

# FAKE MESSAGES "RECEIVED" FROM DEAD SOLDIERS

## Sir David Ferrier Tells of Tricks by Spiritualists Practiced on Distracted Relatives of Men.

London—"I thought spiritualism and the supernatural claims of mediums were quite exploded by this time," said Sir David Ferrier, the eminent neuro-pathologist, in an interview.

"The revival of the occult synchronizes with the termination of the war, when there are thousands of people in the country suffering the heart-breaking anguish of being unable to gain tidings of those dear to them who are classified as 'missing.' It is only natural that these distracted relatives should resort to every means likely and unlikely to obtain information, but I am quite unable to understand how anybody with any pretense to medical qualifications can lend countenance to the preposterous impositions with which spiritualism is steeped, and, as such, have been exposed again and again.

"The alleged phenomena which Sir Arthur Conan Doyle appears to regard as a new discovery are not only an old story, but one which has never been capable of support when subjected to honest and impartial investigation.

**Helped Unveil Trick.**  
"More than 30 years ago I saw the tricks which Sir A. Conan Doyle now seriously asks his readers to believe. I was present at a seance in Quebec street one Sunday afternoon about that time, and my old friend, Balfour Browne, the great parliamentary lawyer, was there also.

"It was a cold day, but before the seance began the embers in the fireplace were carefully removed. Thick curtains were then drawn across the windows and every precaution was taken to exclude the smallest spark of light, real or artificial. We remained some time in total darkness, and then, as now, the gathering was entertained by the mystic touch of invisible fingers, and the rest of the mummery, which Sir A. Conan Doyle lays such stress on.

"Then from a curtained alcove ghostly hands made their appearance. Presently the dim outline of a face became visible, and I remarked to Balfour Browne in a voice just loud enough for the medium to hear: 'How very like Mr. Taylor's face.' It did not in the least surprise me when I was told presently that the face I had just seen was that of Mr. Taylor, who, as it happened, was a purely imaginary person.

"The climax to this miserable non-

# Make Schools Fit Child and Not Child Fit School, Aim of Omaha School Instructors

## Public School Experience Has Discovered System To Classify Child After Making Intelligence Test.

Making the school fit the child, rather than the child fit the school, is one of the big problems being worked out by the public school instructors of Omaha and other cities. The idea of trying to apply a certain curriculum to all children of any particular grade, and then expecting uniform results, has been found to be a fallacy.

Out of long public school experience has grown a system of mental or intelligence tests by which any child may be classified. Under this system a 15-year-old child may be found to be 8 years old mentally. Under the old system a teacher would have to make the best of the situation if she happened to have in her

reason or another, do not fit into the classes which their ages ordinarily would require.

These special classes have been started at Bancroft, Comenius, Cass, Druid, Franklin, Kellom, Miller Park and Train schools. A second class is maintained at Comenius school. The assignment of children to these classes is accomplished through a research department. The first observation of a child who is mentioned for one of these classes, is by the regular teacher. The research director then applies the tests according to approved standards, to determine the disposition of the case. One child examined during the last

making. All of this work seems to be very satisfactory, with the possible exception of brush making, and it is hoped that the industrial work can be widened in its scope next year.

**Work Shows Results.**  
A visit to Comenius school last week served to show the results being obtained in this special class of work. Most of these children are of a class that find the regular classroom studies irksome when they try to apply themselves during the entire school day. They are now allowed to devote part time to industrial activities and the other hours to regu-



# Little American Flag, Made By Belgian Girl, Aids Loan

## When Yanks Entered Beaucourt a Little, Nine-Year-Old Girl Stepped Up to Colonel Tinley of Council Bluffs and Presented Him With a Flag, Which She Made From Clothing.

Mrs. Matt Tinley of Council Bluffs has received from her husband, Major Tinley, just returned to the United States, the 168th division, American army of occupation, a flag and letter which contains an unusually tender bit of sentiment.

The flag is now being carried by the Council Bluffs Elks' quartet on its Victory loan trips, and after it has served its present use, it will be preserved in a glass case by the Iowa State Historical society in the capitol building at Des Moines.

When the armistice had been signed, the One Hundred Sixty-eighth was ordered to march through Belgium on its way to Germany. The men arrived early one morning at the village of Beaucourt, Belgium, where the people greeted the Yanks with wild cheers. On the day before, Georgette Feltz, 9-year-old, heard that the "Yanks were coming," so she spent the entire night scouring the village for pieces of red, white and blue clothing with

which she fashioned a crude American flag after impressions obtained through pictures. There are only nine stars on a blue field, but it is believed that she was short of cloth and did the best she could.

When Major Tinley and his men had listened to the words of welcome from the mayor of Beaucourt, little Miss Georgette stepped up and handed the Council Bluffs officer the flag.

In a letter to Mrs. Tinley, enclosing the flag, the major wrote: "A large lump came into my throat when the little girl handed me that flag. I just didn't know whether I was afraid or horseback. I didn't know what to say at first. It impressed me more than I can describe to you in words."

J. R. Gerke, Alex. Behnston, Charles S. Haverstock and J. F. McCarger, members of the Council Bluffs quartet, carried the flag with them all week on their Victory loan singing tour through western Iowa.

# German Press Rails at Proposal to Alter Colors of the Flag

London.—The proposal to change the colors of the national flag of Germany from black-white-red to black-red-gold is bitterly criticized by the Pan-German and Nationalist journals. Dr. Preuss, in introducing the proposal, defended it as follows:

"Whether or not the colors black-white-red were the correct colors of the German empire is much debated by historians. Quite possibly they

were simply those assumed by the insurgents of Lutzw. The colors black-red-gold (adopted by the revolutionaries in 1848) correspond with the conceptions of political freedom and union of all the Germans which have been the leading ideas of the nineteenth century.

The Preussische Zeitung says that to change your colors is to show that you are ashamed of them, and gives a long harangue on the historical glory of the empire. It also suggests that if a change is to be made it would be more in accordance with the present condition of Germany if the red flag were adopted, with a white star on it—the star of David!

room a subnormal child or a supernormal child. She would have to devote her special attention to either child. Frequently a disturbing element in her room would be a supernormal child whose mind outdistanced the others and then he would upset the discipline during his spare time by performing pranks.

**Special Classes Developed.**  
Omaha's public school system is developing special classes in the schools for children who, for one

school semester was sent to the state school for the deaf.

"Children in special classes are able to do only a limited amount of regular academic work, and this means that all kinds of suitable action work and industrial occupation must be supplied," explained Research Director Leon O. Smith. "The industrial work now being carried on in Omaha special classes consists of weaving, basketry, rug making, plain sewing, chair caning and brush-

like other mortals, for a considerable time to come.

"The meeting broke up hurriedly and not the least crestfallen among the spiritualists was this very substantial 'spirit' whose face and shirt front were streaming with the well directed spray of cochineal.

"Hypnotism is quite distinct from spiritualism, and in the hypnotic state the subject can be made to ex-

perience sensations which are the genuine result of his mental condition. Here, however, is a mortal who is once more passing through scenes of the past. Thus a soldier might conceivably believe himself to be in the trenches at close grips with the enemy. It is a phase of mind thoroughly recognized by brain specialists."

New Jersey has a state law which requires that children who are three years or more below the normal mentality for their age, must be placed in special classes. The theory of this legislation is that it is not fair to the teacher and children to be handicapped by a child who is subnormal or supernormal; and it is also contended that the exceptional child should have exceptional instruction. By grouping the exceptional cases, the best interests of all are served, the schoolmasters say.

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For attention in every detail  
He always is on the alert  
Of herself she wants to give  
The best she can conceive  
Although there's little in her  
Of the old time Eve  
She wants to be considered  
At least as an equal to man  
Although the whole world over  
She has been placed under a ban  
If this does not fill the bill, sir,  
Of what a woman craves  
Will some one kindly tell, sir  
What in her heart she craves?  
The above letter, written by Mrs. Charles Bone, Kearney, Neb., has been adjudged the prize winning answer to the contest, "What Every Woman Wants."

# State Legislature Helps to Heal Omaha-Lincoln Feud

The state legislature serves one good purpose, if nothing else, and that is to cement friendly relations between the capital city and the metropolis. Time was when a Lincolnite and an Omahan would not walk on the same side of the street together.

In days gone by if a Lincoln resident knew he was in the presence of an Omahan person, he would keep his hands on his watch and chain and look for the nearest policeman. In the whirligig of time those things have all changed. A spirit of camaraderie has grown up between these two cities. Nowadays a Lincoln man would lend an Omahan man money without changing words. This spirit of brotherly love was manifested by the returning legislators to Douglas county. Jerry Howard, for instance, was profuse in his praise of Lincoln. "Lincoln is a fine college town," he said. "If I did not believe that I owed a duty to my constituents to remain in Omaha, I would live in Lincoln. They don't crowd you off the sidewalk in Lincoln. I would like to tell you a few things about the members of the state senate. There is a fine body of men. I was only a ripresentative, but after tilling you that the spirit was an august body, I was an independent member, that I a tilling you also." Then there was Tom Hollister, who did not go as a legislator, but he had work to do just the same. "There is one thing I know about Lincoln and that is, you can't spit on the sidewalk there and get away with it," said Mr. Hollister.

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