

THE PSYCHIC OBSERVER

NUMBER ONE BI-MONTHLY

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10 CENTS

RHINE CONTINUES E. S. P. TESTS OF "CLAIRVOYANCE"

Blind-fold Medium Obtains Perfect Score with Aid of "Spirit"

Dr. Joseph B. Rhine of Duke University has apparently proven something that many people have known for centuries—that there is such a thing as transmitting a concept from one person to another without using any of the universally accepted six senses.

The result is that those of us who have believed this many years are glad to accept his proof because it seems elementally simple and because we feel that it may be helpful in convincing others of a truth they have found hard to accept. Those whose minds are closed to conviction have, on the other hand, set about the task of breaking down Dr. Rhine's conclusions and attacking his methods. Another group that we might call "psychic hitch-hikers" are "thumbing" a ride for dear publicity's sake on the Rhine bandwagon.

Rhine's Method

Dr. Rhine's methods have been so often described that few who are interested at all are not familiar with them. He has a pack of 25 cards with five simple but different designs on them. Five have a square, five a circle, five a rectangle, five a cross, and five a series of three wavy lines. Chance would permit one to average over a long series of attempts to name

DUKE'S PIONEER



PROFESSOR RHINE

Dr. Joseph Banks Rhine, Associate Professor of Psychology, Duke University, Durham, N. C. Author of **EXTRA-SENSORY PERCEPTION**—a book that deals with Parapsychology (Psychic Research) Dale News, Inc. \$2.50.

correctly the design on a card without looking at it, once in five times. If one averages better than that it's an indication that something other than chance is giving him the answer. Well, Dr. Rhine found that some of those he tested, students in many cases, did do bet-

(Continued Page 5, Col. 1)



SYLVAN MULDOON, Darlington, Wisconsin, writes for *Psychic Observer*. Read his story in the next issue. He is seen here in his "study." Mr. Muldoon is author of **"THE CASE FOR ASTRAL PROJECTION."**—Dale News, Inc. \$2.00.

Houdini Movie Squelched; Theater Manager Disturbed

BUFFALO SPIRITUALISTS AROUSED BY FILM "RELIGIOUS RACKETEERS"

By THE EDITOR

"All Spiritualists or Spiritualist Mediums or anyone who believes that communication with the so called 'dead' is a fact, are frauds and fakes." So says Miss Fanchon Royer, erstwhile Hollywood producer of the apparently short-lived moving picture production **"RELIGIOUS RACKETEER."** The above statement made to me in the presence of three witnesses, was the real reason why this latest production to belittle our Spiritualist Mediums, came "crashing to the ground". It all happened when I was notified by Lucy A. Walker, Buffalo medium, that the premiere showing of the picture would be made at the Century Theatre, Buffalo.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1)

TO OUR READERS

The publication of *PSYCHIC OBSERVER*, *Spiritualism's Pictorial Journal*, has been planned for two and one-half years. 30,000 specimen copies have been mailed. It was a herculean task. The next issue will go to press just as soon as possible. Mailing list must be checked and postage permit obtained. Several weeks (Not later than Sept. 10th) should be ample time to handle all details. **YOU CAN HELP BY SUBSCRIBING TODAY.** Subscription blank on page 3 for your convenience.

SPIRIT PHOTOS A FACT—BUT STILL ENIGMA

By DR. EDWIN F. BOWERS

Suppose you were to purchase a sealed packet of photographic plates, take these plates to a so-called "spirit photographer"—who couldn't possibly know you from *Pithecanthropus Erectus*, except for the fact that your skull might be a little thicker. Suppose, too, you break the seal of the packet, go into the photographer's developing room, extract a plate, initial or sign it, place it in the holder, then in your own camera, and have someone you brought with you take your picture.

The "spirit photographer" would participate in this procedure only by going into a semitrance for a few seconds, while standing six feet or more from the camera. After you had snapped the picture, you and your friend might take the plate into the dark room and develop it yourselves.

Now, if after the plate was developed, you were to see—in addition to your own likeness—the photograph of your little girl, whom you buried three years before, or of your mother, who sacrificed her life to give you birth, but who smiles down at you from a portrait on your wall at home,—how would you say these "extras" came on the plate?

Every Precaution Taken

Suppose, further, that you were to accompany this medium to a town he never had visited before and noted that he was met at the station by a committee—many of whom were scientists of some reputation. This committee would drive him to a hall, packed with a thousand people, and escort him to a seat on the platform.

Then you saw the leading photographer of the town receive from one of the scientists a sealed packet of plates, which he would place in his camera, one by one, focus on the audience—the medium, in the meantime, sitting semi-entranced in his chair.

If, after these photos were developed, they were taken to a projecting lantern at the back of the hall and thrown on the screen, and a hundred or more men and women among the audience were definitely to identify the majority of the faces of the spirit "extras" there reflected, as long-dead rela-

Read the latest book **"MEMORSHIP OF JOHN MYERS"** by Paul Miller. The dramatic story of a medium whose gift of spirit photography has astonished the world. It takes you behind the scenes and exposes his exposers. DALE NEWS, Inc. (\$1.50)

LOWELL THOMAS CONFUSES MEDIUMS AND MAGICIANS

IS HE CONFUSED?



LOWELL THOMAS

tives or friends, what would you say?

"Dead" Photographed

Suppose this medium had been invited to attend the funeral services of a lady—to which services he had come, naturally, without any photographic apparatus—then two plates in a sealed envelope were placed among the wreaths under the casket by friends, who, after the services, developed these plates and found imprinted thereon excellent photographs of these "dead" persons—the lady herself, her husband and the likeness of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; wouldn't this puzzle you just a bit?

Remember, the only connection between the medium and this fantastic incident was his presence among those who attended the funeral services.

He hadn't purchased the plates, nor had he touched them at any

(Continued Page 2, Col. 4)



DR. EDWIN F. BOWERS

Dr. Edwin Frederick Bowers, New York City. Author of **"SPIRITUALISM'S CHALLENGE."** This book is known in England as **"The Phenomena of the Seance Room."** 304 pages, \$1.50.

Dr. Bowers, graphic and forceful writer, gives us in his book the most convincing and unanswerable argument yet written on the subject of Spiritualism. He puts the hecklers and persecutors on the gridiron.

Famous Radio Commentator Speaks of "Spirits"; More Houdini

Columnists and radio commentators can seldom resist the temptation to talk about spirits and spiritualism in the same breath. Even the illustrious Lowell Thomas of the air waves so far forgot his usual good taste in a recent venture into the attractive realm of the so-called occult as to refer to the well-known Sir Conan Doyle as "a profound believer in spirits."

Then the learned Lowell launches upon a discussion of the late Howard Thurston's attempt to get in touch with those in this life.

"Professional magicians have always been active, they think, in exposing spiritualist mediums," Mr. Thomas says. "Many of them, especially Houdini, proclaiming loudly that there is not and never has been any such thing as a 'spirit' returning to earth. They even claim that there is no such thing as telepathy or transference of thought. There were many ex-

Read this book! **"HOUDINI AND CONAN DOYLE,"** by B. M. Ernst and Hereward Carrington. The real story of their "friendship."

Dale News, Inc., \$2.50

changes of repartee on this subject between Houdini and Sir Conan Doyle, author of **"Sherlock Holmes,"** who in his late years had become a profound believer in "spirits."

Why A Seance

Thomas describes also the unsuccessful attempt of Thurston's spirit to come to earth and smash a figure of Rameses II on the third anniversary of the magician's "death." The test was conducted in the apartment of another magician. Thomas called it a "spiritualist seance." Just why he should describe a magician's show as a "seance" is not clear.

Must it follow that there is no communication with the spirit world because a very clever conjurer who has taken up residence in the great beyond cannot continue to mystify his clientele?

But this is by no means the only occasion when Spiritualism has been pooch-pooched in public because those who write, and speak have confused those who read and listen by failure to distinguish between Spiritualism which is eternal and the machinations of conjurers which is earthly and subject to human limitations.

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HOUDINI MOVIE

(Continued from Page 1)

I called on Miss Royer, in her palatial Delaware Avenue Apartment, and the "fireworks" started. The newspapers were quick to sense a controversy over the authenticity of the picture and agreed sufficiently with the editor of PSYCHIC OBSERVER to present our case fairly. For three days, columns of publicity were devoted to both sides of the affair—just enough for the people of Buffalo to be protected, else they may have been hoodwinked.

The picture itself simply deals with a lot of hokum about a fake "conjurer" who attempts to "take in" a seemingly gullible woman. Mrs. (MME?) Harry Houdini is supposed to be a star in the picture but performs badly. She blatantly states that she has never received a "spirit" communication from her husband. Her signed statement is a matter of record and appears elsewhere in this issue. At the very end of the picture, Mrs. Houdini further states: "We must be on the lookout for the 'leeches' who claim to be able to bring messages from the dead."

Commissioner Duped

Miss Royer even seemed to be able to "dupe" Glenn H. McClellan, Buffalo Police Commissioner. She talked him into signing a statement that would appear commendable as a boost to her movie. Later the Commissioner withdrew his statement which they had plastered in front of the theater—for, you see, he was informed that some of Miss Royer's picture dialog was untrue. The Commissioner admits he knows nothing about Spiritualism. Neither does the flippant Miss Royer, for that matter.

Poor Attendance

Vincent McFaul, General Manager, Buffalo Shea Theaters, had a bad week during the showing of this miserable spectacle. Spiritualists kept calling him on the phone and the box office receipts were disheartening. The picture had to be bolstered the last few days by adding another feature. Says Mr. McFaul, "I'll bet a year's salary against last summer's hat that the picture won't earn a nickel."

Ardis Smith, Buffalo Times movie critic states "There is no point to the picture and no point to the argument." The first part of his statement is correct. He knows pictures. The latter part of his statement is erroneous.

Picture Doomed

He has no knowledge of psychic science and admits the fact. The long and short of the whole story is simply this. Mrs. Houdini has tried for years to belittle her own statement made in 1929. Dr. Edward Saint, said to be her henchman, has evidently misled her into believing that she can make no less than a million dollars if she refutes "spirit" communication publicly. It is said \$200,000 was spent on "Religious Racketeer." Reports have it that the picture has been permanently discontinued in Buffalo (at least at first rate theaters) and may or may not appear in other cities. If the picture does appear elsewhere, however, it behooves every loyal Spiritualist in the U. S. A. to make an open protest on the grounds that some of the facts presented are misleading.

The Case Rests

Any future protest can be handled directly with PSYCHIC OBSERVER office or by writing Will H. Hays, General Manager, Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, 28 West 44th St., N. Y. C., or to the New York State Motion Picture Commission, License Bureau and Censor Board, State Building, Albany, N. Y.

Until Mrs. Houdini makes a statement publicly or signs a statement which is publicized, either to the effect that she denies her own signature, the world will know that she DID receive the agreed upon code message through the mediumship of Arthur Ford. It has taken nine years to break this case. Until she refutes her signed statement, the case rests.

THEY HAVE COMMUNICATED



HARRY HOUDINI

LOWELL THOMAS

(Continued from Page 1)

As Thomas said in his radio talk, about the only thing that Thurston agreed on with his brother Houdini while both were on earth was their conviction that there was no such thing as returning from the spirit world. Strangely enough these two men who agreed that it couldn't be done both promised to try.

The Old Houdini Affair

Thomas failed to say in his dissertation on communication with the spirit world that Houdini, the more famous of the two magicians, actually did communicate in a pre-arranged code with his wife and that it was through Spiritualism and one of its leading mediums that the message was received.

The communication covering a period of several months was completed in the presence of Mrs. Harry Houdini as planned by her husband in the spirit world. A signed and witnessed statement made by Mrs. Houdini on January 9, 1929 acknowledges the authenticity of this message although in later years Mrs. Houdini, surrounded by conjurer friends of her late husband, and beset on all sides by controversy, has insisted that she has never "seen" or "heard" her late husband.

A Strange Interview

The editor of the Psychic Observer is personally interested in this phase of the controversy because some time ago he was fortunate enough to learn that Mrs. Houdini was interviewed in Florida. It was some time after the publicized "seance" in California when, surrounded by all the machinery of movieland, she pleaded with Harry Houdini to speak to her, to show himself to her. With her, both at the time of the Hollywood fiasco and when she was interviewed in Florida, was her "business manager," the curious Dr. Saint, a conjurer of a sort but not a medium by the greatest stretch of imagination.

"Why doesn't he come to me, why doesn't he speak to me," Mrs. Houdini reiterated.

"But there was not even a medium present," it was explained. "You or Dr. Saint could not produce such a materialization. You or Dr. Saint are not direct-voice mediums. Of course you did not SEE or HEAR Harry Houdini!"

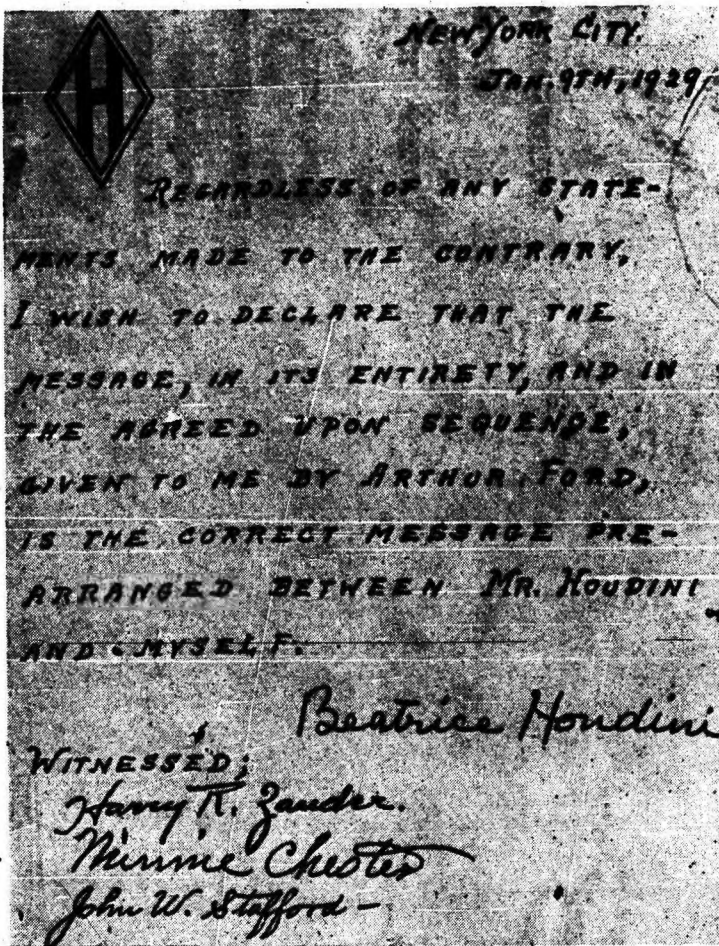
Medium Needed

"It is not in keeping with the laws of psychic phenomena," it was explained "You can no more get a message without a medium than you can get a radio program without a radio. You admit receiving this secret code message through a series of sittings. Then your husband has communicated with you."

"I have not seen him or heard him," she declared stoically. "Why does he not speak to me?"

Dr. Edward Saint nervously paced the floor and tried from time to time to direct the conver-

MRS. HOUDINI'S SIGNED STATEMENT



BEATRICE HOUDINI

while baffling the most astute scientists of Europe.

After Myers had seated himself Mrs. Deane—for some inhibiting reason—seemed utterly unable longer to produce her "extras". Finally Myers, under some impelling influence, felt constrained to offer aid to Mrs. Deane. He was invited to the platform and, following the technic suggested by Mrs. Deane—which consisted merely in devout concentration upon the subject at hand—brought out some astoundingly clear spirit "extras."

A few evenings afterwards Myers told the officers of the Vic- (Continued on Page 3)

sation from the message of Harry Houdini.

"We are going to Hollywood to supervise the making of a picture about Houdini's life," he interrupted anxiously. "Of course we won't be able to reproduce his finest tricks. Those die with him."

When Mrs. Houdini claims that she has not heard from her husband she apparently means that

she has not personally heard his voice and that she has not seen his person. An attempt during the interview to get a direct answer from Mrs. Houdini as to whether she has repudiated the communication through Arthur Ford was thwarted by the omnipresent Dr. Saint and his babbie about the proposed trip to Hollywood for a picture.

And So the Truth

And so the truth about this Houdini business is that Mrs. Houdini was disturbed by the fact that her husband refused to materialize for her, especially since it would have been so fitting as advance publicity for the Houdini movie. Her statements, carefully guarded by the bald-headed Saint, are those of a widow who does not "believe in spirits," but tried "vainly" for years to communicate with her "dead" husband; one who maintains that, although she has received a completely true message, known only to Houdini, she has never herself communicated with him.

BEATRICE HOUDINI WRITES WINCHELL

It would be perhaps difficult to express Mrs. Houdini's attitude more completely than in the letter which follows:

Dear Mr. Walter Winchell.
I want to let Houdini's old friends know that I did not betray his trust. I am writing you this—because I wish to tell you emphatically that I was no party to any fraud.
Now regarding the seance: For two years I have been praying to receive the message from my husband; for two years every day I have received messages from all parts of the world. Had I wanted a publicity stunt I could no doubt have chosen any of these sensational messages. When I repudiated these messages no one said a word, ex-



WALTER WINCHELL

cepting the writers who said I did not have the nerve to admit the truth. When the real message, THE message that Houdini and I agreed upon, came to me, and I accepted it as the truth, I was greeted with jeers. Why? Those who denounced the entire thing as a fraud claim that I had given Mr. Arthur Ford the message. If Mr. Ford said this I brand him a liar. Mr. Ford has stoutly denied saying this ugly thing, and knowing the reporter as well as I do, I prefer to believe Mr. Ford. Others say the message has been common property and known to them for some time. Why do they tell me this now, when they know my heart was hungry for the true words from my husband?

The many stories told about me I have no way to tell the world the truth of or the untruth, for I have no paper at my beck and call; everyone has a different opinion of how the message was obtained. With all these different tales I would not even argue. However, when anyone accuses me of GIVING the words that my husband and I labored so long to convince ourselves of the truth of communication, then I will fight and fight until the breath leaves my body. If anyone claims I gave the code, I can only repeat they lie. Why should I want to cheat myself? I do not need publicity. I have no intention of going on the stage, or, as some paper said, on a lecture tour. My husband made it possible for me to live in the greatest comfort, I do not need money. I have gotten the message I have been waiting for from my beloved, how, if not by spiritual aid, I do not know.
And now, after I told the world that I had received the true message, everyone seems to have known of the code, yet never told me. They left it for Mr. Ford to tell me, and I am accused of giving the words. It is all so confusing. In conclusion, may I say that God and Houdini and I know that I did not betray my trust. For the rest of the world I really ought not to care a hang, but somehow I do, therefore this letter. Forgive its length.
Sincerely yours,
BEATRICE HOUDINI

DR. BOWERS
(Continued from Page 1)
time. He didn't even know that the dead lady had requested that he be present at her funeral, so that she might attempt to impress her picture upon a photographic plate.

Creates Controversy

Needless to say, the extraordinary results of this last experience, created at the time a tremendous interest.

The "skotographs" as Spiritualists call plates or sensitized print papers which have never been in the camera, but upon which photographs are produced by psychic means—were Page 1 news in scores of leading newspapers throughout Great Britain.

Hundreds of thousand of lines of controversy seethed and surged through their columns; bitter attacks and vehement defense raged back and forth for months.

And all the while—a dentist by the name of John Myers, the innocent cause of this pother and hullabaloo, went unruffled about his business.

The evolution of this doctor of dental surgery into a psychic photographer, whose like has probably never before been seen, is a fascinating story.

Scientists Baffled

It seems that Myers had attended a seance conducted by Mrs. A. E. Deane, veteran spirit photographer. She and William Hope of the "Crewe Circle" were at that time entralling believers in the psychic origin of their powers,

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Spirit World Holds Hope For Mary Pickford

Famous Movie Actress Tells of Her Views on Spiritualism

Not so long ago I met for the first time Mary Pickford—America's Sweetheart—in the cafeteria of a hotel in Binghamton, New York. I had just arrived at the hotel, and with my wife, I was about to take the elevator up to our room, when the operator asked me in awed whispers if I knew that Mary Pickford was in the hotel.

"No, I didn't know," I told him. "Where is she?" I had heard of her books, "Why Not Try God," "Why Not Look Beyond," and "My Rendezvous with Life," and was eager to meet her.

"She's in the dining room now," the boy said, and he pointed the way there.

My wife went on up to the room, while I went into the dining room to speak to this renowned American woman, who had aroused so much comment, both in and out of Spiritualistic circles with her three books. Of course I recognized her immediately. She was seated with her secretary, Miss Lewis, and I approached her.

I had heard that Miss Pickford believed in the philosophy of Spiritualism, and I used the best lead I had to tell her who I was and to gain an audience with her. I told her my name, and informed her that I was of Lily Dale.

Dinner With Mary Pickford

Immediately she was interested, and invited me to have dinner with her. I sent for my wife. The main topic of conversation was, of course, Spiritualism, and Miss Pickford's views of it. When we had finished eating, I suggested that the four of us go to our room in the hotel, where we could discuss spiritualism.

Mary Pickford is a remarkable woman. She carries well the worries and the cares that have been hers through a lifetime. The sadness that she knew with the death of her beloved mother and brother have not swept the smiles and merriment from her personality and her beauty.

Belief in the Beyond

But there is a wistfulness about her beauty—a sort of sadness that makes one wonder what it is that bothers her, what it is that she wishes for, and seems so unable to get. I think I know, now.

For Miss Pickford the life beyond is certainly a true and real belief. She never refers to the passing over as "death," her term for it is a "transition." In her book, "Why Not Look Beyond," she says, "The average man . . . seldom wakes up to what he is, or where he is going until someone he loves disappears across this life's horizon. Then he is shocked into consciousness. Desperate for some explanation of this separation, he casts about for an answer. In striving to understand "death" he frequently stumbles on the truth about life, and the fact that we all have an indestructible self that never dies." She is certain that "if God arranged my meeting with Jack and my Mother on this earth, he certainly will arrange for it on the next."

Mary's Plight

But is Mary Pickford happy? She would like communication with her mother, and with a brother that she loved most dearly. Miss Pickford and her mother were more than mother and daughter—they were great friends, laughing and playing together, happy with each other. So it was with her brother—two good, sincere friends who enjoyed each other's company. It was, needless to say, a great shock to Miss Pickford when both her mother and brother were tak-

PICKFORD BOOKS
Why Not Try God.....\$1.00
My Rendezvous with Life 1.00
Why Not Look Beyond.... 1.00
See book list, page 6



MARY PICKFORD

en away from her in this life at so nearly the same time. But Miss Pickford has not as yet been able to effect a communication with her loved ones.

Has Implicit Faith

Miss Pickford has implicit faith. She is certain that some day she'll find the medium who will establish the contact for her. As it is today—and as it is with so many other famous persons—the mediums Miss Pickford approaches shy away from her—they are reluctant to read for a great personality such as she is. Too, it has always been difficult for Miss Pickford because of the careful observation she has always been under from bodyguards and studio executives while she was making her pictures.

But now Miss Pickford is a studio executive herself. She has her own producing company, and she is free to continue her attempts to talk with her Mother and her brother.

"I'm sure that Jack and Mother still love me," she says, "and that they are just as eager to talk with me as I with them."

Senses Presence

At times Miss Pickford feels their presence very strongly. She gets what she terms "hunches" that she is certain could have come from no one but a loving mother, and warnings that could have come from no one but a fond and friendly brother. She is certain that her thoughts are known to them, and equally certain that they are trying to impinge their thoughts on her.

In her book, Miss Pickford says, "Every thought you have, of love or prayer or hatred, the brain moves. That movement communicates itself to the ether all around you; the ether carries it on to the universe; and there it waits to strike on a mind in sympathy with its ideas."

Why Not Try Spiritualism?

That is the way Mary Pickford describes the sort of Spiritualism in which she believes. She has faith, and because of that faith, she will some day talk with her mother and brother again—will again hear their voices, and perhaps even see them in materialization. For Mary Pickford believes. She has faith, sincerity, honesty, and she wants communication. Some day, soon, perhaps through one of the mediums in America, she will meet again with Jack Pickford and her mother.

And when she does, may she write another book, as great as her first two, called "Why Not Try Spiritualism?"—an account of her meeting with her departed loved ones.

"Home Circle" Important

ARTHUR FORD

Five men in a room. As strangely assorted a group as this could seldom be found. For five years they met once a week, and plan to continue. One of them is a famous detective, another directs an orchestra, another invents things which make each year's new automobile better than the last. One is a laborer, one operates a fleet of trucks. The thing which brings this group together is an interest in Spiritualism and a desire to develop their own psychic faculties.

Once a year when I am at home I am invited to visit this circle. I always come away with renewed enthusiasm. For years I have been declaring all over the world that the future of Spiritualism is to be found in the home circle. I have been criticized for saying that any group of sincere people sitting faithfully and obeying psychic law could develop their own mediumship. This circle proves my theory. There are thousands like this all over the world doing the same thing. The future of our movement is guaranteed.

Our movement was born in an attempt to prove the reality of a spiritual world and psychic faculties by means of which we could communicate with that world. Gradually we have proved our theories and demonstrated the law of psychic phenomena. That an increasing number of men and women are accepting our findings and setting out to verify them in the laboratory of the home circle should be a cause for rejoicing rather than lamentation.

Home Circle

Just as the orthodox clergy have been declaring for a long time that the "family altar" was the bulwark of Christianity, the leaders of Spiritualism are today emphasizing the importance of the "home circle". The family altar ceased to exist as science and the higher scholarship proved that the concept upon which it was based was no longer tenable. The home circle grows as both science and scholarship assert the existence of a world of consciousness and power hitherto undreamed of. And when psychic science places in the hands of a spiritually bankrupt and soul-hungry people the technique for personal exploration of the fascinating depths



Arthur Ford, Internationally known lecturer and medium. Now in England on a lecture tour.

of spirit, it calls forth an eager response. People want to know. They will no longer accept any authority, however sacred, unless that authority can be backed up by personal experience.

All Are Great

The greatest medium in the world is the medium who has brought conviction and comfort to "you" in your hour of need. The world may never have heard of them. They probably accept no fees. They think of themselves as students along with you. The greatest medium in the world is the medium who has been able to bring evidence and help to the man or woman who sought it. The medium may be famous. He probably is not. But for some individual he is the greatest.

Some of us are known the world over. Books are written about us. Controversy rages about us. Crowds flock to hear us. Yet we have nothing to give that cannot be given by thousands of men and women all over the earth. And the home circle develops these non-professional mediums. My hat is off to them. I kneel in reverence before them and those who help them to be what they are. Let us develop a true sense of values. We professional mediums are necessary now. These others are the true children of Light and the Chosen of God!

DR. BOWERS

(Continued from Page 2)

toria Society of Psychical Research of this experience. They then started a "developing circle" which held regular meetings. At the first sitting only a few quaint markings were found on the plates. Finally, after months of patient endeavor and the use of hundreds of plates, a perfect spirit "extra" was found.

Strictest Test Conditions

It was then agreed that, at all future sittings, the strictest test conditions should always be observed. Under no circumstances should Myers ever be permitted to purchase, handle, load or develop the plates. Under these conditions, Mrs. Champion de Crespigny, ex-principal of the British College of Psychic Science, obtained some lifelike "extras" of friends and relatives, many of whom had been "dead" for almost a quarter of a century.

So impressed was she by these results that she arranged to have Myers "sit" for Maurice Barba-nell, editor of Psychic News of London.

(Continued on Page 4)

The Late
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Spiritualism vs Science

HORACE LEAF

Charles Richet, the famous physiologist, pointed out, some years ago, that mediumship had revealed a new psychology, a new biology, a new chemistry, and a new physiology. Mediumship is the prerogative of Spiritualism—or was. It has been filched to some extent by people who, discovering that supernormal faculties are actualities, and, not liking the word Spiritualism, have associated it with other names. Nevertheless, the honor must still remain with the movement which forced this discovery upon a sceptical world.

It is the glory of Spiritualism that it is both religious and scientific in its implications. Unlike all other religious movements, Spiritualism does not pin its faith upon tradition and merely believe that man is a spiritual being; it pins its confidence on the present and demonstrates the grounds for its beliefs. This brings it strictly into line with science, because psychic faculties and powers are "ascertained facts."

Those of us who can look back on thirty years of active association with Spiritualism, can remember how we used to hope the day would come when science would give its benediction to our claims. We felt confident that scepticism could not be so obtuse as always to ignore facts which promised to check the growth of religious unbelief, and win the world to a more secure and reasonable understanding of life.

Scientists Afraid

There were many disappointments and set-backs. Scientists showed the very characteristics which they so roundly condemned in religious people, especially those of prejudice and fear. It is not too much to say, that at that time science was afraid of Spiritualism, and attempted to counter its moves by unfair and uninformed criticism. The cause of this fear lay in the positiveness of Science. It had successfully assailed theology, had shown the ignorance and foolishness of many theological claims by piling dis-



HORACE LEAF

HORACE LEAF, F.R.G.S., London, England. His new book "WHAT MEDIUMSHIP IS," a practical treatise on how to develop mediumship, is now ready. DALE NEWS, Inc., \$1.50. Mr. Leaf is also the author of "What is this Spiritualism?"—"The Psychology and Development of Mediums," "Under the Southern Cross" and "Ahmed's Daughter."

of celestial genius, he had undoubtedly been beaten out on the anvil of time? The Bible story of creation, for example, had been exposed as nothing more than a bold, erroneous guess. The world had obviously been slowly built up by a long series of modifications through immeasurable periods of time.

Science thus grew contemptuous of religion and vain in her own imaginings, and was in the act of "throwing away the baby with the water," when suddenly Spiritualism threatened to stay her hand. Science has always been disdainful of the man-in-the-street. "Experience," says the scientist, "shows that poor fellow always prepared to believe anything. His mind is so weak through disuse, that he will accept any fairy tale so long as it is well-told." Science, therefore, determined to ignore popular assertions and tried to save man from his ignorance and folly.

Gradually there grew up a new priestcraft. No longer did priests wear crossiers and officiate at altars; sing hymns and offer long prayers. They appeared in public places with telescopes and fossils, they used long and intricate phrases, as difficult to understand as the Latin words in which religious priests disguised their unreasonable theologies. They pretended to put the universe in a retort and change it into whatever theory impressed them at the moment. Science like the religious

authorities it sought to displace, confused theories with facts and asked people to believe that it always spoke the truth.

Fox Cottage

Then came the Rochester Knockings and a body of enthusiasts, who, having carefully listened to them and the signs and wonders which followed, said, "Of a surety man survives death."

There is no better way of knowing a fact than by experiencing it. But one is not always prepared to acknowledge friendly relationships. Religion long refused to take the hand of science, and science repaid the doubtful compliment by refusing to accept the hand of Spiritualism. Besides, its most earnest advocate was the man-in-the-street, and Science knew his weakness far too well.

1938 shows a transformation and the change continues. Science has grudgingly acknowledged her mistake, but still endeavors to side-track the main issue. Supernormal faculties have been tried and not found wanting; but what shall we say about spirits?

Here is the rub. Clairvoyance, clairaudience, telepathy, psychometry, magnetic healing, materialization, the direct voice, and a number of other supernormal factors have stood the tests Science imposed and refuse to be denied. Science admits they are of thrilling interest, but—out with spirits for she will have none of them! "We will," says the scientist, "accept any theory other than that these wonders are caused by men and women who have passed through 'the valley of the shadow of death'."

Spiritualism Victorious

Nevertheless, Spiritualism has won a great victory, and can confidently await the downfall of the last stronghold of its enemies, because Truth will not be denied.

That is roughly where Spiritualism stands today in relation to Science. The fact that Science has had to admit the reality of such faculties as telepathy, clairvoyance and psychometry is sufficient to encourage the Spiritualist to rest his case and leave the final judgment to time.

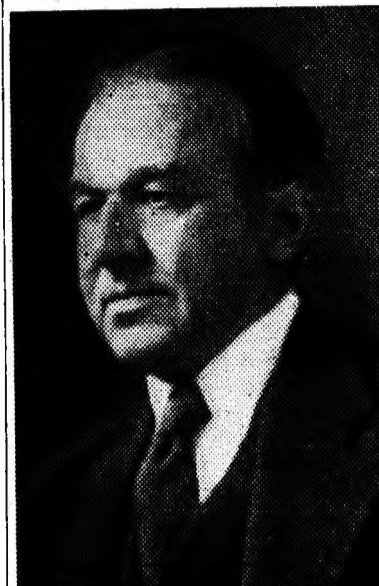
Science assures us that these supernormal powers lie latent in everybody and can be stimulated to activity with a little effort. Not, mark you, in relation to an extra-planetary world, but solely to this world of matter, time and space. But if the telepathist can read the design of a Zener-card in the mind of the human "agent," and can clairvoyantly pick the design from the card itself, where shall he stop? Here is a new reading and a new seeing. May it not be, that, having overcome the ordinary restriction of this world, metaphorically speaking, the seer may jump right off of this globe into another world. Who is to say that he can not telepathically communicate with or clairvoyantly see the spirits of those accounted dead? In time Science is sure to realize this and will not lament because that accomplishment will dash his most cherished and materialistic theories to the ground.

Psychic Study Club Baltimore, Maryland

Alexander F. Jenkins, President of The Psychic Study Club, 1426 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore, Maryland, has organized a select group of earnest people who are interested in various phases of Psychic Phenomena.

This club has brought to Baltimore outstanding speakers, authors, and demonstrators. It has afforded small groups and large audiences opportunities to hear the most advanced thought and to witness important phenomena.

The club is without religious affiliations and is primarily a Study Club. It is not exclusive



ALEXANDER JENKINS

but naturally seeks members who are earnest and sympathetic to its pursuits.

The club reciprocates with some of the leading societies and groups in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain.

One of the greatest advantages the club affords is the bringing together of persons hungry for what is believed to be the inner and higher phases of life.

The following are some of the outstanding lecturers introduced to Baltimore by the Psychic Study Club:

Frederick Bligh Bond, Hugh Gordon Burroughs, Caroline R. Chapman, Arthur Ford, Horace Leaf, Hugh F. Munro, Ethel Post, J. B. Rhine, Gertrude Ogden Tubby, Hereward Carrington, Shaw Desmond and George Wehner.

DR. BOWERS

(Continued from Page 3)

Barbanell made an appointment, and taking an agnostic friend with him, set out for Myers' office. On the way Barbanell purchased a package of plates, which he retained in his possession until they were ready for loading in the camera. In the dark room Barbanell signed each of the plates, then they were loaded in the slides.

Israel Zangwill Appears

Barbanell and his friend then entered the room where the seance was to be held. It was lighted by two 260 watt electric bulbs. Here Barbanell made three

exposures, using a camera which he had previously examined with meticulous care. His agnostic friend made the remaining three exposures.

While the last plate was being exposed, Myers who was in a state of semi-trance, turned to Barbanell and said, "There is a friend here for you; he has a message. It is Israel Zangwill. Do you know him?"

Barbanell replied that he did, whereupon Myers relayed him the message, "Keep the flag flying." When the plates were developed the features of Israel Zangwill appeared—a perfect spirit picture.

Swaffer Interviewed

A few nights after this Barbanell took Myers to the apartment of Hannen Swaffer, one of England's leading contemporary authorities in psychic phenomena.

During the sitting Myers—again in semi-trance—turned to Swaffer and said, "Edgar Wallace is here, but he says he will not come on the plates tonight. He wants to come under more dramatic circumstances."

Curiously enough, only a few days previously, Barbanell had received a note from the Press Portraits Bureau, demanding money for the reproduction of the Zangwill portrait, for which they contended they held the copyright.

Barbanell refused payment. Instead, he invited the Press Portraits Bureau executives to attend a seance with Myers, granting

(Continued on Page 5)

BERNARD RODIN VISITS AMERICA

It has been a pleasure to help welcome to America, Mr. Bernard Rodin, London, England. I have been impressed by his sincerity and spiritual ideals.

As a medium, he is undoubtedly a splendid instrument. I have listened to his guide Sun God speak through him in trance and have been greatly impressed by the concise philosophy rendered. Sun God is an orator and one cannot help but be gripped by the wonderful flow of English that emanates from his medium's lips. I hope many will be able to hear his teachings. There is so much that can be very helpful in forming a constructive philosophy in these days of apprehension.

Mr. Rodin is also a demonstrator of clairvoyance, clairaudience and psychometry. A number of strangers have received convincing evidence of survival in my presence.

I know the difficulties that a stranger to our country must encounter and therefore have felt inclined to write these few words trusting they will help to give our friend the opportunities that I feel he deserves.

R. L. Parish,
Rockefeller Center,
New York City.

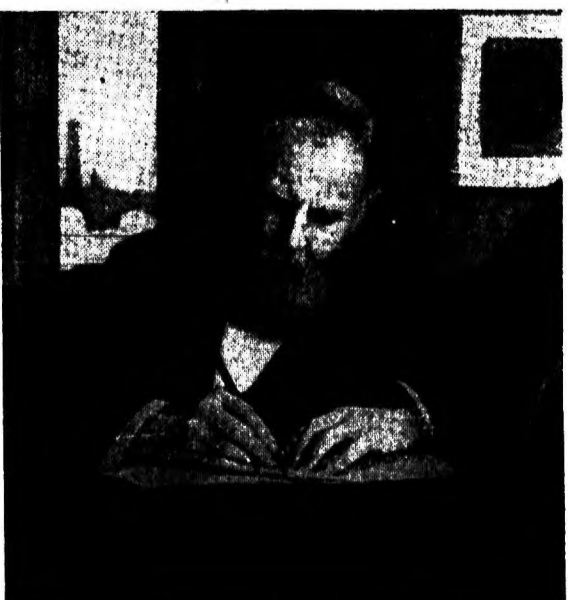
Mr. Horace Leaf, F.R.G.S., of London, England, is making a specialty of Psychic Development by mail. Students are invited to join The Psychic Correspondence Development Class. Each member will be under the personal supervision of Mr. Leaf, who is recognized as one of the greatest authorities on Mediumship in the world. Everyone is potentially a Medium, but the necessity of Expert Advice is so great that all who desire to cultivate their Mediumship in the best possible manner, should write for particulars to the Secretary, International Institute of Psychic Development, Studio No. 3, Dept. DN, Grotian Hall, Wignmore Street, London, W. 1, England.

covery on discovery. Religion has always been weak where matters of fact are concerned, and astronomy, paleontology, biology and natural history have reduced it to ridicule time and again. Science was well on the way towards killing religion with a laugh.

Charles Darwin

Had not Charles Darwin, supported by such doughty champions of the cause of Natural Selection and its evolutionary implications, as Henry Huxley, shown, that instead of man having been made by a single stroke

★ TWENTY QUESTIONS ★



WHO IS IT?

- 1—Who was this famous English Spiritualist? The man in this issue's "WHO IS IT" photo, founded the American "Review of Reviews." He introduced a phase of American journalism into the English press.
- 2—Who wrote "Friendship is the gift of the Gods and the most precious boon to man?"
- 3—What color generally symbolizes TRUTH, GREED, ANGER?
- 4—What is Teleology?
- 5—What is the meaning of OMNISCIENT?
- 6—The very subtle, cloud-like sheath enfolding the human body is called what?
- 7—What name is used to describe the physio-astral substance that sometimes exudes from the physical body of a medium—visible to the physical eye and subject also to the conditions of the astral plane?
- 8—An olive branch—frequently pictured as being borne in the mouth of a dove is the symbol of what?
- 9—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini—Were they friends?—Yes or No.

- 10—Who is President of N.S.A. Junior League?
- 11—What is sometimes referred to as "The Cradle of MODERN SPIRITUALISM"?
- 12—What famous trumpet medium "passed on" recently?
- 13—Who represented The National Spiritualist Association at The International Spiritualist Congress in Glasgow, Scotland last fall.
- 14—What book was rated last year as Spiritualism's best seller?
- 15—What name is synonymous with "Extra-Sensory Perception"?
- 16—Who is considered as the greatest living authority on the topic "OBSESSION"?
- 17—Who was the greatest internationally known medium during the years 1833-1886?
- 18—Name two phases of mental mediumship?
- 19—Who is "MARGERY"?
- 20—What book records a "spirit" having made a telephone call?

(Answers will be found on page 6)

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND IN YOUR 20 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—IF USED, CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN. NOTE: PLEASE HAVE LIST TYPEWRITTEN.—ED.

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Dr. Rhine Experiments; Maude Kline Scores

(Continued from Page 1)

ter than one in five correctly. Once a student named the whole 25 without a miss. The chance of doing that is one in 298,023,233,876,953,125. If we called cards for 100 billion years at the rate of one every five seconds for 10 hours a day, every day in the year we could expect to duplicate that accomplishment by mere chance just once.

Mayflower Tries

But last winter at Cassadaga, Fla., Maude Kline, internationally known medium whose guide is Mayflower, bettered the record made by Dr. Rhine's best subject. Perhaps we should say that Mayflower bettered it for it was she who named the cards in the deck through twice in succession without a miss. Without Mayflower's help Miss Kline could not average one correct answer in five—par for chance.

To test for clairvoyance the experimenter takes a card from the top of the deck and while con-

PSYCARDS

This deck of twenty-five cards is made specifically for conducting experiments in Clairvoyance and telepathy. Instructions included in each packet. For Sale by Dale News, Inc., \$1.00.

cealed from the performer the latter attempts to name it. If testing for telepathy the experimenter looks at the cards and concentrates on its design before asking the performer to name it.

His conclusions are that the two, clairvoyance and telepathy, are one and the same gift and that both are found in every person who has one of them. The score is always the same for one as for the other.

All this field in which Dr. Rhine has been investigating he calls "extra sensory perception."

Being a college professor, doubtless he does not feel at liberty to use the term spiritualism in any

GETS PERFECT SCORE



MAUDE KLINE

connection with his work because that would identify him with a large group of people who are already convinced that what he has been proving and more is true. Then Dr. Rhine's scientific approach would be destroyed and he could no longer be considered truly open-minded.

Accusations

Some do accuse Dr. Rhine of prejudice. Professor Chester E. Kellogg of McGill University writing in The Scientific Monthly while not questioning the sincerity of the Duke scientist's motives, does imply that the "will to believe" can lead an honest scientist astray. He intimates that this has affected Dr. Rhine's mathematics in determining the proper operation of chance and that perhaps Dr. Rhine hasn't proven anything at all. It is difficult for the layman to determine whether it is Dr. Rhine's "will" power or Prof. Kellogg's "won't" power that is responsible for the greater error.

Silly Dunninger

A press wire service not so long ago carried another attack on Dr. Rhine which looked like a professional "debunker's" attempt

to get some publicity with the assistance of a newspaper man who had a flair for funny writing. The master minder was the eccentric Joseph Dunninger who came to the conclusion that the "Duke University people" don't know what they are talking about. He complained that the "Duke people" don't distinguish between telepathy and premonition. But he does agree that there is such a thing as telepathy which makes everybody happy, Dunninger especially, because he got his publicity.

Dr. Rhine is a sincere young man. He publishes the Journal of Parapsychology, a term applied to psychological experience of a nature we cannot yet explain. He and his associates are eager to examine all these species of experience and put them to every test that science may require. The field of spiritualism offers Dr. Rhine a limitless sphere for investigation.

DR. BOWERS

(Continued from Page 4)

them full permission to impose their own terms in this test.

Only a few days before this Swaffer had concluded the publication of a series of articles, purporting to come from Edgar Wallace through a medium in South Wales, who had received the messages through automatic handwriting. Edgar Wallace's wife and his secretary, however, denied the authenticity of these writings and insisted that Wallace would never have gone to such trouble in order to establish his identity.

Fleet Street Inquires

When the Press Portraits executives—expert in their line—presented themselves at Swaffer's apartment they had brought their own plates with them, and signed them as they were loaded in the slides.

As they were focusing the camera Myers turned to Swaffer and, apparently transmitting a message from Edgar Wallace, said: "I see we have Fleet Street with us tonight (meaning the Press Portrait executives). Now Swaffer, I told you I was going to prove my survival to the world, beyond any shadow of a doubt. I am going to give you a picture of myself. You may challenge the world with it. For my picture will be unlike any in existence."

When the plates were developed the strange picture of Edgar Wallace appeared. Although a really substantial reward was offered by several important London papers for a duplicate of this "ghost" picture, no one has yet come forward to claim the reward.

No Substitution

The executives of the Press Bureau had received a convincing answer as to their claim for copyright fees for the Zangwill picture. At the conclusion of the seance they signed a report, stating they were entirely satisfied that there was no substitution of plates. In further proof of this one of the gentlemen admitted that he had used a sharp, pointed instrument in signing the plates and had cut the negatives—**an absolute insurance against substitution.**

Lady Caillard, wife of Sir Vincent Caillard, and for many years a leading Spiritualist, predicted that she would die six months after the publication of a book inspired by her dead husband—a noted English financier.

Within six months her prophecy was fulfilled. One of her last requests was that Johnny Myers was to be invited to take some psychic pictures at her funeral, at which time she would try and appear on a plate, thereby proving survival. (To be continued next issue)

In the next issue Dr. Bowers will continue this fascinating story. He will tell how the scientists were baffled—How famous "Fleet Street" became perplexed and many more interesting sidelights on Myers' mediumship.

The Right Approach

MARCELLA DeCOE HICKS

There is a right way and there is a wrong way to approach the study of psychism. The wrong way will lead on through devious by-paths and meaningless meanderings, finally arriving at nothing in particular. The right way will lead directly into the blazing sunlight of Eternal Truth.

In any line of study one must at times accept the imponderable as an hypothesis in order to arrive at the ponderable. One must have a basis, however inaccurate it may later prove to be, from which to begin his dissection—or his building up. A basis for his analyzing and investigating. In the beginning one must accept his teacher's or his text book's interpretation of fundamentals, and until he has made such progress himself that he is qualified by

Marcella DeCoé Hicks, Detroit. Author of "ETERNAL VERITIES," dedicated to Etta S. Bledsoe.

This new book, written by a psychic, was published primarily to clarify points of doubt and discrepancy encountered by the student of psychism and the developing medium.

Marcella DeCoé Hicks

The book is written in an attractive style—interesting, convincing and amusing as well. (Dale News, Inc., \$2.00).

personal encounter and contact with all angles of an idea to dispute it intelligently—by which time he will have developed sufficient acumen properly to discriminate. When he has learned enough forward, he will be able to go back and pick to pieces the steps by which he made his progress. In doing so he may evolve a platform differing radically from the one upon which his teacher's basic fundamentals first placed him and from his new foundation he may build a new and secure structure. Nevertheless, the teacher's first principles, however faulty they may have proven to be, have given him the nucleus from which to work.

Science Inaccurate?

Sometimes it is necessary to learn a lot of wrong things in order to discover that they are wrong. There is a very true saying to the effect that "the knowledge of today is the ignorance of tomorrow." All sciences, except that of mathematics, as interpreted by the human agent, are full of mistakes and inaccuracies, and matters that are accepted as truths and laws in one generation are repudiated in another. Nevertheless they had to be accepted in the beginning in order to have a

basis from which to work. There must first be an accepted hypothesis before any question can be raised about its conclusion.

So I say, in the study of psychism, one must accept many things as being possible, which he may not have been able personally to prove or to believe, in order to give himself a basis from which to work. If the hypothesis be erroneous the student will sooner or later arrive at the point where he will discover it, and having arrived at such point, he, unqualifiedly, will have made progress.

Facts Speak

To get anywhere in the study of mathematics, one must accept as fact that two and two make four; that the whole is greater than any of its parts and so on. A man could spend his whole life trying to disprove these fundamentals and he would have lived to no purpose.

Likewise to get anywhere in the study of psychism, one must accept as fact that communication with the so-called dead is possible, because intercommunication between the earth plane and the Spirit World constitutes the fundamental principle of all psychic revelation. To refuse to accept this first principle would be to stop before you start.

Spirituality

All that is known of psychic and spiritual matters has come and must ever come, through contact with spirit entities through the various psychic channels of mediumship. The very essence of psychism is spirituality and unless one can begin his study of psychic matters on the premise that information and revelation regarding them are spiritually inspired, he will get nowhere.

Until one accepts that spirit communication is a fact, he cannot hope to learn anything of the point or the plan of creation—the purpose of life spans and the goal toward which every mortal is struggling, because intercommunication is the only channel through which such revelation can come. But—accept this primary principle as the foundation upon which to build and eventually there will be erected so adamant a structure of truth that no storms of doubt, scorn or ridicule can prevail against, and one will have worked out mankind's greatest problem—that of spiritual destiny.

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- 1—William Thomas Stead.
- 2—Benjamin Disraeli "speech".
- 3—Blue—Brown—Red.
- 4—One of the major aspects of occult theology.
- 5—Knowing all things—Said of DEITY.
- 6—The Aura.
- 7—Ectoplasm.
- 8—Peace.
- 9—Yes — Refer to the book "HOUDINI & CONAN DOYLE" by Ernst & Carrington. Sold by Dale News, Inc., Lily Dale, N. Y., \$2.50.
- 10—Lester Miller, Milwaukee.
- 11—"The Fox Cottage"—Lily Dale.
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WHY NOT TRY GOD
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Miss Pickford tells her own experiences. To quote—"My discovery was so wonderful, and has given me so much spiritual light in the hardest hours of my life, that I want to share it with all who care to try."

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Mary Pickford

\$1.00

This is the author's latest book. She gives us her views upon life and death. "Death is just another separation, and one that I truly believe will end in reunion."

THE PSYCHIC OBSERVER

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Number One August 25th, 1938 10c a Copy, \$2.00 a Year

WE GREET YOU

Until this, the first issue of *Psychic Observer* reached your hands, only six papers carried the news and truth of Spiritualism to its great American following. Others have risen and fallen, successful or unsuccessful for any number of reasons. The first of these papers to make its way into Spiritualist literature was the *Spiritual Telegraph*, edited by S. B. Britton, and conducted in New York City. The date of its first issue is 1853, shortly after the Fox sisters held their first Spiritualist meeting at Rochester, N. Y. Such great names as C. D. Stuart, Robert Dale Owen, Hon. N. P. Tallmadge, William Denton, and Judge Edmonds appeared in authorship in the *Telegraph*. It failed for lack of support.

SPIRITUALIST PAPERS IN HISTORY

In 1873, another paper made its appearance, *The American Spiritual Magazine*, edited by Samuel Watson in Memphis. The following year, in July, E. V. Wilson launched a magazine, its home in Philadelphia, which he called *Spiritualists at Work*. Between the years 1874 and 1900, many other Spiritualist journals had their birth in America. *Religio-Philosophical Journal*, the *Progressive Thinker*, the *Spiritualists Scientist*, the *Banner of Light*, the *Sunflower*, *Reason*, the *Better Way*, and the *Carrier* were most prominent among them. In these publications we find articles written by Dr. J. M. Peebles, Lyman G. Howe, Hudson Tuttle, Moses Hull, G. W. Cates, E. W. Sprague, the Bangs sisters, Lizzie Doten, and Will G. Hodge.

ALL SERVING CAUSE

The bound volumes of these papers, all now out of publication, save *Progressive Thinker*, offer contemporary Spiritualistic thought much in the way of information, and form the editorial bases for the new papers of the 20th Century—the *Messenger*, *Spiritual Herald*, the *Spiritualist's Monthly*, the *Occult Digest*, *Spiritual Truth*, *Psychic World*, the *Forum*, the *Psychical and Spiritual Herald*, the *National Spiritualist*, and the *Dale News*. And of these, but a few are in circulation today. Of those which are in circulation, each has its place in Spiritual living and thinking, and each is doing a splendid job of promoting Spiritualism. Much good can be said of them all, and little bad.

OUR REAL PURPOSE

It is not the purpose of *Psychic Observer* to belittle the efforts of other papers, in order to earn its success. In this great cause, the promulgation of which is the common aim of all sincere Spiritualists there is no room for back biting and for left-handed compliments. The other papers in the field are carrying out their part of showing the truth of Spiritualism; *Psychic Observer* only hopes to fill a niche that has as yet been untouched.

"A journal that will appeal to all true Spiritualists, and which will vividly portray, interpret, and present all the news of interest to Spiritualism," that is creed of *Psychic Observer*.

PICTURES ARE NEWS

Times have changed in this, the year 1938. The reading public, in a world that is much more in a hurry than it has ever been, prefers the most easily and quickly read form of news presentation and interpretation. Ideas are most acceptably and interestingly presented by pictures, these days, for pictures will tell a graphic, easily understood story in a few seconds, while reading might occupy columns and columns of a paper, in the most lucid language, and still leave the reader uninformed, or bored.

This issue of *Psychic Observer* is the pattern by which all to follow will be formed. It is filled with news, with feature stories of the Spiritualist world, and with pictures of the great names in Spiritualism we all like to see and hear about. It will meet the needs, wishes, and requirements of the reading public for psychic information. Readers in this country and abroad will find the pictures of churches, mediums, and speakers of great interest, and will find the writing more interesting, when accompanied by author's pictures.

Our function will be to serve Spiritualism. We can best serve by defense, and by the administration of rebukes, when it becomes necessary. We shall not be quarrelsome—we shall only defend and champion our cherished religion—Spiritualism.

READERS INTELLIGENT

Slandorous attacks in the press do not really injure Spiritualism. On the contrary it is often benefited by them. Some newspapers grave-up under-rate the intelligence of their readers, and excite resentment by exhibitions of flagrant injustice. It has happened many times that readers, noting the scurrility of the attacks, have been led to inquire into a subject which they saw was being attacked with such suspicious zeal. Malignity always in the end over-reaches itself. In short, it would not be difficult to find Spiritualists who were first led to inquire into the subject by the rabid newspaper attacks made against it. That was the case with a famous lawyer who came to see me during the war. He had been reading some newspaper criticism which he said was so brutal and senseless that it led him to inquire into Spiritualism to see if it were really as black as the newspaper writers painted it; he became a confirmed Spiritualist before his death.—D. G.—(R.G.P.)

WHERE ARE THE MEDIUMS?

Who are the mediums? Who are the speakers? Who are the teachers? Who are the outstanding? These questions are asked repeatedly. In the ranks of Spiritualism, America has thousands. OUR job is to find them. *PSYCHIC OBSERVER* has heard from representative Spiritualists in answer to the question, "Name ten outstanding mediums or speakers, who, in your opinion, are NOW rendering real service to the cause." Names listed below have received at least honorable mention—Those in black type have been mentioned a greater number of times:

Etta S. Bledsoe, Hugh Gordon Burroughs, Dr. Victoria Barnes, Raymond Burns, Florence S. Becker, Isabel Bradley, Jack Barry, Mary Langley Beattie, Margery Crandon, William Cartheuser, George B. Cutter, Felicie O. Crossley, Frank A. Coney, Nellie Curry, Frank Decker, Arthur Ford, Helen Graham, Cecelia Gettins, Elizabeth Harlow Goetz, William Elliott Hammond, Riblet B. Hout, Fanchon Dennis Harwood, T. John Kelly, Maude Kline, P. L. O. A. Keeler, Clara B. Knost, Edward A. Lohman, Pearl Erick Long, Mary Murphy Lydy, Charles Lucas, Sylvan Muldoon, Arthur Myers, Robert MacDonald, Frederick Nicholson, Converse Nickerson, Minnie O'Hara, Ethel Post, Laura Prudden, Amalia Pfennig, Mable Riffle, Theodore Russell, Mable Schulz, Minnie Sayers, Grace Stewart, Edith Stilwell, Dr. Alexander J. Melvor Tyndall, Justin Titus, Maine Tafe, George Valentine, Joseph P. Whitwell, Lucy A. Walker, Maggie Waite, Dr. Carl Wickland, Etta Wreidt.

YOU are invited to send in your list. Choose from list above or add new names, but send ten.

We are asked "What is the purpose of such listing?" It is to familiarize individuals, churches and Spiritualist Assemblies with our workers.

At no time is this to be considered, in any sense, a contest. There are thousands of fine mediums and noteworthy speakers in the U. S. A. Our job is to find them. Individuals interested are requested to send in their list so that new names can be continually added. You can help us by your co-operation. *Psychic Observer*, Lily Dale, N. Y.

PSYCHIC OBSERVER Facts and Figures

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Yes. Type all copy on one side of the paper, double spacing. Name and address required.

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Display rate \$1.50 per col. inch. Classified, 25c per line.

What are the publication dates of *Psychic Observer*?
Next issue Sept. 10th. Bi-monthly thereafter.

Who owns *Psychic Observer*?
Dale News, Inc.

How can I get pictures published in *Psychic Observer*?
Send glossy finish, 5x7 photos.

What is the policy of *Psychic Observer*?
See Editorial to left, this page.

Do you wish to subscribe to *Psychic Observer*?
See page 3 for subscription form.

How can I obtain *Psychic Observer* for resale in my church?
Order 10 or more copies. Cost 6c; Retail 10c.

Is *Psychic Observer* a weekly or a monthly journal?
Twice a month (10th and 25th)

How much does it cost to subscribe to *Psychic Observer*?
\$2.00 per year, \$1.00 for 6 months.

Is *Psychic Observer* owned by Lily Dale Assembly?
No.

What is the circulation of *Psychic Observer*?
Specimen copies this issue 30,000.

Does *Psychic Observer* stock all the books they have listed?
Yes. See page 6.

What Is Spiritualism?

By
MAURICE BARBANELL

Spiritualism is either the most tremendous fraud foisted on humanity, or mankind's greatest hope.

Which is it? The answer is to be found not by argument, but by personal investigation.

Those of us who have inquired realize that we have discovered a great truth. We know that man survives the grave. No other explanation fits all the facts.

Survival is a fact in Nature. It is the operation of a natural law, which will function in every instance, irrespective of your desires, hopes or fears.

You will not survive death because of the life you have lived, or in spite of it. You will survive because you have to.

Birth is the entrance into life. Death is the exit.

Not Consulted

No one consulted you as to whether you wished to be born. No one will ask you if you wish to survive death.

Spiritualists have proved that life continues beyond the grave, and that, given the proper conditions, you can communicate with those who have passed on.

Death is only an incident in life. One hour after death you are exactly the same individual as you were one hour before it—

with only one difference, you have discarded your physical body.

You now begin to function in the spiritual or etheric world, through your etheric body.

You always possessed this body. You may not be conscious of it, but that does not disprove its existence.

The etheric body is the exact replica of the physical body, except that it does not reproduce any of the physical imperfections.

Man Is "Spirit"

Because man survives as a spiritual being, he is a spirit today. That is the great message which Spiritualism has to proclaim to the world.

Man is not a body. He uses his body to express himself in the same way he uses a typewriter to convey his thoughts. The typewriter is no more the individual, than the body is the man.

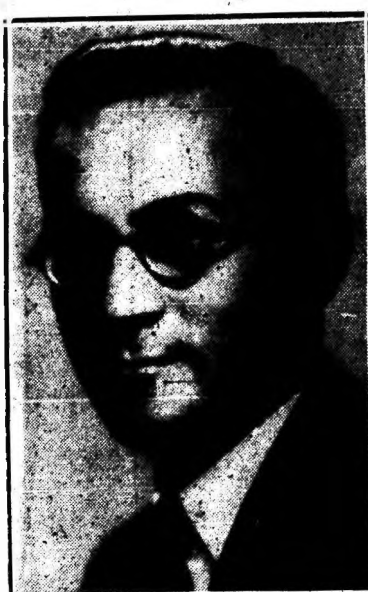
We achieve our communications with the next stage of life by finding intermediaries (mediums) capable of tuning in to its higher vibration. These communications all stress this fact. You are as much a spirit today as you will ever be.

The object of earthly life is to develop a spiritual body fit to survive death. The fraction of life that we live here is insignificant compared with the sum total of our existence. Seventy years over eternity is a very small fraction.

Develop Spiritually

We are here to develop our spiritual natures—to equip ourselves for the future life. Earth is the schoolhouse of experience. We are here to learn the lessons in order that we shall be ready for our larger growth.

When the knowledge that he is a spirit is universally accepted, the whole basis of life will be reshaped. It will be the beginning of a new order. We shall live



MAURICE BARBANELL

MAURICE BARBANELL, editor of *Psychic News*, London, England. Author of "THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED," "PARISH THE HEALER," and "THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND." (See book list page 4.)

to serve one another.

We take over to the next stage of life the spiritual body that we have evolved here. No one can accomplish that evolution for us.

Personal Responsibility

The great central fact of all spirit teaching is that we are personally responsible for the lives that we live. Religion, as the Spiritualist understands it, is not a question of church attendance, Bible reading or hymn singing. It is wholly and solely, the way a man lives his life.

As the Spiritualist understands natural law, the atheist who never went to church, who never sang a hymn, who never read the Bible, but who honestly lived the best life he could, is spiritually superior to the man who goes to church on Sunday, but forgets his religion every other day of the week.

All religions are based upon the revelations received in past ages. Spiritualism is based upon the revelations received today.

God Never Changes

God is the same yesterday, today and forever. His laws which made it possible for Man to be inspired thousands of years ago, are still in operation today. You cannot argue logically that God has a special regard for the people of Palestine, but has nothing to say to the people of America. You cannot assume that God revealed the totality of His inspiration two thousand years ago.

Spiritualism brings a new life into religion. It brings to it the inspiration of today. It will unite the forces of science and religion, which too long have been at war.

The appeal of religion is dwindling, because, more and more, people are demanding that their faith shall be founded on knowledge.

Science, unfortunately, has been prostituted on many occasions by having her discoveries used for destruction, instead of for man's service.

Spiritualism is producing the scientific religion and the religious science.

America's Foremost Spiritualist School

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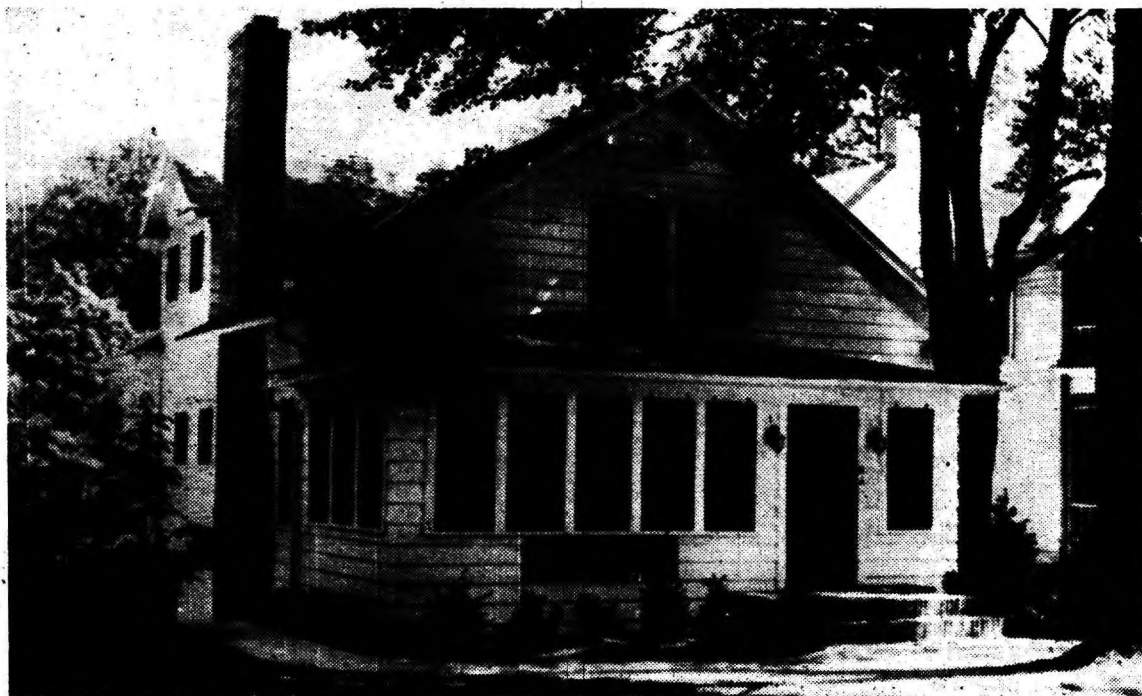
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Spiritualism's pictorial journal located at 5 Melrose Park, Lily Dale, N. Y. In this modern building, open to the public, officially, July 1st are: Reading room, a specially designed room for all psychic books, magazines and periodicals; editorial offices of The Psychic Observer and The Dale News, two studio apartments, reception room and seance room. The business is operated by DALE NEWS, Inc., headed by Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Pressing.

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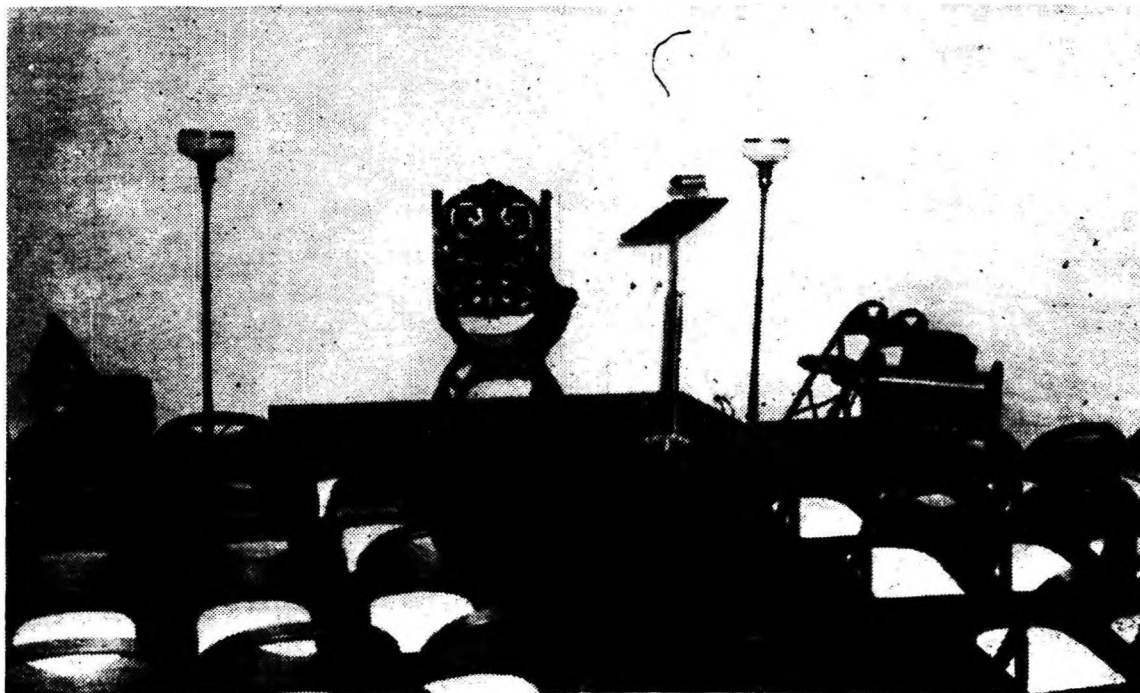
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Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Pressing.

The PSYCHIC OBSERVER Seance Room



—Dunkirk Observer Photo

A sanctuary erected—dedicated July 1st to the cause of Spiritualism. All phases of psychic phenomena will be demonstrated. Mediums from many cities in the U. S. have been invited to visit and work in this room. Various types of PHYSICAL mediumship, i. e., levitation, etherealization, materialization, transfiguration, direct-voice, independent voice, also mental mediumship, i. e., clairvoyance and clairaudience—all will be heard and seen. The room is air-conditioned, all lighting controlled by rheostat on "key" control.



FRANK DECKER

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Decker-Stewart Demonstrate Psychic Ability—All Mediums Invited.

Grace Stewart, St. Petersburg, Florida, and Frank Decker, New York City, were among the first mediums to demonstrate various phases of physical phenomena in this new seance room.

Both mediums, at different times, voluntarily held test-seances for some of the members of the Lily Dale Board of Directors. Several witnesses were present on each occasion.

The seances were held in complete darkness. Super-normal manifestations, i. e., levitation, direct-voice and partial materialization, were evident.

All mediums, mental as well as physical, are invited to co-operate. Write for appointments and bookings. Every courtesy will be extended.



GRACE STEWART

SEANCE ROOM OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Psychic Observer Seance Room is open to the public daily, week in and week out, every month of the year. Even though the Lily Dale season ends September 4th, seances will continue. Reservations for private or public seances should be made by letter or phone. In order to insure bookings at any specific time, write DALE NEWS, Inc., or telephone Cassadaga (N. Y.) 43-F-2. Door rights reserved.