

THE RAINBOW'S END

A. C., age 37, born in Russia of Hebrew parentage, 33 years in America, married, 4 children, occupation machinist's helper.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The patient was sent to the Hospital at the instance of his wife. According to the commitment papers "he believed himself to be possessed of mediumistic powers and was seeking employment as a detective. He believed in his wife's infidelity because of thought transference and statements from mediums.

"For two years following an attack of influenza there has been a marked change in his personality. He has been dominated to such an extent by his belief in spiritualistic forces that he has developed paranoid delusions of a dangerous character. He has become unfit for employment and is no longer safe to be at large. He has been obscene in word and gesture before his children, and has talked of homicide and suicide."

In appearance he is about five feet four inches in height and weighs 170 lbs. He has dark hair, full face, red cheeks and the somewhat characteristic Jewish features. His manner is confident, his speech is rapid and coherent. He gives information freely and truthfully with a wealth of detail and an astonishing memory for names and places and dates.

His physical examination is negative. He has an I.Q. of 94 with a basal year of twelve and one test passed rather doubtfully in the 18th year.

The case was referred to Social Service for a complete social-environmental investigation.

The Patient's Own Story

Family History. The family are Russian Jews who came to America when the patient was four years old. The father was a paper-hanger and a good provider. He was a socialist politically and a sceptic in matters of religion. He died at the age of 63 years - presumably of tuberculosis. The mother was a good home-loving religious woman. Of the eight children, the youngest brother, now 29 years old, is an epileptic and has been for 19 years in a state institution in New York. The other siblings are all normal and moderately successful. All of them are now living in New York.

Personal History. He was a thoroughly normal child, a jolly boy who mixed freely with his playmates. He began school at the age of five years and went through the eighth grade. He was not, however, interested in his school work and was very frequently a truant.

Economic History. He began work at the age of thirteen and has since that time held twenty-four different jobs. One of these jobs he held for nine years, two others for two years each. With these exceptions together with his two years service in the Navy, he has seldom stayed longer than a few months in one place. His highest wages were thirty three dollars a month while serving as brakeman with the Boston El-

evated Company. His last job was at the East C. Roundhouse of the Boston and Maine. He worked there 21 months, receiving \$28 a week. He lost his job through being absent four successive Sundays. He explains that he was feeling out of sorts and had a sort of "will-of-the-wisp feeling."

Sex Life. The patient acknowledges practicing auto-erotism from his fourteenth to his sixteenth years at intervals of about a week. His first hetero-sexual experience came in his sixteenth year. He acknowledges promiscuity both before and after marriage. During his service in the Army he contracted gonorrhea. He speaks of himself as a passionate man.

Married Life. At the time of his marriage he was working as an elevator boy at the B. Tavern. His wife was a chambermaid at the same place. She was at the time pregnant by another man. She explained the situation to him and appealed to him for help. He consented, but suggested that under the circumstances she ought to help earn money by going on the streets. He considered that she owed him unusual devotion. She refused to do this. He was however a good provider and turned all his money over to her until November 1923. At that time she called in Dr. D. and Dr. P. He began then to feel that he needed a little money for himself. He needed a little fresh air, because he "stood in her vibrations." Until two years ago he and his wife got along fairly well. Then, however, he began to suspect that she was not faithful to him and he had been trying to get her to confess. He was ready to forgive the unfaithfulness if she would only tell the truth. He acknowledges that his only reason for thinking her unfaithful is what he has heard from mediums and the vibrations which he gets himself.

Religious Life. The patient like his father and all his brothers and sisters was a free-thinking Jew. However, he was always curious and he always had a sort of inner craving. In 1914 he joined the Catholic Church. He "felt wisdom" at that time. From 1914 to 1918 he continued in the Catholic Church.

In 1918 he went to see Mrs. C.T., the astrologer. She went back with him to the cradle. She also told him about the foreman who was always finding fault with him and about the workman who was squealing on him. Then she told him that in 1919 he would progress. He was going to change and keep on getting better and better until Christmas. In the spring of 1919 he was made special emergency officer on the Elevated and his wages were increased. This was to him evidence that she was right. In February 1920 he was, however, demoted. He thereupon sent again to Mrs. T. for a private reading. She told him that in June or July his wife would be looking for something which would have to do with real estate and that in September he would have change for the better. As things turned out, his wife did talk of moving to another house in June, and in September he got a better job. In a public reading in 1923 she said she was afraid to read for him for fear his wife might get the police. She also said, "You will have the best you ever had at 36 and things will be better and better and at 42 you will be wonderful." This he interpreted as meaning that another woman would then come into his life, a beautiful woman.

In December 1920, Mr. N. of 30 H. Avenue, told him he would not be laid off. As a matter of fact, he was laid off. But friends in the spirit world do not like to say things about the darker side. He then asked if the patient was married and said he could see the children but not the wife.

Onset of Present Disorder. The beginning of the disorder may be found in a certain dream. He saw a child all covered with blood in the arms of a man of whom he was suspicious. The man held it out to him while his wife looked on smiling and then ran away. For the interpretation of this dream he went to Professor Y., a great clairvoyant and a wonderful psychic. Professor Y. connected this up with the first baby and said that blood signified trouble. Professor Y. has second sight and can penetrate right through the ether. One time he told him that his back yard was clean. He went home and sure enough it was clean.

He began to see that the wool had been pulled over his eyes. In 1921 Mrs. E. of 139 A. Street told him that somebody had done him a dirty trick. He took this as referring to the conductor. Mrs. W. of 32 East C. Street told him that his home and job would be changed and that a trap for trouble was set for him, and there was going to be a divorce. He should not worry, however, for all would be well.

In February 1923, Mrs. C., 124 West C. Street said, "I see a crack in a glass hanging up in a room in your house. This is a symbol that somebody near you is very indifferent to you and to everything you do and is shuffling your cards." They find fault with everything you do. They think they can do as they please. They have shaped things a little too much lately to suit themselves."

In February 1923 the wife said she wanted to go to the theatre to see Mme. X. and wondered whether she should go alone or go with the woman across the street. He was suspicious at this and said, "Why don't you go alone?" She answered, "I am afraid you might follow me."

Another time she was sewing with her head down and she said, "Would you forgive?" He answered, "Yes, for the sake of the children, but what have you been doing?" She answered, "Nothing."

On another occasion a woman, a friend of the wife was there. The wife mentioned the fact that she had gone on the car with the conductor (the man of whom he was suspicious) and that he was all smiles. The woman then looked at him in a peculiar way.

After that he kept continually asking his wife to confess.

In November she had Dr. D. and Dr. P. come in to examine him. They said that he was all right and did not see anything out of the way about his interest in spiritualism.

After he lost his job last month, his wife got stirred up again, and while he was walking along one night he found the hands of the law upon him.

The Wife's Story

The wife was found at home in a three room apartment at 18 A. Square, which is the name given to a short alley-way not far from the Municipal Hall. The house was one of several wooden tenements which faced the alley, but the alley itself opened on a fairly good residence street. The home showed some evidence of disorder. The bed was not made, although it was afternoon, and the kitchen in which the visitor was received was not exactly ship-shape. Allowance must, however, be made for the serious ordeal which she has been passing through in connection with this affair.

In appearance the wife is a rather pretty woman, five years older than the patient, though she appears younger. Her expression is serious and her manner lady-like, and she talks intelligently with a slight accent which betrays her Irish ancestry. Her maiden name was E. M. She has had only limited schooling, not beyond the seventh grade. Before her marriage, at the age of twenty-seven, she lived most of the time at home, keeping house for her father. She admits frankly that at the time of her marriage she was in trouble, but seems very sensitive about the matter. She denies that she has ever been unfaithful since or that she has ever given him the slightest basis for suspicion.

Of their married life she says that things went along fairly smoothly until two years ago. There was a little trouble at first. He asked her to go out on the streets for him and after the child was born he wanted to place it out. In fact, he started to leave her once, but he came back and they settled down into a fairly decent relationship. Ten years ago he joined her own church, the Catholic Church, and was very much interested in this for several years.

In 1918 he visited an astrologer, Mrs. T., and began to attend her public meetings and then a little later he took up spiritualism. In her judgment the fact that they foretold a fortune which was to come to him was the reason for his great interest. The real trouble began about two years ago. A medium told him that she was unfaithful and he has become simply obsessed with that idea. Mrs. W. of 32 East C. Street is the one whom she blames especially. She describes her as "a regular devil who has filled him up with evil suggestions." Within this period he has shown other abnormal tendencies. He would thus frequently come in before her and the children with his bathrobe open in front exposing himself indecently. He would also annoy her while she was dressing, trying to touch her behind. His chief interest seemed to be in the "backside of a woman." This had always been more or less true of him, but it became much accentuated in these latter years. He would also demand intercourse and talk in a most offensive way so that the children could hear. He has a thoroughly bad mind.

He has always had an ungovernable temper and has been jealous and suspicious, but within these two years the suspicion has passed all bounds. One day for instance, she had to call in the doctor, Dr. B. it was, and the patient came in and after the doctor had gone he accused him of kissing her. On another occasion he came home from a spiritualist meeting after midnight and pulled her out of bed threatening to kill her. Another time he waked her up about 11 o'clock in

the morning, saying, "I have a vibration tonight. You've got a date with G." He has several times threatened to kill her and he has even charged his father-in-law with being the father of her children.

Along with this suspicion and jealousy, however, he has once or twice again suggested that she have relations with other men in order to earn money.

His particular suspicions have been mostly directed against a certain street car conductor by the name of G. He has been talking about him particularly and has even sought to manufacture evidence against him. He thus on one occasion wrote a note purporting to come from G. which would incriminate her. Whether he actually sent this is not quite clear. In any case it came into her hands and she showed it to him. He snatched it out of her hands and tore it up, throwing it into the stove. It happened however that the fire was not burning so she was able to rescue it and presents it as part of the evidence.

She is particularly concerned over the fact that he has threatened to tell her son of his illegitimacy and is very anxious that this fact should be concealed. This boy is now fourteen. Besides this boy there is another boy of twelve and two girls aged ten and five. All of them are said to be bright and promising children. One of the boys is something of a singer.

The Psychometric Examination.

In the Stanford-Binet test the patient showed a mental age of fourteen years and seven months, and an I.Q. of .92. His basal year was 12. He failed on the Induction Test in Year 14, and on the Clock Test. In the 16th year he failed in the vocabulary test, having a vocabulary score of 56 only, in the 6 digits backwards and in the comprehension of physical relations. It is interesting to note that although he served nearly three years in the navy and 8 months at Fort Warren, he was unable to describe the path of a cannon ball and hold that it was as easy to hit a can at 100 yards as it was at 50. He passed none of the tests in year 18 though he came close to passing the "Thought of Passage Heard" test. There was therefore little scattering and the test is probably quite up to his normal standard. He is therefore a man of only mediocre ability.

It is in view of these findings interesting to note with what accuracy and wealth of detail he recounts his experiences and gives names and dates and places for many years back. It is a fine illustration of the power of a dominating interest to organize a man's life so that a man of only mediocre intellect becomes really quite proficient in one field. The fact that in this field he is unbalanced does not alter the intellectual feat which is involved.

A Report from the Last Employers.

The Boston and Maine Railroad reports over the telephone, "Mr. C. is not very much of a worker. If you want to get anything out of him you'll have to stand right over him all the time."

What the District Nursing Association has to say.

Mrs. G. of the District Nursing Association in J. reports that

she has known Mrs. C. for some years, and will vouch for her character. She does not believe there is the slightest basis for her husband's suspicions of her. She has always seemed interested in her home and kind and good to her children. When her husband was out of work she took care of some patients just back from the hospital. She never fussed or complained and always gave good satisfaction. Until recently she has always spoken well of her husband. She has spoken of him as a good man and a good husband and has blamed the spiritualists.

The Family Welfare Society's Account.

Miss R. of the Family Welfare Society of J. who has been in charge of the C. Family was on vacation. Miss H., the other worker, had, however, known the family slightly. Mrs. C, she says, has always borne an excellent reputation. She knew nothing of Mr. C.

The Accused Physician's Account.

Dr. B., the physician accused of kissing Mrs. C. is a tall fine-looking man of about forty, with a kindly face. The visitor in his home does not need to be told that he, or at least his family are good Roman Catholics, for pictures of priests and images of the Virgin and of the Sacred Heart and other emblems abound on all sides.

He reports that he has known the Cs about two years, ever since they have lived in A. Square. He has not, however, been called in many times. He has treated both Mrs. C. and one of the boys. About two months ago Mr. C. came to him with an abcessed lip and reported that his wife was trying to poison him.

The children, he says, are normal but undernourished. The wife he describes as a "good faithful little woman and a good mother." She has done some nursing and has given good satisfaction.

He knows of the patient's suspicions of him. He was informed of them by Mrs. C. The patient he says would never have dared to suggest such a thing to him.

Mr. T. G., Villain, His Account.

The villain in his drama proved to be a pleasant looking fellow of perhaps thirty-five who works as conductor on a S. Street car, running out of E. Square. Mrs. C. had been rather apprehensive in regard to approaching him on the subject. She said that he was in total ignorance of the Charges which were made against him and was afraid he might become very angry. He did seem to be entirely unaware of Mr. C's suspicions, but instead of being angry he thought it was rather a good joke.

According to his account the two families had lived in the same house for a year and a half but they did not visit back and forth and they had little to do with each other. With Mrs. C. he had had a bare acquaintance.

He had had some dealings with C. through the fact that both of them were at the time connected with the Boston Elevated and that he had been an officer in the Union. C. took it rather hard because he had not done more to back him up at the time he lost his job while

with the Elevated, C. seemed to be all right but he had begun to act queer after his discharge. He had had finally a "run-in" with the landlord.

He gave as requested a sample of his hand-writing without the slightest hesitation, and affixed as his signature "T. F. G." instead of the "Mr. T. G." of the note to Mrs. C.

Father M.

Neither Father McN. nor Father Q. were at home and Father M. answered the questions. He was a nice looking young priest, kindly and intelligent. He had known the Cs about three years. Mrs. C. he knew as a good church member and a "good-living woman" and C. himself he knew as a man who was lacking in balance, especially during the last year. He made rather an interesting suggestion that the fact that C's joining the Catholic Church had made him an outcast among his own people while at the same time he did not become fully assimilated in the new group was perhaps a contributing factor to this lack of balance. He also said that he was a man who had always been a good deal alone.

The children he was acquainted with especially the two boys who sang in the choir. They were neither of them particularly talented singers. He thought they did fairly well in school. The oldest boy he spoke of as "not very strong."

Father H.

Father H. lives in South B. He is one of the five priests at the imposing Church of the Heavenly Gate and it is he who was responsible for our patient's conversion to the Catholic Church ten years ago. He had no difficulty in remembering him. He had been very fond of him. He had been a good Catholic and a good Christian during the four years he lived in that neighborhood. Then he moved away and he had lost track of him. He spoke appreciatively of the patient's wife. She was a woman of a superior type. He was asked about the social life there in his church and replied that there was very little. The patient would have had no opportunity to express himself socially there.

He was not slow in expressing his opinion of spiritualists, and spiritualism. It was 90% falsehood and the rest of the devil.

THE ASTROLOGERS

Mrs. C. T.

Mrs. T. is apparently the person who started our patient off in pursuit of his pot of gold. At least she is the first of the long list of astrologers and mediums whom he has visited and it was through her that he first became interested in the occult. He describes her as "The world's greatest astrologer." She is however herself more modest. She only claims to be the foremost American astrologer. According to her business card she is prepared "by the scientific aid of the stars to give counsel in all the affairs of life." For private interviews she charges five dollars (ten dollars to gentlemen), for business forecasts with dates of events, ten dollars, and for typewritten horoscopes fifteen dollars.

She has an apartment at L. Court, an attractive little apartment up two flights, nicely furnished and adorned on the walls with a large number of fairly good pictures. Mrs. T. herself is perhaps fifty years old, a woman of education and culture. She claims several college degrees.

Asked in regard to our patient she at first denied all acquaintance with him, but finally succeeded in placing him. Going to her card catalogue she found that in 1918 she had given him a reading for which she had charged one dollar. Again in 1920 she had given him another reading for which she had charged two dollars. She had also in 1920 given a reading to Mrs. C. for which she had charged two dollars. She remembers C. particularly in connection with her public meetings. He used to attend these quite frequently and apparently became something of a nuisance. Her meetings were primarily ladies meetings and his presence and his questions were sometimes inopportune. She regarded him as a very queer sort of a person.

As for herself, she is an Englishwoman who married an American business man. She became interested in astrology through her father, and especially since her husband met with some business reverses she has devoted herself to the subject. She used to hold public meetings but now gives only private interviews.

What is the theory of astrology? Well, if you know the exact day and hour and moment when a child is born, you can then by determining the position of the planets forecast the influences which dominate that child's life. This follows through the doctrine of correspondence, the planets representing the organs of the Grand Man of God and the child at his birth being an expression of the mind or mood of the Grand Man at that time. It is mathematics, advanced mathematics. However, it is necessary to take into account not merely the chart of the heavens but also the status of the family. Thus she recently made a horoscope for Mayor C's baby and another for the baby of a physician, a friend of the mayor's, both babies being born within twenty minutes of each other. While the chart of the heavens would therefore be the same for the two, the forecast would differ because the physician's status would remain constant while C. is likely to become Senator and go up and up. It is possible not merely to make horoscopes for human beings. She has herself only recently made the horoscope of a cat. This was published in the Boston American for November 28, 19-- , and caused quite a sensation. It is important to observe that the planets never compel us to do anything. It is only when we proceed blindly that certain things result. The wise man rules his stars.

Mrs. T. is especially interested in the medical aspects of astrology. The Twelve Tissue Builders of Schuessler, published in Philadelphia in 1914, being the work in which she places special reliance.

She offered to give a horoscope for the investigator, but inasmuch as he did not know the exact hour and moment of birth this was impossible. However, he gave his birthday and the year of birth and said, Suppose it were one o'clock in the morning. The results were highly favorable. By great good luck he hit upon the most auspicious hour in the day for being ushered into the world.

Her forecast for this poor old world was much less favorable.

This is the end of an age. Two thousand years ago a new sun had arisen in Pesces, the Fishes or the Twelfth sign in the Zodiac, and a new gospel or mythos was said to have been promulgated by fishermen and water became the symbol of that age. In that sign we have been born and baptized and saved, and Christ even represented himself as a "Fountain of Living Water." But everything that the old sun stands for will now be thrown down. The new age will be one of air and light and electricity. The old age has been an age of horizontal warfare. The new age will be one of vertical warfare. Armageddon will now be fought out in the air. The old age has been one in which men have ruled. In the new age there will be a matriarchal form of government. The women are coming back into power. There is going to be a terrible trial of strength between Catholics and Protestants with a resulting destruction of them both. In fact, we are going to be destroyed in a night and only a few will be saved. But a new order of man is going to be evolved so far in advance of the man of today that we cannot even conceive what we will be like.

Dr. G.

Dr. G. was one of those with whom the patient had many dealings. It was he who warned him not to have any dealings with the spiritualists, for spiritualists always work under an evil influence, the influence of Saturn.

Dr. G. was sought at his office in K. Chambers on B. Street near E. He keeps here an astrological book-room and consulting room. Unfortunately he was not in but the visitor was waited upon by a friendly middle-aged woman who sold him a small book on astrology and invited him to attend the class which was to meet that evening. The visitor was very ignorant and very curious. He wanted to know something about the underlying theory of astrology. And then when it was explained to him that from a knowledge of the position of the planets at the time of birth it was possible to predict with accuracy the course of a person's life, he could not quite see, how the position of the planets would have any influence upon his life. His informant replied as follows: "Why shouldn't the planets influence life? Look at the moon. It determines the tides. And the most ignorant person knows that sailors on the sea never dare to sleep under a full moon for when they do they all go loony."

The Spiritualists.

Mrs. W.

Mrs. W. is apparently the medium with whom the patient has had most dealings. It is she who is described by the wife as "a regular devil who filled him up with all sorts of evil suggestions."

A visit first was made to one of her seances. This was held in her rather forlorn little apartment at 32 East C. Street. Only a small gathering was present, not more than nine persons. The meeting began with piano music, about half an hour being given to this. Then came scripture reading and prayer, by Mrs. W. a short, stout woman of perhaps sixty-five with gray hair and retreating chin and a pleasant thought not forceful expression. Her manner was reverent and thoughtful but she read as one who had not had great educational advantages.

Then came the seance. The visitor found himself singled out as the object of a message. The medium saw a tall woman coming toward him, a blood relative she thought. She wondered if he could recognize this woman. The visitor could not, most of his departed relatives being rather the reverse of tall. She then asked if he had any relative who had died of a cough. She felt such a condition in her own chest and thought it must mean either tuberculosis or pneumonia. The visitor acknowledged that two or three uncles had died of T.B. She next inquired if he had any relatives by the name of "Hannah" and would that name mean anything to him. It did not. She then saw a number of spirits and heard some names. They were good old fashioned names such as John, William, Mary, Sarah. She thought they were members of his family. It so happened that the members of his family on the other side, do not bear these good old fashioned names, but rather unusual names. All this was rather disconcerting. The medium looked discouraged. At this point a woman sitting next to him spoke up and wanted to know if this could have meant her. She knew a tall woman and had relatives who had died with pneumonia and who bore the names of John and William and Mary and Sarah. This relieved the situation very much and the seance progressed. It was, however by no means an impressive performance.

Mrs. W. was visited the next day and inquiries were made in regard to the patient. She denied having had many dealings with him. She had known him for three years and he had come off and on to her circles. He seemed to her sincere and earnest. She thought he was to be pitied rather than censured. He was a man in very great trouble. He seems to have been abused and badly treated by his wife. No she did not know the wife except for the fact that she had called on her once and had said that all mediums were crazy. As for the patient he was a medium who was in process of developing. He might have to go through a great deal of trouble but he would come out all right in the end.

She was asked whether in her judgment cases of mental disorder were frequent among the devotees of spiritualism. She acknowledged that they were. This was especially apt to occur in mediums who were "unfolding" and who were just learning to "sit in the silence." There are evil as well as good spirits and especially when the novice has not all that he ought to be, he was very apt to attract the evil spirits. Her own house, however, was thoroughly spiritualized and no evil spirit could get across the threshold. The good spirits would at once throw him out.

Mrs. W. has now been at the work twenty-five years. She derives no support from it to amount to anything. It is with her religious work, a mission which she has to perform. In fact they are organized as a church with some thirty-two charter members. In proof of this she pointed to a framed certificate on the wall.

She was asked how she was led to take up this work. To this she replied that she had been born a medium. That is she was born with a veil. She can remember that as a small girl back on the farm she used to see lights out on the field when no one else except her mother who also had mediumistic powers could see them. She was also

as a girl very fond of being alone, and talking with the unseen world. In fact she was happier alone than when she was in company. However, she was brought up in the Episcopal Church and it was not until her first little boy died that she had her initial experience. She had gone in to look at him and there came the "awfullest noise." She was terrigly frightened. What was the meaning of that noise? It was God speaking to her telling her not to act that way for God was greater than the child. (At this point she was greatly affected and shed a good many tears.) One of the first principles is that one cannot have one's heart set on any person or even on a pet animal. Love must go higher. Her own loved ones had all been taken, her husband and her three sons. This was necessary in order that she should be kept on a high plane. There are, however, some good mediums who have not been bereft of their loved ones.

How did she get started? Well, she was pushed into the work step by step through the spirit world, from one great demonstration to another. Her father came to her through another medium and told her that she was to be a medium. She believes that she was put into the world for this work especially the work of uplifting and comfort-ingpeople. She does the best she can with the help of her guides.

Does she know those guides? Why certainly. Every medium is surrounded by a band of spirits, but every band has a leader to whom all requests must be made. Her own guides she identifies with her father, her mother and her children.

As to her methods and experience, she never loses consciousness. She is never not herself. She hears and sees and senses the messages which she gets. She hears almost as with her ears. She sees colors around each person whom she meets. These colors tell the character of that person. Yes, she has frequently, very frequently had dealings with rappings and table tipping. These are all common experiences especially with beginners. Just last Monday night in her beginners' class, there came a loud rap on the piano and then another rap under the chair of one of her pupils and the table also cracked. There is always something distinctive about these raps. You can tell that they are not ordinary happenings.

The spiritual world organized just like this world. God is in everything. He is not personal.

Professor Y.

By the patient Professor Y. is described as a great clairvoyant and psychic. The patient's wife says that he keeps a "dirty hole." In any case it was to Professor Y. that the patient went for the interpretation of the dream of the "bloody baby" which started him on the hunt for evidence against his wife.

One of Professor Y's seances was visited at the hall at T. Street. It was filled to overflowing. There were probably one hundred persons present in a rather dingy room adorned on the walls with a most remarkable collection of pictures which looked as if they might have been painted by a really crazy person, crude, gaudy, weird, a cross between the crudest type of chromo and a cubist painting.

In the course of the evening several mediums performed. The first of these was a tall, gaunt, uncanny looking man with grayish hair, unshaven face, high pitched voice and bony arms and hands which he kept going in true Svengali style. Here are a few of the messages which he delivered.

"I want to come to you little lady, and if I were a spirit, it would be a mother or grandmother. If I should come to you I would be upset. It is as if the boat were rocking. It would be better if you would not talk so much. (Lady objects that she does not talk.) I would fight to the end."

"I come to you little lady. It is your mother. You are like your mother aren't you? But you haven't that nerve and push. You ought to push that wall out of the way. There is someone you ought to give a hard slap to. Before you sleep tonight if you will throw yourself into mother's arms you can straighten it all out. You pray to God? God ain't got nothing to do with it. It's we ourselves. If you will just throw yourself into mother's arms and ask her to ask God. Who is Uncle Joseph? (Woman acknowledges an Uncle Jo.)"

"I want to bring you a little child, a little girl about two years old. I ask you to go back with this little child about forty years of our time. Let me ask, Can a mother come to you from the spirit world? No? Well it's a grandmother then. I see her standing behind you. (Here he describes her. The woman disowns the description but admits there was one grandmother she had never seen.)"

"I come to you young man. (Addressing a young fellow of perhaps 21). It's the spirit of a boy who is speaking. (Describes the boy. Man disowns description.) Are you satisfied in a business way? Don't make any move till the middle of May. You are right between two fires. Never mind the two fires will burn out and you will stand in a beautiful blue light."

"I come to you little lady. (Addresses woman of perhaps forty-five with blondined hair and painted face.) Stop turning over the leaves of the book and get to work. You know what I mean don't you? It's your grandmother talking. Coming into the June month you will make a complete change. You will get out of the gutter and up on the mountain. (At this point the woman interrupts indignantly that she is not in the gutter. She claims to be "spiritual" herself.) The medium replies, "I was born with the power. Twenty six years ago I came into the spirit path. I have been called crazy. They wanted to take me and put me in the lunatic asylum. Woman again interposes saying that she can project herself all over the world.)"

"I come to you little lady. It's your mother talking. I am not way up in the clouds. I am not below the earth. We are walking with you, at your side. It you could only understand that what a difference there would be. Somebody is bothering you. Perhaps I oughtn't to say it, but she is a regular she-devil. Your friends over in the spirit world will bring punishment upon her for the wrong she has done you. (Woman replies "But she is sick and can't help it.") Well she ought to be sick. She has seventeen thousand devils."

Another medium now mounts the platform after some objection on her part. She says she is tired, that she has been working every night in the week since last August - often until one and two o'clock in the

morning. She is short, stout but full of life and vigor and in perfect command of the situation, never hesitating for an instant. She answers to the name of Mrs. S.

In a short introductory talk, she states that she is not entranced and not controlled. She is past that stage now and has reached the stage of conscious mediumship. In her messages the striking feature was the number of names which she gives, an average of eight or ten to each person. Here are a few samples.

"I see a spirit named McCauley who wore a uniform. (A young man recognizes the description). I see also a spirit named Alice who comes to you as a mother. You are to take an examination and are to come out with honor. You will get 83 to 85%. I have also the names of Mary and Tom and Jack."

"Why don't you face the issue? There is some one else I wish would learn to stand on two feet." (Eight names given all accepted by the person addressed.

"Three years ago you had a house of cards knocked down. Wait till July before you go." (Nine names given, all accepted.)

Mrs. S. gave nine messages. Among these one was for the woman with the blondined hair who claimed to be spiritual. She warned her against "projecting her astral body." It was playing with a two edged sword. Here again there was quite a dialogue between the two.

Professor Y. finally mounts the platform himself. He speaks of the religious character of the service and states that every month for ten years he has spoken to two thousand persons.

In appearance Professor Y. is slightly below average height, weight perhaps 120 lbs. dark complexion, thick black hair and something a little peculiar about his nose. He is perhaps forty years of age.

In his introductory remarks he calls attention to the pictures on the wall and claims them as his own handiwork. His usual formula is "I have a condition like this" - he then describes a certain situation and looks around until somebody is found for whom the situation described has some meaning. He usually closes with the question: "Can you put that all together in your mind?"

On one occasion he asked "Does anybody recognize this condition? A baby was swapped on her." A girl in the back part of the hall did recognize such a condition and both of them became very much excited. One or two names were mentioned which the girl accepted and Professor Y. announced that this was a most remarkable demonstration.

Mr. and Mrs. C.

Mrs. C. of West C. Street was the medium who told our patient about the crack in the glass and said that somebody was shuffling his cards and finding fault with everything he did. She is therefore a factor in this situation, and even though he does not speak of her with any great enthusiasm she was looked up. For there was in the case of Mrs. C. and her husband one peculiar point of interest. Like

our patient they are both astrologers and mediums, thus defying the dictum of simon-pure astrologers like Dr. S, who hold that all mediums are under the evil influence of Saturn.

Their seances are held on Tuesday and Friday nights at eight o'clock in their very unpretentious home. The visitor as he enters at once notices several astrological charts, a radio box, numerous papers, books, trunks and other paraphernalia half hidden under a sort of couch cover and in the center of the room a small table with a glass dish upon it and behind the dish a placard saying "twenty-five cents please." Mrs. C. is a woman of perhaps sixty-five years with gray hair and a somewhat worried and perhaps a sanctimonious expression. Her husband is about the same age, a man with snow white hair, medium height and weight and a rather aggressive not altogether pleasant expression. One of them is advertised in the "Banner of Life" as Rev. O. C. C., Lecturer, Psychic, Spiritual and Mental Practitioner." It seems however that both of them claim the title of Reverend.

When the seance began only three persons were present. Mrs. C. took the floor while her husband placed the radio received to his ears and seemed lost to the room. She first addressed one of the two women delivering messages which were so general that they could apply to almost anybody. The investigator then found himself the object of her attention. Her remarks were as follows:

"Not long ago you came to a corner. You had a hard time getting around it. You went sort of zig-zag, this way and that. But in the stopping places you found inspiration. The spirit world bore you up, brother. You must learn to trust the spirit world. Sometime in the future, perhaps two or three months, you will come to another corner. There you must go straight ahead, not zig-zag. Are you a numerologist? You don't know what that means? Well, something told me to ask you that. You'd better think it over. You are a very secretive person aren't you? You deny it? Well, I'll say you are. Is your mother a very positive woman? Well, there is some woman who is. You have a lot of stick-to-itiveness. You will need it all. Something is going to happen soon which will need all the stick-to-itiveness you have got. Something happened recently which was hard to bear but you came through it all right. If the spirit world had not held you up, you would have gone to pieces. Something is going to happen in the future which will be hard to bear. You must learn to depend upon the spirit world, brother."

When these deliverances were ended the investigator drew his notebook from his pocket and made a few notes. As he did so he noticed that the attention of Mr. C. was withdrawn from WJZ and was fixed upon himself with no very friendly expression.

After Mrs. C. had completed her rounds, her husband took the floor, and offered to answer any questions which might be put to him. When it came to the turn of the investigator, he found himself really somewhat at a loss. He could think of no really fitting question so he inquired about his patient. Could Mr. C. perhaps tell him what ought to be done with a certain man whom he had in mind? Mr. C. after a short pause inquired:

"Is your father in the spirit world?" This being answered in

the affirmative he again inquired, "Did he have a beard?" Again the answer was yes. "Was it a long beard? I see a man with a long beard, down to here - ". Here he placed his hands somewhere in the region of his liver. This charge was denied. He then proceeded. "Hm! You want to know what to do with a certain man? Well, you go slow. You should rather ask what he will do to you. You are in a very nervous and excited condition now. Along about fall something is going to happen which will change your entire way of thinking. It's going to jar the conceit out of you."

The confession must be made that his conceit was already being jarred a bit. In fact, he was beginning to get a bit nettled, which is perhaps the natural defense reaction when your conceit is jarred, and in his nettled state of mind he replied:

"The man I had in mind was a former attendant here who is now in a hospital for mental troubles."

At the same time he drew forth his note-book to record the comforting messages which had been delivered for his benefit. The effect was most unfortunate. Rev. Mr. C. became very much excited. Was the investigator aware that this was a religious meeting and that it was against the law to disturb a religious meeting? He would ask him to close that notebook and without placing any contribution on the plate leave the room immediately.

Mr. C. then graciously escorted him to the door. He was then able to gather a few facts concerning the patient. They were not favorable opinions. The patient had attended his meetings only a few times. When he had come he had always wanted to talk and that was not permitted. He had therefore been requested to discontinue his attendance. Mr. C. and his wife were there to be listened to and not to listen.

Mrs. A.

Mrs. A. was among those listed by the patient. She is not, however, specifically involved in his story and her seance was visited only because it was held on Sunday afternoon at a time when the more important ones were not in session.

This seance was held in a dingy hall at T. Street. Bare walls painted blue but coated with dirt, a circle of folding chairs and at either end of the hall a sort of pulpit and a number of chairs upholstered in brown plush were the striking features. The group was slow in gathering and it was after the appointed time when the medium took her place on the rostrum. She was a tall woman of perhaps forty-five, dressed in black velvet with blue silk trimmings, high heeled shoes and bobbed curly hair which she combed carefully with a large comb just before mounting the platform. Her voice was harsh and loud and her manner dictatorial.

The service began with the singing of some hymns - Sweet bye and bye, Nearer my God to Thee, Abide with Me, and Shall we meet beyond the river, being among the selections. There was also the usual scripture reading. At the conclusion of the devotional exercises the attendance was about 38, of whom 16 were men and 22 women. Fully half of those present were more than fifty years old. Most of

them seemed to be of American stock of the economically marginal group, book-keepers, clerks, workers who have a hard time to keep their heads above water, but decent, well meaning individuals.

As a preface to the message-bearing an old gentleman who was present was called upon to speak. His manner indicated that this was no new experience to him. He began with a reference to one of the hymns which had just been sung and to its author, Phoebe Cary. He claimed to have held communication with her and under her control to have composed himself. There were he said seventy phases of mediumship of which he himself had received those of seeing and hearing.

Mrs. A. then followed with a talk on the sufferings of a medium and told how she herself had come to take up the work. She had been it seems for thirteen years an attendant and supporter of the work at this hall and it was only during the last five years after the death of the former leader that the burden of the work had fallen on her and she had hesitatingly accepted it. She referred with tears to her mother's death and referred to the great sacrifice she had made. She said she was not feeling well that afternoon and called upon a visiting medium to take the floor. The latter after a few objections consented. Some of her messages were as follows:

"I want to put you on a solid foundation. Something has been troubling you. Have you a mother in spirit world? Well, it is someone who loves you. Do you know a George in the spirit world? (Yes) Do you want a business change? There has been some one in your atmosphere who has been doing a little underhanded work. I want to put you on a train. Did you ever live in an old-fashioned house with a brook near it? (Yes) Did you have an Aunt Sarah? (This was at first denied then admitted) There is something you should have and haven't got."

During all this time the investigator, sitting in the back row in order to be as inconspicuous as possible, had held his note book in his hand and had from time to time recorded his observations. He had not escaped attention, however. He had noticed Mrs. A. looking daggers at him. He now found himself singled out as the object of the medium's attention.

"I have a message for that man with the note-book in his hand. You are an investigator of some sort. Well, no matter. Things are not as you want them now. Have you a father or a mother in the spirit world? One? It's your father then. Hurry! Speak up! I see a light which comes and divides over your head. Have you something to do with law? Well you will have. Something is going to happen. It will be within the next six months and it will come just like a revolver shot. Do you know anybody by the name of Charles? No it doesn't have to be a relative. It might be just a friend in the spirit world. You don't think of anyone? Well, just wait a while and you will think.

"Yes, you are an investigator. You are trying to find out something, but you are all right. You are as good as gold. Ask and ye shall receive. Yes, if you ask aright."

"Someone is trying to double cross you. (Addressing a young man.) Your mother is here and says, 'My boy, I won't let them hurt you!'"

After giving a few more messages, this medium gives way to Mrs. Al, who begins by saying that she doesn't know what she can do that day but she will try. Some of her messages were as follows:

"I see a spirit named Charles Howard, who knows him? (A woman claims him as an uncle) You are worrying about a boy. You must just let things drift. Something is going to happen to him bye and bye that will change him."

"Did you know John Smith? (Woman says he is her father) You are at a standstill. You have been blocked by a man named William. (Woman says this is her father's brother.)

"Have you a daughter? Is she all right? As far as you know? Well, you look out. Did you know a spirit named Bartlett who took his own life? (Yes) Well, he is earth-bound."

"I see someone around me named Webster. Who knows him? (No one answers) Say, little lady, did you know a man named Hinckley?" (Yes) An old lady then speaks up and says she knows both a Webster and a Hinckley.

"There is someone around you who does not understand you and who irritates you."

"There is going to be a time of testing. Child, do not be dismayed but just reach up higher."

"Didn't you say that if certain things did not transpire you would feel yourself deserted? I want to say to you, just hold on."

"Not long ago a certain condition came into your life which almost took you off your feet." (Woman asks concerning a party who is "trying to do that thing" to her. Medium replies: "You just attend to your end of the line.")