

V A S T L E E S U P E R E A

Anne K., age 49; race, English; religion, Episcopal; education, high school and music school; civil condition, single; occupation, singer.

Introductory Statement

Anne K. is an alert, neatly dressed, rather fine-looking woman who has been for ten years an inmate of this hospital. At the time of admission she thought her food was being poisoned and that men were following her. She had been for some time increasingly a problem to her family. She had been dependent upon her brothers for support and wherever they had placed her she had made trouble. During her stay in the hospital she has become fairly well institutionalized. The ideas of persecution have sunk into the background and grandiose delusions have developed in an interesting manner.

Personal History

This patient was the second of three children in a cultured and fairly well-to-do family. The father was a business man and the grandfather a prominent jurist. The mother died when she was three years of age and she and her two brothers were raised by some sisters of the father.

From early childhood she was a problem. At the age of one year she became acutely ill and for about three months she ran a very high temperature. She was not expected to survive. Following her mother's death her aunts were unable to manage her. She was always fighting with the other children and always wanted to be the center of attention.

She finished high school at the age of seventeen. She rated fairly well as a student and while she got along reasonably well with her school-mates, she made no friends among them. In addition to her regular studies she devoted much attention to music and became an accomplished pianist and singer. She was also a fine dancer.

After leaving school she tried numerous jobs. For a time she worked as a professional dancer. She has been a manicurist, a hair-dresser, a saleswoman, a librarian and at one time she sang in a Gilbert and Sullivan opera.

According to her sister-in-law she had always been interested in men but her methods of dealing with them were so aggressive and so silly that she scared them all away.

The first definite symptoms of mental illness began four years before her admission to this hospital. She was at that time living in a hotel in New York. She developed the idea that men on the street were looking at her with covetous eyes and that they were following her. In order to protect herself against them she would not go to bed but would sit up all night. The hotel management finally took notice and sent word to her brothers. She was then taken to a sanatorium and kept there four months.

She was then brought to Chicago and lived with one of her brothers. She had not been there long before the entire family was ready to fly at each others throats. She was then tried out in various boarding homes. Here also she caused difficulty and had to be moved six times.

Previous to the final commitment she had developed the idea that some one was trying to poison her. She also thought that she was an agent of the Intelligence Bureau and that she had tracked down some gangsters.

Behavior in the Hospital

In the hospital she has made a fair adjustment. She is always neat and much of the time she has had a ground parole. Her work record has been somewhat fitful however. She will try a number of things and do them very well. Then she will feel that she is not being given sufficient attention and quit.

Two years ago she was tried out as director of the Patients' Choir and she handled it nicely. After four months she announced that as choir director she should be moved to the best ward in the hospital and should be allowed to eat in the employe's dining room. When these privileges were not immediately granted, she resigned.

Meantime the grandiose ideas have undergone a remarkable development. She signs her name 'Vastlee Superea.' She is related to almost all the distinguished people she hears about. She is thus a cousin of Governor Green, a grand niece of Franklin D. Roosevelt, a distant cousin of Mary Baker Eddy and a grand daughter of Cyrus McCormick. She announced one day that the Main Building of the hospital is 'Grocian architecture with ornament' and that it was built by her grandfather John D. Rockefeller. She busies herself also with grandiose projects. One of these is the founding of Eternity University. Another is her 'Vastlee Superea Projects, Inc.'

Thruout, her mood is pleasant, even mildly euphoric and her social attitude agreeable, albeit somewhat aloof and superior.

VASTLEE SUPEREA PROJECTSBEAUTIFUL BEE COMBINE

I. Beautiful Bee Combine is hereby introduced as a social and commercial institute for the preservation and extension of national and local welfare. It is devised and planned to function by means of definite projects originated and outlined herein by VASTLEE SUPEREA, social welfare research analyst. Departments are defined and arranged as follows:

A. Drama, Folk Dancing, Glee and Orchestral direction and organization of units, clubs and societies for youth and adults. See Courier-News full page spread regarding proposed Youth Center and drive for funds to build same.

B. Polemics and Peace Armamentry. Inspiration Please Air Brigade. Universal Mental Protective Constabulary to affiliate with the U. S. Marine Corps, Mind-Reading Division of the Intelligence Department.

C. Inventions. Construction and Promotion of same.

D. Publication. Original books, articles, and musical compositions. Condensed News-sheet, 4 page (Except Sunday) daily, "The Re-appearing Comet."

E. Sales and Management. Art collections, inventions, music, literature, organizations

F. Educational. Establishment of universities, colleges and class units preparatory to same.

G. Colonization and Navigation. Mississippi Flood Control by means of extension and improvement of Illinois waterways, rivers and canals. St. Lawrence Waterway completion.

H. Real Estate Developments, Housing, Architectural Restoration and novelties, period and modern. Hotel construction and maintenance.

I. Research Costuming, Beauty Culture, Antiques, Decoration and Horticulture.

J. Bureau of Business Abetment. "Ahoy," Office Club for social activities and friends of business.

II. These ten groups constitute the initial program to launch the American idea in our vicinity for the "Welcome Home" and "Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant" theme by VASTLEE SUPEREA in connection with welfare organizations' greeting to returning Armed Service men and women.

III. Other departmental plans which could employ our nations defenders, experts and artisans of every kind will be added to the above projects at logical intervals. Individuals who approve this type of American motivation are invited to participate by contributing ideas, funds, endowment or subscription and professional ability and services.

IV. BEAUTIFUL BEE COMBINE invites your interest and cooperation now. Inquiries may be addressed to the director, VASTLEE SUPEREA, Attention Secretary, ATK., Room 203, Apt. a-2-North, 750 South State Street, Elgin, Illinois.