

AMAZING FEATS OF INDIAN JUGGLERS

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)
We have noticed in some American newspapers lately a series of articles which aim to explain the famous tricks of Indian jugglers. Many of them are shown to be nothing but skilful jugglery, with prepared apparatus such as one may see often on the vaudeville stage. When these explanations do not suffice, as, for instance, in the often-

witnessed feat of a juggler throwing a rope into the air, up which a small boy climbs until he disappears in the sky, the hypothesis of hypnotism is introduced. In May, 1921, C. L. Hardcastle contributed an article to Chamber's Journal, in which he described some half dozen amazing tricks performed at his bungalow by a first-class Indian juggler, and which he could not account for, except on the theory that he had been hypnotized. Another witness of the disappearing-boy trick said that he discovered by accident that the others of the

spectators who would be prepared to swear that they saw the boy vanish in thin air were hypnotized. Instead of fixing his gaze on the juggler, as everyone else naturally did, he kept his eyes on the ground, and only raised them when the exclamations of the others indicated that they were witnessing a marvel. Then he looked and saw his companions staring into the air, but himself saw neither rope nor boy.

Suspended Animation.

In another article in the current issue

of Chambers, Mr. Hardcastle says that the Indian jugglers are to be divided into two classes—those whose work is nothing but clever sleight-of-hand, and those who either have the gift of mass hypnotism or perform some other wonders unknown to the Caucasian. The same issue contains a contribution from M. E. McGregor, who has lived in India for thirty years and tells of some tricks, which, as he says, take one into the mysterious ground of the fourth dimension. A short time ago an elderly Brah-

min walked up to the verandah of a friend's house in Lucknow and asked if he might perform a few tricks, as he was collecting funds for the temple to which he was attached. Being given permission, he asked what the sahibs would like him to do. Should he suspend his animation and sit where he was for two days?

Were They Hypnotized?

They said that fifteen minutes would be long enough, whereupon he immediately closed his eyes and relaxed his muscles. A mirror was produced and held to his lips. It remained unclouded. The white man tried to feel the beating of a pulse in any artery. There was no sign of it, nor any other sign of life. At the end of fifteen minutes Mr. McGregor spoke to him, and he awoke as from a sleep. When told that what he did was wonderful, he answered, in an apathetic manner: "I was not here. It is quite easy." Then he asked for a heavy iron chain to be produced, and one was brought that was used as a trace on an ox-cart. He put it across his chest, under his arms, and had it tied behind him. Then he merely expanded his thin chest and the chain snapped like a bit of cotton—a clean break just over his chest. He then asked for something that no human being could digest and, with apparently no discomfort, swallowed a lot of broken glass, two packets of darning needles and some mercury.

The Fourth Dimension.

He asked that a walking cane be produced. It was brought, and a jeweled ring, that the white men could recognize, was slipped on it, and dangled in the middle. Mr. McGregor held the cane firmly on each side, a few inches away from the ring. The priest then stretched out his finger and pulled the ring off through the cane, not with a quick jerk, but just a casual pull! The dumb-founded spectators asked him to repeat the trick, but he said: "Why repeat what you have seen? Let one of our servant girls give me one of her metal anklets; one without a join and very heavy." One was produced, and this the juggler pushed up his arm until it stuck and could go no farther. Then, as if he were measuring a span, he put his thumb on one side of it and his little finger on the other, and lightly pulled it through his arm and handed it back. Of course, the appropriate comment is that he didn't pull it through his arm, but if he didn't it is obvious that Mr. McGregor and the other white spectators were hypnotized.

Walking on Fire.
The writer tells further of having many times witnessed the walking-on-fire trick, which no one can explain. Not only do the fakirs walk on blazing charcoal, but they can make white men do it without feeling any pain. It is plain that, while the jugglers might have some secret method of hardening their feet, the white spectators would not, and that they either walked on fire or that a hundred of them at one time were hypnotized into the notion that they were witnessing the feat, while another half dozen were hypnotized into the belief that they were doing it. Mr. McGregor says that at Hardwan he saw a man hanging head downward from the branch of a tree, and was told that he lived always in that position. Certainly, he was always there at any hour of the day or night that Mr. McGregor passed, and he did this several times in the three days his camp was in the neighborhood. The very fact that it is impossible to lure these adepts of the occult to visit Europe or America to demonstrate their powers is in itself an indication that they have discovered some secret which makes them indifferent to what the rest of us accept as the great truths and objects of life.

ONCE RICH, DIES UNKNOWN.

Wilson Classroom at Princeton to Be Buried Under Assumed Name.

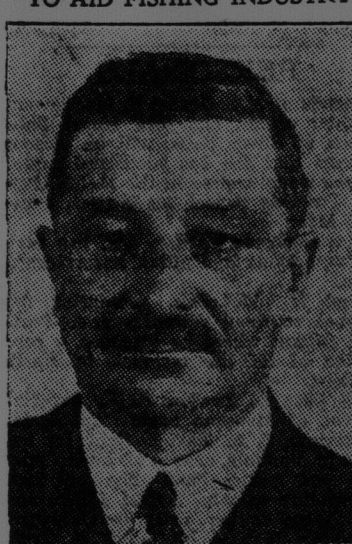
Worcester, Mass., Sept. 15.—A classmate of ex-President Woodrow Wilson in Princeton University, and believed to have been at one time a man of wealth in the Middle West, is to be buried here under the name of Edwin S. McCarthy, although that is not his real name. He was about seventy-three years of age. Five years ago he came to Worcester under the influence of the officials of Bethel Help Mission, and work was ob-

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TO AID FISHING INDUSTRY



William Duff, M. P., chairman of a commission investigating conditions in British Columbia's fishing industry. He is of the opinion that the industry in Canada could be more competently handled if the Fisheries Department at Ottawa was split into two branches, one looking after the Pacific and the other after the inland waters and Atlantic fisheries.

lained for him as a sweeper in the plant of the Wickwire-Spencer Steel Corporation. He followed this occupation until stricken with paralysis last week and taken to City Hospital, where he died Sunday night.
The officers of the corporation located his lodging in the rear of a small fruit store, where they found a few books which showed the unknown had high lit-

erary tastes. Papers were also found to indicate he had owned large sugar refineries in the Middle West, but there was nothing among the papers to show anything more tangible concerning his family.
McCarthy's connections with Princeton became known through stories he told fellow workers.

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