UPON THE APPEARANCE OF THE SECOND GENERATION OF MAN --
- AND THUS HIS SEPARATION FROM A DIRECT CONTACT WITH CREATION --
HIS MIND BEGAN THE HAZY DREAMS OF METAPHOR
TO REPLACE THAT NOW PHYSICALLY LOST.

THE EVERYDAY FUEL THAT RUNS MAN-THE-COLLECTIVE
IS, BY THE PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THE NUMBERS INVOLVED,
SO DILUTED WHEN IT REACHES THE INDIVIDUAL,
AS TO BE OF LITTLE EXTRAORDINARY USE.

ONCE THE SIMPLE ARE MATURE, AND CAN DEAL ELOQUENTLY IN CLICHES
THEY BEGIN TO ENTERTAIN ONE ANOTHER WITH VERBAL HAND SHADOWS
WHICH ARE ACCEPTED TO BE THE BEST POSSIBLE IN WAY OF INFORMATION,
EDUCATION, AND ADVICE.

EVERY DAY FOR THE LAST YEAR OR SO,
ONE MAN HAS FOUND THE WORD, "CARIBBEAN" ETCHED IN ALL THE ICE CUBES
IN HIS REFRIGERATOR;
HE SAYS THAT ALTHOUGH THIS IS STRANGE
IT IS NOT AS STRANGE AS THE FACT THAT MANY OF HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE
STILL AWED BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND ATTEND CHURCH.

THE PRIMARY GLUE THAT HOLDS MEN TOGETHER
LATER, (AS THEY BECOME CIVILIZED),
COMES OUT AS A SECONDARY FORCE THAT MAKES THEM REFUTE THE ORIGINAL ONE.

* * *

HOW CAN YOU IDENTIFY AN UP-TO-DATE, SOPHISTICATED MAN FROM A
BEHIND-THE-TIMES, HICK?
ANSWER: THE FORMER IS NOW HIP ENOUGH TO DENY HIS KINSHIP TO THE LATTER.

* * *

MEN LOVE TO RECOUNT THE TRUISM: "YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN",
FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT THEY DON'T <u>WANT</u> TO.

* * *

MEN ARE BORN WITH A HEART OF STEEL AND A MIND OF JELLY --
-- MYSTICS ATTEMPT A KIND OF..."RE-ARRANGEMENT" OF THE SITUATION.

WHILE BROWSING THROUGH A LITERARY THESARUS,
A MAN FOUND A SECTION OF QUATATIONS ENTITLED:
"THE WIT & WISDOM OF FAMOUS PEOPLE",
BUT WHEN HE LOOKED FOR A SIMILAR COLLECTION FROM NON-FAMOUS PEOPLE,
HE FOUND NONE! --
AND WONDERED WHY!
.....(BUT HE KNEW WHY.)

ANYONE WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE CONNECTION BETWEEN A MYSTIC AND AN OUTLAW
HAS NEVER BEEN EITHER.

* * *

...OH, BY THE WAY,
WE WERE JUST CONTACTED BY A GROUP CALLING ITSELF, THE MYSTIC'S LOBBY,
WHO SAID THAT IF WE DIDN'T STOP REFERNING TO THEM SO OFTEN AND CAUSUALLY
ON OUR SHOW THAT THEY'D HAVE TO "DIS-BAND" AGAIN! --
AND, (USING YOUR NAME), I FAXED THEM BACK AND SAID THAT THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY NOT
THE REAL MYSTICS, OR ELSE THEY WOULDN'T ADDED THE WORD, "AGAIN".

* * *

A VIEWER WRITES:
"AFTER EXPERIENCING THE ALTERNATE MENTAL STATES THAT RESULTED FROM WATCHING YOUR SHOW,
I'VE DECIDED THAT, (AFTER ALL), I AM HAPPIEST IN A MILD COMA.
SO -- SORRY, BUT I WON'T BE TUNNING IN ON YOU ON A REGULAR BASIS ANY MORE.
YOURS", ETC.

MOST PEOPLE, "THINK",(IN QUOTATION MARKS),
IN A VAGUE, UNCERTAIN MANNER
THROUGH BEING PLUGGED INTO WHAT THE COLLECTIVE IS THINKING.

ANOTHER VIEWER WRITES:
"HEARING YOUR COMMENTS SOME TIMES,
MAKES ME SO HAPPY AND TINGLY THAT I CAN'T HARDLY STAND IT --
THEN AT OTHER TIMES, IT ALL KIND OF ANNOYS ME.
SINCERELY", ETC.

THE STREET CORNER SPEAKER DECLARED:
"BASED UPON MY MANY YEARS OF BOTH ACADEMIC TRAINING,
AND MY OWN PERSONAL, 'IN-THE-FIELD' OBSERVATIONS,
I HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT ALL OF MANKIND CAN BE GROUPED INTO
THREE BASIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL ARCHTYPES: THE PRIEST, THE POLITICIAN & THE PLEBEIAN.
AND A VOICE IN THE CROWD CALLED OUT: "HOW ABOUT JOCKS & MYSTICS?",
AND THE SPEAKER REPLIED: "AND WHICH OF ALL THESE, MAY WE ASK SIR, ARE YOU?",
AND THE VOICE SHOUTED BACK: "OH, I'M JUST A SANITATION WORKER FOR THE CITY,
BUT WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES THAT MAKE?",
AND THE SPEAKER REPLIED: "WELL, NONE ACTUALLY, BUT I WAS JUST STALLING FOR TIME.
AND A PORTION OF THE ASSEMBLED WAS SOMEWHAT IMPRESSED, AT LEAST, BY HIS HONESTY.

YOU SEE, (PICNINCERS),
THE PROBLEM WITH MENTAL CLASSIFICATIONS IS THAT THEY'RE ALWAYS CANNIBALISTIC,
AND MEN HAVE NEVER LEARNED TO EXPECT AND TAKE-INTO-ACCOUNT THIS CERTAINTY.

* * *

QUESTION: WHAT'S WORSE THAN, "CLOSED SYSTEMS"?
ANSWER: CLOSED MINDS.
QUESTION: BUT THERE'S NOTHING "WRONG" WITH CLOSED SYSTEMS -- WE LIVE IN ONE.
ANSWER: YEAH, BUT MOST OF YOU ALSO LIVE IN A CLOSED MIND.
QUESTION: YEAH....WELL...WELL...OKAY THEN....AHH.....AHH.....

TRADITION RE-OBSERVED

A REAL MYSTIC HAS BUT ONE ON-GOING RITUAL --- NEVER STOPPING.

* * *

TO BE NORMALLY, NEURAL-DRIVEN IS TO THINK A LOT ABOUT "WHAT TO DO NEXT",
AT AT LEAST TO SOME EXPENSE TO, "DOING SOMETHING".

* * *

"DADDY?",
"YES SON?"
"IS IT POSSIBLE TO BE, 'CIVILIZED', AND BE INERT?",
"COIRTAINLY, MY BOY."
"ARE WE SPEAKING HERE, PHYSICALLY, OR MENTALLY?"
"EITHER WAY YOU WANT IT, LITTLE-NIPPER-OF-MINE."

* * *

"On-The-Edge" Adage Update

The reason you "can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear"
Is because everything <u>is</u> a sow's ear.

(P.S., Percival -- this is why the town's people won't turn and look
reality dead in the ole eye socket.)

* * *

A viewer writes:
"In the attempt to extend one's mind transcendentally,
What becomes the difference between: Can't do something, and,
Won't do something?
In fact, (may I ask),
Would these two words even be in a mystic's, 'thinking vocabulary'!?
Truly Yours", etc.

* * *

By the by: An Update to an earlier update covered last week.
Regarding the ultimate fate of fables:
(Latest Version): When the animals ate Aesop, they threw away the key....or,
Is that: "They broke the mold"!?....no, I guess it's: Threw away the key.

* * *

H.T.C.W: How Things COULD Work

While grasping for what to think & say next,
One man paused and said: "May I refer to my notes?",
And his notes said: "Ahhh - get outta here!"

* * *

AN OBSERVER AND STUDENT OF SUCH MATTERS,
ONE DAY SUDDENLY ASKED HIMSELF: "WHY DON'T MYSTICS EVER, 'CALL HOME'!?"

* * *

ON A PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS CURVE,
ON A CERTAIN INTERGALACTIC INTERSTATE,
AFTER A TRACTOR-TRAILER LOAD OF KARMA HAD OVER-TURNED,
A TRANSCENDENTAL WARRIOR RIDDING BY THOUGHT:
"I'M NOT SURE HOW MUCH MORE OF THIS I CAN STAND! --
WHAT WITH HAVING EVEN MORE FUN IN THIS LIFE TIME THAN I AM IN THE NEXT!"

* * *

AND THAT PREVIOUSLY NOTED, "OBSERVER AND STUDENT OF SUCH MATTERS",
SUDDENLY SAID TO HIMSELF:
"AH! -- BETTER THAN WONDERING WHY MYSTICS NEVER CALL HOME
IS CONSIDERING WHY THEY DON'T HAVE CELLULAR PHONES!,
AND IT'S BECAUSE THEY ARE, 'CELLULAR FORMS OF COMMUNICATION'!"

* * *

GRAFITTI ON THE WALL OF ONE KNIGHT'S HORSE STALL

RATHER THAN TRYING TO "THINK THE BEST OF OTHER PEOPLE",
AND RATHER THAN TRYING TO "OVER-COME YOUR OWN PREJUDICED THOUGHTS
ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE",
AND RATHER THAN TRYING TO "THINK OF OTHER PEOPLE IN THE BEST POSSIBLE LIGHT",
WHY NOT OPERATE AT MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY AND JUST NOT THINK ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE!?

* * *

THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE GREAT NEURAL WARFARE
HAS YET TO BE WRIT
SINCE IT HAS YET TO BE COMPLETED...AND, COMPLETED....AND, COMPLETED....AND.....

* * *

THE GREATER VIEW OF MEN-COLLECTIVELY & MEN-INDIVIDUALLY: A POEM

MEN IN CROWDS -- DANCE AND DANCE,
MEN ALONE -- PLOT AND PLOT;
MEN IN CROWDS -- DANCE WITH WORDS,
MEN ALONE -- PLOT AND PLOT;
MEN IN CROWDS WANNA STAY IN CROWDS,
IS THIS EVER GONNA SAY ANYTHING ABOUT MYSTICS!?

* * *

A VIEWER WRITES:
"I USED TO WATCH YOUR SHOW, BUT I WENT OUT OF TOWN.
MY BROTHER USED TO WATCH, BUT HE WENT OUT OF HIS MIND."

* * *

ONLY REAL, REALLY COW-LIKE COWS! -- AND I MEAN LIKE
COWS WITH EVEN A GREATER ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER THAN IS NORMAL --
WILL AGRUE WITH THE HERD WHEN IT'S IN A NASTY MOOD.

- - -

(SIDE NOTE: FROM AN ALERT INDIVIDUAL'S VIEW,
"SHUTTING-UP" IS NOT THAT FAR REMOVED FROM THE
MYSTIC'S SOLE RITUAL OF, "NEVER STOPPING".)

* * *

TODAY'S PREPOSTEROUS POSTULATE

LIFE IS FAR TOO SIMPLE FOR THE SIMPLE TO EVER BE ALLOWED TO REALIZE IT.

* * *

AND FROM OUR HOME AUDIENCE COMES THIS LETTER:
"IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO ADVISE, 'VIEWER DISCRECTION' AS REGARDS YOUR SHOW,
FOR ANYONE WHO HAD ANY DISCRECTION WOULDN'T BE WATCHING IT ANY WAY.
YOURS", ETC.

* * *

THE CIVILIZED HAVE CEASED SLAYING ONE ANOTHER WITH WEAPONS,
AND NOW ATTEMPT TO DO SO WITH WORDS.

UNTIL: ALERTED, MYSTIFIED, AND THEN, LIBERATED,
ALL MEN WANT THEIR MOMMY,
ALL MEN DREAM OF GODS,
AND LONG FOR A PAST PARADISE THAT CAN NEVER AGAIN BE.
AND THUS DOES THIS FRUSTRATION DRIVE THEM FORWARD -- FOREVER ONWARD.

- - -

IT IS, IT IS,
IT'S HOW IT IS,
BUT NOT THE ONLY WAY.

* * *

COLLECTIVELY,
MEN SEEM TO HAVE THE ENVIORNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY OF EDUCATING EACH
SUCCEEDING GENERATION, THAT IS -- TO TIGHTEN UP THEIR
NATURALLY-BORN, "LOOSE, FLABBY MINDS".

OUT OF COMMON, DECENT CHARITY,
YOU MIGHT AT LEAST TAKE FLEETING NOTE OF THE FACT THAT THERE
AIN'T NOBODY JUST, "WAITIN' AROUND" TO HELP REAR A MYSTICALLY INCLINDED CHILD.
....(HUH! -- TO SAY NOTHING OF THE ADULT VARIETY!)

* * *

QUESTION: IS "BEING CIVILIZED" A BLESSING OR A CURSE?
WELL, IT CAN BE SEEN AS A CURSE -- BUT
ONLY AFTER YOU'RE BLESSED ENOUGH TO BE CIVILIZED.

* * *

A VIEWER WRITES:
"AFTER LISTENING TO YOU I AM NOT CLEAR ABOUT WHAT CONNECTION THERE IS BETWEEN 'BEING CIVILIZED', AND TRYING TO PURSUE THE MYSTICAL ADVENTURE.
...BUT COME TO THINK ABOUT IT,
I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT CONNECTION THERE IS BETWEEN BEING CIVILIZED,
AND BEING MYSELF, AS AN INDIVIDUAL."

* * *

WHEN FRIGHTENED BY LIGHTNING, COWS WILL BUNCH UP, CLOSE TOGETHER --
...(SAME AS DO HUMAN MINDS WHEN CONFRONTED WITH A FRESH TAKE ON REALITY.)

...AND FROM THEIR MASS VANTAGE POINT, THE COLLECTIVE SHOUTED BACK AT US:
"WHY DO YOU THINK THEY CALL US THE COLLECTIVE!?" --
-- WHY, INDEED.

* * *

MONKS "SHUT-UP" PUBLICLY -- MYSTICS, PRIVATELY.

THE ANSWER TO WHY PRIESTS, THE POLICE, AND BANKERS, (AMONG OTHERS),
DRESS IN A PARTICULAR UNIFORM: BECAUSE THEY EITHER: DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING
OR THEY'RE NOT ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN WHO THEY'RE WORKING FOR.

- - -

CIVILIZATION: THE FASHION COORDINATER:

IT OUTFITS YOUR FREEDOM WITH CHAINS,
IT ACCESORIZES YOUR DESIRES WITH FEARS,
AND PUTS THE "FINISHING TOUCH" TO YOUR LIFE WITH
DREAMS OF DEATH AND DEFEAT.

- - -

....(OF COURSE THE MAIN THING IT DOES INDIVIDUALLY IS
DRESS UP YOUR MIND -- PARDON ME!, DID I SAY "DRESS UP"!? --
HOW ABOUT, "SMOOTHER" YOUR MIND IN EVERYDAY THOUGHTS.)

- - -

NO WONDER THEN, SO OFTEN HAVE MYSTICS BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING,"SECRET NUDISTS"!

* * *