

ENGLAND'S DISEASED SPIRITS GREAT LIARS

Ghosts Have Less Regard for Truth Than Men and Women in the Flesh.

SOME GENUINE SEANCES

Spirits, the ethereal beings which make up the great unknown hereafter, are, in many cases profound and painstaking liars. In fact, they have been found to lie with far less compunction than men and women of the flesh. To speak of spirits as liars seems utterly without possible foundation. And, granting spirits the vice of lying, to speak of them as greater liars than human beings—that is, some human beings—seems very hard on the poor creatures of the other world. Nevertheless, these conclusions, along with many others equally novel and really of practical importance, resulted from a life study of spiritualistic manifestations by a man remarkably capable of understanding such manifestations.

The late Palmer Jones of Michigan made the study of spiritualism his life's hobby, and the conclusions which he drew are of vast importance, from both the spiritualist's and the layman's view. Jones found, after many experiences with spirits, that he had to be continually on his guard against the falsehoods of the inhabitants of the other world.

Mr. Jones did not discuss the tenets of spiritualism in words of mystery. He respected the cult of spiritualism and refused to do anything but give it the benefit of every doubt. Yet he spoke of it in the language of present day science and applied it to the terms of psychology. His researches in the field of spiritualism are both interesting and absorbing. His deductions follow:

Forces of Habit.

The spirits of the next world are not of the same status as the people of this. But the development of the soul goes on there as here. The present population of the world amounts to about one billion seven hundred million, but this amount is not even comparable to the billions and billions who have gone before.

Jones, from his years of investigations, often declared that the drunks flock to imaginary bars in spirit land and are unable to satisfy their thirst. It is to be presumed from this conclusion, that strap-hangers grab frantically for imaginary straws as they are lurched around corners in the crowded cars of spirit land, or that the spirit movie fans crane their necks at pictures which they cannot see.

During his life, Jones unearthed many fake schemes and exposed the duplicity of grafters to such an extent that he obliged many of them to go out of the business. But he also encountered conscientious followers of spiritualism, and was himself a believer, although not credulous to the extent of believing everything he saw.

The Acid Test.

One time he literally and figuratively applied the acid test to one of the best slate writers in the country. Jones had heard so much of the man's ability that he made a special trip to Washington to make an investigation. The man agreed to a meeting and Jones stipulated that he furnish his own slate.

The investigator procured an ordinary double slate, such as school children use in the lower grades. Having first cleaned it thoroughly with acetic acid, he nailed the two pieces of slate together. As writing material, Jones took along a piece of platinum, which is known to be about the hardest of all metals.

The medium hesitated when he learned that the test was to be made with platinum, but finally acquiesced. The agreement was that writing should appear on one of the two inner surfaces of the double slate. Considerable difficulty was encountered, presumably on account of the platinum, but finally the usual scratchings were heard and the message was written.

Through the fastened double slate, the platinum writing had appeared on the inner surfaces, and never did the slate leave the sight of the investigator. Mr. Jones, who was a chemist, washed off the spirit writing with an acid, which dissolved the marks, and left unmistakable evidences that the writing had been done with platinum.

A Strange Revelation.

At one seance he encountered probably the strangest circumstance of his career. A Swedish girl had been attracted to the place through the hope that she might get some message from the man whom she had expected to marry, but who had strangely disappeared. The medium declared that for several nights there had been a strange spirit trying to make himself known, and when the girl was present, the spirit did materialize.

Speaking in Swedish, which had not been recognized at any of the previous sittings, the manifestation communicated to the girl the fact that he and his brother had been caught in a prairie fire in Minnesota. The fire had come upon them suddenly and neither knew just what had happened them. The spirit explained that he did not know he was dead and had been wandering for a long time in a strange land trying to make himself known to his beloved.

The investigations of Jones were all along practical lines.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Princeton Professor is Studying Japan's System

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

Tokio, Aug. 30.—Prof. Robert McNeil McElroy, head of the department of history and politics at Princeton university, who is on his way to China as exchange professor has been spending some time in Japan studying the educational system of the empire. He had lengthy conferences with Premier Okuma and Dr. Takata, the minister of education. At the summer center at Karizawa he addressed a large audience on the subject "The Historical and Political Significance of the War." Prof. McElroy will spend a year lecturing throughout China, chiefly at the university at Peking.

Rutgers Boys Are Tough. Even having Rutgers' number (they wear on their backs) before the whistle, the opposing foot ball warriors to beat for Stanford's gridiron.

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Chinese Soldiers Threaten Dynasty

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) Peking, Oct. 12.—Military leaders from the various provinces have just held a conference at Hsichow in Kiangsu province, which threatens the existence of the present government, should the parliament persist in its efforts to restrict the power of the military. General Chang Haun, who is probably the most feared of all the old-time military leaders in China, called the conference, and many of the newspapers which are in sympathy with the present parliament, charge that Tuan Chi-jui, the premier, is in sympathy with the position taken by the military.

The conference declared that party politics is displacing all desire for peace and harmony under the present government, and that the national assembly which is now wrangling in Peking has accomplished nothing and is being manipulated by political leaders, "who would be willing to sell their country if they were able to attain their selfish ends."

It was the chief purpose of the conference to form a military union for the checking of violent characters and the preservation of peace. While the military conference favored the principle of having a national assembly, it went on record as being in favor of a dissolution of the assembly by military force, should that body take steps inimical to the welfare of the nation.

The conference also considered the proposed constitution which the national assembly is about to draft and insisted that the legislators should be guided in framing the constitution by the advice of experienced military men.

Chang Yao-tseng, the new minister of justice, was singled out as a member of the cabinet who is wholly unworthy to retain his position and a protest against him was sent to the central government.

The objection to the minister of justice is based on his alleged connection with the recent opium smuggling case at Shanghai. Large quantities of Yunnan opium were taken into Shanghai by an official party, of which Chang Yao-tseng was member. He was officially exonerated, but both the press and the public regarded the official action as a whitewashing, and his retention in the cabinet provoked wide criticism even before the military conference took action.

The military leaders also insisted that a competent minister of foreign affairs should be immediately appointed to look after the tangled international questions which China now faces.

Parliament and the military party stand at opposite poles. Tuan Chi-jui, the premier, is primarily a military man and in sympathy with the practical methods of the old-time Chinese who believe that the strict exercise of military power is the only means of maintaining peace in China. President Li Yuan-hung, while primarily a military man, is not so strongly in sympathy with the military party. He has endeavored to maintain middle ground and harmonize the parliamentarian and the military leaders. His success has not been marked.

While the revolutionary troubles have been entirely quieted at Canton and in other parts of Kwangtung province, and the Szechuan situation is no longer threatening, there is general dissatisfaction throughout China with the inaction of parliament, and a clash between the parliament and the military is freely predicted.

What 97,000 Think Of Wilson's Mexico

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) Laredo, Tex., Oct. 23.—Barely 3,000 Americans remain in the republic of Mexico, as compared with the 100,000 or more who lived in that country prior to the Madero revolution, in 1911. These figures were recently compiled here by an American who concluded a ten weeks' tour of the republic at this border point. His estimate and distribution of the American citizens below the border is:

Mexico City, approximately 300 Americans.

Tampico, approximately 900.

Panuco oil field district, near Tampico, 200.

Scattered through Sonora state, 350.

Scattered through Chihuahua state, 250.

State of Nuevo Leon, including Monterrey, 200.

Guadalajara, 15.

State of Pueblo, 60.

Vera Cruz, 50.

San Luis Potosi, 12.

Queretaro and Guanajuato, 20.

Torreón, 30.

Isthmus of Tehuantepec, 25.

Five hundred additional Americans, he said, are scattered through various other states and cities of Mexico mostly at points remote from railroads, where they are engaged in ranching or mining.

Whisky-and-Soda Scarce in Sweden

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) Stockholm, Oct. 8.—Great Britain's export prohibition on whisky has moved Swedish dealers to take account of their stocks, with the result that they have found that six months more will see the end of the available supply.

In no first-class restaurant in Stockholm can whisky-and-soda be had for less than one crown, or about 28 cents at the present exchange rate. Some places charge as much as 1.30 crowns, or 36 cents.

High grade liquors—particularly certain brands manufactured by monks—are scarce and dear. The same is true of French cognac and French wines, which have increased wholesale from 25 to 40 per cent. This is due in large part to a scarcity of bottles, not only in the countries of origin, but also in the diminished capacity of Swedish glassmakers, since a great part of the liquors and wines imported is brought in in Swedish bottles.

No shortage of Swedish punch, the so-called national drink, threatens. It may become necessary, however, to drink in November and December some punch not properly aged, on account of the difficulty the manufacturers experience in getting sufficient sugar.

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