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A Weekly Journal devoted to the PHENOMENA, PHILOSOPHY and PROGRESS of SPIRITUA also to RELIGION IN GENERAL and to REFORM.

No. 1705-Vol. XXXIII.

FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1920.

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Life's Decades.

YOUTH.

Industriously your days employ,
And wisely spend the hours;
The years to come will bring you joy,
And strew life's path with flowers.

MIDDLE LIFE.

Unselfish deeds from day to day,
Will blessings bring in showers.
Self-sacrifice still leads the way
To Amaranthine bowers.

OLD AGE.

The "call to rest" so sweetly rings,
No longer need we roam.
Dost hear the sound of angel wings?
They come to guide us home.

-R. M. CRAIG.

Phrenology and Spiritualism.

James McBlain.

Seritualism, I understand, does not formulate a did does not pretend to tell, for instance, what God is. Spiritualists believe Him to be an essence, or ether, tangible influence only. Millions of people, however, have spoken of Him as the Father, a male, a perturn Whichever way we take it, whether that He is thence, or power, or a vapourous ether, He must be the nature of spirit, or spiritual and intelligent to spiritualistic teaching.

The word "spirit" covers three things: influence, or me, or force, ether, and a personality. So, then, the great like Spirit is at least a spirit whose power is felt

This brings us to the fact that we ourselves are or have the The personal spirits are ourselves and those who preceded us to the "land of shadows," shadows to so fus now, that will become brighter than day when early from the night and darkness of our material triage and enter that bourne, whence we know many returned, and will return to this coarser sphere.

The spirits of men and women in the next plane come sand influence us, as they in turn are doubtless influenced ligher and the highest intelligences up to the Great the Master Himself. It is a recognised fact of Spirition that a medium must be in some way sympathetic. The must be a certain affinity between the medium and communicating or controlling or inspiring spirit. One is in fact, almost tell by the mediums the kind of spirits will have—with whom they are en rapport. This sairly means that a medium, a human being in the flesh, as a certain kind of mind and disposition of her or his own, if this character depends, we know, to a very great that upon her or his physical organisation. The mind, is influenced in many ways, in turn influences the brain, with brain manifests its powers by the body.

The brain is the organ of the mind, the latter being bely force, action, or vibration. If the mind be surrented, as in so-called spirit control, or by hypnotism, to where spirit, that mind or spirit may act through that

brain directly, but only as far, and in such a way, as the said brain is capable of. A spirit from "the other side," I take it, may thus use our brains and bodies to manifest itself. The personality of the medium is often more or less present in communications from a higher sphere, because of the limitations of the brain and body of the medium. In rare cases a medium says and does things that are far beyond her or his ordinary manifestations, but the necessary cells must be there for that purpose, although not fully developed. And so we may reason up infinitely, all of us being media and divine.

Just how it is that the disembodied spirit acts on the brain of the embodied spirit, it would be difficult to explain; the theory of vibration gives one the best idea of it. The vibration of the universal ether, that fine substance which pervades everything in the heavens and the earth, which is the basis of wireless telegraphy, clairaudience and many other mysteries, is very likely the secret of all or nearly all communications from the spirit world. It is more or less a secret still, notwithstanding all that has been discovered about it, and will probably remain so until we ourselves become more ethereal, more divine, higher and in the spiritual scale.

The powers of the mind are very various and are also all connected with each other, and they require various organs for their uses and manifestation. Muscular power requires certain muscles which are connected with one another, and more distantly with the brain, and certain parts of the brain are used to control certain parts of the body. In the crown of the head, the brain is related, I believe, with the shoulders, the front of the brain to the face and chest principally, the lower and back portions of the brain to the lower portions of the body and limbs. But, of course, we must always bear in mind the fact that there is an infinite relationship throughout the universe, which, therefore, exists in all parts of the body, all parts of the brain, and, we may add, all faculties of the mind, all powers of the spirit, and amid the spirits of the "vasty deep" of space, time and eternity.

The brain is said to have a dual action. It is the material part of us that responds first to the intellectual and emotional vibrations, treasures them, and generally in some way reproduces them in material action. According to its derivation, an atom should be, as it was at first said to be, an indivisible particle. The brain is composed of millions, of atoms, as is everything else. It, like the body, consists of many parts, which, besides the control of the body, have action in thought and emotion of various kinds. The crown of the head, or part of the brain located there, has the power to vibrate to thought and emotion of selfish, ambitious, determined character, and phrenologists have found by the examination of thousands of heads-I might say millions—that persons with high crowns are usually proud, self-opinionated, domineering, sometimes what have been called a "stiff-necked generation." But they are generally also broad or high shouldered, workers, pushers, energetic men and women, who never truly "would be slaves." If such a man were under complete control of a spirit, it would probably be a spirit who had more or less of a similar disposition, or if under the influence somewhat of any other character, that character would colour the communications to some extent. This is because of the necessary attunement of the spiritual, mental and brain vibrations.

It would be impossible to go into many of the brain formations on this occasion to illustrate the relations that exist between phrenology and Spiritualism. It is understood, however, that while this affinity exists throughout all nature and supernature—which is only nature—it grows higher and higher up to the purely divine Divinity existing in all in greater or lesser degree. And the highest spirits would not be so if they were not forever seeking to raise the lower, love being the dominant power in God's universe.

But there is one part of the brain, adjoining the regions that relate most closely to moral welfare, to religion and good conduct, one little mass of convolutions on both sides of the top head forward of the selfish group of organs, that phrenologists call Spirituality. This mass of convolutions of grey matter is that which first vibrates to spirit messages. At least so it appears by my and a thousand other phrenological observations. Persons who are developed largely in that portion of the brain are most on the qui vive, most alive, most ready and strongest in receiving messages. portion of the brain is, as it were, the receiving station from the spiritual telegrapher. If your guide (or angel) would warn you of danger, inspire you with hope or joy, or rouse your conscience, he or she would, I believe, first touch with gentle hand, this part of your brain—or rather, his whispered thought, breathed softly in the other, would first be felt in this region of the brain, whence it would travel to other parts of brain and body. These admonitions have been compared to a "still small voice," for at the first they are very faint, and we must be listening well to hear their sweet chidings, instructions, cautionings. They come mostly as a feeling, a prompting, an impulse which should be acted on by submitting it instantly to the adjacent faculties of veneration, benevolence, conscientiousness, hope, etc. The reply will come quickly as a matter of inspiration, and then we know it is right or wrong to give way to this impulse or suggestion.

Again let me refer to a fact in spiritual manifestation, which phrenology, to a great extent, explains. It happens once in a while that an uneducated medium will speak in highly educated and beautiful language. We hear of a person who scarcely knows a note of music playing most sublimely under control. Persons of apparently shallow intelligence will occasionally express profound thoughts. These things happen but seldom, but probably more frequently than we are aware of. Some great authors, in order to write grandly, have used the stimulus of alcohol or opium; many work themselves up to a state of excitement in which all their powers are at their highest. Under control a medium is in a high state, and then the controlling spirit can evolve the highest of the medium's powers. But even this will not explain the extraordinary manifestations we sometimes hear of. They come, I believe, in this way: The brain of the medium is really formed for the high manifestations given, but has not been used for such, for lack of opportunity and training on the material plane. When the higher spirit takes possession, however, these powers become realised, and the ignorant woman or man speaks like a sage, the untutored pianist plays like a maestro, and in these ultra developments there is generally something of weirdness, something of a sacred sublimity, and something of a grandeur that is awe inspiring, enchanting and profoundly touching. By prayer and earnest desire any medium may develop powers that are at once natural and psychic by bringing to her aid those bright souls who are hovering ever ready to help humanity to higher life, to higher planes of thought and emotion.

The true phrenologist would only advise everyone to seek by good conduct, good thoughts, thoughts and deeds of loving kindness and tender merc y, ever to surround him or herself with good influences. Strange as it may appear to some, good conduct produces good thought, and also gives one a divine perception that will guide through life, across the vale mis-called death, to that region in the highest where dwells perfection, that mount of transfiguration whereon our poor eyes will be opened with supreme joy to the glory of the Infinite, and our hearts be thrilled with the vibrations of the great Divine Spirit Himself, our universal, abiding and ever loving Father.

God, the highest Truth, the highest Principle, the highest Virtue, the highest Idea of whatsoever is Central and Perfect.—Davis.

Physical Seance at Treorchy.

It is with pleasure that we hereby record in detall evidential character of a physical phenomenon weep at a sitting held on the 15th May, 1920, at the residual Mr. Evans, 12, Clarke Street, Treorchy.

The medium being Mr. E. J. Powell, Merthy, is well-known throughout the whole of the Principality were nine sitters, and we conscientiously believe that Powell did not know any of us sufficiently well to as him to be acquainted with our family history.

We sat under strict conditions, treating the median that critical manner which tended to eliminate any possition of us being deceived. The room is kept for an only, with a cabinet fixed in the corner, and a small table placed inside, and on the table we placed a var of flowers and several small articles; the medium was allowed to take part in any of the preparations appointed two of the sitters to tie the medium secured an ordinary kitchen arm-chair. For this purpose at 15 feet of rope was used. His body was tied over the dand again lower down; his arms and legs were tied, and ends of the ropes were then passed under the seat and securely under the seat.

The sitters by this time had formed a horse-sheen and each sitter clasped the hand of the one next to the that there was not an unoccupied hand in the room. I light was now turned out, and the medium was some trolled by his chief guide "Black Hawk," who spoke to referring to the tongues of fire that were seen in the unchamber, and which should be produced at our upper ber also. He then opened with prayer, followed to singing a hymn. By this time we could hear the inside the cabinet. These were carried around the moccasionally touching a sitter here and there. We distinctly locate the bells of different tone ringing a taneously in different parts of the room, proving to us this was the result of spirit friends, and also that there more than one operating.

Upon our requesting the operators to do so, they we touch different objects in the room, which went up to ceilings and down to the floor so rapidly that we were vinced that no material person could do so with such late. He then produced materialised lights, they were very stand were lighting up the features of the sitters as they sed, He also produced very good partial materialisation.

We had mineteen direct spirit voices, and this had was most evidential and convincing, because we have voices of our loved ones once again, the tone of the washing unmistakable. They conversed with us upon that were unknown to the medium; in fact, we are contract that he had never heard of them. We can testify to ing five different voices conversing with different sitts the same time, the control speaking through the missimultaneously. We occasionally sang a hymn, and joined in the singing by a distinct bass voice, another friend reciting in the centre of the circle, and a child's was heard distinctly.

Another control of the medium, "Martin Lights demonstrated his presence by lifting the table out from cabinet, and touching each sitter on the head and kness touching each with the flowers which had been inside cabinet, afterwards distributing the flowers to each By this time the power was waning, after an hour half of the most enjoyable time we ever spent.

Signed by the sitters: S. R. Pugh.
E. Rundle.
Mrs. E. Lewis.
W. J. Evans.
Mrs. M. G. Evans.
Ben Bowen.
Phil. Rees.
W. D. Jones.

MRS. SHORT.

DIE when I may, I want it said of me by those know me best, that I always plucked a thistle and plus a flower where I thought a flower would grow.—AUSLINCOLN.

The Old Language of Numbers.

Ellen Conroy, M.A., D.Cerom.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.)

NUMBER ONE stands for the Everlasting Spirit of -unmanifest-before the creation, after the creation, existent, in all things, beyond all things. The number is to be a luminous mist. Its symbol is the eagle, which is emblem of spiritual power and energy, and of the ability nderstand and to know the eternal mysteries.

In the Bohemian Tarot, One is the Magician with crown for the One dwells on eternal sweetness. A snake s his girdle, eternal wisdom encompasses him. In right hand is a sceptre pointed at both ends. His rule hove and below, from everlasting to everlasting. The singer of his left hand points down. His mind is turning sals creation. A sword of justice and of truth lies on stable beside him. Also the shield* of David is inscribed if at disc lying on the table. It was the inner secret of the old religions that there was one God, that all other led gods and all nature were but phases of the one. the indwelling of God in all things is ably expressed to following translation by Fanny Raymond Ritter of the translation in the sunbeam, and I am the burning sun; is here!" I whisper to the atom; I call to the orb, the indwelling of God in all things is ably expressed

"Roll on!"

in the blush of the morning, and I am the evening breeze, in the blush of the morning, and I am the evening breeze, in the leaf's low murmur, the swell of the terrible seas.

In the net, the fowler, the bird and its frightened cry, is interested, the sound and its echo, I;

In the leaf's low murmur, the bird and its frightened cry, is interested, the sound and its echo, I;

In the leaf's low murmur, the bird and its frightened cry, is interested to the sound and its echo, I;

In the leaf's low murmur, the bird and its frightened cry, is interested to the leaf's low murmur, the bird and its frightened cry, is in the leaf's low murmur, the bird and its frightened cry, is in the leaf's low murmur, the bird and its frightened cry, is in the leaf's low murmur, the swell of the terrible seas. wrung tear.

mintoxication, grapes, wine-press, and must, and wine, I guest, the host, the tavern, the goblet of crystal fine; In the breath of the flute, and I am the mind of man, I's glitter, the light of the diamond, the sea's pearl lustre wan,

* rose, her poet nightingale, the songs from his throat that rise.

sparks, the flame, the taper, the moth that about it flies.

with Good and Evil; the deed and the deed's intent,

with Good and Evil; the deed and the deed's intent, wation, victim, sinner; crime, pardon and punishment; arhat was, is, and will be; creation's ascent and fall; hak, the chain of existence; Beginning and End of All. WMBER TWO. When this spirit of God manifests in world, form and material come into the world. Thus have in Genesis, "And the Spirit of God brooded upon water in Genesis," The number Two is the symbol this "before-creation" water. By some this water is all to be considered the substance out of which all matter was, but in the mystics we find it is considered firstly as wisdom aspect of God, and secondly as the material of which the soul is made. Certainly this water is always wisdered as being feminine.† Solomon speaks much of usidered as being feminine.† Solomon speaks much of wisdom aspect of God, which existed before the world made, and by means of which He called forth the world.

Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way; before his works of old.

as set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.

a there was no depth, I was brought forth; when there were no foundations abounding with water.

blore the mountains were settled, before the hills, was I brought forth.

He prepared the heavens I was there, when He set a compass upon the face of the depth,

Then He established the clouds above, when He strengthened the fountains of the deep,

Then was I with Him, as one brought up with Him, for I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him."

-Prov. viii. 22.

'Explained in Number Six. t cf., Maria the sea.

Michael Angelo has a picture representing this thought. It shows the Lord stretching out from a cloud, touching the finger of Adam with life. In the cloud is a beautiful woman and many little cherubs. Many people have asked who this woman could be. Some have said it was Mary, the Mother of God, but if you understand this feminine side of the Godhead, the idea of Michael Angelo is a very beautiful one. The word El Shaddai, by which the Hebrews denominated this wisdom aspect, means, as I have previously said, "The Breasted One," showing that originally this idea of God being mother as well as father was known.

Under its other symbolic aspect Two is the house which contains the spirit. It is all substance, however, fine and subtle, in which God dwells and has His being. The soul is considered to be a woman in mysticism. The moon, or second light in heaven, is also said to be feminine, when considered as the crescent moon. Thus the moon and the moon goddesses were often thought of as being the soul, which has no light of its own, but must receive its light from the Sun of Righteousness.

Two in symbolism corresponds with the letter B of the alphabet, which is Beth, or the House, cf., Bethel, the house of God. Two is sometimes called the house, or the door of the house, or door of the temple. Thus we have prayers to nearly all moon goddesses in which they are considered houses or doors. Isis is called "The opener of the ways." Ishtar is called "She who knocks at the door."

When much of this old symbolism had been appropriated by the devotees of the Virgin Mary, we have in the Breviary, "Thou art the gate of the King on high, and of bright light the portal art thou."

The soul has within it this duality, that it manifests in man but receives its light from God, and is thus a door by means of which the soul, the real individual, can pass from its environment into the great temple of the spirit.

In this world the soul is bound more or less closely to the body, and the body acts on it, but it must act on the body in its turn. Still this is not all its work. This is but the lowest of its work. Its main work is in receiving inspiration and spirit communion through its doors, and also in making itself into a fit and worthy temple of the wisdom aspect of God.

Many religions have twin deities. The Japanese and the Chinese believe in the dual aspect of the spirit. The Greeks had the Dioscuri, or the great Twin Brethren. They were said to help all persons at the verge of defeat or in the last limits of the struggle. As Macaulay says :-

> "Safe comes the ship to haven, Through billows and through gales, If once the great Twin Brethren Sit shining on the sails.'

In Egypt Osiris was the Lord of the Double Lions. It is not that the seers of these religions believed in two gods at the back of everything, but they wanted to express the fact that our whole created world is bound by the quality of duality-that action and reaction are equal and opposite, as we say in modern days.

We have virtue and vice, day and night, summer and winter, male and female. Every great truth has been enshrined in the stars, and so we have no less than three dual signs: Gemini, Libra, and Pisces. In the Apocrypha we have: "For the Lord himself being asked by someone when his kingdom should come said, 'When the two shall be one, and the outside as the inside and the male as the fe-

Two is also the number of mentality and intellect, for there is no thought without a subject. Hence Odin has two ravens, Hugin and Mugin, who tell him all that happens in this world. In many religions the gods dwell in a mountain with two peaks. In Tennyson's story of the building of Camelot the musician comes "from out a mountain cleft towards the sunrise."

You have seen the hand with two fingers stretched out in blessing. It is the sign of esotericism, that is, the second meaning or the meaning of the spirit, which gives life instead of the letter which kills. The two fingers were used by the Egyptians as an amulet, for it was said that by the help of his two fingers Horus helped his father, Osiris, to climb into heaven, i.e., you have to triumph over the

duality in this universe before you reach into heaven, which is exactly what was said previously in the extract from the Apocrypha. It is necessary to see that the material things which look permanent are not so, but that the spitirual ones are the enduring ones. If people really realised this—but they do not—they would build beautiful soul temples instead of soul dungeons.

In its debased meaning Two is the number of deceit or of ill-luck, and hence it is said to be the most unlucky number for kings.

Two is the number when we should build the house or walk through the door of our house into higher realms, but if we do neither of these things we allow our souls to degenerate and to sink into matter, that is, into all manner of evil and deceit.

In the Bohemian Tarot, Two is the number of the High Priestess, who sits between two pillars, one white and the other dark. She has a crown cleft in two on her head, and in the cleft is the sun. The moon is at her feet. Behind her is a veil stretching from pillar to pillar, and the veil is decorated with palms and pomegranates, which are symbols of uprightness and plenteousness respectively.

NUMBER THREE. After God had brooded on the face of the waters, God said, "Let there be light." The number Three stands for this spoken Word of God, by means of which the spirit of God makes itself known to the created world. It is in this sense that Christ is called the "Word" in St. John's gospel, where he says, "And the Word was made flesh."

According to the Church to-day Christ is the second person of the Trinity, but according to the old symbolism he would have been the third person, as being the Logos, or word, by means of which God reveals Himself to His created beings.

All religions have had a trinity, not necessarily that they copied one another, but because by this they expressed a fundamental truth that there is necessary in creation firstly the power, secondly the wisdom, and thirdly light, or the Word or the inspiration, by means of which the created beings are able to know of the two former. I give a few of these Trinities:—

RIG VEDA	Varuna	Aditia	Mitra
MANU	Brahm	Maya	Brahma
EGYPT	Amen Ra	Neith	Osiris
(Later)	Osiris	Isis	Horus
GNOSTICS	Abraxus	Sophia	Gnosis or Christos

The number Three is represented by the equilateral triangle. When the apex is at the top it represents the spirit ascending to its Maker and aspiring after God. When the apex is pointing down it represents the spirit of God descending into man or into matter.

According to some the upward pointing triangle represents fire and the other water. In this case the upper one represent the soul striving after the spirit, and in the other it represents the spirit striving to make its message known to the soul.

Three always stands for the perfection of spirit in the manifested world, but not of the world. For this reason, the city of the New Jerusalem (which is one of the grandest emblems of the soul) has been gates on every side, i.e., spiritual perfection in every aspect of the soul.

Jonah was three days in the belly of the whale before the spirit of God was able to penetrate and make him do the duty which he had refused to do.

This three days and three nights is sometimes said to be connected with the three days, December 22nd to December 25th, when the sun is at its lowest. But we must remember that the great seers of religions did not by this mean simply an astronomical fact, but a fact that could be translated into the experience of every initiate of the sun gods and every true searcher after spirituality.

We continually meet triform emblems and symbols in all the great religions. Thus we have the Shamrock of the Druids, also the three converging lines, i.e., the broad arrow, which has now become the government stores' mark, and the mystic O.I.V., which makes us call to mind the A.U.M. of the East.

Pythagoras and all the priestesses of Apollo sat on tripods in order that they might continually dwell on the thought of the Lord in manifestation. Gothic cathedrals were built to make the greatest possible use of the plateral triangle, for the cathedrals were to give living land to the true worshippers.

The Brahmins wear the threefold cord to remind to

Mount Meru, the holy mountain of India, was said have three peaks—of gold, of silver, and of iron, the moderness of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva respectively.

There were three chief gods in Greece: Jove, we emblem was the three-forked lightning; Neptune, we symbol was the trident; and Pluto, whose realms; guarded by the three-headed dog, Cerberus.

The Greeks also had three fates, three furies, it graces, and three harpies. It has been said that the rate of this was simply to be found in the fact that the flow the Nile lasted three months, and that these ideas came Egypt, and were not altered. According as the Egypt looked upon the flood of the Nile as a source of trouble source of blessing, the three months are furies or gaze.

Certainly in this subject of symbolism we must be of forcing a religious meaning into all origins.

There are three Christian virtues—Faith, Hope, Charity, but if we add the cardinal virtues we have segreat virtues. Thus again we see the number is a artificial, and is used to give the appearance of complete A true trinity is essentially complete, and nothing a added or taken away without destroying the idea, just we destroy the triangle if we take away a line or add allowed.

There are three kingdoms of nature—animal, vegetal and mineral, but here again we must beware of foreign mystic idea. To be sure, there are only three dimensions of space known to man, but there is no reason why the four dimension may not be ultimately known; also it is extracted difficult to know at times into which division to put so objects of Nature.

There are three primary colours, but there is a dispute as to whether they are red, yellow and blue, or green and blue. The latter is now the more popular before.

In the Tarot the symbol for three is the Empres, seems to represent not so much the Word as Nature with has to be animated by the Word.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The Life-Line.

A CHILD is born, innocent, pure and undefiled with inherited attributes, or instincts, independent of environment. As the child grows into a man, environment acts those instincts, and changes the innocence into worlding and he dies a veritable devil in this world's sin.

Is a man a free agent? Can he overcome his instinct.
Can he possibly die as pure as he was born? Sin is bound exist, having once been started. Fate seems to rule life; if so, there is no justice in a God punishing a man what he is not responsible.

Possibly each of us has a general "life-line" laid on by fate, controlled by our instincts, but each can, by a vironment, alter portions of his "life-line," slightly change its curvature in places, but not altering its general trail. This variation from the normal "life-line" is all we, by the control of the control of

The perfect man left to himself keeps along his normalistic without variation; in other words, does not also his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment) his environment in the environment to have any influence on him. (last his environment) his environment him environment his envi

MRS. E. M. ENSOR, Secretary of the Union of London Spiritualists, desires to state that she is in no way of nected with the Union of London Mediums.

houghts on "Mediumship" Learned in the Silence."

fints to Those Who Desire Mediumship in Its Truest, Highest Sense.

Through "Francesca."

What is a Medium? The dictionary tells us that it is sean or middle state. A connecting link between two is, a channel of communication, a link in a chain. We have come to associate the word almost entirely appele who suffer their own personality to be set aside, to be controlled by another, and who, through that other, table to see, hear, and do things that are impossible to min their normal state. That is one form of medium, certainly, but it is one fraught with grave dangers, defin unsatisfactory results, like untimely, unripe fruits, mediums resulting in lasting harm to the one who, with their no knowledge of the unseen inner planes of existence in without adequate defence or guardianship, suffer their is to be thus taken possession of, and indiscriminately lby any entity of the Borderland.

There are, then, forms of what, for lack of a better we must call mediums:

1. Some are born with the vestiges of clear vision thin long past ages man possessed. Tiny children and tals have it yet, but the increasing materialism of tares has blunted and obscured man's finer spiritual apptions, and the race has lost them for a while. They however, re-awaken in generations to come in renewed that wigour, and be common property once more.

1. Then there are those of a peculiar physical organiin, in whom the physical and astral parts are loosely capable of being easily temporarily displaced; those have both able and willing to let a spirit take possession bir bodies and use them, and through them demonstrate continuance of life beyond the grave. This is the form mediumship liable to danger and undesirable results, much caution is used, and a watchful, prayerful ade maintained. For not all dwellers in the unseen are desirable "guides" or "controls," as they are Just think for a moment, you, who are ignorant in matters, and go to sit in a promiscuous so-called oping circle," where you voluntarily, all unknowing, fourselves in such a state of negativeness that any ery spirit hovering round can enter into, and use you; ace having effected an entrance, can at any moment, are weak of will, or lacking in knowledge, use you for purposes, and perhaps become an obsession.

True, we will say, it demonstrates the life after death, with the spirits do return, and communicate with those on the spirits do return, and communicate with those on the spirits do return, and communicate with those on the spirits do return, and communicate with those on the spirits do return, and the price say, for without extreme care, proper precaution and spirits of purpose and intent, the "mediums" by sometimes exhausted, and broken down, the health spirits is great danger in meddling with these matters until have learned how to discern the spirits, and how to spirits of a higher is of intelligence to use, and these do not wait in a reloping circle of the usual type, waiting to take spirits of the first one who has placed themselves in a spirit attitude of mind.

of what real lasting benefit to you or others is it to lend be bodies to be controlled by any and every spirit who is to to be controlled by any and every spirit who is to see along. Are the communications ever reliable? It is they of any real help? Do they uplift and elevate? It is they justify the grave dangers you run? We say "No," we counsel you young beginners not to sit in a negative in a promiscuous developing circle (the Home Circle in a promiscuous developing circle (the H

The third and only satisfactory, safe, and really some of mediumship is the raising of your consciousto a higher level, from the material to the spirit

planes, by training your emotional and mental vehicles to respond to the vibrations of purified spirits of higher intelligence, with whom your aspirations will bring you into contact, who can make of you channels of communication between themselves and humanity.

Now, you know the colour and nature of pure water is affected by the state or condition of the channel through which it flows. Look at that turbid, muddy, sullied river, or slimy sluggish stream. Trace it to its source. Behold a limpid streamlet, pure as crystal, bubbling up and trickling from the mountain side, all purity. Then because of the choked up, polluted channels through which it must flow, it becomes the dull, dirty, unwholesome thing we see and shudder at, and cannot drink, however great our thirst.

Therefore, aim to be made purified channels. We hear it said "Oh, but it does not matter about that. So and so I know is a splendid medium, and has heaps of guides and controls, and I know he or she isn't so particular, and, indeed, I've heard quite wicked people can be mediums,"

Friends, do you think the higher intelligences, who alone can bless and help humanity, can or will use a channel unless properly prepared and purified, thus being fitted to respond to their higher vibrations? Make no mistake. The preparation is long and arduous. The standard is high. The gate to the path is strait and narrow. But the goal is certain. The conditions? Well, you will find them all in a certain old book it is the fashion these days to cast aside as valueless, to despise, because you vainly imagine you have got beyond its teachings. Have you?

Friends, if you would become purified channels for the true angel world to use, you must go back to that same teaching, read it again in a new light; ponder it in your hearts, and put it into practice. That is the only mediumship the world is needing, the only way in which it can be truly helped. In accordance with spiritual pressure put upon me, I have shown you three forms of what is called mediumship. I have not not touched on mere phenomena, levitation, materialisation, trumpet-voices, and such-like; they belong to a different plane and are produced by means of psychoplasm obtained from certain suitable physical mediums.

Desire earnestly the best gifts, and remember

"Not lightly God imparts—
His choicest blessings, gifts, and powers
Need long prepared hearts."

Some time I may pass on to you the aids to spiritual unfoldment given me in the Silence.

Mind.

MIND is the monarch of matter and the channel of thought. It is quite possible for us to determine, by the power of "will," either a sound mind or an infectious one. A healthy mind is absolutely necessary, for thoughts are things that need great care whilst passing through the laboratory of "mind." No man can definitely define its form or shape; he alone stands or acts as "porter" at the gate of "thought" for inspection before its transmission to the mind. May I here quote an inspirational message delivered through the mind of Mr. Geo. Watkins, Fleetwood.

Mind is the vehicle through which thought flows, being the outcome of thought created through faculties of imagination, crystallised through reason and judgment, thus expressing same through mind. Each man, to be of real service to Nature, must recognise the fact that mind is to his interior self as food is to his body. Thought, to the mind, is similar to the "kindly frost that cracks the nut and leaves the kernel room to germinate." Diseased minds lead not to life in its realness and oneness with Nature, but to bitter remorse and death. So become a new being by possessing a mind that subjects all things to itself.—Miss ADA ELKIN.

Man's idea of chivalry is to protect a woman from every man—except himself.

The trouble seems to be that "the heart of the world" has leaky valves.

Founded November 18th, 1887.

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FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1920.

The National Conference.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Spiritualists' National Union, which took place in the Town Hall, Reading, on July 3rd, 4th, and 5th, appeared to be a great success.

There were some 160 members present representing the whole country. The north and south, Scotland and Wales, were all in evidence, and, despite conflicting temperaments and controversial discussions, the most complete harmony and fraternity pervaded the whole gathering.

The business was transacted in the best of spirit, and very little of the time was wasted. The public meetings, too, whilst not large for such an event, were certainly alive and enthusiastic, and quite a number of well-known Spiritualists were present, amongst whom we noted Mr. Harry Engholm, Mr. Alfred Vout Peters and Miss Scatcherd, and Mr. Leslie Curnow, representing "Light." One cannot well overrate the value of such a gathering as this. It not only draws together many representatives of Spiritualistic thought, but places before those assembled the vital problems which characterise the growing movement.

A tremendous change is taking place in the position of Spiritualism in this country. Fresh aspects are coming into prominence. Hitherto the National Organisation has been beset with enemies on every side, and has had to struggle for its very existence. The materialist and creedalist have vied with each other to combat our position and engage in controversial "mud-slinging" of the most virulent and personal type, and Spiritualism has had to establish and defend itself against all comers. Such attacks, however, have been easy to meet. Secure in the consciousness of spirit presence and inspiration, we have been a small but united band, standing together within an unbreachable circle, and all the assaults hurled against us have but driven us closer into each other's arms, and our opponents have at last been forced into a reconsideration of our claims.

On the one hand, the scientist has been compelled to modify his attitude. He admits our phenomena even where he rejects our deductions therefrom. The growth and extension of modern psychology have widened his concept of the possibilities of the human mind, and hypnotism, psychoanalysis, psycho-therapeutics, telepathy and subconsciousness have thrown him into a half contemplative mood, which has eased his attacks and left him wondering whether we had not some good thing to offer the world, whilst the application of electricity to the splitting up and analysis of matter has brought him to the same attitude towards our physical phenomena. In consequence of new concepts his attack is not only weakening, but he is beginning to adopt towards us a semi-friendly attitude.

Side by side with the modification of scientific opposition has come the changed attitude of the theologian. Of all opponents he has been the most bitter, unscrupulous and vindictive, but five years of war has taught him that his narrow theology could not satisfy human needs and human cravings. He is dimly conscious that Divine Love must sufficient to supply those needs and cravings. The cravings of the middle ages has gone, because it no log appeals. The old devil is dead, the old hell disestablish because plain men (large numbers of them outside the churches) had more faith in the love of God and the brackers of the universe than the creeds represent old concept of exalting God by maligning His children disappeared with the development of logical thinking the churches are driven to present God and immortally newer lights if appeal is to be made to the growing spirit instincts of the best elements of humanity.

Consequently the churches are forming their or ions, and are in the half-way stage of reconsidering the position. They realise that Spiritualism is satisfying a spiritual needs of thousands of honest doubters, and are exponents of certain phases of spiritual truth they are alising that anything which spiritually satisfies honest and stimulates them to declare themselves on the side God and immortality must have within it elements of a Careful comparison, too, is showing them a close particle between the phenomena of to-day and the incident nearly 2000 years ago, and they feel that in the long over restatement of their position these elements are too valuated by left out.

That is the reason of the procedure of the Lamb Conference. At the moment of writing we know not at the conclusions of that Conference may be, but logically imagine they must give countenance to the facts of most psychical phenomena, and to the possibility of community with discarnate humanity. We think the Conference of find in favour of our facts.

On the other hand the State Church can never allow anyone but itself can be the instrument of Divine mini tion. It must maintain its position as the particular alm of Divine benevolence, and it will be forced to discount ance the authority of any body of opinion outside its a munion. Hence, whilst it accepts the facts of spirit intercommunion, it must declare that there is room the Church for all that is therein implied, and it must countenance any such activity outside its ranks. There must be a mild recognition of our facts—a trimming d creeds-in order that they may approximate to the B concepts and sanctions, and a declaration that in practice the public are incapable of true judgment in this matter which will be expressed in such terms as will relegate whole matter to the scientific expert, and to him along denial of the ability of the "common man or woman rightly compute the value of the facts. That must be a tially the position of the Church. It means the modification of the Church's attacks on Spiritualism by the adoption different strategy.

There is no reason why Spiritualists should not thankful for the progress they have thus made. The no reason why they should not recognise the benevolent changed attitude of the churches. No reason why the of friendliness should not be extended to those who have made an approach to the Spiritualistic position, but the every reason why Spiritualists should retain their indep dence, and should hesitate to be subjected to an oligan of "experts." We believe in the scientist. He is a reable man for exhaustive examination, for tracing of behind effects, for making plain the "modus operand the production of results, but this is a matter of congre friendships and human companionship with the and we do not call in the scientific expert to determine value and advisability of our friendships. The is of little value in determining spiritual values, the the gian of little value in the scientific world. Spiritualism takes of both, in addition to the matter of forming frates bonds with our fellows upon another plane. It is a comp problem, and any man with a good fund of sound common sense is capable of finding his way through it.

Yes! Let us co-operate in establishing friendly retions with all who are interested in establishing truth let us remember that the Spiritualistic body was into being by the spirit world to do a work which was the being done. We are the adopted child of the spirit world to maintain our position as the voice of that

gading its message in fraternal fashion amongst those who yet "sit in a great darkness."

This is the lesson of the Conference. The position needs Let us entertain our friends in our own house as as they care to share our home, but let us also rememthat we are responsible for its upkeep, and the spirit

CURRENT TOPICS.

IT was a happy inspiration which prompted Mr. Harry Engholm to act as the ne Doyle moving spirit in organising the luncheon uncheon. to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle on the 29th that the Holborn Restaurant. Quite a number of people

appressed a desire to honour our "knight" by giving him sitable send-off on his visit to the Antipodes, but each mafraid to take the lead.

MR. ENGHOLM concluded that no ONE Right Spiritualistic organisation should make the arrangements, but that ALL should jointly share the work, and after the edid way the Doyle-McCabe debate was organised, Mr. holm's ability to handle the details is not a matter for pute. Every section of the Movement has been called on for assistance.

THE matter was placed before the Representative National Council at Reading, and the President, Vice-President, and Secretary of that body were appointed to represent Union. The London section of the S.N.U. will pull weight. The London Spiritualist Alliance have taken matter up. The B.S.L.U. are to be invited, and all sections are asked to send representatives. THE WORLDS and "Light" are pulling together, and whilst is regretted that short notice will prevent the "Banner" d "Gazette" from publicly announcing the event, since are monthly publications, we believe that the Editors Madd their waves of influence to the tide.

WHILST many notabilities will be present, Workers' it is urgently desired that every shade of Spiritualistic activity shall unite to make the effort representative. It will be a ming of the workers. An illuminated scroll, to be by everyone present, will be handed to Sir Arthur allady Doyle, who will carry the same to the Antipodes the credentials of British Spiritualists to their overseas

SEND your NAME and ADDRESS WITH How to P.O. or Cheque for 7s. 6d. to the Editor or et There ! any person whose name appears in the list, and a ticket will be posted to you enturn, as long as the tickets last. Owing to restricted commodation, the attendance is fixed at 250 persons. The ite is Thursday, July 29th, and the time is 1 p.m.

THE S.N.U. Conference at Reading The National reminded one of pre-war times. The spirit brierence. of fraternity was everywhere apparent, and the way in which the business went was admirable. Quite a number of important satters were settled, and we believe that now that the estitution is settled, our Societies will be able to get to It is quite possible to spend so much time in erecting whinery that no work is done. Organisation is estabded for the purpose of work, and once the structure is et up, the consideration of the machine must give place to that of production.

The New Mr. GEO. F. BERRY, of Worcester (late President. of Nottingham), is the President for the year, and we extend to him our hearty greetings, and wish has before him. He is not without a greetings, and wish him success in the booleige of public work, being one of the organisers of

the Workers' Union, whilst he sat for a time on the Nottingham City Council. Since his removal to Worcester he and his good wife have laid the foundations of a Society in the ancient city, 'neath the shadow of its fine old cathedral.

A Qualified Exponent.

HE has contributed extensively to the press, particularly in controversial cor-respondence on Spiritualism, and is a valued and frequent contributor to

THE TWO WORLDS. Mr. Berry is the holder of the S.N.U. Exponent's Diploma, being the only person who has passed the examination with "honours." A comparatively young man, he has many active years of service before him, whilst his enthusiasm is unbounded. He is conscious, too, of the help and direction of the spirit people, and has an abounding faith in their guiding power.

"Thank You," Reading!

THE local arrangements for the Conference were well made. Reading is not a large town, even it if be historic. It has but one Society, and the enter-

tainment of a Conference is no easy thing. Whilst the assembly was not the largest we have had, yet 160 was a good attendance, and everyone seemed comfortable and content. Reading has done well, and has shown that difficulties can be overcome.

Next Year's Venue!

No invitation was extended for 1921, and the venue is left to the Council. We suggest that since last year saw the Conference in the Midlands and this year

in the South, next year might produce a visit to the North. Leeds, York, or Newcastle might consider the possibility of extending an invitation.

Schoolboy Howlers.

In April 17th number of the "Trinidad Catholic News" we gather the following "howlers" given by pupils at 14 elementary (Catholic) Schools in Port-of-Spain. The report is signed by the Rev. Father Loughlin, O.P., who examined the schools. The reporter says that there is some marked improvement on the previous year's result, but that there is great room for improvement.

ANSWERS.

- "Job's worst affliction was his wife."
- "Joseph and Mary were not at home when our Lord was born.
 - "Moses wrote the Acts of the Apostles."
- "Moses wrote the Bible, and gave it to the Apostles to read."
 - "King Herod ruled over Egypt."
 - "Peter and Paul were the first two deacons."
 - "Our Lord lay in his tomb forty days and forty nights."
 - "Absalom cut his hair, took a cold, and then died."
 - "Chrism is made from the balm of Gilead."
 - "The Gospel is a place where there are no sacrament."
 - "A heretic is one of the articles of faith."
 - "Viaticumis, the sacrament given to a blind man."
 "David was the son of Saul."
- "If you receive stolen goods, go at once to a priest, make a good confession, then take them to a pawn shop, and if you cannot pawn them try and sell them as soon as possible."
- "The Tabernacle of the Jews was divided into the ten commandments.
 - "The Feast of Pentecost is kept up on Easter day." Good howlers!

NATURE puts every plant in its proper habitat from pole to pole; not one is misplaced until touched by the hand of man.

Ir is a little queer that the church God should make Himself known in Judea, when the true God is in all things, and is everywhere alike and manifest to every one.

Ir is mid-winter. My rose bushes stand in the snow like huge straws; in June they will be full of rich bloom. From whence do the blossoms come and how?

S.N.U. Conference.

Splendid Meetings at Reading.

As briefly reported last week, the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of the National Union was held in the Town Hall, Reading, on the 3rd inst., when some 160 delegates and members assembled to transact the business of the Union. Owing to the European conflict having held up business for several years, the agenda was a lengthy one, and it says much for the restraint of those present that the whole programme was completed by an adjournment to Sunday afternoon. Punctually at 3 p.m. the President, Mr. E. W. Oaten, ascended the platform in company with the Officers and Council. The proceedings opened with the familiar strains of "The world hath felt a quickening breath," and the chairman, having petitioned the assistance as God and His angels, "our comrades of the higher life," appointed Messrs. Nuthall and Hopper tellers, Messrs. H. Everitt, G. Brown, A. E. Beety and J. Jackson scrutineers, and Mr. W. Ford as messenger. The minutes of the last A.G.M. were passed, as were the Annual and Committee Reports. The form of presentation of the Balance Sheet was criticised and suggestions made for simpler forms in future years. Resolutions were passed by which the New and Revised Memorandum and Articles of Association come into force on January 1st next, whilst the officers and councillors will continue in office until the next Conference in July, 1921. the Union. Owing to the European conflict having held July, 1921.

In view of the heavy clerical work entailed in bringing

In view of the heavy clerical work entailed in bringing the new articles into operation, it was agreed to secure extra labour for the assistance of the secretary. The council was empowered to change the location of the Registered Offices to a more suitable spot. A long discussion ensued as to the salary of the secretary in view of the time taken in the conduct of the growing business of the Union. Strong remarks were made concerning "sweated labour," but the officers showed that any arrangements made must be based on the expected income, and the Council's proposals were accepted. The Exponents Committee proposed the granting of Diplomas to Mr. J. W. Crago (Cardiff) and Mr. Wm. Atkinson (South Shields) (by examination) and Messrs. A. Lamsley and H. B. Tyrer (Honoris Causa) and these were approved, whilst certain proposals for changing the system of examination were agreed to. The Committee further recommended each Society to immediately establish a study group. Messrs. E. W. Oaten and Percy Street having withdrawn their candidature for the Presidential position, Mr. G. F. Berry (Worcester) was unamimously elected amidst cheers.

PRESIDENTIAL Address.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

Mr. G. F. Berry (Woreester) was unamimously elected amidst cheers.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

Mr. Ernest W. Oaten, in the course of his presidential address, said that for five years he had had the honour of presiding at the Annual Conference. He stepped into office when Europe was plunged into war, and there was a shortage of workers. The financial position was then a parlous one. To-day, he was glad to be able to say that it was sound. They had more than doubled their strength numerically, while the influence of the Union had kept pace with the wonderful growth of the movement as a whole. The first work he had placed his hand to was the Witchcraft Act agitation. An appeal for financial aid met with an encouraging response. He interviewed the Chief Constables of many different cities and towns, and as one of a deputation to the executive of the Chief Constables' Association, he helped to lay their case before the representatives of the law. It might be that they had not carried through the whole of their scheme, but the immediate effect of their efforts was that the police prosecutions that had been going on were stopped. That was the first point in their programme, it was not the end they aimed at. They had divided their programme into three sections. The first had been accomplished, and others would follow when Parliament had time and opportunity to deal with domestic matters by the settlement of the larger international issues.

Two alleged fortune-telling prosecutions in the Northern district had been withdrawn Towing to the action of the Union as represented by himself and the Secretary.

The next work was in regard to the denial of religious equality to their movement by the military authorities, which made it imperative for them to fight for religious recognition. He allowed himself to be used as the instrument to secure this recognition. His case went before the court and passed to the higher Court of Appeal. Technically, they lost their case, but the finding of Judge Darling was such that it was sufficie

in foreign countries in touch with Spiritualistic literalise Dutch, Greek, and Norwegian, and was in contact a activity in Belgium, Spain, Portugal, America, Cansa, Australia. He referred to the fight with municipal sties on the question of the rating of their churchs, as the success which had attended their efforts. All labours meant the expenditure of a large amount of the found that he had spent two hundred and fortand nights away from home in the service of the This work was increasing so rapidly that the time approaching when they must have a full-time president staff, with central offices in a good position. There was staff, with central offices in a good position. There was great need for a statistical department, and for an paganda Staff to repel attacks all over the country. The new scheme of organisation was a good one, but it means much work to make it successful.

Largely as a result of our activities, in conjunction the spirit people, we have brought the churchs to recognition of our existence. An important Conference now being held at Lambeth which will seriously one the position of the church towards Spiritualism. At risk of indulging in prophecy, he had not the slightest that the Conference would come to a mild decision in favour and commend the matter to the study of "expet the experts of course being those inside a church white taken seventy years to awake to present-day facts. That all. Up to now this Movement has been controlled behind the scenes, and I very much fear that efforts we made to substitute clerical control for that of the speople. If this is done I fear that the spirit people withdraw. Twice at least in history the ecclesiasist authorities have cornered mediumship and endeavoure use it merely to strengthen dogma. In each case his birties of the spirit people gradually died out. Either were squeezed out or they withdrew. As long as medium the successary—not to prevent them getting it, but to prove them cornering it for their exclusive use.

Let them never forget that their moveme

President and Secretary had been deputed to represent Union thereat.

The meeting resolved to find closer union with B.S.L.U. in the publication of literature.

The President announced that the net result of the Morse Memorial Fund was a sum of £343 7s. 5d., which thought was poor tribute to fifty years work for the ment, as the society subscriptions were only £122 7s. would be allocated: For Miss Morse's benefit £187 4s. If To a permanent memorial £156 2s. 6d.

It was decided to open a subscription list on behalf. Mr. Hanson G. Hey, who has served so long, and who was be retained on salary for the forthcoming year. In at the higher call should come to the late secretary. Mrs. Hanson G. Hey, who has served the Union in more wisten than the public knew. The sum of £1000 was aimed at The Conference unanimously approved.

No invitation being to hand for next year's Conference the matter was left to the Council.

The President outlined a scheme suggested by Mr. Blatfor the pooling of building funds—the principle was approved and referred back to the Council for further consideration.

On Sunday morning the delegates listened to a magnificant consideration.

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which has surely been mine, will fall upon him that the loving presence and guidance of the spirit and which has surely been mine, will fall upon him that the loving presence and guidance of the spirit and which has surely been mine, will fall upon him that it has been mine. Though the spers and the ministry of the angels be his to enjoy one greater measure than it has been mine. Though are the chair I am still his or yours to command."

Mr. Geo. F. Berry, who on rising was greated with loud and trusted leader, Moses, resigned his office, and young man, Joshua, was elected to fill his place. I am the off, however, than Joshua, because our loved leader at going away to the mountains, but will remain where an appeal to him from time to time. We are just now that position in our movement when we are facing an explored field, and the fact gives us an added responsity. The S.N.U. has come into the possession of a new that the same time that Europe has come in for a new that th

we be guided wisely in the large responsibility that be ours in the future."

It. Berry gracefully asked the late President to occupy chair till the conclusion of the Conference.

It. R. A. Owen and Mrs. Jessy Greenwood then resed the meeting, after which the hearty thanks of conference were tendered to Mr. Percy Street, Mrs. ands (Reading President), and to all those who had med to make the Conference a success.

It. Percy Street, in response to a hearty vote of thanks the Conference for all that he had done, said: "When be that I would accomplish before I gave up my pastor—They were, first, that I would build a church, and at that I would bring the National Conference to lims. Those two things I have accomplished, for our mis nearly completed, and I may say that we are ling the Cathedral of Spiritualism in England, for we spending on it £16,000. (Applause.) The third thing I lottention. This Conference, I consider, has done a we work in cementing our movement, and this is well, we are now at the great psychological point of our conference on the other side thousands of our comrades are ling to link up with us. It is our duty to get ready to see them."

Presentation to Mr. & Mrs. Oaten.

at Willison's Hotel, at the close of the session on anday, July 4th, Mrs. Greenwood (Hebden Bridge), on alf of the Executive of the S. N. U., presented to Mr. the retiring president, a pocket book. She said: gift breathes to you our love more than we can sit. On behalf of the Executive, I ask you to accept eket book." A beautiful hand-bag was also presented oaten.

Oaten, in returning thanks, said: "I deeply appreciate loyal co-operation I have always had from my dire. I am conscious that in the heat of debate some still that the same have been questioned, but the members abided by my decisions. Sometimes I have reversed decisions, for I hold that he is a weak man who is not you admit that he has been mistaken. It was at the stoff the stoff that I have so the stoff that I have followed her through another medical accept the responsibility and that they on the stoff that I have followed her blindly, when I have satisfied that it was she guiding me, because she knows abovement better than I do. I would like to say what that this help will come to my successor. I have to know all for this little token of your respect and I hope all be long connected with the Union. I have been all be long connected with the Union. I have been all by guides that my health will suffer unless I relax, shall always be ready to do what I can. I can see that this guides that my health will suffer unless I relax, shall always be ready to do what I can. I can see that this guides that my health will suffer unless I relax, shall always be ready to do what I can. I can see that this guides that my health will suffer unless I relax, shall always be replied, saying that she would treasure with great pride. Mr. Oaten added that it was set into the movement. He had no love of public life. The shall with great pride. Mr. Oaten added that it was set into the movement. He had no love of public life. The shall with great pride and the preciation of the Conference. The wards Mr. Oaten and him there. He took the the towards Mr. Oaten and him there had cone for the Conference. Oaten, in returning thanks, said: "I deeply appre-

car.)

aeo. F. Berry voiced the appreciation of the Conowards Mr. Oaten and his work.

Percy R. Street, speaking in humorous vein, said
at was a memorable occasion, because the Union
to before come so far South. They in the South had
ble in making themselves known and felt. He was
meeting would do good in bringing the North and
to closer touch with each other. He and his com-

mittee had done all in their power to make the visitors

mittee had done all in their power to make the visitors comfortable. (Applause.)

Mr. F. T. Blake (Bournemouth) said that long ago the South lent its best to the North. Mr. Oaten was from the South, and most of his early work was done in Portsmouth. Mr. J. J. Morse was also a Southener. The only place which had the honour of producing two Presidents of the Union (Mr. John Adams and Mr. Tayler Gwinn) was London. He was delighted to see the greater recognition that was being given to the South. It was a happy gathering that night, and practically every district in the kingdom was represented. Speaking of the important work in the movement done by women, he thought they were not sufficiently represented on the National Council

Mrs. Edwards, who was asked to speak, said her work was in trying to make things comfortable for the visitors. Spiritualism in Reading, she reminded them, was born in the cellar of the house in which they were.

Mr. Stanley de Brath, who was introduced to the gathering by Mr. Percy Street, thanked them for their kindly welcome. He was glad if anything he had written had been of service to the Cause.

Mr. R. A. Owen (Liverpool) and Mr. A. G. Newton (Southampton) also spoke.

Farewell Luncheon to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Lady Doyle.

Great interest is shown amongst all Spiritualists in the proposal to give a farewell luncheon to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Lady Doyle on the eve of their departure to Australia. The luncheon will be held at the Holborn Restaurant, Kingsway. London. on Thursday, July 29th, at one o'clock p.m. There is no doubt that all Spiritualists will rise to the occasion, and make this gathering a representative and historic one. It is hoped that mediums in particular will be represented in force, and that all who have benefited through the wonderful work in the great cause carried out in such a masterly manner by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle will make every sacrifice to be present, and therefore show "the Knight of Spiritualism" how deep is their appreciation of his unselfish and magnificent efforts to spread this great truth. An illuminated address is now being prepared, on which will be inscribed the names of all those who are present at this function, and the scroll will be presented to Sir Arthur during the afternoon.

LUNCH COMMITTEE.—Ernest W. Oaten, David Gow, John Lewis, Miss Estelle Stead, Miss F. R. Scatcherd, Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, L. Curnow, Viscountess Molesworth, Hon. Secretary, Harry Engholm, Hon. Treasurer.

Single tiskets are 7/6 each, and all applications must be made at once, for owing to limited accommodation the number who can be seated on this important occasion is confined to 250. Applications will consequently be taken in strict rotation.

How To Obtain Tickets.—Send your name and address, together with a cheque or postal order for the ticket or tickets required (made payable to Harry Engholm), to any of the following members of the Sub-Cammittee, who will then mail you the ticket and full particulars of proceedings:—Viscountess Molesworth, Shalimar, Chertsey Lane, Staines; Miss Felicia R. Scatcherd, 14, Park Square, Regent's Park, London, W.; Mrs. Etta Wriedt, c/o Stead Bureau, I3a, Baker Street, London, S.W.; Mrs. Ettale Stead, I3a, Baker Street, London, N.W.; Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, 59, Holland Park, Lo

TO SECRETARIES.

Owing to our having to go to press earlier this week due to the Gas Strike, we have been unable to insert reports of meetings which arrived after Saturday, July 10th. We hope the dispute will be settled by next week, when we hope to insert all reports sent.

Concerning Planetary Communications.

A. W. Duncan.

WE have had several accounts of life on other planets, but the conditions described are irreconcilable with all we know through astronomical research. I do not wish to question the honesty of the mediums, their guides, or other spiritual communicants. They may be doing their best, but there are enormous difficulties to be surmounted. The conditions and forms of life on other planets, presuming that there is life, must be so different from what we know of life on this earth, as to be almost incomprehensible, and they must be difficult to describe in our terms of thought and feeling. The accounts of life which we have heard are too much like the life on this earth to be probable.

The distances of the other planets from ourselves are from twenty-five to a thousand million miles, and much further if we include the two outermost planets. The sources of error are very many in communicating through such distances, through spirits living on different planes, communications having to pass through many entities, speaking different languages or acting on different planes of consciousness. Ideas, visual or mental conceptions, have to pass over enormous distances of interplanetary space.

However vivid and true the original pictures and ideas transmitted to us may be, their usefulness depends upon our capacity of receiving them, and transcribing them into the terms of our language and modes of thought. We are too apt to think of life in the spirit land as one where we can freely communicate with each other, and illusions are no more. It has been claimed that by clairvoyance we may know of events occurring at distance compared with which the circumference of the earth is trivial, but as proof is lacking, such claims need not be considered. Some accounts are so contradictory and improbable as to bring discredit and ridicule to those who offer them. We have had discriptions of life on the planet Jupiter. This is the largest and brightest planet in our solar system, at its nearest approach it is three hundred and ninety millions of miles distant from us, and is five times further from the sun than ourselves. We have even been told of life in planets still more distant. Those who describe such life would seem to know nothing of the science of astronomy.

The telescope shows Jupiter to be surrounded by dense clouds of vapor of very great depth, his solid surface has never been seen, it must be many thousands of miles below. The light and heat of the sun, which at that distance are feeble compared with what we receive, cannot penetrate through the clouds. The force of gravity is over two and a half times that on the earth, and this would make a profound difference in life forms. It is believed that the surface of Jupiter is very hot, perhaps molten, and that all water and many other bodies are in a gaseous condition. The absurdity will be seen of conceiving physical life, even of the lowest forms of life, as being possible. There is, however, just the possibility of life on some of the moons of Jupiter.

Your correspondent, Mr. A. G. Gamble (page 368), writes on life on Mars. As Mars approaches nearer to the earth than any other planet and is devoid of clouds and has little atmosphere, we are best acquainted with its surface, after that of our moon. Mars has reached the condition of old age, if not of absolute death, in relation to vegetable and animal existence. It will take this earth many millions of years to reach a like stage. Should any Marsians have ever existed and survived, it is probable that they are more developed in brain and intellect than we Earthians, for the conditions permitting of life must have started long previous to those on the earth. Mr. Gamble says that the Marsians have great mind power, and are great mathematicians, but know nothing about mechanics. This last statement seems improbable. He says that their powers of eyesight are equal to, if not exceeding that of, the telescope. Has Mr. Gamble given thought to what his implies? Our large telescopes have object glasses or mirrors of four, six, eight or more feet across, so as to have sufficient light grasp and defining power, and they are also of great length. Leaving out the length required, just imagine the Marsians with eyes the pupils of which were six or more feet in diameter.

The statement that the dark markings of hundreds miles in length, which are sometimes to be seen on Mars, as which are too confused to have any mathematical sm ficance, are designed by the inhabitants to convey to important messages, is too absurd for argument.

CORRESPONDENCE.

It must be fully understood that the Editor does not not sarily endorse the views of correspondents whose letters are pulsished from time to time in these columns. Correspondents send name and address, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith. In order to avoid do or the necessity for curtailment, it is requested that letter the Editor be made as brief as possible.

THE BRITTEN MEMORIAL.

SIR,—On behalf of the Trustees, I beg to thank I. J. J. Ashworth, vice-president, and the members of the Nottingham Spiritualist Society for the sum of 11s. 6d. or tributed to the Memorial Fund, and to express the ho that other Societies will give their aid in a substant manner to the attainment of the object which is of so great importance to the Movement.

Permanent officers are urgently needed for the admin trative work of the S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U. A Library which shall contain all the leading literature relating Modern Spiritualism, and be available for the use of enqu ers and students, and facilities for the studies of the van modes of manifestation, and for the training of expone of the facts and philosophy of our Gospel. The vast in ence (that is now so clearly to be seen) of the teaching Spiritualism in the present period of regeneration of thou should be an encouraging stimulus to us all to co-op with the host of spiritual workers in spreading the kn ledge of the truth that will give freedom from the tyrans Materialism, and the shackles of misconception of the pose of life. Donations will be gratefully acknowledged Mr. E. A. KEELING, 8, Knocklaid Road, Tue Box Liverpool, or by A. W. ORR, Hon. Set. 2, Wilmington Gardens, Eastbourne.

THE REV. C. J. KEELER AND SPIRITUALISM

SIR,-I have read with interest your "Current Topis in your issue dated July 2nd, re the above. Referring to 1 report made by "The Rushden Echo," I note the " gentleman in uttering his denunciation of Spiritualism III reference to articles which appeared in the above paper an anonymous writer who styled himself "Outsider" basing his address on these, Mr. Keeler says that "Rush owed a debt of gratitude to the writer of those article

The "Rushden Echo" adds, "All our readers will remain ber the stand which 'Outsider' made against the defendent of Spiritualism in a controversy which resulted from article, the truth of the statements of which, ludicross they, the Rushden cult, appear to be, were never denied

Being the only defender of Spiritualism in this con troversy (which took place almost twelve months ago), many I state that I, in presenting the truth of Spiritualismin article, gave ample reason for not denying the accuracy the account of the seance, in an article which the edition ("Rushden Echo") styled "Mr. Metcalfe's answer to anonymous innuendo," published September 5th, 1919, isimple reason being I was not present at the seance. answer to fair critics the editor gave full justice to by a whole page to it. In quoting these anonymous artist the Rev. C. J. Keeler shows a great weakness in his somer ludicrous denunciation of Spiritualism. HARVEY METCALES

Although the way of life be long, And hard and rough the sledding, It isn't where you are that counts, But whither are you heading.

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ALL truth is consistent and harmonious.—ORIGES EVERY man is capable of eternal improved CHANNING.

REPORTS OF SOCIETARY WORK.

1.—Ordinary Reports, to ensure inserin, must be confined to accounts of Sunin meetings only, and must not exceed
words in length. Use post cards.
ports must reach us by first post on
widay morning. Accounts of afterries are excluded.

Prospective Announcements

rdes are excluded.
2—Prospective Announcements, not exiting 24 words, may be added to parts if accompanied by six penny imps. Longer notices must appear a our advertisement columns.
3—Special Reports, to ensure insersite same week, should reach this office if its post on Tuesday morning. 150 was are allowed free; all beyond are anyel for at the rate of 2d. per line.
4—Important: No special or Ording Reports two Sundays old will be insted.

In all cases where the address of meting place does not appear in a say report, it will be found in the afform Guide.

Special Reports.

50 words are inserted free. Above in number a charge of 2d. per line is but. Send stamps with your report.

GHOSTS IN SOLID FORM.

or Thursday, July 1st, Mr. Horace lef delivered his famous lantern sture on "Materialisations," under the title of "Ghosts in solid form," in the Birmingham and District Institute, the large and appreciative audition. The chairman, Councillor J. The chairman, Councillor J. The chairman, Councillor J. The chairman, the chairman of the lecturer with appropriate remarks, emphasising the subject, and recounting a remarkable instance of materialisations which happened under test conditions this own home.

arkable instance of materialisations with happened under test conditions his own home.

The lecturer then dealt with the bitographs thrown upon the screen a very able manner, giving a brief at effective account of the nature of a serialisations. The last and most bertant part of the lecture exhibited hamarkable photographs taken by a late Sir William Crookes, O.M., S., in his own laboratory of the metalised form known as "Katie lag." This earnest and beautiful wit fully deserved the eulogious marks about her beauty and her appressive personality made by the mannet scientist in his report. The lamax was reached when the photographs showing Sir William standing main-arm with "Katie" were shown.

In Leaf emphasised the importance of these pictures by asserting them to be the most wonderful in the world. It is truly wonderful that one of the adding scientists should be depicted thus with an acknowledged denizen of the "Great Beyond."

Upon concluding, the lecturer resized long and continued applause, which clearly showed how deeply his eture had been appreciated. Counsillor Venables concluded a most accessful meeting which cannot fail to do much good for Spiritualism in limingham and district.

SOUTH LONDON.

Ox Sunday, July 4th, Mr. Sutton, of Sheffield, took both our services, his wonderful powers of clairvoyance attacting a large gathering. In the attended the Lyceum teacher to the attended the Lyceum teacher to the attended the Lyceum teacher to the ceremony was performed by Miss or hall will accommodate about 200

persons, many had to be turned away owing to the place being crowded well before the advertised time. It was good to see the surprise exhibited by the "Stranger within our gates" when apart from an accurate description, the full name of a departed one was given them. Mr. Sutton undoubtedly will be the means of bringing many converts to our Cause, and we wish him God speed in his efforts. A duet was rendered by Mrs. Bell and Miss Andrews, and was greatly appreciated.

- 00 MONKWEARMOUTH.

THE flower services on Sunday, July 4th, were, in spite of unpropitious weather, an unprecedent success, large audiences assembling both in the afternoon and evening. The floral decorations, thanks to the efforts of generous friends, were exceedingly fine, and at the close were handed to the lady members and friends for distribution among the local hospitals. The speaker was the Rev. G. Coles, Congregational minister, and his discourse in the afternoon on "What happens after death?" was full of hopeful and inspiring thoughts. With John Henry Newman he could say: he could say:

"In death's unrobing room we strip

off from round us

The garments of mortality and earth,
And breaking from the impure state
which bound us,
Our day of dying is our day of birth,"

The evening discourse, "Can a Christian be a Spiritualist?" was a masterly effort. A Churchman was one who put in practice the principles taught by Christ. These principles were found in the sacred books of all nations and peoples. Instinction were found in the sacred books of all nations and peoples. Inspiration was thus not confined to the Jews, but was universal. "God," it had been well said, "never left himself without a witness." He was glad to say that sectarian prejudices were breaking down down, and an immense liberalising influence was now at work. Spiritualism was in the vanguard of these liberalising powers. It robbed death of its terrors. Said the inspired Tagore, the Indian poet and seer, "There must come a full pause to weave perfection into music. Life drops towards its sunset to be drowned in golden shadows." Mr. J. D. Billett occupied the chair. the chair.

NEW SECRETARIES.

Changes in the Names and Addresses of Secretaries of Societies can be intimated under this head if stamps to the value of 3d. be forwarded with the information

DERBY, CHARNWOOD STREET.—MR. Jas. C. Wood, 61, Roe-street, Pear Tree-road, Derby.

MRS. JENNIE WALKER'S next engagements are as under.—Address, 12, Oakley-square, London, N.W.1. July 12th, Woolwich; 13th, 14th and 15th, London; 16th, London, Central; 17th, 18th and 19th, Eastbourne; 20th and 21st, London; 22nd, Battersea; 25th and 26th, Hounslow; 27th and 28th, London; 31st to Aug. 6th, Merthyr; 7th to 13th, Bournemouth; 14th to 20th, Portsmouth; 21st to 27th, Brighton; 28th, North London; 29th, Kingston; 30th, Lewisham.

LONDON, CROYDON, HAREWOOD HALL, 96 HIGH-STREET,—Sunday next at 11, Mr. Gysin. At 6-30, Mr. Bod-

THANKS.—To those Societies, Tradespeople and others who have shown the bond of fellowship by placing repeat or first-time orders with me since my demobilisation, I tender my sincere thanks.—Geo. P. Sharplin, Printer, Ironville, Nottingham.

Society Advertisements.

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South Manchester Spiritualist Church, PRINCESS HALL, MOSS SIDE.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 6-30 and 8-15, MR. C. OWEN & MRS. HOPE. MONDAY, at 8-15, Members' Developing Class, MRS. EASTWOOD. TUESDAY, at 8, Public Developing Circle, MRS. FORREST. THURSDAY, at 3 & 8-15, Mrs. CROPPER.

Manchester Central Spiritualist Church ONWARD HALL, 207, DEANSGATE.

July 18.—Circle for Members only. ,, 25.—Mr. W. ROOKE. Aug. 1.—Circle for Members only. ,, 8.—Mrs. M. E. ADCOCK.

Manchester Society of Spiritualists, 38, Maskell Street, Ardwick.

OPEN OIROLES will be held in the Rooms of the above Society every Sunday Afternoon at 3 o'clock prompt. Doors closed at ten past. All invited.

Longsight Spiritualist Society,
SHEPLEY ST., OPPOSITE PIT ENTRANCE,
KING'S THEATRE.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 6-45 and 8-15, Mr. GILLING. TUESDAY, at 8-15, Mrs. WILLMOTT. THURSDAY, at 8-15, Mr. R. DAVIES

Milton Spiritualist Church, BOOTH STREET, ECCLES CROSS.

SATURDAY, JULY 17TH, at 7-30,
OPEN CIRCLE.
SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 3 and 6-30,
MRS. ROBERTS.
MONDAY, at 3 and 7-45, MRS. GRAYSON.
WEDNESDAY, at 7-45, OPEN CIRCLE.

Bristol Spiritualist Temple, 16, BERKELEY SQUARE, CLIFTON.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 6-30, MR. EDDY, Address and Clairvoyance.

W.T.S. Progressive Thought Centre, 114, SOUTH ST. (ROOM 2), EASTBOURNE.

SATURDAY, JULY 17TH, at 7-30,
Seance with Mrs. WALKER.
SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 11-15 and 6-30,
Mr. JENNIE WALKER (Canada),
Lecturer and Clairvoyant.
MONDAY, Mrs. WALKER.
WEDNESDAY, PUBLIC CIRCLE.

Brighton Spiritualist Church, ATHENAUM HALL, NORTH ST.
Affiliated to the S.N.U.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 11-15 and 7, MRS. CANNOCK. Lyceum at 3. WEDNESDAY, at 8, MR. S. W. ROE.

Brighton Spiritualist Brotherhood, OLD STEINE HALL, 52A, OLD STEINE. Affiliated to S.N.U.

SERVICES:

Sundays at 11-30 and 7. Lyceum at 3. Mondays and Thursdays at 7-15. Tuesdays at 3.

Healing meeting, First Wednesday in every month at 3.

SUNDAY, MONDAY, and TUESDAY, JULY 18TH, 19TH, and 20TH, MRS. MARY GORDON, Speaker and Clairvoyant.

Society Advertisements.

Battersea Spiritualist Society,

TEMPERANCE HALL, 640, WANDSWORTH ROAD, LAVENDER HILL.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 11-15, CIRCLE SERVICE.

At 6-30, MISS E. CONROY, M.A. THURSDAY, JULY 22ND, at 8-15,

MRS. JENNIE WALKER will give Floral Spirit Messages. Silver collection Doors close 15 minutes after Service Commences.

Brixton Spiritual Brotherhood Church STOCKWELL PARK RD., BRIXTON, S.W.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 3, LYCEUM.
At7, MRS. MAUNDER, Address, Floral
Readings, and Naming of a Baby.
SUNDAY, JULY 25TH, MR. T. W. ELLA.
Circles: Monday, 7-30, Ladies';
Tuesday, at 8, Members'; Thursday,
at 8-15, Public.

Church of the Spirit, Camberwell, THE PEOPLE'S CHURCH, WINDSOR RD., DENMARK HILL STATION.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 11,
MR. T. W. ELLA.
At 6-30, MR. PORTEOUS.
SUNDAY, JULY 25TH, at 11, MRS. E.
M. BALL. At 6-30, MRS. WORTHINGTON.
Public Service every Wednesday at 7-30

Clapham Spiritualist Church,

ADJOINING REFORM CLUB, ST. LUKE'S Rd., High St., Clapham, S.W.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 11, PUBLIC CIRCLE. At 3, LYCEUM.
At 7, Mr. PULHAM, Address. Mrs.
PULHAM, Clairvoyance.

FRIDAY, at 8, Meeting for Enquirers. SUNDAY, JULY 25TH, MR. NICKELS.

East London Spiritualist Association, No. 13 Room, Earlham Hall, Earl Ham Grove, Forest Gate (pass thro Main Building to Last Rom on Right).

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 7, MR. MEAD. SUNDAY, JULY 25TH, MRS. MAUNDER.

Hampton Hill Spiritualist Society,

3 High St. (close to Uxbridge Road Tram Stop).

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 7, MRS. BROWN and MR. KIRBY. At 3. LYCEUM.

Lewisham & District Spiritualist

Church,
THE PRIORY, HIGH ST., LEWISHAM.
(Car stop at George Lane.)

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, MRS. A. BODDINGTON. SUNDAY, JULY 25TH, MR. PERCY STREET.

Little Ilford Christian Spiritualist

Society, Church Road, Corner of Third Av. MANOR PARK, E.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 6-30, ALD. D. J. DAVIS. MONDAY, at 3, MRS. MARRIOTT. WEDNESDAY, at 7-30, MRS. JAMRACH. Lyceum every Sunday at 3.

Manor Park Spiritualist Church, SHREWSBURY ROAD

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 11, Service for Healing and Spiritual Development conducted by Mr. MEAD. At 3, LYCEUM. At 6-30, Mr. THIERAUF, Address

THURSDAY, at 8, MRS. PODMORE.

Society Advertisements.

Richmond Spiritualist Society,

THE FREE CHURCH, ORMOND ROAD, Opposite Richmond Bridge.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 7-45, MRS. NEVILLE. WEDNESDAY, JULY 21ST, at 7-30, MRS. A. BRITTEN.

Woolwich & Plumstead Spiritualist Church,

INVICTA HALL, CRESCENT ROAD.

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London Central Spiritualist Society

(SPIRITUALISTS' RENDEZVOUS), 3, FURNIVAL STREET, HOLBORN.

Every Friday, 7 to 9.

July 16th, Anniversary, Mr. R. Bush and Mrs. J. WALKER.

JULY 23RD, Rev. SUSANNA HARRIS, Clairvoyance.

Ilford Psychical Research Society, ASSEMBLY ROOM, BROADWAY CHAMB'S.

Hon. President:

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, M.D., LID.

SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, at 7, MAULVI SADR UD DIN.

THURSDAY, JULY 2ND, at 3, LADIES' MEETING, MRS. RAINBOW. FRIDAY, JULY 23RD, at 8, MR. & MRS. CONNOR.

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