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**ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIVISION
OF PARAPSYCHOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF VIRGINIA**

Establishment of a Division of Parapsychology at the University of Virginia

A Division of Parapsychology has been established within the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. The Division is partly supported by a parapsychology research endowment fund initially created by an anonymous donor. The endowment fund supports a Research Professorship in Psychiatry with provision that the incumbent will devote at least fifty per cent of his time to research in parapsychology, including research into the question of the survival of human personality after death. It is further provided that the University of Virginia will devote the endowment funds to such investigations for at least twenty years after the death or departure otherwise from the University of the first research professor supported by the endowment. Dr. Ian Stevenson has been appointed the first incumbent of this new Chair at the University of Virginia. So far as is known, this is the first such division of parapsychology fully integrated within a department in an American university.

The Division of Parapsychology of the University of Virginia has developed a broad program of investigations in nearly all aspects of parapsychology.

An experimental program chiefly (but not exclusively) emphasizes the study of specially gifted or high-scoring subjects. Information about subjects who might be suitable for this program will be gratefully received by the staff.

Investigations of paranormal processes during sleep and in changes of consciousness (e.g., trance states) are included in the program of the Division of Parapsychology. The staff will welcome information about sensitives, mediums, or other persons who might be suitable and willing to participate in such studies.

The Division is also developing a collection of spontaneous cases with special emphasis on the analysis of authenticated cases. Informants are invited to communicate information about spontaneous cases to the Division of Parapsychology. The staff wishes to hear only from informants who are willing to enter into details about the experiences reported either in correspondence or in interviews when feasible, and who are willing to permit publication of their experiences (with pseudonyms if desired) should the staff decide that a case merits publication.

Contributions to the research endowment fund will be welcomed and in this connection, detailed information about the endowment

will be furnished prospective donors. Contributions to the University of Virginia are tax deductible for American citizens.

The present Research Staff of the Division of Parapsychology consists of Dr. Ian Stevenson, Dr. J. G. Pratt, and Dr. Rex Stanford. In addition, three other faculty members of the Department of Psychiatry are members of the Parapsychological Association with an active interest in the field.

For further information about the program of the Division of Parapsychology or to communicate information about subjects or spontaneous cases, please write:

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