

Shades Of Bridey Murphy!

A QUICK LOOK AT HYPNOTISM
By WILBORNE HARRELL

NOTE: This story is the outcome of an interview with Douglas Ames, of radio station WCDJ, Edenton. Mr. Ames is an enthusiastic student of hypnotism, and his cooperation was of inestimable value and is gratefully acknowledged by the writer.

This is not a brief for reincarnation, which author Morey Bernstein sets forth at great length in his best-selling book, *The Search For Bridey Murphy*. Nor on the other hand is it a learned treatise on hypnotism, by which means Bernstein hypnotized subject, Ruth Simmons, was regressed back before her birth into another personality and time—purporting to give the answer to reincarnation. Here, we shall merely endeavor to tell as accurately and as objectively as possible a few facts about the phenomena of hypnotism.

As for reincarnation and the regression of the human mind and personality by hypnotism, back in time before birth, into another life and era—I shall keep an open mind. But there is much that can be said for hypnotism, which is now emerging from the atmosphere of side-shows and vaudeville into the dignified realm of medicine, and is fast being recognized as a science within its own right.

In many of its phases and aspects hypnotism is a subject in which one may well get lost. So, with this in mind, I have confined myself to the externals, or that part of the phenomena which the average person is more or less superficially familiar with.

The word "hypnotism" is derived from the name of the Greek goddess, Hypnos, the goddess of sleep, and was first applied to the phenomena of hypnotism by Dr. James Braid, an English scientist and investigator. The psychological nature of the hypnotic phenomena was discovered by Dr. Braid in 1843, and it was Braid who introduced a technique for inducing the hypnotic trance that is used extensively today.

History and literature are replete with a wealth of material and references to the hypnotic trance. There are numerous Biblical references, and much that history records as mystical may be attributed to hypnotism. Indeed, the underlying principle of hypnotism is not new but was practiced by ancient peoples, but only in quite recent years has it developed into a

science. But for all practical purposes it was the experiments and practices of Franz Anton Mesmer, a Viennese physician, in 1789, that started the chain of investigations that developed into modern hypnotism. Mesmer theorized that there was an "animal magnetism", a kind of "gas or fluid" under the control of the human will, which by its magnetic qualities contained certain curative properties. The treatment of ills and diseases while the patient was under the influence of this "animal magnetism" was known as Mesmerism.

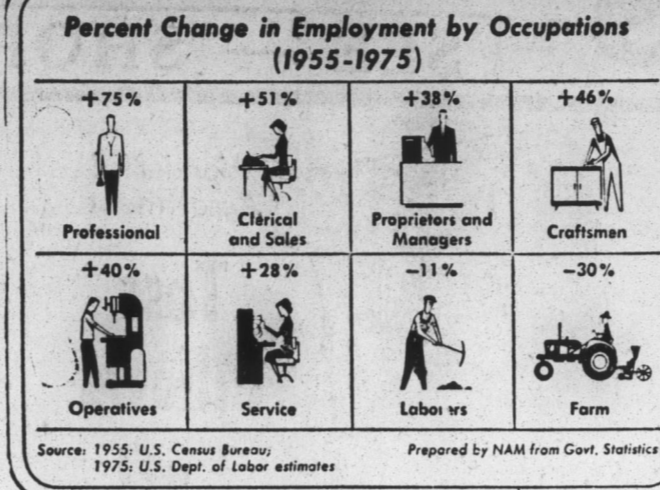
Although mesmerism was the forerunner of hypnotism, Mesmer did not hypnotize his subjects as we know the term today. The sleeping trance, which characterizes modern hypnotism, was discovered accidentally by the Masquis de Puységur, a follower of Mesmer, while attempting to put into practice Mesmer's methods.

There are many interesting facets to the science of hypnotism, and many misconceptions about its nature. The general public regards hypnotism with superstitious awe and fear, for to the average man hypnotism is synonymous with black magic and mysticism. But this popular conception is gradually being supplanted by understanding, and the public is fast learning about the psychological intricacies of the human mind and the great field, which is hypnotism, that is helping to explore its potentialities.

This is not a thesis on the methods of inducing the hypnotic trance, or the hypnotic sleep. There are several techniques for producing hypnosis, but they all depend more or less on the skill of the hypnotist and his choice of subjects. Here are a few things you probably didn't know about hypnotism: During World War II hypnotism was used as a remedy for "battle fatigue". A person with a strong mind will make the best subject. In the hands of a skilled hypnotist there is relatively no danger to the subject—no hypnotized person has yet failed to awaken. No

hypnotized person can be made to do anything that is counter to his morals, religion or code of ethics. Did you know that the monotony of watching a bobbing cork while fishing would induce a mild form of hypnosis? It's a fact. Did you know that the steady gaze of a driver on the road ahead and the steady hum of the motor would produce a state of hypnosis in a motorist? In fact, it is believed that many automobile mishaps may be attributed to a mild form of self-hypnosis brought on by the monotony of driving.

The future of hypnotism without question lies in the fields of general medical science and psychology. In England hypnotism is now officially recognized as being useful in medical practice, and although it is used by some American doctors, most of them have not yet gone "all out" and given hypnotism their full support. But the trend is clear—it is significantly apparent that hypnotism in the not too distant future will have completed the cycle from showmanship to science, from hypnotist to scientist.



Technological developments, including automation, in the future will result in an increase in the skill level of the labor force and consequently an upgrading of job opportunities. The U. S. Department of Labor's estimate of employment in major occupations for 1975 also foresees a job increase commensurate with the 35 per cent growth in population.

White collar workers will increase 54 per cent and in 1975 will be the largest segment of the labor force. The largest gain in this group will be the 75 per cent increase of the professional class—more than double the growth rate in total jobs. The government report groups craftsmen, operatives and laborers under a "blue

collar" designation. The skilled craftsmen and semi-skilled operatives classification will increase relatively faster than overall jobs, but unskilled laborers will decline numerically despite the 21,000,000 total job gain. The latter will also hold true for workers on the farm, a continuance of the long term trend. The growth in service occupations will be slightly less than for total employment.

The rates of growth and decline for the white collar workers and farm workers, respectively, vary little from the long term trends. "Blue collar" and service groups will be slightly smaller parts of the total in comparison with their increasing shares of past years.

Conference Speaker



REV. A. L. THOMPSON

At the District Conference of the Methodist Church in Washington, N. C., Friday, December 7, beginning at 10 A. M., the Rev. A. L. Thompson will preach the conference sermon.

BRIDE HONORED AT PARTIES

Miss Esther Jordan, whose marriage to James Oliver Perry, Jr., on Sunday, September 30, was honored with a party on September 19 at Washington, D. C., given by Mrs. Zenovah Guthrie, Miss Amy Brown and Miss Lynette Louce.

The bride received many lovely and useful gifts.

On Thursday night, September 27, Mrs. J. O. Perry and Miss Estelle Perry of Edenton entertained at a miscellaneous shower.

The home was decorated in fall flowers and the bride received

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many beautiful gifts.

On Friday, September 28, a floating shower was given the bride at her home by Mrs. Parker Copeland of Hertford and Miss Mabel Tynch of Washington, D. C. The home was decorated in white gladioli, white mums and green stocks.

Refreshments were served by candlelight. Mrs. Parker Copeland poured punch. The bride received many pieces of her chosen china, silver and many other lovely gifts.

Saturday night, September 23, following rehearsal, Mrs. Cameron Boyce and Mrs. Hallett Hobbs honored the bride and bridegroom with a cake cutting at the home of Mrs. Boyce. The home was decorated throughout with lovely fall flowers; the table being centered with gladioli and white mums.

Mrs. Pailen Lane poured the punch. The beautiful wedding cake was accented by candlelight.

Nothing is thought rare Which is not new and follow'd; yet we know That what was worn some twenty years ago Comes into grace again. —J. Fletcher.

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Lenora Cavendish Becomes Bride Of James F. Crummey

Ceremony Solemnized In Windsor Saturday, Nov. 3

Miss Lenora G. Cavendish, daughter of Mrs. B. K. Cavendish and the late Mr. Cavendish of Belle, West Virginia and William C. Crummey, son of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Crummey of Edenton were united in marriage Saturday, November 3. The ceremony was held in the Baptist parsonage of the Cashie Baptist Church in Windsor with the Rev. Charles Duling officiating.

The bride is a graduate of Dupont High School of Belle, West Virginia, and also a graduate of nursing from the Kanawha Valley Hospital of Charleston, West Virginia. She has been employed by Chowan Hospital of Edenton for the past six years.

The bridegroom, a resident of Edenton and a graduate of Edenton High School, is now employed by Bishop Laundry & Cleaners of Edenton.

The newlyweds are now residing at 1019 North Broad Street in Edenton.

WESLEYAN SERVICE GUILD WILL MEET DECEMBER 4

The Wesleyan Service Guild of the Methodist Church will meet Tuesday night, December 4, at 8

o'clock at the home of Mrs. Grace Griffin on Granville Street. Mrs. Joyce Van Hook will be in charge of the program and Mrs. Jesse Harrell, president of the Guild, urges all members to attend.



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NOTICE!

To Chowan County TAXPAYERS

The Tax Books for the year 1956 are now in my hands for the collection of taxes. We urge you to pay your taxes now and thus avoid the penalty which will begin on February 1.

A PENALTY OF 1% WILL BE ADDED ON 1956 TAXES NOT PAID BEFORE FEBRUARY 2. ANOTHER 1% WILL BE ADDED MARCH 2 AND AN ADDITIONAL 1/2 OF 1% WILL BE ADDED FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MONTH TAXES ARE UNPAID.

J. A. BUNCH
SHERIFF OF CHOWAN COUNTY

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