

# MAKING TABLES DANCE: ITALIAN WOMAN BAFLES

Experts Tell of Strange Exploits When Every Precaution Was Used to Prevent Deception—The Medium's Face Turns Yellow, Shrinks, and She Loses Weight.

The psychical phenomena that ran riot in the Marshall street house for four hours last Thursday is one of the most remarkable occurrences of the kind of which there is record, and is still without explanation. Theories of static electricity, magnetism and the alleged supernatural powers of the 12-year-old boy all have adherents, but so far explanation offered by either is unsatisfactory. So extraordinary are the facts with reference to moving furniture, shifting curtains and other movable articles that, but for the testimony of the hundred or more people who saw and agree upon the manifestations and agree fully as to details, the story would be unbelievable.

**Supernatural Power Theory.**  
If the theory of supernatural powers in the boy account for the manifestations, he is the most remarkable case of the kind in history. The most extraordinary person in the world in the exercise of such powers is probably a Neapolitan woman named Eusapia Palladino, and to the complete satisfaction of the most eminent experts in psychic phenomena has demonstrated her powers, without contact, of moving tables, playing musical instruments and performing other supernatural exploits. Among other eminent observers to whom she has demonstrated these powers was Lombroso, the distinguished criminologist who recently died in Italy, and Hereward Carrington, an American, neither of whom belongs to the spiritualist cult, while Carrington has spent many years and gained international reputation in the exposure of mediums and their methods.

If the Portland boy is responsible for the manifestations in the house on Marshall street, doing it all without the physical exhaustion characteristic of all persons who have ever done such things, he is a new wonder in the world. In the case of the Neapolitan woman, as soon as she passes into the physical state necessary to produce the manifestations, she has been known to lose as much as 17 pounds in weight within a period of 12 to 20 seconds, regaining it almost immediately.

**Face Turns Yellow.**  
At the conclusion of the seance she is faint, dizzy, nauseated, extremely weak, occasionally vomits and remembers little that has occurred during the seance. Her face becomes deeply lined, is greenish in color and appears to be shrunk to almost half its natural size. To minimize her term of suffering as much as possible, she refrains from taking food for a dozen hours or more before she undertakes a seance. There is no account that the Marshall street boy suffered inconvenience of any sort or that he even had knowledge of the extraordinary powers attributed to him.

It is to be remembered that Mr. Carrington's whole career before the public has been devoted to the exposure of mediums, a fact that makes intensely interesting his narrative about the strange powers of the Neapolitan woman. In a recent statement he says:

**Remarkable Experiences.**  
"I have just returned from the most remarkable experience in the world—a seance with Eusapia Palladino. I have seen tables suspended in the air without visible support; I have seen curtains blown about as though by a strong breeze, within a closed room, doors and windows being securely locked; I have seen objects floating in the air, untouched by human hand; I have heard notes struck upon musical instruments which lay several feet away from Eusapia and from any of her investigators, and I have felt and been touched by white and apparently living hands which were certainly not those of my colleagues or myself, and equally certainly were not those of the medium, since both of her hands were held in mine."

"For more than 30 years this medium has been continually investigated by group after group of skeptical scientists from different cities of Europe, and one and all of them have become converted to a belief in her supernatural powers. This may be said, indeed, of practically every group of scientists who have investigated her—in every instance they have come from her seances convinced that in almost every case the investigators have approached the study of these phenomena in a state of complete skepticism, and their conversion was effected only after objection after objection had been disposed of, until they were left."

**No Fraud in It.**  
Mr. Carrington's investigation of Eusapia were the result of a special trip to Europe. Like other eminent investigators, his investigations were made,

not because they were desirous of being converted, but because they wished to ascertain the truth or falsity of the phenomena, and discover if possible a new force that operates during these seances and whose physical explanation does not as yet recognize. With him as a committee member was Honorable E. Fielding and W. W. Baggage, both members of the English Society for Practical Research, one having devoted 10 and the other 25 years to the investigation of mediums.

"Neither of us," says Mr. Carrington, "had during our long experience, ever witnessed any physical phenomena that was in itself convincing, or that did not appear to us to be clearly fraudulent in character. Generally we had been able to see how the trick was performed, and two of us being amateur conjurers and thoroughly familiar with all the methods employed by mediums, we believed ourselves fully able to detect fraud if Eusapia attempted it."

They spent a month in Naples, during which there were 11 sittings with Eusapia. The house was three rooms in a hotel, which were 50 feet above the ground, and impossible of access from without. The doors were all barred so securely that interference from without was impossible. The seance room was lighted with a cluster of electric lights, the largest of which was 16 candle power. A cabinet was curtained off in the corner, forming a triangular space of three feet, and in it were a table, a tambourine and other musical instruments. A cabinet was permitted, because the medium, from whim or custom, insisted that a cabinet was necessary to concentrate and hold the magnetic fluid which emanates from her person. The subtle forces involved in the experiment were difficult to assemble, and the cabinet was permitted, with the certainty by the investigators that, with their experience, it was impossible for them to be imposed upon.

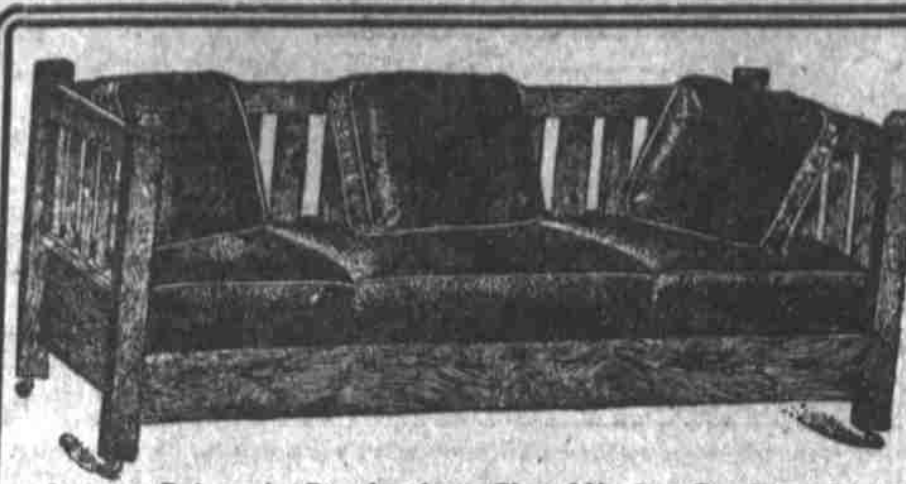
**Stool Moves Through Air.**  
Continuing his narrative, Mr. Carrington says: "During the seventh seance a small milking stool, which we had placed inside the cabinet, came out of its own accord, and slid along the floor about a yard, approaching the medium. She placed her hand above it and waved it to and fro in various directions. The stool followed these motions, dragging itself along the floor, and finally rose into the air altogether. We passed our hands between the stool and the medium, and along the carpet, ascertaining that there was no thread, hair, string or attachment of any kind—which, however, was fairly obvious to us, as there was a brilliantly lighted space of about two feet between her body and the stool. We then picked up the stool, examined it, and replaced it on the floor. In spite of our utmost precautions, however, the stool moved about in various directions, obedience to waves of her hands above it, at a distance of some three feet, and finally was completely levitated. We considered that this experiment had been produced under absolute test conditions."

**Stool Climbs Curtain.**  
"I was looking down at the little stool, which was on the floor, about a foot from the curtain and about two and a half feet from the medium's leg, and wondering whether anything would happen. Suddenly, as I was looking, I saw it approach the curtain, and the curtain go out toward it; it then climbed very slowly indeed up the curtain—horizontally, one corner only pointing in and touching the curtain on the outside. It gave me the impression of being drawn up as if by a kind of magnet on the other side of the curtain. It slid past the curtain, which remained motionless, and then it was seen climbing up, on both sides of the stool, but not between the stool and the curtain, as I was afraid of interfering with the movements. There was nothing tangible behind it. When it had climbed to about one and a half feet above Mrs. H.'s shoulder, it seemed to turn, and drawing the curtain with it, went over Mrs. H.'s shoulder, on to the seance table."

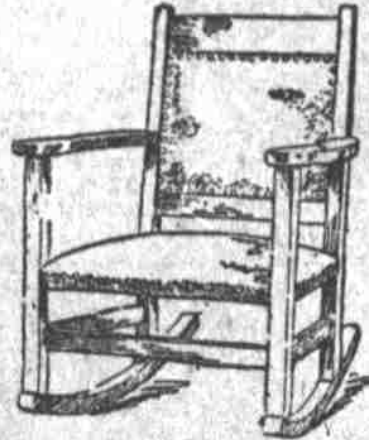
**Hands Appear.**  
"While her feet were firmly strapped to her chair and her hands were securely held by us, so that deception was impossible, and while the light was ample for everything to be clearly visible, hands issued from the curtains of the cabinet, slapped, pulled and pinched us, and on one occasion grasped Mr. Baggage so firmly by the left arm and pulled him so forcibly that he was nearly dislodged from his chair and pulled into the cabinet. He was at that moment holding the medium's right hand, and the table, and I had my hand on her lap, while I was encircling her body with my right arm. Occasionally hands issued from the curtain, carrying various musical instruments, and on one or two occasions I felt a hand pass through my hair, which it afterward pulled, and tap me with some force upon the top of the head. While this was going on I remained perfectly calm, as did we all, and at the very moment was dictating the condition of my hand and foot control to the stenographer."

**Others Tell of Eusapia.**  
Many more phenomena are recounted by Mr. Carrington in his article, which appeared in McClure's Magazine for October, and along with his narrative he quotes the experiences of investigators of equal eminence with himself. The latter, publishing their experiences with Eusapia, say:

"While Lodge held both the medium's hands on the table, she has been leaning over onto him away from the chair, and while Lodge held both her feet, the suspended chair was heard to be raised partially up three times, with brief pauses, taking four seconds in all,



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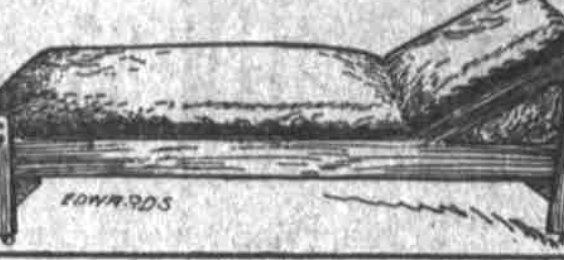
as heard and recorded by Beiler, the note that. It did not now begin to play, but began to flap, as if its door were trying to open. Soon it began to play, and raps were heard upon it. While it played Eusapia waved Lodge's hands in the air in time with the music. It soon stopped, but was immediately resumed and went on playing some time. While this was going on the chaise began to swing, and the string was heard to break, but instead of dropping on the floor, the chaise was gently placed on Myers' head, and thence onto the table. This phenomenon occurred under quite satisfactory conditions."

**Water Invisibly Poured.**  
"M. was seized from behind while standing, and vigorously pulled and shaken about, while all four were standing holding hands round the table. I saw him moving and felt a transmitted pull. A loaf and other objects from the buffet hard by arrived on the table, and a pile of five plates. Our small table was in front of the buffet. Everybody was now standing up, and observers were getting tired, so we asked to stop, but agency insisted on continuing. Statement made that the medium needed refreshment, but the agency said it would see to that. A gurgling noise was heard as if the medium was drinking from a bottle, and directly afterward a decanter of water which had been on the top shelf of the buffet arrived on the table; then it rose again to the medium's mouth, where it was felt horizontally by Richel, and again she drank. It then came again on to the table and stayed there."

Mr. Carrington concludes: "Such incidents, it must be admitted, seem incredible, as well as absurd. Nevertheless, they are recorded as facts, and we must not reject them a priori because of their apparent incredibility. If the simpler phenomena prove to be facts, there is no reason whatever for doubting the more remarkable manifestations; they would then differ in degree and not in kind. And as I am absolutely certain that at least some of the phenomena witnessed in the presence of this medium are genuine, I can see no a priori objection to these more remarkable manifestations, bizarre as they may appear. If unknown

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**COUNTY-WIDE PLAN  
FOR GOOD ROADS**

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Pendleton, Or., Oct. 30.—The Umatilla County Good Roads association has perfected plans for a county wide movement for permanent road improvement. The officers of the county organization are: President, H. J. Taylor; vice president, Dr. F. W. Vincent; secretary and treasurer, Sam Thompson.

In addition to the general officers, vice presidents have been elected, whose duty it will be to organize the various districts and appoint various times for regular meetings. It is hoped in this way to make every farmer and taxpayer a member of the organization and influenced to take an active part in the good roads campaign.

The following men were elected vice presidents in the districts named: Tolo, Thompson, South Reservation; John Kink, Weston; Henry Schmidt, Athena; Louis Scholl, Echo; Mac Weburn, South Milton; A. E. Simmons, North Milton; Thomas Jacques, Pilot Rock; J. T. Huston, Ukiah; Charles McCovey, Helt; Alex Hudson, McKay; A. G. Buhloltz, Nya; Fred McRae, Holdman; H. T. Connel, Alba; George Ginn, Cottonwood; M. L. Fix, Combs Canyon; James Sullivan, Adams; Ben Nevin, Weacham; S. C. Newport, Hermiston; Mr. Dornell, Umatilla; E. P. Tullock, Union; A. W. Stockman, Vancycle; Dave Nelson, Fulton; Jack Frost, North Reservation; Dan Kirk, Valley; D. C. Sanderson, Freewater; Dr. Cos, Stanfield; Low Reed, Bingham Springs; George Adams, Gilliland; Pete Miller, Jundrey; Isaac Hagen, Mountain; Mr. Dupuy, Niles; Mr. Cameron, Prospect.

**QUARTER MILLION  
FOR KIND DEEDS**

**Major Zook Divides Fortune  
Between Children and  
Landlord.**

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Oakland, Cal., Oct. 30.—Major J. W. Zook, a veteran of the civil war, who



died here yesterday, left half of his \$500,000 estate to Marshall G. Scribner, proprietor of the Galindo hotel, where Zook stayed. He had been ill for 18 months, during which time Scribner cared for him, and to show his appreciation Zook drew his will mainly in Scribner's favor. The other half of the estate is left to Zook's children, Harry and Mabel Zook, and Zook and Mrs. William Kreiger of Johnstown, Pa.

Zook, it is claimed, designed the first refrigerator car, and formed the company from which the Armour Packing company sprang. In his effects have been found a \$15,000 check drawn in

Zook's favor and purporting to be the initial payment on \$4,000 acres in Arizona. He has mines and land in California and shares in the United States Smelting company valued at \$65,000. The will was filed for probate today.

**Bank Building Soon Completed.**  
Lebanon, Or., Oct. 30.—W. A. Cox of Albany, has completed the pressed brick front on the new Lebanon State Bank building here, and the plastering is being done. In a short time this building will be completed and ready for the furniture and fixtures of the bank, and will be open for business.

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