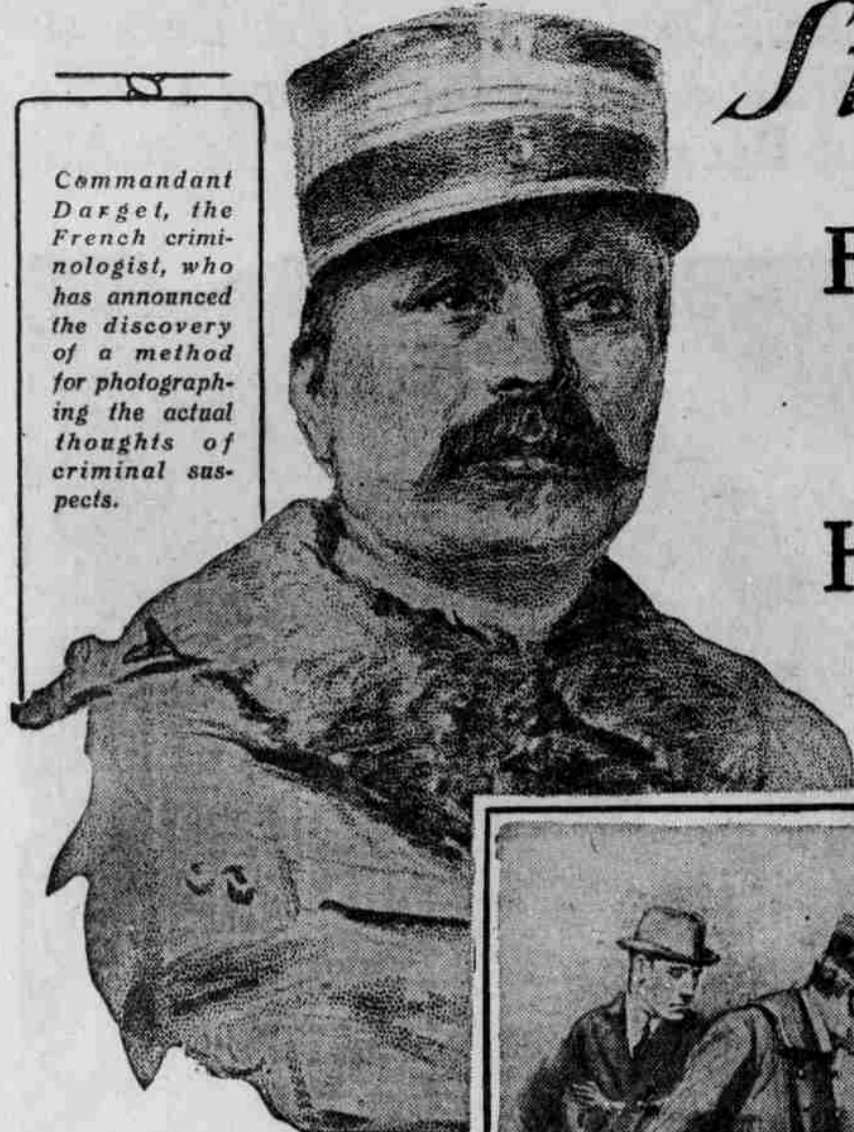


Thought Photography Startles Scientists

French Criminologist Transfers Mental Impressions to Highly Sensitized Plate

Commandant Darget, the French criminologist, who has announced the discovery of a method for photographing the actual thoughts of criminal suspects.



COMMANDANT DARGET of the French army has, according to authentic reports, startled the scientific world with his experiments in thought photography, resulting in pictures of objects suggested mentally, which, when projected from the mind to a highly sensitized photographic plate held against the forehead of a subject, leaves a tangible impression of the object thought of at the moment.

In his seventeenth year Commandant Darget began experimenting with animal magnetism as far back as 1882, and soon afterward discovered that from the brain there exuded a vital fluid that was luminous, and which apparently was caused by vibratory motion illuminating the phosphorus contained in the brain, projecting rays to the exterior of the cranium that were later photographed, reproducing perfectly the object thought of.

Commandant Darget, in the presence of six witnesses, first produced the image of a bottle on a photographic plate after first having concentrated upon the object for a period of two minutes, and also the contour of a head of Beethoven, mentally conjured by one of the witnesses for a period of fifteen minutes, and accurately transferred to the photographic plate, which was wrapped in black paper and held against the forehead.

These remarkable demonstrations of thought photography have aroused criminologists to the marvelous possibilities that are opened to the solving of baffling crimes and the detection of clever criminals.

Instead of resorting to the old-fashioned, non-productive, brutally coercive methods known as the "third degree," a suspect will be invited to sit down, the crime discussed and the suspect helped to involuntarily visualize the scene of the crime, while a photographic plate held firmly against his forehead will almost immediately disclose his guilt or innocence.

How easy it will be to discover the murderer of an Elwell, one of the most baffling crimes of recent times! The deliberate method of the murderer of the gambler, sitting opposite his victim in the early hours when the city was asleep and punctuating a recital of actual or fancied wrongs with a death dealing weapon from which flashed the searing flame and messenger of death, that left a comparatively healthy man sitting up right in his chair, a hole between his eyes and not a clew left by which the murderer could be traced!

If sentiment, as Commandant Darget claims, can be photographed, how readily any one of the men or women friends of the murdered gambler would have responded to this test of vital ray photography; someone intimate with the dead man would have involuntarily revealed on the photographic plate a picture that would have led the police to the actual murderer.

Or in the case of Peters, the seaman and chauffeur shot by young Ward. The real reason that led to the shooting, though evaded and only partly explained, would stand revealed for all to read if the truth were projected along the luminous rays of the radiating human vital fluid of one of the victim's companions the night of the crime.

Incorrigibility can be detected and cured in a photographic laboratory installed in a public school, and the citizen of the future trained scientifically to avoid the pitfalls that the vital rays would reveal in time to check their growth to tendencies for evil. What are known as habitual criminals could be studied in safety and the criminal instincts that kept them in penal thralldom corrected if not positively cured.

Errors of judicial judgment, the fallibility of circumstantial evidence, the vindictive spirit of the perjurer which has sent many an innocent victim within the walls of the penitentiary can all be disclosed in time to balance the scales of justice equally, for the bandage on the eyes of justice cannot prevent these rays of vital human fluid illuminating the truth which has so often been crushed to earth in our courts and chained down in the penal cell or lost in the oblivion of the death chair.

Even in the chamber of lost hope a photograph of the thoughts of a condemned prisoner may bring about a new trial or a discharge to freedom, as in the



All crime mysteries will be solved—no matter what the suspect says, what he thinks will be photographed on the plate.

case of Cohen, the poultry dealer, who was unjustly sentenced to the chair for the murder in Washington market, with which it was ultimately proved he had nothing to do.

How easy it would be to trace the Taylor murder in Hollywood from the beginning of that director's strange if not meteoric career to its close! What a jumble of scenes would be unfolded! And what a sensation might spring from the very mystery surrounding the killing of a man whose highest motive was said to be the protection of the clever young women who appeared in the pictures he directed.

This discovery of a means to lay the secrets of the brain bare by Commandant Darget is one that has attracted the attention of scientists of all lands, but none so far has been able to have made photographic records of the brain's manifestations. Six thousand plates have been developed in the Darget laboratory, recording occult motifs, brain waves, actual pictures of thought objects, the bones of the body taken by simply holding a highly sensitized plate against the body, and which promises to eliminate the danger of X-ray burns, so fatal in many instances, and the possibility of photographing organic disease in the human body without the use of an apparatus or causing mental distress incidental to preparing for the X-ray photography.

This thought photography is sure to call the scientific world everywhere to attention. It has just taken its first step, with the Sorbonne, the great university of France, awake to the great field of discovery that has so suddenly been uncovered and following so quickly on the heels of the astounding marvel of the materialization of the flesh and blood woman that amazed the Sorbonne also recently.

If the criminal fears talking in his sleep, what double distilled horror will he not know when he comes to realize that the very thoughts of his waking hours may be read at police headquarters as if in cold print, perhaps even more clearly than if he himself were present trying to evade questions by innuendos and mental reservations!

The photographic scientist will eventually take the place of the rough human police force, he may also become the attaché to the Judge's chambers, where a witness whose reliability is questioned can be suddenly shown that even the innermost thoughts are no longer capable of concealment.

The income tax dodger will also have to look out, for the visualization of his assets, both visible and apparently concealed, will be flashed in front of the collector's vision and the dodger confused at his own subterfuge.

This visualization of what you actually think is accomplished without the aid of any apparatus, it is no betrayal of science, but downright daring in a new field, where for one reason or another many scientists have feared to tread. The most astonishing results in modern science have, in general, taken their departure from some small incident, or some apparently insignificant point that had been known for years, but had been overlooked as being of no consequence, or at least of no immediate interest.

Watt's tea kettle is an example. A photographic plate that had been effectively hidden away in a wrapper where

it would never ordinarily have been put gave the clue to the X-rays and the science of radiography, which were only discovered and proved up as to the reason why but a very few years ago. The X-rays and substances incidental had always existed; it was the accident of bringing them into close touch for the emissary fluid which they exuded to put scientists upon the track of one of the most wonderful curative agents known.

Old Euclid, over whom we poroed describing equilateral triangles on given straight lines, is considered all wrong by Einstein, who tells us that two supposedly parallel lines will ultimately join, that the sun's rays come to light and warm us at an obtuse angle, not the line of Euclid, and that all we have hitherto considered as fundamental and patent facts are but mere dubious fallacies.

The theory of a magnetic vital fluid is not as obscure as the theory of Einstein. The Sorbonne admits it is a recognized existing element of our makeup. And it is not going too far in the case of a crime which has been committed to prove, by a photographic plate placed on head of a supposed culprit, that the image of his thoughts can be transmitted in some legible manner so that it can be translated with completeness.

A few years ago wireless telegraphy and telephony did not exist and just as Marconi, De Forrest and Bell perfected their inventions, so Commandant Darget is perfecting and solving the problem of thought photography. He has already solved other hitherto unbelievable photographic problems where the human vital fluid has set up an action on the sensitized plate analogous to that of the actinic rays first made use of by Draper, Niépce and Daguerre.

In a cabled interview from Paris Commandant Darget states: "My personal magnetic fluid had, in effect, during my experiences, influenced the photographic plates and actually left visible traces, more or less varied with regard to form, dimension and intensity of the impression, but still sufficiently tangible to leave no doubts of the success of my theory."

"Everyone is capable of throwing off this fluid more or less, and in volume and quality according to the physical and moral condition. Certain persons are more apt than others to eliminate this vital fluid from their bodies as, for instance, the magnetizers and spiritualistic mediums who already have a consciousness of their powers."

"I have obtained figures of men and also of animals on plates that have been wrapped in opaque black paper and absolutely hidden from all penetrating light."

"Generally I wrap my experimental plates, before exposing, in three sheets of paper, one white, one black and another of any color. These are sealed and given to my assistants. One of the wrapped plates is then placed on the forehead of the subject, and within a few minutes it is returned to me for developing still sealed. I have exposed similar wrapped plates under the bodies of sleeping animals with good results. I have also experimented with small twigs and branches of trees, particularly in the spring when the sap is running."

"These experiments have proved to me and others that the vital fluid will not only traverse the paper covering of the plates, but will also give an impression on

a plate inclosed in a safe. This experiment I made recently with Mme. Darget, who has strong mediumistic powers. A small metallic box, in which the sensitized plate was inclosed, was placed against the forehead of Mme. Darget, and when removed within a few minutes showed spots and discolorations suggestive of a strong radiating influence which emanated from her body.

"Other successful experiments which I have made have been what I call photographs of thought expression, also indications of localized disease. These plates were the ordinary photographic plates of commerce and I am sure that with plates more highly sensitized I will accomplish amazing results."

"I have given these rays the name of 'V' rays—vital rays, as they are to all appearances the result of a phenomenon created by a light or ray of a certain quality not yet understood, less so than the familiar X-rays at all events."

"There is little more to be done before we shall have a much clearer idea of these vital ray possibilities and be able to subjugate this fluid effect to a still greater degree and approach with a definite understanding of just what lies within the brain region and what a wonderful and yet unknown realm of reality it is for scientists to explore."

"The Sorbonne and the French Medical Institute have intimated a desire to investigate my discoveries and their investigations will result in declarations that the new science is a scientific sidelight on the many discoveries lately made with regard to 'rays.'"

Fixing Waist Line Expected to Be Big Aid to Women.

Matter at Present Is Enshrouded in Mystery.

OF GREAT assistance to the development of feminine perfection will be the fixation of the waist line, or equator. At present this matter is enshrouded in mystery, the exact situation of the feminine equator unknown. It appears to be rambling about somewhere between the shoulders and the knees, with some risk that it may slip off altogether.

Among the arbiters of fashion there is no consensus of opinion on the subject, and it looks as though a new congress of Vienna, or of Paris, or of Versailles, would be necessary to settle the business; perhaps by decision to be enforced by some new international league or alliance. The great authorities are all at sea just now.

Chanel declares the equatorial line of the fashionable woman will be somewhere between the hips and the knees. This is low. Patou says it will be a diagonal, a sort of ecliptic, ascending from a point four inches above the right knee to a point one inch below the left hip. Not so, says Bouillet; it shall be just below the hips, but a trifle higher behind than in front—thus suggesting Harry Leon Wilson's mythical animal, the high-behind.

Paul Poiret approaches the normal by declaring that it shall be just above the hips, while Worth dares to be logical by laying down the rule that the waistline should be at the waist. This leaves nothing to settle except the question, where is that?

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