

THE INTERNATIONAL PSYCHIC GAZETTE

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Our Outlook Tower.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS.

ON this first day of a New Year we cordially greet our many readers scattered all over the world, thank them for their unfailing loyalty and appreciation, and wish them comfort, peace, prosperity, and manifold spiritual blessings during the coming year. The battle for Spiritualistic Truth is everywhere being won and its enemies are being discomfited all along the line!

JOHN LEWIS, *Editor*.

PASCAL FORTHUNY, *Continental Editor*.

JOHN MYERS ON THE DONEGALL FIASCO.

A HANDSOME BEQUEST.

MR. JOHN MYERS lectured on "Spirit Photography" to the Lewisham Spiritualist Church last month.

The *Lewisham Borough News* says:—"Mr. Myers made two exposures during the singing of the hymn, 'Come gentle spirits to us now; lay your soft hands upon each brow.' He stood behind the camera, which was focussed above the heads of the audience, with his left hand to his head as though in deep meditation. Later it was announced that 'thanks to the delightful conditions the congregation have given us one of the plates shows six extras.' This announcement was greeted by loud applause."

In the course of his lecture Mr. Myers referred to Lord Donegall's so-called "exposure" in the *Sunday Dispatch* and said:—

"I was attacked, but I don't mind. We all have to be persecuted for this Cause. I am not the first medium to stand this persecution, and I shall not be the last. I appeal to you all not to judge anybody too harshly. I have been judged by the world, owing to this exposure, as a person who is unreliable. I can assure you that I have played the game and I intend doing so. Never mind what you hear about a medium. As long as he has been tried and proved, that is all that matters. You cannot convince the world all the time. I don't mind. I am going to fight on. All I want is your support."

Mr. J. G. Coates, president of the Victoria Psychic Research Society, of which Mr. Myers is vice-president, said that he was proud to support Mr. Myers. "If the whole of the sensational Press claims with one voice that Mr. John Myers is a fraud we say we don't believe them. We know that Mr. Myers is one of the greatest mediums the Movement has ever seen."

During December Mr. Myers also lectured and gave successful public demonstrations of his wonderful gift to the Survival League, the District Council of the S.N.U., and at Bowes Park, Purley and Ramsgate. He is receiving invitations to visit many towns throughout the country during the coming year.

GOOD OUT OF EVIL.

We congratulate the Victoria Psychic Research Society on its receipt of a welcome legacy of £500 from a lady sympathiser with Mr. Myers during the Donegall attack. This lady, who was a Roman Catholic, passed over within a few days of making the bequest. As a token of gratitude the Society is arranging to give a series of group sittings in psychic photography at a nominal fee to persons who cannot afford the usual charges.

A BELGIAN VIEW OF THE ATTACK.

Pour la Verité, a zealous and wide-awake Spiritualist monthly published in Brussels, comments thus on "The Myers-Donegall Affaire":—

Just as we were going to press, the *International Psychic Gazette*, November number, reached us. On the first page we were astounded to see printed, in large letters, the title thus worded of an article:—"Noble Lord's Faked 'Exposure' of an Honest Medium"—"Lord Donegall Substitutes a Slide, Denies it, then Caves In"—"He also Smuggles Plates into the Dark Room"—"The Editor Interviews Myers and Answers his Accusers."

We greatly regret that time and space prevent our

reproducing all the details given therein. We can only compliment the Editor of the *International Psychic Gazette* for taking up an honest Medium's defence. Our foreign English speaking readers who may wish for more ample details on the subject can obtain the above mentioned paper by applying to 69, High Holborn, London.

It appears that the names of two English noblemen are involved in this matter. If things took place as related in the paper, and we have no reason whatever to doubt the Editor's word, we can only say that it is indeed sad, to use a mild expression, to hear that English noblemen who should set the example, should stoop to such dirty, shabby tricks with the sole idea of harming an honest man, probably as the paper gives to understand, with the bigoted idea of interest for their Mother Church.

Do they call that "Religion" or is it "Hatred?" If such is their religion, well . . . !!! Yet if their religion is the one we presume, it says: "Thou shalt not bear false witness."

The same as with Mrs. Meurig Morris, we sincerely hope to see Mr. John Myers, the slandered medium, entirely cleared of such cowardly calumny.

DENNIS BRADLEY'S UNIQUE EXPERIENCES.

Few investigators of Spiritualism have been so richly rewarded for their sustained efforts as Mr. Dennis Bradley, the author of "Towards the Stars" and "The Wisdom of the Gods," who is presiding at a lecture by Mr. Shaw Desmond at the Grotian Hall on January 28.

The Reverend Rabbi Silverstone, in his new book noticed elsewhere in this issue, quotes the following testimonies by Mr. Bradley which appeared in the *Daily News* of January 15, 1929:—

"During the last six years I have heard at least 500 different individual voices of spirits talking intelligently to their friends on earth."

"I have heard spirit voices speaking, and conversations carried on, in my own house, in German, French, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Danish, Basque, Chinese, Japanese and idiomatic Welsh."

"I have proved that the spirit voices, apart from the incontrovertible mental evidences they have given, are actual physical and recordable sounds. With a private telephone laid on by the post office to the Columbia Graphophone Company, and two of their assistants giving signals when to record, nine distinct and individual voices spoke—in English, Hindustani, Italian, and Chinese. These records—the first psychic sounds ever registered—are in my possession. An important point is that no one present at this experiment could speak any of these languages except English."

Dr. Silverstone further quotes from the same source:—

"Dennis Bradley then accepts spirit communications as a scientific fact. He asserts that 'spirits retain their personal mentalities, memories, and characteristics, and they possess ethereal replicas of their earthly bodies. They are tangible beings, which can touch us, move material objects, and speak to us through their larynxes and mouths.'"

Mr. Bradley received most, if not all, of this transcendent experience through the mediumship of Mr. George Valiantine. His reappearance on a Spiritualist platform is being awaited with intense interest.

THE CONVERTS TO SPIRITUALISM.

DR. ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE, O.M., F.R.S., the eminent naturalist and scientist, testifies on page 177 of his famous work on "Miracles and Modern Spiritualism":—

"Clergymen of all sects, literary men and lawyers, physicians in large numbers, men of science not a few, secularists, philosophical sceptics, pure materialists, all have become converts through the overwhelming logic of the phenomena which Spiritualism has brought before them."

"And what have we *per contra*? Neither science nor philosophy, neither scepticism nor religion, has ever yet in this quarter of a century made one single convert from the ranks of Spiritualism."

J. L.

Spirit Healing in Surrey.

THE MEDIUMSHIP OF MR. W. J. HILL.

SPIRIT healing has come into some prominence in Surrey by the successful treatment towards the end of the old year of a well-known retired tradesman of Kingston, who was suffering from a very painful disease. The medium, Mr. W. J. Hill, of 7 Wellington Crescent, New Malden, has been treating patients voluntarily for the past ten or twelve years, and the spirit doctors working through him have either relieved, or cured, hundreds of cases.

In an interview with a correspondent of the *Gazette*, who is personally acquainted with the circumstances of the remarkable case at Kingston, Mr. Hill recalled his first contact with the Spiritualist movement. He said:—

"I was brought into the movement by the cure of my son some twelve years ago. He was suffering from a very severe form of heart trouble, which doctors both in private practice and at London and local hospitals pronounced incurable.

"When the doctors could do no more for him the case was taken up by the healing circle of the Surbiton Spiritualist Society. They prayed for him whilst he was lying ill at home, his mother also prayed, and he himself prayed. In four days he was healed, and from that day to this he has not had a day's sickness. He has also been in constant employment since; he plays football and rides a bicycle.

"At that time I was a Freethinker, but I was persuaded by my wife to go with him to the Healing Circle to return thanks for his wonderful recovery. Whilst sitting in the hall, in a critical mood, I was invited to enter the Circle. Rather unwillingly I consented. To my astonishment I at once fell under control and treated some of the members of the Circle there and then.

"From that moment I have gone on quietly with the healing work through Dr. Symons, who was a ship's doctor in earth life, as well as through other medical

men, and a powerful Red Indian medicine-man, who are brought in for special cases. In the twelve years I have been working the spirit doctors have been able to give successful treatment, in the majority of cases, to five or six hundred patients.

"Mr. Thorne, who has just opened a new Spiritualist Society in Alexandra Road, Kingston Hill, has asked me to extend my work—to give it, in fact, a more public character—and to start a healing circle there."

One of Mr. Hill's most recent cases, and one of the most remarkable, concerns a well-known tradesman of Kingston, now retired, for whom a bed in hospital had been engaged. He was in very great pain, but his doctor could do nothing for him until the bed in hospital was ready and he could be X-rayed and undergo an operation. That would have taken three days.

The patient had previously had a successful experience of Mr. Hill's mediumship, following an accident; and as the doctor could do nothing at the time and he was in such great pain he sent for him to see if he could give him relief.

Mr. Hill went to him, and the spirit doctor found inflammation of the kidney and a floating gall stone. He gave him immediate relief, telling him at the same time that he would be all right in the morning.

The patient's faith could scarcely rise to complete recovery as quickly as that. He said to Mr. Hill, "I don't wish, as I am sure you understand, to be pessimistic, but I have heard of many people being told that they will be all right in the morning, and when the morning comes they are not all right. Now just for my satisfaction as well as your own, will you come to see me again to-morrow?"

Mr. Hill promised to go the next day. The patient was then up and walking about, free from pain. He did not have to go to hospital for an operation; the bed that was engaged was cancelled; and he feels that he has been completely cured.

Mr. Hill's wife, it may be added, is herself a very earnest Spiritualist and does a great work in her spirit rescue circle.

The Return of Sir Vincent Caillard.

(SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.)

OVER and over again I have insisted (writes the special contributor of this brief note on a little booklet by Lady Caillard) that what we most want to know are the activities in the next world of those who were celebrities in this. Gradually, but very gradually, we have received them in book form—first W. T. Stead then George R. Sims, next Northcliffe and Hinchliffe, and now Sir Vincent Caillard. "Raymond," though not himself a celebrity in the broad sense, must, of course, be included in this list, for what we know of his activities through his celebrated father is most convincing of all.

When we know more about the work in the Spheres of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, of the Rev. Vale Owen, of Dr. Abraham Wallace, and of Dr. Lamond, to mention but a few from whom we should like to hear more publicly and more definitely, we shall be making great progress.

Lady Caillard's graphic narrative, entitled "Sir Vincent Caillard speaks from the Spirit World" (Riders, 1/-), is, though all too short, in many respects one of the really important works of the Old Year, for Sir Vincent was a celebrity in the field of finance and industry, one of the heads of the great industrial firm of Vickers, and his "Return" is, therefore, something to be regarded as really notable, from the point of view of interesting the world at large.

Lady Caillard is one of those lucky persons who attend for the first time a Spiritualist service and immediately get a message—"a very accurate description of my husband and some intimate particulars that no one but he could possibly have known."

Afterwards, from "an American preacher who had left his Church to teach Spiritualism in America"—a man "able to see and hear messages given by spirits" (obviously, one supposes, the Rev. Arthur Ford) she had "the most wonderfully convincing evidence that the messages he gave me could only have come from my husband."

A number of sittings with different mediums followed

and there came experiences with the Reflectograph and the materialisation of "Ethel" and a little nigger child, "who laughed and talked with all of us":—

"After staying with us for some little time she said she must go. None knew who was coming after that, but suddenly I heard my husband calling me by a name which only he used and which no one but he knew. I was amazed.

"He said, 'I'm coming to show myself to you if I can.' And then he appeared.

"At first he held out his hand and shook mine with a firm grasp. It was wonderful. He took my hand in his two hands, and pressed it to his lips. Two hot tears fell on my hand. I was astounded.

"Before he left he asked me to arrange to see him on the anniversary of his passing. He also gave me an ivy leaf and said it meant constancy."

The second time Sir Vincent appeared to his wife "was even more wonderful than the first":—

"He told me he had prayed hard that he should be allowed to come to me and that he should be allowed to take me in his arms and show himself to me to give me comfort.

"This meeting seems almost too sacred to write about, but he has asked me to make it known to the world so that others may be convinced of the great truth of survival. He said, 'You must tell this great truth; you must tell them that there is no death, and that nothing matters but Love.'

"That was his message, which I give now in the earnest hope that others may believe and have proof, as I have had of survival."

Lady Caillard has had another meeting with her spirit husband since then—"a wonderful meeting when I saw him just as he was in life, when he told me things which no one but he could have known and when I was able to touch him, stroke his hair and feel the touch of his lips on mine."

Lady Caillard, it is to be hoped, will give us in the course of this year another and a longer book in which Sir Vincent will be able to record, as in the Sims' book, just what happened at his passing, and describe the other world in which he finds himself, the friends he has met there, and what they are all doing.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Convincing Proofs of His Survival.

EVIDENTIAL PORTRAIT AND WRITTEN MESSAGE.

By THE REV. CHARLES L. TWEEDALE, VICAR OF WESTON.

MY wife, for years past, has had most remarkable automatic writing mediumship, especially when sitting with my daughter Dorothy—the two forming a strong combination. Their messages have been marvellous in their fore-knowledge and accuracy and have covered a variety of subjects, including the great Italian earthquake and the overthrow of the city of Managua, the deaths of public men, shipwrecks and aeroplane disasters. All of them were fulfilled to the day, in a manner that has been awe-inspiring, and most of them have been placed on record in newspaper offices from one week to three months before the event, so putting the forecasts beyond the possibility of denial.

On October 10, 1932, we got a message from our Italian communicator S—, to the effect that Mr. William Hope, the well-known photographic medium, was coming to us soon. This did not appear likely, as I had no intention of sending for him, and I paid little attention to the message.

Next Sunday was our Harvest Festival, and on the Saturday evening (October 15), a certain Mr. H— called unexpectedly at my Vicarage with a gift of fruit and flowers for the services. After presenting the gift, he astonished me by suddenly asking if it would be possible to "get Mr. Hope for a sitting."

Immediately the forecast came to my mind and I assented to the proposition. Mr. William Hope arrived at our Vicarage on Saturday, October 29, and in the afternoon we exposed four plates. Before we commenced operations, and while Mr. Hope was resting and chatting with us, my wife mentioned the recent press attack on a psychic photographer. Mr. Hope commented on it, and casually remarked that he had been talking the matter over with Mrs. Buxton, his associate medium, and that he felt disposed to give up sitting for the public and was inclined to sit only for friends.

The day was dull and gloomy, snow falling at times. About 2.30 p.m. we commenced the short service which Mr. Hope invariably holds before photographing. A hymn was sung and prayer offered.

Two pairs of plates were then exposed and developed. The usual precautions were observed by us. We used a new packet of plates, signed on the wrapper with a guarantee that they had not been previously opened. I loaded the slides myself, and signed the plates through the shutter of the slide, after inspecting the slide, lens and camera. I carried the slide out to the camera and back to the dark room, where I developed the plates myself.

Mr. Hope made the exposures under my keen and critical inspection. Had he wished to do so, he had no opportunity to change or tamper with the plates in any way. I personally developed the plates after carefully verifying the signature upon each of them.

On one of the first pair of negatives there appeared a splendid likeness of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, smiling pleasantly. (See block on next page.) For the second pair of plates we rearranged the sitters, and on one we obtained a truly marvellous result—a long

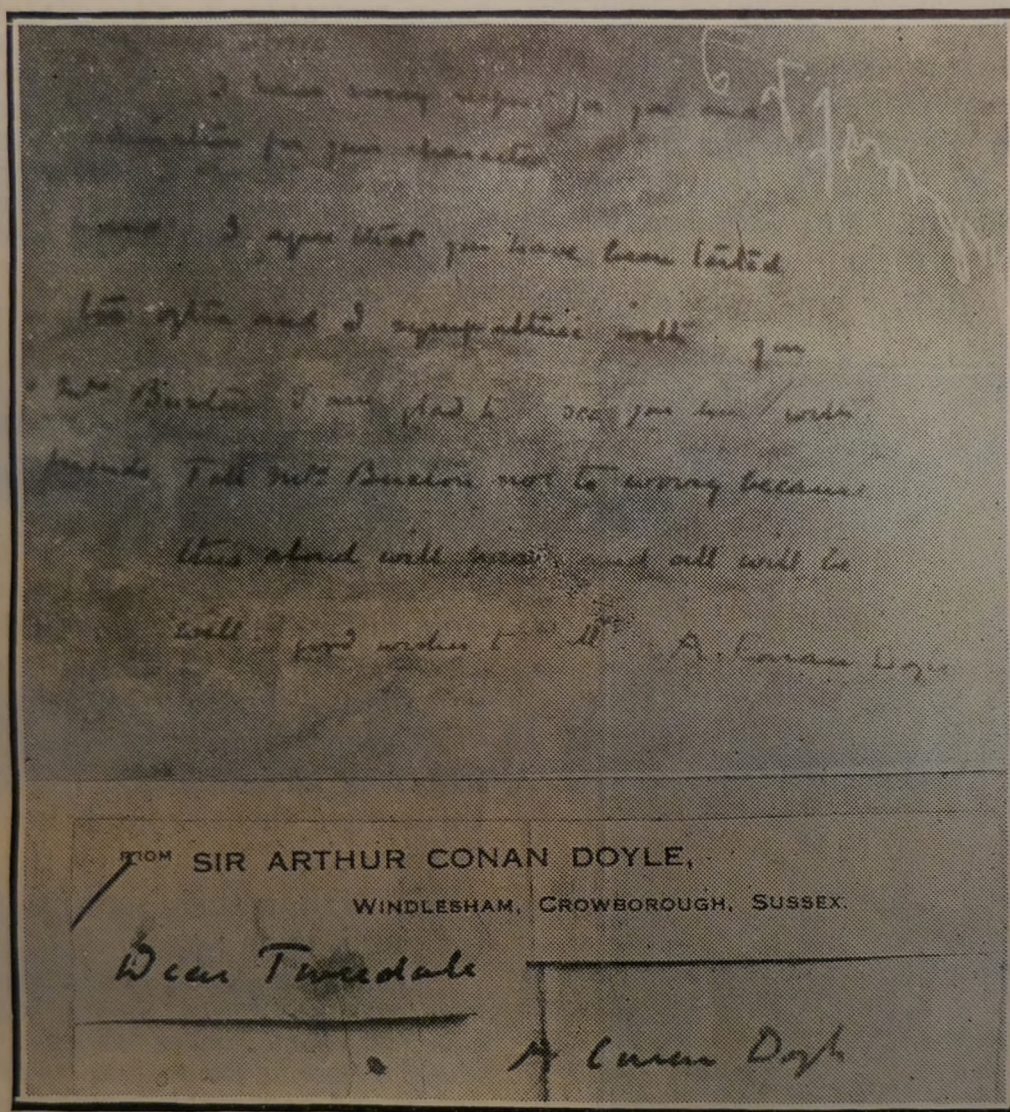
message in Sir Arthur's own hand-writing, and signed with his identical signature.

This message covers the greater part of the plate, and appears in a thin film of ectoplasm through which, in the negative, my clerical collar and the rectangular opening of my vest can be discerned.

[Writing to me under date, December 11, 1932, Lady Doyle recognises the spirit face as Sir Arthur's, and says of the message, "There is no doubt whatever about it being my husband's own writing on the plate."]

My signature on the plate shows clearly, proving no substitution; and the fact that I signed the plate through the slide shows that no film bearing the message was inserted in the slide, while inspection of the camera and lens proved that none was placed in the lens.

The remarkable and peculiarly evidential thing about this wonderful manifestation, apart from the identity of the writing and signature, is the fact that it relates to and joins up with the conversation casually introduced by my wife, and commented upon by Mr. Hope a few minutes before we held the preliminary sitting.



PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTION OF LETTER

received at Weston Vicarage on October 29, 1932, with normal signature at foot for comparison.

See printed version of text overleaf.

The message reads as follows :—

MY DEAR HOPE,—I have every respect for you, and admiration for your character, and I agree that you have been tested too often, and I sympathise with you and Mrs. Buxton. I am glad to see you here with friends. Tell Mrs. Buxton not to worry, because this cloud will pass, and all will be well. —Good wishes to all.

A. CONAN DOYLE.

On October 31 we sat again, and I obtained the following message from Sir Arthur :—

I came to give Hope encouragement, for I do not wish him to give up, also to convince your friends, for it is a perfect fool-proof picture and message.

Further, on November 2, Sir Arthur said :—

I greet you. As you saw, I got through with my photo and message. It will do more for spirit photography than all the rest, I am sure. I am trying to do great things, and I trust through you and Hope to do more.

On October 30 Mr. H—— also sat with Mr. Hope at my Vicarage, and got a recognised picture of a relative. On this occasion he had a very striking instance of Mr. Hope's clairvoyance. Addressing the gentleman, Mr. Hope gave a minutely accurate description of a woman, whom he saw beside him. This was at once



SPIRIT EXTRA OF SIR ARTHUR'S PORTRAIT

received at Weston Vicarage on October 29, 1932, with normal photograph inserted at top for comparison.

recognised, and on the plate being exposed and the picture developed, the extra proved to be the person seen clairvoyantly.

Mr. Hope particularly emphasised the distinct central parting of the hair, the appearance of something on the head, which might be a cap, but of which he was not sure, and the fact that she was deeply religious and read her Bible a great deal.

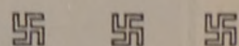
I have just had an old photograph shown to me by Mr. H——, one of the first Daguerreotypes, taken on a solid silver plate, in which the parting of the hair, the thin and scarcely discernible cap on the top of the head, and the Bible held in her hands, are all shown. Mr. Hope had never previously seen the sitter or the photograph, and did not even know the sitter's name.

It is impossible to speak too highly of Mr.

Hope's psychic powers. These recognised pictures of relatives and friends—of whom Hope had never heard, and whose photographs or pictures he had never seen; or of whom, in some cases, no picture had ever been made during mortal life—blow to smithereens all theories of fraud. On October 31, just before leaving my Vicarage, Mr. Hope exposed four more plates. On two of them came fine pictures of our Italian spirit communicator, S——, of whom I trust to have much to say anon.

We had not been thinking of Sir Arthur and were at the time hoping to get evidence of the presence of persons entirely unconnected with him, but this we did not get.

Truly a marvellously evidential experience, and one more proof of the glorious reality of "The Communion of Saints," of which the Church to-day knows nothing. Up to the time of writing I have in vain approached the principal Church papers with a request that they should publish these facts, only to be met by an obstinate refusal. Nearly a year ago I tried to get the Archbishop of Canterbury to allow me to bring Mr. Hope up to Lambeth Palace for a demonstration of these things, but he refused. When will the dawn show in the Church's sky? When will she awaken to the facts?



A PRESS INVESTIGATION OF SPIRITUALISM.

SIR A. CONAN DOYLE'S HISTORIC LETTER.

FIVE years ago the *Sunday Chronicle* held an investigation into Spiritualism which professed to be judicial and impartial. Eminent personages were invited to join the Committee, and these included Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who left it immediately after the paper's so-called "Exposure" of Harold Evans, for "Masquerading as a Ghost." That sensational feat was accomplished by some persons present throwing a sheet around the medium while he was in trance and flashing on the lights!

Sir Arthur then sent us this indignant letter for publication :—

"I should be glad of an opportunity to dissociate myself from this body (the *Sunday Chronicle* Committee). I have, of course, never belonged to it, but in its early stages, believing the assurances given to me that it was a sincere and honourable inquisition, I gave their representatives some advice and my name was legitimately used.

"Since that time, however, no advice has been sought or given, and I should wish Spiritualists to understand that I have no possible connection or sympathy with the Committee.

"How honourable men and women can countenance an investigation which on its own admission has been as false as any medium could be, is beyond my understanding.

"They have suggested non-existent things to clairvoyants (of all people the most sensitive to suggestion); they have pretended to be Spiritualists; they have claimed false relationships with each other; they have invented dead relatives; in fact they have girt themselves round with such an atmosphere of falsehood that it is inconceivable that any true or high thing could come near them.

"Let me give them a word of advice. It is to dissolve their tainted association and then, abandoning all falsehood and mental arrogance, to approach the subject individually, and in a chastened spirit. Let it be done, if possible, in a private circle formed by themselves in their own home. They will then be in a position to judge the value of their previous performance.

"I blame myself in the matter. After the James Douglas fiasco, I determined never again to help a press investigation. I broke my resolution in this instance. It will be the last time.

"But for the general guidance of Spiritualists in the future I would suggest that no investigators should ever have assistance who have not put in a year's reading, which shall include Richet's 'Thirty Years,' Crookes' 'Researches,' Crawford's three volumes, and Schrenck-Notzing's 'Materialisations.'

"At present it is like letting children loose in a laboratory to test the conclusions of experts."

After this letter the Committee went to pieces, and no report of its conclusions was ever drawn up.

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Indian Guide's Inspiration for the New Year.

WE have here published several highly spiritual addresses delivered by "Imperator" at the Private Circle of the Misses Helsby, 1207, Sussex Avenue, Montreal, Canada.

At this Circle, one of the members, Mr. Frank L. McGee, has developed the gift of trance-mediumship and an Indian Guide, favourably introduced by "Imperator," has been giving short addresses full of good counsel and high inspiration.

The following was given recently as a suitable key-note for every soul during the New Year now begun :—

I am very glad of the opportunity of speaking a few words to you at the close of the old year. I am not going to say anything about this last year because you are well enough acquainted with that yourself, but I want to speak for a few moments about the entrance into the new year. That is now the important thing; we must all go forward into that, you in the material and we in the spiritual, with strong faith and trust in God and His love to all mankind for that is the only thing which will carry us through all the difficulties and trials of life both on the earth-plane and on all other planes of existence.

You have been told that there are great trials and tribulations in store. You know that that has been so all through the course of history. Only those who have put their trust in God, and followed in accordance with His laws and teachings have gone forward, steadily forward, forward in His divine guidance, and so it will be in the future.

As you go forward into the new year, put your faith and trust in Him, do your utmost to live your life in accordance with His teachings, and follow out to the best

of your ability His divine law for all mankind, then you can go forward with perfect assurance that no matter what lies before you you will be guided and protected from all evil.

Now if anybody in the world offered you anything like that you would think it very wonderful, but because it is of God, and it is free for the asking and the acceptance, it is turned aside by so many. Man prefers to follow his own will, his own impulses, and his own thoughts, yet man of himself is nothing. But when he is at one with the Divine, our Heavenly Father, then he is separated from all conditions which may surround him which are not of God.

So, the thought I wish to impress upon you as you go into the new year, is to try to walk forward hand in hand with God and His spiritual messengers so that you will always have divine guidance, and that is, in my opinion, the most encouraging thing which we can give you to start off the new year.

We, on the spirit side of life, as I have so often said, have a deeper knowledge and understanding of the love of God and what it will do for each and every one. If you would only seek to gain a deeper realisation and knowledge of God's love for us then all your difficulties would vanish away; so I just want you to carry this thought with you into the new year.

And be sure to try to put it into practice, making it the most important thing in your life. Put it foremost, and draw ever closer to God, ask for a full realisation of His love, and if you do, and strive to live up to that and His teachings, then you can face the future with the utmost confidence.

I am very glad to have been permitted to speak these few words and I leave you now, asking for a deep and rich blessing of God, the Father, on each and every one of you. May God's love and His blessing be with you evermore! Good night! Good night! I thank you, thank you, thank you!

Spirit Children in God's Great School.

By THE REV. WILLIAM A. REID, M.A., GLASGOW.

IT is a hopeful sign of the times that so many are giving to the world what their spirit friends have told them about their life conditions, and of the relation between our conduct here and our condition in the Hereafter. This was very happily called "Spirit Teaching" by M.A., Oxon. We are invited to consider its reasonableness and compare it with our own opinions and experiences. I should like to give you my little quota, gathered (as any of my readers may) through a period of years, on Spirit Children.

WHAT JESUS AND PSYCHOLOGISTS SAY ABOUT CHILDREN.

Jesus called all of us sons of God, who, he said, was Spirit; we know that we are sons of our earthly parents also. We are born Spirit Children, and live for a period in our earth bodies. We are not born perfect, but born to be taught how to grow perfect; and although we may be very bad children of God He never ceases to be Our Father. We may go to the ends of the earth, there His love follows us; we may make our beds in hell, there His love seeks us.

Jesus makes three remarkable statements about children. First, they are humble, *i.e.*, teachable or suggestible by nature; and without this child-like quality we cannot even enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Second, it is the crime of crimes to deceive a child and cause him to stumble. Better indeed that we should be cast into the depth of the sea, with a huge millstone about our necks, than that this should be done by us. And third, that all children have ministering angels, who "do always behold the Father's face in heaven."

Modern Psychology has not made so many discoveries as it claims; it has, however, drawn clear attention to facts already known. It tells that a child inherits many instincts and capacities in varying degrees; that like all small animals he is full of fun; that he follows his own instincts and desires, and needs to be trained to control them; that he is suggestible; that he is at first very egotistic and selfish until he develops a group instinct. Neither the Bible nor modern Psychology believes that the child is born "a little angel"; and both teach that he is a bundle of good and bad qualities which only require stimulus to become active. Modern Psychology, of course, knows nothing of ministering angels.

THOSE THAT DIE IN INFANCY.

I restrict myself to those that die in infancy. The Bible says the reapers are the angels who gather these little ones—and others of course—into a storehouse or spirit granary. Later they are sifted as a fisherman separates the good from the bad fish in his net. We might say they are graded. Some are put into hospital for special care; some are educated by teachers specially trained to train and handle them; some, as on earth, must pass through the aisles of pain before they can begin their real work, but the pain is a healing process. The dead-born, who may never have breathed on earth, have their dim life-flame fanned into activity.

It is a mistake to imagine that it is better to die in infancy, as earth experiences are a natural part of the development of the soul. I am reminded of a tender-hearted child who found a butterfly struggling to get out of its cocoon, and cut it free. It was no kindness: the butterfly died. Now the spirit which does not pass through earth experiences does not die, *but it has lost something*. It will be different—something great in time, no doubt. Let me put it thus—Would Jesus have been better if He had died in the manger? The Bible says no. He became our Captain and Leader through His cross and suffering.

STILL-BORN CHILDREN.

I take two stories of still-born spirit children, the one Georgie, 9, the other Rosie, 4, who said she had breathed only two hours on earth. Neither could talk English, of course; they had to be taught. Rosie, who was being trained to be a "control," evidently did not understand all the words she was using. She had been taught her instructions in poems, which she repeated to us. She was to do exactly as she was told—perfect obedience; she was to speak the truth and neither add to it nor take from it—perfect truthfulness; she was to understand that the only real religion was loving service. She required us to explain to her the meaning of brother and sister.

NAUGHTY SPIRIT CHILDREN.

I asked these children if they were ever naughty. They said they sometimes wished to do what they were not told. Georgie started to come to earth without permission, but could not return without help. I gather a few of the things which happen when they are naughty, as these two children and others told me. They are talked to kindly. They were not allowed to return to earth, which

is a special treat to them, or "to go to Church"; the light was withdrawn from them and they were separated from their companions, who, however, came and asked them to play with them, but they could not until they felt sorry for being naughty. The flowers in their gardens bowed their heads in shame; or their clothes lost their shiny beauty, and so they understood what wrong meant.

HOW THEY ARE TAUGHT.

Children are taught in special groups, according to their aptitudes; but their individuality is never lost. Rosie said she had a little house and a little garden all her own, and they grew bigger as she grew better; and they were quite near us. Her time was measured by heart beats, and her space by loving interest.

One of the teachers said the progress of the spirit children was not uniform, but that they never failed. My own impression is that wiser heads than this teacher chose the pupils; and that a change of teachers and methods and environments might be necessary, as these spirit children have as diverse dispositions as our earth children. Ultimately there must come even for the still-born a time when they must make a personal choice.

There is, it seems, a universal language, which is both sound and colour, and is a living emanation of themselves.

Rainmaking and Rainmakers.

By ALEX. MACKINTOSH.

IN the curve traced by the wheel of Time, it frequently happens that beliefs, long despised as unscientific, rise from the rut of neglect to the top of the cycloid.

A very recent example of this *bouleversement* is given by the report in *Armchair Science* that an institute for the artificial production of rain has been organised in modern Moscow. It is claimed that it will also be possible to regulate or stop the rainfall in different regions of the country. This winter, it is added, experiments are to be made in the Moscow district, with a view to combating the snowfall. Thus the long-cherished "superstition" of Rain Control is, like Spiritualism itself, so far rehabilitated as to become worthy of serious consideration by scientific experts.

The art of rain-making is still pursued quite as a matter of course in some parts of tropical Africa. A British official, who was on friendly terms with the "medicine men," happened to be present at the crucial point of one display of this occult power. He relates how the clouds gathered so ominously that he was doubtful if he could get back to his residence, some miles distant, before the storm burst. The "Good Men" (as they are called by their tribal followers) assured him, however, that no rain would fall until he was under shelter. He accepted this assurance and hurried home. The last mile of his journey was made in inky darkness, but it was not until he had gained the cover of his roof that the deluge broke with torrential intensity.

In the Old Testament annals a remarkable claim is made for this faculty as exercised by the prophet Elijah. For three years, we read, he caused a drought in Palestine and at the expiry of the time called up the welcome raincloud—at first no bigger than a man's hand. Sceptical readers might hint, as an alternative hypothesis, that Elijah was only, like Joseph, demonstrating his clairvoyant power, and could foresee the beginning and end of the dry seasons.

But if we are to accept as credible the ability, recorded by his chronicler, of directing supra-normal fire upon his altar—fire of such furnace-like fury as to lick up a deep trench of water surrounding the altar—there is really no logic in thus selecting or limiting the power of his spiritual helpers.

The wholesale slaughter of the priests of Baal at the termination of this trial of strength between Jehovah and Baal, fits the semi-barbarous spirit of these far-off troublous times. To what extent the subsequent disasters befalling the Israelites might be due to the agency of these 450 undeveloped souls, thus hurled unceremoniously into the astral plane, burning with a sense of impotent rage and a desire for revenge, it is difficult to say.

Difficult also it is to estimate how much of the present world misery may be due to the influence of several million ardent souls so cruelly cut off from this physical plane during the late war. Patriotism, honestly opposed to similar patriotism, must manifest in the desire to exalt one's native country over the rest of the world. It can only be vaguely surmised how these warring interests

At their Church, just referred to, there is a glorious, loving spirit, and beautiful waves of sound and colour come from her; and all join, and the blending makes moving, living, coloured love. Our aura is just the same; it is living. We may call it our influence; but it is really ourselves in action. I hope I have made this clear.

CHILDREN BROUGHT TO EARTH.

Children are sometimes brought to earth to sing and send out their beautiful streams of love; sometimes they are brought to see their parents, and their joy is great when they are recognised. Here is a rather startling thing. Rosie and Georgie were brought to earth to learn good and evil through us. Our good and bad thoughts and deeds are explained. An inquirer was informed that a child of 1½ years, named Peter, was to be brought up with him; and he was incredulous. But if this is true, and it may well be, it would make the most callous watch his steps lest he might cause these little ones to stumble.

I fear I must stop here, not for lack of material, but because I think I have said enough to show that these spirit children are only being taught in other class rooms in God's Great School. What other explanation can fit better our present circumstances and experiences?

may, with the spiritually untrained thousands who made the supreme sacrifice, be directed against the efforts to restore order out of World Chaos. To be effectual, the prescription, "Love your enemies and convert them into friends," must be tried on this side of the Great Barrier!

In the Middle Ages the power of controlling the elements was usually attributed to malign influence. In Shakespeare's "Macbeth," we have the witches on the heath, one promising to help another to raise a storm to injure a sailor, whose wife had insulted the latter. Even the philosophic Prospero, by his art, at the outset wrecks, in "The Tempest," the ship carrying his enemies, so as to prepare the way through romance and his "rough magic" for an adjustment of his claims.

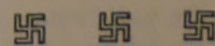
In modern sensational literature we still find this occult faculty favoured by evil-doers. Bram Stoker in his weird "Dracula" tells how the Vampire caused a local fog on the river to hide the movements of the vessel in which he intended to escape from London.

But there are beneficent as well as malefic agencies at work in the Spirit World and the former are surely the more powerful. One example in my own experience must close this brief essay.

Several years ago, I was asked to attend the funeral of a little niece, who had passed out in Glasgow. Her mother wished the interment to take place in Inverness, where her own kindred had a resting-place. I remember that, as the slender white coffin was being transferred in the early hours of the morning from the bereaved home in the northern environs of Glasgow to St. Enoch's Station, a gentle shower of rain fell. It ceased when we reached the station. There had been no rain during the previous day, nor did any fall later throughout the morning. After the long railway journey northwards, under a clear, cold sky, the funeral party reached the Capital of the Highlands in the forenoon, and the *cortège* at once started for the cemetery. This beautifully kept God's Acre lies on the terraced slope of a hill (bearing a Celtic name, meaning the "Hill of the Fairies"), situated about a mile to the west of the town. When the coaches were slowly wending their way across the suspension bridge which spans the River Ness, and along the Cemetery Road, a kindly shower was falling from the sky, which till then had been, and all the subsequent day was, cloudless.

I noticed the coincidence at the time and, perhaps subconsciously, wondered how many similar happenings had been remarked by our forefathers "in the time long vanished," before they crystallised their recognition of a friendly interest by unseen sympathisers with mourners and merry-makers alike, in the familiar couplet:—

Happy is the bride whom the sun shines on;
Blessed are the dead whom the rain falls on.



A MEMORIAL TO G. VALE OWEN.

Mrs. G. Vale Owen and Family are having a stained-glass sanctuary window placed in the Church of St. Margaret and All Hallows, Orford, in memory of the Rev. G. Vale Owen who was Vicar there from 1900 to 1922.

The window will represent St. John on the Island of Patmos and it will harmonise with four other windows already in the Church.

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Spirit Teachings for the Present Times—V.

THE WORLD CRISIS AND ITS EFFECT ON CIVILISATION.

These Spiritual Messages from the Other World have been received through mediumistic channels, and are directed towards the World's Redemption from the present Reign of Materialism, which has only led to widespread ruin and confusion, and towards the coming of the Kingdom of God on earth, so that all nations may become united in love, peace, and righteousness.

THE world crisis taking place to-day is the result of Forces put into operation in the past, which seemed good at the time. It is the result of the powers of the material mind, without moral and spiritual values. Hence the urge to put together mechanised thought in machinery, to travel the seas, to navigate the air, to dig the mines, to excavate minerals.

Surely the mind of man has been enriched by all this, you say. Cities have been built, there has been a knitting together of human interests, with the possibility of a universal brotherhood. Surely the constructions man has made are a gift from God, and are a reflection of eternal spiritual principles? Why do you attribute to these forces an evil which may lead to a crash of civilisation?

Now it is true that every mechanised attribute is the reflection of Divine Principle in matter, but the way man has used it, as of his own right, is the stain, the illusioning product of the earth spirit. If man, having his faculties developed, had used it as a moral and spiritual value, he could have obviated the dangers of what we may call the earth spirit.

We cannot say that the responsibility can be laid to-day on any definite group. You are all irresponsible. **You are all caught in the juggernaut wheels of this material mechanism which has become your master.**

You say yes, and what about the competitive schemes of man—the personal aggrandisement, the becoming acute and cunning, the desire to be first in the race for worldly things? These are all products of the mechanised evil, and what is it all coming to?

It is all coming to the surface. The long deep-buried selfishnesses of human kind are being objectified in these designs, so that they are becoming visible and are being realised by the rational mind. They are producing an impasse—an impasse which will create a feeling of impotence when man will not ask his wheels and steam for a solution. **He will be compelled by the very effects he has produced to call upon a superior Power from which he has turned aside. That is the meaning of this great impasse that is coming upon you.**

But it is not inevitable that all this force and energy of thought which have been cumulative for centuries should be wasted. They can be towed into a creative pathway, and be cut free from the earth-spirit. **But only if the material life is laid at the feet of the Spirit.**

You say that this is nebulous. Do you know that responsible men, in statesmanlike positions to-day, though they have the will to do, do not know how to find the solution of the problem? The scientists of to-day have come to the conclusion that the purely materialistic hypothesis is untenable. They even declare that there is a spiritual sphere, that man is not merely stimulated protoplasm, but that man is LIFE, that he must obey, that he has the ability to

choose, that he is not an automaton, and even apart from any specific divine revelation they must believe in a Creator.

Therefore it is not inevitable that the conjunction of all the mechanised forces of the past should produce a disruption, for that is not written as a decree in the creative mind.

That is why we are now so eager to introduce the great thought that as sons of God you have within yourselves a power more dynamic than popes or edicts of parliaments, or mechanised strains.

There will soon be called a halt when men will stand aside realising their impotence in face of world problems. They will realise that there is within them an innate power to make an atmosphere so that the sublimating and victory-producing power of the spiritual world can disarm the subtle power of the earth spirit, which has usually been called the devil.

If you wish us to say how it will eventuate—whether as a great spiritualising light in the League of Nations, or as a flash in the senate houses of the various nations so that they are led to some great spiritual realisation and sacrifice, or as a world war worse than the last, or as a great cataclysmic force bringing destruction such as that of Atlantis, or as some great exploding of psycho-mental forces in the earth—we say ALL of those things are possible, but they are not fixed or laid down as a culmination in the scroll of the Divine Mind.

Because Time is in the hands of man, and he has to realise his mind has its limitations. He has to realise he must not barter with, nor lay down conditions to, but recognise as a supreme reality the spiritual, moral law which belongs to truth, love, and harmony. As soon as he fully recognises that there are spiritual powers ready to come in and take the helm of his ship and help him, then, with those beings he will cleave the sea, and its brewing storm, with confidence and power.

To help you we would say that the greatest power in the world is the power of thought. It is behind, and before, and within everything man as an artificer has produced. **Thought ensouled by a spiritual consciousness is the greatest power there is.** To think in unity while we have been together is making of this group, and one or two others, a power-station of tremendous energy. Wireless, and its interesting operations, is only a small evanescent replica of this fact we are trying to indicate.

Every time you think on what we are giving you you are radiating it not only around the world, but within perhaps forty dimensions. You are communicating, awakening. You do not know the tens of thousands of minds attuned to this or that rate of vibration who are receiving the impulse. Do not judge carelessly, in a limited, narrow way. **The most potential thing is human thought raised to its highest power by a spiritual realisation.** Thereby you will enable the love-light that is breaking through to this world to become operative, and that can only operate when there is a nexus between the human instrument and the Holy Spirit.

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And the Kingdom of Heaven is within you, and whosoever shall know himself shall find it; for if ye shall truly know yourselves, ye are the sons and daughters of the Father Almighty, and ye shall know yourselves to be in the city of God, and ye are the city.—Sayings of Jesus discovered in Egypt in 1904.

Spirit Teachings for the Present Times—V.

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All communications for the Publishing, Editorial, or Advertising Departments should be addressed to—

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A Parson's Purgatory.

BENJAMIN KENNICOTT, an English divine and Hebrew scholar, was born at Totnes, Devonshire, on April 4, 1718, and he died at Oxford on September 18, 1783. Therefore, he had long passed from human memory, and but for short references to his scholarly achievements in several encyclopaedias and biographies, and two university scholarships at Oxford for the study of Hebrew, founded by his widow in his name, his life on earth had passed into oblivion.

But now "The History of Benjamin Kennicott" has just been published by Riders (3/6 net), newly dictated by himself from the spirit world to Miss Isabelle Major Evans, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and this is how he describes himself on the title-page of his confessions, which appear 150 years after his passing:—

"A most unworthy and valueless priest and pastor, one who in life was full of honours and valueless empty titles, but who insulted and abused his Lord and Master, and persecuted one of the humble saints of God."

Miss Evans narrates in a preface how Benjamin was introduced to her. In 1930, after months of illness, she was receiving psychic healing from an experienced medium, Mrs. V. At that time her right hand was all but useless owing to the return of neuritis contracted during the Great War. While the medium was massaging her hand and arm, she exclaimed, "Hush! there is someone here who wants to speak." She said:—

"I see a man; dressed in black clothes; he is holding out a bound Bible, and now he is showing me a bundle of written papers. He says his name was Kenny? Kenny? No, that's wrong. He is shaking his head—says Kenn—Kennacott, I think. He lived in 17—17th? I think he says 17th or 18th century. Did something about the Bible; translated it? That's near but not right. He says, 'make that lady's arm and hand well, as I think she is going to write for me.'"

"After a few moments of listening the name came from her lips, almost with a shout, 'Benjamin Kennacott! Oh! he's gone.'"

Next day Miss Evans went to a Public Library and found the name Benjamin Kennicott in the Encyclopaedia Britannica. She consulted her Spirit Counsellor, and her own Father, who is in spirit-life and her Spirit Guide, and they said she might work for this spirit, taking down his scripts at fortnightly sittings.

In his first communication, on July 20, 1930, Kennicott explained to her that he had long desired to communicate with the earth but had hitherto been unable to find a suitable medium. He had been guided to select her by a scholar spirit named Richard Henry Major, Miss Evans' grandfather, who had once held an official position in the British Museum, and who said his grandchild would be able to work for him.

In his second and third communications he described his studies of and commentaries on the Hebrew Scriptures, and said that the Light of Revelation "would never come from crabbed students, who, as I and many of my time did, bury their eyes, noses, brains, deep in dusty folios and spend their days looking for a letter—an obscure sign—some obscure and learned passage, until their very natures become steeped in dust and unimportant quips and turns of a word, and so their very spiritual eyes are blinded and grow dim."

In the fourth script he said:—"Now, I will give you a little of my history. . . . As you know I lived in the 18th century—a time of great spiritual deadness, and of 'fat parsons,' who lived grossly, and were engaged in learned pursuits rather than in imitating their Lord and Master, and caring for the sheep committed to their charge. . . . My people were starving spiritually, and there arose one, a village carpenter, who fearlessly gathered together in his little workshop those who thirsted for the Truth, and whom I, in my arrogant blindness, despised, and there, week by week, led them to the feet of their Living God, while I was preaching learned dissertations on obscure and unimportant biblical quibbles. To my shame I must tell you that I persecuted that humble servant of God. I called him a canting rogue and other vile names, and I did all I could to make life hard for him—and worst of all, because he would not be silenced, I forbade him the Lord's Table, nor would I accept a child born to him, after we fell out, for baptism. . . . He died while I was still in charge of Culham (Oxfordshire), and I buried his body grudgingly and with irreverence."

So having lived his futile life, Benjamin Kennicott too passed on and found himself in purgatory. "My time came in due course, and the respectable parson made quite a seemly departure for the Heavenly Spheres—to the outward eye. . . . "I had anticipated a host of angelic beings awaiting me; a crown or a wreath of green leaves, the Roman victor's crown, would surely be placed on my brow; I should be suitably attired and led to the Presence of God Almighty."

But that is not what happened. He seemed to fall down, down, down; then his eyes began to see dimly through a grey mist.

He was utterly lost and bewildered. He drifted about lonely for a long, long time. He was stunned and bemused and never a thought of prayer came to him. He thought, "Why am I insulted? Why am I neglected?" Then came revolt, bitter violent hatred of God, who had in his opinion played a trick on him, and his sleep was broken by awful terrors and dreams, and he cried, "If there be a God, grant me rest and oblivion from these terrors."

Next he became unconscious and found himself in the midst of forms horrible and terrifying. They greeted him with demoniac shrieks of laughter and told him he was in the palace of pride and self-righteousness. He says, "I cursed the day I was born. I cursed Almighty God. I swore and vowed that I had lived righteously and had nothing of which to repent me, nor had I done ought to merit such vile treatment."

A Spirit Counsellor named Lucis came and urged him to repentance and unveiled to him the folly of his life as a priest on earth, and by and by after spells of oblivion John the Carpenter came and ministered to him and led him step by step out of his gross darkness into the Eternal Light, but that was a long and painful process.

That is the outline of the story but it must be read in full in these remarkable scripts, which cast much vivid light on the varied life in the spiritual beyond, where men have to be purged from their sins of omission and commission before they can enter into peace, joy, and progress.

Miss Evans has sworn an affidavit before a Commissioner of Oaths that the book is "the Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth," and Mr. Purchas, President of the Psychical Research Group of Johannesburg, and Mr. Shepperd, a member of Council, support this oath by their testimony.

J. L.

CONAN DOYLE MEMORIAL CALENDAR

SOME two years ago, after the passing of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, a Memorial Calendar was compiled from his numerous works with quotations for every day in the year.

This Calendar, a labour of love, having remained unpublished, has now been presented to the *International Psychic Gazette*, and it will appear month by month in these pages throughout this year. The Calendar for January occupies the whole of page 61.

These daily thoughts from the Works of Sir Arthur will remind all who have this page before them how vast was the field in which he worked and how rich were the fruits of his labours.

Quotations for the Calendar are taken from nearly one hundred of Sir Arthur's Romances, Poems, and Short Stories, including Observations from his "most notorious character," Sherlock Holmes, and his works on Spiritualism. For certain notable dates and anniversaries the passages have been selected for their special appropriateness.

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OUR INTERNATIONAL CHRONICLE:

A MONTHLY RECORD OF SPIRITUALISTIC AND PSYCHIC HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, WITH SOME PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS.

By MONSIEUR PASCAL FORTHUNY.

(This Chronicle is Written in French, and is Translated into English by the Editor.)

FRENCH MEDIUMS' PEACE DECISION.

INTERNATIONAL events are so complex and at times so alarming that many thoughtful people become naturally anxious lest there should ever again be a resort to those wholesale massacres which wipe out nations and annul civilisation.

In saying this I am not merely imagining, for I know that many persons are going to mediums to-day and are asking them, "Will there be another war, and if so when, where, and between whom?"

These interrogators belong to every class of society—financiers, politicians, scientists, manufacturers, soldiers, young men and women, and also a great number of mothers, to whom the mere thought of another war being possible freezes the heart. And that nervousness instead of diminishing goes on increasing, so that this question threatens to eclipse all others in the minds of people wishing only for peace and prosperity above all other earthly advantages.

The French Press has taken notice of this prevailing alarmist mass psychology, and has suggested that much fear is being fostered by the common talk and is being intensified by the predictions sometimes published in the newspapers.

PARISIAN MEDIUMS MEET.

In view of this state of affairs a number of Parisian mediums decided to meet the other evening to consider what they ought to do about it. I received an invitation and I considered it my duty to attend. On arriving among them I said I would report what they said and decided upon in the *International Psychic Gazette*, and they replied, "That is well; make known our sincere intentions to all the English-speaking mediums in the world. We believe they will be in accord with us in any steps we may agree upon to prevent the world being dragged down by fear into the horrors of another war. They will certainly do as we do; for we shall strive together in this good work."

This meeting of Parisian mediums was inspired by the one thought and determination to do everything possible to appease the anguish that is tormenting the minds of many people.

A WISE DECISION AND GOOD EXAMPLE.

I found myself, then, in the presence of a number of leading professional mediums, who live in Paris and its suburbs. They receive clients every day, and I recognised from their first words that their visitors were becoming obsessed by fear. What could be done to calm them? These mediums decided peremptorily that never on any account would they even discuss such a possibility with their clients.

If anyone in the future should come to them and ask—"War? or No War?" the medium would declare—"I cannot exercise my faculty in that domain. I cannot tell you whether there will be another war or whether there will be none. Let us speak of something else, but be convinced that my silence on this question is not because I see any war coming, and am restraining myself from announcing its approach. No, no; it is not that. It is simply because I have determinedly effaced from my faculty of prevision every thought which can have any relation to a conflict between nations."

And therein I think these mediums made a very wise decision, which will have a good result. When the public understand that they will learn nothing at all from them about warlike eventualities they will speak and think of other things, and thus stop the dangerous drift of their over-anxious thoughts.

I suggested to the mediums that they should draw up a signed declaration of their decision to be published in the Paris Press. They did not accept my suggestion as they desired to preserve a strict incognito, and therefore I am all the more pleased to be free to speak here of their conference and of their resolution to decline all war talk with people who approach them, however pressing.

SYSTEMATIC SILENCE ABOUT WAR.

I think this example of systematic silence about any possibility of war may well be imitated by all the mediums in the world. For tremendous mischief can be done by such an idea becoming accepted and familiar in people's minds. Let it therefore be pushed aside!

I regret to learn that there is less restraint on this subject elsewhere. A traveller who has just returned from Germany told me only yesterday that in Berlin particularly there were charlatans on the streets and public squares offering pretended clairvoyance and predictions for a small coin.

Many of these false mediums are envenoming the minds of their compatriots by saying from the edge of the pavements, "I see that you will soon be taking up arms again, and going forth to war for the salvation and revenge of our Fatherland!"

One can understand the poisonous effect such incitements may be causing in the minds of a people still suffering disappointment from its defeat in the Great War. It appears that the Berlin police are alive to the mischief and are taking steps to suppress these false prophets, but in spite of that many of them continue to do their devilish work beyond the Rhine.

For myself I think and talk only of Peace, and I think it is the duty of every individual soul in the world to influence the mass-psychology of their nation by refusing even to entertain the notion of any future war, and instead to preach peace ceaselessly and demand it from their rulers as an essential element in their permission to govern.

International differences have always been and perhaps may always be, but let them be settled by international Judges and Juries in a rational manner, and let the decisions be loyally accepted at any cost, for even if they should spell disappointment or even injury to a nation's *amour propre* that would be immensely preferable to the ruthless bloodshed and destruction of the past which has never accomplished anything to be desired.

It is because I feel so strongly the necessity for an ever-abiding peace and the utter extermination of internecine warfare in all future time that I have thought it well to record here the very wise gesture of Parisian mediums in place of my customary Personal Recollections.

"EXPOSURES" OF MEDIUMS.

Mr. A. Bruers, writing in *La Ricerca Psichica* about the English medium, Mrs. Duncan, who was accused by Mr. Harry Price of swallowing cheese-cloths, says:—

From Home to Madame d'Esperance, from Miller to Paladino, from Bailey to Eva Carrière, from Caracino to Erto, psychical research chronicles are filled with continuous "exposures" of mediums, exposures often succeeded by new critical "tests" and the rehabilitation of the mediums accused.

Eva Carrière, for instance, was accused of committing fraud in the presence of Professor Richet, at the Villa Carmen, in Algiers, but afterwards produced phenomena certified authentic in experiments of the greatest severity. Similarly, the Australian medium Bailey, denounced for faking "apports," had the genuineness of his phenomena proved by controlled tests.

Mr. Bruers says that if this fatal alternation, now stale and unprofitable, of first "fraud" then "truth" in all mediumistic phenomena, has taught psychical investigators nothing there will be little to hope for in the future for that science.

The first means of throwing light on this vexed question, he says, would be to convince researchers that though psychical phenomena are apparently illogical according to the ordinary laws of physical science and philosophy, they can only be properly studied by methods appropriate to supernormal facts, and not merely be declared fraudulent because they do not conform to the laws of physics or chemistry. Such an attitude, he thinks, is even more destructive to orthodox science than any "fraud" the mediums can be accused of.

A VERIDICAL CASE.

From time to time soldiers killed in the Great War are reported as coming through to their relatives for the first time when an opportunity is given to them.

Zeitschrift für Metapsychische reports an interesting case. A German soldier recently manifested at a seance to his widow, who had remarried. He gave his name and surname, and gave precise details as to where he fell near the Marne, and the date, July 15, 1918.

Now no ordinary news of him had ever been received since that date, when the German military authorities simply posted him as "missing." Professor Schroeder, director of the Metapsychic Institute at Berlin, has, after a searching inquiry, decided that there was no possibility of the medium having become aware of the particulars given by any ordinary means; and therefore this case may be added to the extensive category of genuine instances of soldiers who were killed in the war being able to return and give proof of their survival in the realm of spirit.

SOCRATES' ATTITUDE TO DEATH.

Socrates, the Master of Plato, was an admirable clairvoyant medium, and his mediumship, like that of Joan of Arc, was the principal cause of his death.

Mr. F. Leti, in an article published in *Mondo Occulto*, recalls that the great philosopher accepted death with a smiling serenity. He says:—

"Death, which terrifies so many people, did not disturb Socrates. Why should he fear it? He knew that he was dying for a disinterested cause. To that cause, the Truth, he had given his whole life. He expired as a wise man; just as he had conducted his life as one. He was not alarmed as children are at the crash of thunder. Death and thunder are in fact comparable, for both are inoffensive. When one hears the thunder the danger is already past."

WILL HITLER BECOME EMPEROR?

There are people in Germany who believe that all the manoeuvres of Adolf Hitler will finish by placing him on the imperial throne!

These people support their opinion by a horoscope published seriously in a weekly newspaper, the *Neue Deutsche Zeitung*, which says:—"Hitler will become emperor of Germany, but he will not remain long on the throne, for he will be assassinated by a political enemy, a few months after his coronation."

This horoscope is strongly contradicted by other Berlin astrologers, who assert that Hitler will not only never be emperor but in a few months he will have lost all his popularity in the country. Like doctors, astrologers differ!

KING GEORGE V AND ASTROLOGY.

The *Journal des Debats* is a very serious French newspaper, and its contents are seldom fantastic, but the following paragraph may be taken as an exception:—

"The English public has great faith in astrology and King George V is particularly fervent about that science. Nearly every month he consults an astrologer, and he watches very attentively the existence of a London blacksmith.

"This blacksmith was born on the same day and at the same hour as His Majesty. And there has been a certain parallelism in the lives of the king and this beater of iron, for the latter was installed in his own smithy in front of his own anvil on the very day King George mounted the throne.

"And so, the King of England is often anxious about the health of this sturdy artisan of the hammers. It would be a very alarming matter if the blacksmith fell seriously ill, but let us hope that he will remain in perfect health for many long years to come!"

And so say all of us!

FIRE POLTERGEISTS.

The peculiar form of psychic power which is made use of by malignant spirits to cause fires is happily not frequent, though authentic cases have been recorded.

Perhaps some mysterious outbreaks of fire never normally accounted for may be rightly attributed to poltergeists. In Paris, for example, fire broke out in 1907 at one residence in thirty different places within six days in a manner called "spontaneous."

The *Ali del Pensiero* of Milan gives particulars of a recent case which has occurred near the Italian village of Gignese-Stresa. Here lives a humble peasant family of six members, who for two years have been troubled by this dangerous species of phenomenon. The medium is believed to be the young daughter Angelina, and the evil forces make violent use of her power.

One day her bed burst into flames when she was not even in the house. Another day she was visiting an aunt and fire broke out in the room where she was sleeping. Even in her parents' presence her clothing took fire suddenly and was as suddenly torn off her body by invisible hands.

One evening Angelina went to her uncle's, and scarcely had she arrived when the roof of the cowhouse crashed down on some cows and killed them. On other occasions the cattle have been freed from their tethers to the walls and have escaped without visible human interference. When young Angelina has spread her linen out of doors to dry in the sun it has been mysteriously carried back by unseen hands and burnt in the fire-place.

It cannot be very agreeable to live in company with this redoubtable young lady. Some psychic students have studied the case, and the young girl was taken to Milan and examined by Drs. Tonta and Arzunianan, who found in her several physiological anomalies and a bad glandular condition.

A medium, Madame Valbonesi, held a seance in the girl's home and a spirit guide recommended a nocturnal expedition to the neighbouring village. Angelina and the investigators set out along the mountain path and on the way she had nervous trouble. Before setting out the evil spirit had threatened to do all in its power to make the girl break her leg, and in fact when walking on the grass, where there were no stones, she fell, just as if she had been pulled by the leg, and her foot was wounded.

At a subsequent seance the evil entity announced that it would be impossible to vex the young girl longer, and only phenomena of a more gentle character have since been witnessed with her.

REVEALED IN A DREAM.

The Budapest newspapers narrate the following dream story:—

Count Vigyazo and a Mr. Linck, having made a written contract on important business, which defined certain rights and duties concerning each other, duly signed the document.

The Count died, but his family could not find this document anywhere in the house. One night, however, young Vigyazo dreamt that the paper was hidden above a beam under the roof of a certain room. He awoke, went at once to examine the spot indicated, and found the precious deed.

Who had told him this? Very probably the spirit of his father, but the Hungarian journals pass this hypothesis in silence.

THE NEW U.S.A. PRESIDENT.

The American Press recalled, when Mr. Franklin Roosevelt was recently elected President, that when he was five years old his father took him to the White House to visit President Cleveland.

The President put his hand on the child's head and said to him with a smile:—"I am going to wish you something which will seem strange to you. This wish no other person would ever be able to make for you. I hope that you will never become President of the United States!"

The new President's mother, in narrating this incident, says that the wish was all the more unexpected because the child had then only one ambition, namely, to be a sailor, for Nelson was his hero.

THE DOGS' FAREWELL.

Prince Murat died several weeks ago at his château at Chambly.

On the day of the funeral many delegates from sporting societies followed the coffin, for the prince was a great hunter and loved all open-air sports. Many forest keepers were also present. When the funeral procession was starting from the château a prolonged lugubrious howl was heard from the kennels. It was the adieu of his pack of hunting dogs which seemed to realise that they would never again go out with their master.

HUMAN RECEPTIVITY.

There lives at Lodz, in Poland, a young engineer, Mr. Roman, whose brain acts as a receiving apparatus for wireless messages.

Every sound emitted from or received at the radio office in the town is duly registered in his brain, so that the young man can never have any repose. To convince the incredulous he was shut up in a room for a whole day, and at night he was able to tell in exact detail all the auditions of the day. His health has been much shaken by this extraordinary cerebral activity, and he is going to Paris to be examined and treated by a specialist in nervous diseases.

A BODY IN THE RIVER.

The Continental psychic reviews have given prominence to the following interesting happening :—

On January 4, 1932, a twelve-year-old boy, the son of a workman, was drowned in a river, in the sight of his cousin and other youths. His body could not be found, and his father went to consult Frau Maria Hessel, a German medium, at Leipzig, without telling her anything about the fatal accident.

The medium first described a place outside the town, where the railway passed between two fields. It was near a factory, and also a garden, where in a vision she saw a man working. Then she saw youths playing there and described the route by which they had come to the river bank. Finally she saw the accident and told in detail the course the body of the drowned boy had followed under the water. First it had been drawn into a swirling current, then was carried down to the right bank of the river, and had become fastened to some masonry where there were some houses and bushes near a village.

A search was made at this spot without success, but when the water was diverted from it, another examination revealed the body at the place indicated.

THERÈSE NEUMANN.

We have several times referred to the stigmatic phenomena manifested by the young girl, Therèse Neumann, who lives at Konnersreuth, in Germany.

The Catholic authorities have just decided to submit her case to the examination of physicians, so far as her stigmatism and her existence without eating and drinking are concerned.

She will also be examined concerning her xenoglossic faculty. She is credited with being able to speak short sentences in Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus Christ. Specialists in oriental languages will be invited to decide whether Therèse in reality speaks Aramaic without having ever learnt it, or whether the words she pronounces in that language have been clandestinely taught her.

CURIOUS DEATH WARNINGS.

Mr. K., a former Professor at Freising College, Bavaria, narrates the following circumstances in *Zeitschrift für Parapsychologie* :—

He and his sisters, he says, though living in different places, had one day a very clear presentiment of the death of their mother. He was at the time a student in

Munich, and one afternoon about five o'clock he lay down on his bed and fell asleep. Soon he awoke with a start and said to his fellow student, "Why are all the bells in the town ringing?" His friend assured him there were no bells ringing, but he continued to hear them pealing, and was greatly struck by this auditory phenomenon. Next day he learnt that his mother had died the previous afternoon between five and six.

As for his sisters they happened to be living at the village of Scheyern. On the morning of the same day that their brother heard the bell-ringing they were alarmed by hearing sharp raps against their window three times in succession. Surprised and anxious they thought at once that their mother must be ill, and they set out at once for home. They arrived at her bedside just in time to see her die.

PETITES NOUVELLES.

Brazilian Spiritualists are starting an educational movement which will have its centre at Rio de Janeiro, with four colleges in other parts of the country, where instruction will be given in the facts, history, and philosophy of Spiritualism.

Mr. Matias Fernandez Quinquela, the editor of the Argentine Spiritualist review *Constancia*, has recently passed on.

I should be grateful to one of our Dutch readers if he (or she) would inform me in what proportion the study of supernormal facts has been introduced at Leyden University.

In the beginning of this month there will be a "circulating" exhibition of mediumistic art, held in turn at Berlin, Leipzig, and Munich, Germany.

In Brazil, José Carlos l'Eperty, a medium, was furiously attacked by the Press and the medical profession, and on being brought before the courts he was convicted. A higher tribunal has just annulled the sentence.

Ali del Pensiero reports that the medium F. Gilardi, of Milan, can in full light in the presence of a large company magnetise flowers at a distance from him, and make them arise and dance in the air for several minutes before they fall down on the table at his command.

A Scottish reader asks me whether I can explain the "Miracle of San Gennaro" which occurs twice a year in the cathedral at Naples. On these occasions the blood of that saint is seen to boil up in a holy phial. The explanation given by persons who do not believe in the miracle is that the priests warm up in the phial a certain mixture of water, ether, colouring matter, and spermaceti. When this comes to the boiling point it has all the appearance of being blood but . . . it is not blood!

P. F.

"Twenty Years After": Things Worth Recalling

From the "International Psychic Gazette" for January, 1913.

WHEN MEN REALISE THEY ARE SPIRITS.

WHEN men realise that they are spirits, immortal by nature, responsible to themselves and others for the use they make of their innate powers, their opportunities, and the influence they exert in the world, then they will become practical workers for spiritual progress, because they will desire that all men shall live wisely, righteously, lovingly and happily.—E. W. Wallis.

THE NATURAL AGE OF MAN.

A centenarian among men is accounted more or less a rarity. Yet the very fact that there are men living in almost every community and nation who have reached that age, and some much older, is a sufficient proof that one hundred to one hundred and twenty years is the natural age of man.—J. Millott Severn, in an address to the Phrenological Society's Congress.

THE HAND OF SIR OLIVER LODGE.

The hand of Sir Oliver Lodge is of great interest, and its careful study provides a most valuable lesson. It is characterised by its fine proportion and shapeliness.

The thumb is beautifully moulded and is firmly placed on the palm. The third phalange (Mount of Venus) is considerably longer than the first and second, and reveals a sympathetic, genial and charming personality, admirably united to strength of will, rare tact, and a logical mind. The length, attitude and position of the fingers denote patience, love of detail, much wisdom and humility, as well as a tendency to be subject to fits of depression. The third phalanges are much longer than the others, denoting a predilection for the material side of things, which is again emphasised by the length and straightness of the line of head.

The line of heart is unusually long and well developed. It rises from three points on the Mount of Jupiter and speaks eloquently of true affection and much goodness of

heart. The line of head extends across the palm and signifies a very practical nature and marks intellectuality. This is a valuable possession as it keeps in check the strong tendency to excessive introspection indicated by the long second finger.

The line of life sweeps well out into the palm, and shows a good reserve of vital force.—C. W. Child, author of "The Writing on the Hand."

MISS MCCREADIE AND PSYCHIC DEVELOPMENT.

Sensitives are open to the influence of all sorts and conditions of men and women who have not become saints just because they have passed out of the mortal body on to the other side of life. Mediums attract spirits akin to themselves, and if they are liars spirits would come into contact with them who would tell them lies.

It behoves all sensitives to be exceedingly careful in their psychic development. They must retain self-control and a positive attitude in regard to influences which they feel are not in harmony with their best instincts. They must learn how to shut themselves off from some influences as well as to assume a passive and negative state towards their spirit friends.—Miss McCreadie (the gifted medium of twenty years ago).

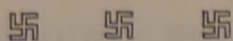
HEALTH FROM WITHIN.

Health and healing come from within, not from without. Every human being has a healing force within himself. The body can be built up by right thought and right emotion. Many miracles of healing have been performed by those who know this law. By one's own thought and feeling antidotes even for poisons can be created. Accustom your body to obey you, and its cells will be controlled in such a way as to restore themselves to health.—Mrs. Mary Seaton.

LADY DOYLE AND BECHOFER ROBERTS.

LADY CONAN DOYLE has made a dignified reply to that fanatical distorter of "The Truth about Spiritualism" (C. E. Bechofer Roberts) who grossly insulted the memory of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in his book reviewed in our last month's issue. Her Ladyship says:—

"My husband was a man without fear or thought of self, and when, after many years of investigations of psychic matters, he found this enormously important knowledge of personal survival was true, he, with his usual unselfish spirit, determined to give the plain and simple facts to the people, who are so hungering for definite knowledge about the Hereafter."



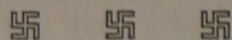
A SPIRITUALIST HYMN WRITER.

MRS. ST. CLAIR STOBART must surely be the greatest hymn-writer of the present age.

She has just published a new edition of her "Spiritual Songs for Congregational Singing," which contains 112 original hymns written by herself. Of these she has also composed the music for 24, and the melodies for the remaining 88 have all been written by Mr. F. Alford Armstrong, the accomplished organist of the Spiritualist Community.

Speaking for ourselves these beautiful hymns form the sweetest part of the ever-impressive services at the Grotrian Hall, and we heartily recommend their introduction into Spiritualist Churches, Societies, and home circles generally.

The book of words and music may be had from the Spiritualist Community for 2/3 post free.

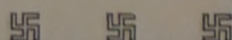


A MAKER OF MOCK SEANCES.

FATHER KNAPP, a member of the Order of St. Dominic, and operating under the auspices of the Catholic Guild, has been lecturing up and down the country, and also at Brussels and Liège, in Belgium, on "Spiritism, Its Errors, and Its Dangers."

We do not here repeat the farrago of venomous falsehoods he tells his audiences in order to deride Spiritualism and Spiritualists, for these are the worn-out, vulgar, and insolent jargon of most anti-Spiritualist propagandists, but we do suggest that the reverend Father goes just a stage too far when he performs "mock seances" with the aid of conjuring tricks.

We feel certain that all good Catholics must disapprove of this public parodying of a religion which is as sacred to its believers as Catholicism is to themselves. We feel equally certain that if any Spiritualists should, by way of reprisal, give exhibitions of mock masses, accompanied by mendacious ridicule of the respectable priests and honourable people of the Catholic persuasion, there would very soon be scenes of riot and bloodshed.



THE PASSING OF A WELL-KNOWN DUTCH SPIRITUALIST.

MEVROUW ANNIE GOBEL-NIER-STRASS, of The Hague, passed on to the Higher Life on the 3rd of December, at the age of 77. She was an untiring worker and able propagandist while possessed of all her brilliant faculties, but during the last four years her health had given way and she had to live a quieter life.

As a platform speaker, she captivated her audiences, and her bright personality, combined with her great experience of psychic facts and demonstrations, enabled her to reach the most diverse classes of people and to convince them, because from her emanated a spirit of absolute sincerity and personal devotion.

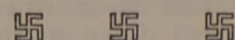
As she was well versed in English, French, and German, she kept in touch with the literature of these countries regarding Spiritualism. She also visited the London Spiritualist Congress in 1922 as a delegate from Holland and delivered an address there. Several people will remember her as she went to the Psychic College and met Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Miss Stead, Mr. D. Gow, and others.

In Holland she met Mr. Vout Peters, when he first came there, and Mrs. Susannah Harris, the trumpet medium, while the famous Jack Shepherd held many

beautiful seances in her house. This enabled her to give interesting lectures about her experiences, and her lantern slides of materialisations drew great and attentive audiences.

Mrs. Gobel was a really charming and gifted woman, who without any vanity or pretension made herself universally popular and beloved. Therefore, it is hardly conceivable that the leading Dutch Spiritualist Society "Harmonia," of which her husband was the founder and president for a long time, and which owed so much to their untiring work, was not represented at the funeral. May the warm sympathy expressed there by her numerous friends cover that lack of brotherly feeling!

We do not doubt that soon we shall find she is continuing her work in the world where no bodily ailment or weakness can touch her, and that whatever sorrows and difficulties she experienced here will be soon forgotten in the heavenly bliss and peace she is now enjoying.—C. K. NOË.



OUR READERS' TESTIMONIES.

A Faithful Contributor: "The Gazette is not only a joy to me but such an old friend! May you long be preserved to continue your good work!"

A Worcester Subscriber: "Your paper still keeps up its most high standard of spirituality, and is always a pleasure to read."

A Subscriber in Taringa, Brisbane: "Your magazine is truly first-class and conducted splendidly, and long may it last to carry on a great work!"

A Manchester Subscriber: "My wife and I are delighted to have evidence in the Gazette every month that you are still very active in the good Cause, and especially when there is someone or something to fight for!"

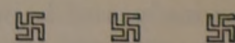
A Master of Arts: "May I compliment you on your masterly exposé of Lord Donegall. I used to see his articles in the Daily Sketch and to marvel that any journalist could write such piffle."

A Canadian Subscriber: "It is so good to know you are always fighting for the Right, and trying to crush Might, in the form of Ignorance, Jealousy and 'I am It' in very large letters."

A Wigan Subscriber: "I feel I must write and congratulate you on the masterly way you have conducted the Gazette during the past year, and on your successful defence of Myers and other honest mediums. I wish you success in all your efforts during the coming year."

An Italian Spiritualist Editor: "I find your magazine extremely interesting . . . I want to congratulate you warmly on the keen way you have dealt with the Donegall case in the two skilful articles you wrote on that subject. In my next number (*Ali del Pensiero*) I shall give a detailed account of this case to our readers."

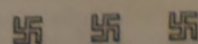
Mr. R. Aird, Queensland, has for the second time, expressed his warm appreciation of the Gazette by sending to the Editor one of "Queensland's Christmas Hampers of Happiness," full of that enterprising colony's most dainty tropical products. Many thousands of these hampers have been sent to the "dear ones at home in the Old Land as evidence of the love and remembrance of their kinsfolk far away," and we are grateful to Mr. Aird for including us among the happy recipients.



Mrs. Champion de Crespigny's new play, "Accessory after the Fact," adapted from her novel, "The Missing Piece," was performed last month to delighted audiences in the Fortune Theatre and the Millicent Fawcett Hall, Westminster.

"Should the Churches Absorb Spiritualism?" was the subject of an interesting debate at the Grotrian Hall on December 10. Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, Leader of the Spiritualist Community, and Mrs. Champion de Crespigny, Principal of the British College of Psychic Science, were the protagonists. A summary of the chief points in the argument will appear in our next issue.

Ante-Natal Foot Prints.—As already noted the print of a certain unborn baby's foot was obtained through the mediumship of Mrs. Margery Crandon, the famous American medium. When the child was born the parents objected to have the child's foot prints taken for comparison, and still object. It is hoped that they may yet give their consent in the interests of science.



Great occasions do not make heroes or cowards—they simply unveil them to the eyes of men. Silently and imperceptibly, as we wake or sleep, we grow and wax strong, or we grow and wax weak, and at last some crisis shows us what we have become.—Bishop Westcott.

CONAN DOYLE MEMORIAL

January CALENDAR January

"And through it he being dead yet speaketh."—Hebrews xi, 4

Daily Thoughts from Sir Arthur's Works

Day of
month.

- 1 God hath written Himself and His laws very broadly on all that is around us, if our poor dull eyes and duller souls could but read what He hath set before us.
Alleyne in "The White Company."
- 2 Sorrow clears from the mind of youth like the tarnish of breath upon glass. "Uncle Bernac."
- 3 I trust that the record of my life will assure the reader that I have preserved a sane and balanced judgment, since I have never been extreme in my views and since what I have said has so often been endorsed by the actual course of events. But never have I said anything with the same certainty of conviction with which I now say that this new knowledge of Spiritualism is going to sweep the earth and to revolutionise human views.
"Memories and Adventures."
- 4 There is a Power which fashions things for us, though we may strive to thwart it.
Lord Avon in "Rodney Stone."
- 5 "Look at that Star," Mahomet, the son of Abdallah said, pointing to a beautiful clear planet above our heads, "that is the symbol of Christ. See how serene and peaceful it shines, like His own teaching and the memory of His Life."
"The Red Star."
- 6 Next to the Christ, the highest spiritual being of whom we have any exact record upon this earth is the girl Joan. One would kneel rather than stand in her presence.
Joan of Arc born Jan. 6th, 1412.
Preface to Denis' "Mystery of Joan of Arc."
- To be charitable to the uncharitable is surely the crown of virtue. "Through the Magic Door."
- 8 They ragged and fought as schoolboys ought, And learned to play the game.
You can act the fool at an English school But it builds you all the same. "Comrades."
- 9 Nelson buried in St. Paul's, Jan. 9th, 1806.
The expression of Nelson's face was, as I remember it, exceedingly sad and gentle, with the deep lines upon it which told of the chafing of his urgent and fiery soul. "Rodney Stone."
- 10 I know well that I have it in me to make my name famous.
Sherlock Holmes in "A Study in Scarlet."
- 11 It is not how fast you go that matters, it is the object of your journey.
Mailey in "The Land of Mist."
- 12 Sir Arthur's defence of Edalji, Jan. 12th, 1907.
Officialdom in England stands solid together, and when you attack it, as in the Edalji Case, you need not expect justice.
"Memories and Adventures."
- 13 Sir Arthur visited Cecil Rhodes' Grave, 1929.
Cecil Rhodes, a mighty leader, a man of broad vision, too big to be selfish, but a difficult man to appraise with our little human yard-sticks.
"Our African Winter."
- 14 One becomes blasé to adventure as one becomes blasé to all else which the world can give, save only the simple joys of home.
Louis de Laval in "Uncle Bernac."
- 15 The mere thinking and talking of books is in itself good, be the upshot what it may.
British Museum opened Jan. 15th, 1759.
"Through the Magic Door."
- 16 Love and poverty and war, they are all experiences necessary to make a complete life.
Mortimer in "The Three Correspondents."

Day of
month.

- 17 Mr. Lloyd George born Jan. 17th, 1863.
I find in my Diary that the Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, invited me to breakfast in April, 1917. Nothing could have been more affable and democratic, for there was no servant present, and he poured out the tea while I, from a side table, brought the bacon and eggs for both. He had certainly the Celtic power of making one absolutely at one's ease.
"Memories and Adventures."
- 18 Capt. Scott reached the South Pole, 1912.
There are heroisms all round us waiting to be done.
"The Lost World."
- 19 In some unfortunate way subjects of National welfare are in this country continually subordinated to party politics, so that a self-evident proposition, such as the danger of a nation being fed from without, is waved aside and ignored, because it will not fit in with some general political shibboleth.
"Danger."
- 20 How often at the last instant the cup is dashed from the lips.
"Sir Nigel."
- 21 Janglings and wranglings are but on the surface. It is the solid core that underlies every Christian creed which is of importance.
Zachery Palmer in "Micah Clarke."
- 22 Queen Victoria died, Jan. 22nd, 1901.
The Life Beyond is a world of sympathy. Only those who have this tie foregather. All is sweet and peaceful. It is the long rest cure after the nerve strain of life, and before new experiences in the future.
"The Vital Message."
- 23 The wisdom of God is beyond our understanding.
The Bishop in "Sir Nigel."
- 24 I wonder how many of the preachers who have taken advantage of the passage in Sir Oliver Lodge's "Raymond" about alcohol in order to attack the whole New Revelation have remembered that the only other message which associated alcohol with the Life Beyond is that of Christ Himself, when He said—"I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's Kingdom."
"The Vital Message."
- 25 Christ's bitterest tears have been shed over the misrepresentation which has been made of Him.
"Pheneas Speaks."
- 26 May God protect Australia
Set in her Southern Sea!
Though far thou art, it cannot part
Thy brother folks from thee.
"A Hymn of Empire."
- 27 If you cut your own path you must expect to find yourself alone upon it.
"The Stark Munro Letters."
- 28 Desultory readers are seldom remarkable for the exactness of their learning.
Dr. Watson in "A Study in Scarlet."
- 29 The object of life here is to prepare for the next phase of life.
"The Land of Mist."
- 30 Far the most important thing in my life has been the psychic quest.
"Memories and Adventures."
- 31 For strange effects and extraordinary combinations we must go to life itself, which is always far more daring than any effort of the imagination.—Sherlock Holmes.

BRIEF NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

REVIEW BY THE REV. W. A. REID.

DEATH CANNOT SEVER. By the Rev. Dr. Norman Maclean. Hodder & Stoughton. 3/6 net.

This book is frankly an expansion of Dr. Maclean's Edinburgh sermons, and its natural limitations must be allowed for. It is rather a poetic presentation of the subject from the consciously expanding mind of a Scottish Churchman than a scientific treatise. It is a religious argument founded on what the writer regards as ascertained facts; and because of his own assured convictions he sometimes states his points rather bluntly.

Briefly put, the author believes that human survival has been scientifically proved, and that Bible psychic phenomena must be proved to-day; for "if these happened in the past, they must happen to-day, and if they cannot happen to-day, they never have happened." That no appeal to the Bible or to any other authority is sufficient. He believes in a progressive future life, and consequently in prayers for both the blessed and the evil dead. Peter, of course, as he says, tells that the "dead" were preached to, and "The Shepherd of Hermas," one of the Apostolic Fathers, says that the repentant dead were baptised by the believing disciples who had passed on.

"Those who denounce psychic research are the real enemies of Christianity," says Dr. Maclean, who adds that if the Church leaves the demonstration of human survival to the Spiritualists, "it need not be surprised at increasingly empty pews . . . A multitude of these modern revelations are so well authenticated that to deny them is like denying the sun at high noon . . . It is unreasonable to believe in the warnings and premonitions of a bygone day and deny those of our day." He believes that "the harmony of God's universe will not be broken by the crying of even one lost soul."

Dr. Maclean is, of course, a Churchman and possibly a sacramentarian, but not narrow in his views. One feels that he writes from his soul, and in the conviction that his own new light brushes aside some of the clouds that obscure the Eternal Light. It is a book that every earnest Churchman should read.

WILLIAM A. REID.

THE GREAT BEYOND. By Rabbi Dr. A. E. Silverstone, M.A. Stockwell. 2/6 net.

This is a book of short essays on Resurrection, Immortality, Spiritualism, and cognate matters by a learned and liberal-minded Jewish Rabbi. It is obviously the work of a conscientious student who has arrived as far as he can go towards Spiritualistic truth without venturing into the sea of experience. It will therefore be instructive to other students and give them an urge to continue their adventure further until they arrive at last at Truth's own shrine. To believe in Immortality, and to be able to give good intellectual grounds for that belief is good, but to know the joy of actual converse with one who has put off mortality and passed to the life beyond is better. The Doctor shows that the ancient Jews were prohibited from consulting spirits because the necromancy of their days was idolatrous, but he says that there is no prohibition against study and investigation for scientific purposes. Jewish Spiritualists, of whom there are many, will welcome this book.

THE MAGIC OF ANGELS: Talks by "Dr. Lascelles." Riders. 6/- net.

This is the third volume of a series of Sunday evening addresses delivered by "Doctor Lascelles" through the mediumship of Mr. C. A. Simpson, the well-known spiritual healer.

There is a great deal of eloquence and homely vigour in these addresses; and their readers are not likely to fall asleep over them, even though they are full of spiritual and Spiritualistic instruction. It is a book Spiritualists should possess for their own uplift, and it is highly suitable for lending round to new inquirers.

"Dr. Lascelles," as most of our readers know, inspired Mr. Simpson to start a Guild seven years ago, called "The Seekers," to cure all manner of diseases, even as Christ did 2,000 years ago. The work began humbly in three rooms and a basement at St. George's Square, S.W. Healing was done by the laying on of hands and by "Harmony Prayer Circles" for absent-healing by the power of prayer. "Dr. Lascelles" composed the prayers, and these are printed and used weekly by over 8,000 people, who are all engaged in receiving healing or giving it to others. The Guild has now handsome headquarters at 29 and 33 Queen's Gate, W. This new volume will help to make its beneficent work more widely known.

For little souls on little shifts rely,
And coward arts of mean expedients try;
The noble mind will dare do anything but lie.
—Dryden.

OCCASIONAL JOTTINGS.

By X.

OCCUPATIONS IN SPIRIT LIFE.

THE question is often asked, how do spirits occupy their time in the Beyond? In much the same way as they did on earth. The teacher continues to teach, the student to study, the artist to create, and so on. But, over there, they learn to work with an altruistic outlook—for love and not for money or renown. They work in harmony. What is more, they try to influence people on earth to do the same.

I heard a spirit who had been a financier on earth speaking the other night at a direct voice seance. He said that whereas when on earth he was only interested in the financial good of his own country, he now tries to influence all nations with a view to international co-operation. Asked his opinion about America's war debt instalment in gold from Britain, he said: "America is making a big mistake. Gold is like blood; it has no value unless it circulates."

JOY IN THE SPIRITUAL REALMS.

Spirits often tell us how difficult it is for them to describe the beauties and joys of life in the Beyond. Earthly language is quite inadequate, they say. A lady who had passed over returned to tell her daughter about a wonderful garden over there. "When your spirit is released from its body in sleep, you join me here," said the mother, "and we are ever so happy together." "But why can't I remember it all when I wake up, mother?" "Because, if you could, the contrast would fill you with a longing to dispense with your earth body before the appointed time; and if this happened, the necessary lessons of earth, in the shape of trials and difficulties, would be lost."

Nevertheless, the daughter, whose earthly affairs were causing her much worry, prayed that she might remember her experiences in that spirit garden. One night the wish was granted, and she was vividly conscious of being with her mother in what seemed to her a condition of paradise. But when the time came to return to her earth body she did not want to go. "Oh, let me stay here, mother," she implored; "the earth is such an unhappy place; why should I go back to it?" And her desire to remain in spirit life was so great that had it not been for two of her spirit guides, who seized her and hurled her back through space, the life-cord would have been severed and she would have passed over prematurely. As it was, she returned to her body in the nick of time, and awoke gasping for breath, and sweating profusely.

The next afternoon a medium knocked at her door, and on being admitted said, "I bring you a special message from your mother. She tells me that last night you very nearly passed over." The medium then proceeded to describe exactly what had happened to the daughter.

A SPIRIT CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE.

By H. M. E.

ON Sunday, December 11, I had the privilege of attending an unusual Christmas Tree Party, which was arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Dell and Miss Sheath of Farningham, Kent, for the children in the Spirit Spheres. Of mortals there were seven of us, including the direct voice medium, Mrs. Robert Johnson.

The tree was beautifully decorated and heavily laden with toys, and we sat round it in horseshoe formation. Mrs. Robert Johnson's controls, David, Joey and Blossom, soon greeted us in turn, and described the spirit children crowding round admiringly and choosing their toys. Eric wanted a trumpet, and he was told to get it and blow it. There followed a rustling and shaking of the tree, a trumpet was blown, and when the lights went up the trumpet was off the tree and lying on the carpet. Another boy wanted a whistle, which was also removed from the tree and blown. A third boy said he would like the motor-car which, being too heavy to hang, was at the foot of the tree. He was told to wind it up and he did so, and it ran its little course. During the winding "Joey" remarked, "it does not sound exactly like a Rolls Royce." Many little girls came too, and all the children gave their Christian names and surnames with their home towns, which lay as far apart as Croydon and Glasgow. They often volunteered quaint bits of information about themselves and their families.

The tree with all its presents was taken to the children's ward of a local hospital on Christmas Day, and the toys gave great pleasure to many little invalids.

Mr. James Abbott, a former Editor of the "National Spiritualist," Chicago, passed to the Spirit World, on November 20, 1932, after a short illness. He was a genial friend, a good comrade, and an occasional valued contributor to this Gazette.

January, 1933

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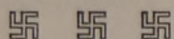
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PRAYERS FOR PEACE.

IN these days of stress and tribulation, both at home and in all other lands, the Marylebone Spiritualist Association suggest to all Spiritualist churches, societies, associations, and to Spiritualists generally, that at all meetings held, whether for public service or at private sittings, there shall be devoted ONE MINUTE for silent concentration on the subject of Peace.

Believing, as Spiritualists do believe, in the Creative Power of Thought, and of its great value both to the individual and to the world at large, the M.S.A. asks that all Spiritualists shall, with one accord, join together in earnest, solemn, silent prayer for Peace on Earth.



NATURE AND SPIRIT.

They have outstripped us in that they've attained,
Who are where what is Spirit is supreme;
Their earthly is dissolved, the Eternal beam
Is now no longer straitened, shortened, stained;
The flesh they pampered, elsewhere starved and pained,
Unsexed in dust, forgot in death's deep stream,
Is now the unreal, the shadow and the dream,
Silent and motionless where once it reigned.

So it will be with us, when at the last,
We leave the shell of this our chrysalis,
And soar to other world of light and bliss,
With all the present sojourn o'er and past;
Yet to retake anew of that from this—
That spirit-part in which the self is cast.

H. HALLETT BUCKNOLE.

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Typewritten copies of the Messages appearing monthly in this *Gazette* under the above heading may be obtained at a charge of twopence each, post free from

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| 5.—"The Coming of the messengers of light." | 14.—"How the New Revelation will alter man's conceptions." |
| 6.—"Flood the World with prayer." | 15.—"Truth, and Pain." |
| 7.—"What can we do to bring Peace" | 16.—"Music, and Love." |
| 8.—"The Soul's Awakening." | 17.—"Death." |
| 9.—"What is the best method of realising we are one with the Infinite Intelligence." | 18.—"The Mystery of Individuality." |
| | Etc., etc. |

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A Suggestion for NEW YEAR 1933.

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IT will publish month by month a full-page Conan Doyle Memorial Calendar, giving a Quotation from Sir Arthur's works for every day in the year. (See Special Notice on page 56.)

IT was established in June 1912, and is still Edited by its Founder, Mr. John Lewis, in collaboration with M. Pascal Forthuny, of Paris, who is not only a distinguished Man of Letters but one of the most eminent mediums in the world to-day.

IT is the Monthly Magazine of Spiritualism and is read by the élite of Spiritualists throughout the world.

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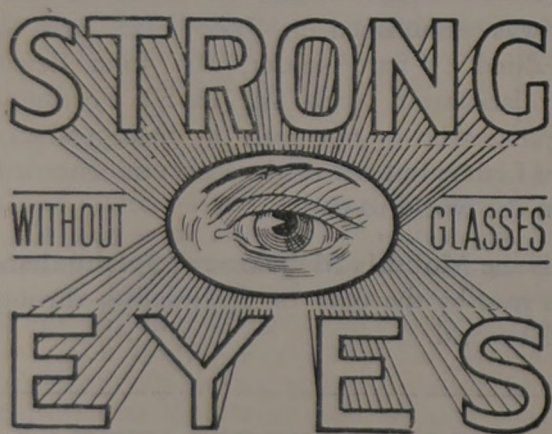
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