

George E. Lee

IT doesn't seem quite fair. George E. Lee of Pasadena has written encouraging letters to the News editor now and then, always kind, always very welcome. Not long ago he said he hoped we would come out and see him. Now we are ready to



go to California but George E. Lee didn't wait. On May 2nd he slipped away and a simple service was said for him at the Church of the New Jerusalem (Swendenborgian).

At a time like this it is nice to have a letter file, and so instead of expressing grief we decided to see if he had ever written anything to us regarding his views of the hereafter.

We found this wise direction dated July 5, 1952:

"Hold fast to that 'sacred sanity' of yours. Free will, free thought and free choice are God-given instruments, by the use of which man becomes human—the end product of God's handiwork. Swendenborg says something like this, The end purpose of the Divine Will is a heaven from the human race. Man is not born human, he becomes human.

"Except a man be born again he cannot enter the kingdom of heaven,' said Jesus. He also said, 'Behold I stand at the door and knock, if any man will open the door I will come in.' Note how the capacities of free will, free thought and free choice are respected, that is, protected. I have used the term 'human' meaning a state, or quality of life. Humans are those who have attained angelhood, and I do not think it is always necessary that a person must be removed from this natural plane of existence before he can attain the state of angelhood. I think Henry George is an example. I might modify that some and say 'a state,' instead of 'the state.' Of course I think that now he is living in 'the state' of angelhood.

"Through the conscious and subconscious we are in communication with the spiritual world every instant. We are a part of it. Death is an orderly thing. It is only the earthly side of one event—to the spiritual side it is resurrection."

He was a wonderful teacher and took great interest in his pupils, always wishing more of the younger people would become interested. I have some "humdinger" students, he wrote in January, 1953.