

## **M0005857: Aboriginal Australian traditional healer treating a patient**

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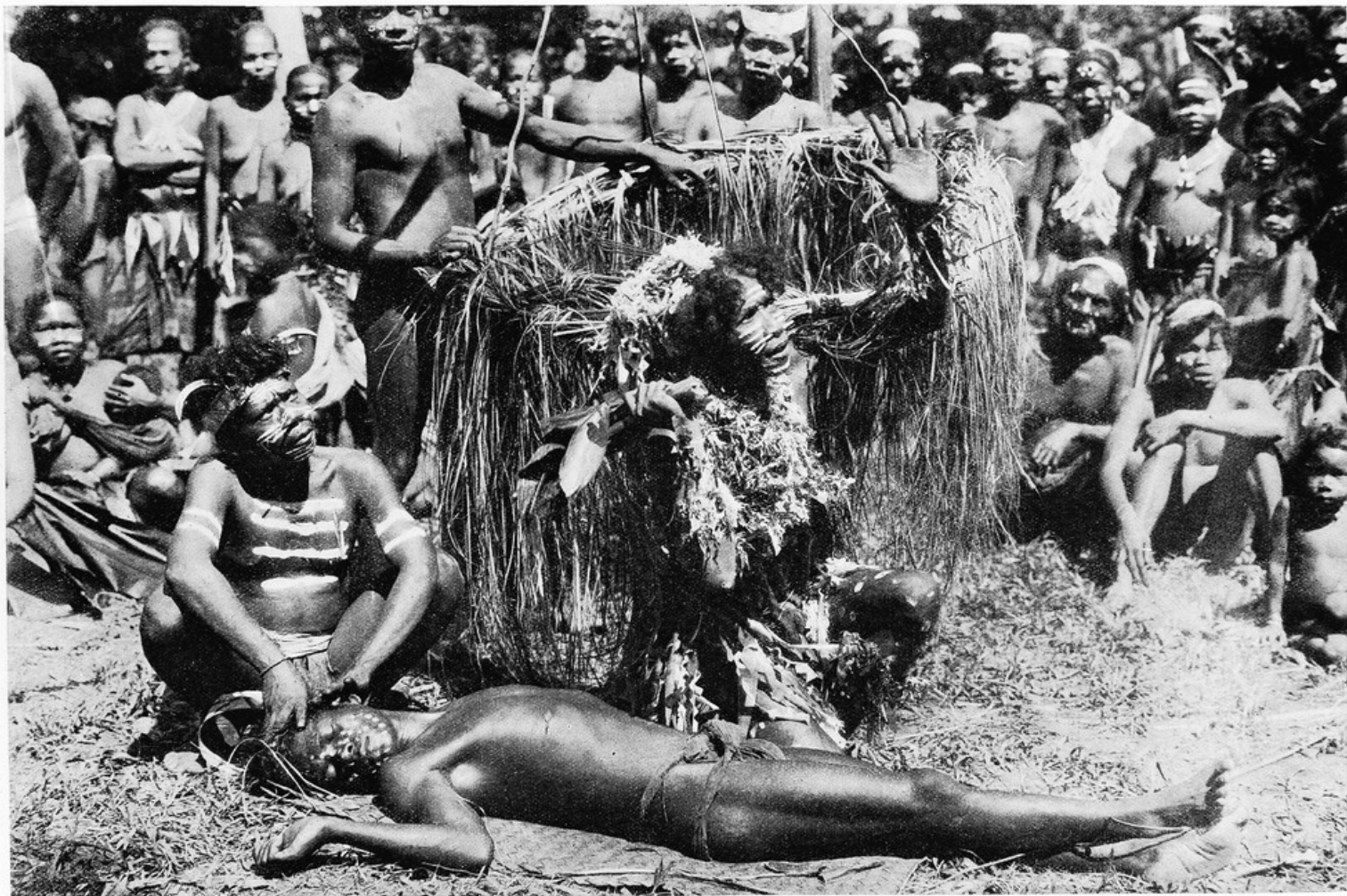
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**SPECIALIST AT WORK UPON A CASE THAT BAFFLES ORDINARY TREATMENT**

Underwood & Underwood

Lung troubles, skin diseases, malaria and yaws are common illnesses among the aborigines of Northern Queensland. The native pharmacopoeia is rudimentary, consisting mainly of leaves and roots, decoctions of which are made and applied. Many of these simple native preparations have been tested, and a proportion has been found to be effective, especially those employed in connexion with febrile complaints. It is customary for the natives first to apply these simple herbal remedies to their sick, and if these fail to enlist the aid of a specialist in the person of a medicine man competent to invoke the aid of spirit agency, as is being done here on behalf of a young man who has lapsed into complete unconsciousness