

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 29, 1918

Oakl

"Spirits" Juggle Matrimonial Happiness of 16-Year-Old Dancer

PASTOR MOORE IS FORSAKEN BY YOUNG WIFE

Ida Kleffler Moore Seeks a Divorce From Husband, Who She Says Is a Medium and Hypnotist; Flees to Father

Father Kleffler Declares Spirits Moved Furniture About and Turned Lights Off and On—Did Hard Work About Place



Sixteen-year-old IDA KLEFFLER MOORE, dancer and "spirit" bride, whose marriage to "Pastor" Hugh Robert Sinclair Moore, alleged spirit medium, was caused, according to her father, by astral influence.

Hard-working spirits that moved furniture, wrote on typewriters, juggled lights, and had fits of temperment, an astral Supreme Council of vainglorious shadows that did "séances" in twilight rooms, and other manifestations of the supernatural, will form sequential elements in the divorce action brought against "Pastor" Hugh Robert Sinclair Moore, alias St. Clair, medium, necromancer and alleged hypnotist, by his beautiful 16-year-old girl bride, Ida Kleffler Moore, Oakland dancer and singer, and daughter of C. A. Kleffler, local jeweler.

Announcement of this today was made by the girl's father, former Chautauque "spirit exposing expert," who declares that his daughter was the victim of "scientific humbug," over-developed temperament and occult claspings at the hands of a man who already had a wife in an Eastern city. The divorce action, which has been filed in the local courts, will, according to Kleffler, expose the existence of an attempt on the part of Moore to organize a circle of "Mother churches," headed by "prophets," to take in the whole United States. Moore recently served four years in San Quentin for fleeing a conductor out of \$700.

SPIRITS NAMED.

"Dr. Halliday," "Ben Schaeffer" and a feminine spirit named "Fanny," according to Kleffler, were the guiding influences in Moore's life. At least, says Kleffler, that is what Moore made his daughter believe. The father declares that he knew that these three astral pilots were "the bunk," because he himself had received as high as \$100 a night exposing "male-writing tricks," "rope lies," "bell-ringing," "mind reading," and other kindred arts which Moore employed. The father says his daughter was tell-tale and refused to listen to his advice.

"The women fell for him," he said, "so I started in to show him up." The result is to be embodied in affidavits, testimony and other evidence in court preparation for the bride's case against her husband. The testimony

promises unique revelations of spirit activities to and around Oakland. Moore's organization, according to Kleffler, consisted of a mother church to be located in Oakland, whose membership at one time is alleged to have numbered some 750, and a circle of sister churches throughout the country. Moore was to be the head and trusted members of his congregation were to be the pastors at the head of

the other churches as fast as they were established. Seances were to be charged for at the rate of \$5 a "séance," and the money was to go toward salaries and a common fund. The whole burden of the work was upon the spirits.

HARD WORKER.

"The spirit Ben Schaeffer," says the father, "was the hardest working spirit I ever heard of. He used to leave furniture around, turn the lights on and off and did all the hard work around the place. Dr. Halliday was a more educated spirit. He strolled in and out and supplied Moore with a lot of control that worked in various ways. Fanny, the lady spirit, was just a helper.

"When Moore became interested in my daughter, she was just an impressionable girl. He told her the spirits had ordered their marriage and she fell for the talk. I tried to prevent the marriage, but it was no use. So as the next best thing, I went into Moore's record."

Kleffler declares that Moore had always represented himself as a married man, divorced from his first wife. One day, he says, he demanded Moore's divorce decree.

"He showed me one from Ohio," he said. "It was not signed and we wired the judge. We learned that the judge was out of town on the date the decree was supposed to have been issued. We also found out that on that date Moore's parole from San Quentin had not expired. Then it was that I convinced my daughter that a divorce was the only solution of the mess in which she had gotten herself."

According to the divorce complaint, the girl only lived with Moore sixteen days, when she discovered that her dream of stage success was more intangible than the spirit world in which Moore told her she was living. Moore and the dancer were married in Sacramento, July 26, 1917.

WAS RELEASED.

Moore was released from San Quentin in 1915, where he served a four-year term for grand larceny in connection with the loss of \$700 by one of the victims of his necromancy. Immediately he established a psychicscience church, and Mrs. Kleffler and her daughter became admirers of his wizardry. The daughter's heart capitulated and the mother consented to the marriage.

Moore called spirit witnesses to his defense at the time of his trial for grand larceny, but there was no one who could interpret for them except the "Pastor," and the prosecution objected to the testimony as "self-serving."

In November, last year, Moore was tried in police court for projecting 50 cents into the "fourth dimension." The money belonged to Mrs. Stella Sheridan, of Alameda. The trial followed a raid by the police on a spiritualist gathering at the home of Mrs. John Roberts, 1208 McAllister street, San Francisco.

The "tabernacle" of the spiritualist is on Thirteenth street, and the "pastor" lives at the St. Francis Apartments, Nineteenth street and San Pablo avenue. The wife, who is gifted as a singer and dancer, and who is said to be well fitted for a career on the stage, lives with her parents at 369 Clifton street.

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- 4-Simplicity of Construction—No complicated or troublesome mechanisms, as in other Players.
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There are so many interesting things about the Duo Art—we cordially invite you to come in to see and



Pastor Hugh Robert Sinclair Moore, alias St. Clair. (Apr. 29, 1918). "Spirits" Juggle Matrimonial Happiness of 16-Year Old Dancer. Oakland Tribune.

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