

LSD No. 1412

M 500 properties of LSD

PSI No. 189

M 504 properties of PSI

Sernyl[®] (§ 102 x)

M 377 psychotomimetic effects

POLLARD, J.C., UHR, L., STERN, E. (Univ. of Michigan, U.S.A.)

Drugs and Phantasy

Churchill, London 1965.

"This book attempts to set down, almost verbatim, the verbalizations of three subjects given LSD, psilocybin, sernyl, and a placebo. The drugs were administered in a singleblind fashion under conditions of sensory monotony, namely, listening to "white noise" and looking at a glazed white dome for three hours.

What the authors hoped to achieve was to eliminate the extraneous factors of setting and set and to study the drug effects alone. Even in the restricted environment, this was hardly possible, for the subjects brought with them into the drug sessions their own many variables. Moods varied from week to week, and the nonrandomized order in which the four drugs were administered influenced certain aspects of each drug experience.

The effects of LSD and psilocybin reflect the reports in the literature. Emotional lability, mental confusion, changes in ego boundaries, and the well-known colorful perceptual alterations are mentioned. Sernyl[®] tends to evoke a more intense depersonalization state with little or no cognitive or affectual activity. The placebo is readily distinguished from the hallucinogens even when the sensory input is made uniform and meaningless as in the experiments described here."

COMMENT: This short abstract is partly taken from the discussion of the book published by Sydney COHEN in the Book Forum in the J.Amer.med.Ass. 196, p. 195 (1966).