

SEANCE MEMORANDA from the

I N N E R C I R C L E

through Mark Probert, Medium

No. 6 -- January 29, 1948 through February 20, 1948 (BSRA 8-B)

This includes several attempts at psychic communication with a London, England group under the direction of Harold Chibbett.

Controls in the order of their appearance: Mrs. X the London medium, an Englishman, Mr. X (Lao Tse), a Kentuckian, Rajah Natcha, Lingford.

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THE MARK PROBERT SEANCES

January 29, 1948

Seance Memoranda #6

Experiment in cooperation with experimenter Harold Chibbett in London. It was proposed that Mr. Chibbett place his subject, a medium, under hypnosis, instruct her to go to Mark Probert and act as his control while he was in trance, and convey a key message as proof of identity. She would also be given a key message to carry back to Mr. Chibbett in London. Dates and key messages were arranged for four tests, and the messages or key words were deposited in sealed envelopes with V.H.G. (Winona Lake, Indiana). The key words to be given in San Diego thus were known to Meade Layne only; those to be given in London were known only to Mr. Chibbett. On receipt of reports, V.H.G. was to open the envelopes in presence of witnesses. The following is a transcript of the FIRST experiment only.

The fact that this was an initial trial of a somewhat novel experiment caused some tension of expectation on part of both mediums, and of other persons in both groups. This probably militated against success, and in fact was complained of by one of the communicators.

The San Diego controls had been consulted about this attempt in advance and had promised their cooperation.

PRESENT: Dr. and Mrs. Philip Cosman, Irene Probert, Katherine Townes, Meade Layne and Mark Probert, medium.

Sitting began 11:45 A.M. At 12:01 the medium went under light control, made hand gestures, returned to normal at 12:04. At 12:08 he complained of pain over the eyes, was apparently in normal consciousness but stated that he felt "there was difficulty because of expectancy". He said that he gathered this information clairaudiently, though not very clearly and definitely. He also said that "an attempt has been made to get here but the medium became confused and came out of it." At 12:11 the medium received a mental picture of a "blue-eyed, heavysset person wearing something checked" - did not say whether man or woman.

12:14 Medium under light control. "It's very draughty - there are cold draughts here". (The room was at 72 deg.). "What does perturbation mean" I heard someone say something about perturbation."

12:19 Control definitely established. The medium shivers with cold, huddles up, speaks in a woman's voice:

"It is so cold! I am so cold! So cold! I came across the sea. Cold! Cold!" (12:21).

The attempt was made to give encouragement and reassurance to this Control, which remained present until about 12:29, shivering and huddling but unable to talk clearly.

12:29 Change of control. Medium rubs his face vigorously, and speaks in a man's voice with a strong British accent:

"You know, blimey! the conditions don't seem to be very good here this afternoon."

"Do you feel cold?" asked a guest.

"No, it's not cold in here, the room seems quite comfortable, but you have so many other conflicting elements!"

"What are they? Are they on our side. Would you like to have us burn incense?"

"No," answered the control, "I don't think that would do a bit of good." (Long pause).

"Will you tell us who you are? Where do you come from? (Pause). "Is it warmer here than where you come from?"

"Yes, very much - very much."

"Are you one of us from our plane? Are you in distress? What is keeping you from articulating?" inquired Meade.

"It is a strain to hold onto things."

"Do you belong to us or on the other side?"

"I guess I belong over here."

"Are you a part of this experiment?"

"Some man -- some man -- is telling some woman, to go - to go to America - go, go, go! You people sitting around the room this afternoon, please don't try to put your mind upon what I am doing with the medium*. This is what is being said. -- I'm afraid that I got caught under the hypnotic spell myself."

"Can you assist this woman in coming here?" (Pause).

"I am in the States, eh?" (12:39, control departs).

Medium in normal consciousness until 12:45, but has the impression of someone saying "God bless America".

12:45 Control returns; medium again begins shivering; relaxes. At 12:49 begins yawning, yawns almost continuously until 12:51. Momentarily normal. 12:53. Control returns, medium yawns, puts head down on table to sleep, sits up and yawns; normal at 12:55. The room has suddenly become cold and heat is turned on. Medium smokes a cigaret. At 1:01, new control, "Mr. X".

(*It is probable, though not certain, that the words marked (*) were those of Mr. Chibbett in London, addressed to his group. It is extremely interesting to note the possibility of a sitter "getting caught under the hypnotic spell", obeying the instruction given the subject - and actually giving a better performance than the subject.)

CONTROL: Mr. X

"How do you do? Hm-mmm! You're having quite an experience here this afternoon."

"Do you know what made it so cold in here?" inquired Meade.

"The lady over in England, being under hypnosis and being sent across so many miles, mentally took the route she thought best, and crossed the water and brought a state of coldness with her. There was some difficulty but not too much with the acting mind."

"Did she reach us? Did she control the medium here?"

"She did, yes - to a small degree. The next time you have these meetings will you please try to arrange for absolute quiet. (question asked) It has not been as quiet as you think. (another question) Overhead, yes."

"Did the message of the lady come across?"

"To some degree - not very well."

"She did not express any message here?"

"All that yawning and stretching around by the medium was due to the woman coming out of her trance condition."

"Is the experiment over?"

"Yes."

"Who was the man who spoke to us?"

"This man - I do not know who he is. He doesn't seem to have severed the cord from his body. I do not believe he is what you call dead. His psychic body is much too alive and luminous. I do think that he was one of the experimenters. He acted as though he was asleep himself."

"Do you think the English medium has any recollection?"

"Yes, I think so."

"Do you think it will be possible for her to describe the medium here?"

"Wait, and I'll try to see." (1:06)

1:07 They all seem to be quite gay but they do not feel it was an entire success."

"Could we still get the key words across?"

"Not unless one of us tries to make the contact now. She is trying that now by holding the writing in her hand (specimen of handwriting of Mark Probert)."

"Will you try giving her the suggestion now?"

"I will try."

"I give you two words only - BURIED CROSSES", said Meade, "buried crosses. Crosses that have been buried. Buried crosses."

Control silent. Medium returned to normal at 1:17; still felt sleepy.

The phrase 'buried crosses' because it includes (a) a familiar, easily visualized symbol and (b) an unusual association ('buried') not too easily guessed. There was some noise in the apartments overhead, as the control complained -- The regularly weekly (Saturday) seances have been suspended for a month, by advice of the controls.

THE LONDON SEANCES

As explained heretofore, the experimenter, Harold Chibbett, in London endeavors to place a mediumistic subject, "Mrs. X" under hypnotic control; he instructs her to seek out the San Diego group to take control of Mark Probert and to deliver a key word or message, and if possible, to bring one back with her to London. The notes received from the experimenter Harold Chibbett are here reproduced in condensed form.

REPORT OF HYPNOTIC OPERATION "MAYFLOWER" held at South London home of Mr. and Mrs. W., Thursday, January 29, 1948. PRESENT: Mrs. X (subject), Mr. and Mrs. W. and their son N. and Mr. F.M. and Mr. C.

Procedure: Nature of the experiment outlined briefly to those present. Door closed and secured. Before placing Mrs. X in trance the code word Mayflower was told to her and to all present, this being its first disclosure. Mrs. X was seated comfortably, with a white light behind her; was tested for suggestibility and relaxation by raising and "flopping" the arms.

7:50 P.M. Mrs. X holds a piece of paper containing writing by Mark Probert as psychometric specimen; gets impression of man wearing horn-rimmed spectacles. (1)

7:55 Operator Harold Chibbett held the shiny surface of a powder compact slightly above and about two feet away from the subject's eyes, directed her to keep her gaze fixed on it, gave continued sleep suggestions. At 8:15 induced catalepsy in both arms, these becoming rigid upon request. Told subject to go deeper into sleep and that she could hear no sound except voice of operator. Subject agreed in a whisper. She was told to go to the San Diego circle but not to control Mark Probert until told to do so.

8:03 Mrs. X was asked whether she was there yet, but replied "no" in a faint whisper. At 8:04 said she did not know where she was. At 8:05 she was again instructed to visit San Diego and the address was given in hope that it might help. She was told to entrance Mark Probert and to announce herself as 'Pat' of London and to give the code word. The white light was then replaced by a blue one of low intensity, at ceiling.

Mrs. X was asked whether she was yet at the circle and replied "No", but that she was under an archway across a road (2); she felt that at one time this arch had been decorated with flowers or flags, and she felt a desire to dance.

8:06 Mrs. X was handed a photograph of Mead Layne (of San Diego Group) to hold, in addition to the paper written on by Mark Probert. At 8:07 Harold Chibbett asked everyone present to listen to him carefully and to amplify his words by willing Mrs. X to reach her destination. At 8:09 he asked whether she had made contact.

8:10 Mrs. X announced in a faint whisper that she thought she had contacted a group. Instructions as given at 8:05 were repeated. She was also told to give the code word Mayflower, and to get the San Diego code word.

8:15 Subject was informed that she would be brought back and that she would remember everything that had happened.

8:19 Sammy, a control, came through Mr. F.M. and said that Mrs. X wanted to 'go back.' He said that she was not to do so for a while but could try again later. (Note: Harold Chibbett does not tell us whether F.M. was in trance or not - M.L.).

8:21 Operator Harold Chibbett told Mrs. X he would count five, then she would awaken feeling refreshed and well. This she did.

(End of first attempt).

"When questioned", Harold Chibbett writes, "Mrs. X. confirmed that she had been held up by an arch over a roadway. It was undecorated when she saw it but she felt that at one time it had been hung with flowers and flags. She had wanted to dance under this archway. At the circle she thought she had visited, she had not seen any figures plainly, but she did see a man or woman nodding. Everything was indistinct and there was a hazy atmosphere. She was not aware of a room. It was felt that the medium Mark Probert was on a different 'vibration.'

8:29 P.M. "This time the control Sammy said that he would induce hypnosis from the other side. He left Mr. F.M. for a while and then returned and commenced proceedings much along the same lines I did. He then transferred control to me. I handed the photo and writing to her once more, with suggestions that she should re-visit San Diego. But before I could do much more than inquire whether she had established contact (8:34 P.M.), Sammy came through again and said that W.F. had told him Mrs. X's respiration was weak, and that I should bring her back at once and awaken her - which I did (8:39 P.M.). Sammy re-established her breathing, meanwhile indicating by signs that we were not to tell Mrs. X how she had been put to sleep by him on the second occasion."

(End of second attempt).

"When again questioned, Mrs. X remembered this time going into a room, but didn't want to bring back a memory, although at the same time she knew that she must. Again she referred to the 'man in horn-rimmed glasses.' She wanted to say 'Mayflower' but did not know whether she succeeded in doing so. She was then called away, and felt that she might have done better had I not distracted her attention. Once again she felt as though she were a man. She thought there was a colored light (3) but couldn't remember what color it was."

Observations by operator Harold Chibbett: "All things considered I don't think the results were too bad on this first occasion, especially considering the strain Mrs. X has been under for some months, her lowered vitality, and the fact that I was suffering from effects of a bad cold. It seems possible that Mrs. X may have succeeded in at least attracting the attention of the San Diego controls, and perhaps in entrancing the medium. Mrs. X was unable to remember whether any code word was given her. When Sammy came through again at 8:45 I asked him whether Mrs. X had been placed in a deep enough trance. He replied that I was doing all right but that instructions should be given in a sing-song voice, slowly and repeated, and then I should keep silent until instructions were carried out. Mrs. X said the American medium had a very good 'vibration' Sammy added that the use of psychometric material (photo and writing) was valuable in establishing contact."

(End of comment by Harold Chibbett).

Transcripts of both seances were sent to Vincent H. Gaddis, Winona Lake, Indiana. Code words for four seances had previously been deposited with him. Reports and code words were opened by V.H.G. in presence of witnesses Feb. 6, 1948. Their report concludes with the words:

"Having read the reports we therefore conclude that the code words were not transmitted, though the test cannot be said to have been a complete failure."

(1) Horn-rimmed spectacles. Mark Probert does not wear glasses, but Dr. P.C. and Meade Layne (at San Diego) both wear them; neither uses the horn-rimmed type, but in each case they somewhat resemble the horn rimmed kind and might easily be taken for such. (3) The room at San Diego had the shades drawn; there was no artificial illumination.

Coincidence or discrepancy in time cannot be pressed too closely; the exact time difference between San Diego and South London was not figured, and there are also problems of 'delayed effects'. But Mrs. X was 'sent out' and 'did not know where she was' at 8:04, was under the 'archway' at 8:05, and thought she had made contact at 8:10. It was about 12:08 when Mark Probert received a clairaudient impression of 'difficulty because of expectancy' and of an 'attempt made to get here but the medium became confused and came out of it.'

At 12:19 the Mark Probert control complained (woman's voice) of the cold which came from crossing the sea. It was at this time that Mrs. X 'wanted to go back' according to the London control 'Sammy'. Allowing a flat time difference of eight hours, the two time schedules show a reasonably close coincidence for most features of the two sittings.

Observation by operator Harold Chibbett (London): "The communicator who thought he might have been 'caught under the hypnotic spell' might be F.M., who was dodging in and out of his body during the experiment." "It seems likely that if you hypnotize your medium it will be easier for Mrs. X to take control. Longitudinal mesmeric passes might release him sufficiently...the deeper the trance is, the better. I have my doubts as to whether there is any actual spacial transfer of vehicles - might be merely a question of change of vibration or 'wave-length' - I don't know sufficient, anyway."

The foregoing observations by Harold Chibbett come remarkably close to the later pronouncements of the Mark Probert controls. These have stated repeatedly that if very deep trance could be induced in both mediums the chances of success would be very much improved. They also asserted that genuine contact was actually established in this first experiment, but that it would be more accurate to regard this contact as mainly telepathic in nature. The San Diego experimenters have always been reluctant to employ hypnosis, in any of the work carried on by them, and the controls have approved of this attitude. As an alternative the controls suggested (Feb. 20) that each medium be allowed to enter trance in a natural manner, without any hypnosis at all, and without having any group present - except for a note-taker, who would do nothing except to record everything said by the medium while in trance. This, the controls believed, would get rid of the pressure of expectancy and the various psychic factors arising from the eight or ten other persons involved (counting the groups at both ends); see seance of Feb. 20 on this.

The distinction between "an actual spacial transfer of vehicles" (H.C.) and a telepathic contact -and/or an extension of consciousness, or change of focus of awareness, seems likely to prove verbal and hypothetical only. The maxim obtains: "You are where your consciousness is" - for if not, where else? - and what is meant by you? It is very helpful to speak of the AKA cords, or of rays and vibration rates, or of a kind of pseudopod of consciousness thrusting out across 'space' - and also, in similar cases, of the actual spacial transfer of an etheric, astral or mental vehicle or body in which the consciousness is functioning. But this space itself seems to be reduced, for our finite minds at least, to a change in mode or form of consciousness (a familiar philosophical idea). I think this room, and so say that I am 'here'; but if I can think a hermit-cave in Tibet, with the same clearness and completeness of attention, then I am 'there'; moreover, I can be partly here and partly there at the same time, or pass back and forth with a timeless rapidity. This also is familiar ground to the occultist, but it may help us to avoid creating fictitious issues about what 'actually happens' when an incarnate entity starts travelling from one 'place' to another. Perhaps it would be better to call it tele-sentience and let it rest at that!

I shall now proceed to set down, in somewhat abbreviated form, the report of the London operator Harold Chibbett covering the second experiment, February 5, 1948. This experiment consists of two separate attempts to reach the San Diego group, and the first of these includes a remarkable 'experience' of the medium in connection with one of the so-called flying saucers (Lokas). One or two points should be made clear with respect to this. (1) The London experimenter Harold Chibbett is not to be regarded as accepting the experience as either veridical or hallucinatory, in his own critical opinion, but acted correctly in temporarily accepting it at face value in dealing with the medium and her control. (2) Mr. Vincent Gaddis also raised the question of hallucination but does not commit himself to an opinion. (3) The controls of Mark Probert, at San Diego, when questioned about the matter, expressed the opinion that the experience inside the disc was in the nature of hallucination, induced by reading and speculation leading to autosuggestion. They do not, however, say positively that such was the case, and there is no evidence that they were aware of the medium's experience at the time it occurred. (4) Under these circumstances it would be very presumptuous, to say the least, for the Editor of these reports to pass judgment on the incident. The reader is invited to form his own opinion and to contribute any pertinent data which may come his way.

REPORT of Hypnotic Operation SHOE - N.W. London, Feb. 5, 1948

Five persons, operator, and subject present. Psychometric specimen (Mark Probert writing) given Mrs. X., also code word SHOE, and instruction to undo the medium's shoe if possible and leave it on the floor. Medium told to relax, think of San Diego; sitters to do the same. Medium to look at operator's eyes, etc. Catalepsy induced in arms. Under control at 7:52 (11:52 S.D. Time). Instructions given to contact Mark Probert, control his body, say the word shoe and report to Harold Chibbett when she has done so.

8:00 P.M. (12:00 S.D.): Mrs. X (whispering): "Operator contact - Operator 236 - air pressure below standard. (Pause) 'Oxygen!'" (Sitter F.M., under control, regulates breathing of Mrs. X). "Return to base. A psychic matter now! Keep in touch. Still in touch ... Operator 50 ..." (incoherent).

Operator: "You have all the air you need now, the oxygen is turned on."

8:04 Mrs. X: "Listen ... come nearer ... pressure greater ... contact 356 ... Returning to base..."

Operator: "Where is this base?"

Mrs. X: "Stratosphere ... it chokes."

Operator: (Not liking sound of all this) "Listen, I am going to bring you back."

Mrs. X: "Not yet. (pause) It makes my hands cold. (Hands were very cold). It's like acid!"

Operator: "Where are you?"

Mrs. X: "In a flying saucer."

Operator: "Do they know you are there?"

Mrs. X: "No."

Operator: "If you want to be brought back, squeeze my hand."

Mrs. X: "It's getting colder."

Operator: "Can you describe the saucer?"

Mrs. X: "I am inside ... It is like a big round room ... creature like I saw before ... others like an egg shape ... flabby looking creatures ... big eyes, webbed hands."

8:09 P.M. Operator: "Did you contact the saucer on the way to San Diego?"

Mrs. X: "It is just outside the earth's atmosphere ... I tried to avoid it but there was a suction ... "

8:10 F.M.'s control Sammy: "Bring her back, quickly." (Mrs. X awakened at count of five.)

MRS. X'S OWN ACCOUNT:

"I seemed to be going higher than last time. I felt myself in a whirlwind. I imagined that I was swimming in water but there was no water. I tried to swim out of it but I was sucked higher and higher. I appeared to see something (or be) in a cone ... a huge round thing with a man at the controls. He was the same kind of man as before (referring to experience in November 1947) but with a helmet. All round the sides of the cone were holes. The egg-shaped creatures were putting something into those holes.

"My hands were stone cold. A retort (sic) was heard (or felt) ... there was something about returning to base and something about operator 50. Something about pressure zero; something about bringing back a sample. (Note taker gathered that these were impressions of thoughts picked up by Mrs. X from those inside the Saucer). The word 'Contact.' Someone calling operator 50 to 356.

"There was one man in the saucer; other creatures were egg-shaped with two legs. They appeared to be smaller than the man. They were filling the holes (or tubes) at the side of the saucer - seemed to make it go faster. I had the impression of movement at first, then realized the impression was of movement so fast it could not be conceived. They were talking about the base of the stratosphere."

"Did you see any other objects?"

"No, I did not see any other saucers. I was choking all the time."

"Can you give us any idea as to the size of the man?"

"Yes, about twice the size of Mr. F.M. (F.M. is broad, thick-set, about 5'8"). The egg-shaped creatures were smaller than D.M. (slighter than F.M., but about same height). These creatures have a face but no neck - gave me the impression of Humpty-Dumpty. They had big eyes. No clothes but consisted of a grayish substance. Their feet were webbed."

"Was the floor flat?"

"It looked round (curved) but wasn't, as I stood easy on it. I observed from a platform higher than the others - a gallery. I held onto a bar. There were no windows, only these holes in the side."

"Did you sense whether they were friendly or not?"

"No."

"Would they have caught you if your presence had been known?"

"Yes. The man was the same as the others I saw last time, but with a helmet. There were instruments all round the walls, dials etc. I don't know how I was able to understand their language."

SECOND ATTEMPT TO REACH SAN DIEGO

Control of sitter F.M., speaking to operator: "Keep her closer to earth this time and speak louder." (Unual procedure ensued).

8:30 P.M. Mrs. X in deep trance. Instructions given as in first attempt.

8:34 Mrs. X: "I can't find him."

Operator: "Where are you now?"

Mrs. X: "Under an archway, the same as last time. It gets in the way."

Operator: (to sitters) "Everyone try to help her under the arch."

Mrs. X: "I have been here before."

Operator: "What is holding you?"

Mrs. X: "I'm trying to remember."

Operator: "Something about last week?"

Mrs. X: "No."

Operator: "About a previous life?"

Mrs. X: "Yes."

Operator: "Can you get past the arch?" (instructions repeated).

(The Mark Probert controls stated later that the archway was a memory of a former life, with pleasurable associations, so that she wanted to dance under it and was reluctant to go on by).

8:40 Mrs. X says she has contacted someone after she has been handed Meade Layne's photograph - gets the impression of a man with no glasses. Says, "I can contact him ... but cannot control. His vibration is different than mine."

Operator insists that she contact the medium and give the code word.

8:44 F.M.: "Mrs. X's Guide says you are to bring her back."

8:45 Subject awake. 9:10 subject normal.

MRS. X's OWN ACCOUNT:

"I got stuck at an archway. I feel that the arch is necessary to remember, for something to come -- perhaps in an experiment. I felt I was in a room after you gave me the 'photo'. I seemed to go to a man but couldn't control him. He was about

my own age (43-44). He has a nice face. No details that I could notice. I looked for the medium whom I think I found. I felt that I traveled through a man and heard sounds that were very jumbled such as grunts, oh's, ah's, etc. I felt myself stone cold and asked to come back. I didn't hear any more. It was not long enough. You must not send me to sleep in that same way again (by clapping hands), that system is too fast."

COMMENTS BY E.F. (Mrs. X's Guide):

"Mrs. X was caught up that first time in an unaccountable whirlwind. It is the suction from these flying saucers."

"Are they trying new weapons?"

"That is how they are experimenting."

"But they do not interfere with wireless waves?"

"They would if they came too close ... These creatures would be friendly if left alone, but if attached they would naturally retaliate. If a saucer landed it would cause a devastating explosion. These creatures don't know their own strength. The flying saucers are seen in the United States because of the dense concentration of Uranium ... the substance put in the holes in the saucer is called Facillinite and Uranium is strongly attracted to it. The suction is created by its use. Mrs. X was attracted to the saucer because of the radium content of her body." (Note: She has had many operations which necessitated its use).

The control of F.M. reported that he had made a protective sign when Mrs. X had been told to return. This had materialized in the saucer and had been found by its occupants. He also said that the plane over Kentucky (Capt. Mantell) had been brought down by a ray gun.

Memoranda by H.C.:

"Like acid": probably "facillinite". "Putting something in holes": presumably "facillinite". "Sample": of atmosphere, creatures, or what? "Filling the holes": stokers? "Facillinite" -- "base of stratosphere": this might be our 'top' -- "Webbed feet": water creatures? "Archway": this held her up before. Any significance your end? May relate to an incident in one of her past lives, in some place en route. (Mark Probert controls confirmed this conjecture. ML) "Devastating explosion": I seem to remember reading something like this elsewhere. (The statement clicks pretty well with various items of alleged information received from controls and thru other psychic investigations in San Diego. ML)

"Facillinite": Phonetic spelling, of course, Its alleged property seems to be that it attracts Uranium and Radium. If so, it could be used as a means of propulsion, by using base and lateral shutters. Since the mass of the saucer is so

much less than that of the earth, the saucer would be drawn toward the earth and not vice versa. The windless storm in the Atlantic might have been caused by the action of this substance on Uranium deposits in the sea bed. Re the plane over Kentucky - any information your end?" H.C.

End of London report - Comments for 2nd experiment, February 5, 1948, called Hypnotic Operation SHOE.

In these first two experiments no code words have been received, and little attempt has been made to give them in San Diego, for the reason that no entity seemed present who could or would try to convey them. Nevertheless, as has been stated, the San Diego experimenters believe that contact was established in the first experiment. But apart from the main objective, much has been learned - apparently by the controls also - regarding the complicated condition involved in the use of hypnotic plus mediumistic trance. We ask our readers to remember that these reports or Memoranda are published seriatim, and not as a critical and completed study of a psychic experiment. P.C. and Meade Layne at San Diego do not have the time or facilities to handle this data properly; it has to be presented in the rough, for whatever useful purpose it may serve -- The London account of what happened at experiments III and IV is not yet at hand, and the San Diego report of experiment IV also has not been published. ML

San Diego - February 5, 1948:

PRESENT: H. W. McQuinn, Meade Layne, Kathryn Townes, Irene Probert and Mark Probert (medium). Second of series of seances trying for control by a hypnotized subject in London, with key messages.

Medium says, he feels that London began early, at 11:45. At 11:58 medium feels very tired, sleeps a few moments; is normal at 12:00. From then to 12:10 he laughs repeatedly, asserts that he feels the presence of "humorous influences". At 12:15, gets the name Laura, or Laurie used as affectionate diminutive. Control momentarily present at 12:17. At 12:23 medium gets the name Sadie. At 12:24, get the French word l'amour. At 12:55, siki (pronounced see-kee), and impression that it is Hindu. At 12:29 says control has been here once and will try again at 12:30. At 12:30-12:32 a control was present, did not speak. At 12:36 a foreign control, unidentified Oriental language. Medium ceases to speak, but for some time holds his left arm above elbow, with right hand, as if in pain. Foreign language, unidentified; will not reply to questions.

12:28 Control Mr. X: "Good afternoon. Your trouble, I can see now, is it would be almost impossible for a living mind to speak through another living mind. Actually, what would take place would be an automatism. The living mind of a hypnotized individual cannot enter in and control in an adequate manner. What is necessary, is that the medium here be hypnotized and set apart from his body. It would have to be an outward hypnosis and not one produced by suggestion of himself. Do you understand?"

"Do you mean that this experiment is impossible as we are attempting it - that the hypnotized subject cannot act as a control for this medium here while he is in trance?"

"Yes. I mean she can reach and impress words on his conscious mind but she cannot speak through him."

"Do you mean that clairaudience with the medium fully conscious, would be better?"

"Very much better."

"Do you think the woman reached the medium?"

"Yes, we feel that she did."

"What is the situation at this time?"

"The situation as I see it over here is her inability to break thru the barrier and hold it to any lengthy extent."

"You mean, the barrier at this end?"

"Yes, to an extent, but more that she wanders off the course; she gets so far and no farther and cannot hold it long enough."

"What is the root of that trouble?"

"One reason is, the medium sitting here is not in enough of a trance. The trance is not deep enough so that she can make a clear and direct contact. That requires the deepest trance, and that can be brought on only thru outward hypnosis."

"Both mediums should be under hypnosis?"

"Yes. You see, too much of the medium's mind here acts as a barrier to the approaching mind of the medium from London."

"Didn't her mind speak thru this medium at our last meeting?"

"Yes, the mind of the medium in London got through but the psyche of the body did not. I don't know that that is clear to you. It is very much along the line of telepathy instead of direct control. You see, even though you may feel such work as this is mental, it is also through the physical very much, because the physical has to be controlled. That man who took control last time was very likely a sitter at the meeting in London."

"Was that telepathic or did he make the transfer?"

"No, he did not make the transfer; telepathy is more likely it."

"But this man spoke to us about the weather here being warmer than in London."

"There is much about the mind we do not understand. Knowing what the weather is in London, and the mind assuming that it could sense cold outside of itself, it was immediately open to the suggestion of the weather when it made mental contact with this medium. Telepathic control is much more amenable to suggestion than a complete entity control ... I see you do not understand. I beg your pardon."

"Could we arrange this experiment on a telepathic basis? Would you suggest using hypnosis in England and having the medium here receive by clairaudience?" (Medium somewhat disturbed).

"She is coming out of her condition now and it is having a similar effect upon this medium, although I have him under control now. Yes, I think it would be much more feasible to try the telepathy."

"What about the names received here at the beginning of the sitting?"

"Those were telepathic. I do not know if they are names of people in England."

"We shall leave the details of the next experiment to your judgment."

"You can always expect at least a certain amount of control when you try for this work, because we will always be interested and will make an effort to come through from time to time, but when we do not, do not become impatient, for you are dealing with something altogether different from what we are accustomed to."

"Has not this been tried before?"

"Indeed, many times. It has been a practise both in India and China and in other countries by adepts and teachers and advanced students."

"But there should be, then, some recognized technique that works."

"Excuse me a moment." (12:55 Medium yawns, stretches, then control changes)

(Desultory conversation with the Controls, of which no stenographic notes were taken, somewhat clarify the situation. It is said that the hypnotized subject is projected in her finer body - astral or etheric vehicle - there is an actual spacial transfer. The corresponding body or vehicle of Mark Probert, however, is not dissociated from his dense body, and this fact prevents the foreign control being established. It was said that the vehicle of the English medium was "too dense to take possession of Mark's body, unless Mark's own corresponding vehicle was withdrawn." This could be accomplished only by "outward hypnosis" (i.e., by an operator here), or by getting Mark Probert into a very deep trance by any other means, after which the controls would be able to effect the dissociation, and so clear the way for the English control to take over.)

"In his statement about the frequent use of similar means of communication, in the Orient particularly, it is likely that the "X" control did NOT refer to the precise form of this present experiment, which involves both hypnosis and mediumistic trance and requires assistance at both ends and on both planes. The successful methods are probably much simpler. At present writing reports from London have not yet been received, but it is not too early to point out that much has already been learned and a wide field of experimental work opened up. In comparison with this, the success or failure of the project of conveying messages back and forth has already become of minor importance.

It should be noted that the medium Mark Probert for some reason failed to enter trance, except momentarily, until after 12:30, whereas the English medium

should normally have been under control of the hypnotist by 12:15. She may have found Mark Probert in full consciousness and have been disconcerted, or without instructions what to do in such case. Comment at this point is speculative, however; we merely ask our readers to remember that this is a running account and not a write-up of a completed experiment.

At the time last indicated, 12:55, the usual Shakespearian relief character made his appearance. The medium yawns, stretches, his face and posture change, he tips back in his chair, slouches awkwardly:

"We have never seen you here before. Who are you?"

"Ain't been here before. Calls me Ebenezer, she calls me. Me mother, I mean."

"Where are you from? Where did you live before you went over there?"

"Come from Kentucky. Ain't never lef it. Ain't never even took me into the draft."

"Have you been over there very long?"

"Kentucky? Sure. Been here most all my life."

"Do you know where you are now - what you are doing now?"

"Say, who are you-uns, anyhow."

"Have you ever heard of spiritualists? You are speaking through another person, through a medium."

"Ain't talkin' through no one."

"Do you realize that you don't live over here any more?"

"Sure do! Live in Kentucky still! Sure do! Ain't never lef it."

"What is your mother's name?"

"Elizabeth! Hey - what you-all questionin' me fer?"

(Explanation was made to the control, about speaking through a medium, etc.)

"Well, ain't never knowed I could do this before!" (1:00 P.M.)

Our understanding is, that communicators of this type are allowed to take control occasionally, partly because it is often an enlightening experience for them, and partly to relieve any tensions which may have been built up in the circle.

SEANCE OF FEBRUARY 5 continues 1:24 P.M. - New Control:

"Good afternoon. I am Raja Natcha. I see you have a bit of rain this afternoon. Something prayed for, something sent! They told me you brag about the sun-

shine in your country, eh? Sometimes the things we brag about turn around and sicken us with too much of them."

"If we had the worst climate in the world," said Meade Layne, "we would brag about it's being the worst. Such is human nature. Have you heard any part of our meeting today?"

"Yes, indeed - I was just about to mention it. There is not a great deal more I can say than you have heard from your esteemed friend you call Mr. X. The substance dealt with from a living control is vastly different from that of one who has passed over to this side."

"Are you referring to the projected double of the medium?"

"Yes."

"Is this substance more difficult to deal with than the etheric or astral body of an incarnate person?" asked Meade.

"Yes - a great deal more difficult."

"Is that the source of the trouble then, a vehicle of matter too dense to be handled in this way?"

"I concur with your friend that the astral body of the lad here present as a medium would have to be entirely set aside through hypnosis - or possibly we could do it by inducing exceedingly deep trance."

"The hypnotized medium could then take control?"

"Yes."

"You think telepathy, with the medium here normal, the best means?"

"Yes."

"If you have anything to suggest about the procedure we would be grateful."

"There are some parts to this that would have to be considered. I would like to have a little further talk with your friend Mr. X. Before I go this afternoon I would like to ask your friend there, Mr. McQuinn -- Good afternoon, sir -- I would like to hear a word or two from you, if you have something to say."

"Do you feel that this work is conducive to a successful end, or will it culminate successfully in a telepathic experiment?" asked Mr. McQuinn.

"Yes, I do. I think that this is a great experiment and by all means should be carried through to its end, whatever that may be. The success may not be flaming, may not be extremely brilliant or even particularly good; nevertheless it is something that has not been carried on by your western minds."

"We learn much from our failures," remarked Meade.

"That is one of the sources of learning in all attempts in life. It is not through the successes so much as through the failures. I am laboring under the idea that you, Mr. McQuinn, are not entirely in favor of spiritualistic work. Am I right? I believe that you feel that such delving into the astral has a tendency to hold back or in some manner detain the advancement of the soul, eh?"

"I am open-minded, but you have sensed possibly a bit of conservatism on my part, in that my quest is for the truth as coming directly from the center of my own being. But I enjoy the friendship of those seeking the same goal. What do you have to say?" stated Mr. McQuinn.

"It seems to me that many of the teachings of my people, and also those of China, and I would go so far as to say teachings all around concerning the secrets of life are more than slightly askew. To be a seeker of the truth, sir, is a noble following; no soul is capable of retrogression or of being detained, except it finds reasons within itself for such action. And if it finds this reason, it is most necessary that it either retrograde or be detained, because it is evident it has not learned the things most necessary for its advancement and its understanding of physical life. Being born and living for numerous years on the earth plane, man is more or less lost to the knowledge of his soul. He merely hopes he has a soul. It is only after years of seeking, of study, that we find not that we are sure we have souls, but merely that the hope becomes predominant. Approach life with clearness of mind and courage, and the knowledge within your heart that all that takes place is good for your advancement on your particular road. Do I make myself clear?"

"What then is the goal of existence?"

"I do not know what your goal is; I can only know what mine is."

"Could you tell us?"

"What good that would do, I do not know either. All I know is, that man should advance his mind. But in advancing the mind do not neglect the body, because when the body is under stress the mind is distracted no end."

"May I ask a somewhat personal question?" said Meade. "You were a man instructed in the religious and philosophical learning of your race, and in the culture and knowledge of the English universities. Tell us this, if you will. Did all this knowledge give adequate preparation to your mind, for your after-death experience?"

"My teachings were unusually good, for my time, in religious and philosophic matters. I can say that they prepared me at least to meet the unexpected with tranquility."

"Then, there was much which was unexpected?"

"So much! So much! Life beyond earth is NOT what we are being taught - not even by the spiritualistic movement."

"If this is true, can you tell us where right knowledge may be had?"

"I do not know. By that I mean, I do not believe such knowledge can be ade-

quately and properly expressed. Were I to say, for instance, 'Just picture that I am a Force' - does that convey anything to your mind?"

"It does not, of course, convey any image or picture," replied Meade.

"So you see, with all teachings..." (i.e. an illustration of the general difficulty). "While I was in the body still, I went through many projections of the psyche from the physical."

"Did not that prepare the way for future experiences?"

"Not entirely. It is most difficult to express. Being out of the body in that manner is much the same as being in."

"Nevertheless, some of us at least are extremely anxious to get a correct idea of after-death conditions, so far as that is possible to our level of understanding."

"You, it seems, are led to believe, because of what you have seen and heard of persons making themselves known after death, that that is the way they are. But that is NOT the way they are. By that, I mean they are not forms. We do not travel around in form. We travel around as an energy, a shapeless energy. It is only when we wish to make ourselves known to those who remain behind that we assume physical form for them to see."

"Is that true on ALL the planes of your world?" inquired Meade.

"NO!"

"Is it true that forms are habitually employed on what we sometimes call the lower astral?"

"Yes, that is the only place where a form is necessary."

"You are not conscious of having a form, on your level -- but you are conscious of surroundings - environment?"

"Yes. But I do not know how to express environment. It is like having a world around one, only if you desire it so. It most resembles, if I may say so, a sound sleep coupled with consciousness, with awareness." (i.e., probably like the waking-sleep of meditation, or trance in which the body sleeps while the mind is fully active. M.L.). "Is that at all clear to you?"

"Partly clear - but it does not clear up the space concept," said Meade.

"Yes, I can readily see that. That is the trouble of living in the physical body - the mind becomes unable to conceive of anything outside space and time."

"Do you recognize what we might call different degrees of reality?"

"To the uneducated mind, anything that appears to exist outside itself is 'real'. But in another state of consciousness you do not need these outward illusions. Illusions, however, are to be dealt with on all planes. But the term illusion is not

sufficient to express the truth" (i.e., to differentiate it). "because there is no actual way of separating the illusion from the so-called reality - on account of the awareness situation." (This, of course, exactly expresses the situation on our earth-plane also. M.L.)

"Is this true on your present plane also?" inquired Meade.

"Yes."

"You are not able to say, in effect: 'That mountain over there is my thought-form', or 'it is a reality apart from my thinking'. It is impossible for you to make that distinction?"

"It is impossible for this reason: you have to reckon with the fact that you may be seeing the building, the outward construction of other minds." (i.e., the seemingly objective mountain would still be a mental construct, though not of one's own personal making. M.L.)

"But do you recognize existents created by the Cosmic Mind, and hence having a kind-of final reality for that reason?"

"The Cosmic Mind being a combination of all consciousness everywhere present, can be and is observed by everyone, and this leads them to believe that what the so-called Cosmic Mind paints is reality; but it is no more reality than if a single mind painted and projected the picture for you to see."

"In respect to gaining right knowledge - is this kind of work, on the whole, a good way to get the knowledge we desire?"

"This is a fine way, as you say, on the whole; but I warn you it is also in the illusionary field - so be careful as you tread."

"You mean we should make allowances that communicators may be reporting personal experiences and thought-forms rather than anything more universal or substantial?"

"Yes, that is where man stays in his confusion. It is not to be held against him. It is only to be wondered that he advances as far as he does."

"Is there any better way of gaining this knowledge?"

"Individually, yes. By meditation."

"But that is almost impossible for the average westerner."

"This sort-of work (spiritistic), as well as your meditation, is fortunately not in everyone's field. Knowledge comes only to those seeking; it can be found on any plane. But should anyone tell you he has found ultimate truth, give him his hat and say goodbye."

"Butler said there is no source of error like the pursuit of absolute truth."

"That is absolutely correct. The Chinese have a peculiar Art, of making ivory balls within balls, and the western mind thinks it is a cute little trick. They do

not see the esoteric teaching...These things have been carved throughout the generations; the Teachers made them principally to show that all planes blend into one another. To seek truth on the outside plane, the outside ball, and to look no deeper, tells us nothing. All is within. All teachings hold to this."

"And what about free-will?" asked Mr. McQuinn.

"That question ... depends on definitions. Free will depends mostly on the strength of desire. The effect on the mind of mass consciousness and hypnotic illusions is to be reckoned with ... whether you act or refrain from acting depends on your response to the hypnotic glitter. The problem of your advancement is that of getting rid of the outer state of hypnosis - that is the progress in 'freedom', or 'free will'. It is getting difficult to hold on any longer. I shall bid you good-afternoon." Control Withdraws (2:02 P.M.)

REPORT OF HYPNOTIC OPERATION of February 13, 1948
South London home of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. W.

PRESENT: Mrs. X(subject); Mr. F.M.(subject). Mr. C(operator). Mr. D.A.(note-taker). Mr. and Mrs. F.J.W.; Mr. N.W., Mr. Fielding, Mr. and Mrs. Helmore, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Clark, Mr. Pow.

PROCEDURE: On similar lines as before, except that two subjects were used. After commencement, nobody was permitted to leave the room.

All details taken from verbatim notes.

7:25 P.M. Before entrancement, Mrs. X was handed a photograph of Meade Layne of San Diego. She held this in her right hand. Mr. F.M. held some of Meade Layne's writing in his right hand. While Mrs. X was being hypnotized, Mr. F.M. gave off impressions received psychometrically from the letter in his hand.

"From this paper I sense a tall man, fair hair, very wavy, 6 ft. odd in height. Something wrong or some trouble with his right foot or leg. He is sometimes very serious but can be just the opposite, very jovial. I sense a large letter H. He doesn't smoke cigars as Americans usually do, but smokes a pipe instead and emphasizes with it, pointing like a gun. There is an orange light. With the tall man I sense a little woman with straight black hair. There is a badge in the man's lapel. He bends to tap his pipe but drops it."

Operator to Mrs. X: "You are now under my control. Sleep - sleep." (Usual suggestions given).

7:25 P.M. Code sentence 'Hands across the sea' given to Mrs. X and she is instructed to proceed to San Diego, and to wait.

7:30 P.M. F.M. is already under hypnotic influence, evidently having accepted the suggestions given to Mrs. X.

7:32 P.M. Operator to group: "You are all to relax. Do not be tense." (Deep=sleeping signs given to both subjects).

7:40 Operator to Mrs. X: "You are to keep close to earth this time. You are to go to the circle at San Diego and contact the original of this photo, Mr. Meade Layne. When you have done this you are to return here to me, or rather, contact me."

(Instructions by Operator to F.M. to relax - and as already given to Mrs. X - and to contact Mrs. X).

7:46 P.M. Mrs. X to Operator: "F.M. has got a job to keep up with me."

Operator to F.M.: "You are to keep up with Mrs. X."

F.M. to Operator: "Chosen people".

7:47 P.M. Mrs. X to Operator: "I got too low. My dress is wet. I'm outside the door. There is something on the carpet. My dress dipped in the sea and dripped on the carpet. My dress is wet round my leg."

(Mr. X (husband) investigates, says that the back of Mrs. X's dress is wet. Operator examines but is not so sure.)

7:50 Operator to Mrs. X: "Is F.M. with you?"

Mrs. X: "I can't see him."

Operator to F.M.: "Are you with Mrs. X?"

F.M. to Operator: "Pearl barley for breakfast. Try it."

Mrs. X to Operator: "Medium at San Diego is under control. He is talking. Someone else is in control, a man."

Operator to Mrs. X: "Can you project your thoughts through him?"

Mrs. X, crossly: "I'm trying."

Operator to group: "It may be that F.M. is controlling the medium."

Operator to F.M.: "Try to sing 'God Save the King'."

7:55 P.M. Mrs. X to Operator: "He is out, I am going in."

(Operator instructs Mrs. X - Mrs. X breathes heavily and murmurs "Ocean".)

Operator to Mrs. X: "Is this their code?"

Mrs. X: "I can hear ocean. I'm warmer tonight - much warmer."

Operator to Mrs. X: "The code - get that over."

Mrs. X: "It seems funny, my being here."

Operator to Mrs. X: "Have you met F.M.?"

Mrs. X: "Of course I have. Why shouldn't I?"

7:56 P.M. Operator to F.M.: "Can you see Mrs. X?"

F.M.: "Of course."

Operator: "Did you deliver the code and sing 'The King'?"

F.M.: "I don't know!"

Mrs. X to Operator: "I'm making it uncomfortable for him" (meaning Mark Probert).

Operator to Mrs. X: "Can you see through his eyes?"

Mrs. X: "No. It's like dream."

Operator: "Have you given the code message?"

Mrs. X: "I have done my best."

Operator: "Try once again. I'm going to bring you back."

Mrs. X: "I'm sorry about the carpet; I couldn't rise."

Operator: "That was because I told you to keep close to earth."

(Both the subjects were awakened at this point. Then F.M. is briefly controlled by some entity who says only 'Indigo blue'. This reference is not understood. F.M. is then controlled by 'Sammy', who says:

"Hullo! I think a bloke came here and took control. I saw a cord-connecting to people sitting there (at San Diego?). I saw the color. Funny word - don't know what it meant. He was here some while. I saw another bloke here, too."

Operator to Sammy: "Was it successful?"

Sammy: "Yes. But leave 'em alone once they're off - don't bring 'em back."

Operator: "What about the water on the mat?"

Sammy: "It dripped from her astral clothes. She wears these when on astral travel and in company. Otherwise none are worn at all. If you could see this boy (F.M.) you would see that he was wearing clothes like those he used to wear when on earth before."

(Memo: Sammy conveyed that Mrs. X's impression of getting her skirt wet from the ocean may have been due to the fact that she passed stages of vibration which shimmer like water, and her thoughts along these lines actually created the water - Operator).

Sammy: "There were two people here, one a fair-haired man with a complexion darker than the other. This other had dark hair brushed straight back over his head. He was tallish, pale and sallow. There were writing implements in his waistcoat pocket. He was dressed in a dark suit. A small girl brought the men along ... she

was leading the fair-haired man ... Regarding the sign made last week in the flying saucer, the symbol was found by the little people, who reported it to the big man. The small ones wouldn't walk past it. The small ones reflected the feelings of the big man." (Sammy referred to the conventional drawings of the war lord Mars, complete with helmet and skirt, and asked whether we did not draw a comparison between this artist's imaginative conception, and the dress of the man mentioned in the accounts Mrs. X's visits to the saucers).

MRS. X'S OWN ACCOUNT:

"I remember leaving this spot. I kept low -- too low in fact, because I found that my dress trailed in the sea water. I came back to the outside of the door of this room and the water dripped from my skirt onto the floor. I remember that F.M. couldn't keep up with me. Then he seemed to be pushing me, and then I seemed to be pushing F.M. I thought I found the right house and the man (Mark Probert). He was already under control but I don't know who was controlling him. I remember hearing this control saying the code. I couldn't see F.M. I felt nice and warm, and then I came away. Later I returned to have another go and found that the medium was out of control (sic. control had left medium?), so I tried to push into him. I felt as though I was clamped tight. I was uncomfortable and my chest felt as though it was pushing out. I tried to say the code but thought it was very weak, just a whisper. I heard the word 'ocean' but don't know where the voice came from. I believe it was direct voice. Then I returned."

MR. F.M.'S OWN ACCOUNT:

"I remember being given Meade Layne's paper and giving a reading. I realized I was going to sleep. I remember you telling Mrs. X to go to San Diego but by then I had already pushed off. I felt myself shoving my way into the body of a man much taller than I and I tried to fit in and open the eyes. I saw Mrs. X dressed as she is for astral travel, in a filmy attire. The circle at San Diego were just talking. I heard your instructions to control the medium and I forced my way in from behind. I was never in the circle, but I saw Mrs. X there. I saw the empty shell of this man from the back of a chair - a wicker chair which creaked. I said the code and heard some one butting in, saying 'please repeat'. I repeated the code and said, 'this is F.M. of London' and then lost control. I tried to sing 'The King' and hummed the tune just to make sure. A young man was sitting at the right of the medium, writing in a book. I said to him. 'Keep toward the white light.' When I came out of the body I couldn't see Mrs. X or any other people. I felt as though there was an iron on my right leg. That's all."

9:10 P.M. Operator to group: "Will you all please come, one at a time, to see the patch of dampness on the carpet outside the door." The patch was seen by all and a flashlight photo taken. The patch measured $14\frac{1}{2}$ " by 10", tasted salt, and roughly resembled Australia in shape.

February 20, 1948 - San Diego

PRESENT: Dr. Cosmon, Miss Fynn, Thos. Brown, Kathryn Townes, Irene Probert, Meade Layne and Mark Probert (medium).

11:45 A.M. At 11:50 Mark Probert says, "I have a feeling that London has started."
At 11:59, "I hear a choir singing 'Onward Christian Soldiers'."

12:05 A control seems to be trying to take possession. 12:16 control in possession but medium makes hand motions only, does not speak.

12:19 "Good afternoon. I am the Rajah Natcha. I want to talk a little bit on what took place with the hypnotized medium in London."

"Your voice does not sound natural today."

"I am having some trouble with the body of the medium. Too much starch and sugar in his system."

"Plus tobacco?"

"Yes."

"Are you referring to the conditions in London today, Rajah?"

"I am referring to the first and second meetings. In your reports from London I notice the medium running into an archway. That archway is a consciousness of a former life the lady lived."

"The hypnotized lady? Is it a symbolization?"

"Yes, it is a symbolization of a former life."

"She felt an inclination to dance - did not seem to be able to get past it."

"That was because she was fascinated by the beauty and the remembrance of that life."

"It seemed probable to us later that she did make contact."

"She did, but not her body - not her psychic body; merely a mental contact."

"You mean, Rajah, a telepathic contact."

"Yes."

"With her psychic self?"

"Without her being aware of it. There is an awareness contact and also an un-awareness of contact."

"There was a man who talked to us through Mark who we thought came from the London group. Did you know about that?"

"Yes, but there again is an unawareness contact with what you call outer or physical phenomena - the mind of the medium reacting to the suggestions - telepathic suggestions of a hypnotized individual."

"This person said he thought he had fallen under the spell of the hypnotist. Do you know if he was from the London group?"

"I do not myself know because I was not present, but from what you tell me it would be my belief that is what has taken place, and not an actual projection."

"Is it possible for someone else to fall under the spell of the hypnotist, Rajah?"

"It is extremely possible. It is even likely for an observer to fall under the spell more readily than does the subject of the experiment. The one being hypnotized is always consciously aware of the hypnotizer, whereas the observer feels that he is free, that he is his own acting agent -- and so automatically falls under the spell. I do not know that that is clear."

"Yes, we understand. Is there anything more to say about the feasibility of this experiment? Any modifications? Do you think purely telepathic experiment better?"

"You know, I think if the medium in London were allowed to direct herself (she is a trance medium, is she not?), it would be better if she were her own agent."

"Allow herself to be put in trance by her own Guides?"

"By directing her own consciousness in this direction. You see, the directing mind of the hypnotizer is imparting too much of himself to the medium. He fastens a string and thereby holds her back."

"We will present that point of view to London," said Meade.

"At the same time, I think that instead of having a group sitting, try to have the medium sit at home alone."

"That way there would be no control. You have to have control somehow," said Dr. Cosmon

"I know; this could be done by 'phone. You could be reported to."

"If she could only bring through into consciousness a key word picked up here, or an action - if the guides could impress it on her memory so that she would recall it when she came out of trance - that would be satisfactory," stated Meade.

"You may not realize that you are all acting as blockades against such a sitting, just as they in London are acting as blockades against their medium."

"What is the best way to minimize this?" inquired Meade.

"The egos of the mediums in this case are too aware of those around them and that awareness cannot be broken down."

"Suppose we allowed the mediums at each end to go into trance voluntarily, when and as they chose, and then have one person only to remain with the medium to make a record of everything that happened?"

"That would be well, but the one that does stay I advise not to pay any attention to the medium at all until such time as the contact is made and the medium starts to express it."

"Data obtained that way would not be very evidential - and that is the purpose of the experiment," said Dr. Cosmon.

"I don't think you are seeking such evidence (i.e., 'proof' as understood by psychic investigators. ML.) - but you are seeking to learn and to educate yourselves. Once the two parties here and in London make some kind of good contact the way will open up for a great deal more experimentation in various parts of the country."

"We will see what can be arranged; but as it is now, when Mark here goes into trance he is not aware of what is being said through him. Someone must be present to keep a record."

"I know that, but it would lead to further experiments and that is the important thing. When you have proven to yourself that two and two make four, you do not particularly give a darn who else thinks anything about it; you just make the statement and allow others to investigate - and believe me, they will; the curiosity of the human race is vast."

"Do you know anything about the experience when the medium got sidetracked to another destination?"

"To the flying vehicle? Yes."

"Can you tell us anything about it? Was it a real experience?"

"The mind, I think I do not have to say again, is a very touchy and suggestible instrument. She mentally wandered off into the field of suggestion. She had read a great deal about the flying discs, and the mind, trying to conceive some logical answer, under the state of hypnosis, was entirely free in the world of fancy or of dreams; so it was quite easy for her to conceive of being in such a flying vehicle and to picture the types of intelligences found therein. As the mind is the creator -- and I mean the creator, it is quite capable of such by-play, especially when free, either in sleep dreams or under trance conditions, whether self-induced or induced by others."

"We strongly suspected that ..."

"I suspect I am talking too fast for the stenographer ..."

"I wonder what the situation is in London today?" asked a guest.

"It is no better than previously. The medium has been in and out of control. I must impress upon you that this particular medium for some reason has an inner fear of hypnosis and will not give herself completely to it, although she outwardly appears to do so."

"Unconscious fear?"

"Quite so. As I said at your last meeting, if you were to get this man into a deep enough trance and the same condition were to obtain in London, possibly for some time, you would have very amazing results. I think you have access to people who are making so-called telepathic experiments?"

"Yes," said Meade.

"It would be profitable to write and suggest such an effort to these people. They will be amazed at the results. They do not have to be so far apart (as London and San Diego)."

"You suggest deep hypnotic trance on the part of both mediums"

"Yes."

"Should we conduct telepathic experiments on that basis, with the message transmitted and received by the medium in trance, and recorded?"

"Either way would be a very satisfactory experiment providing it worked out, and I feel sure that it would."

"What is your opinion about hypnosis? Is it likely to be detrimental to the subject?"

"Like everything else, if carried on to excess, yes. You break down the aura and then trouble begins."

"Would hypnosis have a bad effect on the mediumship of Mark?" inquired Dr. Cosmon.

"Yes, it would. Well, are you through wrestling?" (Dr. Cosmon has been trying to remove his coat without getting up). "That's quite a job. Under proper conditions your coat could be removed or put on in a totally dark room without moving your hands."

"Yes - a very neat dematerialization trick," remarked Dr. Cosmon.

"I have always opposed any suggestions to use hypnosis on Mark," said Meade.

"I don't think it would be a very good idea. The ability he now has of giving himself over to our control is of a very delicate nature, and the cross-vibration of outward hypnosis would eventually destroy it."

"Well, if hypnosis introduces the mind or personality of the operator it will be hard to disentangle these in subsequent analysis, just as it is often hard to separate the mind of the control from that of the medium, in ordinary mediumistic trance such as we are having here now."

"There is only one thing to do with such trance mediums - only ONE way of knowing when the personality entering in and the mind of the medium are working together, or spontaneously and separate or ... (notes illegible)."

"You say there is a method of distinguishing?"

"Yes, and you know it. You segregate or separate each from the other by the manner in which it is said. The contact between me and this body is of such a subtle nature and the trance condition is so light, that it is only by this method that you can tell."

"As a rule we feel quite certain about the situation, but sometimes doubts arise, especially among those who can only read about the seances and never hear them. What about resuming the regular meetings?" asked Meade.

"Excuse me for a moment; someone is calling for Mamie, a Mamie who is on your side."

(No one present acquainted with anyone named Mamie).

"Well, to get on. Your question again! About the meetings; I would rather leave that to your former controls."

"Where are they?"

"They are here."

"Please tell them to come in after you are through. This is the last of the four London experiments. Can you tell us what they are doing over there now?"

"I shall try to find out. I shall return shortly." Control Withdraws.

The Controls have frequently warned, that there are occasional infiltrations of the medium's mind, particularly in the pronunciation of words, and have sometimes complained that it is difficult to talk in technical terms through a medium who has no grasp of the terms or subject involved. On the other hand, fully half of the conversation at these seances has dealt with subjects almost wholly unfamiliar to the medium, and many words are used with which he is unfamiliar. Also in the case of xenoglossy, where the language has never even been heard by the medium, the ignorance of the latter (of the words used) seem no barrier at all. And xenoglossy was for a long time the outstanding feature of Mark Probert's mediumship; he spoke in a half-dozen modern European languages, in Latin, and in a number of unidentified ancient 'languages' - and there is no evidence that he has ever heard any foreign language spoken, beyond a few phrases. It was difficult, for some weeks, to get a communication in English. The situation, then, with regard to the role of the medium's own mind during trance communications, is at present far from clear; in Mark Probert's case however, the intrusions are found to be rare and easily detectable, and the controls have cooperated in guarding against them. M.L.

1:06 P.M. - Control: Mr. "X":

"We try to stay out or at least apart from these meetings (i.e., the experimental seances with London), entering only when we deem it necessary. Your London project has come to an end; they are reading back what was received, which is very little except from her own experiences. She has not reached here; the mental barrier is too great."

"Her own mind?" inquired a guest.

"Yes."

"She did not reach here at all?"

"It is only this individual sitting today I am referring to."

"You said she did reach here the first time?"

"She did. So too did one of the men in the circle over there."

"Was it telepathic contact only?"

"Yes. It is very possible he himself did not bring back a memory of it. It was a telepathic contact but worked in a very peculiar manner."

"This is something new to us; he spoke here in what seemed to be his natural voice."

"Such often takes place, even on our side. We are capable of projecting thought while engaged somewhere else, so that the mind can record and the voice give out. The body is very much like a record machine and the vocal cords are the player back. That is not clear, I suppose?"

"Can a person on our plane project ...?"

"The mind is open to suggestion, something is expected of it, so the mind plays back the expectation."

"In the case of an entranced medium, what we call the control may not be present at all in a special sense?"

"Yes, that is correct. That is another reason why it is so difficult to separate the two seeming personalities, that of the medium and that of the control. One plane contacting another plane is an extremely subtle thing."

"We have come to realize something of the subtleties encountered at every turn in psychic experimentation."

"Just consider too; in this state known as normal sleep the mind is very likely to give out what is said to it from a live sleeping mind or the live waking mind of another."

"Do you mean that a person talking in his sleep is likely to be expressing the thoughts of another mind?" inquired Meade.

"Yes - on either plane."

"You mean that though the voice may be natural and characteristic of some other person, some distant person, there is no actual presence of this other person - no actual projection?"

"Yes, that is likely to take place simply because the mind of the one who is projecting his thought is doing so in his own particular manner; so it would carry all the characteristics of that particular personality."

"This is something new to us."

"I suppose this is rather a poor analogy but it may give you some idea. If anyone makes a record of his voice on a recorder, you expect to find his characteristics and personality in it ... It is difficult to put forth my ideas slowly; if I stop I may forget." (This refers to the fact that he was talking too fast for the stenographer, and to the difficulty of keeping medium under control if he talked slowly - ML). "Mental conversation is the same as physical conversation because they both are physical, one being a grade higher. That is the only difference so they would naturally record in that manner."

"That is certainly very interesting. Have you any comment about resuming our regular meetings?"

"I think they should be resumed the following Saturday from this one, barring any eventuality. Now I am going to say something and I do not wish you to feel either surprised or upset. For a long time I have been keeping my identity out of the picture. I have used methods to side-step the projecting of my personality into these meetings. I am just wondering whether or not it would be advisable now. I told you in the past that I spent 30 years in a monastery - and the name of the monastery .. I am"

"You are the great philosopher? We feel very humble and are greatly honored."

"That, I thank you for, but I do myself an honor to be here."

"Your name is known among all nations and in all languages. You are one of the great ones of earth's history," said Meade.

"No one is higher and no one is lower. No man is greater than another. But what he may have to say may in some measure influence the mind of a few individuals to a better way of thinking, and so of advancing along his own road."

"Was it not you who communicated at a famous seance in New York?"

"I do not remember making such a communication."

(Dr. Cosmon to Meade Layne): "The communicator you are thinking of was Confucius."

"Yes, I have heard of that man. I know of that myself. We are not to be considered as great individuals; we feel more honored to be considered as thinking minds."

"This may seem like an ungrateful question, but after all, what draws so great a mind as yourself to this small insignificant circle?" inquired Meade.

"The Cosmic Consciousness considers no group or individual mind greater than another. We come where we see we may be of help. Sometimes, and I think more often, we find what you term greatness in the more common things. And what, in your estimation, is greatness?"

"The ability to utter thoughts which after many thousands of years are still recognized as possessing eternal truth," replied Dr. Cosmon.

"The expansion of consciousness ..." said Meade.

"Yes - expansion of consciousness. To know and know that you know, that knowledge is the greatest of all things, that man is God and God is man."

"Tell us then, is there any way in which the methods and purposes of these seances can be profitably changed, for the best service of human knowledge and advancement?"

"Merely by the topics that are used. The nature of the questions and the answers will in time cause this small group to produce something worth-while. All things, you must understand, are worth-while; otherwise there would be no existence and no cause for existence."

"And do you approve of our experiments?"

"Yes, I approve of your subject-matter and your questions - but be on the alert against fantasies and vagueness, and approach with definiteness of purpose and the courage of your own convictions."

"Certainly we have no desire either to deceive ourselves nor to be deceived by them. Please tell us exactly how to pronounce your name, and whether we have the correct spelling," said Meade.

"In your language"

"Would you give us the date of your life on this plane?" asked Dr. Cosmon.

"Before Christ, I would say, physically - and before that, forever. But I see now no further reason for staying."

"Do you recall the province of your birth or life?"

"At another time I shall come back and tell you considerable of my history. Perhaps it would be best to let me remain known to your friends only as 'Mr. X', although my real name is now known within your group."

"When we write about you we shall respect your desires," stated Meade. (this request on the part of Mr. X explains our failure to print his true name in this report.)

Control Withdraws.

1:32 P.M. CONTROL: Lingford:

"I haven't been here for some time and I feel sort-of out of place now. It is a hard job for me to stay out so long, I wanted to butt in. I have missed you. I think, more or less, we have all tried to stand aside and let this experimental work go on, helping from outside unobserved."

"Can you give us any information?" inquired Dr. Cosmon.

"Well, it seems things could be better. Conditions on both sides of the water could have been improved on."

"We had no guidance."

"No. For the little that you knew I think you did quite well."

"Do you think contact was established?"

"Yes, I do - and a very definite one. I am inclined to think it was not telepathic but in an odd manner. I have never witnessed anything like that before."

"We gathered that it was new to everyone concerned."

"It was new to me, I will say. You know, young man - Where is that young man? (looking around the circle). What is your name? (pointing to Tom Brown). Your first name?" (control is told).

"Tom Brown. I suggest that you take a little exercise" (Lingford continues with some advice to Tom and answered an inquiry from Dr. Cosmon about the blood stream).
"Yes, he needs mental interests too. I almost sound like a doctor."

"We sometimes suspect that you have been a doctor," said Meade.

"I won't say that I have been a doctor, no. But it is easier to observe the conditions of people's bodies from my side, because the psychic body, psychic mind, is more of an X-ray on the physical body. Do you understand that?"

"By looking at the aura?"

"Yes, but on observing the color of the aura, then I can direct my mind to the physical body and it is almost like looking into an X-ray."

"Clairvoyants tell us something very similar to that."

"You are wearing yourself out, young lady." (To Kath. Townes).

"What about the experiments with London? Do you agree with Mr. X? Did you hear him?"

"It appeals to me but I am not sufficiently versed to know for sure. I would rather leave that up to those who seem to know more about it. It seems reasonable to me, but that is all."

"What do you think of?" (Mr. X).

-- "A man the likes of whom I have never known at any time before. A great person - a benevolent person! I know he will not think me loud-mouthed when I say that he and other minds like that are on a par with Christ. ---- Cigaret! I can smell the smoke! (Irene Probert had lighted one to offer to Lingford). You are trying to make an addict out of me. But I was not one, even while in the physical body."

"We have accepted this philosopher at his own statement. Did you know who he was?"

"Yes, we have all known it. Excuse me, but on this side even women can keep a secret."

"How different conditions must be over there!" remarked Meade.

"Yes, because - I'm going to get philosophical now - a woman's mind is no different from a man's mind. They are all working in and under the Cosmic Mind. It is the physical body that makes the difference. Now, what was it you said, again?" (to Irene Probert).

"We wanted to know what this philosopher looks like," answered Irene.

"Anything like Lo Sun Yat?" asked Dr. Cosmon.

"No, he is not fat, he is extremely thin. Tall? Yes. Bearded? Yes."

"Does he have a moustache that sort of droops?" asked Irene.

"Now, isn't that a typical picture! Yes, because in those days his people were given to wearing such strings on their faces. Chinese, Indians, and many of your Nordic people are sparse of hair on the face. The Mongolians got a long way into the North and left their calling cards. That is why many of your Nordic people have high cheek bones and squinted eyes - and your Esquimaux and Scandinavians."

"Your voice sounds stronger than usual, Lingford."

"I think it is because I have had some fairly intelligent mind ahead of me and they leave the psychic organs of the throat of the medium more open."

"The mental character and status of the communicator actually affect the condition of the medium's throat?"

"Yes, definitely. I think some of your scholarly minds have mentioned the various gradations of things. The same takes place in the mentality of the operators and leaves the vibration there."

"You're not going to put morality and virtue onto a matter of vibration rates, are you?" asked Meade.

"This lady? What is her name, please? You have something on your mind you wish to say?"

"No. Well - I would like to know what is the best way to dispose of the rest of my life," replied a guest.

"That is a giant subject and I think only such minds as" (Mr. X) could possibly answer that. I'm afraid I cannot attempt it."

"About the meetings," continued Lingford, "I think they should be started again, about once a week as before. I think in a few days you will hear from your good friend in Chicago. Yes, I met him when he was here; they insisted that we come back and at least say hello, and I think our friend Professor Luntz gave him the once-over. I wish he were here so that you could have a real get-together."

"We would like to have our friend Jack Tate here again too," said Meade.

"For a long time I have wondered what happened to your friend Jack."

"He is in Tennessee. You know, a great many strange things have been happening on our side, in the way of physical phenomena," said Meade.

"I would like to have some of those subjects brought up."

"I have hesitated to mention them because some of the communicators rather object to them - think them hardly worth-while."

"They are interesting to me; you can leave the philosophical approach to life to the others."

"About that meteor in Nebraska ..." mentioned Dr. Cosmon.

"I am just considering how to put that. I'll tell you something of that and other similar things at our next get-together."

"I shall want to ask something about Jaggar's forecast, of terrific volcanic eruptions for this year. We do not ask these questions out of fear or panic, but we would like to know. Psychic predictions are a dime a dozen on our side, but Jaggar's work is rigidly scientific."

"Such people should be listened to; they are not making predictions or dreams but on what they consider material facts."

"We also have some extraordinary data concerning large numbers of the soulless ones; it connects more or less with possibilities of great loss of life on this coast."

"I see we shall have a lot to talk about, then. But I am getting tired now."
Control Withdraws 2:02 P.M.