

THE ASTONISHING FEATS OF A HYPNOTIST.

A real live Svengali has set the city of Fort Wayne, Ind., by the ears. His actual performances before the astonished faces and eyes of the doctors of the town are more amazing than anything in Du Maurier's "Trilby."

Santanelli, a professional hypnotist, accomplished the feat, among other things, of suspending the bodily functions of James Mahoney for five days. The young man shows no ill effects from his remarkable experience.

The five days dating from the time Mahoney lapsed into unconsciousness until his senses resumed their normal way were more unpleasant for the hypnotist himself than for the subject of his powers. The whole medical profession of the town united in prosecuting Santanelli, who was arrested and threatened with the direst penalties of the law if injury resulted to Mahoney from his enforced slumber. From a legal standpoint, the case was remarkable, as it was the first known arrest for an offence of this nature.

A strange feature of the hypnotist's theory is that this cessation of the bodily functions in a human being is actually the same physical principle which enables the bear to hibernate. If, he argues, a bear can put himself to sleep for weeks at a time, there is no reason why man cannot do the same thing.

Santanelli arrived in Fort Wayne two weeks ago, and at once invited all the members of the medical fraternity to meet him and witness his experiments. Accordingly, a large number of physicians, with students from the Fort Wayne College of Medicine, gathered in the parlors of his hotel for the purpose indicated. The doctors did not go with the belief that Santanelli was a genuine hypnotist. With one or two exceptions, they were imbued with the idea that he was a charlatan.

They went to see him, however, and witnessed the transformation of human beings into machines that followed his every dictation and obeyed his commands like soulless animals.

They saw him retard or suspend the circulation, saw him suspend in his subjects all sense of feeling. With a few exceptions the members of the local medical fraternity have accepted his theories, and no longer look on his claims as shallow pretensions. The exceptions, however, were strenuous in their opposition to the hypnotist, and endeavored to defeat his aims and purposes, but failed. Santanelli was heavily fined on a charge of assaulting one of his subjects, the proceeding being brought by a man who had not seen the performance.

When Santanelli announced his intention of throwing a man into a sleep from which he should not awaken, the city stood aghast. The ignorant shuddered, scientists declared it impossible, while the doctors were more vehement than ever in their declarations of incredulity. Humane people immediately became greatly concerned, and proclaimed their intention of stopping the performance. In the midst of all the agitation Santanelli went serenely on, and on the date assigned he put Mahoney in bed and ordered him to go to sleep and not to awaken until a certain time.

There was a large number of medical men and prominent citizens present when Mahoney began his long sleep, on Monday evening, March 30. Santanelli announced that the bodily functions would be practically suspended. The subject would neither hunger nor thirst nor feel the ordinary wants of a human being.

Before passing into the hypnotic sleep Mahoney was examined by a committee of medical men, and his bodily conditions were as follows: Weight, 132 1/2 pounds; respiration, 17; pulse, 78; temperature, 98.4°.

During the week crowds visited the Masonic Temple and viewed the sleeper, who was under constant surveillance by a committee of doctors and students from the Fort Wayne College of Medicine, who watched in relays. The opera house was open day and night, and all could come and go who listed. Santanelli's opponents declared that the subject would be fed during the week; that Santanelli would have his own watchers, or that he would induce them to leave the sleeper long enough for him to administer nourishment. But Santanelli rarely went near the sleeper, never approaching him except when the opera house was crowded. Then the Humane Society and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Children declared that Santanelli should awaken the young man; that he was inflicting an injury upon him. But Santanelli declared no evil effects would result, and firmly declined to say the word which would awaken the subject. In fact, he declared that he could not do so if he wished, as he had ordered Mahoney to sleep for a week, and that no power on earth could awaken him.

Then members of the Humane Society, whom one of Santanelli's medical opponents had worked into a state of indignation, commenced legal proceedings. The State's attorneys were at sea when it came to lodging a complaint, as the statutes do not provide for punishing a hypnotist any more than for burning a witch, and the gentlemen of the law cast about for a way to mulct the hypnotist. At length, after much poring over musty volumes and lengthy quotations of legal lore, it was decided that Santanelli had laid violent hands on Mahoney, and he was accordingly arrested on a charge of assault and battery, taken before a Justice of the Peace and fined. Santanelli appealed his case to the higher courts, and it is still pending. One of the principal and most interesting phases of the case was the attempt of the prosecution to compel Santanelli to awaken Mahoney in order that he might testify. The hypnotist refused to arouse the sleeper, however, and reiterated his assertion that it was impossible. The medical witnesses for the prosecution, through the



A SVENGALI WHO UPSET A WHOLE TOWN.

attorney, insisted that the young man be awakened, and an agent of the Humane Society was sent to the sleeper's bed for the purpose of awakening him. Loud calls and slaps, rolling him over, and other methods usually employed to rouse slumberers, were employed, but without effect. Mahoney slept as peacefully as an infant, all unaware of the excitement of which he was the object.

The opposing doctors adopted new tactics, and signified their intention of bringing action against Santanelli on the score of cruelty, and the public awaited the outcome of the agitation with no little concern. However, the State's attorneys deemed it inexpedient and unwise to bring action on those grounds for the present, and advised against such action. The doctors were anxious to prevent a sudden change. Santanelli came to be regarded as a wonder, and the medical gentlemen, in accordance with the popular feeling, found themselves compelled to still their animosity, and there was a cessation of hostilities. Santanelli went through with his week's performance as intended, and when Santanelli ordered Mahoney to arise, Mahoney arose at the command of his manipulator and walked on the stage, in full view of the crowd. He was weighed, and it was found that he had lost exactly nine and one-quarter pounds during his protracted slumber. Santanelli stated that on awakening Mahoney underwent a strong muscular reaction, far more intense than that usually experienced by subjects when released from an ordinary hypnotic trance, the relaxation being violent in proportion to the duration of the influence. Accordingly, five men were directed to hold the subject in his chair when the word was given which would awaken him from his long sleep.

When Santanelli gave the word, Mahoney's muscles relaxed completely for a moment, and then his entire body underwent a sudden change. His muscles appeared to contract, and his slight form seemed to be suddenly endowed with supernatural strength, as he strained and finally shook the five men off as if they were so many feathers.

In a moment he became calm, and looked about him with an air of bewilderment, as one who is suddenly transplanted from a peaceful scene into a crowd of curious gazers. An instant's rubbing sufficed to bring him back to his normal condition, and the seven-day sleeper was once more wide awake and alive. His temperature was noted by the committee of physicians and was found to have varied little from the condition observed when he went to sleep. His respiration and pulse were likewise normal, though slightly heightened. He declared he suffered no ill effects from his long slumber, and was not weakened by his abstinence. During the first few hours subsequent to his awakening he drank a great deal of water, and the following day he ate ravenously. He regained his normal weight within twenty-four hours.

During the entire week the sleeper was under continual surveillance, and the medical students who watched over him testify that during the time there was no bowel action whatever, nor was any food administered. The heart action was unimpaired, and the kidney action was, as Santanelli had predicted, slightly diminished. Santanelli says the idea was first suggested to him by the question of a small boy, who asked him if it were true that bears put themselves to sleep for a part of each year. He says that he began to reason that if an animal could accomplish this result, a man could also hypnotize himself and sleep for an equal length of time. He has been unable as yet to find a subject willing to lose six months of life, but he claims it is possible to put a man to sleep for any length of time desired; that it is but the operation of a natural law which he thoroughly understands, and is willing to impart to the medical profession.

Santanelli is a small man, of dark complexion and magnetic personality. He is intensely nervous, and full of energy. His eyes dance restlessly, except when he is influencing his subjects, when they become intensely concentrated. It is only for a moment, however, as he apparently has his subject under control after imparting a single suggestion. He says that the mind cannot be compelled to accept a suggestion. The idea must be there in embryo, when the suggestion is immediately followed, and the subject obeys at once. Thus, sleep is suggested, and the patient sleeps a long sleep or a short dose.

Santanelli plays with his subjects as a child with a toy. They fulfill his every wish and obey his slightest command. Whether he has one subject or a score, is equal. They all obey instantaneously his dictates. Twenty-five men, who have never seen the hypnotist before, act as one man under the magic spell of his commands, and no soldiers were ever drilled to obey their captain as his men respond to his spells. His feats with the persons under the mesmeric influence are not of the ordinary hypnotic kind. His catalepsy is perfect, and his subject becomes as rigid as stone or iron. The expressionless face of a dullard is made, at his suggestion, to express all the passions as truthfully as if depicted by a master's brush.

The accompanying pictures are photographs of some of this Svengali's extraordinary feats. They show how absolutely his subjects are under his control. He piles up heaps of men and stands on them in what he calls a "Human Wood Pile," and he makes them roar with laughter or tremble with fear, as he pleases.



THE HUMAN LOG PILE



LAUGHING STATUES



SEEING THE DEVIL.

Artificial Gems That Seem Genuine.

"Sham Jewelry is generally supposed to be of little value, and to be worn only by people who cannot afford the genuine article," remarked an expert in such matters to a Sunday Journal reporter the other day. "The fact is, though, that some ornaments in which artificial gems are set are very valuable, frequently costing several hundred dollars.

"Then, too, you would be surprised to know how many wealthy people wear these artificial gems without its ever being suspected that they are false. Some of them do this because there is less mental distress to be endured if any of them are lost, and others are in such fear of thieves that they keep their real jewels in some safe deposit vault and wear only artificial ornaments, which they have made to exactly duplicate the costly bits of jewelry that they are known to possess.

"The finest artificial gems come from Paris, and so skillful are the French in their manufacture that even an expert cannot tell the real from the false without making a careful or a microscopic examination. This is due somewhat to the setting. For imitation stones are set with as great care as real ones.

"Take a diamond tiara of artificial gems, for example," continued the dealer; "the setting alone will cost between three and four hundred dollars, while the stones themselves may be twice as much more. It is even easier to counterfeit pearls.

"In Paris last Summer I was talking to a friend of mine in the business, and he showed me a beautiful three row pearl necklace which belonged to an English Duchess. He told me that the necklace originally consisted of two rows, but that his customer, being exceedingly desirous of having a third to match, and not being able to afford it, had commissioned him to supply the third row in artificial pearls. He had done so, and placed the necklace in his hands for examination.

"I have handled jewels of every description all my life, and I laughed at him when he said he would bet me a louis that I could not tell which was the false string. But I had to guess at it after all, even though I had examined the pearls for several minutes. And the worst of it was that I guessed wrong and lost my bet.

"It was utterly impossible to detect the difference between the real and the imitation. No one, of course, would ever suspect a duchess of wearing false jewels, and so, at the cost of less than a thousand dollars, this one had enhanced the value of her collection of pearls many times, and made the set almost unique.

"I myself know of a lady in this city who has had several real diamonds of considerable value set side by side with some imitation stones, and no one ever would suspect that all were not genuine gems.

THE WOMAN DENTIST.

She is a Success and Manages to Convince the Public She is Worthy of Patronage.

The pioneer woman dentist of New York is Mrs. Philippine Dieffenbach, of No. 103 West Twenty-third street. Although not a graduate of any institution, she has practiced dentistry for thirty years, her knowledge having been gained in assisting her husband. So proficient did she become that after his death she took up his practice and was eventually elected an honorary member of the New York College of Dentistry.

Mrs. Dieffenbach complains of the treatment accorded her by her male competitors, and voices the opinions of her fellow female dentists when she says that they are discourteous in the extreme.

"These women have some queer experiences with their male patients. This is what one of them says:

"The first man who ever came into my hands fairly frightened me to death. He couldn't have been less than six feet tall, and was broad in proportion. In a basso profundo voice he demanded the extraction of a double tooth. Timidly, I asked him whether he would take it 'with or without'." With a glance of deep disgust he said: "I always take mine straight."

After I had explained to him that my inquiry meant did he want gas, he became still more indignant.

"Do I look like a dizzy dude?" he queried sarcastically.

"Then I got him into the chair and he weakened. At the sight of the forceps he quailed; and when I asked him to open his mouth his teeth chattered so that I couldn't move his jaws. Finally, however, he managed to unclose them and I promptly inserted a plug that put him completely at my mercy. By this time the perspiration was standing on his forehead from fright. "Go gently, please, he managed to ejaculate; 'my heart is weak and the doctors say that pain is the worst thing in the world for my complaint, and I have a large family, too.'"



A Talk with Sardou in His Study.

Miss Kathryn Kidder, who plays the title role in "Mme. San Gene," chatted a few moments the other day about her meeting with Sardou, the great playwright.

He expressed a great desire to meet the actress and sent a cordial invitation for her to call upon him. When she arrived at his house in Paris, he was in his library, which was artistically situated among the trees. In fact, the room had been built in such a peculiar manner that on entering it had the appearance of hanging amid a forest of luxuriant branches. It was not the studio one would have expected to find in the home of a writer, but had more the appearance of an artist's sanctum. There were very few draperies, but the walls were hung with etchings and exquisite pictures of every description, while the furnishings of the room were of the richest character, and everything, even to the writing desk at which the playwright was seated, was arranged with the exacting neatness that betrayed the hand of a careful workman.

Miss Kidder, like many others, had seen a number of what were considered good pictures of M. Sardou, but she declares that in reality he looks like none of them. He cares very little about dress; the clothes which he had on when Miss Kidder called, though absolutely neat in every particular, were almost threadbare from age, and his little cap looked as if it would fall in specks of dust over his shoulders. In fact, the contrast between his almost shabby appearance and the luxuriosity of the room in which he sat was most marked.

During the interview, his conversation was mainly on women, women in literature, women of the stage, and women of the professions, for he knows women of them all, and the most famous of them he is personally acquainted with.

"In speaking of my possible success in this part," said Miss Kidder, "he looked at me very quizzically and said, with a curious little smile, 'I can see that La Belle Americaine has much talent, but I cannot imagine her sitting on a man's lap.'"

"The possible success of 'Madame Sans Gene' in America was not touched upon, however, until our chat was almost ended," said Miss Kidder, "and then I had the audacity to have a little discussion on the subject of just how the character should be played. 'I have made her a vulgar woman,' said Sardou, emphatically, 'and as such she must be played.'"

"Pardon me, sir," I said, just as emphatically, 'you do not know American audiences as well as I do. I shall play her as an ignorant woman, but not a vulgar woman,' and with our words crossed in a laughing manner, I parted from this great dramatic master."

ENGLISH BEES ARE MAD.

Parliament Asked to Pass a Law Requiring Them to Be Muzzled.

Bees in England are declared to be suffering from hydrophobia, and Parliament is to be asked to pass a law requiring persons who keep bees to muzzle them.

At first sight the proposition seems absurd, yet when it is carefully considered it will be seen that, after all, it is placed on a scientific basis. It has been noticed for some time among those who have given careful attention to the subject of apoplexy and their inhabitants that some disease, untraceable in its nature, and yet exceedingly virulent, was monthly growing more prevalent among the swarms in the United Kingdom. This disease seemed a sort of murrain, which one bee communicated to another. Investigation showed it was a species of rabies, which the insects imparted to each other by bites.

This was the conclusion the Surrey Bee Keepers' Association reached at a recent meeting. In the course of a long debate the president of the association, Mr. Halsey, chairman of the Surrey County Council, announced that it was the intention of many, if possible, to muzzle the bees in order to get rid of the disease.

It was finally decided that it would be best to ask Parliament to pass an act making it obligatory for bee owners to muzzle their insects precisely as dogs are required to be muzzled during certain periods of the year in England, and there is good reason for believing that such an act will be passed by Parliament.

It is proposed to make the act almost precisely the same as that with reference to dogs, and upon the same ground, that the new disease is quite as communicable as is rabies. The support of the Board of Agriculture has been enlisted, but as yet that body has given no opinion upon the subject.

Just how the muzzles will be placed upon the insects, how they will be kept there, and of just what they will consist are details that have not as yet been decided. There would seem to be, however, considerable difficulty in muzzling a bee, and considerable danger to the keeper attempting to do it. It is not known as yet that it is quite possible, but the bee farmers are convinced something must be done, and they think their indignity will be equal to the emergency.