

THE PICTURE OF A THOUGHT

Think of a Cat and the Modern Camera Does the Rest.

DR. D. S. JORDAN'S VIEWS

Stanford's President Starts an Intellectual Tem- blor.

TALES AS WEIRD AS ALADDIN.

He Tells of Strange Experiments, and Local Thinkers Open Their Eyes in Wonder.

President David Starr Jordan of Stanford University has set scientists and the thinking men of San Francisco to wondering what has befallen him—all on account of a strange monograph which appears under his name in the "Popular Science Monthly" for September.

The article, which shook up the thinkers of the Pacific Union and Bohemian Clubs as some temblor might shake the earth, bears the strange title, "The Sympsochograph: A Study of Impressionist Physics," and before one reads to the end he finds the cold man of science, "the professor of classified knowledge" as he has been called, dealing, with great sang froid, with stories as remarkable as the tales of Aladdin, apparently giving credence to facts as weird as anything ever told of adepts in the occult stories that tax the believing powers of the ordinary layman of the nineteenth century as much as the fable of Acteon, the celebrated hunter, who, having seen Diana bathing, was forthwith changed into a stag and hunted to death by his own hounds.

Some of the members of the Pacific Union Club became so exercised over the strange revelations that they wrote to Alcaide for further details of what was done.

The learned doctor of physics, psychics and other forms of knowledge simple and occult, tells of the wonderful doings of "The Astral Camera Club of Alcaide, organized in November, 1895, for the purposes of scientific research through the medium of photography." By long degrees the club, says the professor, went far beyond the experiments of Professor Roentgen and the achievements of the famous X ray, and got to a point where its experts could photograph a cat, or any such physical organism, without the presence of the animal, the photograph being transferred to the sensitive plate in some strange manner by the exposure of the plate to the intense gaze of a man who had in his mind a clear mental picture of the cat. In other words, under the latest demonstrated theory, so Dr. David Starr Jordan narrates, it is not necessary to have a cat before a camera to obtain a cat's photograph. All that the expert photographer needs is a thinker who concentrates his mind on some given physical object, and the operator says to the thinker who sits for a cat's photograph, "You think of a cat and the camera does the rest."

The editor of Stanford brings the reader to the story in its fullness by easy stages, beginning as follows:

As soon as the news of the marvelous experiments of Professor Roentgen had reached Alcaide, the Camera Club began work on the X rays and on the larger problem of the significance of photography without visible light. It was no difficulty in repeating the usual experiments. They got an outline of the skeleton of a canary, the shadow of an empty pocket-book, the bones of a finger surrounded with light, and the location of an unaided shot. Thus those strange rays of light, or odic force, invisible to our eyes, because none of our detectors ever had a chance to register them, disclosed the presence of objects which had else lain forever in darkness. In addition to the green light which emanates from the phosphorescence of the phosphor, which always precedes and presages a great discovery in occult science. From this feeling the club was set on fire in predicting that far greater discoveries were to follow, and that the X rays would not end in mere repetitions of Roentgen's results.

In this they were not disappointed. Professor Jordan's experiments, by which he was able to project his thoughts, by means of invisible force, but that the invisible waves sent out through the ether by the mind could be photographed on a sensitive plate. As one sensitive mind after another received an image sent out from the psychic eye, the green light which emanates from the concentrated and gazed upon the sensitive plate. Professor Jordan in a matter of a few minutes, by the use of a postage-stamp, was able to photograph a cat, and the sensitive ether to the plate made ready to receive it. The result was a photograph of the cat, and from this photograph, by means of graphic sensitiveness, made ready to receive it, the connection established, there is naturally no limit to the application of the principle.

From the foregoing experiment Dr. Jordan is able to determine, by logical processes, that the principle is really new, and that some such marvelous powers have been known to exist through all the ages. He says:

It thus becomes plain that the invisible rays of Roentgen are not formed in the common sense, but skin rather to the brain emanate from the odic forces, which pass from mind to mind without the intervention of forms of gross matter as a medium, and which gross matter in all its forms is subject. Nor is this principle new in the philosophy of the occult. The occultist, who has a mind is sovereign over matter. Besides this general law it has been known to our fathers from the eye of the living man, as expressed in the last scene on which he looked in life. With instruments of precision we may examine some, and by skillful photography we should be able to secure and fix it for all time. The achievement of the delicate task of photographing a cat from a mental image, as Dr. Jordan relates, does not belong wholly to the Camera Club of Alcaide, but is part of the fame belonging to English investigators, who went beyond the experiment of photographing a stamp from a mental image. Dr. Jordan says:

It is therefore not necessary for this experiment that one should gaze at an individual stamp. To think of a stamp will serve as well. Recognizing this fact Cameron Lee, another English experimenter, attempted to secure the

Change of Water and climate can have no serious effect upon the system if the drinking water is slightly charged with Fred Brown's JAMAICA GINGER. Pleasant and effective for all stomach disorders and for cold. Sold everywhere. FRED BROWN CO., Philadelphia.

image of a thought. Placing his own eye in the focus, he lent the light of the lamp to the thought intensely of the face of a certain cat. After a long exposure, necessary on account of the comparative grossness of the photographic materials, a picture was formed. The picture shows a rounded outline, evidently that of the enlarged pupil of the eye, and in its center was a faint, but distinct, image of a cat. It was taken for nothing other than a cat. An account of this experiment was given in the "Popular Science Monthly," but its true bearing was first seen at Alcaide.

After the foregoing experiments became generally known through the daily press, Dr. Jordan says, Asa Marvin read a paper on these discoveries, calling the Camera Club's attention to the fact that the distance and showing that they demonstrated, in a unique manner, the triumph of mind over matter. The president of Stanford then tells of the experiment, the following being his report:

Having thus shown the broad principles on which studies in the new psychophysics must rest, Mr. Marvin described a special contrivance or application of these principles to the work of the Camera Club.

He had devised a camera with a lens having curved flanges arranged on the plan of the eye of the cat. To ensure one of the seven facets of the corresponding parts of the lens; then all were to remain in utter darkness and perfect silence, each person fixing his mind on a cat. The picture was to be taken through the eye of the cat as represented by the innate idea of the mind or ego itself. This was highly important, for the eye of the cat, through the lens these impulses would be conveyed on a sensitive plate, and the rays of light gathered together in ordinary photography.

From the members of the Camera Club seven of those having greatest artistic, scientific and greatest power of mental concentration were chosen for the experiment. Connection between the eye of the cat and the sensitive plate of the corresponding parts of the lens; then all were to remain in utter darkness and perfect silence, each person fixing his mind on a cat.

It will be noted that this picture is unmistakably one of a cat. But it is a cat in its real essence, the type cat as distinguished from human impressions, and the cat is not a photograph, like the earlier ones of Odin, Roentgen, Rogers and Lee, opens great vistas for future scientific research. The next experiment will be by similar means to photograph the cat's idea of man.

As might be expected in a first attempt there is a lack of co-ordination of the parts. Mr. Gridley, the schoolmaster, had planned his cat on a large scale, a huge cat face with gray, radiant whiskers looking directly at the beholder. Most of the others thought of the cat in lateral view or profile. These variant and vagrant individual impressions naturally appeared on the camera before the other waves were co-ordinated and the reflex influences coordinated the thought of the cat. Thus these preliminary impressions are recorded as ghost pictures in various places about the plate before the ultimate composite view was achieved. The delay in this regard has darkened the center picture, interfering a little with its perfection of definition.

This darkening would probably appear in other experiments on account of the long exposure of the sensitive plate, and the necessity for a picture of the kind. On the cat's cheek is a curious black spot or stigma which has not been fully accounted for. From its sharpness of definition it must stand in some relation to each of the seven persons whose thoughts were centered upon it. In other words, under the latest demonstrated theory, so Dr. David Starr Jordan narrates, it is not necessary to have a cat before a camera to obtain a cat's photograph. All that the expert photographer needs is a thinker who concentrates his mind on some given physical object, and the operator says to the thinker who sits for a cat's photograph, "You think of a cat and the camera does the rest."

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PROFESSOR DAVID STARR JORDAN, whose Remarkable Paper on What He Terms "The Sympsochograph" Has Greatly Interested Local Scientists, whose Credulity Will Be in Suspense Until the Scientist Returns From Alaska.

The very lowest astral matter merges directly into the highest physical. There are no breaks in nature. The jellyfish is an example of almost pure astral substance. The vibrations we see in dream, and the creations of our thoughts out of this same astral substance, and remain just so long as the dreaming imagination holds them, as close to the physical that they can be plainly seen by the naked eye and of course could be easily photographed.

That which the Alcaide Club has accomplished through the power of their united wills has been the condensation of an image formed by thought in the astral matter and brought within the range of those chemical rays, to which the photographic plate responds and precipitated upon it. Astronomers, as Professor Jordan will know, have succeeded in photographing millions of stars invisible to the naked eye, simply because the sensitized plate records these higher vibrations.

Thought has not been photographed, nor will it ever be, but the form which the thought undoubtedly produces in the astral matter has been in this and many other instances. Such experiments are most useful, because they all tend to break down that materialistic conception of the universe which even science itself has been at so much pains to solve.

Between the point where the ear no longer recognizes vibrations as sound and the point where those same vibrations appear as light there lies a great hiatus for the human mind to explore. Every portion of it is unquestionably discoverable. Whether this will be done by scientific instruments of precision, as theosophy claims, by the evolution of more perfect or new sense faculties, cuts little figure. Every one who has developed to the slightest degree his psychic has entered it.

Every scientist who invents an instrument capable of detecting and recording these higher vibrations has also entered it, and he should be co-workers in this unknown field of future possibilities. All such experiments, therefore, are to be welcomed, and by the theosophists they are, for they are the direct scientific proof of his theories. That these experiments have attracted the attention of the scientist of Dr. Jordan's world-wide reputation is a fact for which humanity may be grateful. It removes such things entirely from the domain of superstition and clairvoyance, to which scientists have heretofore been only too

prone to relegate them. When such men take hold of them they undoubtedly observe that the occult is not a matter of mere observation to which their importance attaches. They are, in fact, the most important of all.

Dr. W. W. Gamble, the theosophical lecturer and writer, said: This is merely a confirmation of what the occultists have long known and taught. It is a scientific, however, to the Western world, and coming from the source it does it should carry great weight. These experiments are the most important of all.

From the way in which it was done I should say they did actually succeed in photographing their thoughts, and that the scientist who claims that the whole universe is merely materialized thought, that man is actually surrounded and lives in his own thought, peoples the space around him with the images of his own creation.

The universe is all built up of thought. Thoughts are often a long while in becoming objectified on this plane. Our after death thoughts, our contemplation of the future, our thoughts we have created, set after death, the actual process by which these thoughts of ours are formed into astral pictures. Every thought we have is actually photographed in the astral light—that plastic body surrounding and interpenetrating the physical body. What we call the astral light is really this is the great negative plate of nature spoken of in Dr. Jordan's article. It receives all the impressions of thought.

From that negative plate of nature these thoughts are in time developed into material objects. Of course these objects take various forms; some are built up as plants, as trees; others as animals, and, in fact, the whole earth itself is built up of the thoughts of men. What we call the astral light is really nature's great workshop.

Thoughts are real things and there should be nothing very strange in the discovery that they can be photographed. Not only do we form images of all that surround us, by our thoughts, live as if we were among our thoughts, but man actually creates the model of his own body, around which the physical cells are formed, just as an architect forms the model upon which his building is erected. We look around San Francisco and see the whole structure of the city, the houses, the streets, the bridges, the towers, the spires, the domes, the arches, the men, and in this way, on other planes, in fact, does man surround himself with the creations of his own thought.

Professor George Davidson, looking at the discovery as related by Dr. Jordan from the point of view of a strictly scientific man, felt inclined to doubt it. Still he was not without a certain amount of interest in Dr. Jordan's article in the Popular Science Monthly because he had not read it. He said:

"Until I have read the whole thing and discussed it in my own mind I won't give an opinion on this subject. At present my judgment is adverse from what I have heard of it. With what little evidence I have I don't believe it, and the extent of the thing has been revamped. This thing was brought to my notice by Mr. Jones, engineer of the gas works, who read the article of Dr. Jordan. The odic force business was brought up thirty years ago as one of those mysterious things that could not be accounted for, and it was dropped. In fact it was never accepted by the scientific community. It was one of those things that are shoved before the public to account for all unexplained phenomena. It is a very old story, and I have heard it by reliable men I would accept it, but as I understand it there is no satisfactory authority quoted. I must read this article, but so far I don't believe it."

Edmund C. Jones, engineer of the gas company, is a gentleman of scientific attainments, and has been making experiments with the X ray. The result of his experiments formed the theme of a paper read last week before the Technical Society. His interest in the mysterious rays led him to give the article of Dr. Jordan more than ordinary thought. In speaking of it he said:

LABOR DAY AT THE BIG TEMPLE

Splendid Programme Prepared by the Local Labor Council.

MUSIC AND SPEECHES.

Rev. Anna H. Shaw Will Deliver an Address on "Woman's Freedom."

THEY WILL HAVE NONE OF IT

Socialists Refuse to Join in the Demonstration—Happenings in the Labor World.

The socialists will not take part in the Labor day festivities. They declare that their time for celebrating is May 1, and under no circumstances would they vary from the European custom, for it is in the Old World that "Labor Day," as understood by them, is correctly interpreted.

In spite of this diversion, however, Labor day will be acknowledged in a manner befitting the occasion by the San Francisco Labor Council. The committee on arrangements is C. Shupp, W. McArthur, T. F. Burns, J. Hill, Thomas Hurd, Edward Rosenberg and W. C. Ackerman. The festivities will be held at Metropolitan Temple and an interesting musical and literary programme is promised. As now arranged, the exercises will be as follows:

Overture, National melody; opening remarks, T. F. Burns, president San Francisco Labor Council; vocal selection, Mrs. J. Morrissy; poem, "The Socialists' Labor Day," written for the occasion by Miss Gabriel M. C. Furlong and dedicated to the San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21; address, "Children of the Trade Union," J. J. Galvin, member San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21; banjo selection, T. Bree; song, "Sing, Sweet Bird," Miss M. Appleby; address, "The Necessity of Labor," Andrew Furuseth, member Sailors' Union of the Pacific; song, "Rally," written, composed and sung by Professor Henry Fairweather; address, "Woman's Freedom," Rev. Anna H. Shaw; finale, "Home Sweet Home," orchestra.

There will be no parade or other outdoor demonstration, but every sympathizer with the labor movement is expected to be present. The socialists, under the leadership of Charles D. Sunflower, held a public meeting at the corner of Market street and Grant avenue yesterday afternoon. The police made no attempt to break up the meeting, although a crowd of several hundred blocked the street. Sunflower made one of his characteristic speeches and was followed by James Anderson, a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor. The latter pointed out the evils of the present Government as viewed by the party he represented, laying particular stress on the fact that the socialists' labor party none of these conditions existed.

Last night at Pythian Hall on Market street the regular weekly meeting was held. The chairman of the evening was T. F. Burns, who made a few pointed remarks fitting to the occasion. G. B. Benham and G. Aspden gave appropriate readings, after which the speaker of the evening, E. T. Kingsley, was introduced. This gentleman, it may be remarked, is the Socialist Labor party candidate for Congress from the Fourth District.

The speaker selected for his subject "Confusion." In a direct and general way he criticized the attitude of the two rival parties, claiming that they were confusing in their arguments and that neither really benefited the workingman. He referred incidentally to the fact that the socialist labor party was already organized in seventeen States, and he expected to see every State in the Union fall into line before November. There were tens of thousands, he said, who would cast their votes for Matchett and Maguire, the Socialist party candidates for President and Vice-President.

The campaign committee of the Socialist labor party is extremely active at present. They have the full legal number required to get their candidates on the municipal ticket, and they are working for the Fourth Congressional District. The State ticket, however, is not faring so well. As twenty days yet remain before returns must be made, the campaign committee believe the full 3000 signatures will be obtained.

During the coming week J. F. Fones, prominent in Oakland political circles, will leave on a novel electioneering tour of the State. He proposes to tour that end of the State in a wagon, giving lectures where he thinks they will do the most good and scattering socialist literature with a lavish hand. James Andrews of Berkeley will leave on a similar mission next week.

Rev. Edward P. Dempsey delivered a discourse last evening at the conclusion of vespers upon the life and labors of St. Vincent de Paul. The subject of the sermon was a priest of the seventeenth century, who devoted his entire life to the alleviation of human suffering. Through his labors numerous asylums, homes for the aged and other charitable institutions were founded, throughout France. He also instituted the order of the Sisters of Charity, whose ministrations to-day relieve the poor and the suffering in every land.

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society, a large Branch of which exists in this City, is devoted to the charities advocated by its patron and Father Dempsey made an earnest appeal to the members of the Cathedral congregation to become contributing members of this society.

"You are all as responsible for everything you need," he said, "know nothing of these people who are so poor—but they exist in the parish. The charity of this kind is the kind that the Almighty will reward. The charity that does something practical for the poor is the charity of Christ. Would that the spirit of St. Vincent would find an active, zealous place in every member here. Remember, the Scriptures from beginning to end are filled with promises to those who follow the practices of which St. Vincent de Paul is an exemplar. Remember that even a glass of water given in his name will not be unrewarded. We will never miss it. Remember, we are brothers and sisters of the same God."

President Jordan will return from Alaska about October 1st, and he is believed to be able to throw considerable light on the question when he arrives. During his absence scientists and theosophists alike will be in painful suspense.

An Admission Day Picnic to Be Held at Harbor View by Division No. 2. At yesterday's meeting of the committee arrangements were completed for the picnic of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division No. 2, to be held next Wednesday, Admission Day, at Harbor View Park.

This will be the twenty-seventh annual picnic held under the auspices of Division No. 2. It will be attended by a large number of the members of other divisions. An attractive programme of athletic games, races and dances has been prepared and a most enjoyable day is anticipated.

Loans on watches, jewelry, silverware, at Uncle Harris', 15 Grant avenue.

NEW TO-DAY-DRY GOODS. SPECIAL SALE 1000 Choice French Dress Patterns!

The Best Values Ever Offered in San Francisco.

\$10.50 Dress Pattern 44-INCH FRENCH NOVELTY BOUCLE AND CHEVIOT PLAIDS, colors Heliotrope and Green, Brown and Red, Green and Tan and Navy and Brown.

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Samples of above goods sent free to any address.

O'Connor & Moffatt 1892. 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121 POST STREET.

GOLDBERG & CO. Boys' Stylish Shoe

Our harvest is beginning. We're gathering in the world's crop of freshly ripened fruits—first, figs; then raisins, nuts and orchard fruits.

SPECIAL SAVING SALE. Monday—Tuesday—Wednesday Pasha Blend Coffee 1b. 30c

Italian Vermouth bot. 50c regularly 60c doz. \$5.50 Jams and Jellies jar 15c

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THE SUCCESS OF THE SEASON The GRILL Ladies' ROOM OF THE PALACE HOTEL.

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