PIRITS FIGHT SHY OF FINANCE STUFF

"Pastor" Fenner, Recently Sued by Patron, Conducts Harmless Seance

ADVICE IS VERY SIMPLE

Lovelorn Lass Told to Change Tactics-Woman With Estate Pleased

By M'LISS

Whatever else may be said of "the spirit by the skeptics, it cannot be denied when occasion demands "the spirit world" knows how to be discreet.

"The spirit world" and some fifteen mem bers of this material vale of tears assembled yesterday afternoon at the Psychic Temple, at 1710 North Broad street. Under less psychic circumstances this is known merely as Martel's Hall, where the youth of North Philadelphia are wont to trip the light fantastic. On Sunday, however, Martol's, though the occult influence of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Fenner, "pastors"-to give them their title from the program—is raised to a higher sphere, and even the seminude bronze electrolier lady, who adorns the platform, seems more chastened than she on, say, Tuesdays or Thursdays.

VERY WISE SPIRITS

Those in the great beyond who responded to the summons of "Pastor" Fenner at yesterday's seance-"service." to be programmatically correct-seemed to know instinctively that money investments and mining stocks were subjects for the nonce "taboo. It was plain to comprehend that "the spirit world" was entirely cognizant of the fact that the "Pastor" had only recently been made defendant in a suit which two exdevotees of the Temple are prosecuting an endeavor to get back the \$1000 that they say the "Pastor" had advised them to allow him, under metaphysical direction, to invest in gold mine stock. With supernatural discretion the spirits "kept off" mining stock and everything remotely appertaining to it.

There were those present disappointed at this discretion—those who had come for the bread of concrete advice concerning investments and received only the stone of vague and abstract generalities.

"How shall I invest my estate?" The little woman behind me, who had written the question, trembled visibly when the

aging to the "pastors."

The trance ballot demonstration looks systic, but not skillful. The male 'pasmystic, but not skillful. The male 'pas-tor." who bears a close resemblance to a human haddock, blindfolds himself with a strip of black cloth. It fits quite snugly and it is doubtful if he can see from under it. But then he doesn't need to because the 'pastoress' sits at his side and when her husband has indicated the ballot that he yearns to answer—all of them having been collected from the audience and placed on a table before him—she calmix reads aloud a table before him-she calmly reads aloud to him the identifying mark with which the writer has tagged it. The latter then calls out from the audience that he or she is "here." In view of the fact that he or she had to be there to write the ballot—the apirits are singularly lazy about these mat-ters—this does not seem remarkable.

The little woman interested in the estate eaned forward palpitatingly when her

The pastor played nervously with his hands, just like Paderewski does in moments of coming inspiration.

"There comes to me the letter A." said Fenner eerily.

The wrinkles in the woman's face which was withered like an old apple deepened.

"Yes, yes," she breathed. DON'T BE AFRAID

"Have no fears about the estate." the pastor" continued. "Do nothing rash. Be patient and everything will come ail right. You are worried now, but I see a bright light. I also see an outside line touching the circle in which you have been going-Be patient and be prudent. Do you under

She did and the "pastor" went on to the next ballot, which was that of a young woman who sat by the side of her young man. This girl, whose face was more in-telligent than that of the average visitor to the "parlor" of neighborhood psychics, was told in answer to her query that she was building correctly "the basis of the foundation of the superstructure you de-sire." This "got over" to her perfectly, She understood and the pastor, encouraged.

An anemic girl of about twenty was called next. As her ballot was identified she left her seat in one of the back rows and hysterically ran up to the front row. There, white-faced and pitiful, she clung to the edge of her chair, her neck craning toward the platform as though life and death hung on the utterances of Fenner.

The marks of the lovelorn were upon her.
"Who is C?" asked the psychic.
The spril jumped, but before she could reply. "C. J." Fenner went on.

"He's my friend," she said jerkily. Fenner looked gratified. You are pursuing the wrong course, told her. "Tre spirit world wishes to

told her. 'Tre spirit world wishes to selp you, but by your anxious manner you defeat them. Change your tactics with C. J. and everything will come all right. Do you understand?"

Do you understand?"
"Yes." she answered. "but is any length
of time given? Does the spirit world know
when everything will come all right?"
The spirit world did not, the spirit world
was already interested in a man present—a
widower, it, developed—whose wife in the
higher sphere wished to make it known
to him that she still dictated the affairs
of the household.

of the household.

A noncommittal expression made it difficult to understand whether this psychic information was wholly pleasing.

Altogether the entertainment at the temple on the surface at least, was innocuous mough yesterday. Preceding the trance saliot demonstration there was Bible reading, a prayer in which "the wings of the large world" were asked to influence the President and all diplomats." A swarthy, well-fed looking maiden, in husky tones, remolosed "The Rosary" with pathos; anther played the hymns which the "pastors" and the audience sang.

Sir Oliver Lodge also was invoked. It may be said in passing that Sir Oliver has not new heart and soul into declining spiritalists. Mrs. Fenner, in ringing tones, read in article from a current magazine about its oliver's new book, "Raymond." She is this, she saids for the culture of the mainner. Mr. and Mrs. Fenner, according the program, give unquestionable proof the bayond in grave. Why shouldn't have the saids of the culture of the bayond in grave. Why shouldn't have the saids of the culture of the bayond in grave. Why shouldn't have returned to the saids of the culture of the bayond in grave. Why shouldn't have returned to the saids of the culture of the bayond in grave. Why shouldn't have returned to the saids of the culture of the bayond in grave.

'REV.' FENNER AND SPIRIT-WORLD 'LEAK'



Fenner is the pastor of the Psychic Temple, at 1710 North Broad street. He and his wife are accused of fraudulent misrepresentation in the selling of stock in a gold mine. It is alleged he received advices from the spirit world that the mine was rich in ore. The picture above is Fenner's own conception of the manner in which the spirits perch on his shoulder and whisper to him correct information concerning the answers to questions from his flock written on slips of paper and held in his hand. The picture adorns the first page of the Psychic Temple leaflets.

VISIT TO THE MINT NOW A SERIOUS EVENT

'Welcome" Is Absent From the Doormat and Uncle Sam Withholds Glad Hand

If you want to visit the Mint these days you'd better have your passports vised be-fore you attempt it.

The question, trembled visibly when the "pastor" identified it as hers and prepared to give an answer.

This was the piece de resistance of the service—the trance ballot demonstration. It is what the people come for, and it is significant that it follows the silver offering—if you haven't got a dime, two nickles—not one, mind you—will do as well. I was about the ninth person to whom the basket was passed and no one seemed to have had more than a dime up to that time. The rest looked no more affluent. Fifteen persons, fifteen dimes, \$1.50, lights, janitor service, half rent—the arithmetic must be discouraging to the "pastors."

Where formerly was suspended a notice on the main entrance door informing the public of the visiting hours, there is now a notice to the care that no one can be admitted without permission and by a statement of business. At the main entrance there husky guardians great the visitor. Callers must state their business or give their cards. Another guardian assigns the visitor to a seat in the main entrance looby. Men pass up and down and in and out by twos, never singly. There is a feeling that gating guns or submarines lurk in the supercharged atmessible of the corridor, but nothing more terrifying the public of the visiting hours, there is now a torigon the visiting hours, there is not a diministration on the main entrance door informing the public of the visiting hours, there is not a diministration that no one can be admitted without permission and by a statement of business. At the main entrance hours and the visition for the visiting hours, there is not a diministration of the visiting hours, there is not a diministration of the visiting hours, there is not public of the visiting hours, there is not public of the visiting hours, there is not public of the visiting hours and by a statement of business. At the main entrance hours and by a statement of business. At the main entrance hours and by a statement of business. At the main entrance hours and by a statement of business. At the main Where formerly was suspended a notice

than a blue uniform with brass buttons is visible. Then another guardian comes along and excepts the visitor to Director Joyce. And this last guardian accompanies the caller along the corridor to the elevator. And he gets into the elevator and sticks until he sees the stranger ushered into the presence of the Director.

The guardian stands respectfully to one nde while the talk with the Euroctor is on This concluded, he accompanies the caller down in the elevator again. The three huskies at the main entrance open the door and the Mint visitor finds himself out in the open. Nothing happened, but there is a feeling that relations have been severed mewhere, and it is recollected that Uncle Sam has "some" gold in that massive pile of steel and granite with armor-plate vaults away underground at the corner of Sixteenth and Spring Garden streets.

The Faintest Known Variable Star

Mr. Harlow Shapley reports that a star the southern globular cluster Messier 3 sizz) shows a conspicuous shortentrance lobby. Men pass up and down and in and out by twos, never singly. There is a feeling that gatting guns or submarines turk in the supercharged atmosphere of the corridor, but nothing more terrifying able star thus far discovered.

PITTSBURGH FREIGHT TIE-UP Has Worst Congestion in Its History;

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 19.—The Pittsburgh district is facing the worst freight congestion in its history. Industries are hard hit and many manufacturers have been compelled to close their plants. A plan is on foot among the larger concerns to agree to a general shutdown for ten days two weeks to relieve the situation

Food Prices Soaring

The Pennsylvania Railroad and the Penn sylvania Lines West have created a joint commission to handle freight and this body is studying the possibilities for disposing

is studying the possibilities for disposing of traffic and accepting only such shipments as are billed to points where it is known they can be handled.

Consumers in this district are feeling the pinch in soaring prices. Pattsburgh plants are paying \$7 a ton for coal from West Virginia and are giad to get it. With potatoes at about \$3.50 a bushel, retailers declare ticy will refuse to handle them after their stocks are exhausted until there is a drop in price. is a drop in price.

PHILADELPHIAN OFFERS NONSINKABLE LIFEBOAT

Yves Andre Bouget, of Belmont Avenue, but Born in France, Its Inventor

A photograph illustrating this story ap-

A collapsible, nonsinkable steel lifeboat which can only be capsized with great difliculty, is the invention of Yves Andre-Bouget, 1515 Belmont avenue, who recently squired a patent on his idea.

The boat, which, according to the inventor, is different in its entirety from any other boat of its character, does not take up more space when collapsed than an or dinary lifeboat and weighs: about one-half as much. He was three years in following out the idea before he finally applied for the

Mr. Bouget has a small working model of his boat which fulfills all the things he model with which he will give demonstra tions on bodies of water in and around Phil-

The body of the boat will hold as many passengers as the ordinary lifeboat. The nonsinkable feature of the boat lies in the construction of the prove and stern, which are built of airtight compartments which telescope when the boat is collapsed. Both ends of the boat taper to a point. collapsible rod holds the airtight compart ments in place when they are distended.

ments in place when they are distended.

To insure the boat against overturning Mr. Bouget has equipped it with a stabilizing appliance consisting of a hollow shell on each side of the boat, running from the gunwales to the keel. When the boat is in the water its own weight forces water in through the lower ends of the shells, which are open. The air in the shells is expelled through cocks at the upper ends. These are afterward closed.

The tendency of a heavy weight to bear down one side of the boat is counteracted on the low side by the resistance of the water already in the shell, on the upper side by the weight of the water which the vacuum prevents from rushing out.

vacuum prevents from rushing out.

Mr. Bouget was born in Brittany, France

PLAIN DINNER **NOW A LUXURY**

Advance in Cost of Everyday Vegetables More Than Doubled

HOUSEWIFE DISMAYED

High Cost of Living Set Forth in Figures

AVERAGE retail prices now and three months ago:

	Present	sign. Cents
Potatoes, 4 peck	99	10
Onions, pound	215	4
Cabbage, head	20-30	10-15
Lettuce, head	12-15	5-8
Tomatoes, quart	30-35	20-25
Beans, quart	20-30	8-12
Turnipa, 4 peck	18-20	10
	-	

Recent leaps in the prices of the every day dinner vegetabler—perators, outsine cabbage, turnips—have put these neces-saries on the plane of luxuries in the view int of the average bousew fe who make her dollars reach from one payday? another chal, flour and sugar have bee hitting high marks at various times ex-since the European war started but the prices of vegetables now presading are two or three times the ordinary winter price, and at least double the record high prices of the Civil War period.

Within it period of about three months potatoes have some up approximately leo-per cent in retail price; ontons have adanced 250 per cent; string beams ent; oublages, 225 per cent; turnips, 100

And the worst of the situation is that the rices are not likely to go down again until applies are relieved by the new crops of nappies are prived by the several pert segment. According to produce mercularly and dealers, the chief cause of the high prices in green writer produce was the frost several weeks ago in Florida, which ruined a large percentage of crops in some sections. The extreme prices in the staples such as notatees, onions and callege are actions. The extreme prices in the staple with as potatoes, onlone and cabbage are due to poor crops in the North last year. The freight car shortage and the war are also contributing causes, although not to he same extent as in the case of staple food's from the West, dealers say,

HIGH COST DUE TO SHORT CROPS

"A shortage in the supply of all these vegetables is the reason and cause of the high prices," said one dealer. "We have not had such conditions for many years in so many things at once, and the market is not likely to come down during the winter. It cannot, because there will not be a supply to draw from until the new crops come in next season.

crops come in next season.

"The potato crop last fall was short all over the country; in Pennsylvania it was more than one million bushels under the average of other years, and all over the United States the shortage amounted to many million bushels. Onions were affected by too much rain in the early season and too little later on, when they most needed rain. And there have been no imports from foreign growers as in ordinary years. The heavy freeze in Fforda early this month killed off millions of dollars' worth of fresh produce for northern shipment. ern shipment

SPECULATORS ALONE PROFIT "The only men who can be making any money out of the situation are speculators and those who had heavy stocks on hand. As for the small middleman and the producer, they are not making anything at all out of the big prices."

A great searcity of flour in the city of A great searcity of flour in the city on account of the railroad traffic congestion is threatening a raise in prices in the near future, according to leading dealers. They say the total amount of flour on hand in Philadelphia does not exceed 60,000 harrels, and the daily receipts from the West do not equal the daily consumption, which is about 5000 barrels a day

The Northwest Miller, a trade journal of the highest authority, says in its current

issue: "A veritable flour famine is minent in the East because of the short brought about by the freight tie-up."

The paper goes on to declare that paramount cause for the had situation lack of common sense on the part of the railroad managements. There is no exercise t savs, except a lack of system in handing

freight. The freight tie-up is hitting the local squar market more than the recent labor troubles, according to sugar company

W. H. Hoodless, superintendent of the Fennsylvania Sugar Company, said, We hope in a few days to receive enough can of Hawatian sugar from California to kee up our supply of raw sugar. The labor situation is not troubling us at all. We have enough of our old employes and the new ones hired to work the refinery at to

Y M. C. A. CONVENTION

Large Attendance Expected at 39th Annual Meeting in Princeton

PRINCETON, N. J. Feb. 19—"Enlist-ment for Life" has been adopted as the theme for the thirty-hinth annual conven-tion of the Young Men's Christian Asso-ciations of New Jersey, which will be held here next Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The convention will be the guests of the Philadelphia Society of Princeton Uni-versity.

In addition to delegates from every city, town and rural Y. M. C. A. in New Jersey, many representative pastors, college professors, Sunday school superintendent, teachers of boys classes, scoutmanters and others in organized and unorganized work among boys and young men are registering for the convention.

The Philadelphia Art Galleries

NOW ON FREE PUBLIC VIEW AND DAILY UNTIL THE TIME OF THE PUBLIC SALE WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE AFTERNOONS OF

THURSDAY (Washington's Birthday) FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, FEB. 22 and 23

The Collection of RARE and VALUABLE PAINTINGS

by the Old Great Masters PROFESSOR PASQUALE FARINA Catalogues Free Upon Request



Timely Suggestions in **New Columbia List**

WHAT more appropriate selections for the month of St. Patrick than the four fine Irish selections, including Charles Harrison singing "Macushla" and "Mother Machree." In addition, there are fourteen popular hits, led by Al Jolson singing his latest, and ten dance-recordings of a brilliance that gives them a high place in this list of real hits.

Examples of This Month's Song and Dance Hits

Pray For Sunshine (But Always Be Prepared For Rain.) Al Jolson, Follow Ms. "What Do You Want To Make Those Eyes at Me For?" Sam Ash, tenor.

A 5921 | The Sunshine of Your Smile. Waltz. Prince's Orchestra. 12-inch The Betty Lee Waltz. Prince's \$1.00 | Orchestra

There's Egypt In Your Dreamy Eyes, George Wilson, tenor, Hawaii And You. James Reed, tenor and James F. Harrison, baritone

Homesickness Blues. (Hess) Fox-Trot. Prince's Band. The Florida Blues. (Phillips) Fox-A 5920

And Here Is a Group of Great Artistic Triumphs

Lazaro sings Faust's wonderful serenade, "Salve! dimora casta e pura" with a supreme artistry never yet approached. Ardent devotion throbs in his great voice and reaches a climax so powerful, yet so sweet, that it compels a tribute of awed admiration. Kathleen Parlow plays Beethoven's "Minuet in G, No. 2" and the "Valse Bluette" with a touch that brings out exquisite beauties of violin tone with each sweep of her bow across the strings.

Entertainment of Wide Variety

Besides, Oscar Seagle sings a negro "spiritual" and an old-time gospel hymn, Morgan Kingston renders two concert triumphs, Campanari records the greatest arias of his brilliant operatic career, and Harrod and Marr sing the "Pearl Fishers" duet from the sensation of the Metropolitan season. A great operatic chorus, orchestral gems, old-time fiddling and plantation songs, Scotch, Hawaiian and other novelties complete a list that can truly be called a "list of hits" from the start to the finish! Enjoy it at your dealer's today

New Columbia Records on sale the 20th of every month.

Foseph G.Darlington& C. 1126-1128 Erresinui Gircei.

February Sale of Seasonable Merchandise Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of This Week

Including Advance Opening of Special Purchases and Final Reductions of Winter Stocks

We Mention Today

Special Values in Silks Summer Silks in solid grounds with white figures. Blue, brown, helio and Copenhagen. 24 inches wide.

Reduced to 58c yd. Washable Summer Silks in white grounds with colored stripes. Yard wide. Value \$1.25. 78c yd. 2500 yards of Midnight Blue Chiffon Taffeta. Yard wide. Special \$1.45 La Jerz Tub Silks—The season's favored weave for frocks and men's shirts. 32 ins. Special \$1.85

Broche Taffetas, in solid colors, for street wear. Yard wide. Reduced from \$3,00. For \$1.95 1000 Men's Silk Shirts

Special for this sale, \$5.85 and \$6.95 Women's and Misses'

Afternoon Gowns Of navy and black taffeta and Georgette, navy, bisque and gray crepe de chine, silk and cotton tussah, in black, navy, Copen, with white dots and white and bisque grounds with Special at \$25 colored figures.

Waists at \$3,95 Women's Wash Silk Waists-White ground with black, blue and rose stripes; plain tailored shirt with convertible collar.

Muslin Underwear at 1/3 Less Than Former Prices Philippine Night Gowns. \$2.25 & \$3 Philippine Envelope Chemises. \$2.25 & \$3.00

Domestic Gowns, low neck, nainsook with lace. \$1.50 and \$3.00 Gowns with embroidery and lace and embroidery.

Gowns-High square neck, embroidery insertion and lace edge. \$1.25 Drawers with embroidery. Petticoats with embroidery. \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00

Petticoats-Trimmed with fine lace and Swiss embroidery. Envelope Chemises, \$1.25 and \$1.50 Camisoles, in silk with the new Ecru Lace and Ribbon Straps. Large Assortment of French Underwear Specially Priced

> Millinery Clearance Entire Balance of Winter Stock Reduced to \$5.00

Model Gowns

Used This Season in Our Costume Dept.—Reduced to Less Than Cost Prices Ranging From \$40 to \$175 Third Floor, North

Reduction Sale of Finer Furniture

\$45 Mahogany Inlaid Bookcase. \$29 \$200 Upholstered Sofa. \$35 Mahogany Single Four - Post Now \$27 \$65 Colonial Mahogany Dressing Table. Now \$43 \$35 Mahogany Secretary Bookcase.

Now \$25 \$35 Mahogany Gate-Leg Table. Now \$25 \$35 Mahogany Spinnet Desk. Now \$28 \$35 Mahogany and Tapestry Easy

\$35 Fireside Chair covered in denim.

\$65.00 Mahogany Desk. Now \$50.00 \$250.00 Adam Mahogany Bedroom Suite of 9 pcs. Now \$210.00 \$85.00 Adam Mahogany China Cabi-Now \$60.00 Many smaller novelties in Gift Furniture, Lamps and Shades, Wall Mirrors, etc., are included in the sale. Departments, 3d and 4th floors

Curtains and Curtain Materials, Reduced 33 1-3% from former prices Shown on First floor, East, and Upholstery Department, Third floor

Special Opportunities Are Also Offered in Furs, Cotton Dress Goods, Hosiery and Underwear, Ribbons, Laces and Dress Trimmings, Household and Decorative Linens, French and Jet Jewelry and Novelties, and Bags, and Infants' and

Now \$25