

HYPNOTISM MEETING

"Kosmo"—Doctor of the Subconscious Mind—was Guest Speaker—and demonstrator—at the LASFS two weeks ago. At the invitation of member Dave Elder, the psychotherapist & his wife attended & Dr Gaynor offered to tell us a bit about hypnotism. Some 28 persons were present during the evening, including Walt & Eleanor Daugherty, Paul Frechafer, Morojo, Art Joquel, 4e, Erle Korshak, Julie Schwartz, Ray Bradbury, Leigh Brackett, Bruce Yerke, Franklyn Brady, Pogo, Henry Hasse & Charlie Hornig. Ed Chamberlain volunteered as a subject & subsequently was caused to believe he had been tapped on the left shoulder by the hypnotist altho we all could see he had not been touched. Next Dr Gaynor demonstrated mass hypnotism, where we all held hands, gazed at a crystal, followed his commands, & presently were told our eyes were glued shut & we could not open them. "You can try—but you will fail!" Stubborn minds like Morojo's—& Yerke, applying semantics to the situation—& Joquel, who did not enter the chain—had all they could do to keep their eyes from opening; BUT at least 4 did report difficulty in unlocking their eyelids. Next Erle Korshak—whom I should've thought would've known better, after the long-to-be-remembered Levitation Act of 1939 that Pohl & Michel perpetrated on him in Wollheim's apt., with Reinsberg, Ackerman, Lowndes & others as interested observers—well Erle, whom one would've expected to have been cured, stepped up to be sent into the sleepy-state. He made quite a convincing automaton as he stiffly followed Kosmo's unvoiced commands to walk in first one direction & then another. A little later the Imaginatives were treated to the spectacle of the entrancing Virginia Laney entranced (i.e., in a somnambulistic state). Enhancing the amusement was the attempt on the part of Yerke, Daugherty & Bradbury to move her arm after the hypnotist had told her it was a bar of iron cemented at her shoulder. Dr Gaynor suggested that at one o'clock that night she would have a dream of a great and brilliant diamond; but it is understood Virginia never had this dream as after the meeting she accompanied a gang taking Korshak and Johann Gardner (who hitchhiked to the Convention together) sightseeing in lower Los Angeles. It is expected Dr Gaynor & his clairvoyant wife will figure further in future reports as both express intentions of joining. I do not have the membership list handy, this being in the possession of the Treasurer; but I believe the addition of these 2 would make our dues-paying roster 25. This is quite a figure when you figure that such persons do not figure in that figure as Charlie Hornig, Bill Crawford, 4e & Art Barnes (being Honorary Members) & guests every so often like Phil & Flo Bronson, Korshak & Gardner, Ed Hamilton, Bob & Leslyn Heinlein, Woodoro, Jack Williamson, Cleve Cartmill, etc. Incidentally, Cartmill, who will have a novel featured soon in Unknown Worlds, will be married in Sept to a scrumptious local girl who at present is working at the Academy & reads science fiction too!

NEWS & PREVIEWS

The Angelenos' Annual Beach Party...A group to visit Bob Olsen...3rd Pacificon Society biweekly meeting at Frechafer's...An evening of Convention records at Yerke's...these & other activities marked by record attendance are either just past or coming up in the very near future.

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"Gnaw-thing ventured
Gnaw-thing gained"

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