

arm, and saw that his left arm was there, though curiously inert. He drew his right foot up; it encountered his left leg, but the left leg was insensible to the encounter. He stammered when he spoke. He laughed often and inconsequently; and for the first time in his life he lisped.

They evacuated him to England. A medical history sheet accompanied him. He did not see it. On it were the words:

*"Shell shock. Left hemiplegia and anæsthesia. Left visual field contracted. Reflexes normal. Speech imperfect. Lisps, but not known whether this is congenital."*

The medical report said nothing about insomnia, though Charteris could have enlightened them on that point. He was sent to a shell-shock hospital for treatment and observation. The functional disorders gradually disappeared under electrical application, and he recovered the use of his limbs. After that he was given two months' sick leave at home, with orders to report to a medical board at the end of it. Outwardly, he seemed his normal self, but his mother noticed a curious introspective look in his eyes. He lisped slightly.

His people were wise in their generation; they did not ask him questions about "the front." Instead, they took him to theatres to distract his thoughts. The experiment was singularly unsuccessful. They sat in the stalls, but the players always seemed to him as remote as if he had sat in the topmost row