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PAPER
TELLS
YOU

SPIRITUALISM'S PICTORIAL JOURNAL

TRUTH The PSYCHIC OBSERVER

TRUTH
FOR
AUTHORITY
NOT
AUTHORITY
FOR
TRUTH

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Gotham Notables Witness Phenomena

Danton Walker's Keen Interest Shared by "True" Editor

SKETCHES BY LAWYERS TEST MEDIUM

Decker's Demonstration of physical mediumship at Taft Hotel, N. Y. C.

By ED BODIN
Psychic Reporter

It is gratifying to all Spiritualists when a prominent newspaper columnist attends a seance, and does not walk away with a self-satisfied sneer. It makes one feel that there are some newspapermen after all, with open minds and a sense of fairplay and understanding even though most of the *Fourth Estate* in the past, have been antagonistic mainly because they thought the majority scoffed at the idea of spirit contact.

But DANTON WALKER, famous man about town and Broadway columnist for the *New York News* (largest circulation in America), smiled with admiration and was convinced that the seance held at the Hotel Taft, New York City, midnight, April 19, 1945, by the internationally prominent medium Frank Decker, was an evening of inspiration and hope. "I feel," said Mr. Walker, "there is life after death — and I want to know more about contacting departed loved ones and friends, and those who can help us accomplish our aspirations."

Clapper Speaks!

And the most outstanding manifestation of the evening, came to Mr. Walker following the vivid sound of an airplane motor as the trumpet whirled rapidly around the room above the heads of the fifteen spectators, heralding the voice of a spirit entity calling himself Raymond Clapper, the famous newspaper columnist who died by airplane crash in a deep lagoon at Marshall Islands February 3rd, 1944.

The clear voice called for Danton Walker and referred to the "lagoon" in which the Navy Torpedo Plane had crashed. Though not personally acquainted with Mr. Walker, Raymond Clapper stated he had come through to be of assistance to the New York columnist, having been attracted to him by psychic harmony, that strange condition of super electronics not yet understood by mortal man. Mr. Clapper had lived not far from Mr. Walker's estate, and they, although not personally acquainted, both had many things in common, mainly noble newspaper consciousness.

Also at the seance was an outstanding skeptic who had never attended a dark seance before. He was Dr. Nathaniel B. Freyer, an authority on Oriental Art. Suddenly Patsy, Mr. Decker's spirit collaborator, announced a spirit

HE WAS THERE



"Associated Press Photo"

HORACE BROWN, 1501 Broadway, New York City, editor of TRUE, a magazine which has published many articles on psychic science. Without fear or favor, Mr. Brown remains "on the fence" regarding this most controversial subject but accepts stories for and against the subject of Spiritualism.

For several years, the editor of *Psychic Observer* promised Mr. Brown an invitation to a seance. The story on this page describes what Mr. and Mrs. Brown experienced.

guest, the father of Dr. Freyer, who wished to speak to his son. But the son gave no cooperation. He went so far as to say: "I don't believe you are my father!"

With that negative break in vibration, the trumpet dropped to the floor and all was quiet except Patsy who admonished the doctor, stating that one must help and not hinder those on the other side who are struggling to manifest themselves and who often suffer in a psychic way in straining to make contact.

Skeptic Convinced!

The doctor apologized and asked for his father. In a moment the voice returned and said: "Son, why be so stubborn?"

Then said the doctor: "If you are my father—then tell me what were your last words when I was with you at your death bed."

Immediately came the response: "I said, 'TAKE CARE OF MAMA'."

The doctor almost shouted with joy as he said: "That's right — those were the very words you said. Thank you papa."

Dr. Freyer later admitted that the father had died eight years ago and no one in the room knew of the instance referred to. "It was a very revealing experience," said the doctor.

But Dr. Freyer wasn't the only skeptic there. At least half of the spectators had never attended a

dark seance before and half of those were openly unconvinced of spirit contact. They had to be shown.

Even more so than Dr. Freyer, was Attorney Sam Markowitz who claimed that it was Decker himself who was speaking and moving about after the seance started. So Mr. Markowitz wanted legal proof and he became the target for collaborator Patsy and spirit-control Bert Wells, who immediately took up the challenge.

Lawyers Not Feared

Mr. Markowitz was led to the center of the room and ordered to put his hand on Decker's mouth while the voices spoke. But attorneys are stubborn when they want to be. But finally more tests made Sam Markowitz admit that evidence was on the medium's side.

Then the attorney had a spirit guest, it was a friend of his father, one calling the name Solomon who even spoke in Jewish to Sam Markowitz and mentioned a physical ailment which the attorney admitted was correct. And Solomon had been one of best friends of Sam's father.

It was tough for the young attorney to have to admit it—but he did. He even missed his last train to his suburban home and stayed in New York City over night. But Patsy said: "Bring on your doctors and lawyers . . ."

Walker's Proper Conduct

Yes, it was a difficult night for Patsy and Bert Wells to keep Mr. Decker in the deep trance; because the lack of faith and almost open antagonism on the part of Mr. Markowitz reduced the vibrations considerably and seemed to have a weakening effect on Mr. Decker.

Can you imagine someone on the other end of a telephone trying to talk to you—and then you deliberately stepping away from the receiver and expecting him to make himself heard even by shouting? It just isn't fair to judge a radio receiving set calling for 770 on your dial, and you turning on 700 and expecting to hear. Cooperation is essential in all forms of communication—and in spirit contact, faith and kindly response and welcome are requisites.

Danton Walker for instance, was very cooperative and even assisted Patsy in holding the medium during a test. He seemed convinced that the voices and touches came not from the entranced medium but by entities outside of anyone or anything in that room.

Brown's Wife Convinced

Mrs. Horace Brown, wife of the editor of TRUE Magazine was very cooperative too and convinced. She even held her hand in Mr. Decker's mouth to assure herself and others that Mr. Decker was not talking while the spirit voices were heard.

Two guests of the evening received spirit visitors and both guests were warned about their health due to carelessness on their parts — namely Jay Strong who heard from his recently departed

(Continued Page 4, Col. 1)

Columnist Hears "Dead" Commentator's Voice



Psychic Observer

RAYMOND CLAPPER, Washington Columnist and Political Commentator, spoke to DANTON WALKER during a seance held at The Taft Hotel, New York City. Through the mediumship of Frank Decker, 18 others attending this seance, also heard the spirit voice which identified itself as Clapper.

Mr. Clapper passed away as a result of a plane accident while covering the Marshall Islands invasion in the Central Pacific. The Navy announced his death February 3rd. In the picture above, Clapper is shown at his typewriter aboard the plane of Vice-Admiral A. W. Fitch, Commander Aircraft, South Pacific, as he prepared his copy Jan. 17th.

Tests Without End

Possibly one of the most controversial subjects in the field of Spiritualism and spirit mediumship is the subject of "HOW," "WHERE" and "WHEN" to test a medium. In this article taken from the book "The Cavalcade of the Spirit" (*), PAUL MILLER covers the subject fearlessly and intelligently.

ARE YOU QUALIFIED?

When testing a medium
Ask yourself this
question . . .

By PAUL MILLER

SPIRITUALISM, alone of all religions, has been tested scientifically and in the crucible of trial that meets every man and woman in passing through this world. It cannot be said of any other religion or faith that it has systematically been subject to experiment before acceptance.

All religions have their origin in a man endowed with extraordinary power. In his presence, or through his agency, things are done, events brought about, which are described as miraculous. Slowly the tradition grows. Scriptures are formed out of the written records, not of those who saw the "miracles" at first hand, but on the recollection of someone who was descended from someone who knew someone who was there.

In ages when writing was an uncommon achievement and travel was slow and difficult, it is not surprising that many traditions grew up which are not credible unless they have corroboration in some happening in our own days. That is the only way to support a faith—with works.

Crisis In Religion

But it is lowering to the exercise of reason and of the inherent dignity of the truth that awaits dis-

covery merely to accept the word no matter how beautifully expressed, of a man or a group of men no matter how venerated.

Failing the corroboration of Spiritualism, it is likely that all religions will, in time, vanish from the face of the earth because those who preached could not practice the psychic arts about which they grew so eloquent in the pulpits on Sundays and of which they knew nothing all the week.

For that reason, Spiritualism was brought into the world, to be a liberating force, to set free the faculty of reason, to inspire the inquiring mind in the direction in which it should travel, to make men free of the fetters that had been wound about their minds through the long centuries of the darkest ages in history.

Spiritualists Prove!

Creeds are not enough; indeed they are the sure way to the destruction of the best that is in men's minds.

Therefore, when Spiritualism appeared it was certain to be violently opposed on the ground that it proved what it claimed. It could not be permitted by all faiths—and they were all blind faiths, not facts—to progress. Spiritualism was attacked, and it was defended.

In the process of proving its claims, Spiritualism made many converts among those who had long deserted formal, orthodox religions. They were the men of science and of learning, but particularly the men of science, for

(*) Dale News, Inc. — \$3.50.

(Continued Page 4, Col. 4)

CARROLL SEANCE

Criticizing the Critics of Psychic Phenomena

In a preceding article (Psychic Observer—June 25th edition) GEORGE OWEN describes in detail a seance held by DR. J. J. CARROLL at PSYCHISTS, INC., 313 West 57th St., New York City.

What are test conditions and who is qualified to exact them?

By GEORGE OWEN
Harris Building, Honesdale, Pa.

The cynics, scoffers, magicians, skeptics, critics and the unenlightened, whose daily life is a repetitious round of worldly routine, done in a chronic state of spiritual stupor in a half-alive condition within the dark dungeon of the outward life of the physical body, scrambling wildly and ceaselessly, like the restless sea, in search of the material happiness that is their birth-right to find and enjoy—these and other such types of persons will bluntly say that the manifestations I have related as having taken place at Dr. Carroll's seance in New York are all but tricks done by clever methods, and that we were all badly fooled at the seance that night.

Brilliant Minds Attest

They say this, firmly believing that they are right, on the sole, vague and flimsy authority of their own woeful lack of even elementary knowledge and understanding of the phenomena. This phenomena has been proved time and again, by all who have fully investigated with the sole desire of discovering the truth.

Who has experienced these phenomena? They are a galaxy of the most brilliant minds the world over in the arts, professions, sciences, and other fields of cultural activities, as well as a multitude of just plain ordinary people, many of whom are striving to hold the torch up to illuminate our dark and troubled world with the light which shows demonstrable proof that man survives bodily death to live on in another world.

We were tricked, badly fooled and deceived, such persons will say; and they will so say in all sincerity, being fully convinced that their wrong opinion is right, because of their having no knowledge or experience whatever of the subject. Ignorance of some question is very unsound ground from which to judge and explain it.

Magicians Cannot Answer

But, sad though it is, still it is true that every great truth and discovery which has given an impulse to the onward and upward march of human progress and social growth has been opposed, doubted, denied, condemned, vilified and scoffed at by persons whose knowledge and understanding of it was at 100 degrees below zero on the thermometer of intelligence—with time recording them all to be wrong on the pages of history.

Time will do the same with the critics and opponents of psychic phenomena on the pages of history, for truth cannot be suppressed.

Magicians in particular will say and feel sure that all we saw and heard at the seance were done by means of tricks, done so clever as to make us be convinced that they

were the work of psychic forces.

But who did the tricks, we can fairly ask? The magicians cannot answer. Was it Dr. Carroll? No; for he did not make a single move while all the phenomena reported having happened was taking place. Any move by him would be seen by all the sitters.

Nothing Can Be Imitated

The magicians will say, though, that they can show us the same things under their own conditions; but as their conditions differ widely from those under which the phenomena at the Carroll seance occurred, what they would do could not very well be the same. Things accomplished under different conditions are not, cannot be the same. They may bear some outward resemblance; but in their inner structure and composition they differ greatly, and are bound to differ through the very way the laws of life operate, for different things are not the same.

What the magicians do is just to copy or imitate the real; and the real is not the same as its imitation. The imitation really proves the real—for we can imitate nothing!!

But enough about the babble of the magicians, whose claims about psychic phenomena are as barren of sense as the arid sands of the Sahara Desert are of moisture.

It will profit more to record a few impressions of the seance, to which are added some critical thoughts that emerge from them.

Where the Difference Lies

The cynics, scoffers and skeptics can be ruled out as well for the same reason: some day they will learn that it is not intelligent to judge and condemn that which is beyond the horizon of understanding.

Some will say that the seance was not held under strict test conditions. There was no need to. Dr. Carroll was very anxious and

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Welsh Spiritualist Exhibits Manuscripts



Psychic Observer

For the past 40 years, half of which time has been spent on the continent, GEORGE OWEN has written thousands of articles and completed dozens of manuscripts on the subject of Spiritualism, psychic science, spiritual philosophy and world educational topics.

In the picture above, Mr. Owen is shown with his display at the New York World's Fair. He is holding a copy of the manuscript "BEYOND MORTAL MISTS" as yet unpublished. This manuscript explains Man, Death and Life beyond in the light of Psychic Philosophy. Written in 1920 and recommended by SIR OLIVER LODGE and SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, both of whom reported it a "remarkable work."

Other unpublished Owen manuscripts shown on the picture above are: "THE WAY TO PROSPERITY" or Creating unity between Capital and Labor; "THE WORLD OF HARD COAL" or a Remedy for the ills of The Anthracite Industry; "THE FUTURE OF CAPITALISM" or Its destiny in the light of human behavior; "SHALL AMERICA PERISH" or The Nation's Future in the light of present social disorders; "WHAT AMERICA NEEDS" or The Dreams of An Immigrant Miner; and "WHAT HAPPENS AT DEATH"—written for the Literary Digest Award of \$10,000.00; "MY SEARCH FOR JUSTICE" and "A NEW AMERICA."

eager for all to see that he did nothing, except be there as the medium, to cause what we saw and heard.

There is a world of difference between sitting to see real psychic phenomena and seeing these phenomena imitated by the artificial means of tricks and varied devices—yes, as much difference as can be seen by watching a beautiful rose blooming in a conservatory and one, quite so beautiful in outward appearance, made from paper in an artificial flower factory.

Only Members Invited

Dr. Carroll had none of the devices needed to duplicate psychic phenomena, for I saw all he had and helped him with them to his hotel after the seance. He had no need of such devices, such as wires, springs, magnets, trap-doors and numerous other gadgets, for only tricksters and magicians need them.

To a psychic they are only excess baggage that clog, stifle and impede psychic forces; they are only helpful to bluff, trick and mislead people when psychic forces cannot operate—much like we hitch a horse to an automobile when its power has gone dead.

All present at the seance except myself (I was a special reporter for this journal) were members of Psychists. They did not attend the seance that evening to delude and trick each other; rather they were there to have personal experiences on contacts with those in the world beyond by means of Dr. Carroll's psychic powers as one of the privileges of membership in the Psychists organization.

Spirit Intelligences

Dr. Carroll could not have fitted the seance room with the equipment used to produce trick phenomena without the officials of Psychists knowing it; more than that he would not be allowed to do it in one of their own rooms. They are only interested in real psychic phenomena—and that is why Dr. Carroll gave a seance there for members to have personal experience of his astonishing psychic powers.

If magicians doubt this, let them try and have permission to fit their equipment in that seance room to produce artificial psychic phenomena, which bears the same resemblance to real phenomena

that artificial ice does to actual ice.

It is easy for anyone familiar with the seance room and psychic phenomena to distinguish between the genuine and imitated, the real and false, just as we can tell between the real and artificial in many things of every-day life.

We can boil and eat a real egg, but cannot an artificial one, though we can detect the difference. A real apple or orange is nice to taste and eat; an artificial apple or orange look real to the eye, though to taste they are not very appetizing, and that they are not the same as the real is easy to know. It is thus with regard to real and artificial psychic phenomena.

Belief VS Knowledge

No, what we experienced at the seance were psychic manifestations that were real—produced, controlled and directed by beings not of this world, who displayed intelligence like our own for it was comprehensible. They had none and did not need the contrivances of tricks.

Without a medium with psychic powers these manifestations

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cannot happen. When they do they form a chain of positive proof of a life after death. These powers form the link which unites our world and the one beyond together, and this world is only separated from us by the limitations of the physical senses. Then when this link is established it is used to produce phenomena in and to transmit messages to this world. These messages, in turn, form proof that cannot be refuted or in any way discounted.

Some Try to Discredit

By this, belief in a future life is transmuted into knowledge, changed through experience into a conviction that there is a life after death. Belief has its doubts and uncertainties, its fears and hopes; knowledge moves us from the dismal valley of doubt and fear, elevating us to the mountain-top of certainty with its expanded vista and horizon.

When we know we cease to believe. We then outgrow the state of belief—when all doubts fade away as they are dissolved by the radiant sunshine of truth that emerges from psychic phenomena which demonstrate invincible proof of a life beyond the grave.

Of course, some well-meaning souls, full of sincerity and empty of meditative sense, will tell us that what took place at the seance was the work of evil spirits, fallen angels, or incarnate devils, or emissaries of the gentleman with horns and long tail, whose personality has been much used to frighten adult children, and so not dependable and of no value.

"Old-Time Religions"

These opinions have been advanced over the years in an effort to discredit the objective sense-perceived proof and reality of psychic phenomena. As they rest on no more solid foundation than mere guess-work which springs from opinion, there is nothing of value in them for the clear and analytical thinker—though they do confuse people highly interested in matters psychic, inducing them to hesitate about what to do.

This, then, means delaying the great and sublime truths unveiled by psychic phenomena from being proclaimed to the people, who grope in the dark and hunger intensely for the sustenance of knowledge on the baffling mystery of death, yearning at the same time for some light on its chilly darkness.

There are those who insist upon covering up these truths. There are those who fear these truths will impregnate our modern culture. There are those who know that "certain old-time religions" are crumbling. What about these people? Would they continue their opposition if they knew the consequences and how their antagonism would react upon them when they pass on to the next world? I DOUBT IT.

Most learned scholars of religion know the simple truth, what has been sown must be reaped and that poor sowing will mean painful reaping in the hereafter. Why then, do they do it? They are simply steeped in theological training and honestly believe their leaders and have never taken the trouble to reason and to think for themselves.

Law of Compensation

A minor point bearing on this great spiritual law of sowing and reaping came up at the seance. A lady, in talking with her father as he spoke to her through the trumpet, reminded him of how he did not approve of her taking an interest in psychic phenomena. He admitted it, saying he had to take the consequences.

Yes, every act that obstructs a

(Continued Page 3, Col. 1)

Impressions of CARROLL SEANCE

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

truth, which enhances the welfare and dispels the darkness of the life of mankind in this world, creates consequences which recoil on us when death liberates the mortal body. There is no escape from these consequences: repentances and confessions are powerless to save us from the impact of violated spiritual laws, for their immutability make them immune to all man-made plans of escape. More study and understanding of the phenomena of the seance-room would enable this to be more widely known than it is—and then there would be less surprises, disappointments and agony when we reach the shores of the new world.

Some persons claim that mediums go through cemeteries to get names from gravestones prior to seances and that these names are given to those who come to them for psychic readings.

The Voices Were Distinct

Real psychics do not have to do this; they have no need to: what they give they get, not from gravestones in cemeteries, but from those in the other life, which they transmit across the chasm of death over the bridge made by and through psychic phenomena. It is hardly likely that Dr. Carroll visited the grave of my mother to learn her name, for it is thousands of miles away across the ocean. Besides he did not know of me, nor of my mother, until I met him for the first time on the day of the seance. He had no need to do that, for my mother was present in person at the seance to give him her name as one who wished to use his powers to talk with me, which she did.

Though my mother spoke a few words in Welsh to me at a materializing seance in London in 1916, she did not talk so loud nor as long as she did at the Carroll seance.

I Know Different

Then when I was a lad in the fields on a farm in South Wales, I often used to hear a voice in my ear calling my name. I did not know what this voice was, and it frightened me a deal. When later in life I became familiar with psychic phenomena I learned from my wife, who had remarkable clairvoyant and clairaudient powers, that the voice I heard was that of my mother.

The voice I heard in the fields as a lad when alone and no one else about, then later at a seance in London, and again on April the 4th last in New York City, was not a fancy or done by some trick:

no; it was that of my mother right enough. If all the magicians, cynics and other light-headed persons in America, even the whole world, cried out loudly to the people over the radio and in the press that I had been fooled in some way about the voice of my mother, this would mean no more to me than if a thousand million gorillas gave the same opinion.

Evan Powell's Mediumship

I know different; and, when one knows, what those who do not know say, matters little, for there is nothing save empty words in what they say, and a contention full of nothing can no more affect the truth of psychic phenomena than can shooting bubbles at a B-29 damage it.

A certain magician has said and written a deal about psychic phenomena but it is just senseless vapor: it is so because it has come from the darkness of gross ignorance of the subject. An obscure question explained with the darkness of ignorance does not have much light thrown on it. Light is not received when one darkness pretends to illuminate another. That is not how the scheme of human life works.

In the privacy of the home of a friend in Cardiff I heard direct voices and saw lights at many seances, the medium being *Evan Powell*, a powerful one for physical phenomena, with whom *Sir A. Conan Doyle* had many seances. Powell I knew personally well, and at the seances we were only three or four sitters, all intimate friends. This was in 1920 and thereabouts. The voices were strong and clear, with no trumpet.

The Darkness Explained

Then the lights differed from those at the Carroll seance in that they stayed on for some time close by me as a steady dull but clear glow of a light blueish color that had no glare and gave no illumination in the darkness of the room. In size they were about as large as a saucer, round and glowed steadily a minute or more and then went out.

The lights at the Carroll seance flashed brightly and ended suddenly; they were sharp and very clear, resembling short flashes of lightning breaking through or in a disturbed atmosphere at night in a thunderstorm.

The Good and the Bad

Much is made of seances held in the dark. A noted radio commentator said some time ago in a broadcast that a seance is a good place for a person to go to have his watch snatched from him. Perhaps he said this to fill up some blank or open space he may have had in his mind at the time. On the radio there must be no open spaces.

Of course, so-called bad people

Phenomenal Results Obtained Through Bias' Mediumship

Dear Bias and Friends: Much is being done by you through spirit, thought, pouring out of love and faith, and, say, a few words which you are incapable of giving through the medium of your own body.

MICROSCOPIC WRITING Above is a reproduction of a message received by Juliette Ewing Pressing on a plain 5x7 card during a seance with Mr. Bias in the Psychic Observer Seance Room.

The Path of Spiritualism FROM Science THROUGH Philosophy TO Religion

By CLIFFORD BIAS

Out of the darkness of man's ignorance and consequent superstition, concerning himself, his true nature, his origin, his destiny, comes the first glimmer of light in the nature of scientifically ascertained fact—*man survives death as a conscious being*. This fact of the personal consciousness survival of death is the very cornerstone of Spiritualism.



CLIFFORD BIAS

can attend seances: but seances do not create them. Rather they are products of the state of our culture and social organization, which spiritually are highly anaemic, very brittle and arid through a deficiency of the life-giving and energizing vitamins that can only be found in and had from psychic phenomena.

Because of this, wrong is done by one person to another with impunity, utterly oblivious of the train of sequences such deeds set in motion, which go on and on until the forces of violated moral and spiritual laws, as causes, spend or work themselves out in retributive and compensatory effects on the doer of such deeds in some place and at some time in the future.

Because of this not being known, watch-snatchers are bred, not by and through dark seances, but by our culture not having the vitality and cohesion it needs and should have, which it can only have from the moral and spiritual influences imparted or yielded by psychic phenomena at seances.

Keeping this in mind, it can readily be seen how empty was the comment of the radio commentator on dark seances. Unfor-

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CRYPTOGRAM Above is a reproduction of a message received by R. G. Pressing on a plain 5x7 card during a seance with Mr. Bias. **GEORGE OWEN** was present when this Cryptogram and the Microscopic Writing was received. Can You Decipher It? If not, see foot this column.

if so, how, what and why?

The Spiritualist, having based his action upon the fact of himself being a non-physical being which survives death, finds the answers to these perplexing questions in Religion. Or rather, the answers to these questions which he propounds are given to him by those others who have survived death and who return to him through mediumship, for the purpose of instructing him.

Basis of All Religions

The answers form his religion. A Spiritualist is one who believes, as the basis of his religion, in the communication between this and the spirit world by means of mediumship and who endeavors to mould his character and conduct in accordance with the highest teachings derived from such communion.

Reviewing history, he finds that the majority of great world religions were based upon communications and revelations from the non-physical realms of being to men on earth.

He builds up his religion from the (to him) highest Teachings derived from spirit communication. The Spiritualist's religion consists of such simple yet sublime doctrines as the existence of an *Infinite Intelligence* called God who is the origin and father of all creation; that man's origin in God and that his eventual destiny is conscious individual at-one-ment with God; that the process of reaching at-one-ment is the path of evolution which over a vast period of time leads from the unconsciousness of the clod to the supreme Cosmic consciousness of the Christ.

—oo—
Cryptogram Deciphered — "Philosophy to be of value, must be able to increase the meaning of life."

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By Clifford Bias

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Foreword written by JULIETTE EWING PRESSING

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Danton Walker Seance

Reported by Ed Bodin

Lawyer Controls Medium Spirit Voices Are Heard

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

wife; and Mrs. Elsy Seehausen who was greeted by her mother. Both manifestations were extremely convincing to all spectators.

Ralph G. Pressing's old spirit friend Silver Birch, the principal collaborator of "The Hannen Swaffer Home Circle" at London, England, came through for a moment to ask Mr. Pressing to send some news items to Maurice Baranell, editor of *Psychic News*. Mr. Pressing gladly promised to do so.

Howard Manifests

Mrs. Ed Bodin was greeted by her spirit guide "Ben"—and Mr. Ed Bodin heard from his father who passed away in 1943.

One pleasant surprise was the short visit by "Howard" the spirit control of the noted materialization medium, Rev. Bertie Lillie Candler of Miami, Florida. He gave his greetings having been attracted by the importance of the gathering and so many skeptics. He came to give what help he could to the vibration needed. That was one more instance of the spirit of fellowship and mutual aid on the other side, which could well be copied by those on this side of the great divide.

Before the seance was concluded, Bert Wells led the audience in prayer that even the skeptics felt was as clear and as powerful as one coming from the vocal chords of a living person. Of course, spirit Bert Wells does "live"—even a more abundant life than those who breathe air of the Earth.

Who Is Horace Brown?

Although no particular manifestation came to Horace Brown, editor of TRUE Magazine, he seemed favorably impressed by the phenomena of the evening. By virtue of his editorial position, Mr. Brown has been neutral on the question of Spiritualism, but always has he been fair minded in his editorials and articles; and like a true editor he has given both sides of the question of psychic phenomena when interesting articles have been submitted to him.

Mr. Brown has published many articles by your Psychic Reporter (Ed Bodin) in the interest of spirit manifestation. Here is a quotation from Mr. Brown concerning a recent article on Spiritualism in TRUE Magazine: "The publishers take no sides in the discussions about Spiritualism. This

story is presented here because it is entertaining; and in the future as in the past, we will print stories taking opposite views."

That is all that Spiritualism asks. A fair chance to be heard. Other leading magazines that have given psychic phenomena fair consideration, are: *Coronet*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Argosy*, *Pageant*, *Woman's Home Companion*, *Liberty*, *Chicago Tribune Magazine*, *This Week*, *Sir and Mind Digest*.

Saturday Evening Post

It is regrettable however, that certain other magazines are not as fair as Mr. Brown, particularly the American Mercury and the Saturday Evening Post, whose editors have strained in their antagonism as they belittled those who seek the truth of spirit contact. Your Psychic Reporter feels that if Mary Magdalene should call upon the editors of the Saturday Evening Post and declare she had seen the spirit of her dead Master—those learned residents of the city of Brotherly Love, would quickly summon a psychiatrist and coax Mary to leave quietly before she became violent.

And then some of the Saturday Evening Post correspondents, admit they know nothing of Spiritualism, but insist upon writing up the "funny" event with all the mockery that goes with a sense of Post humor, like a *Crown of Thorns*.

When, oh when shall the smirk of wormlike pride be removed from the faces of self-elected arbiters of understanding who sit back and complacently ridicule those who can look beyond the horizon and see new dawns? Galileo, Newton, Morse, Bell, Fulton, Pasteur... what fools, according to those who peered from the sidelines!

Where are those critics now? "When men shall revile you, and

WHY NOT INVESTIGATE THE INVESTIGATOR?



Psychic Observer

THIS IS PATSY

He is the principal spirit collaborator of Frank Decker, internationally-known direct-voice (trumpet) medium. Mr. and Mrs. Decker have left New York City. They are now located at 842 Central Ave., St. Petersburg, Florida.

persecute you and say all manner of evil against you... rejoice and be exceedingly glad...

Such is the hope and the strength of those who have found joy of spirit contact—for once you have seen and heard for yourself—nothing on this mortal plane of mundane hopelessness and war, can dim the light of understanding and peace which shines in your soul.

Held At Hotel Taft

It is hoped that Danton Walker will be another of the leading newspapermen who may contact your Psychic Reporter. Every effort will be made to open the way for contact with many other famous newspapermen on the other side, such as Ernie Pyle, Webb Miller, Lea Burdett, Frederick Faust, Tom Treanor, David Lardner and Fred Painton who might be able to report facts as they see the facts on the spirit front.

If and when this happens, then perhaps the skeptics might at last listen and learn and appreciate the peace and understanding that psychic philosophy offers the world.

Those present at the Hotel Taft seance were: Frank Decker, medium; Danton Walker, Ralph G. Pressing, Jay Strong, Sam Markowitz, Herman Schwarz, Dr. Nathaniel B. Freyer, Horace Brown, Paul Lamoxe, Charles C. Miller, Ed Bodin, William Maxson, Mrs. Elsy Seehausen, Mrs. Charles C. Miller, Mrs. Ed Bodin, Mrs. Horace Brown.

TESTS WITHOUT END

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) science dominated the minds of the world in the crisis and crux of the 19th century, which was the time for establishing this new idea called Spiritualism.

The scientists were hailed always as those who would expose the claims of the "fraudulent mediums." Yet, when Crookes, then a young chemist of wide repute, began his investigation, it was thought that he would destroy for all time the interest in psychic matters.

Crookes' Researches

But his principal medium, Florence Cook, had such exceptional powers that he could, under the strictest conditions, photograph her, with many different cameras simultaneously, with her materialized spirit guide, Katie King.

Crookes talked with Katie King while the medium was entranced; he introduced her to his children, he weighed her, and found that she weighed what the medium lost. He saw she was taller than the medium, that in most physical respects she was more attractive, that her skin was finer and her whole appearance one of vigor and perfect health.

All that Crookes discovered he wrote for all the world to see in his famous book, "Researches in the Phenomena of Spiritualism." (*) He was assailed by scientists—because he had seen for himself.

Other scientists were invited to co-operate in the experiments, but they would not; their materialism being as prejudiced as the blind faith of the orthodox in all things.

What Science Knows

All his scientific life thereafter, Crookes never retracted one word of his declaration of belief in Proved Survival and of the implications of his experiments.

It could not be alleged that either Florence Cook or D. D. Home, with whom he also sat and whom he rigorously tested, could deceive so cautious an experimenter whose reputation as the leading chemist in the world was built up on close scrutiny and patient observation. He was involved in momentous researches in his laboratories, therefore his word on the tests he applied to Spiritualism was worth hearing.

He stands, with other scientists in other lands who were his contemporaries, as one of the leading witnesses to the fact that the claims of Spiritualism and of the reality of psychic powers have been proved. He had every opportunity he wished, and it hardly appears to be an accident that there were many equally acute minds in other fields at the same time who carried out other tests.

Refuge of Orthodoxy

Mediums were available, powerful physical mediums, who could in the right circumstances produce all the phenomenon required for exact scientific observation.

It is no part of my duty to offend deliberately the religious feelings of any man. I ask only that the facts be considered. Therefore, I hope it will not be misunderstood when I say not one of the leading claims on which Orthodoxy rests has ever been tested as Spiritualism has been.

It matters not which liturgy you refer to, it matters not which creed you repeat, it matters not which

affirmation you make, the answer is always the same; there has been no test.

Therefore, for all men of reason it should be clear that only blind faith and unsupported testimony is the refuge of the orthodox. Their most revered ceremonies have only the attraction of the picturesque and the dramatic. They have the allure of color and the charm of orderly action. Yet nothing that is done, nothing that is said, in any way proves one statement in the creeds.

Investigate All Creeds

That may be the secret of the reason for the opposition to Spiritualism among the churches. Tests should be undertaken to show whether there is any change in anything at any of the ceremonies.

The time has come, I submit, for scientific investigation into all the creeds. It should be established

(Continued Page 9, Col. 1)

LOCATES AT LILY DALE



Psychic Observer

DOROTHY LEOTA MAXWELL, lecturer, mental and direct-voice medium; assistant and licentiate pastor of The Open Door Spiritualist Church, 123 North Union St., Rochester, N. Y.

Miss Maxwell, and her mother, REV. LEOTA B. MAXWELL, have purchased a cottage at No. 4 Fourth St., Lily Dale, N. Y., where they will conduct their spiritual work during the coming summer months, July and August.

Rev. Leota Maxwell, lecturer and mental medium, is a trustee of The General Assembly of Spiritualists of New York State.

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After long years of search, I learned how to overcome these troubles, deriving as they do from essentially the same causes... The method is natural, drugless, easy to understand, thoroughly practical—but so little known. Yet it is the only way to prevent and overcome common troubles that destroy life and happiness. Wrinkles lessen. Life is prolonged. Even my eyesight improved tremendously.

It would appear from my research, moreover, that my discoveries apply not only to the troubles that I have already mentioned (and with which I have had personal experience), but also they apply in great measure to most other troubles—such as appendicitis, asthma, catarrhs, stomach ulcers, diabetes, arthritis, or rheumatism, headaches, feelings of fear and insecurity, cancer, tuberculosis, and even stuttering.

That you can benefit from my experience is beyond doubt. Even if you are in good health now, you can improve it. And over a period of time you cannot fail to save yourself and family many dollars in needless health expenses.

The story of my discoveries, embodying the knowledge of which I speak and specific instructions, I have published in a small treatise. New and revised it sells for \$3. You are very welcome to try my treatise for a few days before deciding to keep it. Within two days you should feel some results.

However, if you do not feel results enough to assure you of the greater benefits to come from the continued application of the information in my treatise, just return it (within ten days) and get your three dollars back. For I know what it has done for me; I know what it is doing for others. And I would rather have you send it back than be unsatisfied. Write me today, using coupon below. (P-162-164-166-168-170-172)

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Psychic Observer, July 10, 1945

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KLAMATH FALLS—Ch. of Progressive Psychic & Divine Healing Center, Inc., No. 3, 325 Main St., Room 7, Kathleen Kriz.

Psychic Center, 5 E. 3rd St.; Anna E. Rath.

United Spiritual Temple, 1321 S.W. Montgomery St.; Sun., 3 P. M. & 8 P. M.; Perpetua Smith.

The Spiritual & Psychic Research Temple, Norse Hall, N.E. 11th & Couch St., Sun. 7:30 P. M.; Luella M. LaValley.

OREGON CITY—1st Spiritual Religious Ass'n of New Era (Canby); 1st & 3rd Sun., 2 P. M.; Dora Hellis; Margaret Christensen.

SALEM—1st Spiritualist Ch., 248 N. Commercial St., Sun. 2:30 & 7:30 P. M.; Anthony Hutson.

BETHLEHEM—Christian Spiritual Ch., 18 W. Garrison St.; Mary Ann Reph.

CHARLOTTE—Diaz Spiritualist Temple, 933 McKean Ave., C. P. Diaz.

EAST PITTSBURGH—1st Ch. of Spiritualists, "Rollington Center," 867 Linden Ave., Gesine O. Rapp, Jean Rilling.

EPHRATA—Camp Silver Belle, Mountain Springs Hotel, Season June 18th to Sept. 15th; For 1915 program write Eabel Post-Parrish, Sec'y.

ERIE—Universal Spiritual Ch., 149 W. 9th St.; Sun. 7:45 P. M.; John F. Pastor.

McKEESPORT—1st Spiritualist Ch., 809 Locust St., Winifred D. McAndrew, 219 Tenth Ave.



TESTS WITHOUT END

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 5)

that they have something on which to base their claim, or they should retire from the scene. It is not true that science and religion are separate.

Nothing in the universe is separate from any other thing. It is only true that scientists are compelled to prove their claims. Their theories are known and stated only as theories, and they are discarded easily when something more satisfying of all conditions comes along.

It is true that churchmen in any part of the world, merely have to assert that something is so, and it is regarded as in some way being divinely inspired.

Scholarly Tests

There were many other scientists besides Crookes who tested Spiritualism — Boutleroff, in Russia, Zollner in Germany, Flammarion and Richet in France, Lombroso and Bozzano in Italy, Mapes and Hare in America, Russel Wallace and Barrett in England, and latterly Lodge, also in England.

Their testimonies stand out. Their work cannot be argued away on the authority of any scriptures. These men helped to make a new bible of facts: they were for truth, demonstrable truth.

The only tests that have been applied to religion in the period in which Spiritualism has been restored were those of scholarship. It was a sad day for fundamentalists when the scholars, many of them inside the Church, began to examine the sources from which the Bible, for one, was drawn.

Creeds Are Not Facts

It had been forgotten by the public that there were several Bibles, and that with each new version there were many changes. It is not at all likely that we shall ever see the original documents on which the Bible was based, or those which were excluded.

For, side by side with the Bible, there grew up an industrious profession of creed-makers. It is not true that they represented in their own times the best collective wisdom that could be assembled and expressed in concise form. They deliberately suppressed all those who were unorthodox, all those who exercised the gifts of the spirit, all those who showed signs of independence and of a desire to set men free.

Creeds are changed only when knowledge has so far advanced that nobody will look at them more. *Creeds are not facts.* They are not even news. So, when the scholars began to find that all was not holy that was writ in the Bible, they said so, and the first breach was made.

Archbishop of Canterbury

There was strong criticism by the fundamentalists of the new *Higher Criticism*, which merely meant trying to find the facts. The tests of science could not be made on the Bible—for the original documents were lost or destroyed. The test of documentary authenticity was applied.

Piece by piece the claim of divinely-inspired authorship was stripped away, until at last the present *Archbishop of Canterbury* (he was then of York) presided over a Commission on Doctrine.

For 15 years, 25 leading theologians and scholars studied doctrine. They came to the conclusion that they were not certain

that the Bible recorded the exact words of Jesus. It is not necessary to state any other conclusion, for that is the fundamental on which orthodox Christianity rests.

If similar tests are applied to other faiths, they will probably suffer the same judgment. The Report of the Commission on Doctrine—which is what this body was called—was the natural outcome of the rise of Spiritualism, for its progress had inspired scholars, in the general ferment of the spirit of inquiry, to look into the sources of their scriptures.

Test of Spiritualism

There was also the famous report, in the 19th century, of the *Dialectical Society* which vindicated the claims of Spiritualism. That was part of the campaign, part of the drive to enlighten men all over the world, but the net result was to enlighten men and women in the West.

In all the agitation of millions of minds there was less and less of a desire to go to church. That also was a reason for the inquiry into doctrine, which can be made and unmade, changed and changed again to suit any need or imagined need.

But the truths of Spiritualism, which have been scientifically tested and proved, do not need to be changed or modified. They spring

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July 10, 1945 10c a Copy

To Continue Their Spiritual Activities at Lily Dale

REV. BERNARD B. RODIN, internationally known as a lecturer and psychic in England, Canada and the United States, and his wife, REV. EDITH L. RODIN were recently ordained as Ministers of Spiritual Science by REV. CARL HORTON PIERCE, at Psychists, Inc., 313 West 57th St., New York City.

Rev. Bernard B. Rodin is, at present, the resident intermediary and teacher at Psychists, Inc., a position he has held this past year. He is now joined in the ministry by his wife who will assist him in his public work and also with his spiritual unfoldment classes. The Rodins plan to conduct their activities, during the forthcoming summer months, at Lily Dale Assembly, Lily Dale, N. Y., where Mr. Rodin is scheduled on the official 1945 program for lectures and message work.



from natural facts and natural laws, and they are part of the art of life. There is nothing static about Spiritualism. No one ever gets to the end of it. When you pass over you only begin to practice the science better, for you live in a more pliant atmosphere.

Now, the Church of England, as the leading organization of Orthodoxy, having inquired into its own doctrines—and reporting critically on them—also set up an inquiry into Spiritualism.

Dr. Temple and Dr. Lang

Dr. Temple, Primate of All-England, was still Archbishop of York when he agreed to set up the inquiry, after being asked to do so by a Spiritualist vicar who gave up his living because mediums were not allowed to give demonstrations in his church or in church buildings.

This committee was thoroughly representative of the Church. It sat with mediums—though not with physical mediums. It heard the claims of anti-Spiritualists, and it reported, by a majority, that Spiritualism was true.

In less than a hundred years the

wheel of opinion had turned a full circle, and those who had declared from the pulpit that Spiritualism was of the Devil, have demonstrated only that they spoke with the tongue of ignorance, for this church committee urged co-operation with Spiritualists; one member even said that Spiritualism was the means whereby men turned from agnosticism to belief.

It was a triumph for Spiritualism, but the old Primate, Dr. Lang, would not issue the report. After some diplomacy, it was suppressed. There were protests from inside the church, but the report was still suppressed.

Sir Donald Tovey

It is part of the romance of modern Spiritualism that bishops and others on this Church committee of inquiry sat with two famous musicians, Madame Jelly d'Aranyi and her sister, Madame Adila Fachiri, and saw the power of the spirit demonstrated through them. The clerics even questioned the spirits, and they received answers which did not support any of the creeds.

It is also part of the romance of Spiritualism that through the mediumship of these two musicians the lost Violin Concerto of Schumann was re-discovered, although Nazi officials were loath to allow a search to be made.

In the end it was found as the result of spirit messages, and no less an authority than Sir Donald Tovey, of Edinburgh, testified to the psychic source of the discovery and to the fact that the medium who was the first to play it was aided by the "dead" composer in the fingering of the score.

There is so much more in this romance of Spiritualism, in which so much has been given to the world that it would take volumes to record it. And it is only the beginning.

Spiritualism's Truths

There are as fine mediums today as ever there were, and as the truth spreads there will be more mediums. There always will be evidence for man; there always will be truth for those who seek, there will always be the romance of the search for the facts of life after death because it is a personal thing and cannot be systematized.

It is not intended that it should be so, for that would be to fall into the errors of the past when the psychic stream was buried and lost beneath the buildings that cover up but do not express the living waters of truth.

Spiritualism is true in peace and in war, in good times and in bad,

in the darkness of the night and in the bright light of day. It arises not from any desire of any group of people on this earth to foist a new cult on the world, but because there is a plan in the world of spirit to regenerate our lives.

Our Great Task

It is not done by magic, but by the steady presentation of ideas, sometimes consciously, sometimes in the silence of inspiration, but always at work.

The phenomena of Spiritualism are only a small part of the whole. If those who have this work in their charge could find a better way to present their demonstrations of natural laws, they would do so. The method is old, because men do not change much in their ways.

It is spirit ideas that count, the value and stress that spirit guides give to life that matters most. So, from table rappings to spirit photographs, from the discovery of lost languages to the healing of the sick, this work is done; yet it is not all, for the greatest part is to set free the mind of man. That is the great task before which all else is small, dear though it be to all of us to find again the touch of the hand we loved and to hear again those accents we enjoyed.

100 Years of Effort

It is a fascinating record of achievement so far, yet we have seen in the first hundred years only the beginning. We have more to give than the world yet knows of. We have more to do than we even dream of, we have so much to achieve that if everyone endowed with the gifts of the spirit were to live a hundred years, it would only be begun.

That is the outline of what we have yet to do, having done something already as an earnest of the power that is within and behind us. Men cannot stay it, systems cannot destroy it, for it is established firmly in the human consciousness after only a hundred years of effort in which it has not shed a drop of blood, in which it has not taken away the bread from any child, nor the house of any widow.

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Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp

Chesterfield, Indiana

OPENS JULY 3rd; CLOSES AUGUST 26th

Andrew Jackson Davis
Exhibit Planned

The 58th annual convocation of Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp will open at Chesterfield, Indiana, July 3rd and close August 26, according to Mable Riffle, secretary.

As part of a specially arranged college course in psychic science, regular classes daily at 10:30 A. M. (except Sunday) will be conducted by James Laughton, July 4-14; Robert Chaney July 16-21; Clifford Bias, July 23-August 4th; Mamie B. Schulz, Aug. 6-26.

Twilight Services

Every evening except Monday and Saturday, one hour before sundown, vesper services will be held at the stone pulpit in the grove. The best talent in the camp as well as visiting workers will take part in these services.

Lyceum Activities

Lyceum activities, in the Chapel each morning at 9, will be under the supervision of Anna Dennis. The children will be taught the fundamentals of Spiritualism and the value of prayer. A well equipped playground is at the disposal of all local and visiting children.

Program of Music

Exie Hardy, music director, will arrange a fifteen minute program prior to each service in the auditorium. Chesterfield's two organs will be heard—a Schnable Memorial Hammond and a Stark Electric.

Accommodations

Ample accommodations afforded all visitors. There are two hotels and a Cafeteria. It is advisable to make all room reservations weeks in advance through Mildred Bowling, Hotel Manager, Chesterfield, Indiana. Single rooms up to \$2.00 daily; double rooms up to \$3.00 daily. Special rates to guests by week or month.

Psychic Observer Book Shoppe

At Chesterfield Camp this year, one of the largest assortments of books ever to be displayed in the middle west will be available at The Psychic Observer Book Shoppe located at the Bazaar. There will be over 200 titles and authors—books on Spiritualism, Psychic Science, Occult Philosophy and kindred subjects. Marion Nevison is in charge of the book department in this Bazaar Building. She will also carry a complete line of novelties, postcards, gifts, souvenirs and the Spiritualist periodicals, "Golden Rays," "Psychic Observer" and the "National Spiritualist."

Added Attractions

A trip to Chesterfield will not be complete without visiting "The Trail of Religion," "The Garden of Prayer" and the life-size Indian statue which exemplifies an appeal to the Great Spirit.

Phases of Mediumship

Visitors will also have an opportunity to attend demonstrations of many phases of physical phenomena—materialization, apport, telekinesis, spirit photography, slate-writing, direct-voice, independent writing, etc.—also mental mediumship, clairvoyance and clairaudience.

"Etta Bledsoe Day," Sunday, August 5th, will mark the fifth consecutive year that this unique demonstration of psychic phenomena

CAMP TREASURER



Psychic Observer

PANSY COX, clairvoyant and member of staff of Chesterfield mediums. She is treasurer of The Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp.

has been attempted. On this day, James Laughton, the direct-voice medium, will be seated in a dark cabinet on the rostrum of the auditorium. Under these conditions, the audience being in bright light, Etta Bledsoe has promised to duplicate her previous demonstrations by delivering the afternoon lecture and message service. Mrs. Bledsoe passed away July, 1940.

Spirit Photography Test

The official 1945 Chesterfield program lists a special demonstration of spirit photography, under test conditions, by Robert Chaney, Eaton Rapids, Michigan, Saturday, August 11th at 6:30 P. M.

How to Reach Chesterfield

In the state of Indiana, the cities near Chesterfield are: Anderson, 5 miles; Indianapolis, 40 miles; Muncie, 12 miles. Highway 67 passes through Chesterfield. Pennsylvania and New York Central R. R. pass through the town of Anderson with bus service to the camp.

1945 Program

Speakers and mediums on the 1945 Chesterfield program are: Clifford Bias, Mary Beattie, John W. Bunker, Anna Bryson, Robert Chaney, Nellie Curry, Pansy Cox, Pearl Crain, Anna Dennis, Maud Fox, Elsie Fishburn Hicks, Fanchion Harwood, Mary Murphy Lydy, James Laughton, Dr. D. W. Metcalf, Mable Riffle, Mamie Schulz, Charles Swann, Loretta Schmitt, Lulu Taber, Charlotte Taggart and Homer Watkins.

Juliette Ewing Pressing

Juliette Ewing Pressing, Editor of Psychic Observer, will visit the camp, August 4th to August 10th, incl. She is scheduled for lectures August 4, 5, 10 and 11. Visitors during Mrs. Pressing's visit will have an opportunity to see a variety of treasures, all of a psychic nature, collected by Psychic Observer over a period of seven years. On display in the bazaar

To Subscribers

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The above is the number of the present issue of PSYCHIC OBSERVER. You will find this number in the upper left hand corner of the first page.

This number is advanced every two weeks—showing the number of PSYCHIC OBSERVERS issued up to date.

The date of this paper is:

July 10, 1945

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U. S. A.

during the week (Aug. 4-11 only) will be: A collection of apports received at seances; Bangs' spirit paintings; rare slates with spirit writing in a variety of color; precipitated pictures and the treasured possessions of Andrew Jackson Davis—loaned to the editors by Frank S. Bigelow, Liberty, Maine. In this collection of Davis' belongings are: a surgical kit, a silver headed cane once owned by General Andrew Jackson, a broad-cloth cape and a fancy satin vest.

Additional Talent

Others listed on the official program are: Clara Metcalf, Attorney John Hicks, Dr. Richard W. McLain, Dr. B. F. Clark, Dollie Clark, Geneva S. Peet and Catherine Larney.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp are: President, William A. Dennis; Vice President, Ollie Patton; Secretary, Mable Riffle; Treasurer, Pansy Cox; Trustees, A. R. Riffle, George Gibson, Clifford Bias, Ray Stillwell, Ernest Schulz and Exie Hardy.

Impressions of

CARROLL SEANCE

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 3)

Unfortunately, he used an empty phrase to fill an empty space in his mind. Of course, many object to seances being held in the dark. All seances, however, are not so held. Some mediums are able to have remarkable phenomena in full light, daylight and night light; others can only have results in subdued light, clear or red; then yet others, again, can only have the phenomena in red light, but all having the best psychic results in total darkness.

Physics and Chemistry

This is as Nature dictates; and there is little use quarreling with or objecting to Nature's ways. As we know, some of Nature's forces are affected by light and darkness, which themselves are forces—and all psychic phenomena are governed by the forces of Nature, for it is they that cause and produce them.

Those who object to dark seances do not object to chemists experimenting with certain elements in the dark; to astronomers for studying solar phenomena in the dark, nor to photographers using a dark room for some of their work.

Even Nature has much of her processes done in total darkness. Seed in the soil germinates in the dark; the mighty oak-tree started as an acorn in the dark; all buds as they emerge into blossom and foliage in the Spring come from the darkness of Winter, and the beautiful butterfly bursts the shell of its cocoon in which it has developed in the dark.

In physics and chemistry certain acids and compounds react in strange ways to light and darkness. Some of these reactions are not visible to the eye, but are to the camera, as seen in photographs.

Body Temperature

As psychic phenomena are in part caused by chemical and electrical forces, with which are combined forces in the other world that are unknown to us, it is natural and easy to realize that light and darkness have an effect on them. Thus to object to dark seances has to be considered as but the reflection of a meager understanding.

Of the materialized hands being

SPIRITUALIST MINISTER RECEIVES PROMOTION

Lt. Col. Russell E. McMurray, 100th Chemical Mortar Battalion, with the 5th Army in Italy, attained his majorate in April when he and his companion risked their lives to extinguish a fire. He was awarded a silver star.

Lt. Col. McMurray is an ordained minister for The National Spiritualist Association and received his commission at The University of Illinois.

His wife, LaVonne, their daughter and two sons live at 1320 Cleveland Ave., Hobart, Indiana.



Lt. Col. McMURRAY

sort of a half-alive state. The outer life is only lived for; the inner one is completely neglected.

The young can be understood to be in this state. When the years of maturity come over people as they unfold into the Autumn of life it is strange that little or no heed is given to what is ahead.

Perhaps my deepest impression of the seance was the variety of the phenomena given through Dr. Carroll's psychic powers, and the rapidity with which they followed each other with quick succession. There was no waiting.

I Have Found It So!

It is my hope that Dr. Carroll will be sustained to use his astonishing psychic powers for a long time for seance work is very exhausting. This is so because some of his own energy has to be used to produce the phenomena.

Dr. Carroll is of a friendly disposition, very natural and unassuming, quiet and retiring in demeanor, but very exacting in attending to the details of his psychic work at a seance.

It certainly was a joy to be in his company for the short time in New York, and quite an experience to sit in the seance to see his psychic powers at work, answering with proof the great question of the ages "IS THERE A LIFE BEYOND THE SUNSET OF DEATH? I have found it so!"

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Man's Greatest Boon

READ GOOD BOOKS!
They Contain Answers
To Many Problems

By DORTCH CAMPBELL

That individual, who knows down deep in the heart that man is undying, is like an eagle soaring. A calm assurance is in that person's eyes. Storms of life may roll and thunder about them, but they remain untouched, they are unafraid, for they look at eternity. *Walt Whitman* with his cosmic consciousness saw the realities of life. And regarding him *Bob Ingersoll* said: "He was an eagle soaring above theological chicaneries and sparrows."

A true understanding that man is immortal will take anyone above the level of earth-life. It gives him a broader vision; he sees beyond the horizon. In the long ago I met a man of that kind—a simple and natural and strong man like *The Rock at Bon Echo*, where followers of *Walt Whitman* used to forgather.

You Should Know

You stood in awe before the serene majesty of that mystic. You knew instinctively that he had reached the heights where winds of adversity never beat. I could not help but wonder when I looked at him. Some individuals come into the world like this man, I told myself, but others acquire that power to work miracles. What was the secret? Had this man by and for himself carved such a soul? So my curiosity ran away with my courtesy and I asked him bluntly to reveal himself to me.

His answer was: "If my soul is serene it is because I know that this I AM is immortal. I do not merely believe, as so many say they do; it is not a question of unsubstantiated faith. But I know that I shall not die. I have evolved into this supreme understanding. I need no other happiness than to know this. It is the all of life. This understanding has actually given me power and illumination to meet the troubles of life."

Plenty of Proof

Yes, I said, but so do I believe in the immortality of the soul.

"Your belief," he said, "is not understanding. I have discovered proof that I shall never die. I shall go on like I am without much change. I know this. This has given me evolutionary power."

How can one attain such faith in life? I asked that *Parsi*.

He smiled: "Have I not told you that I believe in survival?" I caught the kindness of his soul in his expression.

"You mean to tell me," I said, "that you have mastered life

simply by believing in it?"

He smiled again. "You flatter me," was his reply. "No man is master of life. But if I have gained some mastery it is because I know that life is eternal. We are told that in my Father's House there are many mansions, but do you merely assume this to be true? Or do you really know it to be true? There is a way, you know, to prove that this change called death is mere transition. Death is only a going from garden to garden of universal life. When we tire of one garden we are ready for another, and death can be sweet to us. But can you prove that death is but transition? Well, there is plenty of proof if you look for it."

But how can one get that proof? I persisted.

Do You Understand Life?

His answer was that no labored technique is required to know. "Your scriptures," he added, "contain the precept—ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you. I would put it this way. Look for the Truth. Any person can discover for himself that life is eternal, without beginning or end, if he will look long enough and ask and not be satisfied with superficial answers."

"You give a superficial answer to my question," I goaded. "I want a straightforward answer."

"I perceive," replied the *Parsee*. "that you have something of the mystic in your own make-up. Well, you have asked an honest question and I will give an honest answer—books first of all will prepare for you the groundwork of an understanding of life. If a man will read the right books he will finally understand life as it is."

The years have come and the years have gone, as they have a way of doing, since I talked with that *Mystic*. But I have never found a better way to live than that he showed me, nor a better method to find that way. We ought to seek in books and out of books and deep within our souls. All books are right and good. But knowledge and understanding come, after all, largely through a process of elimination.

Worthy of Consideration

We really read that we may eliminate belief that are not true. A little learning is always a dangerous thing. Do not stop at one book or a dozen books or at one creed or a dozen creeds. Drink deep or touch not the *Pierian* spring. Start at the foundation and build. Do not leap into anything. Search the works of material scientists; study them all, then make your way higher.

After you have searched far and wide you will eventually discover that the only thing we can know for a certainty is that life is without beginning or end and the soul goes marching on. The principle the *Parsee* gave is most worthy of consideration. He started me on that search and the pursuit has not merely proved solace for a tired soul but has given me strength and courage and faith to go on to the end of the earthly passage.

You, too, can thus carry on, perhaps far better than I have been enabled to do because of many handicaps; you can thus right your life and get a vision that will span earth and sky. But you must continually expand your horizon by searching the scriptures of this new-old religion.

Nothing Replaces Study

If you are isolated from your fellows, if you can not find opportunity to look into phenomenon or become a scientific investigator, you can at least read and study. You can identify yourself with a

The Significance of PSYCHIC PHENOMENA

Understanding Releases You From Fear

By
MARY STEPHENSON BARNES
Author of
"Long Distance Calling" (*)

Spiritualism Supplies Inherent Proof

If one were asked what he considered of first importance in the accumulated evidence of contact with other planes of existence, as

(*) One of Spiritualism's latest books; a record of other world communications through automatic writing; preface by E. Lee Howard; recommended by Felice Crossley and Arthur Ford; for sale by Dale News, Inc., \$2.50.

whole city of fine minds one discovers in books. You can bring the good and great into your humble habitations and they will sup with you and they will tell you of wonderful achievements that may be yours.

I know of nothing that takes the place of study. That man who invented the printing press gave to humanity its greatest boon. That inventor took a single torch and lighted with it the whole world. Before that there were dark ages of sloth and inertia and superstition. But he created books and by that creation the whole world was illumined.

Two full pages of the *Psychic Observer* are devoted to books on Spiritualism and psychic sciences. Hundreds write me, asking for some way to solve their manifold problems. I never read a letter that I do not think of the wonderful books that they might obtain. Those books really contain the answers to all problems. For they teach the immortality of the human soul. That understanding once attained nothing would be impossible unto you. You would be like the *Parsi* who was captain of his fate and master of his soul. He attained mastership when he came to know that the soul is immortal.

given through the various phases of mediumship, he would undoubtedly say that it is the proof it gives of what the churches of various creeds have asked us, to take on faith.

It is a curious fact that churches of many religious denominations or sects proclaim a philosophy based on the very phenomena which they hesitate or refuse to recognize as a factor in their teaching today.

The thought has occurred that such an attitude might be the result of fear of the consequences to those of their congregations who, ignorant of the mechanics of communication, might become unduly influenced. But, whatever the reason, the attitude is an unfortunate one.

Outstanding mediums, recognized by the Church, could be of great assistance to any pastor in his ministrations. Demonstration of the fact of continued existence, accepted and used openly by the church, kept on a high spiritual plane, would gradually eliminate those who bring disrepute on the entire matter of intercommunication.

This procedure would obviate the necessity, perhaps, of separate spiritualist churches and benefit the better mediums now serving a constantly increasing number of sincere people wanting proof which is denied them in the more orthodox churches.

Relatively Unimportant

The proof of continued existence inherent in psychic phenomena is, then, its supreme gift. The astounding relation of the survival of the personality, with all that it implies—the adventure it makes of living, the urge it implants, with no sense of futility, to meet circumstances courageously, to grow in stature, this inherent proof, makes it pre-eminently important.

What happens after the next plane of existence and whether we

AUTHOR OF NEW BOOK



Psychic Observer
MARY STEPHENSON BARNES
304 S. Marengo, Pasadena, California

live many lives after . . . all of this is relatively unimportant. The significant fact is that psychic phenomena, in cumulative proof, make it clear that Eternity begins here and now and that each day of life brings a new birth—a fresh start.

Be Released From Fear

The importance of the comfort and release from fear which the proofs inherent in psychic phenomena give the bereaved, is not overlooked. That is one of the many concomitants of the recognition of the proven truth of the continuity of life.

Yet, always, whatever other happy result from the amazing work of the various mediums, as recorded in *The Psychic Observer* and elsewhere, the outstanding, overwhelming contribution made through them to the world, is the proof that living is not rounded by a birth and a death but extends (with whatever implications the fact contains) and advances always towards 'an ever retreating perfection.'

PRAYER HEALING

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AN
ILLUSTRATED
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By
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DAVIS

What Is
the
Philosophy
of
Death?

Fifty Cents

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A man's a fool to go around with his pants pocket burning with extra folling money when he ought to buy an extra Bond, because that loose lettuce is the stuff inflation is made of. When that extra dough goes hunting for civilian goods (that are as hard to find as Crosby in a tuxedo!), it tends to push up prices. Besides, it doesn't make sense when twelve million kids are fighting our battle for any of us to hike up the cost of living by buying anything we can live without.

ONE PERSON CAN START IT!

You give inflation a boost...

—when you buy anything you can do without
—when you buy above ceiling or without giving up stamps (Black Market)
—when you ask more money for your services or the goods you sell.

Save Your Money. Buy and hold all the War Bonds you can afford—today for the war and protect your own future. Keep up your insurance.



PRICES DOWN

A United States War message prepared by the War Advertising Council; approved by the Office of War Information; and contributed by this magazine in cooperation with the Magazine Publishers of America.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

FROM THE

W. T. STEAD MEMORIAL CENTER, NEW YORK CITY



REV. DOROTHY WILSON
New Medium and Pastor



REV. MRS. N. S. THEMELIS
Founder, Medium and Former Pastor

WE ARE EXTREMELY HAPPY TO MAKE THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

It is not only the ardent wish and aspiration of Mrs. Themelis, but also the expressed desire of all her collaborators, particularly *William T. Stead*, that we carry on her work. We are happy and thankful to be able to announce that her every wish will be carried out.

Through the mediumship of her successor, *Rev. Dorothy Wilson*, the spirit communication department will continue to bring solace to those inquirers who need to know more about personal conscious survival.

Through the sponsorship and directorship of her husband, *Rev. N. S. Themelis*, the Educational Department will function to ever greater attainments—knowing the need at this time for even greater quantities of spiritualist books and pamphlets in addition to those already published.

Rev. Mrs. N. S. Themelis, known throughout the world as "*Cecil M. Cook*," requested this opportunity to convey her gratitude to her members, ex-members, patrons, devotees, admirers, friends, class students and all those who received light through reading her books. Not only does she convey grateful acknowledgement to her supporters for their splendid co-operation but she also wishes to extend thanks for their kind thoughts, devotion and loyalty.

We have pledged ourselves to the services of those who may need comfort and consolation in their sorrow and grief. We know also that a greater knowledge of spiritual truths is most essential in these trying times. In short, there is much work ahead and, in due time, we shall announce a schedule of future activities.

It was a difficult task to find the proper individual to take the place of our beloved medium, *Mrs. N. S. Themelis*, who passed away January 2nd last. We were obliged to locate a medium to meet our requirements (i.e.) calibre, reliability and integrity. We have found such a medium. She is *Rev. Dorothy Wilson* of Miami, Florida.



WILLIAM T. STEAD
Spirit Collaborator

During her earth-life, Mrs. Themelis had never met *Rev. Wilson*. She had only heard about her and it was not until she manifested at a direct-voice seance that she named her successor. At subsequent seances, Mrs. Themelis voiced and, in detail, outlined her wishes regarding future activities of the *W. T. Stead Center*. She suggested *Rev. Wilson* taking over her offices and psychic work, as medium and pastor, and being in supreme charge of the communication department.

Thousands have had the good fortune to visit the headquarters of The Stead Memorial Center and witness Mrs. Themelis' outstanding mediumship. Hundreds of others, unable to share this experience, have read the books (*) made possible through data received through her instrumentality. All have received the Light of ETERNAL LIFE and IMMORTALITY which she expressed during her earth-life by her many acts of kindness and generosity as she carried on the activities of her Educational Organization.

Mrs. Themelis has not only brought light and comfort to literally hundreds of thousands of hungry, grief-stricken and despairing souls but she has also contributed to the Truth and Reality of Spirit Communication as well as to the *Religion of Spiritualism*. All of this was made possible through clean living, sterling character, unchallenged integrity and humble compassion. These traits, coupled with marvelous psychic power, enabled her to raise the standard, dignity and self respect of our religion. To the very last, she held her STANDARD VERY HIGH.

(*) "*God's World*," \$2.00; "*Voice Triumphant*," \$2.50; "*The Key to Communication*," \$1.25; Distributor, Dale News, Inc., Lily Dale, N. Y.

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