

HERE ARE MORE PICTURES FROM THE FILES OF P.O. THAT WE WILL JUST CALL "LOOK-ALIKES"

The large picture to the extreme right is a "Spirit" photograph taken at a materialization seance at the Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp. Note the REMARKABLE RESEMBLANCE OF THE "SPIRIT" TO GLADYS STROHME (with glasses), picture to the immediate right. Gladys Strohme is listed on the Chesterfield roster as a TRUMPET MEDIUM.

DO NOT MISS OUR NEXT ISSUE!



GLADYS STROHME
Chesterfield Medium

TRUTH For Authority; NOT Authority For TRUTH

PSYCHIC OBSERVER

No. 523 SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., AUGUST 25, 1960 25 Cents a Copy

Spirit Claims To Be German Surgeon

Spirit Surgeon Now Working In Brazil

Arns Says Montgomery Still Errs

By W. S. Arns

That man Montgomery surely is a glutton for punishment. Not content with having put his foot into his mouth once, he has come back for a repeat performance. One must admire his capacity for absorbing criticism.

Again his title is wrong. His first title had a superfluous 'Versus' in it, but the whole of the present title is superfluous. He says, "Reincarnation Never Proven—Believed." Well, now, anything that is called a theory has never been proved—that is the very reason it is called a theory. Isn't Mr. Montgomery aware of that?

No More Qualified

He claims the prestige of his evidence is increased because "accredited authorities in Spiritualism never embraced reincarnation." That does not necessarily follow. Accredited authorities in Spiritualism have no more positive knowledge as to whether reincarnation is true or not than you or I have. These persons being high in Spiritualism does not automatically make them more qualified to know whether rebirth is a fact, anymore than

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Ze Arigo Astounds Medical Profession

By H. C. Miranda

When you look at the map of Brazil it is easy to find the State of Minas Gerais. It is a large territory, a little to the South not far from the Atlantic Ocean, but not on its shores; it is an interior state. In the south of Minas Gerais there is a little town called Congonhas do Campo. Were it not for the marvelous stone sculptures of Antonio Francisco Lisboa, "O Aleijadinho," it would be an anonymous town like many others scattered throughout the Brazilian vastness, although Congonhas do Campo also produces some of the best iron ore there is.

Suddenly, remarkable mediumistic work began to be performed in Congonhas do Campo by a young man named José Pedro de Freitas (pronounced Fray-tass), best known by his nickname Zé (short for José) Arigo (pronounced Aree-goh). Zé Arigo is a man in his early thirties, who never went beyond grammar school. He is a humble and respected citizen in his community, with a low paying government job, married, with six children.

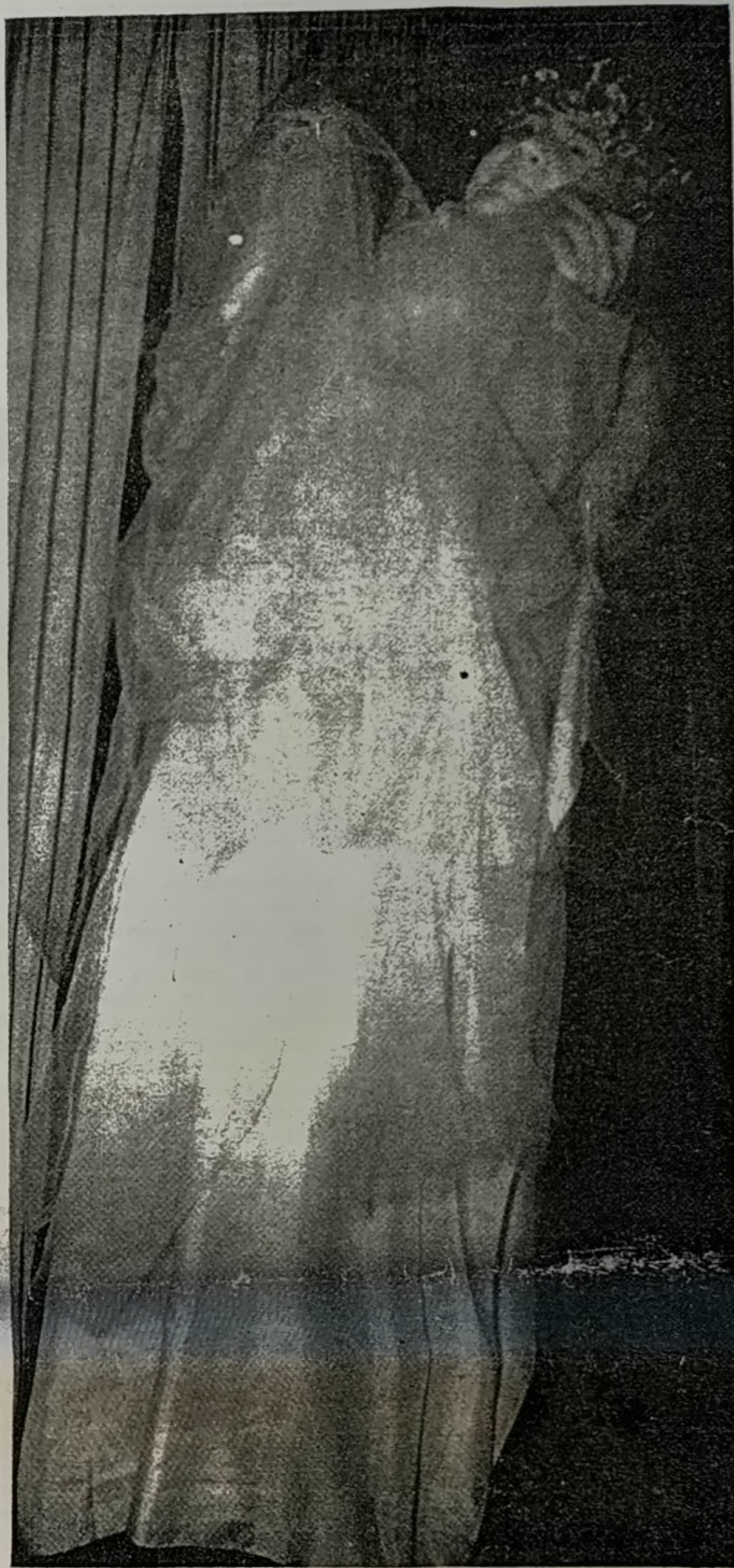
Only A Medium

I talked extensively with Dr. Newton Boechat, an outstanding young Brazilian Spiritist, who has done considerable research work about Ze Arigo and watched many of his puzzling operations. Dr. Boechat says, with very good reasons, that there is not any Spiritism in the works of Ze Arigo, but only "Mediumism." This is based on the fact that the medium does not know much, if any, about Spiritism as a doctrine, nor does he resort to the usual methods of concentration and prayer in order to produce the most unbelievable results. In the room where he performs his

wonders, there are a couple of Roman Catholic saints and a large portrait of the late President Getulio Vargas hangs from the wall above the saints.

Ze Arigo does not accept a single nickel for the operations that would cost many thousands of cruzelros if performed by a regular doctor, in a hospital. This is a standard procedure for every responsible Brazilian medium: no money or compensation of any kind is ever accepted by them. They live on something else, as a regular job. They stick to Kardec's teaching which prescribes that

(Continued on page 12)



This "spirit" called herself "Judith"

The Secret Doctrine Of H. P. Blavatsky

By Grahame W. Barratt

In a previous article the writer gave a sketch of the main effort and purpose of H. P. Blavatsky. It was to attract attention to the spiritual faculties in man and to wean her generation from the rank materialism in which it wallowed, to an occult pathway which leads to the Higher Self—the only real permanence in mankind. The effort had little immediate success. People doubted intuition as anything but a dream-land, for how could such faculties be put to tangible use, or as a substitute for intellectual effort.

Only fools would give serious attention to such revolutionary ideas. Most people were spiritually dead. Wealth and social position were the earmarks of a 'somebody' yet the successful business man was more often the religious hypocrite who used religion as a cloak. The intellectuals of the time became lulled to sleep in a self complacent fond-content of their own notional superiority, they hid behind a barrage of syllogisms and sheer intellectual jugglery. All else appeared to be nonsense. This attitude has persisted like an heirloom into the present, its influence still stifles the bulk of mankind the world over. Intellect must certainly be a big factor in human life, but to the occult student it is but a means to an end,

a means by which an inner life finds written or verbal expression.

The phenomena of H.P.B. were like an abacus for the small child; some sort of beginning and anchorage had to be established, some startling fact was required to awaken people from spiritual decadence.

ISIS UNVEILED fulfilled to some extent the purposes for which it was written, it attracted attention to the religious nonsense and priestly imposture of the Church hierarchy; others sneered at this "masculine-feminine iconoclast from Crim-Tartary" who wanted to turn the world inside out, and seemingly was clever enough to do it.

Every big-shot wanted to make
(Continued on page 3)

PSYCHIC OBSERVER

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FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE
AUGUST 25, 1960

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:

FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE

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From The Editor's Desk

BY TOM O'NEIL

The word has gotten around in a few places, which I intend to refute RIGHT NOW, that the *Psychic Observer* pulled this exposé of Camp Chesterfield because its circulation was down, and we needed "something special for a boost."

Here are the facts.

We gave up, with pleasure, the Chesterfield advertising account (which was considerable) plus the thousands of PO's that were sold at that camp every year. WE JUST WOULD NOT—COULD NOT—LIVE WITH OURSELVES KNOWING THAT THE CHESTERFIELD SPIRITUALIST CAMP WAS BILKING SO MANY PEOPLE FROM SO MUCH MONEY, USING AS ITS MAIN TOOL OF DECEPTION, THE LORD'S PRAYER!

As those visitors in the seance rooms close their eyes, bow their heads, and humbly state their feelings with: "OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN—" these fakes—these frauds—who go under the title of "medium" are sneaking in and out of doors leading to the cabinet. THEN these workers of the devil in angels garb appear from the front of the cabinet pretending to be great spirit guides; their stock-in-trade consisting of florescent "ectoplasm" a glib tongue, and nerve that would put any 2nd story man to shame! These fiends who hide their nefarious doings in the name of GOD will go down in history on the blackest page of the whole human race!

These ogers in "ectoplasm" (at \$6.50 a yard) have asked me to print a retraction, saying—that "they will break *Psychic Observer* if I do not!" They say that our "church advertising will drop to nothing, and the other camps will turn their backs on us if we do not give up this exposé!"

Well—we are not giving up! We will fight these frauds from one end of the paper to the other, and when a church, who has been a steady account over the years, cancels their papers because they too do not want fraud exposed, they will appear in a black box in the paper which will notify ALL HONEST SEEKERS to stay away from such places as use the Lord's name in vain! A few appeared in the last issue, and a few will appear in the next.

In the meantime, our thanks to all of you who have subscribed, and to all who have added on to their present subscriptions in support of this fight against those who use the darkness to cheat their fellow man.

Here's a FLASH! Ralph Pressing, original editor of the *Psychic Observer*, and wrote a column, "What I Observe" starts in the next issue of PO with a new column called "WHAT I OBSERVED." His first column deals with why he was ordered out of the Chesterfield Camp just recently, and his succeeding columns deal with what he had to keep covered up because he had no proof at the time.

These columns are must reading—and very eye opening.

Incidentally—to date, no physical mediums have volunteered to sit under "Snooper-scope" conditions. This puzzles me, because, after all, they are the only ones who can qualify this type mediumship, BUT HEY MUST VOLUNTEER!

The world is waiting. Who is first—?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Psychic Observer does not necessarily identify itself with any ideas and views expressed by a reader.

Below are but a few more of the hundreds of letters received commenting on the Chesterfield story. To date—the average has been 100 with us—one against us.

Some Against

Cancel my subscriptions.

After such a malicious report against Camp Chesterfield, I no longer care to read any of your editorials.

From a faithful spiritualist.
Anna M. Lennig
Bergenfield, N. J.

Your feature story in the July 10th issue alleging fraud at Camp Chesterfield makes a number of unwarranted deductions concerning Spiritualism. Your first page headline slants the entire article: "The Tragic Deceptions of Materialization", "Deceptions", not deception! You clearly infer that the alleged fraud of the two mediums at Camp Chesterfield stigmatizes all materialization mediums, past, present and future—"for all time."

Your last paragraph on page two would have a bearing had you said that not all materialization mediums are frauds, but then your shouting headline and the entire article would have been nullified.

You infer that your expose could "destroy the faith of thousands who have been helped both physically and spiritually by Spiritualism and demonstrations of physical phenomena by fake mediums." You grossly underestimate the intelligence of Spiritualists. Occasional fraud has damaged the reputation of individuals but it has not harmed those materialization mediums known for the integrity of their phenomena. The phenomenon of materialization stands factually secure whatever instances of fraud, actual or alleged, may occasionally occur. Spiritualists will weigh your article and editorial but they will be no more upset now then by similar accusations in the past. Even should the two whom you so dramatically accuse confess to all you allege (with their accomplices) it would harm other mediums only to the degree that guilt by association of profession warps the thinking of the ignorant and prejudiced.

Your article will be subjected to a more detailed examination than I have given it, but I believe that its slanted presentation will concern your readers fully as much as its unproved allegations. Inasmuch as the two women cooperated with you in your project it would have been considerate and fair for you to have shown them the films for their interpretation before hastening to a black-bordered expose. I stress the word interpretation because it comes to precisely that. The caution of James M. McIntock in Londoner's Diary in the July 10th issue of the *Observer* is quite apropos of your article. "Quite frankly I am suspicious of photographs, infra-red or other wise, which are brought forward to discredit mediums."

It is conceivable that your in-

terpretation of the films may be wrong. I think, at this time, that may be as conceivable as that Edith Stillwell and Mable Riffle are charlatans who knowingly cooperated to their own undoing. One story is good until another is told and your readers will expect to read both sides in your pages, factually and fully.
Rev. Rowland F. Nye
Kearny, N. J.

Ed. Note—

At no time do we mean to say all physical mediums are frauds. We have witnessed genuine phenomena in our own home. The "two women" you refer to knew all the conditions of the seance and that our goal was concrete proof for scientific investigation. By doing what they did, we are led to believe that they felt we, too, were in the game and would help to perpetrate their fraud rather than expose it.

YES WE ARE IN MOURNING but at the same time we have reason to greatly rejoice. It is very sad to lose faith in those whom we have long had much trust—but truth will out. Is it possible to prosecute all those who had a share in this horrible fraud? If so, it should be done.

We can rejoice because a way has been found to catch such criminals and show definite proof of their misdeeds. A snoopscope should be put to work at all seances to weed out the frauds. Police should be taught to use a snooping machine so that they will not injure a medium in trance.

I do not consider myself a Spiritualist—certainly I do not care to follow the set rules of any church or sect but prefer to think for myself. God gave us all brains with which to do our own thinking not to slavishly follow some other person's ideas. As *PSYCHIC OBSERVER* puts it, Truth for Authority not Authority for Truth.

Today I am my own medium-mental type. And I am giving my time and indeed my whole life to teaching others to become their own mediums. Even that way one can get fooled because there are those on the other side of life who still like to play tricks on the unsuspecting. But at least we cut down the percentage of fraud—and we do not plank down our hard-earned cash to some, "Riffler."

(Mrs.) Florence Gunn
Hume, Missouri

You ask. What would I do if this dreadful thing happened to me? First of all I would have to recover from deep shock. I am not too sure what I would do. Am sure I would tell it, but to publish it. I might not have the courage. You did right of course. The percussion will no doubt be great, I hope you are prepared to take it. You are a brave man, and know you will sleep better, knowing you have stood up for what you know to be right. I have, for years, considered Chesterfield Spiritualist Camp to be one of the best camps in the country.

It is hard to believe such a well

known camp would resort to deception so very low. I just cannot understand it. I am sure you have done all Spiritualists a great kindness. I for one am very grateful to you and Dr. Puharich. I agree with you on Gilbert Holloway also. He never seemed sincere.

The June 25 edition of the P.O. is full of good things, enjoyed it very much. I always look forward to the time my copy arrives. Right will win out in the long run. More power to you.

Lydia Long
Hayesville, Iowa

Re: *Psychic Observer*, July 10, 1960 issue.

My Dear Mr. O'Neil:

A friend of yours showed me a copy of the above dated issue of your *Observer* exposing Mabel Riffle at Chesterfield and others.

You are to be commended for this expose, however, I fear you have not reached the right local people to publicize this fraud on the public.

Sincerely yours,
Salyer & Mattingly
Attorneys
Anderson, Ind.

Re: Feature story, *Psychic Observer*, July 10, 1960.

My opinion is, that you have done exactly the right thing. Much better that such an unhappy situation be caught and handled by "the family". There will be a disagreeable period of housecleaning and "the family" will retain and gain more respect from outside. I have seen it happen many times from small Johnnie's peccadillos to moronic John's more serious antics.

I was born into a Spiritualist family seventy-six years ago. Just a common garden variety Spiritualism. Spiritualism was discussed somewhat less than presidential elections and what the neighbors were doing. I have never been in a Spiritualist church nor attended a seance, yet I have always considered myself a Spiritualist.

About thirty years ago I spent a pleasant afternoon with a "Harmony Circle". Many cheerful messages were received by those present and I, as a guest, received two special messages. Of late years I have had (by mail) readings from about a dozen different mediums psychoanalysts, etc., always receiving the same hodge-podge of innuendo that most everyone gets, but also, ALWAYS, receiving two or three bright and shining evidential items. I have my own private psychic experiences constantly.

So, I still consider myself a Spiritualist; an unspoiled Spiritualist, having never encountered any fraudulency. And I'm sure that any fraudulency must be met by "the family" promptly and efficiently. More power to you.

Mrs. George Sigloh
Kenmare, N. D.

I have never written to an editor before, but after reading July 10th issue of the *Observer*, I certainly feel it my duty to "Thank You" for your courage.

Believe me I know just how you felt, I had the same experience, and if it wasn't for the positive proof I had, when I was home alone, when I saw and heard spirit, I would have never been able to hang on to the truth of spirit, as I know it to be.

When I think of the hundreds of truth seekers going to Chesterfield for the first time, and having their intelligence insulted, by fraud, and leaving sick at heart, thinking there is nothing to Spiritualism after all!

Mr. O'Neil if a person in your position would not stand for Truth and give it out with proof, how could I or any individual, with no position or title ever hope this mess might be cleaned up?

(Continued on page 5)

LETTERS

(Continued from page 4)

Is it any wonder when one of a large family believes in Spiritualism we are practically ostracized? I'll tell you why, it's because of these mediums that are interested in the almighty \$, and not food for the seekers soul.

It will only come by the courage you displayed when you wrote the truth about Chesterfield.

There are a few honest mediums at Chesterfield, but it isn't worth saving for a year for a vacation, only to come away, with a heavy heart, instead of being light hearted because you had proof positive, of what you truly believe in.

Mrs. Robert Resener
Toledo 14, Ohio

Dear Sir:

I wish to congratulate you on your exposure of the fakery at Chesterfield and to hope that it will be possible to obtain pictures of some real materialization that will do what you hoped the Chesterfield pictures would.

I was told by my mother in a trance reading one time that the punishment for those who deliberately faked mediumship was very terrible.

Best wishes for your future success.

Miss Dorothy Drennan
848 West Wood
Decatur, Illinois

You are to be complimented for the bold courage you displayed in exposing the fraud of Stillwell and Riffle. Such activities as such people continue to perpetrate upon innocent searchers and believers are to be considered as downright criminal and even immoral. I admire you for the straight forward exposure at the risk of damaging your newspaper circulation. It is doubtful if you will be generally thanked by the die-hards and weak sentimental element who would rather be convinced of your own deceit than accept the clear-cut evidence against organisational Spiritualism.

A great deal more uncovering of fraud, deceit, and dishonesty is needed. Much of it is so obvious that it takes little intelligence to be aware of it. And this condition is far more wide-spread than ethical and true practice which makes genuine search and association extremely difficult. Add to this the almost stupid and silly sentimental trash that is passed off as Spiritualism and you get the general picture of Spiritualism in America.

We have needed the fighting spirit of the New P.O. and much more needs to be done. I believe the gain of a new high in genuine Spiritualism resulting from the clean-up will be well worth the loss of all the would-bes, die-hards and thot-less sentimentalists and superstition-mongers.

Paolo Graeco
Point Dawn Refugio
Oroville, Calif.

Thank you for your conscientious and scrupulous investigation of deception, fraud and chicanery at Camp Chesterfield.

I am reluctant to go again to Chesterfield, but my plans have been accomplished and I shall again be taken in, so to speak.

Is Edith still well?, or is she not so well?

With that love, which surpasses all human understanding, to you, yours, the entire Brotherhood and Edith, who may not be so well at the present time, I am,
Bro. Chris.
P.O. Box 1958
Chicago, Ill.

Hurrah for YOU! I concur wholeheartedly with your publishing of "The Tragic Deceptions in Materialization." Please, PLEASE keep up this good work, it is long overdue. I have not

words to express my admiration for your GREAT COURAGE. ONE trip to Chesterfield in 1958 convinced me of its great need of a "housecleaning" of Mediums. When my July 10th P. O. arrived I could hardly believe my own eyes; I never believed ANYONE could find the courage to "buck" that Big Camp of FRAUD. God Bless you and KEEP IT GOING!

Mrs. M. H. Mayhew
117 Arcadia Park
Lexington, Ky.

Your experience at Chesterfield, as reported in the *Psychic Observer* for July 10, 1960, should not halt your exploration of psychic phenomena, but rather encourage you to go full steam ahead on a more critical and more objective basis. In the end, you will obtain valid results by no other method. Certainly the perpetration of fraud at spiritualistic camps, especially where rare and complex materializations are concerned, should occasion no particular surprise.

Even before my visit to Chesterfield twelve years ago, I could see nothing in common between ready-made, mass-produced "contacts" with the next world and a serious study of the survival question as found, for example, in Myers' *Human Personality and Its Survival of Bodily Death*, Gardner Murphy's "Three Papers on the Survival Problem," Hart's recent *Enigma of Survival*, and Whately Carington's chapter, "Life After Death," in *Matter, Mind, and Meaning*.

Trumpery in seances has been a commonplace to experienced investigators since the beginning of the Spiritualist movement. Simultaneously, a number of unassailable mediumships have been placed on record as observed and observable under conditions complying with the design of experiment. As you know, the only relationship between the two is that of co-existence.

Dr. Nandor Fodor, an informed man on these matters, writes with wisdom, insight, and compassion:

"... A constant practice of mediumship often results in moral deterioration. Some of the very best mediums, who made great impressions on scientists of world renown, were subsequently caught in fraud. This is so well known that more enlightened investigators assume the attitude: if a medium cheats, it is the researcher who is at fault for allowing it. One must be prepared for it. Rule it out by every possible means and judge mediumistic work at its best and not at its worst. ... After all, mediums are dissociated people. They lead a very hard life. The sitters demand too much of them and almost push them into the easy path of deception. They should be approached on psychological and not legal ground. Fraud is just another phenomenon that deserves investigation."

And Tyrrell adds one or two points to the foregoing observations:

"One can see how fraud may creep into physical mediumship. Mediums may start by being honest; but genuine phenomena are rare, and sitters, especially if they have paid a fee, expect a continuous supply. Even then, the medium may not consciously wish to be fraudulent; but, when she is in a semi-conscious state, the desire to satisfy the sitters overcomes conscious scruples, and simple trickery begins. This is astonishingly successful owing to the credulity of most sitters and the laxity of their control. It gradually grows, until at last fraud is practiced consciously. Then, with a reputation to maintain on which her living depends, the medium cannot afford to dispense with it. ... (After which may begin patronage of magicians' supply houses.)"

Granting that you are not competing with the *Journal of Parapsychology* and the *Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research*, you may hope, in future, without sacrificing your popular and non-technical appeal, to enlist the support of high-grade readers precisely because of your integrity and determination to seek truth for its own sake. I believe you will find enough of such readers to make the whole thing worth-while. Use your infrared film, snooper-scope, and tape recorder to the limit. The more instrumentation the better!

As you say editorially, we no longer have with us Crookes, Lodge, Flammarion, and Schrenck-Notzing, but at least we have the equipment which each of them would have given his right arm (and leg and lung and kidney) to possess. Chesterfield will never scale the peaks in Darien. Tom O'Neil, however, may well succeed with his blazing honesty and high resolve.

Cordially yours,
T. Dumont
P. O. Box 39
New York, N. Y.

All hats should be off to you for your courage in publishing the news—unwelcome though it was—of the deceptions practiced at Camp Chesterfield.

It is difficult to see how the mediums involved can possibly explain or justify their attempts to deceive the many grief-stricken people who trusted in them.

Am puzzled to know how they expected to escape having their fakery detected since they were aware the camera was grinding and the snooper-scope scanning the room?

I enclose a year's subscription to your excellent paper.

And my congratulations!

Mrs. H. L. Davis
1120 Sinex Ave.
Pacific Grove, Cal.

May I congratulate you on your courage and honesty in exposing the fraudulent materialization seances in Camp Chesterfield? I should also like to commend you on your choice of fellow-observer; Dr. Andrija Puharich is truly an authority in his field.

Though the decision was a difficult one and will no doubt affect your life in many ways, I am confident that it will be for the best.

Margaret A. Paul, M.D.
1481 Paseo Del Mar
San Pedro, Calif.

We are still in a state of shock after reading *Psychic Observer* for July 10, 1960. We do want to support you in this campaign. The harm that will be done to the people new in this work is beyond comprehension. There has been too many wonderful things happened in this work without trying to fake it. This when made known will destroy the faith of many people in the cause of Spiritualism. We have already had an experience with faked materialization. When it happened we were dreadfully upset but this incident at Chesterfield affects so many people that it will set Spiritualism back many years.

At a time of unrest around the world, all should work together for the good of the movement. It is right that you should publish the truth, and truth will always prevail. We can only feel sorrow for people who can so desecrate their gifts.

We hope to keep our subscription paid well in advance that we won't miss any copies.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis O. Barnum
Pinehurst Trailer Park
Rt. 1, Box 83
Weed, Calif.

I just received the July 10th issue of *The Psychic Observer*. I felt both sad and proud after reading of the fraud you uncovered at Chesterfield. I was sad to think of the depths certain mediums can sink. I was proud of your paper for following the teachings of Jesus. He said "Physician heal thyself."

I feel we, who are true Spiritualists, should uncover the frauds in our movement.

I have talked to several individuals who admit they have had readings by genuine mediums but are against us because of the numerous charlatans who practice their deception under the guise of Spiritualism. Since most of the psychic phenomenon can be faked, mediumship is an open outlet for any smooth talking operator wanting to dupe the public.

In my opinion, Spiritualism is a religion dating back to Brahmic Hinduism in prehistoric India. However, today, Spiritualism is losing its dignity and respect.

A large majority of mediums are competing with professional fortune tellers and sideshow performers and giving their congregation a good show instead of wisdom and knowledge.

I give no messages. Instead I try to aid people in uncovering the powers within their inner being, I teach them that by doing so they can receive their own messages. I also teach that it is better to release the spirits of loved ones in order that they may progress to higher planes than to continue to recall them to the earth plane by attempting to communicate with them.

My church and myself stand by your side in your attempt to uncover the frauds who are disgracing our religion.

Rev. James G. Carson
Universal Temple of Wisdom
Long Beach 10, Calif.

On Other Subjects

Would I be talking out of turn in making a request that I feel sure would be of interest to a lot of readers of your *Psychic Observer*, and a lot of non-members who might be interested in subscribing, if you would publish some articles on subjects as follows:

The Mystic Eye, Ouija Board; Proof of Survival; Mystic Experiences; ESP in Humans and Animals; Premonitions; Dreams, and so forth.

We all lead such rushing hectic lives, and have so little time to dig in and read the long articles, which, of course are very worth while.

A variety of shorter articles I believe would appeal to more people. The Philosophers, with time on their hands, have time

to study and digest long articles on the deep subjects, but people like me, with too little time for such luxurious relaxation, only have time to read the shorter article, and I, for one, love variety.

If you would invite people who have had psychic experiences to send them in to you for perusal and acceptance, if you find them acceptable, I believe it would create a wider interest.

You would be surprised to know how many, many people have psychic experiences that they never divulge for fear of ridicule. If they could send them in, and use initials for publication, they might be interested in doing so.

The more people sending in experiences, the more aware will the non-believers become. To all of us come, at some time or other, psychic experiences and hunches, that if followed, might be very surprising in the outcome.

Ghost stories are always interesting. After all, we will all be ghosts some day and might as well learn about them in this world.

Mrs. Gladys Childs
Box 414
Lincolnton, N. C.

The OBSERVER of the 10th just received. I congratulate you on having the honesty and courage to expose the fraudulent mediums. Keep up such good work and let Spiritualism be cleaned up, from the inside.

Col. F. W. Campbell
Amador Hotel
Las Cruces, N. M.

(Continued on page 7)

Aura Vision

Down thru the ages a gifted few with aura-sight have described the splendor and meaning they have seen in the halo and entire aura. Today the aura can be easily viewed along with other phenomena with the aid of Aura Lenses set in light excluding goggles. Inquiring minds the world over are discovering new horizons thru aura vision. Recently detected rays connected with the aura have been termed by many as inspirational. Our Aura Goggles with the finest Aura Lenses (pinacyanole bromide) along with instructions are now only \$3.95 complete. This new low price makes today the day for you to order your Aura Goggles. Orders are filled same day received. Aura Goggles, 111 Sumner St. Quincy 69, Mass. Dept C1.

Enclosed find \$3.95. Please send one pair of Aura Goggles with instructions to:

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City..... Zone..... State.....

Camp Silver Belle

Ephrata, Pa.

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Orthodoxy Has Failed To Explain the Bible

Youth Challenges Old-Time Religion — Breaks Shackles

Paganism In Christianity Revealed Through Study

By Rev. Enid S. Smith, Ph.D.

Young people are reaching out for the Beyond and finding answers to the age-old questions in psychical research. Orthodoxy has failed to fulfill its promise to modern-day youth, who find the truth in their own personal experiences with spirit, and in those of their friends. Occasionally, some of the Psychic and Spiritualistic journals, via the back door, fall into the hands of these questioners, or they buy a FATE Magazine in a drug store or at the newsstand, or they may see a timely article on "Survival" or "Healing" in CORONET, or some of the Woman's Journals, or they may find an intriguing book on the subject in the Public Library. Youth is hungry for truth.

Not long ago, the experience of a young man working for his Ph.D. degree in a large university, who had occasion in the spring to travel out in the country over some of the muddy roads of West Virginia, was of great interest to students in one of the writer's psychology classes in a Southern college where she was teaching. At the end of one day, the youth's car got hopelessly stuck in the mud on a lonely road. With no help available, he curled up on the front seat and went to sleep. He judged it was the middle of the night when he was awakened by a tapping sound on his windshield. He paid no attention to it at first, but as it continued, he raised his head and opened his eyes.

It was a beautiful moonlight night. Just in front of the car he saw a lovely girl clad in a long white robe. He thought he must be dreaming, jerked himself up, thrust his head out of the window. She was still there, and said softly, "Don't be afraid. I want you to take a very important message to my boy friend at dawn, half a mile down the road. He'll be out splitting wood. But first let me prove to you who I am and that I am sent to help you. I am buried down the road a short distance." She then gave her name, the dates of her birth and death and the motto written under her name on a gravestone. "So please come and I'll prove this to you, and then give you a message that may save a life."

The stranger hesitated a moment. He had heard of spirit return, but had dismissed it lightly—but here was an actual experience, and her request seemed urgent—perhaps to save a life, maybe a threatened suicide from despair. Yes, he'd go. So he followed her in the radiant light to the little graveyard she had mentioned. A few moments later she knelt down in front of the stone and pointed to the inscription which was exactly as she had given it. She rose and led him back to the car, told him of her recent death in an auto wreck, and how stories had falsely been circulated about her infidelity to her betrothed that had grieved him to distraction—if he knew the truth he could rehabilitate himself.

Message Received

She gave the message to be delivered and said that he would see that the car got out of the mud. The young man promised to deliver the message but wondered if it would be accepted. She thanked him and vanished. There was no more sleep for the rest of the night. At dawn he heard



REV. ENID SMITH

the sound of chopping, located the young man, and after a skillful prelude to the miraculous experience, delivered the message which was enthusiastically and gratefully accepted. In friendly conversation the young man walked back to the car with the owner and soon had him on his way.

Until parents, ministers, teachers, and friends cause children and youth to lose or suppress their natural and spiritual aptitudes, the majority of them manifest some form of the universal and Biblical gifts of the spirit, in the way of clairvoyance, clairaudience, when they see and converse with "invisible" playmates, fairies, have dreams, and give predictions. The adults often call this just "imagination" or "non-sense," and hush it up.

However, the spirit people are patient and continue to serve, though often not recognized. The writer's friend, Dr. George Starr White of Los Angeles, whenever in danger, is seized by his spirit sister by the legs; on one occasion this happened when he cried "Stop!" to a man and woman behind him, just before a coping from a tall building in a large city fell and struck the sidewalk with a loud crash where George's next step would have been. This spirit sister had saved his life many a time before.

One day a college junior said to the writer, "I am going to tell you what is a common experience for me—I know you will understand. I was in the midst of a garden of exquisite jonquils when first two of my invisible

helpers appeared to me—my grandmother who had died several years before my birth, and an attractive little girl with long black curls and big smiling brown eyes. These are my best friends and always appear when I need them most, and they have taught me many helpful things. It is only to others that they are 'invisible'."

"I'm Going to Die"

Sometimes a student picks up a Medical Journal in a Reading Room, or that an older member of the family has brought home, one that might contain a report such as given by a Dr. A. B. Cowan, in which he told of a patient dying of lung cancer, who took the physician's hand and said on a Tuesday, "You will not need to come Thursday, for I am going to die at 2:30 that afternoon." The doctor tried to discourage such thinking, and said that he would look in on Thursday. But later, on Thursday afternoon, from the family came a message that the father had passed away peacefully. Shortly after this the two daughters of the deceased told the doctor that on Wednesday their father had called together the family to tell them he would pass the following day at 2:30 p.m. Just before that time all were present, except the wife. He called for her urgently, saying, "Hurry, hurry, before it is too late!" She came running into the room. On the stroke of 2:30 p.m., according to the two daughters, he sighed, raised both his arms behind his head, and passed away.

There are hundreds of thousands of other similar instances of various types of psychic and spiritual phenomena that modern youth craves to learn about from reputable sources, rather than to hear what happened 2300 years B.C. when Abraham talked to angels and offered his son as a human sacrifice; or to read of the atrocities and barbarisms of days that followed, of the crimes of Sodom and Gomorrah, of terrible wars with neighboring tribes, life in barbarism, with a low, cruel conception of their god that demanded blood and enjoyed the smell of burnt offerings, and insisted on many being committed in his name.

Youth is on the march and is bound to find the truth. Though they revere the personality and works of the Master Jesus, and take him as their ideal and example, many of them wonder about his miracles and have no interest in creedal Churchianity which they have come to see has no part in him. They have learned that he apparently never knew about any virgin birth, or trinity, or original sin, or eternal damnation, and certainly not about any substitutionary atonement, or even about people staying "dead" until an archangel blew a trumpet.

They have understood that Jesus thought of himself as the simple, humble son of man, never separating himself from us, all being sons and daughters of God, and never considering himself in any special sense the "Son of God," other than the Aramaic translation of the words, "Servant of God."

Youth has read some of the books of the great mystic and artist, the late Kahlil Gibran, in college libraries, and have understood his words, when he said, "Once in every hundred years Jesus of Nazareth meets Jesus the Christian in a garden, among

the hills of Lebanon; and each time Jesus of Nazareth goes away, saying to Jesus the Christian, "My friend, I am afraid we shall never, never agree."

Occasionally, in their search for truth, youth comes across facts in histories on the Early Church where prophets and mediums held sway, or works by great historians and writers, such as THE PAGANISM IN OUR CHRISTIANITY by Dr. Arthur Weigall, SIXTEEN CRUCIFIED SAVIORS by Kersey Graves, HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH by Canon Robertson, THE ROCK OF TRUTH, Arthur Findlay, and others. In time, these young people learn how Christianity has been thrust into a mold or better into a Procrustean Bed and forced into the conformity of pagan religions, similar to what the old Greek robber did when he either stretched or amputated the limbs of captives to make them fit a certain bed.

Many Virgin Mothers

In this pattern followed by the religions, the savior gods were usually born of virgins that had a name of some form of the word Maya, Marya, Maia, or Mary. They were born in caves above which was a star, were worshipped by shepherds and Wise Men; later they performed miracles, were born and died at times represented by our Christmas and Easter, were the "lamb sacrificed for the sins of the world," and were saviors to all who believed.

But youth has learned that the Early Christian Church of the first three centuries followed the teachings of Jesus with the prophets and mediums holding office within the church, practicing healing and the "gifts of the spirit," much more so than in the Spiritualist Churches of the present, as it was not uncommon in those days for worshippers to fall in trance, or speak with tongues, or to share generally their psychic experiences. But after the Council of Nicea, 325 A.D., when the Roman Emperor Constantine took over Christianity and embodied within it Mithraism, his State religion, voted in the Deity of Jesus, and as the church became modeled more and more after the Roman Government, saw that the bishops and elders replaced the prophets and mediums, and the church became worldly and commercialized. By the year 553 the church people had become increasingly lazy, saw no point in "working out their salvation with fear and trembling," as St. Paul had admonished, or in remembering the words of Jesus, "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." They desired atonements and forgiveness, so voted out the doctrine of Rebirth or Reincarnation which had been taught by Jesus and the Disciples, and even long after by Saint Francis of Assisi who

preached it in the public square as late as 1200 A.D., and put in the doctrine of Forgiveness.

In 787 they established the doctrine of the Trinity, and allowed the worship of idols or images, and with continuous wars, Churchianity went on its downward way, leaving behind the Master Jesus and his teachings. Later the universities closed, the Dark Ages took over, the Inquisition followed, and the church became supreme with the State, and terror and tragedy reigned.

Challenging young people are presenting an ever-continuous stream of questioning. They expect to be given opportunity to express themselves and to set examples on higher levels of consciousness. Some even feel they have come to earth for that purpose at this time. They challenge Orthodoxy's idea of the infallibility of an inspired Bible, along with their other claims and man-made creeds. They cannot accept the religion of their grandfathers. The old-time religion is not good enough for the modern scientific, jet-plane age. It may have been all right for the ass and ox-cart times. Everything has progressed but religion.

Youth is earnestly seeking and searching for that religion which will be acceptable and satisfactory in meeting their needs for today and that will prepare them for tomorrow. They have read enough to know what happens to the great mass of the orthodox that pass to the next life expecting to find golden streets, winged angels, a great white throne, Jesus, and the rest, with their sins all atoned for. They find none of these things that orthodoxy promised, but are left with their sins in despair, and wander about, earthbound or in the "outer darkness" the Master told about, until after what seemed an endless time, they may see a dim light of some earthly whom they succeed in obsessing, to the sorrow and degradation of both. Often they come to consider the obsessed body their own, and to believe they have never experienced so-called "death."

Biblical Stumbling Blocks

Biblical scholarship has shattered the foundations of "traditional theology." The old key to the Temple of Truth has rusted in its rusty lock—the door can no longer be opened. However, Psychic Science points the way to a secretly preserved door which all who seek may find, and which opens to all who knock. But orthodoxy puts many stumbling blocks in the way of youth. By their misinterpretations of the Bible, millions are kept from the true understanding of the facts of life, of survival and communication with God and the angel world, because of such verses as occur in the latter section of the

(Continued on page 7)

EXORCISM HEALING

If confused, troubled, or ill, write Alice Wellstood Tindall, 1601 Argonne Place, N.W., Washington 9, D.C. for EXORCISM (Casting out obsessing entities), and join the many who have been freed. Love offering.

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A revealing experience in FOURTH DIMENSIONAL AWARENESS is in store for you when you read—

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Angel Voices Speak Out Against Fraudulent Mediums

(Received From Spirit)

Just before the days of the birth of Modern Spiritualism, when Science, the ever impermanent, changeable, false Messiah, was bowing God out of the universe, as useless and non-existent; and when Orthodoxy, with its grotesque man-made creeds, was putting to death the last gleams of truth and virtue in the thinking of people, there went forth the Divine edict for the birth of Modern Spiritualism. Thus, Spiritualism, meaning the opposite of materialism and physical science, was born divinely in the fullness of time.

Torchbearers of this Truth came forth from unexpected sources—little children, judges, scientists, the learned and the ignorant. They rallied, suffered persecution, were willing at all costs to bear the Torch for such an honest, beautiful, sensible, demonstrable Truth of such importance. It spread with its marvels far and wide, as it answered the age-old question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" Numerous people returned from the other side of life and demonstrated their identity—they lived! And the Torch was held high for the world to know this matchless fact.

So, down the years many of our people have unselfishly devoted their lives and their all to the living and practicing and proclaiming this Truth, as its true torchbearers. Through the sacred gift of mediumship the proof has continued to show that "Life is every lord of death, and love can never lose its own."

Reviled Their Gifts

But all along there have been a few who have not held this gift sacred and for the service of humanity. They have falsified and used their God-given gift for purposes of greed, status, self-satisfaction. At the present time, at the end of the Age, when the final battle of light and darkness is raging, dishonesty, fraud, and the letting go of morality is rife. Our beautiful Spiritualism has suffered from much trickery, treachery, fraud at the hands of mediums who worship the golden calf, and who have brought our science into great ill repute.

What should be done about this? There is no denying the facts—they are too blatant; they cry from the housetops. They are no longer done in a corner but with boldness. Like attracts like, we all know: If the channels are polluted, what type of spirit would they draw? The Master once asked, "Do men gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?" "Nay, but this cycle," comments a White Brother on the other side of life, "this cycle of treachery, trickery, the prostituting of sacred gifts to filthy lucre, to money, prestige, false standards must be done away with!"

People are asking, "What is this Spiritualism; what reputable person can embrace it? Why this great deception?" Where there is honesty, unity and harmony with the Divine, the power of Spirit brings upliftment, virtue, courage, peace, knowledge and assurance, proving the continuity of life beyond the grave and communion with those passed on. All of this is preparation so necessary for the passing of the countless millions of humanity who enter the Spirit World. Therefore, try the spirits, ye Spiritualists, and test frequently the channels, the mediums, and let not the fraudulent ones discredit our

beautiful Truth, and tolerate no dishonesty for any cause whatever.

Truth Will Win

Remember that sooner or later the Truth is discovered, that those who practice trickery or mixed mediumship, part true and part false, are unworthy representatives of our Truth. It is high time that true Spiritualists break the shackles of this treason against Spirit, and disclose the wolves in sheep's clothing that destroy our work.

Many hearts have been broken, and many lives turned from the light of life to nothing but materialism by those fraudulent ones who would sell souls for a few shekels and our Spiritualism is in great danger, not only of universal disrepute but of temporary annihilation until its present foundations can be rebuilt on genuineness, sincerity, virtue, unselfishness, and a realization of the sacredness of the gifts of the spirit, and the crime of defrauding for any reason whatever.

Let the lives of the mediums be pure; let them be schooled in the meaning of honesty, dependability, service, truth, the good life, for they are sick souls who delude brother man and tear down all the work of our great and good pioneers, our honest, self-sacrificing research workers and scientists, who have risked all to find and to proclaim the truth of Spiritualism. And let the fraudulent ones be educated to know the immensity of their crime in this world and the next. Let these folly-befogged ones repent and strive again to find their first light, and be it ever so little, to demand honesty of themselves, knowing that only then will the Universe stand back of them. Thus may we have a clean Spiritualism.

BOOK REVIEW

The Recovery of Culture, by Henry Bailey Stevens: Harper and Bros., New York: 247 pages; \$3.00.

The Millennium Guild, of 40 Central Park South, New York 19, recently sent me, as a gift, a copy of the above book, which, though published ten years ago, does not seem to have received the attention it so richly merits. In more than half a century of serious reading, I have found few books so philosophical, so scientifically analytic and synthetic, so illuminating, as well as promising for the future of man, or so superbly written, as "The Recovery of Culture."

In one grand thesis, it unites legends of the Golden Age, Man's relation to the Animal, Plant and Mineral Kingdom, the health of all these, Co-operation with Nature, War—and Stone Circles, which have for so long been something of a mystery.

Pantheism?

Delving deeply into history, and also tracing words to their original meanings (reminding one of Max Freedom Long's achievement with the Huna philosophy), our author presents evidence that the story of humanity is intimately associated with what we may call the Tree-of-Life philosophy and religion, with trees, plants, agriculture and gardens, with the 'sacred grove,' which was the first meaning of 'temple,' where ancient worship was characterized by offerings of "first fruits."

Many words, in countless languages, descriptive of trees and gardens, can be traced to the island of Java, which is still virtually one big garden, and was

probably the original of the Garden of Eden myths.

Those Stone Circles, which abound in Great Britain, and are plentiful in many other lands, there are ample reasons for accepting, were designed as walls of stone, as protection of Garden-Temples against wild animals. Trees were sacred, and beneath them religious ceremonies were performed, the "spirits" of trees being revered.

It was not till some 5000 years ago that domestication and breeding of animals became a major factor in man's life. Also, from that date, organized war started, the Aryan word for 'war' meaning "desire for more cows," which of course implies need for more land. Before that time, the traditional Golden Age, men were peaceful, working together, co-operating, sharing with all the products of agriculture, and their gardens; so closely identified with their Temples. The supreme crime was violence, in any shape or form. In those days, Mars, known as "Mars of the woods," was the God of Vegetation, of food from plants.

Meat Is Wasteful

Overwhelming is evidence that the production of flesh-food is extremely wasteful. An acre of wheat, made into bread, will produce 6 times as much food-value as it would if applied to production of eggs or pork, 8 times as much to raise broilers, 19 times as much as if converted into beef. Hence, the more men came to depend on animals for food, the more land they needed to accommodate livestock.

Furthermore, instead of giving back to the land the refuse of plant-crops, animal manure alone starved the soil, which deteriorated and lost its fertility. Also, sharp hooves cut to shreds vegetation, pulverizing soil into dust and desert. The great cities of the Gobi Desert area were smothered out of existence: the Sahara became a barren waste; the Libyan Desert, at one time the granary of Rome, became a furnace. Phenomena of this type, it is well known, became common over almost the whole world.

In U. S. A., of 728 million acres, 576 have been more or less depleted, each year some half million acres being ruined. Of the rich topsoil, a third already has vanished.

When man captured and bred millions of animals, and then, in cold blood, savagely and callously turned on them and slew them, so that he might devour their corpses, he "descended to the level of snarling cats, scavenging birds, beasts of prey, below the level of the whole primate family, setting up as his models the eagle, the lion, the bear." Wading through blood, he made slaughter a business. Not till the third millennium B.C. did man introduce the sacrifice of animals to his gods.

For this hideous crime, Nature speedily exacted dire penalties. As the habit of flesh-eating grew, so did man's health degenerate. Today, medical men tell us that one person in three will die of cancer, while 52% of young men are rejected as unfit for army and navy. Other major diseases also are increasing every year.

The incidence of cancer in sheep is 1 in 6800, in horses 1 in 2100, in cattle 1 in 358, in man 1 in 20, in rats 1 in 5. In apes, however, no cancer is found.

Intellectuals Revolted

Supplementing the list which our author gives, is my own compilation of more than 100 men, distinguished in many walks of life, who revolted against what they considered the criminal, unwholesome devouring of animal-corpses. Here are a few examples: Apollonius, Aristotle, Asoka,

Blake, Buddha, Byron, Christian Apostles James, James the Less, Matthew and Peter, Chrysostom, Daniel, Darwin, Diogenes, Edison, Einstein, Francis d'Assisi, Benjamin Franklin, Gandhi, Garibaldi, Gassendi, Hypatia, Isaiah, Linnaeus, Locke, Maeterlinck, Manu, Marconi, Milton, Montaigne, Newton, Nietzsche, Origen, Ovid, Plato, Plutarch, Pythagoras, Rousseau, Schopenhauer, Schweitzer, Bernard Shaw, Shelley, Socrates, Swedenborg, Tesla, Thoreau, Tolstoi, Voltaire, da Vinci, Wagner, Wesley, Zoroaster . . . The Essenes, to whom many scholars think the Biblical Jesus belonged, of course were strict vegetarians.

In every religion, notably Buddhism and Hinduism, flesh-eating has been repudiated by larger or smaller groups.

Of the scores of books on this all-important thesis, few if any can equal this throbbing, mind- and soul-stirring little epic, for scientific acumen, warmth of heart, penetration of philosophical thought, from the pen of a writer equally at ease in science, philosophy, metaphysics, ethics, essential religion, while his eloquent, graphic, soaring phraseology and writing craftsmanship, make him stand out conspicuously.

It is, therefore, an honor to commend this book to all who aim at ethical, kindly, humane, spiritual—and healthy—living. Certainly it should be on the shelves of every Humanitarian.

Slaughter of animals, for an unnatural, unnecessary, unwholesome food, must inevitably foster callousness of heart, leading to the "blackest crime" (Gandhi)—experimentation on animals and Vivisection.

Surely it should be the duty of all to study these matters, examine our manner of living, and revise it, as even elementary ethics demands. For Christians, especially, are told by their own Bible: "every herb . . . every tree . . . to you it shall be for meat: . . . the wolf shall dwell with the lamb . . . the lion shall eat straw like the ox . . . they shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain. . . . He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man."

—A. E. Powell

Ingersoll Describes His Death

By A. E. Powell

Through the entranced medium, Cora Tappan, is said to have been delivered an oration, of which the following are extracts.

Those who are familiar with the almost unparalleled eloquence of the famous Rationalist, Robert J. Ingersoll, will I think instantly not only recognize his marvellous felicity of expression, and his graphic phraseology, but also bow before the nobility of soul and mind that shines through and illumines the works he has left with us.

Ingersoll Speaks

"Through an unaccustomed brain, in manner of speech that is unusual, with a voice that is not my own, but borrowed for this occasion, I greet you.

"When suddenly that shock came, which cut off as in a single instant with a blade of lightning my physical form, my spiritual and mental being was not even for one moment lost, not for one instant was there cessation of consciousness, not for one instant was there lack of throbbing, pulsing life.

"There was the body that I knew to be mine, though not the glass of fashion and mould of form. There was the brain which I had supposed was the seat of all the intelligence that I possessed, now powerless within that cranium, not one cell of which could give forth a thought.

"There were those lips with which I had been accustomed to respond to words of affection; now, when those words called my

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