

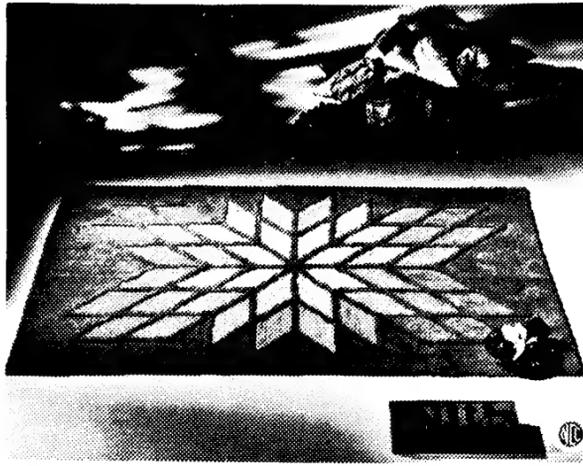
**MIRROR MEDITATION**  
By EMMITT L. BRINSON

Faith; This word has been defined by many over the ages, and has been used in every possible fashion by the masses, and it works in many ways for the individual.

Webster defines it as; "belief, trust, confide in. The assent of the mind to truth of what is declared by another, resting on veracity without other evidence. On firm and earnest belief, on probable evidence."

Confronted by the skeptic he questions that it would never move mountains. Analyzed; hardly any one today would believe one could wave his hand at the mountain and it would disappear.

I would rather believe that if it could be done, God could do it, but let us review what Paul said about faith. Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence



**MEDITERRANEAN INFLUENCE**—Bold in design and romantic in mood is this area rug by Callaway. Made in 100 per cent yarn dyed cotton cut pile, the rug has a star-burst, shield-like design overlay in an attractive range of colors—and it is machine washable.

of things not seen."

Having faith is to "believe", and to believe does not mean the evidence is yet there. Belief is then a sincere thought, not evidenced by fact.

Once cornered by a skeptic, and in listening to his reasoning, a different channel of thought occurred to me in order to combat his viewpoint. I am sure it is not new, but among certain associates I'm not so sure it would meet with approval. But I dare to be a non-conformist.

First of all, thought is creative and belief being thought, energy and action must follow. Substance is not thought, it is material. Faith then gives the substance to things hoped for. It initiates creative action or provides the means and tools to deliver the facts.

Faith is the forerunner of fact. Unless Paul had faith in what he visualized, he would never have accomplished what he did. So it is—with every one's life.

Faith, said the skeptic; "is wishful thinking." Just to wish without affirmative action is as the skeptic states. But, when one wishes—and acts on belief, the action is powerful. It creates within the individual many channels of ways and means in accomplishment toward whatever he might have faith in.

"If you had the faith of grain of mustard seed." Now we know a mustard seed does not have faith. But, the substance containing the endowed Creative Power which causes it to grow into a hugh plant explains that it takes hold of the helpful elements and environments and transforms itself into a mustard plant.

Man, too, with his faith can likewise call on his creative endowments to do anything. He believes he can build a house. He gives substance to his faith and builds the house as he visualized. So it is with every thing man has accomplished.

The poet, the artist, the musician, the engineer, the scientist, or in every vocation that could be thought of, one sees his ideas as a finished product. First the dream, the thought, the wish, the faith, and then the action (substance) and the finished product will take place.

Anything the mind might imagine, given substance, it will conceive, and happen. But not at the wave of a magic wand by man. God has given him the ability to think, and creative

thought attaches the power of God.

So man with faith can move the mountain, but it requires substance. Faith, time and action will see it through. Faith is the mother of fact. Creative Faith, given substance produces evidence—or fact.

Grasping this truth, one realizes that without faith man long ago would have disappeared from the face of the earth, or would have remained in caves. In itself Faith will never be bound by knowledge, and it was man's Faith that has brought us to this present day, with the countless thousands of wonders about us, with knowledge and facts as we understand them, and it will be Faith that shall carry mankind into the future, with unbelievable wonders not yet dreamed of.

How very true: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

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**TOT TALK**

If it takes an apple a day to keep the doctor away, it's a wonder more New Bern teachers don't end up on the sick list.

Gone is the era when these fruit-loving public servants could expect one or more delicious winesaps each and every morning, come rain or come shine. Them kind of pupils ain't no more.

Back in the old days, kids weren't satisfied with bring-

ing apples regularly. They used to have "fruit showers" and on those occasions they loaded the teacher up with a big basket that included not only apples but oranges, bananas, grapes, and perhaps a tangerine or two.

You would think a youngster who can't add two and two, and is apt to fall his grade, would bring an apple to class now and then--just in self de-

(Continued on Page 5)

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