is five feet six inches in height and weighs 190 lbs., with enormous chest, broad shoulders and heavy muscles. During his disturbed periods he talks of having been a professional wrestler and he looks the part. Temperamentally he is cheerful, sociable and co-operative.

It is probably that he has been an inmate of some other hospital before coming here.

Behavior in the Hospital

During most of his stay in this hospital this man has been friendly, co-operative, industrious and efficient. In his normal periods he holds a responsible position in the hospital laundry, he takes an active part in the institutional activities and is especially interested and proficient in such games as checkers and chess. Since he was first admitted he has been released three times, but in each case he remained out only a short time before he had to be brought back. The report was always the same. He had made a remarkable record as a salesman, but he soon became so over-active that there was no living with him.

In the disturbed periods he is extremely over-active, extremely self-important, extremely talkative. He is concerned with the external world and is alive to all that goes on around him. There is no impairment of memory or of orientation. His speech is coherent, though perhaps with some tendency toward flight of ideas, and his answers are relevant whenever he gives one a chance to ask a question. His mood is expansive, good-natured, euphoric, often playful, but subject to violent outbursts of irritability and anger. The disturbed periods last usually from three to five weeks. He then quiets down. Sometimes he goes thru a slight spell of depression before he becomes normal again. The content of thought during the disturbed period has been each time much the same. On admission he was very abusive toward the policeman who brought him in. He said they were grafters who protected a group of dope-fiends and run-runners. He wanted to demonstrate his physical strength. He claimed that his name was not Warren but Henry E. Smith, that he was an unfrocked Catholic priest who had assumed a disguise in order to get the goods on the Catholics. In fact he was the chief of the U. S. Secret Service. He was at one time in the service of the German government, having assumed his duties there in order to serve his own country as a detective. He came to this hospital in the

capacity of a detective. He has much to say about secret orders, especially the Masons and the K. K. K. When brought before staff, at the time of his first admission, he did not wait to be questioned but proceeded at once to question the staff. He was particularly delighted to salute the examining physician as a fellow Klansman. He wrote a poem which he dedicated to the superintendent and to the ward physician and read it with zeal and enthusiasm to any and all who would listen. In each succeeding disturbance the same ideas have reappeared. He has much to say about the Klan and the Masons and the Secret Service. He continues to speak of himself as an unfrocked Catholic priest. He asserts that he is really a very different person from what he has seemed to be. To these ideas he has added a tremendous interest in the Mayan civilization, whose representative he considers himself to be. At all times he is intent upon impressing others with his own importance. At no time in any of his disturbed periods has he given evidence of sex perversions or even of any great interest in sex.

The following poem is a fair sample of his literary activities during his disturbed periods:

WORCESTER, CITY BY AN INLAND SEA

Worcester, City by an inland sea,
Great thy history of yesterday,
But greater still it is to be.
This a prophesy I say,
Yea, a prophesy to thee.

A city whose height and depth
And its angled square,
Its breadth and its width
Are all written here
In burnished script of gold.

I hear the whippoorwill afar,
I hear the cricket in the grass,
I see the lone Pole Star
Gleaming o'er the world's morass
Of earth and troubled sea.

And its altars shall be a shrine
For the children of the earth,
And love that is thine
Shall see a faith
That shall never fail.

Winged messengers by day and night
Shall cleave thy azure skies;
And the eagle in its flight
O'er earth that never dies
Shall wing its course to thee.

I see hosts of heaven at thy door,
I see the redeemed of earth and sea,
And earth's night no more
For it is soon to be
Cast into Hell.

I see a city rise from earth,
I see a day whose light is near,
I see a land whose mighty breath
Kingdoms afar shall fear,
Whene'er it breaketh thru.

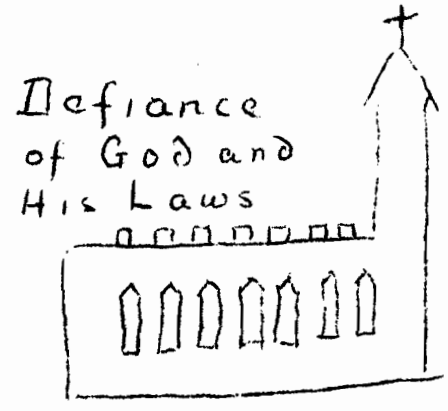
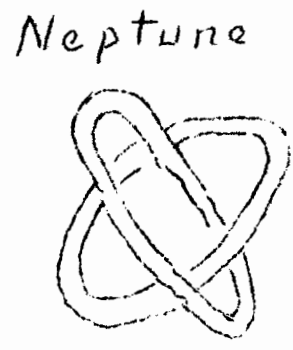
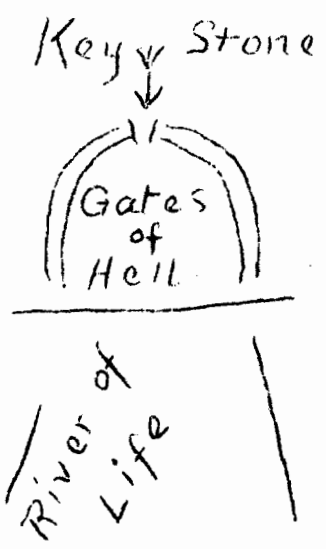
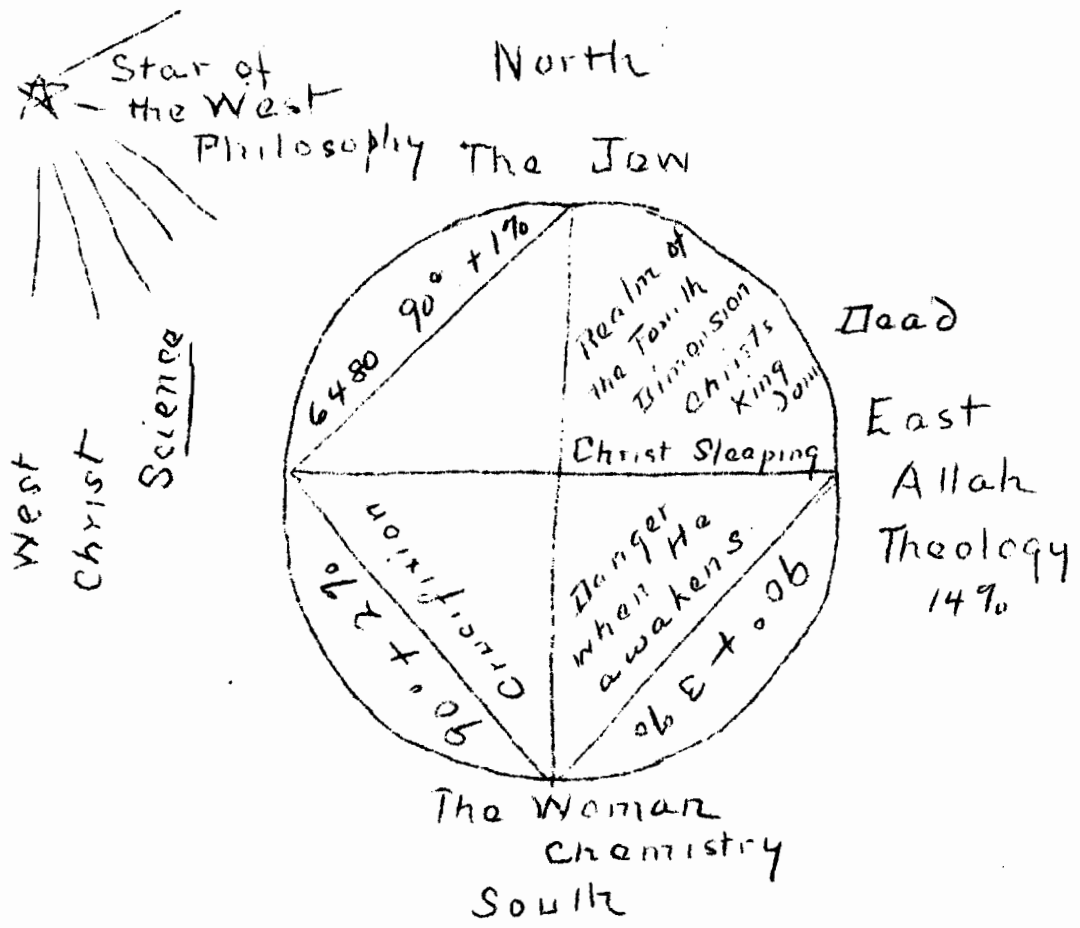
It was, is not, but is to be,
Its square the double of four.
Open thy eyes and see,
E'er thou be no more
And cast into eternity.

Edwin Wesley Warren
July 4th, 1929
Room 21, Salisbury 2
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NOTE. Those who are familiar with Worcester State Hospital will recognize Salisbury 2 as the ward for disturbed and unmanageable patients. This poem was then written during a disturbed period. He makes no such attempts in his normal periods.

EDWIN WARREN

During his excited periods it has been necessary to keep him locked up in a room by himself. At such times he occupies himself by writing and drawing on the walls. Here are some samples of his inscriptions:



The Seven Churches and the Snake