

dwelling-house in a row with a front door on the street. At all the sittings Mrs. Sturrock said they supplied and used their own plates. "In every case we used a complete and sealed packet," Mrs. Sturrock added.

The method employed was in four stages, and at each of these it was desirable that not only the plates but the actions of the mediums should be under observation. First, Mr. Hope, being a religious man, a short service was held in the front parlour. This was in broad daylight. The packet of plates was placed in the centre of the table and all hands were put on top of the table, none being anywhere near the plates. Mr. Hope then lifted the plates well above the table, holding the packet between his hands. Mr. and Mrs. Sturrock placed their hands over his and Mrs. Buxton did the same. After a few seconds the packet was replaced on to its former position. A closing hymn and prayer and the Sturrocks again received possession of the packet.

The second stage was to visit the dark-room which was a space under the stairs. They were invited to examine the slide and did so. "We unsealed and opened the packet ourselves and one of us always initialled the two plates used, across the corner. My husband invariably carried the loaded slide to the studio."

The third stage concerned the studio, which was really an outhouse entered from the kitchen. At one end stood the camera and nearby a cage containing birds. At the other end, there was a dark curtain with one or two chairs in the front, "I had many peeps behind," said Mrs. Sturrock, "and there were only a few oddments there for general household use."

When the sitters had taken their place, Mr. Hope took the loaded slide, placed it in the rickety camera, and then both mediums held their hands over the camera — it was always Mr. Hope's right

and Mrs. Buxton's left — they closed their eyes and then Hope lifted the cap and made what seemed to be a long exposure. When they took friends, they were allowed to stand at the camera and watch carefully everything that went on. Mr. Sturrock was of opinion that normally every plate should have been ruined by the very long exposure.

The fourth stage was that of developing. The dish was first examined, the plates still bearing their markings, taken from the slide; the visitors held the developing dish or dishes and the developer was applied by the medium. Sometimes the plates would be "blank" — that was, just a normal photograph of the sitters, but usually on one plate out of the two would appear what was known as a "psychic extra"; an additional face or faces, sometimes with a veil effect and frequently surrounded by what appeared to be cotton wool or cloud. Following on the fixing, the sitters took the dish and the plates and washed them under the tap in the scullery. The plates were then held up and given a thoroughly good examination, often with a magnifying glass. After this, the negative was handed to Mr. Hope, who sent the prints in about a week's time, although on occasions the prints were ready the same day.

"Quite a number of the extras obtained were not recognized but a good number were. We received, first, a photograph of my aunt who had been 'over' for twenty-five years; a grandfather, my husband's brother; a relative of a friend in South Africa who was interested in the subject — the recognition in this case only being made in South Africa — and two friends who were with us on one occasion received a photograph of their father," said Mrs. Sturrock.

"We were most concerned on one occasion when we obtained a likeness which was so exceedingly like two of my husband's sisters, one of whom was

abroad, that we wondered if she had passed on and were relieved when her letters arrived as usual.

"Two years later I had a sitting in Kent with Kathleen Barkel, at which her control, an Indian, said we had a spirit photograph at home which had upset her Chief. The photograph was of a little sister who had gone over as a papoose and the photograph was as she was at that time," went on Mrs. Sturrock.

Dealing with thought transference, Mrs. Sturrock said that the wedding day of her husband's parents was chosen for one sitting at Crewe. Her husband was disappointed at not receiving a photograph of one or both of his parents, for the extra — an exceedingly clear one — was of an old gentleman neither Mrs. Sturrock nor her husband could recognize. Six months later, they were invited to attend a Direct Voice demonstration at a private sitting. A particularly powerful voice came through and said, "Can you hear me, Arthur?" (Mr. Sturrock). To the reply, "Who are you?" the answer immediately was, "I'm Colin Frame; Colin Frame of Glasgow."

Her husband had three relatives of that name — three generations — and so he asked, "Which Colin Frame?" Immediately the answer came, "Your mother's father." After a most evidential conversation, the voice said, "You don't seem to have recognized the photograph; and we thought it was a good one."

The following week the Sturrocks wrote relatives in Scotland to see if anyone had a photograph of Grandfather Frame, and eventually they received a loan of the only one which appeared to be in existence. Copies were then made and Mrs. Sturrock, who showed members the original photograph and the spirit photograph, said that she did not think there could be any doubt whatsoever about recognition. Yet the old gentleman