

THREE PHASES OF ENERGY: THE BASIS OF ORGANIC LIFE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649250936

Three phases of energy: the basis of organic life by Albert J. Atkins

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ALBERT J. ATKINS

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*Three Phases
of Energy*

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

The Basis of
ORGANIC LIFE

By
Albert J. Atkins, M. D.

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PRINTED BY
INGRIM-RUTLEDGE CO.
SAN FRANCISCO

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR
734 PINE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., U.S.A.

FOREWORD

The deductions here set forth are the result of many experiments on living animals under humane conditions of local anæsthesia. Unfortunately, the tabulated files of these experiments were burnt with the author's library in the great San Francisco fire of 1906. However, the scientific and lay press of that period gave them wide publicity.

During the many years which have intervened I have had time to formulate my ideas on this subject, and I now send them forth for what they are worth, with no hope of reward nor fear of punishment. Let every true student try them out for himself alone.

THE AUTHOR.

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THREE PHASES OF ENERGY
THE BASIS OF ORGANIC LIFE

A NEW CONCEPT

By Albert J. Atkins, M. D.

When traced to final conclusions, the life of man's organism is found to be dependent upon three primal sources of energy supply. One of these sources is the potential energy of food through the route of digestion. The second is an internal reserve supply of energy in the form of fine secretions manufactured by internal ductless glands and conveyed to venous blood by lymphatic vessels. The third condition is met and set in action by universal energy in the form of breath in the living lungs.

In keeping with this great triune plan of energy is found three main groups of organs displaying the phenomena of life in man's physical body as a result of energy from three sources.

Again we find these organs located in three greater cavities of the body. They are the thoracic cavity, the cavity of the

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skull and vertebrae, and the abdominal cavity.

The thoracic cavity contains the heart, the lungs, and the beginnings of the larger blood vessels, the latter permeating the whole structure, binding all organs into one great whole. The skull and vertebrae contain the brain and the beginnings of the larger nerves, which also follow the blood vessels into the most intricate parts of the living organism as threads of unity, causing it to be one great sensorium of activities. The abdominal cavity contains nearly all the organs concerned in digestion, such as the stomach, liver, and pancreas, the kidneys and many other secreting and excreting glands, the alimentary canal being its principal organ which binds its greater composite result to the rest of the organism from the viewpoint of energy.

Still further, it is found that these three greater groups of organs, lying in these cavities, are enclosed in separate membranous pouches or sacs. One of these is called the pleura and pericardium, it being a subdivided cavity containing the heart and lungs. The membranes cover-