

Young Woman To Be Hypnotized Here By Former Foreign Legion Captain

A former captain in the French foreign legion, William Michael Achilles de Orgler, billed as "Doctor de Zita," is scheduled to hypnotize a 24-year-old blonde, Miss Billie Gray of Lubbock, at 8:30 o'clock Thursday night and to awake her 24 hours later.

The Lubbock young woman will be introduced at the Palace theater Wednesday night, hypnotized there Thursday night, will have breakfast Friday morning and tea at 4 o'clock Friday afternoon while hypnotized, and will be awakened in the Palace that night, de Orgler said.

At 2 to 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, he is scheduled to drive an automobile without aid while blindfolded. Between her appearances at the Palace, Miss Gray is to be in a downtown display window.

De Orgler said he was a member of the foreign legion from 1908 to 1912, participating in skirmishes against Riffs and Arabs in Casablanca and Tangier, French Morocco, and Tetuan, Spanish Morocco.

He has assisted in making photoplays dealing with the foreign legion. He aided in the technical direction of "Beau Geste, Beau Sabreur, The Desert Song, Morocco, and Renegade. In Renegade, he doubled for Warner Baxter in distant shots.

He said his psycho-analysis was based on both psychology and astrology. He has practiced medicine in Washington, Oregon, and Montana, he said.

Casa Blanca he described as "the hell hole of North Africa." He is a Moroccan.

Lubbock Morning Avalanche, June 5, 1932, pg. 9

Lubbock Daily Journal, June 12, 1932, pg. 5

Hypnotist Runs Into Parked Truck On Blindfold Drive On Lubbock Streets

After a mishap in the first block's run, giving spectators the thrill they had anticipated, Dr. de Zita, hypnotist who had appeared at the Palace theater completed an automobile drive Saturday afternoon through Lubbock business and residential sections while blindfolded.

He stopped at eight business and public places, finding his own halting way into them except when led to the sheriff's office by a newspaper reporter who accompanied him on the drive. A second drive, scheduled for 4 p. m. did not materialize, de Zita explaining that the authorities did not approve.

Backing from the curb in front of the Palace theater at 2 p. m., de Zita straightened his machine and lurched westward on Main street. Near the middle of the next block, he failed to turn to the left enough to avoid striking the protruding corner of a parked truck, although he seemed to have sensed an obstruction. It scooped off the right fender-light on the new Pontiac coach de Zita was piloting and raked its side. The swarthy showman said it was the first such accident in his career.

Until de Zita asked what had happened, the reporter kept a pledge not to speak. The shower of glass by the window made for conversation, but little that the newsmen said aided the hypnotist in negotiating the course. In a few instances de Zita's terse "Okay?" was answered. J. D. Johnson, motorcycle policeman, followed the blindly operated coach.

In a traffic jam in the downtown section, de Zita: "Where the hell are we?" He looked toward a woman driver in an automobile nearby and said: "Excuse me, lady; I didn't mean that." She smiled.

The run ended at the Palace theater, de Zita circling the block again to make a satisfactory parking. "Okay?" he asked.

C. B. ("Brownie") Akers, assistant manager of the theater, blindfolded de Zita before spectators. Two pieces of double layer cotton, which de Zita had cut with rounded edges, were kept in place over the eyes by two perpendicular and a longer horizontal strip of adhesive tape. Four or five turns of gauze went over that.

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