

TALKS ABOUT 'GHOULS' AND THEIR VICTIMS

MYSTAGOGUE MAKES SCORES OF LETTERS SENT TO HERALD

One Writer from San Jose Says She Has Felt Touches—Mediums Who Have Been Exposed and Discredited Are Forced to Leave Los Angeles for Other Fields

BY ROBERT A. HAZEL.
So great is the interest taken by the people of Los Angeles and nearby cities in the exposure of fake spiritualism which is being carried on by The Herald that during the last week hundreds of letters have been sent me, each asking an explanation of how these so-called mediums perform certain "marvels." Many of these questions show that the writers have passed a great deal of time studying the subject, have become convinced of the crookedness of the fakers, but wish to have their ideas confirmed as to how these "marvels" are performed. I will answer some of the letters I have received in this issue, but lack of space hinders me from publishing answers to the entire number.

Many of the inquiries have been in regard to "trumpet talking" or "trumpet seances," as they are sometimes termed.

The Trumpet Trick
This is a form of manifestation which is supposed to be very convincing as a proof of spirit return. Those practicing this phase of mediumship are rank frauds of the worst kind. If at any time you have attended one of these seances and have not been known to the medium as a "sassy man," you will agree with me that you have never been able to sit near the medium, as he is generally surrounded by confederates. If you insist on holding the medium's hands you may be allowed to do so, but the talking is then done by the confederates and the trumpet is manipulated by them.

This is the dark seance I am speaking of now. In some cases the talking is done in the light, and the trumpet is partially in the light, and the medium, who is concealed in the cabinet, talks through the trumpet by means of a small rubber hose attached to the mouthpiece. Frequently a medium has concealed in his clothes a second trumpet, made in telephone fashion, and the audience naturally believes the voice and sounds are coming from the trumpet which is in sight.

When a medium is permanently located in his own home there is generally an elaborate arrangement of speaking tubes installed which renders the giving of trumpet seances an easy matter. As a rule mediums who are constantly traveling rely upon their nerve, the assistance of their confederates and confederates for success. When a person tells you he has seen a trumpet float around a room in a bright light and now and then tap those who are present on their heads without any assistance from the cabinet, think awhile before you swallow this tale, as this feat has never been done in the light, but is easily performed in the dark.

Slate Writing Swindle
A second subject which seems to trouble many persons who attend seances is slate writing. There are several ways of producing what is called independent method. Most of them are variations of the two principal methods, substitution and the "easy mark." In some instances chemicals are used, but in many cases they are not practicable.

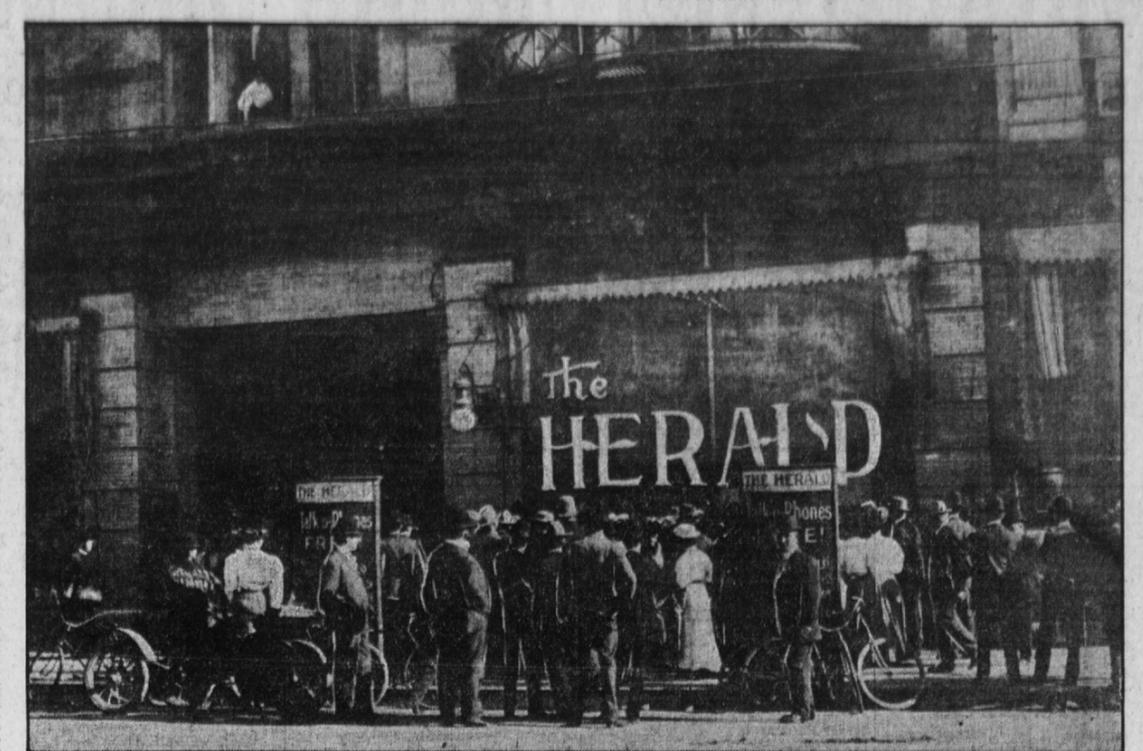
For instance, the subject is placed with his back to a wall in which there is a hidden panel in the door board. He is given a clean slate by the medium and asked to wash it thoroughly. After this is done he is asked to write a message to a spirit friend and place it inside the slate, which is then locked or sealed, and he is allowed to trace the key if he so wishes.

He is then told to place the slate on the floor and put his heels on it. No sooner does the slate touch the floor than a confederate of the medium shoves his arms under the slate, and exchanges the slate on which the message is written for a black one. The slate is again exchanged when the subject is told to pick it up, the original slate having been opened and the message read in the meantime.

Envelope Deception
Some of these slates are made as follows: They are double and one of the ends so constructed that it can be pulled from the frame, together with the slate. By this means possession is obtained of the message, notwithstanding the fact that both slates are firmly tied together. The medium always has in his possession envelopes and cards. Sometimes the subject is told to write the message on the slate proper. When he does so the confederate, after obtaining possession of the slate, pulls out the movable slide and takes the envelope, which he moistens by means of a small sponge saturated with alcohol. This makes the paper transparent and he is able to read the questions on the card without trouble. The answer he writes on the solid slate, returns the envelope and pushes home the movable part. The alcohol evaporates quickly, leaving no trace whatsoever. See slate of this pattern in The Herald exhibit in the show window.

A second slate is made in the following manner: The slate inside the frame moves in grooves and is pushed down by a spring in one of the sides of the frame. One of the sides has a narrow strip of wood attached to it, which, when the slate is pushed toward the side where the spring is concealed, enters into the groove and the loose part thus drops to the table. The table has a black covering or a newspaper placed on it, and a similar paper pasted on the inner side of the flap.

The answer is pulled up as the flap is pushed down by a confederate or the performer in such terms as to fit any possible question. Before the flap is re-



CROWDS CONSTANTLY GATHER IN FRONT OF THE HERALD OFFICE TO SEE THE EXHIBIT OF PARAPHERNALIA USED BY SPURIOUS CLAIRVOYANTS. HOUR AFTER HOUR THE ERSTWHILE DUPES AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TOO WISE TO BE DUPED STAND AND ARGUE. MANY IMPROMPTU LECTURES ARE DELIVERED THERE. THE CAMERA CAUGHT THE SATURDAY THROG ENJOYING THE SIGHT WHICH IS THE CAUSE OF SO MUCH DISCOMFITURE TO MOCK MEDIUMS

there are still a number of persons who believe it genuine.

Matter Through Matter
In spite of the fact that the workings of the mediums are frequently exposed and the public informed just how the tricks are performed there are actually more spiritualists who do not believe there is any fraud in these manifestations. If a fake slate writing is given them and they are shown how it is done some of them will continue to insist that all are not frauds, but that some spiritualists really have the power to confer with the spirits by means of writing.

CUPIDITY CAUSES WICKED DECEPTION OF SORROWING MOTHER
Los Angeles, Nov. 12, 1906.
Spook Editor The Herald:
Dear Sir—I wish you would tell me how it was I saw my dead baby in a cabinet at a seance recently if mediums are fakes. I saw my darling many times and I know her face.

Wicked Fraud is Perpetrated
You have been grossly deceived. There has never been such a thing as materializing spirits from any cabinet by any medium. It cannot be done. We explained how this trick is performed in The Herald a week ago. Have you kissed what you thought to be your baby at the cabinet? If so you have kissed the greasy knee of some wickedly cruel faker who has acted the ghoul by playing upon your emotion, your sorrow, your hope. No more brutal trick could be conceived than this one, which seems to have been extensively practiced by the unscrupulous female faker whom The Herald exposed a few weeks ago when she was masquerading as a departed sister of a man who never had a sister.

THEY TOUCH THEM UP IN SAN JOSE EVEN AS YOU AND I
San Jose, Nov. 13.
Spook Editor The Herald:
Dear Sir—Since you can answer all questions regarding spiritual phenomena, kindly tell me how it is that all my life I have felt touches and have heard my name called when I was out on the prairie a mile from my house. I also went out of my sleep by some one speaking to me, the room as light as day and a woman clothed in dazzling brightness standing by my bed and giving me a message of great importance.

M'GINNIS THE SPOOK THROWS TRUMPET AT WHITE DOG PRESIDENT
Los Angeles, Nov. 14.
Spook Editor Los Angeles Herald:
Dear Sir—Evidently the correspondent who signed himself "J. C." did not see the room and the cabinet in The Herald a few days ago.

Henley was exposed by the Anti-Faker society last year in the following manner: I attended one of Henley's etherizing and trumpet seances and overheard a conversation between Henley and a woman, Mrs. Henley was telling her of a mine which was located by White Dog, an Indian in spirit life, who knew of the mine when on earth. She also stated that sometimes some of her subjects would be advised by their spirit friends to invest in the White Dog mine, and under such circumstances the Henleys would part with some of the stock. Being disgusted with the coarse work of the Henleys and the conversation I had heard, I brought the matter to the attention of the officers of the society and, of course, Henley was slated as the next victim.

The Typewriter Deception
One letter which I received this week questioned me in regard to what is known as spirit typewriting. The writer stated she had attended a seance at which a spirit had written on a typewriter and one of the messages had been given her. This spirit was the medium or one of his numerous assistants. The messages had been written previous to the seance and were carried by the medium in his pocket. During the seance the typewriter is in the cabinet and the noise of the keys is made by one of the assistants to the medium working them. A lot of blank paper is shown those present first, and when the messages are handed around they are supposed to believe that they are on the same paper as was first shown them.

Another transparent fake which was very popular in former days was spirit telegraphy. A telegraph sounder was placed in a box and would rattle off messages, presumably from the spirit world, as none but the medium could understand them. The lid of the box pressed upon the key just enough to rattle, and general interest in this fake subsided when this was learned, but

fortunately for John, Mr. Spook did not come close enough, so sister got curious and when an Irish spirit of the name of McGinnis was telling a funny story in the trumpet sister flashed the light. About that time it seems Henley got curious, too, for the flash light showed him holding the trumpet, evidently trying to see McGinnis, who must have been mad at John, as he had dropped it, and John hollered that the spirit had thrown the trumpet at him. This broke up the meeting, and The Herald told all about it the next morning. Very truly yours,
C. W. CARSON,
Secretary Anti-Faker society.

Photo for Two Bits
"You will never be rich," she said, "but will always have enough to keep you from want. You have traveled a great deal and will continue doing so. You are not satisfied with the life you are leading and long for more freedom. Be brave and in time you will have your wish. You must not think of marriage this early in your life; your time will come later. All young persons are interested in the opposite sex and I do not blame you for being so. You know many nice young men, but not the one you are going to marry. When you meet him it will be sudden and you will be married suddenly. Your life from then on will be of the happiest; he will work for you, strive for you. The cost of this reading is 50 cents; if you'll give me another quarter I'll get you a picture of him from the spirit world."

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL
Few People Know How Useful It is in Preserving Health and Beauty
Costs Nothing to Try
Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

WHY DOESN'T THIS WISE OWL MAKE HIS OWN FORTUNE?
Los Angeles, Nov. 14.
Spook Editor The Herald:
Dear Sir—I have been advised by Mr. Henley, the "Trmpet Medium," to buy some valuable mining stock at a very low price, and that, too, in a real mine. No deception about that. Mr. Henley's control says that this is the best investment within a thousand miles of Los Angeles. The stock is sure to double in value within a few weeks. Now the question I want to ask the Spook Editor is:—ought I to miss what is perhaps the greatest opportunity of my life? Mr. Henley is the greatest medium in Los Angeles. This I read in a reputable paper of this city, under the heading "The Wise Owl in Town." I cannot doubt Mr. Henley's word. He has repeatedly said he is the greatest medium alive. He states he is in his advertisements. Mr. Henley will buy this mine. You say Mr. Henley's control says this is the best investment within a thousand miles of Los Angeles. Who and what is Mr. Henley's control? To the best of my knowledge and belief his control is his earnest yearning after the almighty dollar. Take the advice of one who has no control but knows the game—and keep your money.

Development at \$25 Per
"Judging by what you say I do not amount to much of anything," I said in an injured tone, and was informed that if I wished to take it that way I was possibly right.

"Control" is Sheer Greed
The heading you speak of, "The Wise Owl in Town," is a josh, but not half so much so as Mr. Henley's claim that he is the greatest medium alive. If Mr. Henley believes what he said about this mine, he would not be trying to sell stock in it, but would have purchased it himself long ago and thereby profited by the doubling values. If he is such a "wise owl" as he states he is in his advertisements, Mr. Henley will buy this mine. You say Mr. Henley's control says this is the best investment within a thousand miles of Los Angeles. Who and what is Mr. Henley's control? To the best of my knowledge and belief his control is his earnest yearning after the almighty dollar. Take the advice of one who has no control but knows the game—and keep your money.

They Touch Them Here, Too
You are not the only one who has been touched. Lots of Angelenos are being touched hourly.

There are others who have "dreamed and seen sights." Women dressed in dazzling raiment have told me things, but, alas, some gave me a lemon.

PSEUDO SCHOOL GIRL DECEIVES FOXY FAKERS

(Continued from Page Six.)
roared, and I felt awful mean to think I had lied to him, but disappointed that I was going to miss having my fortune told. Then in a second I heard words which caused me to pluck up heart when in a more moderate tone of voice I was informed that under the circumstances he would give me a reading, but it would be an exceptional case.

Opening a door into an adjoining room, he led me to a table, and running one hand through his hair, motioned me to a seat opposite him.

"Write three questions on this slip of paper and also your name and the name of some young man," said he, and I did so; that is I wrote "Clare Kuehn," having selected that for my name; "Cyrus Johnson," an inhabitant of the spirit world, for the young man's name and "Is my money safely invested?" "When will I be married?" and "Will I be married to the young man I am going with now?" for the three questions.

Picking the paper up the professor deftly turned it over so the writing was toward me. It was a thin sheet of paper and he could see the writing and distinguish my words as easily as I could see the pencil mark on his finger on the other side.

"I see," said Milburn, in an agonized tone, closing his eyes and waving his tawny locks, "three questions. To the first I answer yes. Your money is safely invested. It is not a large amount you have and was evidently left you by some relative whose spirit has passed into the great beyond and now watches over you as a guide.

To the second question I answer that you will be married when you are 23. (And I just celebrated my fourth wedding anniversary.) You will never have any children. (I have a baby 2 years old.) You will be married a second time when you are 50 years of age.

To the young man whose name you wrote. Let me see, it is—it is—it is Cyrus Johnson. That is the young man you are now in love with. Do not marry him. You are too young to be married. Wait. The right man will show up when you are 23 years of age and you will marry him. That young man is a good young man, but he is not for you. Heed what I tell you and have no more to do with him.

SEPARATE SPIRITISM

Eliminate the Sordid Feature

Writer Says if Bad Can Be Taken Away Much Good to Humanity Will Be the Result

P. A. Jensen, 825 Sunset boulevard, has written a letter to The Herald in which he gives his experience with two mediums whom he calls "fakes" and other hard names. Mr. Jensen is a believer in spiritualism, but he is anxious to see the commercial feature eliminated. His letter is as follows:
"The man referred to in Tuesday's Herald with the Vandycy beard, addressing the Truth Seekers' society Sunday evening last is, alas the president of the California State Spiritualists' association, Arthur S. Howe does not only hold the highest office in the ranks of spiritualists on the Pacific coast today, but he is also the only spiritualist paper west of Chicago."
"The disappointment voiced in The Herald that Mr. Howe had no condemnation for 'fake' mediums who manufacture bogus phenomena to order for gullible people is easily understood and explained by those who are in touch with the public movement of spiritualism.

"Spiritualists have a categorical list of physical phenomena in which many persons have had explicit faith. The most prominent of them in use are: Materialization, slate writing, trumpet talking, levitation of objects without physical contact, spirit rapping, table tilting, spirit typewriting and spirit photography. There are other phenomena used by mediums, but the above list contains practically all of what are termed 'physical phenomena.' All of them have at one time or another been indorsed by scientific men as legitimate spiritual phenomena. I am not now disputing the fact, or possibility, that such phenomena can be produced by spirits (although there is very great doubt that some of them can), but affirming that at the present time they are being fraudulently used by thousands of graters of the worst kind, disguised as mediums. So extensive is this swindling carried on that it has become almost the whole thing called 'modern phenomenal spiritualism.'

"The 'fakes' have also largely invaded the ranks of mental mediumship. Clairvoyance and spirit control are being successfully imitated. The various poses of mediums are being imitated and their memories memorized and then given from the platform as the genuine article. Every bogus medium has a prominent phase to which he adheres for success.

The Reason Why
"Well, now we are on the way to see why Mr. Howe had condemnation plenty for The Herald, good advice for persons like myself, and a century whatever for bogus mediums. Mr. Howe was speaking about 'physical phenomena' to a spiritualistic audience. It was the right time and fitting place in every respect to voice his condemnation of the 'fakes' and to state the purpose of the C. S. S. A. To oppose this undesirable class takes not only courage but a love of truth and principle above selfish interest. Such qualities have rarely been found in any member in the past belonging to the C. S. S. A. The members of the present board are no better, no worse, than their predecessors. They are bound hand and foot, gagged as well, by the fake element, and their consciences are under no purpose."
(Continued on Page Nine.)

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL

Few People Know How Useful It is in Preserving Health and Beauty

Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines and carries them out of the system.

All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is in Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal, and other atomized and purified the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug stores, and "though in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets."