

PLANTING SEEDS FOR PROSPERITY AND PEACE

Article from the December 2008 Science of Mind Magazine by Linda Potter

An iconic figure in the New Thought movement, John Randolph Price is the co-founder with his wife, Jan, of the Quartus Foundation, and the visionary who, in 1986, launched World Healing Day, a New Year's Eve tradition that is observed by millions of people around the world.

The Abundance Book, now in its sixteenth printing, and its 40-Day Prosperity Plan have been studied in New Thought communities all over the world for more than twenty years. This enigmatic disciple of spiritual truth regularly attracts long lines at book signings and large, enthusiastic crowds at speaking events. In Boerne, Texas, where they make their home, the Prices continue to host an annual Mystery School that synthesizes ancient wisdom with practical spirituality.

Science of Mind *John, you and Jan offer so many different workshops and learning opportunities, it's hard to know where to begin. Would you share a little bit about your current workshop on the "natural order?"*

Price Let's ask the question: What is an uncomplicated life? For us, it's living without concern, without worry, without anxiety. It's living with freedom to move thought life with ease, regardless of what the situation or condition is at the present time. It's always having a surplus of money, loving relationships, and a sense of well-being. It's living in the energy of the natural order.

That natural order, of course, is really the universal Divine order. It's balance in every area of life. Once we move into that natural order, it becomes a completely different state of consciousness. To do that, we're going to have to build some wings. We can't fly in that universal natural order of things until we can condition consciousness. Number one is controlling our thoughts. You are what you think about all day long, so what are you thinking about? Consciousness is the key to life and we're working with the conditioning of consciousness.

World Healing Day has had a huge impact on promoting peace around the globe. How did you become involved in the peace movement?

In 1983, on a flight home from a workshop, I relaxed, put my chair back a little bit, and closed my eyes. Then I hear these words: "It is time for world service." It is not audible but it was so loud in my mind that it kind of shook me a little. I thought, now, what in the world is that? I thought we were already doing world service by writing. When we got home, Jan and I began meditating together every day, and we were given the idea for a world healing day that would begin at noon Greenwich Mean Time on December 31, 1986. So we went to work getting the word out.

This was the 1980s. How did you get the word out to people all over the world without computers or email?

We just began crisscrossing the country. We were gone every weekend talking about World Healing Day. We put the word out that we were available to talk about this and

the invitations just flooded in: from New York, Boston, Florida, across the Midwest, California.

Then other organizations got behind it. The word just spread like wildfire. On December 31, 1986, arenas and stadiums all across the country were filled with people. Thousands showed up in Red Square in Moscow.

People everywhere were supporting the idea that we can have peace in this world if we put our minds together and just feel peace. I wrote the World Healing Meditation to (support the gatherings). But I told people, "If this doesn't fit your mind or your belief system, just gather together and love. We can't have peace without love, so let's go for it."

The Los Angeles Times said we had somewhere between 150 and 300 million people participate, but the final count from a computer company in Los Angeles showed that we had over 500 million people. They were all there at one moment in time think peace.

The Associated Press called and asked, "How you did your do this without us—without media involvement?" It was the moment in time when an idea had come to be expressed.

What did it feel like to see the seeds of peace you planted back in 1983 blossom into an event of global proportions?

For us it was a dream come true. Look at what happened. The Soviet Union broke up the Berlin Wall fell, the peace treaty was signed Central America...so many things that it was just incredible. The Institute of Peace in Stockholm sent out a memorandum to the United Nations saying that never in the past 50 years had there been such a lull in conflicts in the world. That was 1987. We saw back then that when we get behind a project and work together, things can definitely happen. Spirit has its way with us, and thank goodness it does.

Now, 24 years later, World Healing Day is still going strong. Have you been able to keep up with how it has grown and evolved over time?

We don't have any idea how many people have participated over the years, but each fall we alert people that it's coming up again. We have wonderful feedback from churches and organizations all over the world. We got a letter from a man in Rome who said, "You people over there have your Super Bowl where everyone comes together at one time to watch the football in America; our 'Super Bowl' is the World Healing Meditation at noon Greenwich Mean Time on December 31." That just thrilled me.

It all came from that little voice that said, "It's time for world service." People all over the world are getting that still small voice, giving them ideas, new formulas, techniques, procedures, processes to help open people's hearts.

Even if people don't associate you with World Healing Day, they definitely know you as the author of the famous "little green book." The Abundance Book has, for many people, been the gold standard in prosperity program. How did you come up with the 40-Day Prosperity Plan?

I was in advertising and public relations and I had my own organization. It was a tough time in my life. I felt guided to do some research to find people who were living in the natural order—I didn't call it that back then, however—who were living a whole and complete life. That led to the writing of *The Superbeings*. As soon as *Superbeings* was published, we sent out flyers to more than 40,000 people. The number of orders that came in was unbelievable. The phone rang off the wall. The only choice I had was to close down my company and make the decision to devote the rest of my life to spiritual communication.

A couple of weeks after we did that, Jan said, "What are we going to do for money? We still have all these leases on office space and equipment and we're using what we have to reprint the books." I said, "Well, Spirit will provide." Then I thought, no, Spirit has *already* provided. Consciousness out-pictures as everything, and my consciousness was not really geared to a lot of abundance coming in at that point.

I did a lot of meditating and praying, and one night I had a dream. In this dream a man came to me, walked up to the bed where I was lying, put his hand on my shoulder and said, "John, if you would only love more, every limitation in your life would vanish." I told Jan about it and she said, "Okay, let's start loving."

We began to love *everything*. We loved the refrigerator, the furniture, and the cars. We just loved, loved, loved. Then, at one point she said, "I think we also need to go within and pour a lot of love into that Divine Presence within us." So we began to pour that love in, and over a period of time love brought about a greater consciousness of the Source. We became conscious of our souls, which caused more abundance to appear as visible supply, which then led to the development of the 40-Day Prosperity Plan and *The Abundance Book*.

What I was really doing was telling people that, no, this is not a book on how to make money. This is a process to change consciousness. When you get in tune with your Source, your conscious awareness of Source allows you to become the open channel through which creative energy flows, to manifest as money and every other good thing in your life.

Several years after *The Abundance Book* came out, Jan and I were in San Diego for a book signing when a woman handed me the little green book with a rubber band wrapped around it—it was falling apart—and said, "Would you autograph this?" I said; "Please let me get you a new one." She got a horrified expression on her face, backed up and said, "NO! It's my energy in there and I'm on day 300 now. Let me tell you what has happened. On the 38th day I got a raise. On the 50th day I got a promotion. By the 100th day I'd paid off my mortgage. Then on day 190 I was given new cars. I'll be a millionaire by the end of this year."

When she left, I turned to Jan and said, "Let's buy another copy of that book. I've got to go back and work with the 40-Day Prosperity Plan again."

What do you feel is your legacy for the New Thought movement? What do you want to be remembered for?

Perhaps World Healing Day and eighteen published books are part of our legacy. Jan and I have also given hundreds of workshops over the years, including our annual Mystery School. I've published more than 300 Quartus Reports, and, through the

umbrella of the Quartus Foundation, I think we've created awareness of the New Thought churches.

We recommend that people get off their duffs and go to church in addition to participating with us in this platform for a free exchange of ideas. Our idea is to be inclusive, no exclusive. We don't want Quartus to stand out there all by itself. We want to be a part of the rhythm, a part of the vibration of New Thought. If we are going to change our lives and return to the natural order, our first step is to take a close look at the greatest philosophical movement the world has ever known—the New Thought movement. It's been a privilege, a pleasure, and an honor to be a part of the process.

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