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U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

July 22, 2016

MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

FOIPA Request No.: 1353477-000
Subject: Fortean Society

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

Records responsive to your request were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Enclosed is one CD containing 165 pages of previously processed documents and a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions. This release is being provided to you at no charge.

Additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. Please submit a new FOIA request if you would like the FBI to conduct a search of the indices to our Central Records System.

Submit requests by mail or fax to – Work Process Unit, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, fax number (540) 868-4997.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@ic.fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Hardy", is written over a horizontal line.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1353477-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 3
Page 120 ~ Duplicate;
Page 123 ~ Duplicate;
Page 124 ~ Duplicate;

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X For this Page X
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**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:MT

New York, N.Y.
March 20, 1942.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a photostatic copy of a letter received from Leonard Lyons of the New York Post, together with a copy of the publication entitled "The Fortean Society Magazine".

Particular attention is directed to the article "Circus Day Is Over", by Tiffany Thayer, which Mr. Lyons describes as being seditious.

Your attention is also directed to the notation appearing on the last page of the publication, as follows:

"After the publication of this issue, Your Secretary fully expects to go to jail. The charge will be passing a red light or taking pennies from a blind man's cup or some other railroading device such as imprisoned Fritz Kuhn and Earl Browder...Accordingly, my affairs are in order and the cops may come at their convenience...The next issue of the Fortean Society Magazine will be published as soon as I am released. T.T."

In order not to waste the investigative time of the Agents in this office, this publication is being submitted to the Bureau, with the request that a decision be obtained from the Department as to whether or not such article is considered seditious, prior to the time we initiate an investigation.

The sponsors of the magazine will be found on page seven. No copy of this magazine is retained in the New York office.

COPIES DESTROYED
36 AUG 14 1961

ENCLOSURE

Enclosures

Very truly yours,
P. E. FOXWORTH

Assistant Director.

14-75-1
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
9 MAR 24 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-5-87 BY SP8 BTJ/AL
255649

See 81-10-
S. David Stern
Ben H. Sachs
Booth Livingston
Quinn Tamm
W. T. Harrow
W. J. Wilcott
John C. Brown
Harry Lee Wilson

COPY IN FILE

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WB:RRD:PP

April 7, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Re:

TIFFANY THAYER

Reference is made to your memorandum of March 31, 1942, transmitting photostatic copies of the January, 1942, issue of "The Fortean Society Magazine", which contains an article entitled "Circus Day is Over" by the subject.

It is requested that the Bureau furnish the Criminal Division with any information in its files concerning Tiffany Thayer or the Fortean Society. If any subsequent issues of the magazine have been received by the Bureau, please make them available to the Criminal Division.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge
WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Holloman	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-91 BY 9803RDD/CE LK

APR 11 REGD

389164

RECORDED

INDEXED

14-75-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
16 APR 10 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memo for Wendell Berge
4/23/42 JGS

EX-11

RECORDED FJS:MBB
14-75-1
3/30/42

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
WENDELL HERGE

RE: TIFFANY THAYER

There are transmitted herewith for your consideration photostatic copies of the January, 1942, issue of "The Fortean Society Magazine" which contains an article entitled "Circus Day Is Over" by Tiffany Thayer.

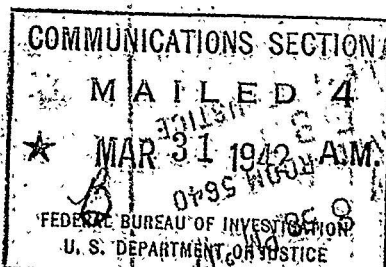
Will you please advise me as to whether this article constitutes a violation of the sedition statutes or any other Federal statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



31 APR 6 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-5-87 BY SP8 BTJ/csc
255,649

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WB:RRD:BGL

April 30, 1942..

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,

Re:

^D
TIFFANY THAYER,
Sedition.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Kramer	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
Files	_____

Reference is made to your memorandum of April 23, 1942, advising the Criminal Division that the files of the Bureau do not contain any additional information concerning the activities of the above-named subject or the Fortean Society.

No investigation is requested at this time.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge
WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-77 BY 9803RDD BCELH

Sec
100-106125

87
9 MAY 5 1942

RECORDED

J

14-75-3
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
16 MAY 2 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Signature]

MAY 4 RECD

[Handwritten signature]

FJS:HEW

4/23/42

14-75-2

WESTERN UNION

RE: TIFFANY TRAYER

Reference is made to your memorandum of April 7, 1942, wherein you requested to be furnished with any additional information in the files of this Bureau concerning Tiffany Thayer or the Fortean Society.

Please be advised that the files of this Bureau do not contain any additional information concerning the activities of Tiffany Thayer or any additional information concerning the Fortean Society. Will you please advise if you are desirous of having this Bureau institute investigation concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-97 BY 7803 RDD BCLL

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED PM

APR 23 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

5 APR 25 1942

RECEIVED CIVIL ROOM
JUN 27 1968
U.S. AIR FORCE

7/27/77

ODA:jea

100-106125-1

6-4-22

RECORDED

75-3X

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LAWRENCE H. C. SMITH
CHIEF, SPECIAL WAR POLICIES UNIT

Reference is made to your memorandum of May 21, 1942, signed by Mr. Frank W. Crocker, Assistant Chief, Special War Policies Unit, in which you have requested all information in the files of this Bureau relative to the Fortean Society, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York City, to the Fortean Magazine, and to the editor of the magazine, one Tiffany Thayer. You have also requested copies of all issues of the Fortean Magazine published since December 7, 1942.

In this regard your attention is called to the memorandum of April 7, 1942, submitted by Mr. Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General, in which a request was made to the Bureau to furnish the Criminal Division with any information in its files concerning Tiffany Thayer or the Fortean Society. Also at that time a request was made for any issues of the magazine entitled "The Fortean Society Magazine." In answer to this request a memorandum was directed to Mr. Wendell Berge on April 23, 1942, indicating that the files of this Bureau do not contain any additional information concerning the activities of Thayer or any additional information concerning the Fortean Society. A request was made at that time if the Bureau should institute investigation concerning this matter. Under date of April 30, 1942, a memorandum was received from Mr. Berge advising that no investigation was requested at the time.

In view of the previous action taken in this matter as indicated by the above set-out data, no further inquiry will be made unless you indicate a specific desire to the contrary.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4
JUN 8 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-97 BY 7803 RDD/SC/L

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 21, 1942

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Carson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Kramer.....
Mr. McGuire.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....
Files.....

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Examination of the January issue of the Fortean Magazine has led to the conclusion that it contains material which may, upon further investigation, lead to action being taken against its publishers.

The Fortean Magazine is published monthly by the Fortean Society, the address of which, as shown in the masthead, is Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York City. The secretary of the society and the editor of the magazine is Tiffany Thayer.

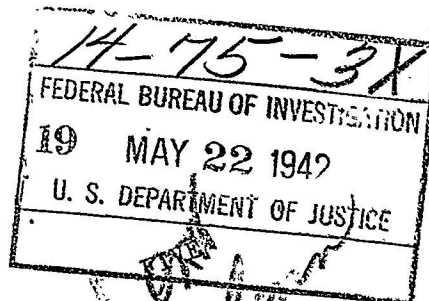
Please furnish me with all information relating to the society, the magazine, and Thayer that you have in your files and secure copies of all issues published since December 7, 1941.

Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special Defense Unit

By Frank W. Crocker
Frank W. Crocker
Assistant Chief

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DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803RDD BCE/LH

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FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

EX - 20

The Fortean Society Magazine

14-75-3X1
100-106125
ODA'DXM

July 14, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

Re: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
INTERNAL SECURITY - GENERAL
SPECIAL INQUIRY - DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir:

The Department has requested that the Bureau furnish copies of all issues of Fortean Magazine published by the Fortean Society, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York City, since December 7, 1941.

You are directed to afford this request immediate and expeditious attention in order that the desires of the Department may be complied with at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Hendon _____
Tramer _____
McGuire _____
Quinn Tamm _____
Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
JUL 14 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803RDD/ELM

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JUL 3 1942

RSB--WJS Jr.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Kramer	.....
Mr. McGuire	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FROM: LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
CHIEF, SPECIAL WAR POLICIES UNIT
WAR DIVISION

RE: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
TIFFANY THAYER

Reference is made to your memorandum dated June 8, 1942
in regard to The Fortean Society, The Fortean Society Magazine and
Tiffany Thayer.

It is requested that you furnish me with copies of all
issues of the magazine published since December 7, 1942

Respectfully,

Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special War Policies Unit
War Division

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-12-97 BY 9803 RDD BCG/LM

RECORDED

14-75-3X1

JUL 26 1942

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ZJV/pk
RECORDED 100-106125-9
8-19-42

14-75-3X2

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
CHIEF, SPECIAL WAR POLICIES UNIT

Re: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
INTERNAL SECURITY - GENERAL
SPECIAL INQUIRY - DEPARTMENT

Responsive to the request contained in your memorandum dated July 3, 1942, your reference RSE-MJS Jr., I am pleased to enclose herewith a photostatic copy of the January 1942 issue of the Fortean Society Magazine. This is the only issue which has been published since December 7, 1941.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Enclosure

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-NVH 800

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10-17-97 BY 8863 RDD/BCE/MLC-2 61304

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
★ MAILED 5
★ AUG 19 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

25 AUG 26 1942

[Handwritten signature]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

DWF:EBM
100-28630

August 4, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
INTERNAL SECURITY - GENERAL
SPECIAL INQUIRY - DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated July 14, 1942 (Bureau file 100-106125), in the above-entitled matter, requesting that all copies of the captioned magazine published since December 7, 1941, be obtained for transmittal to the Department.

Please be advised that the January, 1942, issue is the only one published since December 7, 1941. Inasmuch as the copy of this issue could not be procured at the sources, there is being transmitted herewith a photostatic copy of the same.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-87 BY 3032 RUC/EL



COPIES DESTROYED
257 AUG 15 1961

COPY IN FILE

14-75-312

F	B
4	AUG 5 1942

JPha:WMJ

Date: 11-75
November 2, 1943
To: SAC, New York

From: J. Edgar Hoover — Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
TIFANY THAYER
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter of August 4, 1942, captioned, "The Fortean Society; The Fortean Society Magazine; Internal Security — General; Special Inquiry — Department," with which you transmitted a photostatic copy of the Fortean Society Magazine for January, 1942.

In this connection there are attached for your information photostatic copies of a postal censorship intercept submission slip based on the transmission of material from the Fortean Society, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York to "H. V. Bagg, King, Littlewood and King Ltd., Fishery Road, Bray, Berkshire, England," under date of July 12, 1943. You will note that the submission slip is descriptive of certain comments included in articles appearing in the June, 1943, issue of the Fortean Society Magazine.

It is desired that your office secure two copies of the June, 1943, issue of the Fortean Society Magazine as well as copies of several other late issues of the publication for transmission to the Bureau. The Bureau desires to examine the June issue as well as several other late issues in order to reach a determination as to whether an investigation under the Espionage Statutes appears to be justified.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Acers _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-12-87 BY 9803RDD BGE/LK

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
NOV 2 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED & INDEXED

14-75-4
NOV 4 1943

100-105125
7/14/43
100-105125

JPha

NOV 11 1943

OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Censorship.

BYRON PRICE,
Director.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Alden.....

Mr. Carson.....

Mr. Cunningham.....

Mr. Fitch.....

Laboratory.....

Mr. Little.....

Mr. Mumford.....

Mr. Pennington.....

Mr. Strickland.....

LIV/PMS/
41327/43.
18.8.43.

Terminal.

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY, Mr. Timm..... N. V. DACC,
Box 192, Mr. Webb..... KING, LITTLEWOOD & KING LTD.,
Grand Central Annex, Fishery Road,
New York. Bray,
Berkshire,
England AND OTHER ADDRESSEES.

12.7.43.

English.

DECLASSIFIED BY 9803RDD BCE/LM
ON 10-17-97PERNARS MEMO
11-14-77

Retained (4 copies)

Comment to INF for action.
Copies to DRW
PMS (2 direct).
IRB

OW-2

E-1

SD-2

OSS-3

MID-7

CAN-1

GEN-4

IC-4

LIV.

P.M.S.

4230

G.C.,

17.8.43

Previous refs:

LIV/66033/42

LIV/58126/42

LIV/46293/42

LIV/40708/42

LIV/25846/42

FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE JUNE 1943.

Cover contains the June number of the Fortean Society Magazine which is composed entirely of carping criticism of the war effort of ... and U.S.A. It purports to be the official organ of the Fortean Society founded 1931 by Booth Tarkington, John Cowper Powys etc. but there is a note on the cover to the effect that it is edited by the Secretary, Tiffany Thayer and does not necessarily express the views of the other founders.

In a series of 117 pointed questions entitled THE SOCRATIC METHOD or ... PARS THE HEMLOCK, Tiffany Thayer asks if it is a coincidence that so much fighting is being done in far-off islands and deserts. "Does it matter to the Lords of Creation many Solomon Islanders, African blacks, Russians and Chinese 'Reds' are killed?" How do the white casualty lists compare and "is that lucky for somebody?"

He further asks: "If the Great White Father tells you to buy a gas mask are you going to do it? And carry it in a sack on your back to work every day?" And "Is it agreed that Japan shall have the Philippine Islands for keeps?"

By the same method, he insinuates that the shortages of sugar, coffee, gasoline, meat etc. are not "on the level" and that the officers convicted of negligence for "Pearl Harbour" were made scape-goats to prevent further investigation.

(2073)/A

OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Censorship.

BYRON PRICE,
Director.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-2-

LIV/PMS/41327/43.

A further series of innuendos indicates that "the common people of England are being regimented pretty much after the German pattern" and that the people of the United States "have already been herded a long way on the same path."

"Are the youngest soldiers in the army being taught to shoot their over-38 fathers and brothers if these fathers and brothers go on strike?"

"Did you read the AP despatch of 8.9.42. which included this paragraph. 'The British Government of India met the outbreaks with tear gas and direct gun-fire'?"

"Could you in honesty call the African campaign a 'second front'?"

He asks how many of the Roosevelt family and 'secretaries or other similar functionaries' visited Europe in 1939 and insinuates that they and Henry Morgenthau, Jr. Secretary of the Treasury, may have visited Hitler and talked to his agents. He similarly insinuates that James Farley (then Postmaster General) was in Ireland, Italy and Berlin 1939, that he refused an appointment with Mussolini but later dined with him, and that he had an interview with the Pope. And "What was Mr. Farley's real mission to Warsaw and Cracow, Poland, August 7/13 1939?"

In a later column headed, "SCIENTIFICTION ASCENDING" it is stated that this group of young men, who produce publications of semi-scientific and fantastic interest (and whose leader Michael Rosenblum used to be on the Security List) "is almost unanimously Fortean and some of our most prized members come from its ranks."

Refs: LIV/66364/42 SE/LIV/170/42 etc. SE/LIV/1210/42.

An 'Uncensored Letter from England' provides material for another column. It is from a Fortean in the British Army and it escaped Censorship.

The writer alleges that, "the Home Guard has been warned that after the trouble is over they may be called upon to defend the sanctity of dividends and the divine right of Big Bankers by administering lead in the belly to any demobilized warrior who dares to get ideas about the things for which he /has

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BYRON PRICE,
Director.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-3-

LIV/PMS/41627/46.

has fought.....Our social reform hopes (embodied in the Beveridge Plan), have been kicked well and hard.....We're going to continue to shed blood and tears for exactly nothing.. Our Gestapo is in full cry - one of my letters, containing an untoward remark not considered seemly by higher circles was delayed ten days while our non-combatant snoops made a note of it - and of me.....They don't take into account the opinions of those citizens who are temporarily muzzled by virtue of service in the fighting forces. And it is precisely those, the silenced citizens, who're going to explode one of these fine days."

The Editor adds a comment on a photo, in the St. Paul Dispatch, of troops quelling a labour riot, "practice, of course", and mentions an "expose" in the CALL of the Gauleiter School of Military Government at Charlottesville, where troops are being instructed in similar methods of controlling masses of men - under the pretext of quelling rioting Germans after 'invasion'!"

Other copies of the same issue are being sent to:-

~~WALTER H. GILLINGS,~~
15 Shere Road,
Ilford,
Essex.

~~RUPERT T. GOULD,~~
Lt. Commander R.N. (Ret.)
Downside,
Woodfield Lane,
Ashted,
Surrey.

~~LT. COL. T. C. SKINNER,~~
8 Smoke Lane
Reigate,
Surrey.

JPHa:WMJ

12-9-43

100-106124

RECORDED

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: WITTANY THAYER
THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
INTERNAL SECURITY

Reference is made to teletype message of March 31, 1942, transmitting for your information photostatic copies of the January, 1942, issue of "The Fortean Society Magazine," which featured articles written by subject Thayer.

For your additional information there is attached to this memorandum a photostatic copy of a further edition of "The Fortean Society Magazine," issued for the month of June, 1943. The Bureau is informed that this publication appears irregularly and that only two issues, those for January, 1942, and June, 1943, have been published since the latter part of October, 1941.

You will note that subject Thayer still apparently plays a prominent role in the publication of this magazine.

Enclosure



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-11-97 BY 9803 ADD BCELK

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-READING ROOM

DEC 11 4 53 PM '43

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York 7, New York

LHF:IV/FSR
100-28630

November 19, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
TIFFANY THAYER
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-17-87 BY 9803RDD/CELM

In accordance with the request of the Bureau, there is being transmitted herewith one copy of THE FORTEAN SOCIETY magazine dated June, 1943. Also enclosed are two photostatic copies of the same issue.

It may be noted that instant copy of the issue dated June, 1943 was furnished to the New York Field Division on July 20, 1940 by RUSSELL MALONEY, editor of the New Yorker Magazine. In an accompanying letter RUSSELL MALONEY stated that the article entitled, "THE SOCRATIC METHOD" seemed to be obviously the work of a man who is more of a crank than a skilled propagandist. Maloney stated that his only contact with TIFFANY THAYER was about three years earlier when the New Yorker magazine was considering a long biographical story or profile about him. At that time MALONEY made a preliminary investigation and after two interviews with THAYER found him to be too eccentric and uncommunicative to be a good profile subject.

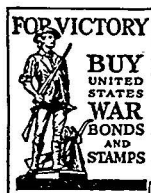
According to the files of the New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York City, Volume I of THE FORTEAN SOCIETY magazine was dated September, 1937. The magazine suspended publication from November, 1937 to December, 1939. The later issues of THE FORTEAN SOCIETY magazine are as follows:

- #3 - dated January, 1940;
- #4 - dated May, 1941;
- #5 - dated October, 1941;
- #6 - dated January, 1942;
- #7 - dated June, 1943.

RECORDED

INDEXED

14-75-5
F
38 NOV 22 1943



COPIES DESTROYED

36 AUG 11 1961

Letter to Director
NY 100-28630

November 19, 1943

The New York Public Library has not received any issue subsequent to the one dated June, 1943.

The attention of the Bureau is directed to Page 7 of the magazine dated June, 1943 wherein it is stated that the editor cannot predict when his next issue of the magazine will be forthcoming.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "E. E. Conroy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

E. E. CONROY
Special Agent in Charge

Encls. (3)

JPha:WMJ

100-75-6

100-106125

RECORDED

11-75-6

(U) FOR STOTT:

May 31, 1944

RE: FORTEAN SOCIETY
Box 192, Grand Central Annex
New York City

4852

Reference is made to your note number 5976, dated April 29, 1944, and entitled as above. (S)(u)

We are informed that the first issue (Volume No. 1) of the Fortean Society magazine was published in September, 1937. Reportedly publication was thereafter suspended from November, 1937, to December, 1939; later issues being published as follows:

- #3 - dated January, 1940
- #4 - dated May, 1941
- #5 - dated October, 1941
- #6 - dated January, 1942
- #7 - dated June, 1943

CLASSIFIED BY 987 c/p/s
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 6

5/20/99 Appeal # 98-3328

Presumably the issue for December, 1943, mentioned in your note, was Volume No. 8. (u)

Little information is available as to the magazine itself or the persons who sponsor it. However, it has been reported that the editor and dominant personality of the magazine is one Tiffany Thayer, who has been described as being very "eccentric and uncommunicative." Reportedly the magazine does not operate on any definite schedule and in this connection you will note that a comment appears on page seven of the June, 1943, issue (mentioned in your note) stating that the editor could not predict when the next issue of his magazine would be forthcoming. The publication, "Who's Who in America," for 1943 is inclusive of a biographical account concerning Tiffany Thayer.

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

(U) A photostatic copy of the January, 1942, issue of the Fortean Society magazine is available and is attached with the thought that it may be of some interest to you. (X)

Our London representative has not been furnished with the data set forth in this memorandum. (X)

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

Attachment

CLASSIFIED BY 987 c/p/s
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 6

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

DATE: 9/5/99
5/20/99 Appeal # 98-3328

SECRET

No. 59764

April 29, 1944.

~~SECRET~~

RE: ⁽⁴⁾FORTEAN SOCIETY

Box 192, Grand Central Annex,
New York City. (u)

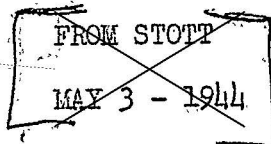
Our London friends inform us that they have several times seen in censorship copies of a publication calling itself the "Fortean" and purporting to be the official organ of a group known as the Fortean Society. (u)

They have drawn our attention to two issues of this publication - one dated June 1943, which is almost entirely devoted to statements critical of the war effort of the United States and Great Britain. (u)

The other dated December, 1943, carries the first instalment of a book by Kanhayalal Gauba called "The Truth About India" (the original title of which was "H.H. The Pathology of Princes"). Our London friends have no information about the book, which according to the "Fortean" was banned in India in 1930, but they state that Kanhayalal Gauba, the author, was involved in litigation in India in 1937. One of his brothers was sentenced to four years in prison for misappropriation of funds, and another is M.L. Gauba who studied in Berlin and married a German. (He and his wife are now in India). (u)

Since this magazine has been sent to a number of addresses in the United Kingdom, our London friends would be interested to know something of the affiliations and policy of the Fortean Society. We should be grateful indeed for any information in this connection. (u)

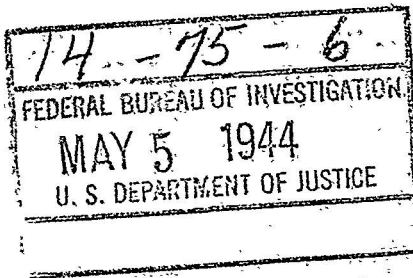
(U)



CLASSIFIED BY SP2 c/fus
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 6
5/20/99 Appeal #98-3328

~~SECRET~~ RECORDED
&
INDEXED
104

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD/BCBLM
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1,6



~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)
DATE: 9/2/99
9/2/99 SP2 c/fus Appeal #98-3328

EPB:mer
14-75

RECORDED

Mr. Tom C. Clark
Assistant Attorney General

January 12, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

TIFFANY THAYER
THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
INTERNAL SECURITY

Reference is made to Bureau memorandum dated December 13, 1943, with which you were furnished a photostatic copy of the June, 1943, issue of "The Fortean Society Magazine."

For your further information in this connection, there is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of the Autumn 1944 issue of "The Fortean Society Magazine."

This magazine was recently received at the Bureau's San Francisco Office from a resident of Santa Cruz, California, who advised that she had not requested the publication.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
Enclosure 11

JAN 12 1945 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-HVIF BUL
F B I

JAN 15 2 02 PM '45

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-89 BY SP3RDB/CLM

JAN 17 1945

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: December 9, 1944

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, New York

SUBJECT: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
SECURITY MATTER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-77 BY 9803 RDD/CEM

There is enclosed herewith a copy of the Autumn Magazine of THE FORTEAN SOCIETY. This magazine was forwarded to the New York Office by the San Francisco Office dated November 14, 1944. The magazine had been received by Mrs. BESSIE H. TWADDLE, 24 Union Street, Santa Cruz, California. Mrs. TWADDLE advised she had not requested the publication. Your attention is directed to articles concerning conscientious objectors appearing on page 144 and to other material in the publication.

This is being forwarded for the general information of the

Bureau.

Enclosure (2)

*Letter Clark
1-12-45
JPB/mec*

RECORDED

INDEXED

113-75-7

DEC 14 1944

Brune

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Rehder

W. J. [unclear]

Publishers' Weekly



ESTABLISHED 1871
American Book Trade Journal

Postmaster: Return if undeliverable to

R. R. BOWKER CO.

62 West 45th St., New York, N. Y.

Return Postage Guaranteed

Entered at New York, N. Y. Post Office as
Second Class Matter

MRS. BESSIE TWADDLE
24 UNION ST.
SANTA CRUZ, CALIF.

14-75-7

24 Union St
Santa Cruz, Calif

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-7-97 BY 9803RDD/BCE/LM



Federal Bureau of Investigation
111 Sutter St.
San Francisco, Calif.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD/BELM

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

Founded 1931 A.D.

MAGAZINE

AUTUMN

The Year 14 F.S.

25¢

WILD PLUM SPEAKS

EDITED

by

TIFFANY

THAYER

(Secretary Fortean Society)

Box 192, Grand Central Ave.

New York City)

Sample Copy

ORDER IN QUANTITY

30 % OFF

Fully Returnable

The coals had scarcely hopped back into the scuttle, the books had only just ceased to smoulder, and likely the masked stranger was still on the premises, at Wild Plum School, North Dakota, when the Fortean Society's international dragnet closed in on the laugh in the case.

No event since the *boom* in the sky over Brooklyn has been reported by so many members or covered so thoroughly by them. Our thanks to all. Special mention must be made of the prompt cooperation of MFS Walter Dunkelberger, of Fargo. His *dossier l'affaire Prunelle Sauvage* runs to 18 pages and contains original correspondence with State Authorities concerned in the investigation.

The laugh, like almost all good Fortean laughs, is at the expense of Orthodoxy. For the outraged O ran out on a limb with its collective pants down. The Great Freeprez of America, in almost the first despatch, recorded in black and white for a gaping world and an assumed posterity, that the pupils of Wild Plum had undergone "lie-detector" tests which established their innocence. But if the kids were not responsible for the didos, the North Dakota authorities had to come out in favor of pixies.

The situation was almost as embarrassing as the one our Law-and-Order friends faced when the rank and file in Spain won a peaceful election and had to be put out of office by the vulgar means of revolt — with the *Right Wing* manning the Barricades. Faces in North Dakota must have been as red as Dame Columbia's the first time she got in bed with Stalin.

The same sort of flip-flop was necessary to keep the snail on the thorn and God in His Heaven — directly over Wild Plum. Forced to make the choice between accepting *poltergeist* phenomena as veritable and giving "scientific" crime detection a black eye, the lesser evil was chosen. Without noticeable hesitation, the admission was made — although not in so many words — that a group of backwoods infants and adolescents had made a monkey of the "lie-detector".

We Forteans win either way in this deal, for if the phenomena were perpetrated by

INDEXED IN
PUBLICATION
FILES

14-75-7

MORE NOTES

OF CHARLES FORT

coal-bucket sprites we're glad to make their acquaintance, and if the boys and girls did it—as they are said to have “confessed”—and then showed up the “lie-detector” as an utterly inutile imposition upon vulgar credulity, that's even better.

The story came as a beautiful climax to the series of three articles in the *Saturday Evening Post*, THE MAGIC LIE DETECTOR, by Alva Johnston. The Post, which has always been one hell-bender for Constitutional Government, announced the series thus: “The rubber hose and the third degree—traditional means of wringing confessions from criminals—are giving way to a machine called a polygraph, invented by a mild-looking man named Leonarde Keeler. Its uncanny power to uncover guilty secrets in the human mind has been demonstrated in 60,000 cases and its use is rapidly spreading.”

Thus, more or less subtly, the reader is led to look upon Mr. Keeler's invention as an instrument of righteousness wielded by the same stalwart blue-coats who “traditionally” swing the rubber hose—but only against the persons of “criminals” of course. What mystical means the police have for identifying “criminals” before any crime is proved is not stated by the Post above, nor by Alva Johnston in his articles. In other words, the Constitutional guarantee that we poor suckers are assumed to be innocent until a jury of our peers declares differently is so openly flouted that the foremost, largest-selling weekly in the land casually refers to the practice as “traditional”, and then sets out to sell us a refinement of this abuse which “has been demonstrated in 60,000 cases” and is “rapidly spreading” in use.

The counter-inference of the announcement is that any man who opposes this great, scientific and humane new method is either on the side of crime and criminals or in favor of station-house drubbings. No room is left on Earth, in the ratiocinations of the Post and Alva Johnston, for the ordinary honest citizen who is willing to grant even habitual and known criminals the temporary advantage and shelter of Constitutional guarantees in order to preserve those defenses for himself in time of need against a notoriously—yes, “traditionally”—corrupt police vested with tyrannical powers.

Politicians tell us that “the price of liberty is eternal vigilance” and go on to prove that vigilance can be no more eternal than voting for them will make it, but despite the abuse of that truism it is highly pertinent here. No single despotic power Congress has turned over to the President is so great a menace to the vestige of “liberty” remaining to us as the “rapidly spreading” use of the “lie-detector” which the *Saturday Evening Post* brags about.

This is no abstract “issue” which Fortean may regard objectively. It is a matter of immediate, vital, personal concern to every one of us. It is of particular Fortean interest because the power being invoked to gain absolute supremacy over mass mentality is awe-for and confidence in Scientific “achievement”. This is the same bludgeon which forced upon us compulsory vaccination, and compulsory Wassermann tests, but whereas both those grafts have a modicum of virtue

to support them, the “lie-detector” has not a leg to stand on. If we permit its adoption as standard equipment in our police departments and law courts, we shall be—in essence—kneeling before a myth, first cousin to that other omnipotent wraith, the truth-loving Holy Ghost. We are not yet quite powerless to combat this machine's encroachments upon liberty and reason, despite its sponsorship by the *Saturday Evening Post*. We can invariably refuse to submit to its use—even for the purpose of proving it wrong. We can urge lawyers and judges of our acquaintance to laugh it out of court. In certain localities as the issue of purchase arises, we can refuse to grant the use of tax money to buy this glorified Ouija board or to pay any of its practitioners their fee to consultation.

The highlights of Alva Johnston's articles are these . . . In the case of Earl de Casto Mayer, suspected of murder . . . “The lie-detector evidence could not be used in court, and there was not enough evidence for a murder prosecution.”

Please remember that so-called “evidence” gathered by this machine can *never* be used in court if you stand on your Constitutional rights. Neither can you be *forced* to submit to the tests.

“Mayer was convicted of the theft of the automobile and sent up for life as a habitual criminal. His mother went to jail for five years as an accomplice. While serving her sentence, she got religion. A detective put on the garb of a priest and obtained a confession from her, implicating herself and her son in the murder.”

Nice lot of boys, the cops! And mostly Irish-Catholic too . . . Your Secretary is not lawyer enough to know whether “evidence” thus obtained is admissible or not, but to his Atheistic sense of decency the method employed sounds a new low in legalistic morals.

Alva Johnston goes on: “In one case, a taxi driver was accused of stealing \$3000 from an intoxicated woman passenger” . . . Mind you, the man was only *accused*—as I might “accuse” you of stealing from me . . . “As the woman had good political connections, the police gave the driver an exceptional workout” . . . In other words, what happens to a man in a police station—a man whose innocence is supposed to be assumed—depends upon whom the man's accuser knows. Just what constitutes a “good” political connection, Mr. Johnston neglects to state. Perhaps the drunken dame was the mayor's mistress. Nevertheless—in Mr. Johnston's words—“Because they were *used* to hammer a confession out of him, the case to the conclusion he must be innocent.” Italics are mine, the complacency that of decision, but according to the papers he rested his decree on the black magic of this machine, not on the classic impossibility of threading a needle in motion.

Alva Johnston, again: “Lie-detector findings, however, are not legal evidence” . . . Remember that well: now take this sentence apart—“The lie detector's most sensational triumph over eyewitness identification oc-

curred in the case of Joseph Blazenzitz, an innocent man serving a life sentence.”

Eyewitness testimony is, then, something over which to “triumph”, a nefarious institution like “inflation” and “black markets”. Away with all eyewitnesses! The lie-detector is more reliable than the human eye! That Blazenzitz was “an innocent man” is Mr. Johnston's biased, sympathetic assumption. The man's innocence or guilt never has been and never can be absolutely established, but it is necessary for Johnston to call him “innocent” to make the lie detector's refutation of eyewitness testimony a “sensational triumph” for Right!

Don't misunderstand Your Secretary. He is delighted that Blazenzitz got out of jail—innocent or not—for the man appears to have been a Fortean at heart: but even in the details of this episode Alva Johnston runs amok . . . “Blazenzitz spent sixteen years in Marquette prison . . . Teaching himself mathematics, he covered himself with glory by detecting an error in a standard college textbook.”

The self-instruction and discovery of error are typically Fortean. Getting “covered with glory” thereby is contrary to most human experience. One doesn't know how many laurel wreaths and medals were delivered at the cell door, but this Society's archives—or even your school history—contain the names of scores, nay, hundreds who were sent to jail or burned in the public square for discovering errors in “standard” textbooks.

“At the age of eighteen, Blazenzitz had been convicted of holding up a bank and shooting a man at Redford, Michigan. The case against him rested almost entirely upon an eyewitness. He had an alibi, but his alibi witness had not been believed. Keeler was called in (sixteen years after the conviction). He reported that the lie detector indicated Blazenzitz's innocence. He examined Walter Wysocki, the alibi witness, and found that he told the truth. The record of the trial was then studied by eminent legal authorities, who held that the prosecution's case had been too weak to justify a conviction, in the first place.”

How do you like that?

What “legal authority” is so “eminent” that it dares to say, “To hell with the jury system!”? It took mankind many a weary century to get those twelve good men and true into that jury box. Are we going to let Keeler and his hocus-pocus that the Wild Plum kids “triumphed” over “sensationally” deprive us of that gain? That's what's coming unless we stop it. One judge has already let a convicted rapist, setting aside the jury's verdict on the strength of a test by one of these gadgets—either Keeler's or another. To perjure, “rape” is only relatively criminal, and that may have influenced the judge's decision, but he rested his decree on the black magic of this machine, not on the classic impossibility of threading a needle in motion.

Your Secretary skips Alva Johnston's paragraph about Chicago's St. Valentine's Day massacre, out of goodness: I have some small concern for reprisals by Chicago police department.

coal-bucket sprites we're glad to make—their acquaintance, and if the boys and girls did it—as they are said to have “confessed”—and then showed up the “lie-detector” as an utterly inute imposition upon vulgar credulity, that's even better.

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“Mayer was convicted of the theft of the automobile and sent up for life as a habitual criminal. His mother went to jail for five years as an accomplice. While serving her sentence, she got religion. A detective put on the garb of a priest and obtained a confession from her, implicating herself and her son in the murder.”

Nice lot of boys, the cops! And mostly Irish-Catholic too . . . Your Secretary is not lawyer enough to know whether “evidence” thus obtained is admissible or not, but to his Atheistic sense of decency the method employed sounds a new low in legalistic morals.

Alva Johnston goes on: “In one case, a taxi driver was accused of stealing \$3000 from an intoxicated woman passenger” . . . Mind you, the man was only *accused*—as I might “accuse” you of stealing from me . . . “As the woman had good political connections, the police gave the driver an exceptional workout” . . . In other words, what happens to a man in a police station—a man whose innocence is supposed to be assumed—depends upon whom the man's accuser knows. Just what constitutes a “good” political connection, Mr. Johnston neglects to state. Perhaps the drunken dame was the mayor's mistress. Nevertheless—in Mr. Johnston's words—“Because they were unable to hammer a confession out of him, they came to the conclusion he must be innocent.” The italics are mine, the complacency that of Johnston or of the editors of the *Saturday Evening Post* . . . “Later he was examined on the detector. It indicated guilt.” As “lie-detectors” will always indicate guilt if the accuser's political connections are good enough.

Alva Johnston, again: “Lie-detector findings, however, are not legal evidence” . . . Remember that well: now take this sentence apart—“The lie detector's most sensational triumph over eyewitness identification oc-

curred in the case of Joseph Blazenitz, an innocent man serving a life sentence.”

Eyewitness testimony is, then, something over which to “triumph”, a nefarious institution like “inflation” and “black markets”. Away with all eyewitnesses! The lie-detector is more reliable than the human eye! That Blazenitz was “an innocent man” is Mr. Johnston's biased, sympathetic assumption. The man's innocence or guilt never has been and never can be absolutely established, but it is necessary for Johnston to call him “innocent” to make the lie detector's refutation of eyewitness testimony a “sensational triumph” for Right!

Don't misunderstand Your Secretary. He is delighted that Blazenitz got out of jail—innocent or not—for the man appears to have been a Fortéan at heart: but even in the details of this episode Alva Johnston runs amok . . . “Blazenitz spent sixteen years in Marquette prison . . . Teaching himself mathematics, he covered himself with glory by detecting an error in a standard college textbook.”

The self-instruction and discovery of error are typically Fortéan. Getting “covered with glory” thereby is contrary to most human experience. One doesn't know how many laurel wreaths and medals were delivered at the cell door, but this Society's archives—or even your school history—contain the names of scores, nay, hundreds who were sent to jail or burned in the public square for discovering errors in “standard” textbooks.

“At the age of eighteen, Blazenitz had been convicted of holding up a bank and shooting a man at Redford, Michigan. The case against him rested almost entirely upon an eyewitness. He had an alibi, but his alibi witness had not been believed. Keeler was called in (sixteen years after the conviction). He reported that the lie detector indicated Blazenitz's innocence. He examined Walter Wysocki, the alibi witness, and found that he told the truth. The record of the trial was then studied by eminent legal authorities, who held that the prosecution's case had been too weak to justify a conviction, in the first place.”

How do you like that?

What “legal authority” is so “eminent” that it dares to say, “To hell with the jury system!”? It took mankind many a weary century to get those twelve good men and true into that jury box. Are we going to let Keeler and his hocus-pocus that the Wild Plum kids “triumphed” over “sensationally” deprive us of that gain? That's what's coming unless we stop it. One judge has already freed a convicted rapist, setting aside the jury's verdict on the strength of a test by one of these gadgets—either Keeler's or another. To be sure, “rape” is only relatively criminal, and that may have influenced the judge's decision, but according to the papers he rested his decree on the black magic of this machine, not on the classic impossibility of threading a needle in motion.

Your Secretary skips Alva Johnston's paragraph about Chicago's St. Valentine's Day massacre, out of goodness of heart and some small concern for reprisals by the Chicago police department.

THE LONCS HAVE THE KEY

While all the world else was seeking — overturning Newton, kicking Einstein down the backstairs, stumbling after Planck and a thousand more—seeking that universal yardstick, the Cosmic Constant, Frank S. Lonc knew what it was the whole time, and he had passed the word along to his son, Frank A. Lonc.

Lonc Sr., is an artist, lithographer, mathematician, engineer, optician, physicist, philosopher, gourmet, philologist, inventor, figure-skater—and if he is not Leonardo da Vinci, neither is this the year 1494.

Lonc Jr., according to his father, is an amateur astronomer, and he intends to set up an observatory of his own in Rochester, N. Y., when his present occupation terminates. At the time of writing he is in Italy.

The elder Lonc's cosmical studies began about 1905 or 1906 when he was a young man in Berlin, but the discovery of the Cosmic Constant did not come until all the hubaloo about Einstein made Lonc good and sore. In the first place, Lonc resented fiercely the allegation that there was anything he couldn't understand, and he set out to show the world not only that the idol Einstein was a figure of straw but also that Physics itself was little if anything more than a secret society which perpetuated its prestige by mumbo-jumbo and rigmarole.

To accomplish his purpose, Lonc determined to find the Cosmic Constant, to express it in simple arithmetic which all could understand, and by that means deprive "Relativity" of its horrendous mystery. Just HOW this was accomplished is still the elder Lonc's secret, although he may have told his son, and he promises to prepare a paper for the Fortean Society at a later date explaining in detail. But if we do not know exactly how he arrived at the figure, we do have the figure itself . . . Ladies and gentlemen—the Lonc "Relativity Constant", the long-sought "Key to the Cosmos", is 1.618+, and in formulae its power is expressed by this symbol.

$$\Omega = 1.618^{+}$$

The applications of that figure are truly infinite, according to its discoverer. In 1935 he applied it to the "Relative Distance of the Planets", comparing his results with "Bode's" law and other standard estimates. One finds agreements and divergences in this trial flight, both of which groups of figures are more susceptible of criticism by the astronomers than by Forteans. Since we of no faith hold no brief for Bode nor for any other dreamed-up, unmeasurable set of distances, Lonc's guess is to us no more outrageous and no more credible than any other. The work was published (and copyrighted) in an attractive form, 14 lithographed pages, all drawn by the author's own hand on stone, with decorations, diagrams and illustrations in a sepia tone.

The next application at hand was published (and copyrighted) 1939. This is a

← MISSING . . .

Too late to alter this story comes word that First Lt. Frank A. Lonc, 25, a bomber pilot, holder of the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, has been missing in action over Germany since July 18th . . . Truly — "The thing that is in me is so far beyond hatred that you (who sent him there) cannot understand it when it is brought before you in the courts. Magistrate, if you could but thrust your hand into my brain, I would burn it off at the wrist."

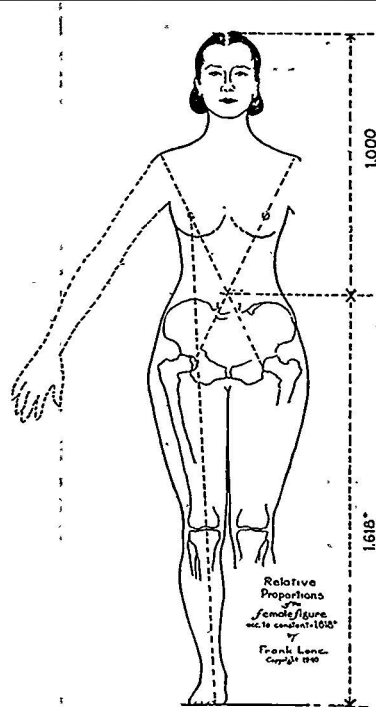
table of "THE ELEMENTS and their atomic weight computed with constant 1.618+ by F. Lonc," and it presents one of the most singular conceits Your Secretary has ever encountered. Mr. Lonc has not only scorned all known chemical, clinical and experimental methods for actually weighing the elements, but he has tossed overboard also the *system of computation* responsible for accepted estimates of their relative weights. By his highly original method Lonc gives us the atomic weights of 99 elements, known and unknown; that of Hydrogen being, not 1.0081 but, 2.6180. Yet, by a singular coincidence, Uranium (No. 92), comes out 240.8591, which is within hailing distance of Orthodoxy's 238.07.

In 1940, Frank A. Lonc, the son, published (and copyrighted) "The Key to the Cosmos / An Introduction / by Frank A. Lonc / A revised and Extended Edition of Relativity 1.618 by F. S. Lonc." This is an essay of eight pages, letterpress, in heavy blue paper covers, and it is the most comprehensive treatise on the Loncs' constant we have seen so far. What it says—in essence—is that as 1.618+ is to 1, so is every other thing in the universe related to something else.

The bands of the spectrum obey "Loncs' Law," and π may be expressed thus:

$$\frac{1.618^2 \cdot 6}{5} = 3.1416$$

Just what that means Your Secretary does not know. No more does he understand the



use for the elder Lonc's logarithms published (and copyrighted) 1942—"Length of Circ. Arc. $\angle R=1$. / Computed with Lonc Relativity constant 1.618+" and carried to eighteen decimal places.

Our hat, however, is off to the elder Lonc for bringing sex appeal to the study of Physics. In this one experiment, at least, the theorist did not spurn laboratory experiment. He has, he says, photographed between 60 and 65 human bodies with at least their navels exposed (as you may observe them among the ladies of the chorus in many Gotham night clubs), and when the figures are measured, if the distance from the crown of the head to the navel is taken as 1, then the distance from the navel to the soles of the feet is invariably 1.618+.

Following is a list of the available data on the subject of the Loncs' Cosmic Constant. Order from the Society. The lot for 75c.

Relativity (lithographed)	35c
Key to the Cosmos (8 pp.)	15c
Atomic Weights of the Elements (single sheet)	5c
Length of Circ. Arc. (18 places) (single sheet)	5c
Navel diagram (same as in this issue)	10c
π	5c
Coffee	Extra

COINCIDENCE OR PRESS AGENT?

Mexico, Mo., is crashing the big city dailies, *via* UP. On May 23, 1944, the Washington, D.C., *Times-Herald* printed a yarn about a strange light in the sky—"said to be in the northeast at approximately a 45 degree angle. According to the reports, it can best be seen between 7:30 and 9 p.m. One citizen says the light looks like a kite moving up and down from side to side and sometimes almost in a circle." Credit MFS Walter Kerr.

On August 29, 1943, the N. Y. *News* reported a patch of white blackberries, surrounded by ordinary black ones, growing on Purple Mountain "near" Mexico, Mo. F. L. Calkin said that in 35 years of berry picking he had never before seen the like. Credit MFS B. T. Stevens, Sr.

SULFA IN PAX

While the drug houses which manufacture sulfonamide products go on selling them by high-power methods to doctors, the deaths and debilities due to their use continue quite unabated. Three died in one month in the Toronto General Hospital.

EARHART REPORTED IN JAPAN

Papers dated 3-23-44 carried a "Delayed" AP dispatch quoting Lt. Eugene F. Bogan of New York to the effect that a Jap trader name Ajima told him that an American woman flier (thought to have been Amelia Earhart) came down between Jaluit and Ailinglapalap atolls and that she was picked up by a Jap fishing boat and taken to Japan.

Another rumor which may be traceable if hostilities ever cease, comes from another Lt., in the Navy—or perhaps from this same man—who told a member of the Society that he had heard Amelia Earhart broadcasting over a short wave Japanese radio station. The purport of the alleged broadcast was withheld from us by censorship.

CORNING CORN

No doubt many Fortleans have thought it would be nice to have a publication which would keep track of all the "news" stories the daily papers drop. These hot potatoes are usually the best things in the papers, so here's a money-making idea for somebody bloated with blood money from the so-called "war". Let a weekly be started, by title — WHAT EVER BECAME OF . . . ?

We have already suggested Poulter's Folly (you remember, Byrd's bus to Antarctica) as a subject for treatment therein. Another costly item worth keeping track of was "the World's Largest Eye", made by the Corning Glass Works for Mount Palomar Observatory.

We have a large advertisement of the Corning company, reproducing in color a drawing made by B. G. Seielstad, originally published in *Popular Science Monthly*, June, 1934, showing all the trouble they went to in the manufacture of this white elephant . . . It's a mighty impressive picture, surrounded by even more impressive figures. Some details will give you an idea . . . An

auxiliary electric plant had to be built to insure a constant supply while the glass was being poured and cooled. The mold was mounted on a "locomotive hoist". The ladles of molten glass were moved from the melting tank to the "bee hive" casting chamber on overhead tracks. Seven men are shown doing that, six pushing the ladle and a seventh spraying it with water to keep it from melting. They even had a tank of water into which they dunked the wheelbarrows. It's all very elaborate, and worth looking up if you didn't see it at the time.

The figures: "It took a month to bring this glass to proper heat for pouring—over 10 months to cool it! The grinding and polishing will take 3 years more!" (That was in 1935, plus 3, is 1938 . . . or six years ago. Probably we shall be told that the "war" held up the polishing so long that the eye became obsolete!)

More figures: "It took 20 tons of glass to make it! When completed, it will take pictures 1,300,000,000-light-years-away!—(If you don't believe that, measure it yourself.) Will bring Mars so close scientists will be able to see whether or not a city exists. (And now—the pay-off.) The telescope will cost about \$6,000,000."

For a reliable report of what the journeyman astronomers themselves think of this load of corn, see your Fortlean Magazine, No. 6, p. 2, col. 3.

MEXICAN WITCH

AP reported 5-19-44 a witchcraft case in the State of Tlaxcala, Mexico. Sixteen children are missing. Two bodies were found. A nineteen-year-old, Soledad Perez, said she was held prisoner for two years and witnessed a "torture-slaying". Another account makes Soledad's age sixteen, and states that—by her allegation—her captors forced her to go nude for two years. Then the story fell out of the papers.

If anybody can tell us what happened after that we'll be delighted to print it. Credit Tobey and many others.

YOUR LIFE IS THEIR TOY

Above is the title of a book by Emanuel M. Josephson, M.D. The sub-title is: Rackets—Social Service and Medical . . . It is hair-raising stuff. Here you may read of the "Charity Trust," "Disease Exploitation," tuberculosis and cancer grafts; the low down on the Russell Sage Foundation, the Milbank Memorial Fund, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Julius Rosenwald Fund and the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation of which the President is president. You will get some idea where the dimes "march" to . . . "The Truth About Milk"—Insurance—"Workmen's Compensation"—The Origin of the American Medical Association, etc., etc., etc. . . . The book was called to our attention by MFS Hoernlein and we are deeply grateful . . . 449 pp., cloth, illustrated, indexed. N.Y.C. 1940 . . . \$3.50, postpaid from the Society

RUSSELL WRITES

3-21-44 old style: "Last week was reported a plague of golden beetles in Surrey. They were not of this locale and know-alls identified them as oriental, later traced them to a considerable quantity of packing which had come from someplace afar off. The beetles were Chinese and the packing was Levantine, but you know that that's of no moment—both places being foreign."

WHO IS OUR FRIEND?

In recent issues of this dissident journal Fortleans have been urged to read *IN FACT*, edited by George Seldes, *THE CALL*, which is the voice of Norman Thomas, *THE PROGRESSIVE*, LaFollette's organ. These papers were called to your attention because, between them, they brought to light much which should have been in all our daily papers (if our dailies were truly *news* papers instead of the penny-tracts they are) but never appeared there.

Norman Thomas is an Accepted Fellow of the Fortlean Society, George Seldes is a Corresponding Member. Senator LaFollette has never been exposed to Fortleanism as far as we know, for without something mighty like a miracle, coincident membership in this Society and in the Most Exclusive Gentleman's Club in the World (the U.S. Senate) is inconceivable.

This note concerns the two Fortleans, both of whom write books. The Society is happy to supply their books to any who may be interested. The writings of both men are professedly humanitarian by intention, but Your Secretary is forced to question their *bona fides* as such, at least as concerns George Seldes' *The Vatican* and Norman Thomas' *What Is Our Destiny* (no question mark).

The Vatican (\$2.50), was a selection of the CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB—no less. And Mr. Seldes has not so far replied to our question: "How in time could YOU write a book the Catholic Book Club would choose?" If ever he does reply, the answer will be printed here.

What Is Our Destiny (no question mark), Doubleday Doran, \$2.00, purports to examine, among other things, "How We Got into the War," "Peace Plans and World Constitutions," "A Domestic Policy for Our Democracy," from the standpoint (one would fondly hope) of a man who has been rotten-egged more than once for speaking his mind in public. In Fortlean fellowship, the most charitable thing Your Secretary can say of this opus is that Mr. Thomas can read it aloud to Frank Hague in the man's own parlor (or kitchen) without even tempting that politician or any of his hired help to test their egg-throwing marksmanship. The book is all sound—no fury. Something has gone out of Thomas. He does not steal Will Rogers' line, but he exemplifies it, viz.: all the author of that book knows is what he reads in the papers. It is a pussy-footing, mealy-mouthed, ineffectual performance—a disgrace to a leader of men and to one who for years has been the object of widespread veneration, the inheritor of the bloodied mantle of Eugene V. Debs. Not once in its entire length does he even hint

at the true "cause" of this so-called "war", not once does he challenge the world planners of the future with the charge of lip-service *only* in their sanctimonious, fraudulent, hypocritical, pretense of planning for lasting peace.

While millions of men and women look to these two men, Seldes and Thomas, for LEADERSHIP—now if ever—they set up rival tootlings like twin pied pipers of Hamelin.

What is our destiny—*question mark*—Mr. Thomas? The Vatican? Mr. Seldes?

The most valuable service IN FACT has rendered humanity in the past three years was publication of an article exposing the "pulmotor" as a murderous contrivance that destroys the possibility of recovery in a large percentage of the near-dead to whom it is applied . . . The publication's blackest disservice to its own rank and file was one entire issue given over to white-washing George Gallup, the poll man. Be not deceived by that apology nor by any other of the many current attempts to restore these opinion-sampling agencies to the good graces of the public. Remember, this is Presidential year, and the politicians need those straw-votes in their business. The low opinion you have held of all these vox-pop perverting influences is fully merited by every one of them. Don't be seduced. Remember the *Literary Digest*!

WHO WAS ST. GEORGE?

In 1911, 1914 and 1915 A.D., one M. P. Malter was writing and publishing philosophical works of distinct originality, in several California cities—San Francisco, Fresno, and elsewhere. He signed his works "St. George", and three of these have been contributed to the Society Library by Louis Joquel II, MFS, publisher of *Coventry*.

The books we have, are:

Errors of Thought, 1911 and 1915

Gold Secret and Its Connection with Tariff and Trusts, N.P.N.D.

World Process/or the origin and evolution of life, mind, thought and language. Fresno 1914.

An attempt will be made to digest the wordy metaphysic of "St. George" for Fortéans at a later date. Meantime, anybody who knew or knows the author is urged to tell us more about him. The usual channels are also being explored.

"The books appear to be precursors of the critical study of semantics (and philosophy), laying the onus of subversiveness to human weal at the door of languages, and attesting that a purer knowledge was among men before we were cursed with an alphabet. This is but one of many stalwart notions advanced in these heavily annotated volumes which have an air of erudition quite out of common with most works of independent philosophers.

Please look up Malter in your local library and report.

HOOPLA!

If you wish to predict "the changing lunar phases within 48 hours", you need not look at the moon to do it, not any more. Now what you do is insert "a pair of electrical contacts into the trunk of a maple tree, about five feet apart and at depth that (places) them next to the cambium, or layer of actively growing cells that build new layers of wood and bark". Hook them up to "delicate recording apparatus" and the apparatus will predict the changes of Luna for you! At least, it did for Professor Harold S. Burr of the Yale School of Medicine, according to *Science Digest*, May, 1944 old style, and they have their information from Science Service, which is an outfit in Washington into which millions of tax-free dollars are poured by persons who might have guilty consciences if they kept all the dollars, or heart-burn if they had to pay income tax on so much money . . . The datum was supplied by MFS Abram Brooks.

MORE BROOKS

Abram's cousin Andrew went to bed. A stinging pain in his leg awakened him. He turned on the light and saw a deep flesh wound—too deep to have been inflicted by finger- or toe-nails. He was alone in the room and had no mortal enemies . . . That reminded MFS Brooks of a clipping, which he sent us, chronicling the misadventure of Harold Rush, New York, May 1, (1937?). Blood was running down his wrist under his coat sleeve. "At the hospital, it was discovered (sic) that he'd wound had been inflicted by a bullet." He had heard no shot, he said, felt no pain. No hole was found in either shirt or coat sleeve.

That reminded us of several data received from time to time . . . Harry Powler, Bronx, was in a thunderstorm, 7-25-39. At a particularly loud thunderclap, Harry had a pain in his left foot. He thought he was wounded from aloft. Doctors and detectives contradicted him. It's a gunshot, they said. (In this connection, meteors were seen to fall during the Kentucky flood earlier the same month.)

Something crashed 3-21-39 through the roof of a pie factory, 301 Fourth Ave., Brooklyn, and disappeared. No fire, but it left a hole.

Charles Thorpe, 18, thought 9-9-39 he had been stung on the thigh by a bee. A "bullet" was extracted.

Warren Clark, Brookings, South Dakota, didn't know what had hit him. He had 9-24-37 a headache. At the hospital they said it was a bullet.

FRAUDS

Send \$1.25 to FRAUDS, La Crescenta, Calif. . . . You'll get six issues of a magazine which is keeping tabs on Government seizures, etc., like *Dynamite* used to do. Although the editors accept articles by our Worshipful Fortéan Brother T. Swann Harding, they still cling to lots of Orthodoxies and, we suspect, favor law and order.

They brag about jumping on Manly P. Hall, Accepted Fellow of the Fortéan Society, for practicing Astrology. But in scanning their past two years' publications,

we do not find a single raspberry—for Miliken, Compton or Shapley. Apparently FRAUDS sees some obscure difference between folks who make their living out of star-gazing and guessing. What the difference is they do not state.

FRAUDS attacks Bernarr Macfadden for recommending a diet for cancer, but whoops it up for the medicine-men who go at it a different way . . . We suggest that they read *Your Life Is Their Toy*, referred to above.

FRAUDS calls Spiritualism a "racket", but says nothing against Christian Science or Purgatory. On the contrary, in writing about Christian Science, the editor tells sympathetically of "testimonial night" in the Christian Science Church, with the comment: "Surely, all these people cannot be crazy" . . . Well —

The statement regarding a sect Ye Frauds Ed doesn't like as well as he does "Science" is that — "One of the world's greatest, that of spiritualism, was started by two little girls, the Fox sisters, in Hydesville, N. Y. in 1848." We beg to call FRAUDS' attention to the numerals 1848, and remind them that those figures are supposed to date the beginning of spiritualism, and the originators were four Jewish boys named Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We agree, however, that it certainly was "one of the world's greatest frauds".

FRAUDS hops on "loan-sharks" and asks if certain State laws against "usury" are adequate—but it never questions the validity of *interest* as an institution, although twenty minutes thought on the subject will reveal to any man who can count his own fingers that the practice of permitting money to be lent at interest is almost entirely responsible for mankind's present degradation.

Nevertheless, FRAUDS is worth your time and money. It called the turn on the Brain Trusters who fiddled with a few spurious social improvements and then stepped into sinecures with public utilities companies . . . And the editor's appeal to Ireland to join in the fracas for "its mother when she (is) fighting for her very life" would bring tears (of merriment) to your eyes . . . Ireland's *mother*, indeed! If a man had such a mother and did not kill her the neighbors would — and should.

And the topper — in the issues so far scanned—is this squib published Nov.-Dec. 1941:

"Parts of the Old Testament have been proven to be fakes."

SAID FORT:

"Was somebody collecting Ambroses?"

Our Worshipful Brother Rogers Brackett, Walking Delegate and Member Extraordinaire, writes: "It might interest you to know that I am following down the owners of a small (sic) beer hall in Austin, Texas. The sign outside proclaims *Ambrose and Charles*. If I discover the last names to Bierce and Ross I shall let you know."

According to the UP (Phoenix, Ariz., dateline) "Charlie Ross," who had lived

under the name of Gustave Blair from about 1874 to 1939, died Monday, December 13, 1943. Credit Reagan.

Brackett also calls the attention of the membership to the coincidence (if it is no more than that) that the glowing beef of Mexia, Texas, which gave 6-20-44 off an "erie white light", was sent for chemical analysis to FORT Worth.

GERMS IN SPACE

Checking the suggestion that Astrology be called upon to eliminate the common cold, since the Medicine Men are so powerless to do so, and, further, checking the word from Sweden's Upsala that "flu" may come from Mars, turned up another Swede who long ago sponsored the notion that life itself came to Earth from space. "The late" Dr. Svante Arrhenius (dead in 1933) had made the suggestion a few years before . . . In 1932-33, Professor C. B. Lipman, U. of California then, announced the discovery of living germs *inside* meteorites "known to have arrived from space." The Lipman announcement was taken with lots of salt by his colleagues, but one editor commented that: "The Health Department of the League of Nations traced" an epidemic of influenza to the State of Kansas: "They were at a loss to account for such a starting point, but some day it may be learned that somebody in that State picked up a funny looking black stone and broke it open" . . . If the one who did it happens to read this, we should be delighted to make his acquaintance.

1933

Dr. Harlan T. Stetson, then Director of the Perkins Observatory of Ohio Wesleyan University, got his name in the *American Weekly* by calling attention "to one strange peril that Earth may roll into sooner or later". "Cosmic fogs" is the name given to this peril, and they are described as vast dust clouds in space, "covering areas many times larger than that taken up by our whole solar system". The threat is of another Ice Age, and previous Ice Ages are attributed to these cosmic fogs by many scientists.

1934

Under a Wide World photo in the *American Weekly*, showing a lady (subject) being tested by an apparatus operated by a man, this caption: "Scientific Instrument Devised for Recording a Person's Reaction to Spoken Words. Many Interesting Things Have Been Discovered by This Apparatus, Which Is Popularly Known as the 'Lie Detector'."

" . . . Patient experiment, which is the way science progresses with sure-footed certainty, has revealed some interesting things about customers, which means everybody . . . the Testing Selling Institute and Word Laboratory of New York City . . . has tried out selling phrases on people by the galvanometer test; popularly (sic) known as the 'lie detector', in the laboratories of Johns Hopkins University."

1935

Amer. Weekly printed an Underwood and Underwood photo of a "Psychograph"—a mechanical phrenologist—without naming the inventor. The instrument is shown on the head of a woman, and the text states that . . . "the Machine has, at last, invaded the field of phrenology, for a contraption called the Psychograph has arrived to take its place with the electrical 'lie-detector' and the involved device that registers your emotional reaction to blondes and brunettes and to other such exciting phenomena."

1937

Amer. Weekly . . . That a group of experimenters at Yale University announced the discovery of what might be called an electric or magnetic aura" . . . invisible . . . "To detect its presence Dr. Harold S. Burr, anatomy professor; Dr. Cecil T. Lac of the physics department and Dr. Leslie F. Nims of the physiology department had to perfect (sic) the microvoltmeter to an almost incredible degree of delicacy. This instrument uses the well-known principle of magnification by radio tubes. Even with such large multiplication, so feeble is the little electric or magnetic field, that the instrument must be brought within 10 to 15 thousandths of an inch of touching the skin in order to make it register at all . . . The scientific aura, discovered at Yale, though thin as a sheet of paper, envelopes the entire body. The halo of the early Christian tradition, with rare exceptions, surrounded only the head and recent experiments elsewhere show that electric brain waves are thrown out from the skull much further than the thin body aura . . . a Russian experimenter, Professor Erwin Bauer, has placed dying yeast cells and bacteria in powerful magnetic fields and proved by physical tests that the magnetic and electric characteristics of these living cells do change suddenly when life ceases . . . The work at Yale and that of Dr. Bauer in Russia belong to the same field of life electricity, together with many other recent investigations such as the work of the French bacteriologist, Mademoiselle N. Choucron . . . or . . . the discovery announced several years ago by Dr. Barnett Cohen of Johns Hopkins University . . . also . . . the Dr. Thomas S. P. Strangeways, the well-known English physiologist."

WATTS PER HOUR

A new type of criticism of so-called "exact sciences" and of their effect upon our everyday life is advanced by MFS Charles F. Dilks, C.E.

Mr. Dilks founds his philosophy upon a series of glaring "discrepancies in formula and text" which he has discovered in standard instruction books, chiefly electrical . . . Your embattled Secretary is no wise able to cope with mathematical criticism of this kind, but if he understands Mr. Dilks, the charge is that we are all paying electric light and power companies at least 3600 times as much money as they have coming, and to nip in the bud any revolt against the

practice, the public utilities have insinuated the prejudice supporting the error into our school texts. We are *taught* to think about watts and watt-hours in a certain way so that we grow up never questioning our light bills.

There is much more to it than that, but the members are urged to look into the matter for themselves. A limited number of the tracts are available for 20 cents each. The title is: "Recognition of Fundamental Error as Basis of Reform in Physics of Practical Sciences/We Must Return to Practical Things/by Charles F. Dilks, C.E./Author—Engineer—Educator."

In ordering, just say—"send Dilks". The book is 11 sheets, one-side, mimeograph matter, with one cover. The price, 20 cents—which is less than the cost of production.

SCOTT NEARING FINDS NEW VOICE

Many younger Fortleans will not remember when Scott Nearing was—in effect—fired from the faculty of the U. of Pennsylvania in 1915. He was the "Bertrand Russell" of that day, and the cause of academic freedom has been his cause ever since. No "Party" has ever been broad enough in its principles to hold him. No Party "Discipline" has ever been strong enough to break his indomitable will. Year in, year out, he has lectured and written from the depths of a truly understanding heart and a brilliantly lucid, luminous mind . . . Scott Nearing is an Honorary Founder of the Fortlean Society, and no living man is better entitled to every Fortlean's respect.

Every month or oftener, a printed letter is now being issued from Washington, D.C., by a private group of enthusiasts, under the heading: "WORLD EVENTS, analyzed and interpreted by Scott Nearing."

Subscribe

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WORLD EVENTS

125 Fifth St. N.E.

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GHOSTS ACTIVE

The usual series of antics attributed to spirits of the departed have been reported from several quarters recently.

5-43. Knocking, etc., in West 45th Street, N.Y.C. Reported by many. Still unexplained.

7-6-43. Moving furniture, etc., in a rock house near Dallas, Texas.

11-6-43, and for a week thereafter. Wisp of haze in house, Sterling, Ill. Credit Kerr, Hutchinson, Schippel and others.

12-17-43. At Crookston, Minn., piano keys depressed one at a time while onlookers marvelled, etc. Credit Dunkelberger.

12-24-43 and thereafter until the middle of January '44 old style, the Hilchie phenomena, at Eastern Passage, Nova Scotia. Credits too numerous to list. The last word appears to be that the spook's activities ceased when the fitty sister was taken off to the hospital.

Fort among others has noted that poltergeists and other extraordinary phenomena occur in homes which house young girls. Your Secretary adds that startling mani-

festations of something or other are prone to occur in homes where somebody already owns a Ouija board.

A non-member correspondent named Butters sends a sidelight on the Hilchie case, stating that "about ten years ago" Nova Scotia had another famous ghost (with fires), at Antigonish.

The Society's archives contain another, at Amherst, Nova Scotia, 1878-1879. The names in that case were Wesley, Teed and Cox. The story is told sympathetically by Hereward Carrington in *Americana*, June, 1910, p. 571 ff.

RAIN OF OIL

A "miniature" twister wrecked 5-25-43 telephone and power equipment and lines in the northeast section of Kokomo, Ind. Oil was sprayed over houses and gardens "like rain". Lacking any better explanation, the AP reported that the oil was "believed" to have been "sucked from transformers". Credit Krieger.

RUST ON THE DRUIDS

Remember the black rains of Slains, Scotland? Fort got most of his data on them from Reverend James Rust, "Minister of Slains." Now MFS Tom Elsander, Gateshead, Tyne, England, whose data have appeared many times in these columns, sends *Druidism Exhumed*, by that same Rev. Rust, containing a wealth of matter, the product of original researches, and not readily available, "proving that the stone circles of Britain were Druidical temples" and containing other important collateral archaeological matter, 1871.

If sufficient interest is expressed, the book will be serialized in the Magazine when *The Truth About India* has concluded.

GLASTONBURY'S TEMPLE

A related topic (to that just above) is the subject of another fascinating volume, this from the library of the late Alfred H. Barley, donated to the Society by his widow, LMFS Annie Barley . . . On the title page we read—"A Guide to Glastonbury's Temple of the Stars. Its GIANT EFFIGIES described from Air Views, Maps, and from 'The High History of the Holy Graal.' Illustrated by fifteen maps, Published by John M. Watkins, 21, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. 2. Price 5/-—Printed in Great Britain by The Women's Printing Society, Ltd., 31, 33, 35, Brick Street, London, W. 1. 1935."

At first one hardly knows what this book purports to establish, for it nowhere takes the reader by the hand to lead him from idea to idea, but instead hurls chunks of Glastonbury at him—like our illustration. At length, however, by diligence, one absorbs the information that King Arthur's Knights of the Round Table, instructed to this end by Merlin, constructed artificial waterways to link with natural ones and with turnpikes, hills and other topographical features in Somerset, "between Somerton and Glastonbury", outlining the shapes of "Zodiacal creatures", and that "the corresponding stars fall within their boundaries".

The key to all this is said to be in *The High History of the Holy Graal*, which is



not the Cup of the Last Supper but "an earlier Grail, that Cauldron of Wisdom already famous ages before Joseph of Arimathea brought his message here".

This reminds us that one of the university presses (Harvard?) recently published a work on the Pagan origin of the Grail legends, and that A. E. Waite expounded *The Hidden Church of the Holy Graal* in 714 pp., in 1909. Waite consistently disparages Glastonbury's connection with the Christian Grail, although he notices the pretensions, and he nowhere mentions these Zodiacal effigies which the Women's Printing Society finds in that terrain.

Those learned in these matters or versed in Glastonbury lore are invited to contribute letters on the subject.

WHAT ABOUT VITIC?

by

N. Meade Layne

What has become of the problem of "Vitic" or "carbon force"? This subject was discussed by Brian Brown some 20 years ago, in his *Dynamic Power of the Inner Mind* (1924), but so far as the present writer knows nothing has been heard of it since. Maybe this is all wrong and someone has followed up on the problem, but the chances are it has gone to join the rest of the res damnata.

Most of Brian Brown's chapter consists of quotation from Professor A. E. Baines, who

wrote a book called *The Origin and Problem of Life* (Dutton & Co.). Baines got interested thru observing the statues of Egyptian priests and kings in the British museum; they were represented as holding a small rod or cylinder in each hand, but nobody seemed to know what these objects really were or the purpose they served. Baines thought they might have something to do with virility or nerve vitality, and set out to discover something, "which when held in the hand would beneficially affect the nervous system." This substance, he claims, was finally found to be hardened carbon, and its effect is greatly augmented if used in connection with a piece of magnetic iron ore or a small permanent magnet.

The fact that some such force exists can be verified by anybody who can round up a sensitive galvanometer, a piece of hard carbon (an arc rod will do, tho specially hardened carbon is better), and a small piece of magnetized iron or steel. The galvanometer must be sensitive enough to give a deflection of several points when the fingers are placed on the terminals. See what deflection you get, then hold the carbon in the right hand and the magnet in the left for 4 or 5 minutes, and try it again.

To illustrate, I quote only the first five out of many tests; they were made with three men and two women subjects. The deflection before holding the rods were, respectively for each subject: 5 - 0 - 7 - 5 - 4. After holding the rods these were increased to 8 - 3 - 14 - 7 - 7. A second trial gave 4 - 0 - 3 - 3 - 4, and after holding the rods the figures rose to 9 - 4 - 11 - 7 - 5. Oc-

asionally one finds a person who is unaffected by the rods, but this is very much the exception.

Now, this is a curious enough phenomenon and suggests extensive lines of investigation, but the real question of course is about the meaning and value of the physiological effect. According to Professor Baines (quoted by Brown) the discovery is of considerable importance, and he quotes from White Robertson's studies in *Electro-Pathology*. "A force has been found to reside in hardened carbon which can be conveyed to and stored in the body for several hours . . . the sub-normal galvanometric deflections are enormously enhanced . . . we observe gratifying changes in cases of nervous breakdown by increasing the nerve charge thru these carbons. What this force is we do not know, nor is it known to eminent physicists and physiologists. It is not magnetic. It differs from an electric charge in that it is not readily diffused, but is stored probably in the unipolar ganglia of the nervous system."

Baines then quotes from Dr. J. Horne Wilson, who says that the carbon produces an off-scale positive deflection if held in the right hand, and an off-scale negative if held in the left, and adds other details. He does not know what the force is, and of course carbon has no direct effect on a galvanometer terminal, but it does charge the body with "a force akin to nerve energy". And in the *Medical Times* of July 25, 1914, Horne wrote "This form of energy will raise the nerve currents to normal . . . When the carbon is held in the right hand it acts as a stimulant without any depressing after-effect, and in the left hand as a sedative. The nervous system generally is benefitted, mental fatigue rapidly disappears, and morbid conditions such as neurasthenia, insomnia, and feeble action of the heart readily yield to it . . . Magnetism applied to the left side of the body stimulates the heart action, but only so long as the body remains in the magnetic field. If two rods are held, the carbon in the right hand and a permanent magnet in the left, the effect is accentuated . . . That of the carbon endures for some 12 hours, that of the magnet ceases upon relinquishment."

All of these quotes and inter-quotes (to keep the matter straight) come from Brian Brown's book. What we seem to have here in an unidentified force (and its existence is indisputable), something apparently known to the ancients, easily applied and with powerful and beneficial physiological effects. If it has half the virtues imputed to it by Baines and Robertson and Wilson, it should have been systematically explored. Maybe — just maybe it has been, since the present writer confesses he can't read everything. But his bet would be against it, because the whole business is faintly disreputable. It's a force which doesn't fit in, for one thing, as magnetism or electricity or any other known category, and it's simple and cheap and any fool could make use of it. A thousand dollar case of neurasthenia might be ruined in no time (from the doctor's point of view). Besides, can you imagine any reputable physi-

cian offering his patient a bit of witchcraft like that—a magnet and a piece of carbon? But still, they could be put up in a \$500 box with a lot of gadgets attached, and so be good for a fat fee.

This writer is a Vitic fan himself and thinks it works wonders, but doesn't dare say so, because of all the hoot owls who rise up to hoo-whoa about autosuggestion. But anybody who can double his galvanometer deflections by suggestion is going some; he has the sugar pill boys left at the post.

MANUSCRIPTA ATHEISTICA

At the diet of Grodno in 1688, the bishop of Potsdam, accused Cassimir Liszinski a Polish gentleman, of atheism; and an order was given to search to house for proofs in support of the accusation. Some manuscripts were found, in which, among other extraordinary propositions was the following:—"God is not the creator of man, but man is the creator of a God whom he has made out of nothing." Liszinski endeavoured to excuse himself by saying, that he had set these things down only for the purpose of refuting them. This pretext however could not save him; he was condemned to death as an atheist, and on the 30th of March, 1689, was burnt alive; and his ashes, being put into a cannon, were dispersed in the air. Collet, 1823.

EINSTEIN IN CAN. PK.

Let "Can. Pk." stand for Canoga Park, California, where E. V. Johnson does heavy pamphleteering under the name and style of The Revolutionary Educational Movement. General Director Johnson quotes Einstein thus:

"If only two per cent of those supposed to do military service would declare themselves war resisters, the governments would be powerless because they could not put such masses into jail."

Send Johnson a quarter and see what you get. He has several pamphlets but some may be too hot for the mail these days. Address E. V. Johnson, Route 2, Canoga Park, Calif.

LEON WILSON GETS TWO YEARS

The Conscientious Objector son of Fortean Founder Harry Leon Wilson, was sentenced to two years on McNeil Island, Puget Sound. His correspondents are limited to seven but we can convey your congratulations through his sister.

MAY DAY

By Presidential Proclamation the first day of May, 1944, old style, was designated, "Child Health Day".

The Petroleum Administration for War Army and Navy designated the week of May 1st as "Hundred Octane Week".

The *Journal of Comm.* announced that synthetic rubber scrap now appearing in collections of the scrap and raising hell thereby. The scrap doesn't lend itself to recovery by known method.

May Day!

CYR PLUNKS FOR LIFE ON MARS

That young kinsman of the heterodox Isaac Newton Vail, Master Donald Lee Cyr, continues to flaunt his Orthodoxy by way of publication. The latest to hand is *Life on Mars*, a pretty little brochure and well printed, but filled to the last period with assumption piled upon quoted assumption about meteors, meteorites, and their craters on Earth, Luna and Mars, about "Nature's designs" and a score of other matters nowise provable.

The slavish mental habits displayed in his book are made the more aggravating by the splendid potentialities which the schools have here so completely stifled, and by the contrast between his expression and the noble independence of his ancestor's thinking processes. Cyr is apparently befuddled into a confusion of attitudes, esteeming himself a pioneer for thus asserting his faith in a populated Mars, whereas the means he employs to establish his thesis would bring him benediction from Pope Shapley at the Harvard Vatican.

Life on Mars is \$1.00 . . . Send your order to Donald Lee Cyr, 1412 Palm Terrace, Pasadena 6, Calif.

WHO WILL WRITE?

Orthodoxy is not united in this, but a sufficient majority of Scientists employ these twin conventions to make the two assumptions rules in their respective fields, deviation the exception.

The first assumption is that the "evolution" of Man from a primitive pulse or sigh in primordial ooze to his present lordly estate and dominion is fairly well duplicated in the womb by the development of the foetus.

The second assumption is that the "evolution" of ideas from an hypothetical state of universal ararism to our present magnificent intellectual eminence and advanced state of civilization can be pieced together historically by studying the customs of extant savages.

Who will take the time and trouble to examine these prejudices (which are probably fallacies) from a Fortean viewpoint, and give us a paper on the subject for publication?

NO SUCH ANIMAL

A sea monster with "zig-zagging movements, covered with grey-green scales and having a head as big as a horse but only one eye" was reported 9-19-42 near Fredrikstad, Norway. Credit Giles.

Loch Ness was sold 9-6-42 to "a London investment firm" which plans to develop it "as a tourist center after the war". Credit Dunkelberger and others.

The United Press found manpower enough to work out this composite portrait of the monster who has a new landlord . . . "Ten or twenty feet long. Thick, log-like body. Small, ovoid head on a slightly tapering neck. High-set, girlish eyes of liquid brown. Flexible neck, unlike a fish. Two front

flippers and two hind legs, each with three webbed toes, leaving a spoor the size of a dinner plate. Thick, slightly tapering five-foot tail, blunt and rounded at the end. Body the size of a hippopotamus.

"Amphibious, crawling like a serpent along the shore, or bounding like a kangaroo when frightened, and able to swim rapidly.

"Extremely shy when surprised, but an object of terror when hunting food. Carnivorous, eating trout and salmon when in the water, shrubby ashore and—on feast days—flesh."

9-11-43, Charles MacDonald, Drumnadrochit, Invernesshire, said he saw "about 12 yards" of the Loch Ness monster, "shiny black, with three humps, skidding across the water about 10 miles an hour".

MFS Florence Selby (and others) send bulletins about a "Sea Serpent" in Payette Lake near McCall, Idaho. This alleged beast has been reported off and on for ten or fifteen summers (Idaho Daily Statesman, 7-3-44). The description is paltry: "a light yellowish creature about 35 feet long with large humps on its shell-like back" . . . We have commissioned MFS Selby, who lives nearby, to forward the serpent's photograph.

At the moment of going to press, MFS Hoernlein forwards the news that "B. L. Fagan of Twin Falls" has beaten us to it, photographing the Payette Lake serpent on colored film. The film had to be sent away to be developed . . . We can hardly wait!

SUBTERRANEAN GEOGRAPHY

A book, under the title of *Unheard of Curiosities*, by one James Gaffarel, was published at Hamburg in 1678-8, 2 vols. 12mo. It treats chiefly of the different sorts of talismans; some of which the author admits may possess virtue, though the greater part are but infamous delusions. The Sorbonne thought (justly for once) that he admitted too much, and condemned the work as heretical.

The author once issued proposals for an, "Universal History of the Subterranean World, containing a description of the most beautiful caverns and most singular grottos, caves, vaults, and dens of the earth," and by way of specimen, he gave an exact topographical description of the sulphureous caverns of hell and purgatory! The work itself, to the great regret of the curious, never appeared. Collet, 1823.

MORE ELSENDER

Space limitations crowd out much of meteorological interest from England. Tom Elsander correlates very diverse data from January 15th, old style, and American members are asked to scan their local presses for three weeks after that date, noting the weather especially.

The high spot of all contributions from Brother Elsander since our last issue is the announcement 2-1-44, that Dr. H. S. Paraskevopoulos, director of the Boyde Station

of Harvard Observatory at Bloemfontein, South Africa (What, AGAIN?!), had found that the star "Nova Pictoris" is of distinctly oblate form—flattened at the poles, like an orange. "The discovery—said to be the first in history (sic!)—is expected to have far-reaching results on astronomical research."

The SIC! is simply to remind the reader that Earth has been presented from time immemorial, by the Orthodox, as precisely of the shape described above. The polar diameter is said to be 1/299th part shorter than the equatorial diameter. It was to refute this assumption, which the charged was baseless, that Johannes von Gumpach wrote (1862) his treatise on *The True Figure and Dimension of the Earth*.

AP carried the above Harvard publicity story as "news" in this country. We have their version from Giles. It states: "Dr. Paraskevopoulos has been observing Nova Pictoris for 15 years." But only think how long Gautama Buddha has been contemplating his navel!

ADD—IT'S NICE WORK

Let the industry of the man who watched a nova for 15 years be commemorated in stone! Let bronze tablets be raised to the intrepid astronomers who carry the Word of Shapley to Darkest Africa. The press agent of Harvard (one hard-working gent) announced 5-31-44 for His Holiness Shapley that one D. Du Toit, "a Missionary, likely, at Harvard's Observatory in Bloemfontein, South Africa, had discovered a comet which is invisible to the naked eye. Credit Giles.

That is reminiscent—not only of another priestcraft which sold its supplicants the invisible mercies of an invisible deity, but also—of a datum sent us by LMFS Augusta Stetter: "Discovery of a new comet which some day may be visible to the naked eye was reported to Harvard Observatory today (12-4-43). Dr. W. H. Van Ben Dos, of the Union Observatory at Johannesburg, South Africa, cabled the news that the comet was discovered Sunday by Dr. H. Van Gent, presumably a member of the staff there."

Presumably!

SIRIUS INTO SMUTS

A. P. Herbert, the British Lloyd C. Douglas, has issued a book in England—in spite of the paper shortage—advocating the re-naming of the stars. The title is *A Better Sky*; and who's to deny the suggestion? Probably if a Fortéan had given birth to the idea Your Secretary would be thumping the pulpit and calling for testimonials. As it is, we wish Mr. Herbert well of his notion, but cannot be very hopeful for its general adoption, nor much interested in forwarding his aims to honor the crew he has stuck in the sky. The N. Y. *Times Magazine* printed one of the charts from the book, showing the old constellations regrouped nearer to Herbert's heart's desire. *Orion* becomes "The Sailor"; *Leo*, "Russia"; *Pegasus*, "The Airman", and so on.

Castor and *Pollux* will be known as Wellington and Napoleon if the MP has his way. *Aldebaran* becomes Marco Polo, *Regulus*, Lenin, and *Vega*, Paris. Naturally British heroes predominate, but Longfellow squeezes

into the new constellation called "The Poet", along with Homer and Goethe, and the whole of Cassiopeia's Chair is given over to the United States.

Polaris does not appear on the chart in the *Times*, so one cannot see what Mr. Herbert conceives of as immutable in human affairs. A great many points admitting of argument sprinkle the Herbert sky but the one that will make him the most enemies is calling *Sirius*, that brightest, most beautiful and best known of all stars—SMUTS . . . Smuts to you, A. P. Herbert.

TRANSIT OF MERCURY

Observations and data relative to a transit of Mercury on or about November 12, 1940, are urgently solicited. If you live near an observatory or know any honest astronomers, learn all you can about the transit and please report to the Secretary. Look it up in your local newspapers of that date. Consult your librarian.

CASE OF PETER VESEY

by

Carl Payne Tobey

Although these notes are written from memory, it is a true case with a record in newspapers and courts. Whatever further details might be desired can, obtained.

Peter Vesey wrote astrological fiction for *American Astrology Magazine*. I did not like his fiction and cannot be accused of having read it. His stories were popular with the public. Although I was one of the editors of the magazine at the time, I wasn't interested in Peter Vesey, which appears to have been his true name. Perhaps I should have been more interested. Had I known what was ahead for Peter Vesey, I might have read his stories with great interest.

Peter Vesey lived on a farm, way out west somewhere. I forget where, but can check. His stories came by mail and were always published. Then they stopped coming, and we didn't hear from Peter Vesey. Little thought was given to the matter, and his space was filled by someone else.

One day, came a letter from a reader who lived in Peter Vesey's part of the country. It enclosed newspaper clippings. Peter Vesey was no longer mortal. Peter Vesey had departed under strange circumstances. The story was something like this.

It was early in the day . . . before noon. Peter Vesey had devoted his life to studying strange subjects. He went in for the occult. He was secretive. He studied alone. On this morning, he called his wife and son, the only persons in the house outside of himself, to the living room. He explained that he wanted to be alone for a while. He had something he wanted to do. He wanted to be left in the house alone for an hour. As a favor, he asked whether his wife and son would mind going out and walking around the grounds, for an hour.

Although the request may have seemed strange, Peter Vesey was a strange fellow anyway, and wife and son did not take the

request as anything too unusual. They went out of the house and walked and talked in the grounds.

For one hour, Peter Vesey was alone in the house.

At the end of that time, wife and son returned.

On the floor of the living room, were the remains of Peter Vesey. They were charred remains. His body was burned to a crisp. Nothing around the body, nothing else in the room, was in any way burned. Just Peter Vesey was burned. At the far end of the room was a fire-place with a modest fire. But there was no traceable connection between this fire and Peter Vesey. Nothing between the fire and Peter Vesey was burned.

The authorities were never able to determine what happened to Peter Vesey. All we ever knew about the matter was that the termination of his stories by mail coincided with the above event. If more accurate and detailed data should be desired, I'll have it dug out of the files of American Astrology Magazine.

FORT CORRECTIONS

An enterprising new member has undertaken the task of checking the references in Charles Fort's NOTES as printed in the Magazine, especially and primarily, those gathered from the Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. This welcome refinement of details is forwarded by H. A. Kiesewetter, of Buffalo, who is assisted in the work by Mrs. Kiesewetter.

The following is the first installment of this matter. If the work can be synchronized with transcription of the NOTES, the Kiesewetter observations will hereafter appear concurrently with each new section of the material as printed.

According to the Kiesewetters, the following entries should supplant Fort's notes on the corresponding dates:

1800

April 1—Essex; Steeple-Bumstead — Fireball —detonation fell with a hissing sound.

April 5—North America — great meteor — detonation—stones fell.

August 8—North America—Fireball.

August 15—Halle France—Fireball.

October 17—Small earthquake in Valley of Ossauin Pyrenees France.

December 9—(Should be "29", and "Vallets" should read *Vallettri*).

1801

October 23—Colchester; Bury St. Edwards, Fireball (aerolitic).

1806

Feb. 24-25—(Should be March 24-25).

March 30—(The great quake described in Peru occurred March 30, 1828, not 1806).

1808

August 1—(The small quake at Leghorn occurred October 26, 1808, not on August 1.)

1809

Nov. 29—Munich Fireball (not Parma).

The Truth About INDIA

by

Kanhayalal Gauba

(Continued)

CHAPTER III.

Kingship in Theory and Practice

To the Maharaja of Bikaner's speeches rather than to his administration reports must we look for the ideals of kingship. Addressing his Assembly (January 1928) his Highness laid down the fundamentals of a ruler's obligations to his State and his people in the following terms:

"Whether we view them from the standpoint of East or the West—there are some well recognized and all round accepted principles and functions of good Government, and of regal obligations and duties of Rulers to their subjects, over which there can be little, if any, dispute—whatever the standard and conditions prevailing in any State, and wherever it is geographically situated. They form the hallmark of every State worthy of being ranked as enlightened and progressive; and these to my mind are the essential preliminaries—the minima—which can inspire the general confidence of the public both within and without his territories, and which any Ruler (or State) should aspire to that wishes to put his house in order and to withstand the fierce light which beats upon a Throne. These are general principles—the essentials of good government:

- I. For the Ruler of a State to have affixed and well defined Privy Purse and a clear dividing line between his personal expenditure and that of the State.
- II. Security of life and property by the employment of as efficient and uncorrupt a Police as possible for the maintenance of law and order.
- III. Independent Judiciary.
- IV. The Reign of Law, including certainty of law, its uniformity and approximation where possible with the laws of British India with such additions and alterations as local conditions may render necessary.
- V. Stability of Public Services.
- VI. Efficiency and continuity of administration.
- VII. Beneficent rule in the interests of the general well-being and contentment of the subjects.

These seven points are well worthy of being the watchwords of internal reforms in the States, and of being adopted in the almanac of every Ruler or Government of an Indian State—each point to be emphasized and specially remembered for each day in the week.

They do not differ from the Hindu ideal of Kingship so aptly placed before us by our own Shastras. I do not forget that at some places a King is described therein as embodying within him the spark of Divinity, but that spark is also hedged round with and cased within a sheath of stern behests and sacred commandments, which a Ruler is under an obligation to comply with by his Coronation Oath:

"I shall see to the growth of the country, considering it always as 'God.' Whatever Law there is here, and whatever is dictated by Ethics, and whatever is not opposed to polity, I will act according to. 'I shall never act arbitrarily.' This is the ideal of the Reign of Law, which places Law above one's desire, caprice and fancy."

2

Government said Woodrow Wilson is merely the executive organ of society, the organ through which its habit acts, through which its will becomes operative, through which it adapts itself to its environment and works out for itself a more effective life. There is clear reason, therefore why the disciplinary action of society upon the individual is exceptional; clear reason also why the power of the despot must recognize certain ultimate limits and bounds; and clear reason why sudden or violent changes of government lead to equally violent and often fatal reactions and revolutions. It is only the exceptional individual who is not held fast to the common habit of social duty and comity. The despot's power, like the potter's, is limited by the characteristics of the materials in which he works, of the society which he manipulates; and change which roughly breaks with the common thought will lack the sympathy of that, be crushed by that opposition. Society can be changed only by evolution, and revolution is the antidote of evolution. The public order is preserved because order inheres in the character of society.

What, then, on analysis, is the nature of government? If it rests upon authority and force, but upon authority which depends upon the acquiescence of the general will and upon force suppressed, latent, withheld except under extraordinary circumstances, what principle lies behind these phenomena, at the heart of government? The answer is hidden in the nature of Society itself. Society is in no sense artificial; it is as truly natural as the individual man himself. As Aristotle said, man is by nature a social animal; his social function is as normal with him as is his individual function. Society, therefore, is compounded of the common habit and is an evolution of experience, an interlaced growth of tenacious relationships, a compact, living whole, structural, not mechanical:

Government is the organ of Society, its only potent and universal instrument; its objects must be the objects of society. What, then, are the objects of society? What is society? It is an association of individuals organized for mutual aid. Mutual aid to what? To self-development. The hope of society lies in an infinite individual variety, in the freest possible play of individual forces: only in that can it find that wealth of resource which constitutes civilization, with all its appliances for satisfying human wants and mitigating human sufferings, all its incitements to thought and spurs to action. It should be the end of government to assist in accomplishing the objects of organized society. There must be constant adjustments of governmental assistance to the needs of a changing social and industrial organization.

Not license of interference on the part of government, but only strength, and adaptation of regulation. The regulation that we mean is not interference; it is the equalization of conditions, so far as possible, in all branches of endeavour; and the equalization of conditions is the very opposite of interference.

Every rule of development is a rule of adaptation, a rule for meeting "the circumstances of the case;" but the circumstances of the case, it must be remembered, are not, so far as government is concerned, the circumstances of any individual case, but the circumstances of society's case, the general conditions of social organization. The case for society stands thus: the individual must be assured the best means, the best and fullest opportunities, for complete self-development; in no other way can society itself gain variety and strength. But one of the most indispensable conditions of opportunity for self-development, government alone, society's controlling organ, can supply.

3

The Rulers of Indian States have through the centuries and as a matter of fact until comparatively recent times depended like other monarchies for their existence and their privileges on the good will of their subjects. Whatever type of government, it flourished upon the sanction of its people. No Ruler had his status, his emoluments, his rights and those of his progeny guaranteed forever by a third party. He ruled while he pleased his people. When his people ceased to be pleased, when they in other words became dissatisfied with the Prince's administration, they dethroned him, banished him, or sent him to keep his forefathers company.

Even with the advance of democracy, there has been no serious modification in the outlook on the duties of rulers toward their subjects. History is, it is true, packed with the names of dictators. Today's governments, even of the most civilized nations, are in the hands of dictators—financial, social, ecclesiastical and political. Some of these dictatorships are undoubtedly tyrannical in their operations, but no dictator nor autocrat, not even a Mussolini, can place himself before the nation whose destiny he controls. Democracy is the new way to an old necessity. Dictatorships may be changed without bloodshed. Before democracy, revolution was achieved through blood, the new method prescribes the ballot box. Escaping steam never blew a boiler. Unless the Princes are prepared to accede to the modification of their status and their powers dictated by modern sentiments and necessities, they run a grave risk, the risk of a patched structure under increasing stresses.

The test of a governing machine is whether it functions wisely and efficiently. While a system of government, monarchy, aristocracy, or even a democracy does that, the ship of State sails on untroubled by tempest or by sea.

The war destroyed men but it gave birth to ideas. It destroyed in Europe the last remnants of despotic kingship, it scattered the proudest monarchies of Europe like leaves

in an autumn gale. There are a few kingdoms left, but the holders of the office have the sense to recognize that though they reign, they do not govern, and that their existence is possible only within the circumscribed limits and functions of a democratic constitution.

But while the War swept the world of its crowns and coronets, sheltered in the British protection the Indian States emerged, if anything, a little more secure and certainly more important than they had ever been before. Before the war it was unthinkable for a representative of the Princes to be employed to sign a treaty of international importance, it was unthinkable for them to sit in mutual conference to conspire against the future of India and to divide in private the territories of a supposedly disintegrating empire. Secure against foreign invasion, secure against internal turmoil, backed with the power and prestige of the world's mightiest Empire, helped by the distractions of the times, and a steadily diminishing scrutiny over purse and government, they make most of the heydays of irresponsibility. According to Bernard Houghton:

"After the war, the British Government found itself faced with a dilemma. If it ensured good government for those people, it must alienate their rulers; if it conciliated the rulers, the people must suffer misery twice refined. Simla chose the worse path. In this altered atmosphere it was clearly inexpedient to, in any way, alienate the loyalty of the Rajahs. The less interference with their internal affairs, the better. Given a free hand to tax and to squander, to give or to deny justice, to govern well or ill, what wonder that they are fast developing into irresponsible despots? Secure from the only danger which checks despotism, the fear of rebellion, they have done each man as seems good in his eyes."

This is the natural corollary of the policy, the dangers of which were indicated by the great London Times as long ago as 1853.

"We have emancipated these pale and ineffectual pageants of royalty from the ordinary fate that waits on an oriental despotism . . . This advantage (securing able and vigorous Princes through rebellion) we have taken away from the inhabitants of the States of India still governed by Native Princes. It has been well said that we give these Princes power without responsibility. Our hand of iron maintains them on the throne, despite their imbecility, their vices, and their crimes. The result is in most of the States a chronic anarchy under which the revenues of the States are dissipated between the mercenaries of the camp and the minions of the Court. The heavy and the arbitrary taxes levied on the miserable raiyats serve only to feed the meanest and the most degraded of mankind. The theory seems, in fact, admitted that the government is not for the people but the people for the King, and that so long as we secure the King his sincere royalty we discharge all the duty that we as sovereigns of India owe to his subjects who are virtually ours."

Sir Thomas Munro in a despatch to the Governor General declared much the same thing:

"The subsidiary Force has a natural tendency to render the government of every country, in which it exists, weak and oppressive to extinguish all honourable spirit among the higher classes of society and to degrade and impoverish the whole people. The usual remedy of a bad government in India is a quiet revolution in the palace or a violent one by rebellion or foreign conquest. But the presence of the British forces cuts off every chance of a remedy by supporting the princes on the throne against every foreign or domestic enemy. It renders him indolent by teaching him to trust to strangers for his security and cruel and avaricious by showing him that he has nothing to fear from the hatred of his subjects."

"Is not the present state of affairs in the Indian States an echo, in some cases faint but in some cases loud and audible distinctly, of this expression?"

4

The evils of despotism, tyranny and bad government fall on the people. They are the only sufferers. The interests of the Paramount Power are amply secured, the interests of the Princes are amply secured, both thanks to British bayonets, but what about the unfortunate millions condemned to live under these medieval despotisms? The importance of the States is reckoned in the number of square miles, in the millions that inhabit those square miles, in the revenues derived from the exploitation of the soil and the labour of the millions who pay their small mites to the maintenance of a system with which they have no sympathy and under which they are little better than serfs. There is no court of appeal, no court of redress, in fact there is very little law and practically no conscience. "A state of things is allowed to go on in the 20th Century to the full knowledge of the Government of India a state of things which no civilized Government should countenance or tolerate." (*Presidential Address Indian States Peoples Conference 1927*). In the words of the representation of the Indian States People to the Butler Committee:

"No sane man would desire alien interference if it could be possibly avoided. But in the present helpless condition of the Indian States brought about by double despotism arising out of double allegiance there is no recourse left for the dumb and oppressed seventy millions of Indian States but to appeal to the Paramount Power with whom rests the ultimate responsibility to secure the welfare of the Indian States' people and who have deprived them of their common law right of rising in revolt against the ruler who rebels against law."

We have the authority of the Maharaja of Bikaner that a Prince owes it to his people to govern according to certain well established canons; we have it that the Hindu ideals of kingship are not very different from the ideals of the functions of government elsewhere as the "reign of law which places law above one's desire, caprice and fancy." As to how far these obligations are translated into words, some particulars will be forthcoming hereafter.

(To be continued)

Art Young

In The Masses



Poisoned at Its Source.

To commemorate the passing of ART YOUNG—a Fortéan from away back—we resurrect a cartoon he drew in 1913.

As you will see, the Associated Press is shown poisoning the "news". At the time, this specific reference was to the strike news coming out of Paint Creek, a coal mining hamlet in West Virginia. The cartoon appeared in *The Masses*, a periodical of which the late Max Eastman was the editor. The editorial accompanying the picture stated that "The representative of the Associated Press was an officer in that militia tribunal that hounded the Paint Creek miners into the penitentiary in violation of their constitutional liberties . . ."

The above is taken from a little book called *FAKES IN AMERICAN JOURNALISM*, by Max Sherover, published by the Free Press

League, 1569 Pitkin Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., 1914 and 1915. At that time the indictment for criminal libel was still pending against the editors of *The Masses*.

Mr. Sherover states that Upton Sinclair came to the defense of Art Young and Max Eastman in his own publication, the *Appeal*. And Mr. Sinclair added the further charge that the Associated Press had "poisoned the news from (Denver) Colorado at its source" in another labor dispute.

Labor disputes, as such, are not the province of the Fortéan Society. The poisoning of "news" is. And, in memory of Art Young, we record that this cartoon is just as timely today as when the artist drew it. Moreover, the figure of the Associated Press could as well be labelled "United Press", "International News Service" or "OWI".

The Society's attorney, Julien Cornell, author of the *Conscientious Objector and the Law*, reports: "A search of the record of the Court of General Sessions in New York City reveals that two indictments for criminal libel were filed against Max Eastman, Arthur Young and others on November 25, 1913 and December 29, 1913, but were never brought to trial and finally were dismissed on April 21, 1915."

SNEEZER

On 4-12-44 Mrs. Albert Sanders of Jonesboro, Ark., had been sneezing 15 times a minute for 5 days. This was her second attack and "the cause had not been determined." Credit Giles.

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

Box 1 - (Resumed)

(1829)

Feb. 7 About 3 PM Capt Sturt exploring Southern Australia camped on the bank of the Darling (reverse) River. Heard what seemed to be the report of a gun 5 or 6 miles away — "heavy peace of ordnance." Great mystery to him and could in no way account for it. Nature 81-127

21 Quake in Province of Murcia — of Iceland. BA 54

21 and 22 South of Iceland. Shocks and quake. Farms destroyed (re-

verse) Smithsonian Inst. Rept. 1815-510

24 to March 10 Several quakes a day around Lake Baikal Mag. Nat. Hist. 6-301

March Spain Quakes also meteors and halos around sun and moon BA 54 p. 211 (Kiesw. "should be Oct 24, Granada")

March Slight shocks in Murcia Went on at least to Apr. 1833 See BA 54

Box A - (Resumed)

March 5 London Times p. 7
Extraordinary Discovery

Box 1 - (Resumed)

Mar 8 Irkutsk, Siberia / said severe quake

felt several hundred miles — but no damage recorded / a clattering noise heard — It was overhead not (reverse) subterranean. The noise "seemed to recur according to a certain rule." Vibrations were felt up to the 22nd. B.A. 54/201
19 12:30 a.m. / Maling Dalecarlia Sweden / quake and meteor sound BA '54

21 At Murcia, Spain. Fearful noise and a column of fire to the east at Benejuzar, four craters of mud, 2 of which threw out lava (reverse) Ward of Murcia L.T. April 14 p. 4. London Times Apr 16 p. 3

21 5:20 a.m. violent shocks in Jamaica BA 54

- Quake in Provincé of Murcia — severe. 2 salt lakes water disappeared. At Benjozar 250 perished. A. Reg. p. 63 (reverse) Here, at B., 4 craters opened and threw out lava: Out of all towns by Apr 3, more than 3,000 bodies dug out. A column of fire was seen toward the eastward of Murcia.
- 21 6:30 p.m. in Murcia. Premonitory sounds like thunder heard $\frac{3}{4}$ hour. It was like (reverse) cannon fire BA '54.
- 22 Sound like cannon firing and shocks Ancona, Italy BA '54.
- 22 shocks Jamaica BA '54
- 23 (Kiesw. "27 great severity")
- 30 April 1, 6, 16, 24 — (See June 1) quakes in Spain. "Heavy rain fell about the whole (reverse) month through, in Spain, producing great inundations" BA '54
- 1 Heavy rains and floods almost whole month in Spain BA 54
- "Heavy rain fell almost the whole month through in Spain, producing great inundations BA 54-204
- 2 Volcanic eruption near Hudson's River, N. S. Wales Reported Mag Nat.Hist 6-301.
- 2 Leon Spain. Quake preceded by violent storm of rain and snow BA 54 (Kiesw. "should be 10th")
- 18 Quake, Murcia, Spain London Times May 20, p. 5
- 18 Smaller quakes on 16th & 17th. On 18th almost equal to 21st of March BA '54
- 23 In Baden severe quake 9:30 p.m. sound like thunder, severe (reverse) snow storm
- 30 Light quake, London Times Apr 30, p. 4.
- May 5 quake in Salonica and a mt. poured over reddish water BA 54
- 7 Light quake London Times, p. 6 (F) Forsyth, Ga. Farrington Memoirs Natural Academy of Science. Vol 13.
- 8 Stone of Forsyth, Ga. bet. 3-4 p.m. American Journal of Science 18-388 (reverse) Greatly resembles stone of May 9, 1827.
- 21 to early in Dec. at Albano, Laziale. Italy sounds (x) 41 detonations not accompanied by quake.
- 22 Storm Isle of Bourbon London Times p. 4
- 22 Graz, Austria, quake preceded by uninterrupted rain for 8 days. BA '54 206
- 28 See 5th. Monroe, Ga. fall of stones C.R. 3-51 (reverse) I think this is newspaper of 28th.
- 30 Niles Register, copying from the Maine Patriot, not said what (reverse) said fell a few rods north of Capitol Hill — presumably fell in Capital of Maine — a fall of living eels. "They were of various sizes, generally from a foot to a foot and a half in length."
- June Murcia, severe quakes. Jan., 1883
- June Huesca, Spain, spring of 1871, meteorite / quakes of 1883 etc. here:
- June 1 See April 7th. Quake in Spain "violent storm" of rain, producing inundations.
- June 1 to 5 68 shocks in Valencia, Spain. "On the 7th, a violent storm producing inundations." BA 54-206
- (No date) Murcia, Spain, Catalonia meteors there Aug 18, 1870, Nov 5, 1851, Dec 24, 1858. (reverse) Huesca, Spain Spring of 1871
- June 7 Violent fall of rain producing floods, Valencia, Spain BA '54.
- (No date) See Murcia, Spain / See July 8, 1811, near Murcia
- June 10 24 more shocks, Valencia, one very severe. BA '54
- May, June & July remarkable thunder storms in many parts of Europe. BA 54-208 206.
- June Shocks in Murcia continued occasionally at least to April 17, 1833 BA '54
- June 15 (X) See preceding. Ice. See July 24 Spain / D-276
- 15 "On June 15, 1829, there was a hailstorm at Cazorta, Spain, that crushed in houses (reverse) — some of the blocks of ice weighed $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs." Flammarion, The Atmosphere p. 445.
- 25 Treves. After a storm a moving column like a chimney in the sky, discharged spoke and fire (reverse) moved with sounds like those of great numbers of clattering stones. For 18 minutes it discharged fires, with a great grayish mass, finally disappearing, leaving a strong odor of sulphur. Annales de Chimie Dec., 1829.
- 25 det(ails) of phenomena of Treves. An. de Chimie 1829 p 420 of one of the vols. (reverse) P. R. 1495 (or/495 T.T.)
- July 1 Hungary. Reddish clouds on horizon. An appearance like lightning. Quake, heavy rain preceded by some hail BA '54-208
- 10 Near Namur ? Aurora? Cor. to Mag. of Nat. Hist. 3-199/6 p.m./ appearance like a (reverse) rising sun. Upon a low bank of clouds — shafts of light diverging from a luminosity like the sun clouded over.
- 20 Fishes / Moradabad, India. Lin. Soc. Trans. 16/764 D-841
- 24 bet. 10 & 11 p.m./ Murcia, Spain, shocks, violent storm and hail of unusual (reverse) size "some of the hailstones weighed 10 or 12 ounces" BA '54-208
- August "The storms of July still continued in many parts of Europe" BA '54-210
- Aug 4 Hungary — Medium quake
- 7 3 a.m. Colmar, etc. quake and sound like distant thunder BA '54
- 14 Gumbinnen / 3 fireballs BA '54 (Kiesw. "should be vol. 60")
- 14 Deal, N. J. (F) Meteorite Farrington Mems Nat Academy of Sciences Vol. 13
- 15 Quake, Hungary London Times p. 3
- 26 Parina, Meteor '54 (Kiesw. "should be vol. 60")
- Sept. . . Frogs / Rouen, France / Multitude of young frogs in a heavy thunder storm. Arcana of Sci 1830-217
- 6 Cremona, Italy. Light quake
- 9 Krasnol-Ugol, Rjasan, Russia / Meteorite. (F)
- 9 Rasan / stone-fall according to Kaemtz BA 67-416
- 15 Violent local whirlwind. All calm around it at Gorschoff, Pskow, Russia (reverse) Arc. Sci. 1830-246
- 18 After 7 a.m. 20 strong shocks at Calcutta. Arc. Sci '30-170
- 26 Fireball ac to Kaemtz. Stones ac to Baumhauer / Dusseldorf (reverse) BA '60
- 26 shocks and volc eruptions 27, 28 and Oct 1 / Chile Am. J. Sci. 2-12-426
- 26 Quake, (light) Chile, BA 11
- 29 Murcia, Spain. Quake "storm, and heavy rains continued to prevail in many parts of Europe during this month". BA '54-210
- Krasnol-Ugal, Kasan Russia, meteorite. BA '60 See F (Rjasan, Rasan and Kasan may all be Kazan. Fort's handwriting plus Russian spelling leaves one at sea, T.T.)
- 29 See Sept 29, 1838. Ext. aurora or zod. light Phil Mag. 2/4/465
- About Aubonne (Vaud) Switzerland.
- Oct 1 Brilliant det. meteor "followed by gusts of wind and snow (reverse) showers" Several shocks were felt. BA '54.
- Box A - (Resumed)
- Oct 17 First attack on K (aspar) Hauser
- Box 1 - (Resumed)
- 19 Det. meteor Cape Town BA '60/22
- 24 (See March above. T.T.)
- 25 Fog in London/on sun seen (N.E.) a large spot near the center. Mag. Nat. Hist. 5-396
- Nov 11 Volc. Bromu Java E.R. Jo. - 878
- 13 Prague Met fell and burned surface of a field brick red BA 65-128 See Nov 19 1830 (Kiesw. "See note on 13 Nov 1835")
- 18-19 2 great quakes China BA '11
- 19 Meteorite Stars Ac to BA '60
- 19 Great quake China
- 23 Bucharest quake and "strong atmospheric perturbation". BA '54
- 24 China Heavy quake
- 24 S.W. Russia and Roumania Heavy quake
- 26 About 4 a.m. from Transylvania to Kieff, Russia, violent (reverse) quake in Moldavia Shocks followed by a heavy fall of snow BA '54
- 27 Mondavio and Todì, Italy, quake preceded by violent gust of wind. BA '54

- 27 La Rochelle Rochefort (char-Inf.) quake—explosion seemed high in air. 4:15 p.m.—shocks again at 5. BA '54
- 29 4:5 p.m. La Rochelle Sound appeared to be high in the air and was thought the explosion of a meteor by many persons. An. de An. de Chimie Dec. 1829
- 30 Siberia Light quake
- Dec 22 After 1825 Phenomena (Lontimes?) at Belley, dept. of the Ain. (word?) Dec. 22, 1829 several, and Jan. 5, 1838.

1830

Box A - (Resumed)

and for 18 months / house near Chesterfield occupied (over) by a Mr. J. Ashwell Bell ringing See Major Edward Moor's "Bealing's Bells."

Box 1 - (Resumed)

- (no date) fishes herring / Islay Scotland / Eng. Mec. 108/118
- Jan 10 etc. Immense group of sun spots E. Limb of sun (reverse) On 17th 3 groups and one isolated spot. An. de Chimie 1830-392
- 18 Philippines Heavy quake.
- Feb 8 quake and fog / Agram, Hungary, 10:40 a.m. (reverse) about an hour later "the heavens became obscured by clouds as before and a thick fog of a disagreeable smell prevailed for 3 hours." BA '54
- 8 quake and fog / Agram "a fog having a very bad smell spread itself abroad and lasted three hours" BA'50/75
- 9 Quake Valparaiso Lond Times p. 3
- 11 (F) Bedfordshire / Met explosion / "Things not Generally Known" p. 30 by E. J. Lowe
- 15 (F) Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire Meteorite Nature 94/258
- 15 Birmingham Met—Moon N. E. to S.W. about 7:30 p.m. BA '54 (Kiesw. "should be vol 60")
- 19 Fish—"mut" / India (D 84-85)
- March Maury Co., Tenn. Tornado Finley's Rept.
- (no date) Near (Dunfeld) Perthshire / fish / Liv. Age 52/186 (D 84)
- March 7 Venus Inferior conjunction (a 1) London Times p. 3
- 9 Fish / Island of Ula / Argyleshire / Penny Mag 12/127
- 9 Caucasias. Heavy quake
- 13 to May Submarine explosions near Iceland (reverse) Smithsonian Inst. Rep. 1885-510
- April 4 Meteor London London Times p. 6
- 6 Vesuvius active BA '54
- 12 and 23 Guatemala Heavy quake each time.
- 14 Violent quake St. Domingo W. Indies BA '54
- 27 Vesuvius. Great eruption. Also Etna. Mag Nat Hist 6-301 & 302
- May 9 Persia Light quake
- 12 China Medium quake London Times p. 22

- 15 Dust Malta and at Sardinia A. J. Sci 2/11/373
- 16 Volcano and dust cloud. Great eruption of Etna—full of red dust. Yet Ainster in (reverse) Mag. Nat. Hist. 1833-298 says that the dust was of cause other than to the eruption in that inasmuch as the (page 2) principal depositions were south of Etna the substance was brought from somewhere else. (reverse) He thinks from the Sahara.
- 16 At Siena An organic material collected from leaves of trees in the Botanical Garden of Siena. Thought to have fallen from the sky (reverse) said to be vegetable matter.
- 16 Siena / organic matter
- 16 Etna—ashes to Calabria 8 villages destroyed. Gents Mag. 100/1/551-639
- 17 City of Perth / fell in the storm / Trans. Perth stones (F)
- 17 Medium quakes in China. London Times May 12 p 22 BA '11
- 20 Etna. Ashes as far as Rome An. Reg. '30-79
- 31 Evening. Charlotte, Tenn. Tornado. Finley's Rept.
- June 1 China. Heavy quake.
- (no date) Vilesia near Greivau / Yellowish brown corpuscles some cylindrical some round Vymus Met 21/146 (reverse) La Belg. Hor F. cole 2/319
- 9 Waterspout Lake of Neufchatel Jour. Roy. Inst. Gt. Britain 1-200
- Quake and thunder and hail / 12 towns in province of Honan in China overthrown or engulfed in chasms. 6,000 perished Ponton Earthquakes p. 102
- 12-16 and July 29 China Heavy quake
- 25 (Ch) thing like a moon / Gloucester / BA '52/181
- 25 (Ch) Herefordshire / luminous thing "size of a garden". Br. V. Assoc. 1852/181
- 25 Caucasias Medium quake.
- 26 Austria Light quake
- 26 & 27 Quake & above—star. China. "Somedays before the earthquake burning vapors filled the atmosphere, dull explosions were heard in the air, long bands of (reverse) fire appeared on the Horizon" and then the quake. 12 towns were "swallowed up or more or less injured. 6,000 or 7,000 persons perished. Canton.
- July 1 Hungary Light quake
- 26 Torrents of water in a thunder storm at Malta. Most unusual for time of year. Mag. Nat. Hist 6-302.
- 29 Quick flood. Conn. See Fassig 1-282.
- Aug 9 Shower in Staffordshire / Edin. Jour. Sci. 9/354
- 19 Kioto, Japan. Heavy quake.
- 29 Spots seen in Algiers on sun, almost across disc in a line. Sep 1

- had collected in (reverse) 2 groups. Athenaeum 1833/405
- 30 Full of fine sand at Tripoli. Galigani's Messenger May 25, 1870 (reverse) It was as hot as if it had come from a furnace. (last of) Near d'Avallon (Yonne) figs (L'Institut 2-386)
- Sep 19 Op. Mars Mem R.A.S. 6/223
- 25 (up to) Noted in Scotland. Auroras. before and after nearest were May 5 & Oct 5. Sept 7, 10, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21-25. Annals de Chimie Dec 1830.
- Nov 19 Prague / little red stones? BA '60
- Dec 4 See Nov 13, 1829.
- 4 Russia. Taman Peninsula Light quake.
- 14 Insects / Orenburg, Russia D - 92
- 14 Warsaw Fireball BA '60
- 31 India Chittagong Light quake BA '11

1831

- Jan-Feb Messina. Light quake
- Jan 2 Italy (Basilicata) quake BA '11
- 2 3 a.m. Aerolite in village of Mangapalnam, Cadapah, India (reverse) Trans Bombay Geog Soc 9/199
- 7 A France A.J.S. 20/390
- 7 Aural Germany phe? Nature 27-297
- 12 Berlin Fireball BA '60

Box A - (Resumed)

- 13 Extraordinary disappearance LT p 2
- Box 1 - (Resumed)**
- 28 Gotha Fireball BA '60
- Feb 12 Solar eclipse A. J. Sci. 22-189
- 19 to 25 Etna BA '54/224
- Apr 12 See May 19, 1806 Reported by a sea captain at 0° 22' S and (reverse) 23° 27' W. rumbling sound and sharp shock to vessel.
- 13 Shocks Armenia, Sweden, Austria See note 15th BA '11

Box A - (Resumed)

- May 2nd attack on Kaspar Hauser
- Box 1 - (Resumed)**
- May 7 Hail 3 inches circumference. Ohio. Kentucky. Niles Reg. 21st.
- 7 Tornado. South Carolina Niles Register 21st.
- 13 Vouillé stonefall L.R. 58/226 (Vienne) Poitiers according to F.
- 13 Meteorite Vouillé (Vienne) particulars (reverse) La S.P. Tous 9-93
- 26 11:18 a.m. Shocks Genoesse Coast (Italy) 11:15 a.m. Marseilles BA '54
- 26 San Remo, Italy Sounds phenomena See 1816
- 13 B. M. Fletcher meteorite Apr 13, 1831 / Vouillé, France, May 13, 1831 F
- June 11 Clinton Co., Tenn. / Tornado / Fenley's Rept.
- 28 5 p.m. shocks Sicily BA '54
- 28 to July 2 (the effects to Oct) submarine volcano before appearance of island of Ferdinandea. Then increased activity said that the vol-

- canic materials formed the island. And 2 in October afterglows noted at Palermo. C. R. 102-1061. (reverse) At Palermo the haze noticed July 23, 24, 25, and again Aug 4, 5, 6. Upon Aug 8 the sun was whitish blue and there were afterglows. Then 5 dates in Aug. and 3 in Sept.
- July 2 Sicily } shocks BA '54
13 Parma }
14 Parma }
5. Cannonading heard at Schmaleninken attributed to war between Poland and Russia. Not heard on the 6th. In Deb. 17-1-3, said that Gielgud was on 5th. An de a de Memel. (reverse) A battle between several. Gielgud against Tolstoy and Rennenkamp. Jour. de Deb. 20-2-1.
- 9 G's island. See Jan 3, 1832
9 The new island. Niles Register (*DA) Vol 41 p. 71, 77, 327, 438.
9 Graham's Island. See Lyall's Principles of Geology
9 Ship Crawford, 16 mi. from Sicily—submarine volc eruption. Niles Register Sept 24. New island seen next day from another vessel (Niles Reg. Oct 1) See Jan 3, 1832
- 13 The New Island—Graham Island southern shore of (reverse) Sicily. Phil. Trans. 1832-237 / was first seen on 13th / was a volcanic crater.
- 14 Many shocks Murray Bay, Gul of St. Lawrence (over) Preceded by submarine noise which seemed to come from N or NW. BA '54.
- 15 Clermont, etc. 4 p.m. tremendous storm. Great fall (reverse) of hail. Sheep swept away by torrents. Jour des Deb. July 19.
- 18 Sciacca (Girgenti) Medium quakes June-July Italy BA '11
- 18 Poitiers, France, stone weighed 40 lbs. Greg asks whether May 13. See BA '60
- 18 Tuscany "a meteoric detonation in air?"—BA '54
- 18 Foligno, Tuscany, Italy meteorite BA '60 See May 16, 34
- 20 Cayuga Co., New York. Tornado / Finley's Report.
- 27 Besancon (Doubo) quakes and explosive sounds BA '54 or '60.
- 27-28-29 Celebration in Paris. Canon fire etc. J. des Deb. 26-1-3
- 28 Vouillé (Fr) Meteorite and 3 detonations BA '67/416
- Aug Month of lurid sunsets, Malta and Sicily, attributed to (reverse) dust from the near volcano of Graham Island. Phil. Trans. 1832-252.
- Aug Blue sun. See Oct 2
- 4 A "waterspout" burst upon the Clidagh Mts. (Kerry) Ireland. A flood 15 feet deep and 600 wide poured (reverse) down. Not said any waterspout seen. Gents Mag 101/2/168
- 14 Shock near Naples while Vesu-

- vius in eruption. BA '54.
- 17 Sat. Sun. and Monday before / at Mobile, bluish or greenish sun. (reverse) Morning and between 5 and 6 p.m. Am. J. Sci. 21/198
- 3 Africa
9 Russia and France
10 Paris
15 New York
31 China
- Fog like the Siberian. La Sci Por Tous 19/58 See May 1822
- 12 At Philadelphia, for a long time after sunset "the Western heavens seemed like one vast sea of crimson flame, lit up by some invisible agent". Then not a star to be seen but the moon was visible "green and ghastly". (reverse) The same phenomenon at New York and by many attributed to burning meadows in the direction of Newark. N. Y. American, Aug 16, '31.
- 3 Blue sun. Bermuda YB. 41/26 Upon the 11th, great quake and hurricane throughout (reverse) West Indies—not Bermuda. BA '11. At Barbadoes—hurricane, quake and volcanic eruption. 3000 persons perished. BA '54.
- 3 A dry fog was first observed upon Coast of Africa
9 Odessa and Central France
10 Paris
15 New York
- End of month—Canton, China
- Said that the most extraordinary thing was that this smoke or dry fog (reverse) seemed to disappear in part with the setting of the sun and to return at sunrise. Nights very clear and stars very visible—that same fog remained and was phosphorescent and appeared to occupy the higher regions of the atmosphere. La Sci. Por Tous 15-58.
- Sept 3 According to M. Arago in "The Comet" (p. 13 of translation on Coast of Africa, sun not visible until 15 or 20 degrees above horizon. "At night the sky sometimes became clear and even the stars (reverse) visible. This last circumstance, so worthy of remark, I have received from M. Berard, one of the best informed officers of the French Navy."
- 9 etc. Nothing in Jour des Deb.
- 10 West Indies. Great hurricane and "innumerable fireballs". A. J. Sci. 36-174 (reverse) At Barbadoes according to another quotation.
- 10 Barbadoes. Evening of the 10th, clouds collected in deep masses and then flying away "with a rapidity of motion almost incredible" until 9 p.m. then calm—then at 10:30 wind again with increasing violence until (reverse) 5 a.m. of the 11th (this was the hurricane) N. Y. American Sept. 5. There is no volcanic eruption

- mentioned. "Hollow subterranean noises were also heard and some thought we were visited by an earthquake." On 12th in St. Domingo many lives lost. Ocean rose and flooded towns. American Sept. 13 (Page 2) Hurricane reached New Orleans on 16th & 17th. Cuba on 13th. If it was all one. Amer. Sept. 15.
- 10 Night Hurricane Barbados (Schonburg History of Barbados page 53). Nearly all trees blown leafless, thunder and lightning "more like sheets of fire" (reverse) Extreme redness of the sky on evening of the 9th. "At one time the whole atmosphere presented the appearance of livid flame. Overpowering sulphurous odor. The "fiery meteors were seen falling from the heavens". (2nd page) Next morning 12 vessels high inland, debris and heads and feet of the dead. / No volcano.
- 11 West Indies. Heavy quake and hurricane.
- 11 Bermuda. Said sunlight been peculiar on 10th. On 11th (reverse) dark from early morning. Rept. BA 1840-11
- 11 West Indies. From 2:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. hurricane. (reverse) Barbadoes hurricane, quake and volc eruption. 3000 persons perished. Rept. BA 1854-226
- 11 Blue sun at Bermuda. Said that early in August blue sun for some days in (reverse) succession along the Atlantic Coast. Jour. of Inst. 3/1/57
- 12 Sun as seen at Alexandria, Va? Niles Weekly Register Oct. 1, 1831 p. 96.
- Sept-Oct. China. Medium quakes BA '11.
- Sept. 6 Wartmann's planet. C.R. 2/307 Planetary object observed according to W. and his assistants (reverse) at Geneva.
- 9 Wessely, Moravia, Austria. Meteorite. See May 26, '08.
- 10 From 10th water in wells at Parma was troubled. BA '54.
- 11 Italy. Parma and Modena. Light quake BA '11
- 12-13 Other shocks Parma to Venice BA '54
- Oct.-Feb. Medium quakes in Perugia, Italy.
- 8 Venus inferior conjunction A-1. Oh.
- Oct 9 Medium quake. Peru.
- 12 Red lights in sky long after sunset. Oct 13—sun silvery at noon (reverse) and between 3 and 4 p.m. greenish blue. Nature 30-32
- 20 Wirtenberg Meteor BA '54.
- 27 Until Jan 13, 1832, frequent concussions in Umbria. Upon Jan. 13, 1832, quake and a fall of muddy water. See 1805.
- 27 to Jan. 13, 1832. Sounds. Umbria, Italy. See 1816.
- Nov. 12 Meteors A. J. Sci. 30-374.

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NEW YORK

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June 17, 1947

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

EX-10

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I wish to thank you for your letter dated June 12, 1947.

In view of the information you furnished, I am instructing our Richmond Office to assign an Agent to contact you in the immediate future. I shall appreciate any information you may be able to furnish him. You may be assured that meanwhile the information you set out in your letter is being given careful consideration.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JBH:vj

G.I.R.-5

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-19-77 BY SP2 RDD BCELW

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUN 18 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman

JUL 7 1947

Mr. Tolson

June 12, 1947

Director Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department Of Justice,
Washington , D.C.

Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Dear Sir:-

(Confidential)

[redacted] we are writing to advise you there is in our possession correspondence with the Fortean Society, P.O. Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York City, indicating the most subversive character of that organization. Thus, in the most recent letter received by us from Tiffany Thayer, the Secty. of the said society, not only atheism, a "negro uplift" project, encouragement of "conscientious objection" to military service, but anarchistic objective is admitted along with hostility to the patriotic and political objectives of this country. The word revolution is not mentioned except by inference in a passage referring to patriots, politicians, and "careerist diplomats", as a parasitic class of reactionaries "which wants reforming". Put the whole program together, however, and you have the full confession of what makes up "the secret program" of this Society referred to in its literature.

A membership card seen by the writer is numbered 17,000 plus, indicating a growing membership. You will have no trouble obtaining a very misleading membership solicitation form and other literature in which the names of the late Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes and other are used as a blind to give the solicitation dignity. In the said letter the Secretary admits the methods employed by him, "weasling", and "semantics".

We are writing you before laying this correspondence before the Congressional Committee of Subversive activities, in the belief that you might want to send an agent to confer with us, if perchance there is anything in this report of a nature within the purview of your activities.

Very

P.S. On yesterday we add [redacted] a reply to the said letter designed in the most careful way to provoke an even more damning reply which we have no doubt will be forthcoming. We regard Thayer as extremely astute and in some respects the most dangerous person with whom we have come in contact.

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INDEXED

136

14-75-7
F B I
19 JUN 23 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **100-7537**

REPORT MADE AT RICHMOND	DATE WHEN MADE 6-23-47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-19-47	REPORT MADE BY RICHARD H. BLASSER RHB:MEM
TITLE FORTEAN SOCIETY			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - X

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Informant T-1 reported he received a letter dated 6-7-47 from the Fortean Society, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York City, N. Y., soliciting his membership and advising him that the society is of necessity anarchistic, anti-Catholic, atheist, and accepted all conscientious objectors of World War II, as Honorary members for the duration.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated June 17, 1947

DETAILS:

AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

This report is based on information received from T-1 who advised the following on 6-19-47:

During the course of the latter part of 1946 and 1947, the [redacted] sent out [redacted] Among the

subscribers was the Fortean Society. TIFFANY THAYER, Secretary, sent T-1 a membership application form for joining the Society and a copy of its publication "Doubt". Subsequent to several letters written by T-1 to the Society, wherein he joined the Society and then renounced and withdrew his membership because of a misconception of its principles, he received a letter quoted hereinafter in total because of its content:

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/7/97 BY SP3R/AMW**

ENCL. ATTACHED
EX-40

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Charles W. Brown</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 5 Bureau 257 AUG 15 1961 2 Richmond 2 New York	RECORDED INDEXED EX-40
	14-75-91081 JUN 26 1947

RH 100-6537

"Publishers of
DOUBT

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
Box 192 Grand Central Annex
New * York * City

1931 A D= THE YEAR 1 F S

6/21/17 FS
6/7/47 old style

DECEASED

Oliver Wendel Holmes

Lincoln Steffens

Clarence Darrow

Havelock Ellis

Harry Leon Wilson

Felix Riesenbergl

Alexander Woollicott

Art Young

Abe Merritt

B. J. S. Cahill

Albert Jay Nock

Theodore Dreiser

Booth Tarkington

Claude Bragdon

"This Society is in deepest sympathy with all efforts toward independent thinking, and we shall call the attention of the membership to your work. However, there is no escaping the emphasis you place upon spirituality, so that you are, in the last analysis, a lay preacher, with unbounded faith in your own doctrine. We cannot embrace that faith or espouse your doctrine, since to do so would lead us down a by-path and, eventually, to another stagnation.

"The foregoing is my official expression as Secretary of this Society. Before I continue in that capacity, let me give you my personal reactions [redacted] the Mystery of Columbus, which is the only one I have read.

The book was brought to my attention by the pamphleteer, Frank A. Parker. (I see that [redacted] I was attracted because for seven years I have been studying intensively in Renaissance politics, and so, of course, I had come to know how little of the Columbus legend is truly historical: damned little.

"Later I read the review [redacted] in the World in Books and realized that the work was sufficiently heterodox to interest Fortean. (The book list enclosed will show you the kind of book we offer to our members.)

b6
b7C
b7D

"When I read the book, I was left with three impressions. (1) That the author had taken advantage of the lacunae in the life of Columbus (whom I prefer to call "Colon"), in much the same way that one "Notovitch" in an earlier day took advantage of the lacunae in the life of Christ. I hardly need tell you that "Notovitch" wrote The Unknown Life of Jesue Christ, and no scholar or priest can say the book is fiction, simply because the author was at pains to learn all that was "known" about his subject before he painted in the holes to please himself. I think that is what you have done with our friend Cristobal Colon. (2) That the author employed certain rhetorical dodges and elisions (nowadays called "semantics") whenever facts failed him, from the very beginning of the book. We who write for a living - day in, day out - call this "weaseling", and being an old hand at it myself I can mark every instance of weaseling in your canon. I do not chide you for it, but you must understand that whenever I come upon it, I am aware that the author is selling me his point of view. The premise to be proved was determined a priori, and then history was semanticised to that end. (Nor can I refrain from mentioning the very numerous typographical errors.) (3) That the author was a Freemason, and that - in all likelihood - I was reading something dictated by the discipline of that order.

"Those were my honest impressions. The more nearly accurate they are, the firmer will be your denial of each point.

"Since then, I have these [redacted]

[redacted] unpublished work, and I find nothing in the additional data to change my earlier impressions, but I stand ready to be corrected at all points.

"As Secretary, once again, I was surprised at your wish to join us, but delighted if the impulse sprang from Fortean motives. You are [redacted] The Society is of necessity anarchistic. You are [redacted] and probably an [redacted], - but did you observe the names of Scotty Mearing, Norman Thomas and Harry Leon Wilson Jr., among our Honorary Founders and Accepted Fellows? All three men are known for their work for the advancement of the Negro. You have [redacted] of which you are proud: the Society accepted all Conscientious Objectors to World Fraud II as honorary members for the duration. You are an admitted patriot, [redacted] (or at least a [redacted]), that is to say, a member of a parasitic class of reactionaries which wants reforming. You are a Christian, an admitted conformist in formal religious observance: the Society is largely atheist (although this is not absolutely essential to good Forteanism), and you must have observed the names of prominent Jews among our honored, Ben Hecht and Morris Ernst for example.

b6
b7C
b7D

RH 100-6537

"On only one point does your work and attitude conform with ours, that is in anti-Catholicism, and even that you veil and obscure, probably for tactical reasons.

"Thus, you see, that while we are glad to bring [] to the attention of the membership, we cannot become very ardent boosters. In a word, we suspect your motives, and we do not agree that spirituality is this world's panacea.

Sincerely,

TT:m"

c/ TIFFANY THAYER
Secretary"

b6
b7C
b7D

T-1 advised his membership card was numbered [] plus, indicating a membership in this number. It should be noted T-1 returned his membership card.

The correspondence listed above reflected The Founders, surviving and honorary, as being:

"THE FOUNDERS

Surviving

Tiffany Thayer
Secretary

Aaron Sussman

Ben Hecht

Burton Rascoe

John Cowper Powys

Honorary

Eric Frank Russell
44 Orrell Rd., Orrell
Liverpool 20, England

T. Swann Harding
Scott Nearing
Hereward Carrington
Don Bloch
Frederick S. Hammett"

A review of "Doubt" magazine reflected the following:

"We use the Fortean 13-month calendar, Membership available to all, Annual dues \$2.00 . . . DOUBT is on sale in principal cities of the world at 25¢ per copy. Ask your bookseller to get it. DOUBT is in principal Public Libraries, and many universities have complete files. Ask us for list of back numbers still available."

ENCLOSURE - TO THE BUREAU - One copy of "Doubt" published by the Fortean Society, edited by TIFFANY THAYER, Secretary of the Fortean Society.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

RH 100-6537

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

T-1 is

b6
b7C
b7D

The image shows three large, stylized initial letters: 'O', 'U', and 'B'. Each letter is filled with a black and white illustration of a scene from the parable of the blind men and an elephant. The 'O' depicts a group of people touching the head of a large elephant. The 'U' shows people touching the side of the elephant, with one person holding a long stick. The 'B' shows people touching the leg and foot of the elephant. The illustrations are in a woodcut or etched style, with fine lines and cross-hatching for shading.

34 1/2	Am Store 1	5	17	17	27	
35	Am Store 1	5	21	24	24 1/2	56
35 1/2	Am Sugar 1	2	5	24 1/2	24 1/2	56
36	Am Sugar 1	2	5	24 1/2	24 1/2	56
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37 1/2	Am Sugar 1	2	5	24 1/2	24 1/2	56
38	Am Sugar 1	2	5	24 1/2	24 1/2	56
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62	Am Sugar					

TIFFANY THAYER

25c

DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the

FORTEAN SOCIETY

Box 192 Grand Central Annex,
New York City

1931 A D = the year 1 F S

We use the Fortean 13-month calendar
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available.

FIRST PRIZE

The membership is becoming so alert, so sharp, so firmly packed and all; that handing out the quarterly orchid becomes more difficult quarterly. The best Your Secretary could produce on his own behalf was the marriage of Named Fellow John Dewey at 87, and a "cosmic ray counter, which resembles an oblong layer cake." We fancy that this confection, which was whipped up by Dr. W.F.G. Swann of the Bartol Foundation, has about the same usefulness to its creators and the men who will slice it, as any other cake or piece of baloney. That is to say, it will feed them. N. Y. *Sun*, 12-10-46 old style: "It will be used to count rays on an (Antarctic) expedition under the command of Finn Ronne, former United States Navy Commander." Apparently this is not the Byrd expedition, mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

Founder Sussman easily topped that with a page from *Time*, 12-2-46 old style. In the jocose, carefree style which *Time* employs to dispose of the petty concerns of the millions, a "death ray" is introduced which is said to have "cooked a canary (in Spain) at 30 feet." Dr. Albert F. Murray is shown grinning broadly at the prospect ahead, for you and you and you, and perhaps for himself on his Federal income as examiner of all such devices. In conclusion, *Time* takes quite for granted that men will all be suckers again, saying gaily: "If a method is developed to concentrate nuclear radiations into a narrow beam, death rays may be available to enliven World War III." . . . Pretty?

Yes, but not pretty enough, nor were two gems from HFFS Russell. The first of these is from the *Booth Times* which quotes the *Schoolmaster* which quotes a British Official Directive. (Apparently

England is now ruled by Directives instead of laws, just as is the U.S.) The document reads: "Additional Grant shall be payable to an Authority only if their Main Grant is less than the excess of the net recognisable expenditure over the product of 54-penny rate for year ending with the 31st March, 1947; and if the total amount which would, but for this proviso, be payable to an Authority in Main Grant and Additional Grant would result in the Authority receiving more than the said excess of more than 75 per cent of their net recognisable expenditure, whichever is the lower, the Additional Grant shall be reduced as to obviate the result."

The second Russell piece is too long to reprint, unfortunately, running for more than half a jumbo column in the London *Times* of 10-17-46 old style. The headline is HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE/CHANCERY DIVISION/REGISTRATION OF "OOMPHIES" AS/ A TRADE MARK, and the story concerns a seriously debated issue heard before His Lordship Mr. Justice Evershed, *on appeal*, testing whether or not the Hollywood manufacturers of "Oomphies" should be permitted to use that trade-name on a certain style of footgear for women. The defense attorney—who, incidentally, finally got the name approved—said that, "it was almost intolerable that it should be said that the mark (Oomphies) had a significance which could be said to be contrary to public morality and should not be used in connection with the articles in question."

Elsender also had two runners-up. The one—200,000 tins of evaporated milk "brought from America . . . roughly (sic) two years ago" which had been stored and not looked at in all that time, were found unfit for human consumption.

The other: a rocket—mind you, not a monster—over Loch Ness! *News-Chronicle*, 9-26-46 old style.

Another member in the Mother Country, I. O. Evans, made his first bid with the story of cattle dying in West Suffolk *two weeks after* they had been struck by lightning. The same datum was among Russell's contributions too. The "delayed action" was puzzling the "experts". One vet said: "The beasts were affected through the hoof, and so it looks as if the effect of the lightning is not downward, but up from the ground."

If wit alone were to take the prize, this one must go to MFS Savage. He sent in that notice out of Kirksville, Mo., of the osteopath who "removed 13 or 14 headless pins imbedded in a leg of Mary Serena Beach, 16-year-old high school junior of Sigourney, Ia." Our correspondent writes:

"The Problem:

"When is a headless pin any different from an eyeless needle. And where do you get 'em? Out of High School girls' legs, it seems." Cr also McMahon. (In this connection, Russell also had a pin story: death of Fred Buckley, a Yorkshireman, *ae* 32, who had been "mysteriously" ill for seven months. His pin was in his liver, and, presumably, had a head.)

MFS Kerr, who has had these honors before, did well with a Polio Pyrotic. Kenneth Wettenger, 24, was seriously burned in an "iron lung" at the University of Kansas Hospital, 9-1-46 old style. From "a cigarette", no doubt.

And, in vein, MFS Herbert has a polio victim "unable to use one leg" who disappeared (with a fever of 104) from her room in Silver Cross Hospital, Joliet, Ill., 10-14-46 old style. Name, Mrs. Mary Anderson, *ae* 40. Police, sheriffs and school boys looked 13 hours without finding her.

Also from Herbert comes a "black" rain, or "chemistry rain", at Struthers, near Youngstown, Ohio. One hundred ten homes were affected by the downpour which took the paint off. Reported 10-4-46 old style: probably occurred the day before.

MFS Wakefield, a member with a rare, fine touch, sends the Oakland Tribune account of Nicholas V. Mayall's speech to the visiting astronomers at Mt. Hamilton. The headline is "Scientist Proves False Idea True", which is precisely what Scientists are hired for. The false idea which Mayall uncovered, as nearly as one may interpret it from the gibberish of the press, is that certain globular star clusters used as mile-posts for astronomical measurements and estimates of speed are fixed. As now appears, they move. Dr. Mayall's feat of jugglery was to "prove" that it doesn't matter. The distances and speeds estimated by reference to objects thought to be stationary are to remain the same regardless of the "discovery" that the mile-posts themselves "rotate".

The same story, weirdly garbled was printed two days later in the N. Y. *Daily News*, where the well known Dr. Mayall is called "Mayali" throughout, and the professed object of communicating information is defeated, by the interposition of the United Press, even more thoroughly than in the Oakland account. Cr McMahon.

Another Old Faithful, MFS Hoernlein, comes up with a nine-inch bullhead atop a thirty-foot telegraph pole. The fish was causing a short-circuit in "western Montana". That is an undated UP despatch printed in the *Seattle Star* 8-26-46 old style.

For a time it looked as if a newcomer, David T. Burbank would take all honors. He sent one harmless-appearing page from the October *Mechanix Illustrated*. The story is headed RADAR SPOOK, and the wordy workout beneath seeks to maintain all the prestige "radar" has achieved by four or five years of fairy-tale-telling, at the same time that it admits the almost complete unreliability of "radar" for detecting anything whatever. This stunt has become so commonplace of late that one wonders if Science has any other purpose than that of providing baseless nine-day-wonders as subject matter for embryo Kaempfferts to practice their freshman semantics upon.

Entering the homestretch, a dark-horse took the lead, one MFS Willetts, with a feature piece cut from the *Catholic Uni-*

verse *Bulletin*, Cleveland, 4-12-46 old style. The title is "Wrong-way Skull Rocks Idols of Evolution", and Joseph A. Breig is the author. The Catholic Action, taking advantage of T. D. Stewart's reconstruction of "the Melbourne (Fla.) skull" really goes to town, laughing raucously at anthropology in general, at Darwin in particular, and ripping a juicy raspberry over the remains of Piltown, Neanderthal and the Java-man.

Little as we like the Catholic company, we must join them in this laugh. Not even the theory of immaculate conception is more fanciful than a "prehistoric" skull reconstructed from a splinter, and Writer Breig has been to the trouble of getting a confession from Dr. Hans Weidenreich of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, called "the world's No. 1 anthropologist". The quote: "The Piltown man is an artificial creation. He has a modern head and a prehistoric jaw. He never existed."

Highly illuminating is to read the pussy-footing accounts of this same "news" as printed in non-Catholic papers. MFS Reagan supplied two versions of Dr. Stewart's improvement over the work of Ales Hrdlicka on the Melbourne skull. Both make it seem that the theory of evolution has been strengthened by the change.

But—even as Willetts drew away from the field—Kerr joined him, going fast. The entry, a piece by Howard W. Blakelee, Associated Press Science Reporter. Under a Princeton date-line, 9-24-46 old style, he refers to a "theoretical bombshell" tossed by an English mathematician. P.A.M. Dirac. The bomb: "... that the three primary particles out of which all matter is formed (sic)—electrons, protons and neutrons—are mere points with no size ... The idea seems incomprehensible. But coming from Prof Dirac it has authority ... the three primary particles which have no size possess mass (sic) and electrical charges ... Friends of Prof. Albert Einstein quoted him as saying about Prof. Dirac's solution: *I did not think it would be possible. I thought a new theory would be needed.*" ... Me too, Al!

And now—the photo-finish and the winner. It is MFS Bonavia, of whom you have heard much before. Like most of the runners-up, she had two fine data: one, a reprint of an ad run in the *Wall Street Journal*, 10-15-46 old style, ostensibly paid for by the National Economic Council, Inc. The illustration shows Stalin as an octopus, with his slimy tentacles strangling the so-called Goddess of Liberty, and the biggest beef in the copy is against Communism — why? — because "Under atheistic Communism—THERE IS NO GOD!" ... Your Secretary is almost ready to believe that the Communist Party paid for the ad, because it makes the signers of the copy look like such horse's katoots

But—the winner! ... That Mr. Kiyochi Mastuzaki, using an abacus, trimmed the pants off Pvt. Thomas N. Wood using the most modern type cal-

culating machine, in a speed contest held in Tokyo, 12-9-16 FS. That is Simon-pure Forteanism, and—more than likely—the cause of the most recent earthquake in the land of those dirty, barbaric yellow-bellies.

The results of that contest make the U of Pennsylvania's "Electronic Brain" look a little sick. Oddly, we have no data from American sources on this miracle of ingenuity, but only relayed dope which Viscount Mountbatten of Burma disclosed at the 21st anniversary dinner of the British Institution of Radio Engineers in London, 11-1-46 old style. Elsander and Russell sent the cuttings from *Newcastle and Liverpool* ... Your Secretary does not know how this gigantic apparatus differs from the Harvard "Mechanical Brain", but the statement is that the Pennsy article is absolutely unique. It can remember, it can play chess; now, all they have to teach it is how to use an abacus.

NEW MOTTO

We were delighted by the phrasing of a question asked by MFS Reade not long ago. He wrote: "Is the Fortean Society still alive and kicking?" In fact, we like the connotation so well that the phrase is offered for comment as a Fortean signet or device. "Still alive and kicking!" ... What do you say?

SIZZLING ZINNER

The build-up for the display of the Giacobini-Zinner comet tail began 9-23-46 old style in the U. S., and on 9-30-46 in England. Cr McMahon and Russell ... Charles P. "Comes-to-Jesus" Olivier told AP that the comet could not be seen without a telescope ... On 9-27-46 old style, H.M. Jeffers of Lick (at Mt. Hamilton) photographed the comet, exposing his film 18 minutes. For some reason not known to us, this photo was not released until AP put it on the Wirephoto 10-10-46 old style: Cr Reagan.

From October 7, old style, the fury of the campaign increased in England and U. S. The British press, however warned its readers that the full moon might dim the show. Both sides took the opportunity to whoop it up for radar. If the sky was cloudy, radar would count the meteors through the clouds.

All went well in the U. S. On the night of 10-8-46 old style, the National Bureau of Standards Ionospheric Station in Fairfax County, Va., counted one pip a minute through rain clouds. More were promised on the night of the 9th. Meanwhile, astronomers had been whittling the figures of their estimates of the comet's distance from Earth. At first, it was 30,000,000 miles; then 25,000,000, then 24,000,000, and finally, on the morning of the 9th, Gordon A. Atwater, Hayden Planetarium, had it refined down to 23,790,000 miles.

At Harvard, on the night of the 8th, only six meteors were seen, and in England the whole show was a bust, even on the 9th. The *Daily Telegraph* reported only 10 meteors an hour, "rather less than usual", until some three hours after the time of greatest predicted display,

when the count crept up to 30 or 35 an hour. The *Evening Chronicle* got quite vaspish about it, saying: "The meteors had more publicity than a solar eclipse, but those responsible for directing our gaze to the heavens covered themselves with two safeguards. If the moon was out it would be too bright, and if the clouds were there it would be too dull. The result was we got both, minus the meteors."

"It was nice to be told that scientists were sitting equipped with costly radar apparatus, fluorescent screens and mighty cameras, but it was wasted on the lone watcher at the back door who saw nothing more exciting than a few stars, or, at closer range, the luminous eyes of a nocturnal cat."

The Eastern seaboard fared no better than England on the night of nights, and only fifty radar pips were counted in the fullest hour. Chicago's Schlesinger claimed to have seen three a minute at the peak, but the real fireworks, almost up to predictions, were reserved for the West Coast, especially Seattle.

An amusing sidelight on the varieties of American journalism faced with such an impending crisis lies in the contrast between the Los Angeles *Daily News* statement that: "These tiny particles of matter, ranging in size from a pinhead to a marble, are invisible until they come within earth's atmosphere, when they start to burn and flare up brightly for a few seconds." (A flare of pinhead size observable sixty miles away is implicit.) "Another astronomer, Dr. John A. Russell, U of Southern California, said there is no cause for alarm ... It is very unusual that meteoric particles come within 35 miles of the earth's surface ... No meteorite has ever been recovered from such a shower." Cr Bowring.

To which please compare a photo in Washington, D.C., *Times-Herald*, of a 15-ton meteorite "found in 1902 near Oregon City, Ore." Cr Reagan.

Hoernlein, in Seattle, had a grandstand seat. He saw skiesful all evening, in every direction. One Seattle man counted 117 meteors in one minute. New Mexico U men flying at 20,000 feet said the rate varied from 50 to 1000 per minute up there. And the *Post-Intelligencer* closes its story: "Although Gordon A. Atwater, chairman of New York's Hayden Planetarium, earlier said that many of the meteors were expected to reach earth (sic), no reports of such occurrences were received."

A photo in the Los Angeles *Daily News*, exposed at Griffith Observatory for fifteen minutes, shows more than 25 brilliant streaks. The negative may contain double that number.

Probably the busiest observer of all that night, was MFS Layne of San Diego, publisher of the spiritualist paper, *Round Robin*, but he was not watching meteors. Beginning at 7:45 that evening, *Round Robin* subscribers began seeing a "space-ship" silhouetted against the moon. Thirteen eye-witnesses are named. All in San Diego. Each describes the object differently. One man, called a psychic sen-

sitive (which is current lingo for what we used to mean by "medium" in the days of Anna Eva Fay), gave Layne a message, purporting to have been received "clairaudiently", in which the object was identified as "a mechanical bird called Careeta". It came from a planet a considerable way off and the folks in it were afraid to land . . . If you want any more of that, send 35 cents to *Round Robin*, 3615 Alexia Place, San Diego, Calif. The story is given in detail in issue No. 10 of Volume 2.

MFS Hehr (who knows people from Venus) told Layne his space-ship was a condor, and broke up a beautiful friendship.

Not to be outdone by the radar boys who see the meteors in light pips on their instrument, four Stanford U electrical engineering faculty members *listened* to them by short-wave.

At Lick they watched again on the night of the 10th, but the show was over. Cr Bowring, Wakefield, Willetts and many others.

LIGHTS ON LUNA

The editor of *Organic Gardening* gave Fort a send-off in his publication for December, 1945 old style, and from the same hand we have undated tear-sheets from "a recent number" of *American Scientist*. The portion torn out is the department, "Marginalia", by G. Evelyn Hutchinson, Yale, and the interest is in appearances of light on the dark of the moon. This is pertinent: ". . . we find at least three cases of transitory bright objects appearing in the dark part of the moon, recorded between the end of the 16th and end of the 18th centuries. One of these, in Harrison's *Chronologie* relating to an appearance in March, 1587, remained in manuscript. The second record occurs in Josselyn's *An Account of Two Voyages to New-England* (London, 1675) and was discussed briefly by no less a personage than Cotton Mather, F.R.S., in a letter published in the *Philosophical Transactions*. The third occurrence, lasting about five minutes, was apparently observed independently from both Norwich and London on 7th March, 1794, and was communicated to the same journal by the then Astronomer Royal, Nevil Maskelyne, D.D., F.R.S."

For amplification of details, mostly to bolster the theory that the lights were meteoric, see:

R. K. Marshall (Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Pa.). The Origin of Lunar Craters (A summary). *Pop. Astron.* 51: 415-424, 1943.

W. H. Haas (Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio). Concerning possible lunar meteoric phenomena. *Pop. Astron.* 51: 397-400, 1943.

Phil. Trans. 29: 62 (or abridged version 5: 159), cf. Lowes' *The Road to Xanadu* for a full discussion of the literary interest of the matter.

Phil. Trans. 1794 (LL): 429-434 and 435-440.

SWALLOW THIS

Fed up with the nonsense about Capistrano's swallows punching the time-

clock on arrival each year, we fairly unswallowed when this crapparolla came in from MFS McMahon:

That those birds have *taken off* on "San Juan's day" at dawn for 167 years without fail. We don't know who chases them, but we have been there when they did not arrive on schedule. Accordingly, we asked MFS Wakefield if he could check the whole thing for us. Here is his reply:

"Am not in a position to send dates SWALLOWS OF CAPISTRANO have missed arriving on time.

"If some member in the southern part of the state will check same—you may wish to add these items which I have heard from the lips of the pious:

"Some time previous to 1930 a new hotel was opened on the West Side of the Plaza. The proprietor was smashing the mud nests with a long pole as he considered the birds a nuisance. The Father from the Mission asked where the sparrows would go and was told by the prop. that he did not care. The Father verbally invited the sparrows to the Mission and they understood for they came at once and have been there ever since.

"They migrate in Autumn at no fixed date but always return on St. Joseph's day—March 19th. When they go you are gravely told they go to Jerusalem for the winter. For the long trip over the sea they carry a twig in their beak. When fatigued they drop the twig in the water—rest and sleep on the floating twig. Travelers tell me winters in Palestine are more severe than Southern California. That must make it as uncomfortable for the golondrinas as it was for the scantily clad shepherds who heard and saw the herald angels while they (the shepherds) were out with their sheep on December 25th—the date the Messiah was born.

"P.S. It is said they never work on Sunday but stay in the mud houses all day. This should be checked."

PYROTICS

Besides the one in the iron lung, noted elsewhere herein, we have seven women and nine men dead of burns. Most of the fires are attributed to smoking cigarettes, in bed or in overstuffed furniture. We now learn that San Diego and Milwaukee are two towns which prohibit smoking in bed by law. Cr Bowring and Russell.

In this connection, MFS Darnell writes: "Chanced on a very entertaining medical explanation of pyrotics in a volume on Medical Jurisprudence by one J. Dixon Mann entitled *Forensic Medicine and Toxicology*. On pp. 215-218 Mr. Mann discusses what he chooses to call 'pre-natural combustibility' and comes to the amazing conclusion that most of the victims turn out to have been gin-sodden old ladies!"

DIRTY YELLOW BELLIES

The Education Ministry of Japan has honored Dr. Terumi Noda for "conclusively proving" that pyorrhea is caused by tooth powder. Cr Bowring

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Dr. Robert F. Heizer, of the Department of Anthropology, U of Calif., was in charge of excavating five skeletons found in a Concord, Calif., back yard, about seven feet down. When newsmen asked how old the skeletons were, Dr. Heizer refused to guess. This amazing performance automatically nominates the professor for Named Fellowship in 16 F.S. Cr Wakefield.

Send in your further nominations promptly. The Named Fellow should be notified as soon after January 26, old style, as possible, since that is the anniversary of the founding of the Society.

Nominations already in hand, besides that of Dr. Heizer, include:

Mrs. Vollet van der Elst
(British anti-capital punishment agitator)

Cominander A. B. Campbell
(Recently fired from the BBC "Brains Trust" because, when asked by Sir Malcolm Sargent: "Do you rate scientists lower than rats (anent vivisection)?" Campbell replied: "Some I do.")

John L. Lewis
(In the hope that we can persuade him to let somebody else write his speeches!)

Dictator Tito
(Because the Pope says he's going to Hell.)

Harlow Shapley
(For being held contemptuous of the Wood-Rankin Committee on Un-American Activities. Alas, Harlow's record points all-too-clearly to his innocence of the charge.)

WATTS MISSING

Indians say that thirteen white men have disappeared in the past eight years in Headless Valley, Northwest Territory. Now the total may be sixteen. An Alaskan teacher of geology, named Watts, his wife and her brother entered Headless Valley July 22 old style. They have not been heard from since, although the teacher was expected to report for duty at Yakima High School when it opened last September. Cr Reagan

LAVENDAR WRITES

"From 'The American Journal of Physics', Vol. 14, No. 4, July-August, 1946, page 277, titled 'Science and Education' and another, same page, titled 'Science and Human Beliefs', come to the following statements:

" . . . The bad temper which the theologian attributes to original sin, the chemist may attribute to calcium deficiency, and each be unaware that his explanation is the consequence of his specialized study . . . No single subject can therefore form an adequate basis for a philosophy or be in itself a satisfactory guide to conduct. . . . The real danger of specialization is not so much an ignorance of other branches of knowledge as a failure to be conscious of this ignorance . . . Science is today uprooting faith without planting anything more suitable in its place, though science itself is not devoid

of inspiration. Yet the urge to seek truth is what leads science forward. Those who are responsible for the examination of religious beliefs are not always sensitive to this urge. But so long as there are churches there will be creeds; and so long as there are creeds there will be obstruction. Any religious system which so binds itself by formal creeds that it cannot embrace newly discovered truths stands self condemned."

"Sounds to me like Forteanians fill the bill," Lavendar adds.

SEEN A BRIDGE?

HFFS Don Bloch asks—"Where did they need a bridge?" A 32-footer was washed out by a cloudburst (8-28-46 old style) at Farthing Station, 50 miles NW of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and no trace of it has been found.

GREENLEAF WRITES

"September 6, 1946 Approx. 10:15 p.m., CDT Observed in New Orleans, La., from the corner of Mystery St. and Grand Route St. John:

"A reddish light of between second and third magnitude, first noticed near the star Fomalhaut, observed for a period of about five minutes. During this time it moved from its original position of south of Fomalhaut, in an East-northeast direction until it disappeared below the tree-tops. Rate of motion was about five degrees per minute. No sound of motor heard, and no other lights, such as would be observed upon an airplane, were seen. Color did not vary as position changed.

"The reddish tint could have been caused by atmospheric absorption, for at all times it was within fifteen or twenty degrees of the horizon.

"The night was clear with a Gibbous moon just past first quarter."

MAITLAND WRITES

"Agnes Morley Cleaveland, in her book NO LIFE FOR A LADY, states on page 323: "A half-teacupful of black obsidian arrowheads, none longer than a pin and some half that length, jewel-like little things of exquisite workmanship . . . scooped from a spring on top of Eagle Peak, New Mexico." She wonders if pygmies once lived in that part of the country.

John Hilton, in an article in the August issue of THE DESERT MAGAZINE, says that he found thousands of minnows living in a stream created by a desert well whose surface temperature is 170 degrees F. The well is not known to be connected with any other body of water. Any surface body, that is; it was drilled in 1939 by miners who abandoned it because it was too highly mineralized for their use.

Before I left Cleveland I ran across an unusual circumstance; in one day, two men walking along the street in downtown Cleveland discovered that their coats were on fire. The reporter who wrote the story said that the fires were caused by lighted pipes absent-mindedly put away by the two men. I wanted to call the two men and see what they said.

F. S. HAMMETT



They probably would have given me the same answer, but maybe one of them didn't smoke.

TURNABOUT

On 10-26-16 FS, a request for the indictment of United States officials responsible for war crimes was cabled to Lord Justice Sir Geoffrey Lawrence, President of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg. Truman, Forrestal, Patterson and subordinates were named, and British, French and Dutch organizations were urged to similar action against guilty officials in their countries. The request was made by the War Resisters League, 5 Beekman Street, NYC 7. No arrests on these charges had been made as we went to press.

FISH AND SNAIL FALLS

In the parking lot back of Wormington's restaurant, sixty little fish apparently fell in a thunderstorm 9-23-46 old style. Cr Patterson, Hammett.

An envelope containing the remains of "twenty-odd wee snails" was received from non-member La Spina. The lady says they appeared to have fallen "in a series of cloud-bursts" 10-14-16 FS, near Quakertown, Penna. In their dried and flattened state they measure about a quarter of an inch in diameter.

MOODUS, AND OTHERS

Credit is given to Prof. Edward L. Troxell, of Trinity College, for suggesting that the Moodus sounds are probably produced by "subterranean vibrations due to minor earth tremors".

Almost simultaneously, anonymous "scientists believe" that the roars from Rumbling Bald Mountain, at Lake Lure, North Carolina, "are caused by boulders falling from the roofs of caves deep in the mountain". Local folk in both districts scoff these explanations as absurdly inadequate. Cr "William Wilson".

FOUNDER HAMMETT

The portrait on this page is a reproduction of a painting by the late, celebrated, Richard Miller, being a veritable likeness of our newest Honorary Founder, Frederick S. Hammett. It is the last portrait Mr. Miller painted, "and is stated by his friends and enemies alike," writes Dr. Hammett, "to be the best thing he ever did and a better thing than any other portrait painter in the country could do." Even in such small space as we are forced to show it, the quality of the workmanship and the power of its execution are remarkably impressive.

Dr. Hammett is no stranger to readers of DOUBT, having been named and quoted here frequently in the past. He has been a member of the Society for ten years, and in his capacity as a practicing scientist, head of the Marine Experimental Station of the Lankenau Hospital Research Institute, editor of the magazine GROWTH, etc., etc., he has consistently maintained the Fortean attitude in his laboratories as well as in his published work. He has quoted Charles Fort in his scientific reports, and written essays for the publications of the learned expounding the Fortean viewpoint. In short, Frederick S. Hammett is that singular if not unique anomaly, a Fortean convert in the enemy camp, and as such we are immensely proud of him.

To express the Society's respect, to assure ourselves his aid in council, to proclaim the progress of Forteanism within the academic stronghold, Dr. Hammett was tendered the post of Honorary Founder in the place of the late Booth Tarkington. He accepted the appointment as an honor, and thus vindicated Fortean zeal in its missionary work among the Orthodox. Hail, Founder Hammett! Let the good work go on.

MONSTRELET WRITES:

"I have forgotten to mention a marvelous comet that appeared in the year 1477, on St. Agnes' day, in the month of January—and therefore the bloody wars that took place between different princes, with the great miseries that ensued, need not be wondered at. This comet was visible at Cologne, in the opposite direction to the constellation Libra, having an immense tail, thirty degrees in length. On St. Blaise's day, the third of February, it remained stationary in the constellation of Aries, throwing its tail to the eastward, near the Pleiades. It was of different colors — sometimes white, at others all on fire, inclining to lemon color. The astrologers considered it as indicative of battle, epidemic disorders, and plagues: and in consequence, the following summer was hotter than had been remembered by any then living. In some parts, subterraneous fires broke forth, from the vehemence of which may God preserve us!" *Ch. CLXXXV, Chronicles of Enguerrand de Monstrelet.* The above datum was added by a continuator, since M himself left off 1467.

ADD BLACKEST LIST

The police department of St. Paul, Minn., administers "lie detector" tests. Members of the Society in that district are urged to protest by every possible means. Never yourself submit to such a test. Search your city ordinances for means to have the machines abolished. Urge attorneys of your acquaintance to refuse to permit their clients to submit. Write to your local papers exposing the contraption for the fraud that it is.

Mr. Justice Stable, sitting in Old Bailey, London, heard "evidence" in a murder case from Dr. John Hill of Maudsley Hospital. Dr. Hill had administered a "lie-detector" test to the accused. Hill said that "the machine revealed generalized changes of a mild sort, chiefly affecting the left side of the brain."

Whereupon the Justice said: "That conveys nothing to me."

And the defense attorney, Mr. Maude: "I agree. It is just noises." *Cr E'sender*

ADD VORTICES

To the already known and noticed slanting houses where people lean sideways, etc., of which the one at Gold Hill, Oregon, is the best publicized, add still another. It is at Camp Burch, 30 miles from Pueblo, Colorado. *Cr Hoernlein*

OILY DOROTHY

A swan "which found its way" into Huskisson Dock, Liverpool, was "rescued" by the RSPCA. It was given medicine and had the ships' oil washed from its wings. 10-11-46 old style *Cr Elsander.*

ANTI-DOCTOR BOOK

A companion volume to the best-selling *Your Life Is Their Toy*, which should have interested especially any victims of organized medicine, is *THESE CULTS*, by Annie Riley Hale. It is "an answer to Dr. Morris Fishbein's venomous *The Medical Follies* with iconoclastic chapters on Homeopathy, Osteopathy, Chiropractic, The Abrams Method, Vivisection,

Physical Culture, Christian Science, etc." Published in 1926 AD, it has long been out of print. The Society has a few second-hand copies—too few to last in our new book circular No. 5. While they last—\$4.00 each.

CLEAN ECLIPSE

If any irregularities occurred in the partial solar eclipse of 12-21-16 FS, the astronomers succeeded in concealing them from the journalists who helped them cover the event.

The next big event, now being circussed by the observatories is scheduled for May 20, 1947 old style, that is June 3, 17 FS. Solicit all the advance "information" you can from your local observatory or astronomy professor and send it in. Dr. Bertil Lindbald, director of the Stockholm Observatory, states that the Geodetic Survey of Sweden will send expeditions to the Gold Coast of Africa and to Brazil to view this eclipse simultaneously. *Cr McMahon*

FREE THEATRE

Members near enough to New York City to take advantage of this opportunity should attend a performance of the dramatic repertoire company which performs gratis, every night except Monday, at the Davenport Free Theatre, 138 East 27. The moving spirit is Butler Davenport, who has kept this institution active for 31 years. Your Secretary has the honor to be a Subscribing Member.

CURE FOR HICCERS

MFS Oltscher quotes no less an authority than Hippocrates for this: "Sneezing coming on, in the case of a person afflicted with hiccup, removes the hiccup." Please pass the pepper!

CURE FOR STATUES

Non-member Ebeling suggests that the Parisians could stop their statue-cancer if they coated the stone "with local mud" or buried the statues for a short period.

PROPAGANDA EXPOSED

We have a few copies of *Truth and the Public*, a reprint of the "Conway Memorial Lecture" delivered June 17, 1945 old style, by Kingsley Martin, London. Very sensible discussion—if a little mild. 56 pp. wrapps. Fifty cents each, while they last.

NEW HONORS

Following what appears to be an annual custom, at Thanksgiving, Major and Mrs. Frank Pease, in memory of their Mayflower ancestor, Francis Eaton, sent "To Tiffany Thayer, Fortean", their engraved card of thanks for "services this past year (16 FS) to that America they so love and cherish". The services named are stated to be "Publishing the best book of the century." Doubtless *THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT* is referred to.

BYRD OFF AGAIN

"Indefatigable" is the word for Admiral Richard E. Byrd, just as "intrepid" is the word for Off-again On-again Sir Hubert Wilkins. All through the wasting of high exposives which the daily wipers pretended to think was World War II, Byrd remained—quite sensibly, it seems

to us—in his air-conditioned Washington office. Now, however, fired by his inner craving for knowledge, which consumes him like a flame, he's off to Antarctica again, at our expense. If any enlisted man cares to tell us how much champagne went into the fleet's stores, DOUBT will take the greatest delight in relaying the information to the American taxpayers.

THAT SNOWMAN

MFS Brady writes: "Re the Abominable Snowmen" of the Himalayas. I don't know what the pulps have published about them but I came across the following in Altai-Himalaya by Nicholas Roerich, a travel diary published in 1929.

"India 1924; It all began with the unknown traces found by the Everest Expedition. Then in the Statesman, an English Major related how during one of the expeditions into the region of the Himalayas, he encountered a strange mountain inhabitant. At sunrise, amidst the frosty snows, the Major walked away from the camp and climbed the neighboring rocks. Glancing up, the Major to his astonishment beheld a tall man almost naked, standing, leaning on a high bow. The mountain inhabitant did not look at the Major, his attention being completely attracted by something unseen behind the curve of the slope. Suddenly the man bent, strained himself and by madly dangerous leaps rushed from the rocks and disappeared. When the Major told his people about the meeting they smiled and said: 'Sahib has seen a snow man. They are watching the guarded places.'"

Also in the same book an account of a strange fire that broke out in the tent. "I awoke and saw the silhouette of E. against a background of bluish flame . . . It appears that E. approached the bed and touched the blanket. The bluish flame, warm and odorless, flashed up . . . The fire ceased as it began, without leaving the slightest trace on anything. Unforgettable was this leaping flame, unconsumed and vivid. The tent was entirely illumined."

Why the adjective "abominable"? It sounds too-too moral. I can understand and appreciate—elusive snowmen, esoteric, enigmatic, unpredictable, tantalizing, dangerous snowmen—but "abominable"—it sounds like a typically English moral judgment.

CAREETA RETURNS

"A big black spot" was observed on Luna, 12-9-46, old style, in Los Angeles. People called the *News*. The *News* called Griffith Park Observatory and got George W. Bunton. Mr. Bunton did not bother to look at the moon. The people, he said, were seeing the seas. We think it was Careeta come back, and that this time her timid personnel debarked, and are moving on Washington, D.C., like a swarm of locusts. *Cr Bowring.*

ESOTERIC LARNIN

If the Post Office has not closed it up, the School of Human Regeneration, Jacksonville Beach, Florida, offers weekly lessons by "Dr." Walter Siegmeister on *the Secret Life of the Great Adept* —

Count St. Germain. It seems that Queen Elizabeth was his ma, and the Earl of Leicester his pa. His first name was Francis Bacon but he was called "Hamlet", meaning *little Bacon!* He not only wrote the canon known as Shakspeare's plays but plotted to give England a democratic government, led the German Rosicrucians feigned death as Prince Rakoczy, engineered both the French and the American revolutions, designed the American flag, and is still alive. You may address him somewhere East of Tibet, or care of "Dr." Siegmeyer. The lessons cost \$3.00 per month, and considering all you get that's a bargain.

For only \$10.00 you may also receive twelve lessons about *The Creation of Life*, by the same "Dr." (Just what Siegmeyer is a Doctor of does not appear.) *The Creation of Life* course comes out flat-footedly in favor of having babies without sexual intercourse (instead of *vice versa*). A digest of the course states that "More than 250 theories have been propounded to explain the process of conception, and of these the presently accepted theory of the medical, concerning the dual and equal roles of ovum and spermatozoon is only one, and one of the most recent."

The point is well taken, and Your Secretary recalls hearing from the lips of Charles Fort himself, the "theory" advanced by a pregnant peasant girl of Central Europe early in the century, ascribing her interesting condition to a certain "exposure of her person to the incidence of the East wind". This, in Fort's opinion, made her condition all the more interesting, as—doubtless—"Dr." Siegmeyer would find it.

PERSONALITY

As early as 1909 AD, and perhaps before, Theodore Schroeder was in the struggle for self-respect which continues with ever-increasing intensity today—and which probably will continue for all time. In that year he compiled a *Free Press Anthology*. In 16 FS (thirty-seven years later), he sends us a packet of fourteen sizzling pamphlets hot off the press, all written with the same end in view.

Rationalists, libertarians, humanists, free-thinkers have known Theodore Schroeder for years. In the year 3 FS he crossed the ken of Maynard Shipley, whom we remember kindly (in spite of his orthodoxy) as an acquaintance of Charles Fort . . . Shipley—not to be confused with Harlowe Shapley—was an old-style evolutionist who attempted to foist his conception of Darwinism upon United States public schools. He was, nevertheless, a great admirer of Fort, as correspondence in the Society archives shows, and this is what he had to say about Theodore Schroeder: "One hundred and sixty (170 before 14 FS) periodicals in six languages have published Theodore Schroeder's Psychological, Philosophical, Religious, Medical, Sociological and Legal Essays (Schroeder is a lawyer) . . . At the very least, he is one of the most interesting figures alive in America today."

Another admirer writes: . . . "the ag-

gregate volume of his published writings in defense of *unabridged* freedom of speech exceeds that of the combined similar output of all other writers in the English language."

Schroeder is hardly a Fortean, because he believes in something which he calls "Evolutionary Psychology", but he pleads for intellectual hospitality at the same time, and you will do well to make his literary acquaintance. PUT SOME MONEY in an envelope and send it to him at Cos Cob, Conn. Any sum you wish; you'll get your money's worth.

REMEMBER TECHNOCRACY?

Lots of people get the notion that when the daily wipers stop mentioning a man or an institution, he or it has folded. NOT SO . . . Technocracy is a case in point. You never read about it in the papers any more because the papers and their backers and minions want you to think Technocracy is dead. IT ISN'T. It has more members today than ever. For information, address: Box 209, Kansas City 17, Kansas.

Members frequently ask us why Technocracy wouldn't work. Answer: It probably WOULD.

BALLS OF FIRE

At 7:25 p.m., 8-24-46 old style, over Wilmington, N. C., disappeared to the NE.

At 7:40 p.m., same evening, fifteen minutes later, over Durham, N.C., headed in the opposite direction. Cr Miller.

About 11 p.m., 9-6-46 old style, "a large ball of purplish fire" moved less swiftly than a meteor across the sky North of Philomath, Oregon, from West to East, and disappeared over Old Baldy, a mountain. Cr Sheeley.

In North Wales the previous evening, 9-5-46 old style, a "thunderbolt" (?lightning?) struck a chimney in Wrexham, and ripped slates off another house twenty feet away. "Eye-witnesses speak of a ball of fire and an explosion."

Same date, "during a rainstorm at Ruston-on-Trent a 'blindingly brilliant' fireball fell in Waterloo Street, rocking the houses. Cr Elsander.

In Beatrice Street, Ashington, "late last night" (9-21-46 old style): sound of an explosion, "heard over a wide area": "a haze of smoke" seen "coming from a spot near . . . house". *Ibid*

Ostend, about midnight, Sept. 25-26, 46 old style: Mme. Deman saw a "ball of light approaching at terrific speed". Object fell in front of her house, giving off a cloud of smoke. Police examined "remains of a projectile". That is all. Cr Elsander and Russell

Campan, South-West France, shortly before 10-29-46 old style (that is date of publication), "meteor-like ball of fire" plunged into mountainside with loud explosion. Cr Russell

From McPherson to Garden City, Kansas, nearly 250 miles, just before dawn 12-10-46 old style, called "a flaming meteorite (sic)", traveling so close to Earth that it left a long white smoke plume in the sky for 30 minutes. Cr Bloch and Pollard.

Over several areas of the Midwest—Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Iowa and Nebraska—"red flashes of fire" coincide with the Kansas report just above. "Believed to be meteors." The reports range from 5:20 to 7:30 a.m. By December 12, the U of Nebraska had refined the reports to "three meteors", one of which they thought had fallen near Gee, Nebraska, 25 miles NW of Lincoln. They were looking for fragments. Cr Rayner, Squad-rilli and others.

SVENSKAROCKETS

Sweden and Russia shook hands on that subject. Russia was not sending (despite British-American efforts to prove she was), and the Swedes called "80%" of the flashes "of celestial origin". The remainder were relegated to inflamed imaginations, with what justice, who knows?

Meanwhile, supplementing our last report (all old style dates):

6-10-46 Helsinki, Finland: a powerful light in sky ten minutes, trail of smoke: two minutes later an explosion. Cr Giles.

8-22-46 Waterford, Eire: explosion at 7 p. m. Water in harbor seethed and boiled. Cr Russell.

8-20-46 Chatillon-sur-Seine: not a flying bomb but a "whistling clothes line" accot AP. Cr Pollard, Kerr.

8-31-46 Oslo: The Norwegian press was forbidden to mention sky-lights any more . . . "searchers with special metal detecting equipment have been unable to discover even the smallest fragment." Cr Russell.

9-6-46 Salonika and Macedonia "the past few days": were "undoubtedly ground flares or Verey lights" used by "mountain bands". Cr Elsander.

9-11-46 Srinagar, Kashmir: "luminous body resembling a squash racket", headed west, left smoke-like trail. Cr Kerr

9-15-46 Alemtejo, Portugal: at dawn, "a strange bluish ball of light" visible for over five minutes. Cr Greenleaf.

9-16-46 Tangier: between midnight and 1:00 a.m., "for three successive nights", large balls "of fire with huge green tails streaked with red." Cr Russell.

9-17-46 Fez Para, North Africa, near Casablanca: "Long, thin trails of yellow-green light followed the projectiles." Cr Kerr, Reagan, Russell.

9-24-46 "rumors" over nine cities in Italy in the last week—Rome, Turin, Bologna, Vercelli, Modena, Imola, Florence, Naples, Bari: over Florence at 3:15 a.m. 9-22-46, visible 90 seconds. "Precluding the possibility that it was a meteor, the rumors (sic) said, was the fact (sic) that the object made a sharp turn at Florence and headed south toward Rome." Cr Goldstein.

10-15-46: "An inquiry by the Belgian Minister of Defense shows that 'none of the phenomena observed gave any reason to believe that unknown contrivances have been flying over Belgium.'" Cr Russell.

11-16-46 Stockholm: an explosion outside the central railway station rocked the center of the city, knocking down people "at a distance of 100 yards", from what is not stated. Cr Reagan.

ADD PPP

Maintaining peace under the profits system is a very simple process. All that wants arranging is some means for spending war-like sums of taxes (and for collecting war-like sums of charity) with the war-like approval of the constituency. In other words, if Science, or Progress or any other myth can be given the aura of immediate necessity which is obtained for all spending in war time, we are, by God, in the bag. To this end, the Fortean Society proposes its PPP.

As all good members know, P P P is the Fortean Society Perpetual Peace Plan. The planks in the platform to date are:

1. A cyclotron in every high school.
2. An atom busting plant in every middlesix and village.

3. Every waiter a Ph. D.

4. Every laundress a B.A.

5. A standing army of 10,000,000 translators, to translate every book ever written in any language into every other language.

6. Subsidies for publishers to issue all these books, and for booksellers to sell them on every corner.

7. A 200-inch Palomar White-elephant telescope at every cross-roads.

To the above, we now add a dandy, sure to please the Du Ponts because it uses up explosives. Plank—

8. Completion of the sculptured heads which Gutzon Borglum began to blast out of Mt. Rushmore in the Black Hills of South Dakota, and the extension of similar projects to every bald knob in all the mountain chains of the world.

By this means we could use up all the materials that go into shells and bombs, employ millions of men, including artists, and we would leave the face of Earth literally embroidered with Sphynxs and gargoyles for the insects to wonder about when they come to inherit God's footstool.

9. Continue, extend and expand the experiments of J.B. Rhine with cards and dice, setting up Extra-sensory Perception Laboratories in all the churches, and adding to the records all instances of prayer, whether answered or ignored, together with records of roulette-wheel runs to aid MFS Tobey in his study of the time factor in probability.

10. Supplant all "lie-detectors" in police stations and courts of law with motion picture cameras, lighting equipment and sound-recording devices, to make permanent, audible, visible records in close-up of all principles and witnesses in every trial, criminal and civil. Such an arrangement—besides using up tax dough prodigiously (that is, on a war-time scale)—would eliminate perjury, shyster legistics and sleeping judges and juries all at one stroke.

11. Institute in all grammar schools, instead of or in addition to vaccination, the racket which Dr. W. H. Sheldon has pursued for fifteen and more years. This would require three still photographs of every child, nude, one before, one behind, and one profile, which—together with other data gathered by Sheldon's system

"MOON HO!" FARNSWORTH



—may be useful in vocational guidance.

The Sheldon system for classifying the varieties of human physique and temperament comes highly recommended by Aldous Huxley, who wrote about the subject in *Harper's*, and by MFS George Faulkner who urges Sheldon's books upon us. Order them from the Society—*The Varieties of Human Physique*, \$4.50: *The Varieties of Temperament*, \$4.50. MFS Hoernlein boosts Sheldon too.

More planks will be added to our platform as they are received from the membership. Send in yours. If we cannot persuade the tax eaters who feed upon us to adopt the Perpetual Peace Plan without one more fling at the old-fashioned boondoggle called "war", then let us suggest the following improvement over the antiquated techniques of World Fraud I and World Fraud II:

Instead of sending Russian youth to the United States to wreck houses, and United States youth to Russia to do the same thing over there, let us each keep our armies, navies and flying corps at home to do our own damage. The net result is the same rubble and a rebuilding boom—so why not let our local heroes have the fun of killing their own families? The only argument the Congress can raise against it is its economy, but if we all start writing letters to our Senators NOW, urging them to adopt this method, perhaps we can prevent the income tax from reaching 100%.

Plank No. 12 could be financing MFS Farnsworth, in a race with the Army to the moon.

INTERLOCKING
(INTELLECTUAL)
DIRECTORATES

The natural affinity of Fortean's for the exploratory accounts for the closeness of our association with such institutions as the National Speleological Society and the United States Rocket Society, but it does not follow that all Fortean's will approve all the public utterances of the leaders of these other bands. Recently we threw a hat in the air because MFS Farnsworth, president of the rocketeers, had—until then—ignored the opportunity to hop on the atomic bandwagon, and even yet he takes this "mathematical-hazard-that-goes-off-like-a-fact" with a good-sized pinch of salt. In his article, *The Moon is My Destination*, in the *American Weekly*, he had the good judgment to say that atom-power was not necessary to send a rocket to Luna. He knows of other fuels equal to the task . . . In a letter to Senator Wayland C. Brooks, it is true that Farnsworth mentions the U.S. Army's projected atom-powered Lunar rocket with a perfectly straight face, but probably that was because one must lisp in the baby-talk of the daily wipers when soliciting patronage from a Senator. The same logic has prompted him to accept "atomic energy" as a "present reality", a "tool of American Armed Forces", in his talk, *The Golden Moon*, addressed to business men; to whom he wishes to sell Lunar flight as a business proposition. We wish that this compromise with the Great Atom Fraud were not necessary, but if Farn-

worth wants \$350,000 to build his rocket he must assassinate his conscience to get it.

On a clipping about him from the Buffalo *Courier-Express*, which calls Farnsworth a "Scientist", and quotes his ambition to put America in control of interplanetary commerce, MFS Goldstein writes: "Did it ever occur to Mr. F., that someone else may be there *already*?"

At the other, or speleological, extreme, we observe the cave-crawlers secretary getting his name in the papers by the same unsavory methods. J.S. Petrie told (7-16-46 old style) reporters in Chillicothe, Ohio, that "underground cavities such as the Seven Caves near Chillicothe will be the country's main hope in case of an all-out atomic war . . . might be the only means of preserving human life against the effects of atomic bombs". *Cr Wakefield*.

To Your Secretary, the merits of preserving human life are highly dubious after intelligence has fled.

July 17, 1946 old style, in the Honolulu *Advertiser*, Donald Billam-Walker, "manager of the Better Business Bureau and authority on the lava (tube) caves", echoed Petrie's sentiment. "In Waianae range, on Oahu, scientists have estimated that there are a quarter of a million such tubes. The (lava) flows have piled on top of each other during centuries . . . so that large caves now honeycomb the mountains." *Cr Atwater*.

Three Oakland (Calif.) gold miners exploded "six delayed dynamite charges" (5-31-46 old style). Next morning they went to look, and found they had opened a vast series of caverns hitherto unknown. They are in Tuolumne County. *Cr Wakefield*.

MENCKEN'S GODS

Although now a man grown, Your Secretary is embarrassed, nay, palsied by dread of the task of "reviewing" the new, revised edition of H. L. Mencken's *Treatise on the Gods*. How does it befall that one who wrote for upwards of twenty years with no higher hope than to elicit a single truncated syllable of praise from the Zoilus of Baltimore is, now, after thirty-seven years of trying, asked to judge that judge?

I?—turn a thumb, or up or down—with that gladiator in the arena? . . . I? This is not meet. I would sooner kick my old grandfather in the groin. But Knopf has sent me this book for review—and I think you will enjoy it. The price is \$3.50, and the Society can supply the work. Order many copies and hand them out to your religious friends.

Reading this new version of the near-classic informs the attentive plainly why H. L. Mencken refused to accept Fellowship with the Fortean when he was Named many years ago. It is his prejudice that ideas partake of that quality of coins which limits them to but two faces. All that fall non-heads must be tails. What is not true must be false. What is not black is white: whereas Fort's essence is twilight and dawn-stuff, the quasi, the eternal "cocked-dice".

To write this engaging treatise on the

gods, Mencken must, and does without cavil or so much as a second thought, accept and swallow whole as incontrovertible *a priori*, the twin illusions of "Evolution" and "Progress", neither of which theories is either proved or provable. Faced with the illogic of spontaneous generation at the hands of Yaweh, Mencken's black-or-white blindness has forced him to conclude long before this book was begun, that then, of course, species evolved. No *third* possibility seems to have occurred to him, nor even the chance that a third explanation was possible.

This somewhat basic objection is almost the only complaint one can bring against the book. Since the author proceeds in sublime self-confidence from highly dubious premises, naturally the flaw of certitude repeats itself frequently.

"The historicity of Jesus is no longer questioned seriously by anyone, whether Christian or unbeliever." Well, well, well . . . Apparently Mencken doesn't read any of the atheist papers—for they all question the historicity of Jesus quite seriously, and sometimes with splendid logic disavow it.

"Today every such (civilized) man knows that the laws which prevail in the universe, whatever their origin in some remote and incomprehensible First Purpose, manifest themselves in complete impersonality, and that no representation to any superhuman Power, however imagined, can change their operation in the slightest." Here Mr. Mencken's own piety is impressive, and after pausing to genuflect before his Capitalized First Purpose (which is as nonsensical a phrase as any in the Book of Revelations), let us not too rudely suggest that "the laws which prevail in the universe" are no such things. What Mencken and his backers among statisticians miscall "laws" are no more than attempted formulations of temporary phenomena in a constantly changing and anarchistic universe, ill observed from a biased perspective through the hole in the bottom of a flower pot. And, although it is highly probable that the manifestation of these phenomena is impersonal and not susceptible to human wishes, threats, prayers or saintly intercessions, it is by no means certain that the fall of a sparrow or the jig of a medicine-man cannot alter some, any or all the so-called "laws" Mr. Mencken may wot of, inasmuch as those "laws" do change (or cease to function entirely) for reasons (or no reasons) utterly beyond man's comprehension or experience.

Saith Mr. Mencken: "Science, we are told (by theologians), has become a religion on its own account, with a theology like any other. Its axioms are derided as mere articles of faith, and its leaders are no more than bogus John Baptists, howling in a wilderness of test-tubes." . . . Your Secretary makes no pretense of keeping abreast of Orthodox theological pronouncements, and so cannot know what sect or sects Mencken is quoting. It does not matter. Let them be Greek or Roman Catholics, Methodists from Alabama or Jehovah's Witnesses

from Oklahoma, on this one score the Fortean Society insists that the allegations are accurate, and if Mr. Mencken will take the time to test the allegations regardless of the alligator (*Cr James Joyce*), he can hardly fail to recognize the validity of the charge. In fact, he is himself a contributor to the new Faith: *viz*—"If Christian divines admit today that the world is round and revolves about the sun, it is only because they can't help themselves—because the fact has been so incontrovertibly proved that even the mob has had to accept it."

Only observe the supreme conviction with which that cardinal article of faith is expressed. The cloak of infallibility is merely transferred from pope to astronomer. The "incontrovertibility" of Holy Writ is transferred to our school books. The proofs and evidence of miracles, reported as having been observed, are replaced by the opinions of technologists and by the good works achieved by the laying on of a different set of hands. But Your Secretary submits that acceptance by "the mob", by Christian divines, and even by Mr. Mencken, does not make the currently received opinion in these matters one whit more nearly absolute or final than any of the other interpretations of these phenomena which have convinced other millions in other days. In fact, not one observable fact in defense of heliocentricity is not equally applicable in support of geocentricity. So that, in the last analysis, Mencken and his mob-persuaded believe what they believe on no fact more incontrovertible than that crude and baseless personal conviction which we hear called "horse sense": *i.e.*, unreasoned faith.

Only once in the book's entire course does Mencken doubt himself and his sources. He writes: "His (early man's) first works of art, still preserved in the caves he inhabited, are portraits of them (animals): he drew and carved them, *if the chronology of the archeologists is to be trusted*, even before he drew and carved women." The italics are ours.

Odd, too, that the above should be Mencken's only "if", because a more enlightened attitude is aprowl when he writes: "On both sides of the Reformation fence the Christian church fought for its life, and, nearly everywhere it had the support of the universities, which is to say, of official learning, which is to say, of organized ignorance." . . . There, you see, we are back to Mencken's prejudice of Progress. He is keen enough to realize that the universities of 1500 AD represented "organized ignorance", but blind to the fact that today's universities represent that same body of ignorance organized along lines which differ in no essential particular.

RUSSELL GRIST

The best thing Russell has done this quarter is publish in Dagg's *Tomorrow* an article pulling the fright-wig off the "science" palmed off on us by Bertillon. Finger-prints don't even identify right from left, let alone individuals, and Russell documents that thesis in rousing style. Your Secretary, the wag, sent the article

to *Readers Digest* with the suggestion that they reprint. The rejection slip will be framed in Mother Church when that edifice is erected.

Membership rolls in Britain continue to increase, high-lighted recently by the addition of Francoise Delisle, author of *Friendship's Odyssey*, an autobiography which relates her long association with Havelock Ellis.

Of Russell's data, these are high spots:

Rhodomancy is the technical term for dowsing or water-divining. "Today more than half of Britain's well-drilling firms employ dowsers." *Tit-Bits*, 10-18-46 old style.

In Khoman, Persia, a man killed one red snake. A multitude of them then invaded the village. One hundred a day are being killed, and still they keep coming. *Do*.

By changing its silver coins to nickel alloy, "the Government" of England made a profit (at whose expense?) of fifty million pounds Sterling. *Echo*, 9-27-46 old style.

Martin Bormann, a deputy of Hitler, reported killed in "the fall of Berlin", has broadcast three times recently acco Warsaw radio, 9-15-46 old style.

Chinese Communists accuse the U. S., of selling planes to their adversaries in the present civil war. 8-28-46 old style. (They don't catch on very fast, do they?)

Tessa Kindersley, *ae* 14, died in Dublin "two and a half hours after she had been given an injection against diphtheria."

Pauline Maud Kelly, aged eight and a half months, was vaccinated 8-7-46. The child died 9-4-46. The coroner found that the cause of death had "nothing to do with the vaccination".

Ernest Bernard Tatlock, *ae* 23, died 10-1-46 in hospital. He had been receiving treatments which involved taking arsenic. "The coroner expressed the opinion that the treatment given in no way contributed to the man's death."

Denis Arnot Schierwater, *ae* 37, died in hospital following an operation. At the inquest, "a doctor said that the operation was carried out successfully" . . .

"death was due to a pulmonary adema, probably resulting from the operation." . . . "The coroner said he was satisfied that the operation was properly performed." 11-8-46 old style.

Gold injections for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis killed Mrs. Mary Matilda Kelly. The coroner adjourned the inquest. 11-13-46 old style.

John Redhead Wilkinson, *ae* 33, underwent an operation for varicose veins. Twenty-four hours later he was sent home. Five days later his wife brought him back to the hospital where he died shortly after admittance. The coroner said the widow could "rest assured that nothing that happened at the Infirmary had anything to do with the sudden death." 11-15-46 old style.

Britain is going to spend twelve million pounds to test rockets in Australia . . . The rockets will be fired from a ship in the Indian Ocean, aimed at central Australia . . . The Liverpool *Echo* quotes the Melbourne *Herald*: "Large-scale rock-

et tests in Central Australia will spell the final doom for the Australian aborigines in that region."

William K. Pai Ei, Hawaiian-Chinese fisherman, is alleged to have swum 75 miles, from Oahu Island to Kauai Island, in 53 hours and 1 minute. 8-20-46 old style.

The police of Milan are alleged to have buried "Mussolini's body" in a secret spot. 8-21-46 old style.

Besides the above, Russell and Elsander have between them, contributed no less than 32 data on the subject of food poisoning and other malaise directly attributable to the British "rationing" system. We deeply regret that space limitations prohibit us from doing justice to this subject.

ANY COMMENT?

MFS Herbert writes:

"I recently have encountered a strange rumor that I thought the Society would perhaps have some comment on.

"The rumor is that Franklin D. Roosevelt is not dead, but insane in some institution or privately run home. The reason given for this assumption was that according to soldier pall bearers the casket was inexplicably light. Also no one was supposed to have seen the body but the president's personal physician. Ordinarily a president who has died lies in state for some time to allow people to view the body. Also according to the rumor six armed soldiers are constantly on guard at the grave; also according to the rumor, presumably the Russians or others, are attempting to exhume the body to verify the death because Roosevelt is supposed to have offered the Russians more than he realized he could give them. It is obvious that an insane or expendable president would be better dead, or apparently so."

FIGHT! FIGHT!!

The Society has ring-side seats for a series of Battles of the Century. "Authorities" are going for each other like hey-go-mad.

1. (Deleted).

2. Drew Pearson vs U. S. Army. Pearson says (10-6-46 old style) U. S., has sent Britain a supply of A-bombs. British sources deny they have any, 10-8-46. Pearson says again (10-14-46) that they have. Truman, Eisenhower, Patterson and John Bull all deny it again, 12-8-46 . . . Your Secretary's dough would be on Pearson if he did not know the purpose of the publicity. *Cr* Elsander and Lodge.

3. Poison-spray makers vs bee keepers (see last issue of DOUBT for story of "starving bees, who could not get out to work in the rain.") *Echo* 8-15-46 old style: "It was believed they died of poisoning owing to the use of sprays containing arsenic to kill insects on fruit trees." *Cr* Russell.

4. Smithsonian vs the men who found Quarternary. This is an old battle resumed. Since time immemorial diggers have been turning up live frogs and toads in stone formations, and just as regularly

as they do, Science says they didn't. One side is mistaken, the strangest recurrence in the phenomenon is that the "experts", thousands of miles away from the "find", are always the ones who laugh at the eye-witnesses. Their laughs wouldn't destroy that kind of evidence in a murder trial. How much are they worth in this case?

The frog and a lizard were dug up at Artesia, N. Mex., about 10-13-16 FS. Workmen killed the lizard. The frog lived two days, and is now in a bottle of alcohol. Charles Ashton, "a consulting petroleum geologist" estimated the frog's age as 2,000,000 years. Smithsonian's Bassler said it was "not even an ingenious fraud" (which the truth seldom is). Although nobody at Smithsonian had seen the critter—"the experts think probably (it) was a toad"! *Cr* Reagan, Kerr, Bowring, Lovas.

5. U. S. vs "Panama". A writer in *Reynolds News* (Brit.), 10-6-46 old style, digs up a small stench new to. Your Secretary. As appears, no such country as "Panama" existed 40 years ago, the Isthmus lay in the state of Colombia, and Colombia did not favor U.S., canal plans. Accordingly, a "revolution" was staged, probably by the then current Office of Strategic Services, and the revolutionaries, backed by US, founded the Republic of Panama and let the canal go through. At the beginning of World Fraud II, US occupied 130 military bases in Panama "for the duration". In September of 16 FS, one year after "duration", US had given back only 32 of these spots and the Panama Parliament was protesting.

The same paper, 10-20-46 old style, states that the Government of Panama "has made a second emphatic request" that US move its troops and ships out of the Republic. *Cr* Russell.

The *World-Tele*, 12-27-46, chronicles the return to Washington from Panama of Michigan's Republican Congressman Engel. He had been down there on a "tour of inspection". He came back to urge "construction of a \$2,500,000,000 sea level canal across the isthmus". That is, a new one. Now, get this, a verbatim quote: "Mr. Engel said, however, that he would favor negotiations for other Central American sites for the proposed canal if the Republic of Panama refused to restore defense base rights to the United States." It is hardly clear whether Engel wants Panama to return the 32 bases we returned, or the 98 bases we have not returned. *Cr* Thayer.

6. Buffalo *Evening News* vs Francis A. Seyfried, superintendent or general manager of the Niagara Frontier Park Commission. On September 20, old style, the *News* printed a photo—air view—of a huge section of the brink of the American falls which had collapsed simultaneously with a reported quake, registered on a seismograph at Canisius College, Buffalo. "Captain H. A. Collins, head of the Niagara State Park Patrol, said about 25 to 30 tons of rock fell." The fallen rock is clearly visible in the photo. *Cr* Goldstein.

N. Y. Times, 9-21-46, old style: "There has been no perceptible change in the American Falls," declared Francis A. Seyfried (title above). Cr McMahon.

Buffalo News, 9-21-46: "Robert L. Rice, Sr., commission president, said from reports relayed to him by the commission's general manager, Francis A. Seyfried, there appeared to be two distinct falls of rock which, he said, created a noticeable change in the falls outline."

Dr. McGigue, the Canisius College seismologist, said there had been a "sharp but very weak" shock at 15 seconds after 10:29 a.m., on the 20th.

Enter, the Buffalo Courier-Express, 9-22-46 old style: NIAGARA FALLS TREMOR STILL A DEEP MYSTERY . . . "Francis A. Seyfried . . . said that so far as we are concerned there is no break in the American falls." Cr Goldstein.

Last word!—from the Seattle, Wash., Star, 9-30-46 old style: "Controversy over whether a rock slide occurred at the mighty American cataract . . . when (the) city was considerable shaken was ended today by official reports that a natural motion of the earth was responsible for the disturbance." Our italics. Cr Hoernlein.

7. Spitzer of Yale vs Wexler of U.S. Weather Bureau. Dr. Lyman Spitzer, Jr., of Yale U Observatory, reported, 9-13-46 old style, at Madison, Wis., that "interactions between gases and solid grains, which have previously been neglected, will cool down the interstellar gases . . . temperatures similar to those found on the earth may be quite possible in interstellar space". Cr Reagan.

"Seventy-five miles above the earth's surface—in a region which may be traversed regularly by space ships in a few years (sic)—the average daytime temperature stands at 216 degrees (Fahrenheit) above zero, above the boiling point of water . . . This is the figure calculated by a committee of experts (sic) headed by Dr. Harry Wexler of the United States Weather Bureau." . . . Go to it, boys! Cr Bloch.

8. Basil O'Connor vs Sister Kenny. "We are using the Kenny method in treating infantile paralysis," says O'Connor . . . "You are NOT," says Sister Kenny. Cr McMahon.

9. Are these the same word?

gorgonosaur

gorgonsaurus

gorgosauros

The writers of the wipers do not make clear whether the same beast is intended by those three versions of a word.

The controversy is over a skeleton washed up at Homer, Alaska. Scientists are now "converging" upon it to decide whether it is a tyrannosaurus, a gorgonosaur or a whale. If it is "prehistoric", its flesh was preserved in the ice, perhaps 85,000,000 years. If it is a whale (as Prof. Ivar Skagland suspects), it is like no whale a Nantucketer ever saw: The photo printed in the Washington, D.C., Times-Herald 10-27-46 old style, bears the same resemblance to Moby Dick that Truman bears to Jefferson.

Smithsonian has the skeletal remains

of a "gorgosaurus" found in Northern Montana in the year 12 FS. Cr Bowring, Wakefield, Hoernlein, Reagan.

OVER BALTIMORE.

Maybe God is after Mencken. Anyway, on the first day of Fort, 16 FS, Aug. 11, old style, a "ball of fire suspended from a parachute" fell in the East Brooklyn section of the city. The next night, Fort 2, 16 FS, another descended. On Fort 6, a third came down into the harbor where "it burned furiously for several minutes as it floated on the water". Thomas Hagerty, Chief of the Fire Department Arson Squad, said he didn't know where the things came from. Cr Hoernlein.

About 2:00 a.m. 12-18-16 FS (Nov. 20, 1946 old style), three sets of people reported to the Baltimore police that a man or men (or women) had been seen by them, suspended from parachutes in the air, at height ranging from "the top of a car" to 400 feet. Red lights flashed near the floaters, and the creatures spoke, saying either "hello" or "help". No explanation is offered by AP, but the St. Paul Pioneer Press printed another despatch in the same column with the above. The reader is, perhaps, expected to infer some connection. The second despatch states that "five free balloons, each with an instructor and four students aboard (sic)" left Lakehurst, N. J., training station two days before "on a routine training mission". Whether Lakehurst (where Zeppelins burn) sent out the incendiaries in the month of Fort is not stated. Cr Summers.

PLASMA NOT SO HOT

If an injection of "blood plasma" from one of those bunks or banks we heard so much about kills the person into whom it is injected, the official alibi is that the patient was allergic to mercury. Mercury is used to preserve the junk "contributed" by patriots, and after James Ragen died following one of these vicarious transfusions enough mercury was found in his system "to kill three men". Cr Kerr.

NOT THE MINES

Land subsidence at Kiblesworth, Durham, a coal mining village, threw more than 70 out of their homes in October. BUT "we are satisfied that the trouble cannot be due to this company's mining operations," saith F. M. Fletcher, agent for the owners, Charlaw and Sacristan Collieries. Cr Elsander.

The Truth About INDIA

by

Kanhayalal Gauba

(continued)

The High Courts. — Almost every State has a High Court or Chief Court mostly recruited from the friends of the Diwan and some times from the briefless at the Bar in British India. Except in a very few States, the salary of a High Court Judge does not exceed Rs. 500 per month. The High Courts are therefore not generally very "high" in morals, scruples or legal ability.

In these so-called Courts of Justice no subject may bring a charge against a State Official, either for an offence committed in the course of his Official Duties or in the course of his private life. Even the village school master and the policeman earning the magnificent salary of two or three rupees a week are State Officials and as such are immune from prosecution. These persons may commit thefts and personal assaults and no action may be taken against them without the Permission of the Prince. The permission may be refused without reason. (Ibid, p. 73.)

Where the Prince himself presides over the fountain head of justice, matters are often worse. Few Princes can afford to forego the pleasure of a trip to Europe because the number of appeals pending is large. Similarly few can postpone a shikar because an urgent judicial decision is necessary. The wheels of justice turn slowly in several quarters of the world but never so slowly as in the Native States of India. Ten years is quick work, usually a final decision may be reached in fifteen or twenty years. Often no decision is ever reached. The cases are adjourned from time to time for some reason or another: the judge may be busy, the Prince may be away, the file may be lost, the court clerk may be dead, the Viceroy may be coming, a Maharaj Kumar may have a son, the Ranies may have 'scrapped' any one of a hundred possibilities may occur. A criminal case is now pending in the Courts of one of the Punjab States which was "challenged" in 1904. The accused is supposed to have stolen a pair of shoes. The accused died in 1914 after being in the lock-up ten years for an offence for which the maximum punishment according to laws of the State is three months. Part of the file was mislaid in 1905: it is still being sought after. The Court has no information that the accused and the complainant are now both dead. The case came up for hearing in February, 1930 and the magistrate recorded: "The file must really be found. Ahlmad be warned. Case to come up for framing of the charge on 2nd Bisakh".

The Executive. — The head of the Executive is the Diwan or Chief Minister. There have been some noteworthy holders of this office conspicuous for their ability, intelligence and devotion. But as he is often an outsider who is not an inhabitant or a subject of the State he has no natural feeling for, or interest in, the welfare of the people. His principal aim frequently is to consolidate his own position. This he does by fulsome flattery of the Prince, whose vagaries he extols as virtues. He proceeds to fill up all important and influential posts with his own relatives and personal friends. Even such measures as these do not always guarantee to the Prime Minister any certainty of continuance in office. Palace intrigues may deprive him of his office. He excites the jealousy of a number of persons, and he know well how capricious is the favour of the Prince, who may at any moment remove him in favour of another man. Thus the position is in every way precarious, and the whole at-

tention of the Diwan is concentrated on making hay while his own particular sun is shining - the result is that in such circumstances he has to adopt the usual methods of a servile flatterer. He gives the Prince full power and sanction to spend vast sums of money on luxury and display, and hardly ever attempts to prevent His Highness from leading a life of unbridled vice and self-indulgence.

Few Diwans survive a successor. The new Ruler has his own favourites to reward, men who have catered to his whims and passions as an heir-apparent. So with each new ruler there is a new host of administrators. So many Diwans make the most of the time and opportunities available. The salary may be only Rs. 2000 a month, but the position is worth much more. One never is quite sure how and for what reason the order of the boot may be given. A Diwan of one of the Southern States not long ago incurred the displeasure of his Chief by declining to send his daughter to the palace. The Prince planned a revenge deeper than a mere dismissal. The police were instructed to prepare a case of embezzlement. But the head of the police was a favourite of the Diwan—the secret was out—the Diwan made good his escape to the hospitable territories of British India in the fastest car available. Such cases are not unusual. The length of service as Diwan as for other officials of the State are entirely within the purview of the Prince's caprice. A State in the Central India Agency in the course of twenty years had as many as twenty different Diwans. Few Diwans last more than a few years. But while they do, theirs is the wealth of 'Ormus and of Ind.' A Prime Minister in a Rajputana State had the rare good fortune to be Diwan for many years. While Diwan, he received a salary of Rs. 1500 a month, or Rs. 18,000 a year. In twenty-one years he received the aggregate sum of Rs. 3,78,000. His services were rewarded also with a *jagir* aggregating in the time that he was a Diwan a sum of Rs. 2,70,000. The ostensible aggregate of income was therefore about Rs. 6,50,000 in twenty-one years. After meeting the education and marriage of three sons and two daughters declared to have cost in all Rs. 2,45,000 and expenses of his palace and estates for the twenty-one years he was reported to have had at the end of the period tangible assets amounting to over 22 lacs!

While therefore the duties of a Diwan are delicate, there is much reward, often, if he can successfully overcome the intrigues of the Princes' favourites and other difficulties of his office. The Ranis may send for him when the Prince is away, the Political Agent may want a European officer put here and there, a journal in India may hold an important document for blackmail, the dancing girls may have a grievance, bills in Calcutta may be pending. If he can steer successfully through the rocks—winning the favour of the Prince, satisfying the Ranis, pleasing the Political Agent, keeping the press in hand, sharing what the Americans

call the 'spoils of office,' with the Vak-ilkhana, he should find that he has one of the best jobs in the world—honours, titles, pearls of price and the apples of Eden.

(To be continued)

SEATTLE BLASTS

About 9:00 p.m. 8-25-46 old style, Seattle felt a "massive explosion" south of the city . . . "Dull thud . . . earth and air shock." No explanation. No seismograph impression.

Another, heavier, 8-28-46 (unless the usually reliable Hoernlein has fouled us up) also at 9:00 p.m.

A third, at 9:20 or 9:23 on 8-29-46.

An old, closed coal mine is in the vicinity.

Hoernlein was out of town, but MFS Stevens sent Blast Number Four, 9-12-46 old style, now in the North instead of the South "end" of Seattle.

The fifth occurred at 12:40 a.m., 9-23-46 old style, less severe than No. 4 after which "a small crater was found in the (Woodland) park."

Pranksters with dynamite are blamed—but not caught.

BALLISTERICS

(?4-18-46 old style?): Boy, 16, in Buffalo, at 11:40 p.m. Apparently a .32 caliber slug was removed from the knee. *Cr* Giles.

6-14-46 old style: Boy, 10, son of the first deputy fire commissioner of N.Y.C. Two shots heard at 11:15 a.m. No slug found although .22-calibre talk was indulged in. *Cr* Giles.

8-14-46 old style: Engineer on the Boston & Maine, struck in the hand by a "stray" bullet. No mention of slug found. *Cr* Kerr.

8-18-46 old style: Boxer, 27, found fatally shot in Scranton, Pa., street. Called murder. *Cr* Kerr.

8-29-46 old style: Six windows in a laundry, Washington, D.C., were broken "by .22-calibre rifle". No slugs found. Rifle talk wholly gratuitous. *Cr* Kerr.

9-10-46 old style: London man, at 6:30 a.m., in the abdomen "as he left his flat". No slug mentioned. *Cr* Russell.

9-24-46 old style: Chicago, man, *ae* 44, while walking with his bride. Fatal. Called a "stray" bullet by police. No mention of slug found. *Cr* Goldstein.

10-19-46 old style: four shots hit train entering Deal. The shots came from both sides of the track. No slugs mentioned. *Cr* Russell.

10-31-46 old style: Boy 8, Rockford, Ill., while riding his bicycle. A .22-calibre slug recovered. *Cr* Anderson.

11-29-46 old style: For several weeks before this, rocks were thrown and shots fired at trains in Berkeley, Calif. No injuries. No slugs. Detectives are riding the trains. *Cr* Wakefield.

12-4-46 old style: a cleaning woman, 29, in Brooklyn. She applied for medical aid and was refused. She died. The wound was in her back, but no slug is mentioned as recovered. *Cr* Thayer.

NO SUCH ANIMAL

Swan Lake, near South Haven, Mich., 8-15-46 old style, at dusk. Later "identified" as a swimming cow.

Off Cape San Martin, California, 11-7-46 old style, with a face like a gorilla. United Press asserts it has appeared annually for the past ten years and answers to the name of "Bobo". No such periodicity appears in the Society Archives. *Cr* Barneson, Rayner, Cosman, and non-member Magloughlin.

Lake Como, 11-19-46 old style, "rose-colored". *Cr* Wilson, Zito, Henderson, McMahon, Secor, Wakefield and others.

LAND BEASTIES

At Lebanon, Indiana: the State Entomologist, Frank Wallace, returned (8-14-46 old style) to his bugs where he should have stayed in the first place.

On September 4, old style, Harry McClain claimed that his assistant, Roy Graham had shot the "monster", a black panther, which fell into a creek and could not be recovered. *Cr* Kerr, Giles, Carlson, Sheeley, Summers and others.

No sooner was he dead than "something" turned up near Oquawka, Ill. two somethings, 9-19-46 old style. Descriptions would suit black panthers. On 9-22 one hundred fifty men and three planes hunted. Found nothing.

On 9-24 at Momence, Ill., clear across the State from Oquawka, and much closer to Lebanon, Ind., some critter had appeared three times, clawing one dog to death . . . On 11-2-46 old style, it—or something like it—turned up at Lowell, Indiana, about 10 miles from Momence. *Cr* Bloch, Wakefield, Kerr, Giles, Goldstein, Anderson, Reagan, Carlson.

Meantime, a "ferocious pig-dog" appeared in the suburbs of Columbus, Ohio, 9-23-46 old style. *Cr* Kerr.

Next, 10-11-46, at Evanston, Ill., where such things have happened before, something the size of a bear was rampant. *Cr* Reagan and Kerr.

Life apparently disposed of the Valais, Switzerland "monster" in its issue of October 21, 1946 old style. The answer was panthers "bombed out of Milan". *Cr* Reagan and Kerr. BUT a "serpent" began swallowing chickens near Grenoble, 8-8-46. It is "20 feet long." *Cr* Hopper.

Besides, a Tiger had killed 6 in Karwar, near Bombay, by 10-9-46 old style . . . A "lion" was eating sheep in Central France . . . Bears were active in Japan . . . A "moose" killed a horse near Otisfield, Maine, 11-4-46 old style . . . And a rat three feet long was on display in Togemba, Japan. *Cr* Wheeler, Goldstein, Elsander, Wakefield, Reagan.

WE THANK YOU

for the sunspots. Fourteen data on the subject have been added to the file, which—we promise—will make monkeys of the few physicists who remain tailless at the time of publication.

Left out, this issue, too, are numerous good ghost stories, coincidences, sleepwalkers, hail, and the death of Sir James Jeans.

Exploration of Mount Shasta by SCIENTISTS will appear next issue.

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

1841

Box 2 (continued)

- Sept 1 Fog and quake. On eastern slope of the Oural and other places in Russia / Russian time? / (reverse) at dawn sky reddish and sparkling - turning to an orange yellow color - this after sounds like distant thunder; said been subterranean - then the quake bet. 1 and 2 a.m. - then at dawn the sky
- 1 phenomena and quake (It?) See 1805
- 2 Cent. Amer. great quake (BA) '11
- Box A (Resumed)
- before
- Sept 16 Chiswick, Eng. (D-168) St. In. Box 2 (Resumed)
- Sept 6 (See June 12) Star Vendee. See Nov. 5 / In 1880, M. Daubrie in C.R. 91-30 tells of a star that fell (reverse) at St. Christophe-la-Chartreuse, Commune de Roche-Servieres, Vendee. BA '80-52. Dr. Walter Flight says that this fall had never before been recorded.
- 6 France / Vendee / Stone / BA 80-52. See Nov. 5 right date? (Fort's query. TT)
- 8 Met and train. C.R. 13/637
- 9 Fireball. BA '60
- 10 Monmouthshire / quake "followed by a loud explosion" / Roper p. 35
- 10 At Calcutta at 2 a.m. - for 10 or 12 minutes at Calcutta myriads of meteors (reverse) light from them so intense smallest print could have been read. BA 50-121
- 10 Nothing in Friend of India (Calcutta)
- 12 See Comrie. Jan. 8, 1840
- 20 Geneva etc. bright fireball. BA '60
- 21 LT p. 6. Quake. Comrie
- 28 Paris. W to E Fireball. BA '60
- 29 Bayonne Fireball. BA 60
- Oct 7 (D-176). "On Thursday (7th) forenoon during a heavy thunder storm, a considerable number of small fishes fell from the clouds at Town-hill, about (reverse) a mile north-east from Dunfermline. They were in general from 2 to 3½ inches in length and although they must have fallen from a considerable height many of them were alive after they fell, and jumping among the grass. LT Oct. 12
- 8 Met almost size moon. BA 60 / slow

9 40 mets. in one hour moving S.W. Huntingdon, Florida. BA 47-15

9 At Parma a very slight shock of earthquake / 24th BA '54-313

15 Sanguinetto (Verona Italy. Shocks or dull exposures and a "kind of hissing noise which seemed to pass rapidly through the (reverse) air" - numerous shocks like rains of meteors - other flashes like lightning / quake at 2:30 a.m., 2:45 a.m. 3:30 a.m. severest of all at 4 a.m. BA 54-312

15 Bet 2:30 and 4 a.m. 4 shocks at Verona ac to M. Quetelet (reverse) each ac by subterranean sound and whistling sound in air, and by long trains of fire in sky like those of meteors. C.R. 17-623

15 & 16 Verona (It) / Luminous streamers in air and flashes and quake detonations. See 1805

23 Quake Comorn, Hungary. See Aug. 1. BA '11

24 at 8 p.m. Violent quake. Had been a "hot wind all the morning." BA 54/312

25-29 At Parma / Magnetic perturbations and meteors and on Oct. 27 and 29 substance like that of Feb. 17-19: / Bull. Acad. de Belgique. 2-371

27 Rain mud. no more in C.R.

29 /Sanguinetto / More shocks and wind and rain. See Oct. 15 BA '54

Nov 5 Bourbon-Vendee France— meteorite ac to BA 60-78. See Sept. 6

8 Parma. E to W Fireball. BA 60

9 Hereford. Large fireball. BA '60

10 North America. Large meteor seen many places. BA 60

12 10 p.m. in Aosta extraordinary meteor B.G. Univ. N.J. 36-196

12-13 From 1:30 a.m. till daybreak, one observer in South Herefordshire saw 13 mets. BA 52-186

12-13 Many mets, some large at Asturias. BA 47-15

12-13 No ext. mets. Paris. C.R. 13-1035

12-13 Aurora and falling stars — CR 13-1035

12-13 No remarkable meteors in France and Belgium. C R 15-930

14 Volc Goentoer, Java N.M. C.R. 70-878

15 Langensulz / Great det. BA '60

18-19 Quake at height of "a terrible storm S.W. Coast of France. BA '54

18 A periodic aurora Geneva C R

13/1035

20 Quake at Dole, Jura where q's of Dec. 2. BA 54

Dec 1 Magnificent aurora at Seysset, one of the places affected next day's quake. BA 54

2 At Lyons, the quake during a storm. BA 54

2 Refs - Moniteur, Dec. 7, 8, 11 J. des Debats Dec. 7, 8

2 Storms throughout France. BA 54

2 Geneva. Rained all day and air charged with electricity. BA 54

2 Ab 8 p.m. Severe shocks Rhone, Ain, Isere, Jura and (reverse) Saone et Loire in Savoy and Switz. Preceded by remarkably hot weather. Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 storm of very hot wind at Bellay.

3 to about 8 p.m. The shocks continue. BA 54

5 Goldberg, Silesia / det. met. BA '60

9 Savoy. Dec. 10 Belley. Dec. 14 Savoy. Shocks. BA 54

16 Oels / slow fireball. BA '60

21 Met twice apparent size of moon. Scotland. BA 50/90

29 St. Maxient, France, large fireball. BA 60

1842

1842 Brilliant light at Comrie, one morning before daylight / E Mec. 21/52

Jan 1 Magnetic perturbations at Brussels and Jan. 2 at Parma / 1839 Jan. 2-3

Milan. At Parma, Milan, Prague Jan. 2 Prague. 3 at Brussels (reverse) Bull de l'Acad. de Belgique 1843-1-9

2 Caucasasia. Great quake '11

4 Mayfield, Ohio / Afternoon / Tornado / Finley's Report

Jan to Apr Volcs Java active N.M. C.R. 70-873

Jan 14: to 19 Wurtemberg quakes and several with sounds like thunder. BA '54

26 Conj Saturn and Jupiter. Observatory 24/158

29 Eutin / Large Met / BA 69-282

Feb 5 Sub volc? 5 a.m. Vessel at O° 57'S and 20°47' W rumbling sound and several concussions (reverse). Another vessel at O° 30'S and 21°55' W had similar experience. (reverse) There is given account by a captain of a third vessel, at the same time, off the Cape Verde Islands— sound and (reverse) his vessel

- violently shaken—again 50 minutes later and then 4 hours later and a final at noon, when position was 0.44S and 20.16E / These are W of Greenwich not Paris / This is by M. Daussey, who refers to C R 15-447. See May 19, 1806
- 7 Aargau large fireball. BA '60
- 9 7:45 p.m. at Agen meteor C R 14-282
- 9 Paris, Toulouse, Agen. Fireball. BA '60
- 17 Quake—sound. At Falimouth quake. The sound attracted attention and few persons felt vibrations / Timb's YB 1843/262 (over) 8:30 A.M. LT Feb. 22 p 5
- 19 NW of India. Great quake '11
- 24-25 Night. Red rain. R Mag 161-146 / 1841? (Fort's query. T.T.)
- 25 Band of light equal to moon's diameter claim from Moon. Seen in Derby and South Lambert. Nature 28/54
- Mar 4 6 a.m. Tuscaloosa, Ala. / Tornado - Finley's Report
- 13-24 Nothing in Sydney Herald
- 13 Quakes and dust. Colored rain fell in Greece about one hour. Same night were earthquakes. C.R. 15-583. See March 27
- 18 Parma. Fireball. BA '60
- 24-25 Night. Reddish-powder fell at Amphissa, Greece. CR 14/617 (Verified). Throughout Greece. C.R. 15-580
- 24-25 Red rain Amphissa, Greece. C.R. 14/617. 15/580—brick-red
- 30 1:30 a.m. / Caulondu Vaud, Switz. Quake and loud sound BA '54
- Apr 11 Charka, India. Met train in Scorpio ab 4 a.m. 10 or 20 degrees long. BA 50-122
- 11 Meteoric cloud 10 or 12 degrees long—visible 20 minutes/ Chusta, India / B Assoc 1852-238 (reverse) in Scorpio
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 21-22 Rain one place / 21st about 10:30 p.m. M. Bodson, at Noisfontaine, drops of water falling with force. He learned that (reverse) they had been falling for several hours from a cloudless sky / On 22nd he there again and the water still falling. / C R 14-664
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 26 Milena, Warasdin, Croatia, Hungary / meteorite / F
- 26 Hungary / near Agram 3 p.m. 3 p.m. / Stone LT June 23 p 10
- May 7 5:20 p.m. / quake / LT July 2, p 6, For two weeks had been a "particularly lurid tinge of the sky before night. 23, p 8, 5 minutes later sea rose 5 or 6 feet. To the S.E. sky intensely black "clouds of smoke rolled over head." / had been unusual drought (reverse) Hayti. Then on 7th the quake—town of Cape Hayti was destroyed.
- 7 Destructive quake Hayti. BA 1911-54
- 7 Quake. St. Domingo preceded by great-heat and heavy clouds. (Reverse) Niles Nat. Reg June 4, 1842
- 8 Quake - phe / 5:15 p.m. / LT July 1, p. 6. West Indies near St. Nicholas Mole - ship felt sharp shock - Capt saw clouds of dust arising from the land (reverse) At 6:30 p.m. a dense cloud of black smoke rising from the sea in the horizon as if from a volcano.
- 11 Geneva - C.R. 15/290 / Ac Dr. Wartman at 10:30 a.m. - not a cloud in the sky - no wind - for about 6 minutes fell (reverse) vertically large drops of warm water / at 3 p.m. under the same conditions again warm water in large drops about ¾ minutes - stopped ½ minute - fell abundantly one minute - stopped few seconds then again.
- 11 Whirl. In Liverpool "not a breath of air" clotheslines a common-thing were (reverse) seized upward. Smoke from chimneys indicated that above the surface there was a southward wind - the clothes were carried northward (reverse) and "have never since been heard of at least by the owner". This within 50 days of each other. Annals of Electricity
- 11 Liverpool / whirl and clotheslines / Annals of Electricity 6/499 (Reverse) See May 11, 1848.
- 11 Cupar Levitation. See Apr 25 or 18, 1869
- 11 Cupar Whirl and explosion. See Apr 1918
- 11 Cupar. See May 11, 1847
- 17 & 18 Odorous dry fog at Paris. C. R. 14-840 N.M.
- June 1 About Sweet stuff in hailstones / Nimes / France / D-63
- June 3 Detonations. Montpellier and Toulouse fireball size of sun N.E. to S.W. BA '60
- 3 Detonating meteor, 9 p.m. at Mende (Lozere) CR 14-918
- 3 Montpellier and Toulouse 9:15 p.m. Met size of sun detonation. BA 60-80
- 4 Aumières (dela Lozere) meteorite. BA 60
- 3 & 4 Shocks Berne / 3' Meteor Parma and S of France. 4 magnetic perturbations (reverse) at Brussels on 4th & 5th at Munich & Prague. BA '54
- 12 Met. det. Toulon. BA '60
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 17 LT p 6. Singular discovery
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 21 Quake and sky / Quake at Cartmel, Eng / dark red clouds in sky "rumbling sound, underground." bet 10 & 11 p.m. LT
- June 29, p5
- 30 See June 12, 1919
- 30 Cupar (reverse: and the following is typewritten by Fort, as if cut out of a page of MSS) LT July 5, 1842; the town of Cupar—the common: a public place, upon which women were hanging their wash out on lines conspicuousness—parallel white lines against a green background. It is said that the day was very clear; that there was not a cloud in the sky. A loud and sharp report was heard overhead. Whether something exploded up there or not, whether something like an enormous vacuum-cleaner was suddenly opened or not, it is said that this report was so loud that cattle in the fields ran about and for some time cowered in terror. Something pounced and snatched clothes from clotheslines. Some fell to the ground, but others went up and disappeared. The "preposterous" circumstance that at first evaded us become more and more definite, giving us more and more of the appearance of positiveness; that is seizure that had so little radius of disturbance that it seems unthinkable as a wind of any kind. It is said that a woman, holding a blanket, felt the blanket shooting upward; that so powerful was the force that, in fear of being carried (Here the page is cut. TT)
- Box A (Resumed)**
- July Decomposed half devoured body found in woods - no one missing in the neighborhood. Times July 6 1842/9
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- July Logrono, Spain 7 lb stone fell / Phil Mag 4/8/460
- July Lyston Hall, Suffolk. In Symon's 21/123. Cor writes of shower of (reverse) frogs in enormous numbers - gardeners swept up and carried away in wheelbarrows.
- (1842 or 1843)
- July 8 Eclipse of sun. Bib Univ. N.S. 35-160
- 8 Marseilles / Lights on moon during eclipse of sun. Loomis Treatise on Astr. p. 174
- 10 About noon. Dunblane 18 miles from Comrie quake LT July 13. p10
- 11 9:10 p.m. Fireball. Paris. BA '60
- 12 4:20 p.m. / Calamalla Spaita, Greece quake "Preceded by a loud aerial noise." BA '54 -323
- 21 Birkenhead up from Liverpool / Whirl An Regist 2/126 (Reverse) /LT July 26
- July 1842
- or 43 Frogs / Lyston Hall, Suffolk / Sym Met Mag 21/123
- July 29 Essex Eng / Whirl rather like

- Cupar.
- 31 Fireball. Hamburg. BA '60
- Aug 5 See Sept 5 Harrogate. Yorkshire / stone fall recorded as "very doubtful". B Assoc 1860/80
- 5 Fireball. Silesia. 8:20 p.m. N.W. to S.E. BA 60
- 9-10 Perseids. Parma - Myriads. Great numbers Germany and Belgium (reverse) In several parts of France not remarkable; in other parts, many. BA 47-15
- 10 Armagh. Meteor. Proc. Reg Irish Acad 2/332
- 12 9 p.m. Aosta. Meteor motionless "dizaine" seconds (reverse) R. B. Univ. N.S. 42-396
- 12 Great meteor at Sraud Temps (Isere) C.R. 15-451. 9 p.m.
- 19 bet 7 & 9 p.m. / Pitlochry. 3 shocks and sounds LT Sept. 1 p 3
- 22 bet 6 & 7 / Bangor, N. Wales, etc. booming sound & quake LT Aug 25 p 3.
- 27 S. Herefordshire. Man saw glass near a hedge - thought it reflection from some meteor BA 52/187
- Sept 3 Parma Fireball. BA '60
- 5 See Aug 5 Harrogate / huge stone - 1/2 ton in the storm Mechanics Mag 37/272
- 6 LT p 7. Waterspout
- 9 Quake. Gross-Kanischa / (Hung) / BA '11
- Box A (Resumed)
- 22 LT p 5. Strange if true
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- 24 5:55 a.m. & ab 7 p.m. / Shocks Comrie LT Oct 10
- 25 (Pax Ext. magnetic disturbance noted at Greenside Co. Annals of Electricity 6/112
- 25 Evening St. Louis brilliant meteor detonating like discharges of artillery. Niles Nat Reg. 63-96
- 30 Parma. Fireball. BA 60
- Oct 2 Bet. 6 & 7 p.m. At Dinau in Depart. Calvados. Shock (reverse) and sound like thunder clap, but it came distinctly from the ground. BA 54
- 4 Flashes reported by Mr. (?) of the Cambridge (?) (both the name of the man and the news-cut off TT) A bright streak of light in Orion and a center about bright as Jupiter, a center from which were coming quick, flickering waves of light (reverse) lasting 10 seconds. The waving ceased and there was a bright star in the center. It faded and in 2 minutes disappeared. Timb's Year Book 1843 / 279
- 4 Cambridge Fireball. BA '60
- 6-7 Night / Shock / Dinau (Calvados) BA '54-324. "Accompanied" by a hollow sound, which some (reverse) persons took for a clap of thunder; but the sky was perfectly free of clouds and the noise came distinctly from beneath upwards."
- 12 Meteor Isere / 13th on Rhine gave loud noise. BA 54/324
- 18 Hamburg Fireball. BA '60
- 23 Det met hear all over Silesia. BA 60-80
- 25 Spout Scotland. LT Nov. 24 p 4
- 28 7 p.m. Comet in Draco. A. J. Sci. 44 211
- Nov 4 12:30 p.m. Shock around mouth of Ohio. Two hours later (reverse) another with sound like thunder. Niles Nat. Register Nov. 26.
- 8 or 9 No fall of black matter in Canada recorded but see 9th in Italy
- 8 or 9 Montreal etc. "Terrible shocks and explosions like salvos of artillery (reverse) In Rept BA 1845 (Trans) p. 29 date given as 9th
- 8 Evening. Montreal, Canada, etc. quake "accompanied by explosions like salvos of artillery" (reverse) according to Audley Account was on the 9th. / BA '54/324
- 9 10:15 a.m. Distinct shock on southern side of Etna "The next day (reverse) a kind of volcanic dust covered the roofs, plants, etc., in Naples, Pozzuoli, Ischia and all the southwestern part of the Kingdom. BA 1854
- 9 Quake. Canada / Montreal, etc. BA 45/21
- 9 Quake Canada this day. Etna. Nothing said in Le Moniteur Univ which is Gaz (reverse) de France. Min Nat. & Com. France of fall of dust before Nov. 27
- Box A (Resumed)
- 9 See Nov. 17
- Nov 10
- 18
- 18 Mysterious fires. Mont-
- Dec 1 about tierendier & Boulancourt
- 8
- 9
- Nov 10 An de Chim 3/7254
- etc. See 1840 Myst. fires of Montierendier - Letter from the Justice of Peace of M. to M. Arago. Myst fires inexplicable after investigations by the authorities - Nov 18 the first - young girl saw a strong light pass and strike the window glass - the next day this house on fire (reverse) On 10th a great flame from the roof of a barn - on the 12th this barn on fire. Dec. 5 bet. 5 & 6 a.m. a luminous globe in the sky. On 8th of Feb. (?) 1843 globe of fire seen go out from a chimney - on 9th a barn on fire. Also, each in Dec. globe of fire. C.R. 16/206
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- 11 Quake Calcutta. A writer says he felt electrified 15 minutes after. LT 1843 Jan. 12 p. 3
- 13 Nantes (Fr) quake and explosions. BA '54
- Box A (Resumed)
- 18 etc. Flames fires (reverse - the bal-
- ance is typewritten by Fort, a fragment as if cut from a MSS. TT) In the Annales de Chimie, 3-7-254, is published a letter from the Magistrate of Montierender, to M. Arago - fires that had broken out, in Montierender and Boulancourt, towns about six miles apart. The Magistrate writes that, upon November 18, 1842, a young girl had entered her room, and had seen a bright light strike the window pane. The next day, the lofts of this house and four neighboring houses were found burning. At Coulancourt, November 10th, a great flame was seen near the roof of a barn. Two days later this barn was burned. At Montierender, early in December, luminous things were seen in the sky: they are described as if they were meteors. Upon the 8th of December, another luminosity was seen. It was thought to have issued from a chimney. The thing went to a cemetery, or it passed over a cemetery, where it divided into three parts, one of which fell into the cemetery, or seemed to, nothing of it (2nd page) having been found there. Upon the 9th of December, about a mile west of Montierender, a fire broke out in a barn. The Magistrate writes that the utmost endeavors of the police had been fruitless, and he appeals to M. Arago for the help of Science. ("Cemetery" is spelled so on the note. The "2nd page" bears the numerals "184" at the top, obviously a cut from a book MSS. TT)
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- 17 (F) Etna LT Dec. 26, p. 2 writing on Dec. 11th cor says that as long before as the 17th of Nov Etna exhibited extraordinary symptoms. The (reverse) smoke became denser and proceeded farther. No eruption noted till 27th.
- 27 etc. Etna Noted for Dec. 9. BA 54
- 27 11 p.m. eruption of Etna ac to Le Moniteur Universel Dec. 17.
- 27 11 p.m. Etna. Athenaeum. 1842-1116
- 30 Eden N.P.I. 47-55. Near Ahmedabad stone like Feb. 15, 1848. "This fragment presented so exactly the appearance of the foregoing aerolite from (reverse) Dharwar that it might have been taken for a portion of it; presenting the same dark vitrified surface, the grayish-white silicious interior, with the brilliant metallic particles diffused through it.
- Dec 2-11 Etna active C.R. 16-93
- 4 Algiers. Light quake. BA '11



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SAC, Richmond

June 17, 1947

Director, FBI

FORTEAN SOCIETY
TIFFANY THAYER
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

C.I.R. 5

There are attached hereto copies of a letter received by the Bureau from [redacted] under date of June 12, 1947, together with the Bureau's acknowledgment of that letter.

You are instructed to assign an Agent to contact [redacted] in the immediate future in order to obtain from him information concerning the organization about which he wrote. This contact should be handled expeditiously and the Bureau should be advised of the results in the immediate future.

Enclosure

JBH:vj

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 18 1947
JUN 18 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-7-77 BY 903 RDD BCE

RECORDED

EX-40

14-75-10

b6
b7C
b7D

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: September 12, 1950

FROM : SAC, DALLAS

SUBJECT: TIFFANY THAYER
SECURITY MATTER - C

Mr. PORTER T. BENNETT, 2821 Live Oak Street, Dallas, Texas, advised the writer that he is a subscriber to a magazine entitled "DOUBT", published by Fortian System, Box 192, Grand Central Station, New York City. He stated that TIFFANY THAYER is Secretary of the Fortian System, and in a recent publication of "DOUBT", THAYER in an article written by him stated that the imposition of sentences on the Communist leaders convicted in New York was a travesty of justice. BENNETT stated that THAYER in his article indicated that he was very strongly opposed to the sentences placed on the convicted Communists and felt that they should not have received prison sentences in a case of this kind.

This is being furnished for the information of the Bureau and New York City.

NAP:nsg

100-0

cc - (1) New York City

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DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD BCG/ML

INDEXED 119

RECORDED - 119

EX-89

343



Belarus

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
SECURITY MATTER - X

DATE: October 1, 1951

There is enclosed herewith Volume II, Whole Number 33 of "Doubt", the masthead of which reflects that it is the Fortean Society Magazine edited by TIFFANY THAYER, secretary of the Fortean Society, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York City. This magazine was forwarded to the Los Angeles Office by [redacted] So Pasadena, California, who indicated that he believed it to be a subversive publication. b6 b7C

A cursory review of the magazine reflects a commendatory review of MAX LOWENTHAL's book concerning the FBI on page 85, a reference to the Metropolitan Board of Conscientious Objectors, Room 1025, 5 Beekman Street, New York 38, N.Y., on page 88, and further slighting reference to the FBI on page 87. The general tenor of the publication appears to indicate an unusually critical attitude toward law enforcement and government.

Also enclosed is an application for membership in the Society reflecting the names of its founders.

No action is being taken concerning the above, and this is being forwarded for the information of the Bureau and the New York City Office.

Enc. (2)

GAD:gmw

100-0

cc - New York City

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DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD/BC/ELK

EXPEDITE PROCESSING

OCT 8 1951

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

EX-94

G.I.R. 5

RECORDED - 29

INDEXED 29

EX-92

OCT 5 1951

76 OCT 23 1951

OCT 19 1951

COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY
If any information is to be above
(EMPL. CARD)

Application for Membership

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

1931 A D = The Year 1 F S

BOX 192 GRAND CENTRAL ANNEX NEW YORK CITY

THE FOUNDERS

DECEASED

Harry Leon Wilson
Alexander Woollcott
B.J.S. Cahill
(Honorary)
Theodore Dreiser
Booth Tarkington

SURVIVING

Tiffany Thayer
Secretary
Aaron Sussman
Ben Hecht
Burton Rascoe
John Cowper Powys

HONORARY

Eric Frank Russell*
T. Swann Harding
Scott Nearing
Hereward Carrington
Don Bloch
Frederick S. Hammett

TIFFANY THAYER, *Secretary*:

Enclosed find check or money order for \$2.00, annual dues for the current calendar year. I understand this entitles me to (1) the Fortean Society Magazine (not a monthly) and other publications of the Society as and when issued; (2) access, through correspondence with you, to the data the Society has assembled, including the Notes of Charles Fort; (3) the privilege of attending all open meetings, dinners, lectures, etc., sponsored by the Society.

The obligations I assume are (1) to forward to you, for filing with the Society's permanent collection of data, all Fortean matter I can find; (2) to investigate Fortean phenomena in and near my place of residence to the best of my ability; (3) to maintain the Fortean attitude of enlightened skepticism at all times and to discover and reveal dogmatic assumption as such at every opportunity; (4) to interest persons of influence and leaders of public thought in the work of the Society and (5) to introduce the work — and the Books of Charles Fort — to *young people* of high school and college age whenever possible.

Name.....

Address

City..... State.....

*Eric Frank Russell represents The Fortean Society in Great Britain. Address 3 Dale Hay, Hooton, Cheshire, England.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD BOE L

Enc. to the Bureau (2)

1. Volume II, Whole Number 33 of "Doubt" magazine
2. Application for membership in the Fortean Society

RE: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

LA File 100-0

14-75-12

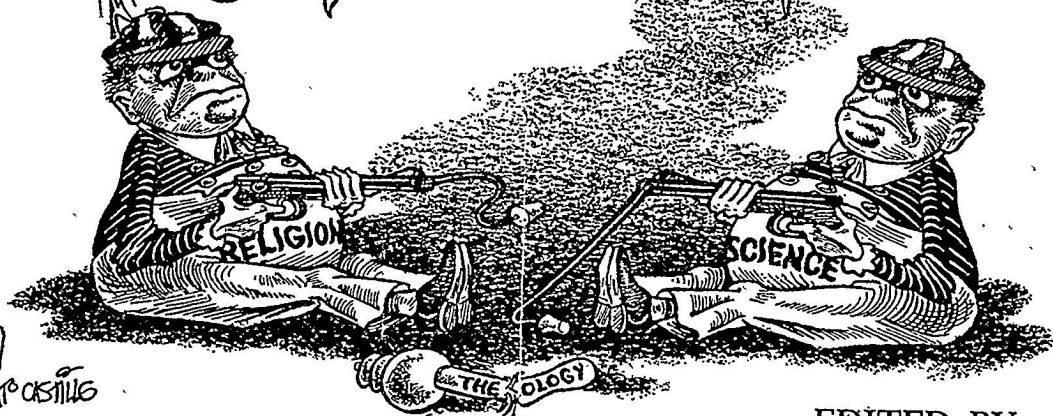
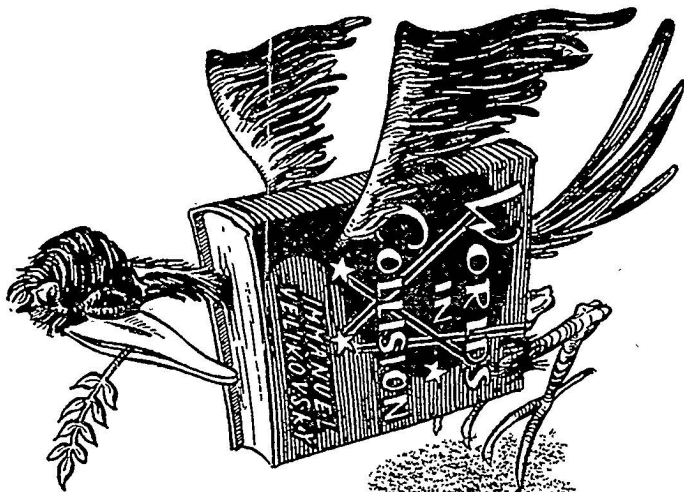
doubt

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Vol. II

Whole Number 33

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-12-97 BY 9803 EDP BAE



EDITED BY

TIFFANY THAYER

35c.

2/- in Great Britain

14-75-12

DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the
FORTEAN SOCIETY

Box 192 Grand Central Annex

New York City

1931 A D. = the year 1 F S

We use the Fortean 13-month calendar

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Dues in Sterling countries 8/—

In ENGLAND address

Eric Frank Russell

3, Dale Hey,

Hooton, Cheshire

DOUBT is on sale in principal cities of the world at 35c per copy, in Great Britain 2/—. Ask your bookseller to get it.

DOUBT is in principal Public Libraries, and many universities have complete files.

Ask us for list of back numbers still available.

FIRST PRIZE

It's Staats of Detroit, this quarter, with upwards of 30 data of rare quality. He found the best one "while cleaning the basement". It dates from September of the year 20 FS, and — as MFS Staats says — "reveals that there is very little deviation in the Piccard strain."

Don Piccard, nephew of Prof. Auguste, Swiss Balloonist, "missed the start of the first Dutch international balloon race (at Amsterdam) when he stuck his head into his own balloon and was overcome by gas."

From the same basement, likely, another oldie, May, 19 FS. The five-year-old son of Dr. John Birch, Onarga, Ill., pierced his hand with a rusty nail. The doctor gave the boy an anti-tetanus injection, and the child died. The coroner attributed death to the injection, but called it an "allergy".

Right up to date, 3-25-51, Doctors Boris Sokoloff and Walter H. Eddy, of Florida Southern College, announce that vitamin P, "obtained from the peel of oranges and grapefruit may offer much greater protection against an atomic bomb's radiation than steel and concrete shelters."

This reminds us of the time Europe was "starving" most recently, starving because of military action there by the U S A, after spending billions in taxes to make the people hungry, the plan was to spend more to make them unhungry, and the first edible stuff sent them was I forget how many millions of dollars worth of grapefruit juice. Now grapefruit juice is away over 90% water, so that the 90% of the purchase price was paid to the canners for water to be sent to starving folk.

Grapefruit juice is consumed by American women who wish to reduce their weight, so it could not be expected to put much meat on European bones, but it put sugar in the pantry of the American canners.

But you observe that the canners were stuck with the garbage, the useless rinds of the grapefruits, poor

fellows, but not stuck for long. The same government which had created the hunger, and subsequently conceived this farcical means of assuaging it, had also spent billions of the tax take developing "atomic bomb radiations", which their own experts have called well over 90% buncomb, and spent still further moneys developing a fraud called "vitamins".

What more natural than that the garbage from around the water sent in cans to starving Europe should be found to contain a "new vitamin" which protects people from radiations of 90% buncomb!

God bless America!

MFS Bristol sent in a pretty set of three, for second honors.

An Australian bank examiner visited the institution in Chatsworth, Queensland. The place was open, but deserted of personnel. He checked the books, and eventually saw the manager and the teller sitting nearby playing poker with the accountant and "ledgerkeeper". "Hoping to scare the erring four, the inspector rang the burglar alarm. At the signal a bartender from a pub across the street hurried over with four beers."

In the British House of Commons (4-5-51), Leonard Ropner, M.P., asked how came it that freshly minted florins had been delivered to a Bermuda bank, labelled, "Made in U. S. A." Neither the U.S. mint nor the Treasury Department would admit making the coins. Ropner was supposed to receive his answer April 17, too late to catch this issue.

The Legislature of Washington (state), 2-13-51, abolished a park that never existed. In 19 FS, the Legislature passed a law creating a State Park on the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Come to find out, the land there was all privately owned. So — two years later — they decided not to have a park there.

A companion-piece comes in from MFS Weller, concerning one Paul Snow whose hobby appears to be passing himself off upon State Legislatures as a Senator from Maine. He fooled the Kentucky Solons at an unstated date in the past, and got away with it again April 13, when he addressed a joint session of the Ohio legislators at Columbus. His speech was particularly hard upon the Democrats, and some of them checked with a Portland, Maine, newspaper. Between his visits to the marble halls sacred to the gobbling up of taxes, Mr. Snow resides in one or another State mental institution.

In Maine, 2-9-51 old style, the Register of Probate, one J. Horace McClure, asked the Legislature to reduce his salary by \$200 per annum. He thinks he is getting too much money for the work he does. Cr Lasko.

Last month the price of butter in N. Y. C. was 80 cents per pound and up, but the Italian liner Sarnia sailed with 1,300,000 pounds of the stuff which had been bought from CCC at 17 cents a pound, aceto the *Daily News*.

The priest who runs the Sunday School of St. Luke's, at St. Albans, Herts., has taken up ventriloquism to hold his audiences. The dummy is Johnny the Golliwog, and he is very popular. Says the Rev.: "It is possible in this way to explain to the children passages which the teachers normally find difficult to make them understand."

Can't you hear the dialogue? "You nippers better believe in the immaculate conception or I'll mow you down."

Crowding all the above for a place on the Honor Roll is this monster from Giles . . . Dr. T. Dale

Steward of Smithsonian told a reporter (1-30-51) that dinosaurs apparently suffered from arthritis. How know? Their joints are rough.

Pertinent to the death by antitoxin, above, is a special despatch to the Buffalo *Evening News* from Atlanta, Ga. Dr. Thomas F. Sellers, director of the Georgia State Health Department is quoted. "It is my firm belief after 30 years of practical experience that complications produced by the (anti-rabies) vaccine when given to persons only indirectly or remotely exposed have caused more deaths than has rabies."

Dr. Ernest H. Tierkel agrees, but attributes the deaths to "allergic reaction". That is to say, if you die of antitoxin it is your own peculiar fault.

The Los Angeles County Medical Association "is starting a drive to immunize" all residents of the county against smallpox, typhoid-paratyphoid and tetanus, and children additionally for diphtheria and whooping cough. That should give L.A. the highest polio rate in the country. 2-28-51.

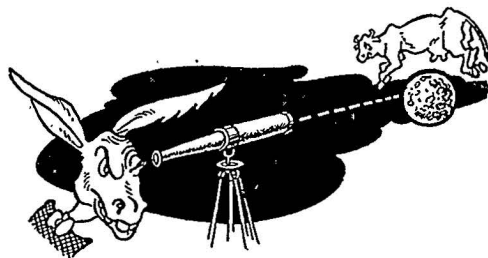
In Korea, 2-24-51, more than one million persons had been inoculated *this month* against typhus and smallpox. The serum manufacturers alone will keep that cozy little war going until Hell freezes over.

For any amount of statistical material linking antitoxins, immunization shots, tonsilectomies, etc., with polio and paralysis, address

American Medical Liberty League
20 West Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago 4, Ill.

also —
Responsible Enterprise Association
1252 Majestic Bldg.,
Detroit 26, Mich.

Also — subscribe to the new magazine — PRE-VENTION, issued by J. I. Rodale, Emmaus, Pa. This "new kind of health magazine" starts looking for the source of most of men's ills in the soil and what comes out of it. One year \$3.00. Send your order direct to Emmaus.



YOU CAN STOP LOOKING

The American Astronomers Society in session 12-30-50 at Haverford, Pa., was told — by whom is not stated in the Buffalo *Evening News* — that all the planets have now been found. "This definitely sets the bounds of the solar system and eliminates the need for further searching for unknown planets, it was said." Cr Goldstein.

AMAZING INDIFFERENCE

No other file in the Fortean archives is so full as the one for UNFINISHED BUSINESS. This seems to us to be a sign of good health and endurance. If that folder ever were empty, the Fortean Society would be no more. However, it needs clearing out

a bit, so we take this means of passing on some of the labors hinted at. Volunteers are wanted, to find out why the people named below have not joined the Society. They appear to be Fortean at heart, and they have been sent applications for membership without results. If you know any of these unresponsives personally, please consult with them, either with a view toward their conversion or to learn if we can help them.

W. E. Jurgens Eastman, Assen, Holland, wrote to the Manchester *Guardian* about chipped milk bottles.

H. Leon Creeth, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, suggested using bullet-proof glass for milk bottles.

Frederick A. Jacobson, Oradell, N. J., had a run-in with the editor of *Different*.

Mrs. Cowan, Thornbury, Melbourne, Australia, active in the Spiritual Research Society.

Arthur Sternberg, St. Paul, Minn., alleged to have withheld a portion of his income tax as a protest against "the government's preparations for war".

(In this connection, see elsewhere in this issue, under TAX PROTESTORS)

T. Kushimoto, Hokkaido, Japan, wished to exchange his newspaper writing with the editor of the Washington *Post*.

Andrew Bernhard, called "Editor" of the Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette*, wrote a good article on "sauces", but perhaps his apathy toward the Society is of a piece with his paper's crusade against Drosnes-Lazenby who gave relief to cancer sufferers.

Fritz Wezork, a bookseller of Stuttgart, who distributed a few copies of DOUBT to his customers but remained courteously incurious.

M. Meulenhoff, a bookseller of Amsterdam, Holland, who wrote, "Please stop sending copies to our address, unless especially requested."

David K. Boynick, purportedly an INS staff man, NYC, who quoted the Bowery Social Register.

Erich Brandeis, a King Features columnist, who got a column out of the Fortean question, Is the Earth Really Round?

Albert Bofman, Chicago, who wrote, "The limited reading time at my disposal does not warrant your sending me further copies, especially since I don't seem in the hurried glance through it to get its motif."

H. I. Phillips, a syndicated columnist, who wrote in praise of Garry Davis.

Oliver F. Billingsley, proprietor of something called Project X, in Glendale, Calif. He threatened to start a magazine devoted entirely to "sauces".

Bosley Crowther, N.Y. *Times* columnist who took violent exception to the censorship of "The Miracle", a movie which local Catholics had the pull to get banned.

Freling Foster, column conductor on *Collier's*, deals in such oddities as made Ripley famous. These are not quite the same thing as Foreana but there is a great deal of overlap.

Clifford Young, Monongahela, Pa., who knows where a "rough hewn sandstone" is growing, and who once found a "perfectly" round piece of "fool's gold".

George D. Boutwell, East Hartford, Conn., had intentions (in 17 FS) "of forming a Hygienic Co-op Community". He signed off, "Yours for Health truth and Medical Liberty."

Dr. the Rev. Leo Charles Donnelly, Detroit, Mich.; signed off. "With good wishes, not too courageously

Dr. Donnelly."

Arthur Ruthen, Ajai, Calif., who used to sell Talismans "under the New Covenant of the Aquarian Age" — the purpose was to render "the wearers IMMUNE TO ALL FORMS OF DARK FORCE ATTACK".

D. Frood, "Univy of Cambridge," who sent us four of these Talismans and a 'bum Los Angeles address.

Perry Richards, "New York's Man-in-White" who wrote praising Fort highly and enclosing a photograph to which he referred, thus: "I may or may not be a crank, but I appeared for 5 years (1915-21) on Fifth Avenue and Broadway in an *entirely white dress* (as in the enclosed picture) the whole year around, even in the coldest weather. " . . . Mr. Richards wrote from Hartford, Wash., in the year 18 FS, "within the next 20 years there will (be) phenomena on such a tremendous scale that humanity will stand aghast! They will affect every living thing. *Nobody will escape.* If your fine Society survives, all the better. The very crust of the earth will be violently shaken all over this stationary planet."

Max Wylie, a book reviewer for the N. Y. Times who mentions Charles Fort sympathetically in reviewing other men's books.

Al Baux, a cartoonist on the Worcester (Mass.) Gazette, who took "certain scientists" for a ride.

Pierre-Marie Ventre, Paris, France, who concocted a delightful philosophy called Resistentialism, accto Paul F. Jennings, of the Times' Paris staff.

Vice-Admiral C. S. Freeman, USN, "publisher" of an Intelligence Digest, from "deep amongst the Buckinghamshire beech trees".

Abdo John, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., who invented a machine alleged to "cure" hiccoughs. One case testimonial had been hiccup 176 days.

David Sturgis, Santa Monica, Calif., called Uranus "the planet of Universal democracy" and said that for the first time in 84 years Uranus had entered the sign of Cancer, "birth sign of America", in 18 FS, where it will stay for 7 years. Sturgis thinks that is good.

DAD, of Hollywood, who "established 1911, a means of disseminating "Education in a nutshell . . . Thousands have used these ideas in solving life problems."

Robert G. Hall, who wrote from the office of AP in Cincy, in December of the year 17 FS: "Please consider this as my application for membership in your Society" and then disappeared as completely as Bathurst.

Dr. J. Ennis, of Toronto, Ontario, who sends his patients to us.

Robert B. Maguire of Baltimore, who saw an incandescent ball floating over a road near Annapolis about 1936.

H. R. Paradise, Seattle, who wrote . . . "am working on a gun that will fire from the breech simultaneously with the frontal discharge, killing two soldiers at once. This will shorten wars."

Golden E. Smith of Chicago, who reported a long waiting list for THE BOOKS at the Chicago Public Library.

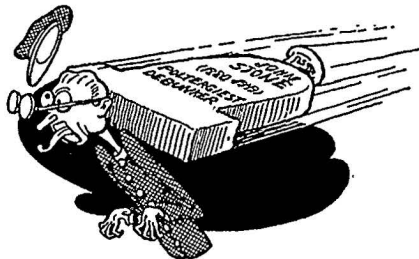
Robert H. Stair, Clark College, Vancouver, Wash., who wrote, "I am already familiar with Charles Fort and his works, and often use some of his theses as a spur in the stimulation of independent thought among my students."

Jimmy Witherspoon of Springfield, Mo., and Alfred Pelouquin of Marlboro, Mass., who are interested in interplanetary rockets.

"Dr." G. N. M. Tyrell, past president of the (British) Society of Psychical Research, who was quoted as stating that "since the war" mediums reported an "inexplicable difficulty in getting through", that is, in establishing contact with "spirits".

Dr. R. N. Whitefield, Jackson, Miss., who was quoted: "It is my firm belief that an individual who spends nearly 25 years continuously in school is not altogether practical."

C. O. Steele, Bradentown, Florida, who published a paper called *The Individualist*.



A. W. Pleasants of Denver, who reported that a "grave" had been spaded into his "carefully tended lawn" and a "stolen" tombstone placed in position. The stone weighed an estimated 150 pounds. Half in and half out of the "grave" was a headless doll. An attempt was being made, Aug. 18 FS, to locate the graveyard source of the tombstone.

Walter W. Zimmerman, UCLA meteoriticist, Northridge, Calif., who stated that the Canyon Diablo "crater", in Arizona, was rectangular in shape.

Mrs. Robert Bailey, Nashville, Tenn., who saw "five grouped meteors" in the summer of 1913 AD, and alleges that they passed so closely that her party near Bowling Green, Ky., thought they were going to be struck.

Dean A. Worcester, Jr., Seattle, who published a five-page plan for making peace permanent, April 18 FS.

Mrs. Stuart Haldorn, Del Monte, Calif., who wrote, "I have often wondered why I didn't believe what THEY say about things — now I know — thanks to Charles Fort."

C. William Honhold and Robert D. Eaton, Sewickley, Pa., who claimed ownership of the moon, that is, Luna, April 18 FS.

John D. Paulus, of the Pittsburg Press, who took a fall out of Dale Carnegie that must have hurt, July 18 FS.

Carl H. Savitt, sometime instructor at Calif. Inst. of Tech., who claimed to have squared the circle, June 18 FS.

Herbert L. Matthews, book reviewer for the N. Y. Times who wrote, "The ugliness of Franco Spain was laid bare long ago for those who needed enlightenment, and now there are the converted to whom it is unnecessary to preach and the 'fellow travelers' whose faith cannot be shaken."

Fagin Fogg, columnist on the Jefferson Park (Ill.) Times, who wrote, "Some scientist, obviously sick and tired of all those loose generalities about a 'snail's pace,' carefully clocked a snail and discovered that a 'snail's pace' is exactly .00363005 miles per hour. It is entirely in the spirit of scientific

inquiry to get a figure as accurate as that despite its ultimate uselessness."

Edward F. Candler, called "a director" of the American Rocket Society, has a plan whereby "sunbeams may steer guided missiles in the next war."

Willi Wolfradt, staff writer on the German paper, *Aufbau*, who wrote a piece taking the "lie-detector" apart.

Matt Weinstock, columnist on the *LA Daily News*, who quoted Charles Fort at length in 18 FS, in commenting upon a Wonet.

Dickson Terry, feature writer on the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, who handled a "Gigantic Bird Mystery" in a Fortean manner.

Kurt Seligmann, author of *The Mirror of Magic*, which mentions Charles Fort favorably.

Walter H. Johnson, editor of *Statewide*, Boise, Idaho, to whom permission was granted to quote Charles Fort in his paper.

Henry K. B. Stanton, Exeter, Devon, England, who wrote, "I seek information regarding the little known inventor Grindell Matthews. I understand that, after the rejection of his death-ray by the 'proper authorities,' he took the idea to the U. S. A. and there made a film with his device as the theme. I am endeavouring to ascertain whether Matthews was the 'impostor' that a certain well known editor would have us believe, or whether he really was the 'stormy petrel of science,' as his biographer describes him."

George Gatling, Orpington, Kent, England, who "wrote to the *Times*" decrying the morbidity of crowds waiting in the streets outside a palace while a royal birth proceeds inside.

Carl Giessen, jun, Duisberg, Germany, who wrote, "B. H. Liddell Hart . . . seems to believe there are men in Western Germany who may willingly join an army again. The truth is that Germany really has become a peace-loving nation, and we all hate militarism from the bottom of our hearts . . . Everywhere one hears people say, 'We will never take part in any future wars.'"

Professors Fujio Hago and Shuinichi Oshigashi of Kyoto Imperial U., who worked with an American, Val D'Ancona, N.Y., and by putting a Junkers injector in an engine instead of a carburetor increased efficiency "considerably".

Hugh Laning, feature writer on the Sydney (Ausie) *Morning-Herald* wrote a fairly Fortean piece, Beware of the Poltergeist.



Olive Morgan, Gardiner, Oregon, who wrote asking us to "classify the 'Oregon Vortex' and to tell her about the 'Ape Men' in the 'vast unexplored wilderness between Mt. Baker and the

Canadian border." She read about both in the *American Weekly*.

Emerson M. Clymer, Quakertown, Pa., publisher of *The Rosicrucian Fraternity in America*.

G. W. Burner, M. D., Johnstown, O., wrote protesting the tragic farce of trying and executing so-called "war criminals" in Japan and Germany.

Ludwig Bemelmans, New York, Hollywood, and wherever, struck a Fortean chord in *Sacre du Printemps*, a short story.

L. Miller, Houston, Texas, a pamphleteer for monetary reform.

J. C. Lankes, Virginia, possessed of a fundamental Forteanism which is evident in his writing and his teaching.

Vardis Fisher, who wrote those books about our prehistoric prototypes, with Fortean independence.

Anthony Brooke, Raja Muda of Sarawak, Singapore, who wrote a somewhat Fortean letter to the *Manchester Guardian*.

SIZZLING FACTS

The hottest book since Lincoln Steffens is Max Lowenthal's factual account of the growth of the monstrous FBI. The wipers have tried to steer you away from it in their reviews for reasons which will be obvious when you read it. Without passion or argument the author has set down the history of the slow murder of American freedom. If the little that is left of liberty seems to you to be worth saving, read this book.

Don't miss it!

Because of his great contribution in these pages to the restoration of independent thinking, Max Lowenthal, the author, has been nominated for Fortean Fellowship.

The publisher is the same William Sloane who was so instrumental in publishing THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT as an omnibus.

Read FBI, by Max Lowenthal, and learn how to defend yourself from the encroachments of the police-state.

From the Society — \$5.00.

MORE BOOKS

A new fantasy by Erick Frank Russell — *Dreadful Sanctuary* — occurs in 1972, concerns the 18th rocket to the moon, and the question, "How do you know you are sane?" Russell's style and speed need no introduction to Fortean. Readers of *Sinister Barrier* won't want to miss this. From the Society — \$2.75.

Under the headline — AMERICA'S TRADITION OF PROTEST — the *Times* printed a favorable review of *Men of Good Hope*, by Daniel Aaron, and the book deserves the good review. Whether the tradition of the men studied by Mr. Aaron is particularly American or not is another question. It will be worth your while to see how the author links together the "progressive" line from Emerson to Theodore Parker, to Henry George to Edward Bellamy, to Henry Demarest Lloyd to William Dean Howells (sic) and Thorstein Veblen.

It will be worth your while also to rediscover Henry Demarest Lloyd, who appears to have suffered an undeserved neglect since his death, a victim of the traditional American conspiracy of silence. *Men of Good Hope*, from the Society, \$4.00.

In a monograph called *Greenhouse World*, Donald Lee Cyr carries on the studies of his ancestor, Isaac Newton Vail. New orthodox evidence for the an-

1914



1944

BURN THE EVIDENCE, SGT.
O'HARA! OUCH! YOU LITTLE
BASTARD!



1951

HOLD IT! I HAVEN'T GOT
THE ROPES ON
THE BODIES
YET!



EVOLUTION OF SCIENTIFIC WAR-PROPAGANDA

nular theory is presented with a leaven of Forteanism. 52 pp., many illustrations and diagrams, heavy wpps. From the Society, \$1.00.

My Life With Dreiser, by Helen Dreiser, widow of the writer, covers the friendship of Charles Fort and Theodore with first-hand-intimacy. From the Society, \$3.75.

One Woman's Fight, by Vashti McCollum, Accepted Fellow Fortean Society, is the complete story of the famous case. From the Society, \$3.00.

SPECIAL DRAYSON FIND

Our good member W. Janney who spent the period of World Fraud II in assorted prison camps, preferring to dig privy pits rather than salute what he would have had to salute and shoot what he would have had to shoot, has found a rare Drayson book, which some student of the Problem may wish to acquire. It is a first edition of *Untroudden Ground in Astronomy and Geology: Giving Further Details of the Second Rotation of the Earth and of the Important Calculations Which Can Be Made By Aid of a Knowledge Thereof*, London, 1890. Condition is described as "shabby and worn but sound". 8 vo, orig. blue cloth, 305 pp. \$10.00, from the Society.

RUSSELL'S BEST

Funny, isn't it? — the cream of Russell's Forteanism, skimmed in Britain, originates in the USA, but the stories must not appear in native wppers, because nobody else sends them in.

Harlow Shapley discovered (3-18-51) "a star whose radius is more than eight times the distance between the sun and earth (93 million miles)". That will put the West Coast keepers of the White Elephant on their mettle.

A patent has been granted (1-16-51) in Washington to the inventor of a pellet containing Ethylic alcohol and tartaric acid. Put it in water and you have "something resembling champagne".

The 10,000-ton U.S. aircraft carrier *Independence* is to be blown up at sea "by a method stated not to be atomic which U. S. Navy is keeping secret." No cameramen or newsmen will be allowed to watch, but the taxpayers will be permitted to pay for the building of a successor to the *Independence* after she is sunk.

A Grand Island (Neb.) newspaper circulated a petition (3-20-51) ostensibly asking for better recreational facilities but in reality testing whether people read what they sign. These words in the body of the petition: *That I be hanged-by-the-neck-until dead*. The Liverpool Echo states that 35 people signed. It does not state ONLY 35, but if that is the case, it speaks well for Grand Island citizens. In New York you can bet 35,000 would have signed it.

Memphis, Tenn., has "put out" (presumably banned) Charlie Chaplin's *City Lights*. 1-12-51. "The authorities say there is nothing against the picture but that the comedian is a traitor to the Christian way of life, an enemy of decency, virtue and marriage."

The Reuter's war correspondent, Alex Valentine, was forced to leave Korea by the U. S. Headquarters (1-16-51) because he wanted to put the truth into his despatches to his British employers.

Japan's two leading warplane designers — Saburo Horikoshi and Kiro Honjo — are working for the U. S. Air Force (on loan) in Tokyo. 1-7-51. "Since the terms of the Pacific surrender prohibited all aeronautical research design or manufacture (one) has been working on the design of light cars and sewing machines and (the other) on the design of bicycles."

The *Daily Express* of 1-21-51 states that Americans have had so many disappointments over the "wonder drugs" — from sulfa right down the line — that they have started calling them the "I wonder drugs".

When P. P. Jones (Oxford) told a conference of "university Conservative associations" that — "Britain and America are so important to one another that it is better they should pursue a wrong policy together than that one should pursue a right policy by itself." — he was greeted with cries of NO! — and SHAME! 3-21-51 old style.

Russell sends a picture clipped from *Time*, issue of 1-8-51, but does not include the accompanying text. The caption reads "Parade in Peking / wishes v. facts." and the photo is credited to "Sovofoto". The picture shows a great mass of Orientals in a kind of fatigue uniform, something like prison dress in U.S.A., and it has been retouched to look as if

these hundreds of men were carrying hundreds of photos of Stálin. To anyone familiar with retouching processes and the business of making cuts for reproduction, this picture is a bald and obvious fake. The question is whether "Sovofoto" or *Time* did the faking.

Russell pursues his international course with a Copenhagen bit, stating that in a blood bank there "soft music is played while blood is taken from donors". *Kashmiri Song*, no doubt.

In New Zealand, as of 1-16-51 old style, they had experienced 72 earthquakes in 5 days.

In Rome, the Pope approved a decree (1-12-51) proclaiming Gabriel, the Archangel of the Annunciation, "protector of radio communications".

Russell lists his "One Way Correspondence:

"Reports on the American witch hunt said it had proved effective, got rid of commies and other traitors and "cleared four thousand homo-sexuals out of the State Department." I wrote the F.B.I., Washington asking for data on this new political party called Homosex. No reply.

"Festival of Britain authorities announced that an astronomical telescope to be placed on view there could not be looked through by the public. I wrote asking whether any other astronomical telescope can be looked through, and if not, why not. No reply.

"British newspapers have been smacking lips over profitable defense contracts coming to Big Biz. Seemed to me that Big Biz must have become one-track-minded in letting other opportunities pass, and that it was up to the slicker like me to step in and take my slice. So I wrote to our Ministry of Supply asking for a highly profitable *attack* contract. No reply.



"I wrote four editors asking who they are going to blame for everything when Those Damned Reds have been wiped out. No reply.

"I wrote my Member of Parliament asking which did he consider the greater weapon, the Atom Bomb of The Chinese Womb. No reply."

In another letter, Russell writes:

"Ye Gee (MFS Judith Gee, London) reports an apparently worthwhile book on the sexual causes of war. The theory is that World Frauds are arranged by power-loving sexually impotent old men to take the steam off sexually excitable and therefore bellicose young men, thus ridding themselves of the surplus of younger competitors for fanny-favors and taming the rest. I am trying to get a copy for you."

Reporting upon his researches into the cause of that accident to the astronomer who fell off his telescope, Russell writes: "He tawt he taw a puddy tat."

And ends this session with a piquant morsel from Sheffield . . . A worker in a flour mill wanted to go home early, and conceived the jolly means of

turning loose some poison gas, thereby closing the mill. "The foreman and two were overcome." The mill was out of business four hours and work was then resumed — in gas masks. Now, where did the worker get the poison gas? Why, it is used in processing the flour — for the British table.

Ask your local Health Officer, family doctor, or MFS "Ajax" Carlson how flour is bleached and processed in America!

MEMBERS ASK

Many members ask how they can help the Fortean Society, in ways other than contributing cash. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Check with all local free public libraries, whether or not they have THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT. Let us know, and send us the addresses of any who do not have it.

2. Check the nearest university libraries, on Fort and A. M. Drayson: also, State or Province libraries at the capital.

3. Urge your bookseller and rental library to keep THE BOOKS in stock and in circulation.

4. Send us the correct firm name and address of the largest newsstand in your locality, the one that takes pride in the completeness of its imported selection.

5. Send us the names of all local school papers, edited by undergraduates: high school, colleges, public and private.

6. Donate a copy of THE BOOKS to the library of the nearest penitentiary.

7. Keep a lending copy of THE BOOKS for the use of the smartest youngsters of your circle. Give THE BOOKS as a graduation present to at least one person yearly.

8. Write letters to the editors of your local papers on Fortean topics, and send carbon copies to the Society.

9. Send us names and addresses of the most intelligent people you know. State whether or not we may use your name in approaching them.

10. Put Fortean stickers on your outgoing mail.

11. Put Fortean bookmarks in library books you return.

12. When you receive DOUBT, if you do not use the booklist or the membership application blank yourself, mail either or both to someone who may find it interesting.

13. Cultivate the acquaintance of newspaper people and attempt to get them to adopt the Fortean attitude toward the news they write, and to mention Charles Fort whenever possible in their stories.

14. Write critical letters to the editor of encyclopedias and biographical dictionaries asking why Charles Fort is not listed in their books. He is listed in TWENTIETH CENTURY AUTHORS.

15. If you are a writer, painter, sculptor, composer or architect, apply your art to Fortean themes. What would a Fortean painting look like? A Fortean "cathedral"? What would a Fortean symphony sound like? A Fortean "hymn"?

16. What should be said in a Fortean funeral service? Try your hand at writing that.

17. Never let unreasoned assumptions pass unnoticed in the news. Write to the editor every time he is guilty, and send carbon copies of your letters to the Society.

18. Never let "authorities" of any kind, neither police, military, school, church or "defense" impose upon your liberty or dignity. Don't let anybody push you around or awe you. Don't mind what the neigh-

bors say or think. Do your own thinking — and speak up.



19. Use the Fortean Society 13-Month Calendar. Date your letters, checks, and all documents *both* ways so that others will ask why you do it, and you can explain how sensible the 13-Month Calendar would be if universally used.

All these things will help the Fortean Society—and you too.

THAT'S OUR BOY

Reviewing *The Chemistry and Physiology of Growth*, a collection of 10 outstanding contributions to the subject, in the magazine, *Growth*, HFFS Hammett wrote:

Another outstanding aspect of these presentations is the absence of dogmatism. While the authors may state their precepts in what may seem irreversible terms, nonetheless each and every one exhibits a mind receptive to change. They are not exclusionists. And they admit in the words of Chas. Fort, that "everything in our experience is only a part of something else that in turn is only a part of still something else." Thus the barriers are being disposed of. And teamwork in attempting to solve the mysteries of the most general property of all things is developing.

PURPURA TO YOU

The Fortean vocabulary is enriched by *purpura* the name of "a rare disease which breaks down the blood vessel tissues and leaves purple blotches on the body." Johnny Zachodni, 16, was said to have died of it in 14 FS, in White Hill Reformatory, Penna. The case has been reopened because fellow inmates, since released, say that Johnny was beaten to death by the guards. *Purpura*. Pretty?

IS THIS OLD STUFF?

Out of Rutgers, *via* MFS Bonavia, comes some cancer research data which quite blithely refers to "the most potent cancer causing chemicals" and, later, to "human beings who are exposed by their employment to cancer-causing chemicals . . . used in the dye industry and; until its cancer properties were discovered, as an insecticide."

YS is naive sometimes. Do the people in these employments know their danger? Do employers in those industries warn applicants? Who has a list of the industries involved? What were the names of the insecticides now so bravely discontinued? What diseases are caused by the insecticides which supplant the cancer causers?

TAX PROTESTORS

Elsewhere in this issue one Arthur Sternberg is mentioned as withholding income tax in protest

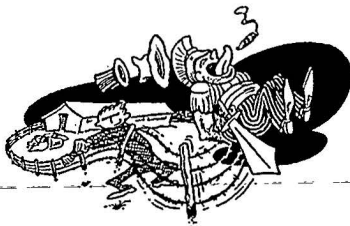
against war preparations.

Another doughty of like courage is named in the *News* of the War Resisters League. He is Walter Gormley, Mount Vernon, Iowa. As his car was auctioned off by "authorities" to pay 1947-49 tax, students from Cornell College stood by him bearing signs lettered with encouraging slogans. The *News* states that "at least 59" persons followed this course of protest at tax time this year.

Rev. A. J. Muste, a Presbyterian minister of N.Y.C., sent a three-page letter to the Bureau of Internal Revenue in lieu of a "return". With the letter went a copy of the Gospels and Henry Thoreau's essay on civil disobedience.

The Tax Refusal Committee of Peacemakers has members in 14 States.

The street address of Rev. A. J. Muste is given in the NYC telephone book as 520 West 122nd St.



CONCHIE INFO

Conscientious Objectors to military service who need information about their status under existing laws may obtain it gratis by writing to Metropolitan Board of Conscientious Objectors, Room 1025, 5 Beekman Street, New York 38; N. Y.

Any of you members who save money by not contributing to Cancer, Heart and Polio Rackets can put the saving to good use by sending it to the above address as a contribution. "Its members and advisors serve without compensation but we have some clerical and mailing expenses, sometimes we provide bail, and we ought to advertise our existence much oftener so that an individual doesn't find himself in jail or the army through ignorance."

MFS PORTER SARGENT

1872 AD — 21 FS

FORTEAN LOSS

Most of his adult life Porter Sargent was a nettle in the side of educational complacency, especially among private schools of the higher learning. He was a sharp critic, with the courage to speak out, and for many years an active Fortean. He died April 3, 21FS (March 27, 1951 old style). His work will be carried on by his surviving son, F. Porter Sargent. Another son, Upham, disappeared while on a canoe trip in the Hudson's Bay Indian country.

CREDIT DUE

These good members sent in material which could not be used in this issue of DOUBT: Laclede, Creviston, Elsander, Keating, Emison, Collander,

As Secretary of the Society, I am addressing this letters to the Founders and Honorary Founders, (and now to the Members), soliciting their opinions and advice. I present my view of the situation to you, and then ask a series of numbered questions. Will you please answer the questions, and add anything you wish by way of comment? I do not mind going to jail, if needs must, but I hesitate to precipitate trouble without consulting your honorable selves. I hesitate to crystallize and make public a Fortean viewpoint of such great significance without your concurrence.

As appears to me, we Forteans are the only body of individuals organized on a non-political basis who are concerned for our rapidly diminishing freedom. It is difficult to know how the majority of the general public feels about this, because, in addition to its chronic inarticulateness, it is now all but perfectly gagged. Perhaps it is no more than a prejudice of mine, but I credit native American horse sense with awareness of the situation, in its broader outlines, and I think it wants only the means to make its power felt. The big question is whether or not we wish to attempt to provide the means.

I conceive of an advertisement to be run in the New York Times and other newspapers in large cities, reading something like this:

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE IT!

Everyone knows that "Civilian Defense" is nothing but the politicians' alibi for wasting billions of the public money.

IF YOU WISH TO PROTEST

AGAINST wasteful war preparations —
 AGAINST peacetime conscription —
 AGAINST dog-tagging your children —
 AGAINST air-raid wardens —
 AGAINST regimentation in any form —

Address

The Fortean Society
 Box 192, Grand Central Annex
 New York City

Some papers will refuse that copy. Some will accept modified versions. By invoking the law we can force some to take it, either as written or as revised.

QUESTIONS

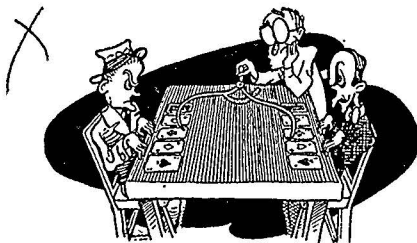
- (1) Is individual liberty properly the concern of the Fortean Society?
- (2) Do you consider our freedom in jeopardy at this time?
- (3) Would you say that taking up this fight was a political action?
- (4) Would you condemn the action for that reason?
- (5) Would you condemn the action for other reasons? (Please state them).
- (6) Do you consider the advertisement as written a fair statement of fact?
- (7) What would you take out of it?
- (8) What would you add?
- (9) If the majority of Founders and Honorary Founders agreed with the action, in essence, and advised the Secretary to go to it, would you resign?
- (10) Would you help?
- (11) How?

(Money is no immediate concern, but in the event of a long legal battle, even to the ultimate extreme of carrying the issue to the

- Supreme Court, funds would be required.)
- (12) If the Secretary were arrested, would you testify in his behalf?
- (13) Would you contribute cash toward the expense of the trial?

Please reply at length.

Sincerely,
 (signed)
 Secretary



DUKE ASKS US

MFS Turner is working at Duke U in the Parapsychology Laboratory. He writes:

"I am very much interested in the problem of unusual direction-finding in animals. The sort of thing I am referring to is exemplified by the case of 'Bobbie', a collie dog who found his way back home to Oregon six months after being lost in Indiana. Another example is that of 'Teddy', the toad, who returned ten miles to his favorite garden upon being carried away by Mr. F. H. Sidney, who followed him all the way back."

Will members send data directly to Malcolm E. Turner, Jr., please? Duke is at Durham, North Carolina.

We had no data in the archives for him, but here is one dated 12-21-50. A cat walked 17 miles, from the Carborundum plant in Niagara Falls to 132 Maple Grove Ave., Tonawanda, N. Y. The householders' name is LeRoy C. Schniepp. As the cat crossed the street in front of the house at the end of the hike, it was struck by a car, its back was broken, and it had to be "disposed of". Buffalo *Courier-Express*. Credit Giles.

FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

That Lewis H. Brown, "chairman of the board and chief executive" of Johns-Manville Corp., died, *ae* 57, of a heart attack, 2-26-51, at Delray Beach, Fla. He was brought to Greenwich, Conn., for burial.

That Capt. Thomas Lincoln Wogan, 42, shot and killed himself in his car parked in his garage, 3-16-51, at San Diego. He was to have assumed command of Submarine Squadron 5 in the bay, the next day. Survived by three children.

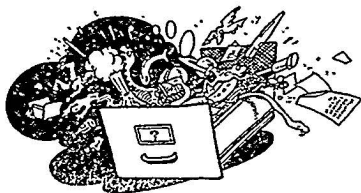
HELP PATCHEN PLEASE

Attorney Julien Cornell, Honorary Life Member of the Fortean Society, born a Quaker, was one of the most active defenders of Conscientious Objectors before the bar through World Fraud II. He was also attorney for Ezra Pound. He is now Treasurer of the Kenneth Patchen Fund, Central Valley, New York.

Kenneth Patchen is probably the best writer of his years in America. He has been crippled for many years from "rheumatoid arthritis", bedridden and in constant pain, unable to earn anything.

Besides Cornell, the sponsors of the fund are W. H. Auden, Archibald MacLeish, T. S. Eliot, Thornton Wilder.

There's nothing phoney about the appeal. Send as much as you can afford to the fund at the above address. YS knows that Patchen wrote a perfectly scurvy attack upon Pound in PM during Pound's sorriest days—but that cuts no ice now. Give all you can.



RUN OF THE MILL

An overhand knot was tied in the foot-thick anchor chain of Barnegat lightship—inexplicably. The one-ton anchor was on the bottom, and the ship was on the top. 2-12-51 old style. Cr Scott, Giles. (We have another similar datum. Was it not in an early DOUBT?)

Therese Neumann, the stigmatic, did not bleed this past Good Friday. On the other hand, Mrs. Donald McIsaac, Uptegrove, Ontario, started bleeding Fridays, before October of last year. We also hear rumors of the Vatican being moved to Quebec.

Time, a magazine, has only now discovered the screw-ball judge in South Carolina who reaches verdicts by spinning the Bible. We had him in DOUBT years ago. Cr Goeller

Life, another magazine, printed a picture of something purported to be a "baby mammoth", July 4, 1949 old style. The story states that the beast "lived in Alaska between 15,000 and 400,000 years ago". That's the biggest "between" since Diamond Lil closed.



Small fish in a rain water pond in Robla, near Sacramento, Calif. 3-5-51. Cr Emison

Two night watchmen in the ruins of Pompeii were found dead (3-29-51), "apparently suffocated by their coal fire". Cr Castillo

Awake! one of the Jehovah's Witnesses' papers, 2-8-51, chortles over the discovery that a purported spirit picture of a baby on a bathroom wall in Lily Dale, N. Y., was impressed there from the container of some cleansing tissues. Lily Dale is the spook-lovers Mecca.

A witch was saved from burning to death, after fire had been set to her petrol soaked clothing by citizens of Benevento, Italy, 2-5-51.

MFS Collander writes—"Send me a copy of Chakotin's Rape of the Masses. As I intend to be-

come a demagog at the earliest possible moment, please rush the above item."

Five Cahows have been found in Bermuda. They are sea birds, listed as extinct in 1620 and ever since. Cr Russell and others

A seed alleged to be 50,000 years old sprouted, AP sez, "but a fungus infection" killed it. Cr Goeller

Women in a factory at Oxford, Michigan, "faint like etherized flies" (11-18-50). Eight in hospital, "scores" visit doctors. Men are not affected. Cr Barneson

A sea crab allegedly found in mortar of a wall built in 1915. Hermosa Beach, Calif., 2-10-51. Cr Staats and others.

Accto missionaries driven out of China, the "Mandarin dialect" of the Chinese language has been set to Roman characters and is being taught in schools. The people like the change. 1-21-51 Cr Russell. A magazine called *People's China*, printed in English, may be had for \$2.00 for 6 months, \$3.50 a year. Address, 41 Yang Shih Ta Chieh, Peking, China.

Stories of a mysterious light on a road near Suffolk, Va., date back 75 years. It was seen by "hundreds" of spectators from March 2 to 7, 1951 old style. It looks like a one-eyed car coming toward the viewer on a road. It gets brighter until very close — then disappears. Cr Goeller and others.

THE BREEZE AGAIN

MFS Clayton cites two data and adds another in the same category.

DOUBT #17, pg. 255.

"Your secretary recalls hearing from the lips of Charles Fort himself, the theory advanced by a pregnant peasant girl of Central Europe early in the century, ascribing her interesting condition to a certain 'exposure of her person to the incidence of the east wind' etc."

DOUBT #24, pg. 363.

MFS Monroe's clipping from TIME concerning the merry mares of "Portugall" impregnated by the west wind.

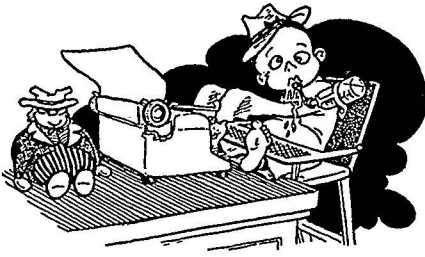
Has this item been submitted? I found it in the footnotes of an old copy of Scott's *Lady of the Lake*. (Ed. 1830)

(From Macfarlane, *ut supra*, ii 1830)

"— and ancient men doeth say that there was a battell foughten one ane litle hill . . . be certain men which they did not know what they were . . . both wenches and youths did convene with others on that Hill; and the day being somewhat cold, did gather the bones of the dead men that were slayne long time before in that place, and did make a fire to warm them. At last they did all remove from the fire, except one maid or wench, which was verie cold, and she did remain there for a space. She being quyetlie her alone, without anie other companie, took up her cloaths above her knees, or thereby (sic) to warm her; a wind (no mention of direction) did come and caste the ashes upon her, and she was conceived of ane man-chyld."

HORSE LAUGH

The guffaw of the quarter sprang loudly from uncounted throats at publication of a graph of Einstein's "brain waves". The graph as published in *Life*, and in the *Atlanta Journal*, reveals to the naked eye that Einstein thinking of relativity leaves a trail which cannot be distinguished from that of a so-



called "normal" brain thinking about nothing at all.

The dough that pays for this nonsense is put up by the U. S. Public Health Service, and the swami who is thus "widening the scope of electroencephalographic studies" is Dr. Alejandro P. Arellano Z. (That "Z" is not a misprint.) Dr. Z hails from Peru, but he is assisted by Dr. P. D. MacLean, presumably of Massachusetts. Those two don't go unbridled, however. Dr. Robert S. Schwab is "director of the hospital's brain wave laboratory". Massachusetts General, that is, Cr Lone, Bonavia and many others.



WHO'S STOPPING YOU, DOC?

Squawking to the *Her-Trib* because the Dog Pound bill had been defeated in the N. Y. State Legislature, W. Parker Anslow, Jr., Associate Prof. of Physiology, N. Y. U. Bellevue Med. Center, writes half a column of the same old tripe and finishes, "In fact, let us stop eating meat, wearing fur coats and shoes and otherwise dispense with all the contributions of lower animals to the health, welfare and comfort of man. In short, let us, one and all, commit suicide." Cr Bonavia.

MR. PEACE AND QUAKES

Last September we received a copy of a letter which had been addressed to the Bureau of Standards, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Royal Observatory and other bastions of the accepted, by a Hollander named A. v. Vrede, who translates his name, "Mr. Peace". That won't do him any good in this country, because, as everyone knows, peace is a Red plot, and the proper names of the Herald

Angels were Lenin, Trotsky and Stalin.

Mr. Peace's letter had to do with his prediction — or pre-calculation — of a quake last June 27, based upon the Uranus/Sun/Earth conjunction. As nearly as YS can make out, the predictor gave himself leeway of 23-35 hours, which he dubbed "latency", and which gave him parts of three days on which to be proved "right", and he picked 156° West, in the South Pacific, as his theatre.

As appears, instead of being "latent", a suitable shock occurred 8 minutes ahead of time.

Now Mr. Peace has sent us a pre-calculation of a quake due July 2. He has kindly supplied a general statement of his "Evolution Theory" which is the basis of his predictions, and from which may be calculated the hour, minute and second of the July 2' cataclysm for any latitude. Unfortunately YS can not comprehend this material and space limitations forbid its full reproduction. However, members who are particularly interested may obtain a "condensed mathematical analysis" by sending some unused postage stamps — with their request to I. P. R. O. Peace, Dr. Alexanderstraat 25, Eindhoven, Holland.

And everybody look out for July 2.

In this connection, Wakefield sends a piece from the *Oakland Tribune*, March 13, 51 old style, stating that even date was the 170th anniversary of the "discovery" of Uranus by Sir William Herschel. In that time Uranus has returned to its present position in relation to the sun only twice. (See Uranus elsewhere in this issue.)



PEACE
FOR
FRIEDEN PAS

DRAWN BY AREND FUHRMANN

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

The material on this page and those following comes from the MSS notes of Charles Fort. The notes begin with the year 1800 AD, and we are printing them chronologically, transcribed to the best of our ability. As you have observed from the several we have produced in facsimile—life size—the handwriting is difficult, to say the least; many are written in symbols and code, a personal shorthand. Each date is on a separate scrap of paper. They fill 32 boxes. The boxes are in two series, one numbered, one identified by letters of the alphabet. The numbered boxes contain records of non-human phenomena, the others, records of persons. It is our device to alternate the two series so that the printed record is chronologically consecutive.

The letters BA refer to Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which many US libraries have. The numerals, such as '11 or '64 etc., in connection with BA sometimes refer to volume number, sometimes to year. In applying for this material at your public library, mention that to the attendant and you should have no difficulty.

Back numbers of DOUBT contain all the notes to the point where we begin below. Subsequent issues will continue them until the 32 boxes are printed.

ERRATA

Immediately below is a group of ten notes which fell out of sequence in the hurly-burly of printing DOUBT #32. They belong on p. 77, in the second column, 16 lines from the bottom of the page, between the item — "Mar 10, Bradford met 2/3 size moon / 9:50 p.m. BA '60" and the next note below that.

With these ten notes inserted there, you will observe that the next note (which, as printed, looks like Mar 11) becomes April 11, and all notes below that, until May 1, are April notes.

So that the "Sun was obscured in Pernambuco" etc., April 11, 1860. Excuse it please.

1860

- Mar. 15 Sound and ice / Ice of Upper Wasdale, night of, in a "terrible snowstorm"—"a singular rolling noise in the air, which resembled the noise of musketry." In morning the ice found. Ice found morning of 16th / LT Ap p.7 (D-177)
- 19 Volc of Isle of Reunion 8:30 p.m. great but lasted 1 hour / CR 50-899
- Mar ab. Dark spot on Jupiter / M. Notices 20/244 also 59/76
- Mar 24-25 Night of luminous band and disap regularly / called Aurora / at Havana / La

Sci Pour Tous 5/221 (reverse) 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. C.R. 50-998

28 (F) Khiragurgh / N.W.P. (indecipherable) / India / S.E. of Bhurthur

28 (See 1859) Aerolite

Apr 1 Met from Auriga to Venus which it crossed and instantly disappeared / BA 1860-6

1 Vesuvius still active / Y.B. '61-255

11 Dark or eclipse / Pernambuco / D-230

11 Light to E of sun, said been Venus / C.R. 50 / 1198 / but Venus was not visible to naked eye (p. 1199) and, as another says, if obscured sun, Venus instead of more visible should less visible (reverse) Venue inferior conjunction sun July 18, 1860.

END OF ERRATA

1860

Box 3 (Continued)

Aug. 13 In Field Sept 8, cor writes that after an unusually heavy storm in Birm, resulting in an inundation, small stones found in the streets and were thought to have fallen from the sky. He quotes Post. Says that there was remarkably little sound. That the air was charged with electricity but there was neither thunder nor lightning. Acto Post the streets throughout the center of the town (were) covered with small stones "varying in size from a pea to a hazel nut, which had evidently descended.

(p. 2) with the rain." So many that they could be gathered plentifully. The cor disbelieves they fell from sky but sends some of the stones. F. T. Buckland, too, disbelieves and writes "The evidence of this is by no means good." He seems to have had nothing but the cor's story and Post clippings sent by cor. He says they were waterworn quartz pebbles — "There are also specimens of a darker kind, apparently hard sandstone."

13 description of storm at Birm at 11 a.m. in LT Aug 14, p. 10, "The rain descended in vast sheets." No stones mentioned. N.M.

22 5:30 p.m. Trombes at Singapore / CR 51-688

Sept Putney near London / Hay fell in the Pipson's garden / CR 52/108

Sept 3 Ab 3.6 p.m. quake Kent-Sevenoaks / T's Year Book 1861-258 like "shot and subdued clap of thunder — first thought been explosion of powder mill / sky densely overcast / thunder heard at a distance for 2 hours but no rain fell, but very heavy rain a few miles away.

6 Metz, curious cloud / Cosmos 18/259

12 "Star" seen midday at Margate. Field, Oct

- 6, p. 282
 20 quakes Chile and Iceland / BA'11 / Sim
 quakes Feb 18, 1889
 22 LT, p. 7, quake at sea
 Sept Moon and one star visible in daylight /
 LT Sep 28, p. 9 Meteor Aug 6, p. 12
 Sep 27 quake Algeria / BA'11
 Oct One night in Picardy a metite fell —
 strong elect or phosphorescent light from
 it / Les Mondes 18-334
 Oct 17 quake Canada and N. U.S. full det A. J.
 Sci 2/31/150
 20 Many meteors Nottingham / BA'61
 28 Waterspout Calcutta / Jour Asiatic Soc
 Bengal 29-374 (reverse) Bo / (Indeci-
 pherable) p. 214 (I wish I might make
 out that word, for Fort was making a
 segregation of data under the heading of
 "BO" — for body odor — at the time of
 his death. If anyone goes to volume 29 of
 the Journal named, please look at p. 214
 and see if the item can be identified there.
 TT)
 Nov 7 LT, p. 10, also LT Nov. 19, p. 8, two
 items same page. One of them (of the
 three) is a man killed by aerolite / Old
 Month-vol (This should be especially in-
 teresting, since the old saw, that nobody
 ever has been struck by a meteorite has
 recently been trotted out again by Au-
 thority. TT)
 Dec 15 New Jersey great det met / BA 67/418
 2 quake Asia Minor / Dec 3, Armenia and
 Cent America / BA'11 Sim quakes Feb
 18, 1889
 16 met and quake-effects, Siena (It) BA '61,
 also 67/419 (indecipherable) See Dec 28
 16 ab. at Siena, acto Prof Campani, an enor-
 mous meteor from which was heard "a
 terrific noise" BA 61-37
 28 Red / Italy / (Siena) (see 16 Dec) D-41
 31 red rain / Siena (or enna) Flam Atmos
 p. 410
- 1861**
- Jan 1 Red continues Siena / Italy / 16 / D-41
Box A (Resumed)
 1861 Sleeper / Susan C. Godsey near Hickman,
 Ky. See July 14, 1869
Box 3 (Resumed)
 Jan 5 Large detonating meteor Bermuda / BA '61
 7 7:51 p.m. Chester met first seen very near
 Mars / BA '61-8
 21 Chatham, England / Explosion / An
 Reg. 1861
 24 LT, p. 9 colored rain / I suppose this is
 Siena (Fort's word. TT)
 27 8 a.m. Butte Co., Cal / explosive sound /
 Ref. May 13, 1850
 Feb 16 (also) 20, 21, 22 / quake Singapore /
 storm — fall of fish / D-231
 1861 Battle of Malvun (?) Hill / heard 127
 miles away / Nature 53/296
 1861 Carbon / Cranborne / Australia / D-74
 Feb 5 7:30 p.m. Latitude about equator — 20°
 27' W. Longitude / vessel shaken by a
 shock / La Sci Pour Tous 7-22
 8 7:50 p.m. Norwalk, Ohio, great met /
 Sci Am, NS 4/167
 14 Th stone / aerolite / 6:30 p.m. Tocane-
 Saint-Apre / Cosmos 18/452 moment of
 light rain / BA 67-419 / while raining
 16 at Malacca / French spelling / shock /
 23rd another / followed by deluge /
 CR 52-882
 16 7:30 p.m. severe quake Penang, Singa-
 pore, etc / A. J. Sci 2/32/297
 16 great quake Sumatra / BA'11
 20 0° 30' 51" S. 20° 27' W. ship felt great
 concussion / CR 53-1003 see May 19, 1806
 (reverse) said it was 1 h 30 m before the
 quake at Mendoza but this was March 20
 / CR 55/675
 23 (?) (Fort's question TT) Field of: Cor
 writes that 6 o'clock evening of Ash
 Wednesday at Northfield, Kent, came pro-
 foundest darkness which lasted an hour —
 (?) extraordinary circs. The stillness and
 the fright of animals. Editor writes that
 did he not know the cor he would doubt
 it / another cor March 2 corroborates
 says his feeling was of having been shut
 into a darkest of dungeons. Two others
 say Sunday / Feb 20, 13, 6. Wednesdays
 in Feb.
 Mar 1 Field March 9 cor tells of profound dark-
 ness at 6 (indecipherable) like see Feb 23
 2 LT p.10 Aurora magnificent
 4 Cone-shaped meteor / Australia / Timb's
 Year Book 1862/268
 9-10 Aurora / C.R. 52/465
 10 Met from Capella to Pleiades / 8:50 p.m.
 BA 61-8
 20 Quake in Chile / C.R. 52-1148 other side
 of Andes from Mendoza
 20 Quake Mendoza 8:45 p.m. LT June 17,
 p.10
 20 see C.R. for account of quake by I.
 Domeyko
 (The next eight notes were within a wire
 clip fastened so by Fort. TT)
 20 Quake Mendoza / Showers of ashes on
 the Uspalla a Pass / Geo. Mag. 4-207
 20-21 Quake and ball of fire / see 1805
 20 Quake was 8:30 p.m. The Geologist 4-391
 / Earth opened, emitting violent streams
 of water
 20 In Times June 17, p.10, letter from cor
 describing effects at Valparaiso (reverse)
 On Other side of Andes no volc mentioned
 20 Melb Argus nothing / nor Southern Cross
 (Aukland)
 20 Quake and hot rain / Western portion of
 La Plata — city of Mendoza destroyed —
 ab 10,000 perished—was preceded by fall
 of hot ashes and rocks fell "There ap-
 pears to have been a connection between
 that earthquake and a volcanic eruption in
 the Andes." Ponton, Earthquakes, p.12 /
 7 a.m.
 20 8:30 p.m. Mendoza no volc mentioned in
 An Reg.
 20 Mendoza / Writer in All the Year Round
 6-444 says that in the opinion of Prof.
 Forbes, the geologist, who had investigated
 there had been no volcanic outburst but
 considerable emission of gases from the
 earth.
 (End of clipped group. TT)
 21 Sunspot p.11 LT
Box A (Resumed)

- 22 See LT May 10, p.6 / "In an almost impenetrable ravine on bank of Rhone between Brohl and Niederbreisig body of a woman with stones piled on. Much decomposed. Death been caused by a shot through the body / cambric chemise and dimity nightgown of fine material.
- 26 LT p.6 Series of crimes

Box 3 (Resumed)

- 29 Quake in Algeria / BA 11
Apr 3 LT p.11 / again

Box A (Resumed)

About April / rappings in almost every house in the village of Hammondsville, Vt. Religio Ph / Ap. 19, 1873, p.2

Box 3 (Resumed)

- Apr 12 Met train Athens / L'Astro 2/85
- 18 LT p.7 and May 21, p.11 / Sunspots
- 21 Reported from many places near Juhiabad (sic) India / Cosmos 19-171 (reverse) (indecipherable) by flaming whirlwind that swept over towns. However nothing was burned.
- 27 Jamaica and Algeria quake BA'11 (reverse) Sim Quakes Feb 18, 1889
- 29 (indecipherable) Met in Ursa Major / LT Mar 2, p.7 / Disc. Ap 4 in N.Y.
- May Doubtful star LT May 13, p.11, May 16, p.6, Apr 3, p.11
- May 4 Ballarat, Australia / meteor appeared to come from a cloud / ploughed up the earth a distance of 12 yards / BA 61
- 7-8 Volc Met / Jubel Dubbeh / 13.57 N lat, 41.40' E long / Trans Bombay Geog Soc, 16-41
- 8 Volc / Jebel Dubbeh, African shore of Red Sea / villages covered with red dust / All the Year Round 8-251
- 7-8 Night / discharge was like red earth / LT June 20, 21
- 8 In Times Sept 24 / More detail of the volc Jebel Dubbeh, near Edd — was nothing but ashes ejected but 175 persons and great herds of cattle destroyed
- 8 Attributed to an unknown volcano on east coast of Africa — at Edd — sounds like cannonading heard — earth trembled / white dust and then red dust fell for 2 days (reverse) At Peran (? TT) the sounds were heard till 11th — dry fog on 10th in Red Sea / dust along whole coast of Yemen / This is not near the volc of 1846 (?) (Fort's question. TT) or about, which the only known Red Sea volc / Edd is on Abyssinian coast ab 13:57 N

Box A (Resumed)

- 10 Rhineck corpse LT p.6
- 10 Rhineck corpse / see March 22

Box 3 (Resumed)

- 12 Metites (F) Bulsura Bengal / bank of the

Gunduk, 42 miles NE of Goruck / A.J. Sci. 2/36/67 (reverse) 2 hours later a storm and a little rain

- 14 (F) Canellas, Barcelona / 10 p.m. fireball and many small stones B9 67-418 (reverse) in Catalonia

- 18 Very large spot on sun near center of disk visible at sunset without glass LT May 21, p.11

- 23 Volc Iceland / LT June 28, p.6

Last of see April, 1863

last of see April, 1868 (B)

Box A (Resumed)

Last of (Moa) In Nature 4/186 James Hector writes that near Jackson's Bay, Jan 1863, he saw numerous well beaten tracks ab 16 inches wide made some unknown large creature / Dr. James Hector of the Colonial Museum, Wellington, N.Z.

Box 3 (Resumed)

June London Hay (? TT) Phipson / Earth's (indecipherable) p.63 See Phipson Story, Sept, 1860 / BA 1864/37

June 9 hail Lucerne / James 2/343

12-13 night / "a notable number of shooting stars and fireballs" Victoria, Australia / BA '68-407

12-13 large number brilliant meteors in S. Australia / also in Victoria. Here a frequency of 5.6 meteors per hour / Neumayer — Meteorological Observations, p.141

16 Aeraolite same date June 16, 1860 (Not It) (I am guessing at the "It", taking it for an abbreviation for Italy, but it might be almost any other two letters of the alphabet.TT)

28 LT, p.6 Volc / Iceland (reverse) May 13, 1861

22 Great fire in London

28 Auroral display in N.S. Wales associated with comet (or coast. TT) Syd. M. Herald, July 8

28 or June 16 / stone fall 7 p.m. Grosjna, Caucasus / BA 67-418

Last of Comet supposed to have come from sun / seen in Cancer

28 Grosnaja, Caucasus, Russia (F)

30 The unexpected comet / near the pole star / AN. Reg.

Last of Another sudden comet in the North Jun July 3, 1819 right after sunset. Same time of year

30 In Knowledge, 5-177, Mr. H. Cowper Ran-yard writes that Mr. Hind had predicted that such a transit (earth passing through tail of the comet) would take place

Last of Comet crossed ecliptic unseen because in Jun eclipse? (Fort's?)

Last of Comet / see Nature 25/94

Last of Big new comet near Capella June 24, 1881

30 Sudden comet in Auriga / see July 3, 1819 and before

30 identified it as Thatcher's Comet.

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RECORDED - 17

14-75-13

April 5, 1956

EX-108 Mr. Willard E. Edwards
3038 Oahu Avenue
Honolulu 14, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Edwards:

Your letter dated March 24, 1956, with enclosures, has been received, and the interest which prompted your writing is sincerely appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I know that you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

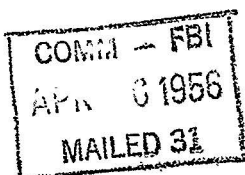
As a matter of policy, I am unable to endorse your calendar as you requested, and I am sure you will appreciate my position in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

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DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD BCLM



John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Honolulu, with copy of incoming
2 ycc's - New York, with two copies of incoming, and two copies
of enclosure entitled "The Fortean Society Presents
the Religion of Self Respect."

ATTENTION SAC's: (See next page)

Follow-up made for 4-16-56 by NYO telephone call
NOTE: See Jones to Nichols memo captioned "The Fortean Society,
Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York 17, New York," dated
April 3, 1956, ELJ:lmh/naf

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
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Jensen 4233

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Letter to Mr. Willard E. Edwards

April 5, 1956

ATTENTION SAC:

You are instructed to have Tiffany Thayer, Secretary of the Fortean Society, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York 17, New York, interviewed immediately by two mature experienced Agents. He should be challenged to produce the names of FBI Agents who are allegedly members of this organization. If he is unable to produce any names, he then should be politely but firmly advised that the Bureau will not tolerate such allegations as appear in this Society's publication concerning our Agents. Sulet results of interview under caption "The Fortean Society, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York 17, New York, Research (Crime Records)," to reach Bureau no later than 4-13-56.

3038 Oahu Avenue
Honolulu 14, Hawaii, U.S.A.
March 24th 1956

W.E.
PERSONAL

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
U. S. Dept. of Justice Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD BCL

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a brother Mason, will you please be so kind as to advise me what kind of an organization "The Fortean Society" is? I've had several invitations to join it, and the enclosed literature came with the last one.

You will note that Secretary Tiffany Thayer *W.H.* claims both FBI and Communist members! Apparently he is trying to sell Charles Fort's works, "The Books of Charles Fort." I got this book from the library, but it doesn't make much sense to me.

I'd greatly appreciate hearing from you, as I don't want to become connected with any Commie or "screwball" organization.

I am interested in calendar reform, being the originator of "The Perpetual Calendar," literature on which is enclosed. Mr. Thayer claims use of a 13-month calendar, the same idea Mr. George Eastman sponsored for a few years before his death in 1932. So, I am curious as to what kind of an organization Thayer is running, whether it is agnostic, atheistic, literary, or what. Can you enlighten me?

For many years I have been an admirer of your work, and I've just read your biography in my new "Who's Who in America." If you can put in a good word for "The Perpetual Calendar" at any time, will you please do so? It will all help. It has been endorsed by many well known and intelligent people, as the enclosed excerpts sheet will show. The subject of calendar reform comes before the U.N. Economic and Social Council from April 17-May 4, 1956, but it is ardently opposed by the 7-th day Adventists, the same sect which has falsely predicted the end of the world as "coming soon" for over 100 years. Many people feel that if it wasn't for the SDA objection, we could get favorable Congressional and U.N. action.

Your reply on the "Fortean Society" will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

W.E.
Willard E. Edwards

Willard E. Edwards

14 MAR 28 1956

6 ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE
EX-108

RECORDED - 17

INDEXED

EX-108

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THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR

Each Quarter and Each Year the Same

NEW YEAR'S DAY (N.Y.D.) precedes Monday, January 1 as a holiday apart. It is the first day of each year and the third day of an annual 3-day week end. It is followed by the 364-day calendar shown below.

N.Y.D.	JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
1st Q U A R T E R	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
2nd	APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
Q U A R T E R	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
3rd	JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
Q U A R T E R	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
4th	OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
Q U A R T E R	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

LEAP YEAR DAY (L.Y.D.) comes between June 31 and July 1 in leap years as a second holiday apart. These two YEAR DAYS (N.Y.D. and L.Y.D.) are definitely named and have a definite purpose. Considered apart from any week or month, they allow the calendar to become fixed and perpetual. This will be of inestimable value to the business, educational, and social world. You are invited to endorse and support this plan and to write to Congress and the U.N. requesting its adoption. A PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD CIVIL CALENDAR

A Proposal for an International Standard Calendar

THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR, with New Year's Day as a day apart, uses an already well-known holiday to make the calendar fixed and perpetual. Starting each week on Monday agrees with common business practice and allows Saturday and Sunday to become the week end on the calendar as well as in fact. Common payroll days, the 1st and 15th, are always weekdays. The month lengths fall into the regular pattern of 30, 30, 31 and the starting days of each month into the well-known sequence of Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Incidentally, no Fridays-the-13th occur. It is the most practical 12-month calendar offered for adoption. This is in contrast with the present calendar with its confusion and irregularities. You are invited to endorse and support this plan and to write to Congress and the United Nations requesting its adoption.

With a day apart, the year's begun,
Followed by thirty, thirty, thirty-one.
Months always start a certain way,
On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
Each quarter and each year the same,
Is THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR'S claim.

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DATE 10-19-87 BY 9803 RDD/BCE/L

U.S.A. - Hawaii, Honolulu, 3140, Box 3140, Originator, V. E. Edwards, 1955

THIS WILL MAKE A VERY
TIMELY FEATURES ARTICLE
HERE

POST CARD

ADDRESS

"The Perpetual Calendar" may be printed with Sun. as the 1st day of the week for those who prefer it that way, although Sat. and Sun. have long been known as "the week end," and Sun. is defined as the Christian Sabbath.

Permission is hereby granted
to reprint in whole or in part
provided credit is given.

W. Edwards

Application for Membership

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

1931 A D = The Year 1 F S

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TIFFANY THAYER, Secretary

Enclosed find check of money order for \$2.00, annual dues for the current calendar year. I understand this entitles me to (1) the Fortean Society Magazine (not a monthly) and other publications of the Society as and when issued; (2) access, through correspondence with you, to the data the Society has assembled, including the Notes of Charles Fort; (3) the privilege of attending all open meetings, dinners, lectures, etc., sponsored by the Society.

The obligations I assume are (1) to forward to you, for filing with the Society's permanent collection of data, all Fortean matter I can find; (2) to investigate Fortean phenomena in and near my place of residence to the best of my ability; (3) to maintain the Fortean attitude of enlightened skepticism at all times and to discover and reveal dogmatic assumption as such at every opportunity; (4) to interest persons of influence and leaders of public thought in the work of the Society and (5) to introduce the work — and the Books of Charles Fort — to young people of high school and college age whenever possible.

Name.....

Address.....

City..... State.....

*Eric Frank Russell represents The Fortean Society in Great Britain. Address 3 Dale Hay, Hooton, Cheshire, England.

Willard E Edwards

3/28/24 FS

If you are interested in other Fortean activities,
one would think you would join the Society.

It is a pleasure to tell you, however, that FBI
men outnumber the Communists on our rolls by 2 to 1. ✓
Thus Forteanism bores from within both camps. The
mark of Destiny is upon us!

Aloha

TT:m


Secretary

PUBLISHERS OF
DOUBT

PLEASE NOTE } COMMUNIST \$
FBI REFERENCE ON PAGE 2.

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

1931 A. D. == THE YEAR 1 F S

Box 192 Grand Central Annex
New ★ York ★ City

3/28/24 FS

Willard E Edwards
3038 Oahu Avenue
Honolulu 14
Hawaii

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD/CE/L

Dear Willard E Edwards

Your new calendar is no better than your old one. Obviously, your determination is to attach your name to "the most likely to succeed", in perhaps endless series. At the track, however, the man won't let you switch your bets after the horses start running.

You ask us, "Why not switch?" The answer is, that we are not merely advocating - we are USING the calendar of the future. We do not ask or desire the approbation of Congress, or of the United Nations, or of anybody else. The Fortean Perpetual 13-month Calendar is already functioning internationally, in commerce, banking and intellectual circles. Let the politicians and churchmen catch up when they will.

Miss Achelis is off her chump if she thinks a Gregorian Jan 1, on Sunday is the sensible time to start official reform. The much better time to start is when Gregorian Jan 1, falls on Saturday, so that the "holiday" corresponds to Year Day. No business is ever conducted on January 1st.

But it will not change our practice if the United Nations does adopt Miss Achelis' calendar, in 1956 or in any other year. We shall continue to use the Fortean calendar.

THE FOUNDERS

SURVIVING

Tiffany Thayer

Secretary

Aaron Sussman

Ben Hecht

Burton Rascoe

John Cowper Powys

HONORARY

Eric Frank Russell
3 Dale Hey, Hooton,
Cheshire, England

T. Swann Harding

Scott Nearing

Hereward Carrington

Don Bloch

Frederick S. Hammett

DECEASED

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Lincoln Steffens

Clarence Darrow

Havelock Ellis

Harry Leon Wilson

Felix Riesenber

Alexander Woolcott

Art Young

Abe Merritt

B. J. S. Cahill

Albert Jay Nock

Theodore Dreiser

Booth Tarkington

Claude Bragdon

George Bernard Shaw

Porter Sargent

W. E. EDWARDS

3038 OAHU AVENUE

HONOLULU 14, HAWAII

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

These are a few excerpts from among thousands of personal endorsements of **THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR** UNCLASSIFIED

THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR UNCLASSIFIED

The Plan Devised by Willard E. Edwards in 1919-27 BY 2865 RDD BCL

"I am perfectly sincere in stating that I think a revision of the calendar would be a decided advantage and also that I have no question but that your proposed revision is decidedly the best that I know of. Furthermore a revision in the calendar is a relatively easy thing to put into effect once it is generally agreed upon."

Dr. Karl T. Compton, President of M. I. T.

"I find your Perpetual Calendar most ingenious. It appears to me to embody more desirable features and to offer more advantages than any other proposal I have seen."

Vice Admiral J. L. Hall, Jr., U. S. Navy

"I believe this calendar represents the best possible compromise among the various factors involved."

Dr. Walter Orr Roberts

High Altitude Observatory, Boulder, Colorado

"Your proposed calendar seems to me far and away the best of the various calendar revisions which have been proposed."

**Mary Roberts Rinehart
American Authoress**

"Your proposed Perpetual Calendar appears to possess considerable merit and greater practicability and simplicity than anything else we have seen on this subject to date. Personally, I endorse its adoption."

**Rear Admiral C. A. Pownall, U. S. Navy
Governor of Guam**

"I find this calendar very interesting, and I personally would like to see it adopted. I think it would be very appropriate for our business."

**Henry E. North, Vice President
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company**

"I, personally, was very much interested in the calendar plan which you have developed. It seems to me to be the simplest solution that has been developed in the way of calendar reform."

**Melvin C. Miller, Deputy Manager
The American Bankers Association**

"As I noted when you showed me the calendar in Honolulu, the plan seems to be practical and good. I personally know of no better."

**Dr. Harlow Shapley,
Harvard College Observatory**

"Your solution appears to be a most practical one and should have the backing which it deserves."

Rear Admiral E. W. Hanson, U. S. Navy

THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR

*NEW YEAR'S DAY (a day apart from any week or month) is the first day of each year, a holiday, followed by the 364-day fixed calendar shown below:

JANUARY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

FEBRUARY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MARCH						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MAY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JUNE						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

*LEAP-YEAR DAY (a second day apart) is observed only in leap years between June 31 and July 1 as the first day of the second half-year, a holiday.

JULY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

AUGUST						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SEPTEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

OCTOBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

NOVEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

*These two YEAR-DAYS are definitely named and have a definite purpose. When considered apart from any week, they allow the calendar to become fixed and perpetual.

A Proposal For a New Fixed Up-to-Date International Civil Calendar

"Certainly you have presented the best idea that has come to my attention to date."

**Dr. G. L. Cross, President
The University of Oklahoma**

"I unhesitatingly endorse its adoption by the United Nations as the most modern and efficient calendar available."

**Major General S. L. Howard,
U. S. Marine Corps**

"The Perpetual Calendar you propose appears to me to be an excellent answer to the challenge. Your calendar has more merit than any other proposal of its kind that has come to my attention, and I trust that it will receive favorable consideration by an agency of the United Nations."

Brigadier General J. E. Moore, U. S. Army

"Considering that your proposed calendar will be a more practical calendar for business, the Board of Directors of this Chamber resolved to endorse favorably its adoption by the whole world."

**Lino Gutierrez, Chairman
Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines**

THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR

Each Quarter And Each Year The Same
A Proposal For A New Fixed Up-To-Date International Civil Calendar

by Willard E. Edwards

Originator also of "The Perpetual 13-Month Calendar"

RECEIVED
DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RD ACELLA

"THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR" is a proposal for a new 12-month equal-quarter international civil calendar. The year starts with a "day apart." It is then followed by four 91-day seasonal quarters, each of 13 full weeks. Each quarter is easily remembered by the formula, "30, 30, 31 — Monday, Wednesday, Friday." This gives the number of days in the 3 months of each quarter and the weekday on which each month in the quarter begins. Every month has 26 weekdays plus Sundays or Sabbaths.

All quarters begin on Monday, the first working day of the week, and end on Sunday, the last day of our accepted week end. Therefore the last day of the quarter can be used for that quarter's accounting work, if required. The cost of each quarter's bookkeeping, stock-taking, or tax figuring can thus be credited within the quarter itself. This is most practical for business and

statistical purposes.

The 1st and 15th, important monthly and semi-monthly payroll, bill-paying and accounting days, always fall on weekdays in "THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR." Incidentally, there is no "unlucky Friday-the-13th" to worry the superstitious or deter them from travel or the transaction of business.

The year begins customarily with "New Year's Day," a holiday following a Sunday. It becomes a day apart from any week or month, the third day of a 3-day week end. The holiday is definitely named and accounted for. It is followed by Monday, January 1, the second day of the year and the first working day. This logical method uses an already well-known international holiday as the annual day apart. Its sole purpose as such is to allow the calendar to become fixed and perpetual.

*New Year's Day, a holiday apart from any week or month, precedes Monday, January 1:

JAN - APR - JUL - OCT	FEB - MAY - AUG - NOV	MAR - JUN - SEP - DEC
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun	Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun	Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
29 30	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29 30 31

With a day apart, the year's begun, Followed by thirty, thirty, thirty-one. Months always start a certain way. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Each quarter and each year the same, as THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR's aim.

*Leap-Year Day, a second holiday apart in leap years, comes between June 31 and July 1.

In leap years another international holiday is definitely named and accounted for as a day apart. It is called simply "Leap-Year Day," the first day of the second half-year. It is the third day of another 3-day week end. It follows Sunday, June 31 and precedes Monday, July 1. The use of these two days apart is the only logical way of revising the calendar to obtain equal monthly, quarterly and annual working periods and yet keep it within the solar year. Without such revision, any other proposed change becomes impractical.

"THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR" has been officially endorsed by the Legislatures of Hawaii and Massachusetts. It is acclaimed all over the world as the most practical plan for a new fixed 12-month equal-quarter calendar. Its use in the business world would save many thousands of hours that are now spent each year in needless bookkeeping, accounting and tax figuring. A resolution is

before Congress and the United Nations ^{members} asking its adoption as the next international civil calendar.

* * * * *

Your support of this plan is invited. The above exposition is suggested as a minimum comprehensive description of THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR. It may be reprinted in full or in part.

Calendars showing Monday as the first day of the week are now printed in Austria, Spain and other countries. It has been shown this way in THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR since 1919.

People always like to look at THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR whenever it is printed and described. They especially like to see on what day of the week their birthdays and other anniversaries would always fall. THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR is freely offered to all nations for adoption. No permission is required in order to print it.

After reading the above exposition, kindly use it for local publication, pass it along to others, or file it for future reference.

THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR

(The only calendar proposal which has received ^{any} official U.S.A. endorsement)

by Willard E. Edwards

Each Quarter And Each Year The Same

A Proposal For A New Fixed Up-To-Date International Civil Calendar

*NEW YEAR'S DAY, a day apart from any week or month, precedes Monday, January 1 and is the 1st day of each year, an international holiday and the 3rd day of a 3-day week end. It is followed by the 364-day fixed calendar shown below, with 3 complete months in each quarter.

JAN - APR - JUL - OCT							FEB - MAY - AUG - NOV							MAR - JUN - SEP - DEC						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*LEAP-YEAR DAY, a 2nd day apart, is observed in leap years between June 31 and July 1. It then becomes the 1st day of the second half-year, a new international holiday.

These two YEAR-DAYS are definitely named and have a definite purpose. Considered apart from any week or month, they allow the calendar to become fixed and perpetual. This will be of inestimable value to the business, educational and social world.

The vast majority of thinking people who have considered the unnecessary irregularities of our present calendar are in favor of calendar revision. You are invited to endorse and support this plan and to write to Congress and the United Nations requesting its adoption.

SUMMARY OF BASIS

- 12 months of 30, 30, 31 days in each of 4 equal quarters.
- 3 complete months in each quarter of the year (91 days or 13 even weeks).
- The weeks (and quarters) to begin on Monday and end on Sunday, thus recognizing the accepted Saturday-Sunday week end.
- The year to begin on "New Year's Day," the day preceding Monday, January 1. "New Year's Day" becomes the first day of the year and the annual day apart, an international holiday.
- "Leap-Year Day" to be a second day apart, an international holiday following June 31 and preceding July 1 in leap years. It then becomes the first day of the second half-year.
- The 1st and 15th of each month are always weekdays, never Sundays.
- Easter Sunday to be on April 14, followed by Easter Monday as a legal holiday, if agreeable with religious and civil authorities.

"The Perpetual Calendar" may be printed with Sun. as the 1st day of the week for those who prefer it that way, although Sat. and Sun. have long been known as "the week end," and Sun. is defined as the Christian Sabbath.

For personal references, please see page 779 of the 1954 edition of "Who's Who in America".

With a day apart, the year's begun, Followed by thirty, thirty, thirty-one. Months always start a certain way, On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Each quarter and each year the same, Is THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR's aim.

THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR is proposed as the most practical plan for international adoption since it retains the familiar and convenient seasonal quarters of 3 complete months each. It is more efficient and economical to combine monthly and quarterly accounting, bookkeeping, stocktaking, and tax figuring with whole months in each quarter. An alternate proposal is THE PERPETUAL 13-MONTH CALENDAR with 4 complete weeks in each month but with split months in each quarter. Which calendar do you prefer?

Additional copies of this sheet or of calendar cards may be obtained at 5¢ each from the author, Willard E. Edwards, 3038 Oahu Avenue, Honolulu 14, Hawaii, U.S.A.

expect the Secretary to put the philosophy of Charles Fort into a paragraph. You must read Charles Fort to come by it.

You must read him yourself because he means something different to every man who does. For that reason the constitution of the Fortean Society has remained anarchic, its membership universal, its aims infinite.

The FORTEAN SOCIETY is an international association of philosophers — that is, of men and women who would live no differently if there were no laws; of men and women whose behavior is not a sequence of reflex jerks caused by conditioning, but rather the result of some cerebration, or of some mystical whimsicality of their own.

MEMBERSHIP is open to all. Interest is the sole requirement. The Society has no grips or pass-words, no rituals, by-laws, initiation or similar horse-play, and only one symbol — an enormous question mark.

?

Eminent scientists, physicists and medical doctors are members — likewise chiropractors, spiritualists and a few Christians.

Forteanism is itself a religion — the religion of self-respect.

Atheists, anarchists, Jews, astrologers, Republicans, FBI agents, Communists, poets, are all on the rolls — for a great diversity of reasons. By its animosity toward all herd dogmas, its belligerence against all mass indoctrination, and its independence of all Authority, the Society has attracted — quite incidentally — a small congress of minorities, most of them antis left over from "drives" of other days, from hysterias of other eras. The Society provides haven for lost causes, most of which — but for our sympathy — might become quite extinct, not always through lack of merit but, more generally, through lack of any possible cash profit in their popularization.

A good many adherents of a flat Earth are members, anti-vivisectionists, anti-vaccinationists, anti-Wasserman-testers, and people who still believe disarmament of nations would be a good thing.

On the other hand, many Forteans embrace ideas so new, fresh and novel that twelve Einsteins couldn't understand them — yet, they may be the sciences and the arts of tomorrow. While one member tinkers a rocket for interplanetary exploration, another charts and graphs maritime dis-

2

appearances on the theory that we have had visitors here from other worlds — perhaps for centuries.

Yet, even within the Society, these minorities are a minority, and the majority of Forteans are men and women who recognize and regret (a) that Science has been false to its own first principle — that of temporary acceptance — becoming a faith rather than a method, and adopting the closed shop not only as regards its personnel but a shop closed against new ideas and — more especially — against all questioning and criticism of old ideas which still pay; and (b) that "popular education" is tenaciously opposed to enlightenment, and that the schools of the world have miserably failed in their (avowed) intention of teaching people to think for themselves.

These members embrace the only "doctrine" Forteanism has, that of suspended judgment, temporary acceptance and eternal questioning. We like to think there is some hope for the future in a Society dedicated to the dissemination of healthy, enlightened doubt, informed skepticism, perpetual dissent from all dogmatic assumption.

AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

The numbered aims of the Society are set forth at some length in the Introduction to the Books of Charles Fort: but, since the aims are truly infinite in their scope, no Introduction and no such brochure as this can do more than suggest them. Accordingly, the position is taken that the Society's chief aim is to be a good alarm clock — simply to wake people up. If possible, it should also inspire the wakeful (and the awakened) with courage to think for themselves. The effort is to do this by exposing old idols and all sanctified frauds. No man can even guess what the world would be like if everybody were awake and thinking for himself. Good Forteans are trying to hasten the day, regarding that alert state as every man's birth-right, hence the repetition several times above of the phrase "self-respect". Hence — also — the Society's appeal to youth.

THE SOCIETY'S WORK

A Magazine called DOUBT is published for these three purposes, in order:

1. To put into print the NOTES of Charles Fort, bequeathed to the Society at his death, May 3, 1932 old style (the year 2 FS, by Fortean reckoning).

3

2. To maintain Fortean interest among the members and to provide a living organ for the expression of Forteanism.

3. To present to as large a reading public as possible, the progress of Fortean arts and sciences, to report new data as it is received, and to give credit there for all examples of independent thinking brought to the Society's attention.

Besides publishing DOUBT, the Society distributes disturbing literature of other organizations — anti-this or that — printed matter calling for mental exercise with its rewards of intellectual adventure and added self-respect.

The Society uses the 13-month calendar.

Archives are maintained for the filing of Fortean data. It is only necessary to read the Books of Charles Fort to learn which data those are.

SEEMS CRAZY TO ME

Many details of Fortean endeavor are necessarily somewhat surreptitious, because any activity with the avowed intention of causing men to think for themselves and to cherish self-respect is opposed in this world by very powerful interests. That is why the Society provides mental antitoxin against the poison of press, pulpit and school.

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

Corresponding Member	\$2.00 annual dues
Life Member	\$100.00
Honorary Life Member	(Appointive)
Accepted Fellow	(Named Fellows who accept this Fortean distinction)
Honorary Founder	(Members who fill vacancies among the Founders)
Founder	(Five of the original eleven remain)
Founder-Secretary	Tiffany Thayer

Besides the Secretary, the surviving Founders are:

Aaron Sussman
Ben Hecht
Burton Rascoe
John Cowper Powys

4

Honorary Founders:

Don Bloch
(in the place of B. J. S. Cahill, who took
the place of Harry Leon Wilson)
Eric Frank Russell
(in the place of Theodore Dreiser)
T. Swann Harding
(in the place of Harry Elmer Barnes)
Scott Nearing
(in the place of Alexander Woolcott)
Hereward Carrington
(in the place of J. David Stern)
Frederick S. Hammett
(in the place of Booth Tarkington)

Accepted Fellows:

Manly P. Hall	The Duke of Bedford
Morris Ernst	Frank Lloyd Wright
Norman Thomas	Ben W. Huebsch
† Albert Jay Nock	Mrs. Vashti McCollum
† Claude Fayette Bragdon	Garry Davis

Life and Honorary Life Members:

Mrs. Alfred H. Barley	Mrs. Augusta Stetter
Lulu B. Beckington	Julien Cornell
William Carstens	Leon Wilson
Raymond Cass	R. Buckminster Fuller
† L. B. Dilbeck	Mrs. Theodore Dreiser
Mrs. Alice Vail Holloway	Guy Rogers
† W. G. Kruke	Francis M. Bush
R. DeWitt Miller	Art Castillo

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

Box 192 Grand Central Annex

★ NEW YORK CITY 17 ★

In Great Britain and other Sterling countries,
address:

Eric Frank Russell
3, Dale Hey,
Hooton, Cheshire

In Italy address:

Prince Boris de Rachewiltz
Castello d'Brunnenburg
Tirolo d'Merano
(Bolzano) Italy

NON-MEMBERS

Named Fellow

(Elective annually)

Every year the Society Names one Fellow who is not a member, but who, by his life or work — often published books — displays the Fortean viewpoint or advances Fortean aims. This distinction is intended as an honor, and it is one not easily attained. Many Fellows thus Named then become active in the work of the Society. These are the Accepted Fellows, all eligible to become Honorary Founders.

Named Fellows:

Year 1 F.S. (1931 old style)	Carl Van Doren
Year 2 F.S. (1932 old style)	H. G. Wells
Year 3 F.S. (1933 old style)	Upton Sinclair
Year 4 F.S. (1934 old style)	H. L. Mencken
Year 5 F.S. (1935 old style)	George A. Dorsey
Year 6 F.S. (1936 old style)	Dorothy Parker
Year 7 F.S. (1937 old style)	Vilhjalmur Steffansson
Year 8 F.S. (1938 old style)	(TSH) vacant
Year 9 F.S. (1939 old style)	John Dewey
Year 10 F.S. (1940 old style)	Bertrand Russell
Year 11 F.S. (1941 old style)	(SN) vacant
Year 12 F.S. (1942 old style)	(FLW) vacant
Year 13 F.S. (1943 old style)	James Burnham
Year 14 F.S. (1944 old style)	(TDOB) vacant
Year 15 F.S. (1945 old style)	Eamon de Valera
Year 16 F.S. (1946 old style)	Robert R. Young
Year 17 F.S. (1947 old style)	(VMCC) vacant
Year 18 F.S. (1948 old style)	(GD) vacant
Year 19 F.S. (1949 old style)	(Judge Joseph Sherbow, nominee)
Year 20 F.S. (1950 old style)	(Justice L. Greenberg, South Africa, nominee)
Year 21 F.S. (1951 old style)	(Clarence H. Willcock, nominee)

Nominations are now being received for the vacancies among the Named Fellows. Persons suggested should not be members of the Society. Only non-members are eligible. Nominations for the Fellow to be Named for the current year remain open until January 26 of the succeeding year.

NOTE FBI REFERENCE ON
PAGE 2

The Fortean Society Presents the Religion

of Self Respect
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-97 BY 9903 RDD BCE/LM

We are asked many times every day what the Fortean Society is, what its purposes are, what its requirements for membership. This has been a topic of great interest (and some concern) ever since January 26, 1931 old style. That is the date of the First Founders' Dinner, which launched the Fortean Society. You will find an account of it in almost any United States "news" paper of the day following, for the Associated Press, the United Press and International News Service all had men there to spy on our antics.

The Founders were almost all writers, and each of them had been attracted to the books of Charles Fort for the reasons they have repeated in print many times, before and since.

THEODORE DREISER called Fort — "the most fascinating literary figure since Poe."

BEN HECHT called Fort's point of view that of "the Mad Hatter and the Jack of Clubs."

BOOTH TARKINGTON compared Fort to William Blake and to Cagliostro.

TIFFANY THAYER, as Secretary, had brought the Founders together, and the purposes enunciated by him at that first dinner have not altered materially since. They were, in a word, to make the philosophy of Charles Fort as familiar and as popular as possible.

CHARLES FORT'S PHILOSOPHY

Fort himself, coping with ideas which no man had ever dared to think before, called out in the book "New Lands": "Char me the trunk of a redwood tree. Give me pages of white chalk cliffs to write upon. Magnify me thousands of times, and replace my trifling immodesties with a titanic megalomania—then might I write largely enough for our subjects." . . . So you must not

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : *JAN* SAC, NEW YORK (100-28630)

SUBJECT: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
 BOX 192, GRAND CENTRAL ANNEX
 NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK
 RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

DATE: 4/12/56

Cu

Rebulet ¹⁴⁻⁷⁵⁻ 4/5/56.

Box 192, according to Post Office records, is listed to Fortean Society, TIFFANY THAYER, Secretary, 420 Lexington Ave., NYC. At 420 Lexington Ave. it was determined that there is no record for Fortean Society and that TIFFANY THAYER formerly worked for J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency. He left this employment in 1948 and at that time was residing at 410 Riverside Drive, N.Y.C.

It was established that THAYER no longer lives at 410 Riverside Drive and has left no forwarding address either at the building or post office.

Efforts continuing to locate and interview pursuant to Bureau instructions. Bureau will be advised of results as soon as completed.

2-Bureau
 1-New York (100-28630)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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 DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803RDD/CELM

APR 18 11 03 AM '56

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66 APR 25 1956

CRIME REC.

EXP. PROC.

39

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *my*

FROM : M. A. Jones *ms Jones*

SUBJECT: The FORTEAN SOCIETY
BOX 192
GRAND CENTRAL ANNEX
NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK

DATE: April 17, 1956

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Tolson _____
 Boardman _____
 Nichols _____
 Belmont _____
 Harbo _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
 Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

As you will recall, we received a brochure of captioned society which indicates that "Membership is open to all..." "Atheists, anarchists, Jews, astrologers, Republicans, FBI agents, Communists, poets, are all on the rolls -- for a great diversity of reasons."

In this connection, the New York Office was instructed to immediately have Tiffany Thayer interviewed by two mature, experienced Agents.

After exhaustive investigation, Thayer was finally located and he is employed at Sullivan, Stauffer, Colwell and Bayles, Inc., 477 Madison Avenue, New York City, concerning which organization Bufiles contain no record. An Agent assigned to the Liaison Section of the New York Office called Thayer for an appointment several times; however, Thayer supposedly was out or in conference. Finally on Friday, April 13, a letter was received by the New York Office from Thayer addressed to the Liaison Agent which stated that several telephone messages had been received from the Agent that day, and although Thayer has no wish to be discourteous, he desired to have a written record of any question the Agent might ask of him and of any replies Thayer might make. The New York Office telephonically advised the Bureau of this information on April 13 and that office was instructed to take no further action at this time.

It is obvious that Thayer is out to make trouble and tried to embarrass FBI Agents, and we, of course, have to consider the possibility of Thayer recording an interview since we no longer have the element of surprise.

RECOMMENDATION:

RECORDED - 67
 INDEXED - 67

APR 23 1956

In view of his letter, it is recommended that attached letter from the Director be forwarded in which Thayer is advised of statements in his organization's brochure which have come to our attention and requests that he either produce the names of Special Agents who are members of this organization or retract this statement.

Enclosure

ELJ:nma

(3)

3038 Oahu Avenue
Honolulu 14, Hawaii
April 21st 1956

PERSONAL

Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director
United States Dept. of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Indeed I do understand your position in regard to the matters on which I wrote in my letter dated March 24, 1956, and I appreciate your personal reply of April 5, 1956.

As long as you noted the enclosures regarding membership of both F.B.I. and Communist people in "The Fortean Society," that is sufficient.

However, if you do personally like the idea of my calendar proposal, as noted in the enclosed leaflet and the editorial of Charley Hogue's in yesterday's "Honolulu Advertiser," perhaps you can put in a good word for it on any suitable occasion.

With best wishes for continued success in the good work you are doing, I remain

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 04/30/77 BY [signature]

Yours sincerely,

Willard E. Edwards

Willard E. Edwards

Originator of "The Perpetual Calendar"

P.S. If you ever have the opportunity to see the 1954 book, "TIME COUNTS, The Story of the Calendar," by Mr. Harold Watkins, please note the chapter on my plan. It is entitled "The Rivals: New York v. Honolulu." During the war, when I was in uniform, I was unjustly attacked by "The World Calendar Assn.," and Mr. Watkins notes this and vindicates me. The attack was carried in a quarterly publication, "Journal of Calendar Reform," and was sent to many high-ranking Naval officers, most of whom probably never saw the apology carried a years later. This no doubt hurt me in my naval career, which is probably what the authors of the misleading and attacking articles intended.

3 ENCLOSURE ENCL. ATTACHED

EX - 120

RECORDED - 51

INDEXED - 51

EX - 120

50 MAY 2 1956

16 APR 27 1956

no ask new
could not enter the
Calendar. Not desired to
encourage corresp. from [unclear]

W.E.E.

This was handled separately & statement written by the Society
S.E.G.

From the Honolulu Advertiser editorial page of Friday, April 20, 1956. Please see "TIME COUNTS" by Harold Watkins, published in 1954 by PHILOSOPHICAL LIBRARY, N.Y. City.

Spurred by Ridicule

United Nations Consideration of Hawaii Man's Plan For Perpetual Calendar Recalls Great Inventions

By CHARLES E. HOGUE

Consideration of world adoption of The Perpetual Calendar, originated by Honolulu's Willard E. Edwards, may begin today by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. It is on the council's agenda for debate sometime between April 17 and May 4.

Aside from the historic significance of serious consideration of a revolutionary calendar change for the first time in 2,000 years, the action scheduled at New York at this time has two other notable claims to public interest. One of these is the persistence of Mr. Edwards—who, despite rebuffs that might have been heart-breaking, has conducted a campaign for recognition during the 38 years since he conceived his plan as a 15-year-old lad in high school. The other is the emphasis the event places on ridicule as a spur to progress.



HOGUE

* * * *

Nearly every great invention was laughed at when it was first proposed. Darius Green, who jumped off a barn roof in the hope of being air borne on man-made wings was a sure fire laugh getter for vaudevillians. Derisive shouts of "Get a horse" greeted the first automobiles. Wiseacres sneered at the "Monitor" as a "pill box" at the steamboat, the locomotive, the submarine, the telegraph, the telephone as "dreams of madmen." And so on down the ages.

Mr. Edwards' timid question in a Latin class as to the practicality of a calendar so full of contradictions as the one in use brought a tart rejoinder from a teacher, who asked, "Can you make a better one?" He thought he could, and did; a calendar in which all dates fall on the same day of the week every year.

* * * *

Inventing a perpetual calendar back in 1918 was not the severest obstacle Mr. Edwards had to overcome. He had to face scorn, ridicule and the opposition of a wealthy sponsor of another form of calendar revision. He was assailed as a plagiarist by this rival, a woman who found pleasure in spending her money in support of the rival proposal, and she had to make public apology.

The Hawaii inventor was not daunted by set-backs; they made him fight all the harder. He spent thousands of hours writing letters to influential people, and succeeded in interesting many of them in his plan. He convinced high authorities in government civil positions and in the Armed Forces that his calendar corrected two faults in the World Calendar, designed by Canada's Octavius Smith and presented unsuccessfully to the League of Nations in 1925.

These faults, he showed, were (1) improper use of the 31st day of the one 31-day month in each quarter and (2) inefficient placement of the annual day apart.

* * * *

The Edwards calendar would make New Year's Day a day apart on Sunday, each year beginning on Monday, January 1. This fixity has particular appeal to John Householder who, more often than not, finds himself in the domestic doghouse on forgotten anniversaries. Mr. Edwards offers him a reminder by providing the dates to be recalled always fall on the same day of the week.

Incidentally, as balm for the superstitious and surcease for the wearied news reader, there is no Friday, the 13th.

* * * *

What will happen to the Edwards calendar at the New York hearing is problematical. The rival World Calendar will be brought up again, with highly paid lobbyists working for it. Still Mr. Edwards is confident that his invention has a chance. The money and time it will save its users are vital factors.

"I'm hopelessly outclassed financially," he admits, "but I am not quitting." He remembers that teacher's tart remark to an inquiring young boy and the derision of his classmates, some of whom now are his ardent adherents. They challenged him to make a better calendar, and he has done so.

14-75-16

• Halawa, Moanalua, Kai

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A marvelous everyday slip with tuck-and-glow feature in white sanforized, mercerized cotton, trimmed with eyelet embroidery. Sizes 2 to 6X.

It's perky, crisp Everglaze ton with eyelet embroidered bow trim. Makes her new spring styles. Sizes \$2.19.

Teen-Style

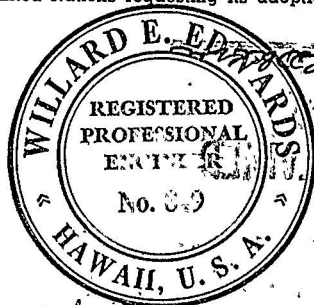
(1)

V-Front Bodice



1.76

A Plan for an International Standard Civil Calendar
 THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR, with New Year's Day
 as a day apart, uses an already well-known holiday
 to make the calendar fixed and perpetual. Start-
 ing each week on Monday agrees with common
 business practice, and allows Saturday, and Sunday
 to become the week end on the calendar as well
 as in fact. Common payroll days, the 1st and 15th,
 are always weekdays. The month lengths fall into
 the regular pattern of 30, 30, 31 and the starting
 days of each month into the well-known sequence
 of Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Incidentally, no
 Fridays-the-13th occur. It is the most practical 12-
 month calendar offered for adoption. This is in
 contrast with the present calendar with its confusion
 and irregularities. You are invited to endorse and
 support this plan and to write to Congress and
 the United Nations requesting its adoption.



14-75-16

Copr., 1955, by W.E. Edwards, Originator, Box 3140, Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.

For personal references,
 please see page 779 of
 the 1954 edition of

"Who's Who in America"

STAMP

HERE

POST CARD

ADDRESS

"The Perpetual Calendar" may be printed with Sun.
 as the 1st day of the week for those who prefer it
 that way, although Sat. and Sun. have long been
 known as "the week end," and Sun. is defined as
 the Christian Sabbath.

With a day apart, the year's begun,
 Followed by thirty, thirty, thirty-one.

Months always start a certain way,
 On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Each quarter and each year the same,
 Is THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR's aim.

Permission is hereby granted
 to reprint in whole or in part
 provided credit is given.

Willard E. Edwards



Congressional Record

United States
of America

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 83^d CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Honolulu Man Wages a Slow Battle To Give the World a Better Calendar

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF
HON. JOSEPH R. FARRINGTON

DELEGATE FROM HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 20, 1953

Mr. FARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I have again introduced in this Congress a bill urging the adoption of The Perpetual Calendar, devised by Willard E. Edwards, of Honolulu. Under leave to extend my remarks, I wish to include an article by William Metz, which appeared in the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, describing the calendar and Mr. Edwards' efforts to bring about its adoption. I also, under unanimous consent, include The Perpetual Calendar at the end of the article. The article follows:

HONOLULU MAN WAGES A SLOW BATTLE TO GIVE THE WORLD A BETTER CALENDAR

(By William Metz)

This year has 3 Fridays the 13th, and Willard E. Edwards, of Honolulu, Hawaii, had his way, they would be among the last such unlucky days the world would ever see. Thirty-four years ago, as a 15-year-old, he learned about two Roman Caesars in a Quincy, Mass., high school Latin class. It seems that Julius and Augustus had each arbitrarily snatched a day from February to add to the months named after themselves—July and August.

Amazed at such high-handed manipulation, he asked the teacher if she didn't think the two Roman rulers had left us a very irregular calendar: "Do you think you can make a better one?" she replied.

As an answer, young Willard Edwards went home from school that day and devised what is now known as "The Perpetual Calendar." Since then, admirals, generals, scientists, college presidents, bankers, and business leaders have endorsed it as the best timetable they have ever seen for running the world.

Several times Delegate JOSEPH R. FARRINGTON, of Hawaii, has introduced a bill in Congress, calling for the Nation to adopt the Honolulu man's perpetual calendar. Each time the measure has been lost in the press of other legislation.

NOW BEFORE CONGRESS

As a result of the Delegate's action in February, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs again has on its agenda for consideration a new resolution, which reads: "That on and after New Year's Day, 1956, The Perpetual Calendar * * * shall be the official calendar of the United States of America and all the Territories subject to its jurisdiction."

The year 1956 was chosen because the last day of 1955, being a Saturday, would allow a smooth transition to Edwards' calendar. The year 1956 would begin with New Year's Day, a Sunday, preceding Monday, January 1.

The plan was submitted recently to the United Nations for worldwide acceptance. The Hawaii and Massachusetts Legislatures have officially endorsed The Perpetual Calendar. And the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce has asked the national chamber to throw its weight behind the idea. These are exciting strides for a man who has been crusading 30 years for an ideal.

TOURED WORLD

Last summer Edwards, a Reserve Navy Lieutenant commander and a civilian electrical engineer at Pearl Harbor Shipyard, toured the world to sell his calendar idea to 24 foreign governments and their people.

He talked with rulers, diplomats, presidents, scholars, and churchmen—and got endorsements from all of them. He held press conferences and had The Perpetual Calendar explained to newspaper readers in Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, Greek, German, French, Italian, and English.

In each case he told how his scientific 12-month, fixed calendar would have 4 equal quarters of 91 days divided evenly into 13 full weeks. Thus, he points out, each quarter would always start at the beginning of a week and end on the last day of a week. This precise division, he says, has made a strong appeal to businessmen who have to deal with quarterly accounting, comparisons, and tax reports.

MONDAY FIRST DAY

Each month of The Perpetual Calendar would always have 26 working days, plus Sabbaths. Each week could start on Sunday or Monday, but its originator says: "Saturday and Sunday are generally known as 'the weekend,' and Hawaiians, Samoans, and other Polynesians have long considered Monday as the first day of the week in their calendars. The Eastman Kodak Co., using a printed 13-month calendar, considers Monday as the first day. So do most schools, colleges, and business concerns. However, the calendar can always be printed to satisfy the wish of the majority, whatever it is."

In order to account for 365 days, New Year's Day would be a day set apart between December 31 and January 1—like the Meridian Day travelers' experience when crossing the international date line in an easterly direction.

"People have gained or lost a day at the date line ever since it was created in 1884," Edwards observes, "and no one has ever jumped overboard on account of it. Many people objected to the date line when it was first introduced, but it is now an accepted necessity."

Another day apart in The Perpetual Calendar would take care of Leap Year Day. Edwards proposes a special day between June 31 and July 1, giving an extra summer holiday every 4 years. These 2 days apart

allow the rest of the calendar to become fixed and perpetual. That is their only purpose.

NO BAD LUCK

In listing other advantages of his calendar, he grins when he mentions Friday the 13th. There simply wouldn't be any in his system. The superstition attached by some to Black Friday, he says, has helped to defeat more than one proposal for calendar revision.

In introducing a bill on The Perpetual Calendar in Congress, Delegate FARRINGTON noted: "Executives know that a great many people are not willing to sign contracts, buy insurance, or transact business on a Friday the 13th. The elimination of all Fridays the 13th on this calendar has been favorably noted and commented on by thousands of people. This is important to businessmen."

PAYDAYS O. K.

For the workingman and paymasters, The Perpetual Calendar has a special charm: The 1st and 15th, widely used as paydays, would always fall on weekdays, never requiring juggled bookkeeping or a day's wait for money.

By providing a fixed and balanced plan, with all anniversaries falling on the same day of the week each year, The Perpetual Calendar would tidy up the disorder left by the two Caesars.

"Our present calendar," Edwards points out, "requires thousands of manhours yearly for tasks that could be eliminated with the adoption of The Perpetual Calendar."

"Easter, for example, is one of the most costly of holidays. Schools, particularly, must juggle their curricula each year in order to make spring vacation periods conform with this changing feast day. With my plan, Easter Sunday could fall on a regular date, and this shuffling of courses would then be done away with."

CHURCH FAVORABLE

Many persons with strong religious feelings have the misconception that the church would oppose The Perpetual Calendar on grounds that it would trifle with the dates of sacred observances. But the originator quotes a statement made in 1912: "The Holy See declared that it made no objection but invited the civil powers to enter into an accord on the reform of the civil calendar after which it would willingly grant its collaboration insofar as the matter affected religious feasts." The Vatican Secretary of State told him that this invitation still stands, says Edwards, and that a new fixed calendar would certainly be acceptable to the Roman Catholic Church.

Edwards, a soft-spoken man with the patience of Job, lives at 3038 Oahu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii. He says, with a combination of wistfulness and optimism, "I'd like to see The Perpetual Calendar adopted during my lifetime. It's entirely possible—like statehood for Hawaii."

Part of his optimism stems from his 3-month world tour last summer. In 72

cities in 24 foreign countries. He gave press interviews and saw his plan published. "In London I held a press conference and 14 publications sent reporters. The same thing happened in Frankfurt," he recalls. "Arabian papers in Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, and Cairo printed my calendar. Leading Mohammedans commented on it favorably and indicated they would accept it. In fact it was well received all around the world."

The only strong opposition to The Perpetual Calendar comes from some 7th-day Adventist church leaders who maintain that any fixed calendar is contrary to their religious precepts.

ONE RIVAL

A New York millionaire is also a rival. But Edwards doesn't regard her seriously, although she has spent more than \$1 million to promote her adopted "World Calendar." Edwards himself spends from \$200 to \$300 a year to have his plan printed and mailed to answer the many requests for information he receives.

The New York woman's calendar, he says, has a number of inconsistencies that make it inferior to his. Notable among them, he says, is the fact that her calendar calls for a 4-day week end at New Year's and 4 Fridays the 13th. In addition, the 1st and 15th, common paydays, would fall on Sunday 4 times a year in The World Calendar.

The scientific calendar maker likes to cite the confusion of other calendars as support for his own. In India, he says, he found 15 different calendars in use. And on a single wall in Jerusalem he saw 5 kinds of calendars, each showing different dates—Egyptian, Mohammedan, Jewish, Gregorian, and Augustan.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

To popularize his plan with different elements, Edwards cannily suggested in England that the new calendar be called "The Elizabethan Calendar." In Italy he suggested to the Vatican secretary of state that it be known as "The Pius XII Calendar." His offer is to have it named for the first leader placing it in effect. This has been the custom, the present Gregorian Calendar being named after Pope Gregory XIII, who made the last calendar change in 1582.

The management of airlines, railroads, bus companies and other transportation systems would like to see the new calendar adopted, says Edwards. Everyone would welcome the numerous regular 3-day holidays that would exist under The Perpetual Calendar—New Year's, Presidents' Day (Washington-Lincoln Birthdays, February 11-13), Easter, Labor Day, Columbus Day, and Christmas. Even Kamehameha Day, June 11, would fall on Monday, adding another 3-day holiday in Hawaii.

The inventor is careful to call his creation "The Perpetual Calendar," instead of "The Edwards Perpetual Calendar," as it was

called at first. "Many people got the idea that I was trying to profit from it," he explained. "That is not true. The idea is freely offered and has been printed many times without any copyright notice. It belongs to the world, as far as I'm concerned. I do not expect ever to make a dollar from it. It is called 'The Perpetual Calendar' to describe it and distinguish it from other plans with similar names."

WIDE INTEREST

Newspapers all over the world have called Edwards "a man with a mission." In Tokyo, Earnest Hoberecht, general manager of the United Press for Asia, said: "Promoting The Perpetual Calendar is the greatest one-man campaign for any cause that I have ever heard of."

Glasgow editors studied the Edwards plan cautiously for a week before deciding to print it. But when they did, they went all out. One Scottish editor heralded The Perpetual Calendar as "the most sensible and most businesslike change * * * and so reasonable that it shrieks for the change being made." He concluded: "We feel convinced that the day is not so very far off when his idea will be accepted by the world at large."

Tokyo and Hong Kong, however, gave him the most enthusiastic reception, he says. In Tokyo one magazine editor gave him 3,000 reprints of a recent article in Japanese on The Perpetual Calendar. These were distributed throughout Japan during Edwards' 10-day visit. In Hong Kong every Chinese and English newspaper printed and described The Perpetual Calendar while he was in the colony. There is no word for "perpetual" in the Chinese language, so in Hong Kong it was called "The 10,000-year calendar."

WIDE SUPPORT

During the years he has been promoting The Perpetual Calendar, the Honolulu man has marshaled some impressive support for it. But he is always looking for some individual or company to help him carry the campaign to a successful conclusion.

Dr. Karl T. Compton, while president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, wrote Edwards that "your proposed revision is decidedly the best that I know of." Another scientist, Dr. Walter Orr Roberts, of the High Altitude Observatory at Boulder, Colo., testified: "I believe this calendar represents the best possible compromise among the various factors involved."

Such military figures as Rear Adm. C. A. Pownall, former military governor of Guam, and E. W. Hanson, former Commandant of the Pearl Harbor naval base, lent "The Perpetual Calendar" the backing which it deserves.

Similar endorsements have come from Maj. Gen. S. L. Howard, of the Marine Corps, who stated: "I unhesitatingly endorse its adoption by the United Nations," and from Brig. Gen. J. E. Moore, of the United States

Army, who added: "I trust that it will receive favorable consideration by an agency of the United Nations."

Businessmen are represented by Melvin C. Miller, deputy manager of the American Bankers Association, who called The Perpetual Calendar "the simplest solution that has been developed," and Henry E. North, vice president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., who stated: "It would be very appropriate for our business."

But if The Perpetual Calendar has powerful friends, it also has formidable barriers in human inertia and resistance to change of any kind. And that's the battle that Edwards is fighting now.

He figures he has proved the value of his plan. Foreign statesmen, Members of Congress, and the United Nations are personally for it, he says, but they hesitate to vote for it until the people as a whole are ready to accept it.

It is a truism that no progress is ever made without change. If you want The Perpetual Calendar, the necessary congressional and United Nations authorization must first be obtained.

Mr. Speaker, The Perpetual Calendar is as follows:

THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR

*New Year's Day (a day apart from any week or month) is the first day of each year, a holiday, followed by the 364-day fixed calendar shown below:

January							February							March						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April							May							June						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*Leap Year Day (a second day apart) is observed only during leap years between June 31 and July 1 as the first day of the second half-year, a holiday.

July							August							September						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

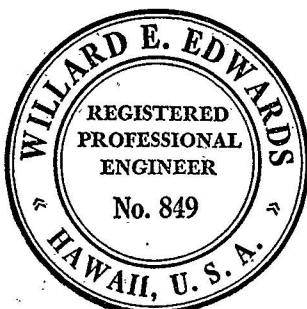
October							November							December						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	30						27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*These 2 Year-Days are definitely named and have a definite purpose. When considered apart from any week, they allow the calendar to become fixed and perpetual.

For personal references,
please see page 779 of
the 1954 edition of
"Who's Who in America"

With a day apart, the year's begun,
Followed by thirty, thirty, thirty-one.
Months always start a certain way,
On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
Each quarter and each year the same,
Is THE PERPETUAL CALENDAR's aim.

"The Perpetual Calendar" may be printed with Sun. as the 1st day of the week for those who prefer it that way, although Sat. and Sun. have long been known as "the week end," and Sun. is defined as the Christian Sabbath.



14-75-16

Jul 18, 1950

RECORDED - 88
INDEXED-88

14-75-17*

PERSONAL

EX - 113

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803RDD/CEL

I have been informed that you have written our New York Office, and the purpose of this letter is to advise that a brochure entitled "The Fortean Society Presents the Religion of Self Respect" has come to my attention. On page two it is stated, "Membership is open to all" and, further, "Atheists, anarchists, Jews, astrologers, Republicans, FBI agents, Communists, poets, are all on the rolls -- for a great diversity of reasons."

I would like to request that you furnish me the names of the Special Agents of the FBI on the rolls of The Fortean Society or, in the alternative, retract this statement.

Sincerely yours,

COMM - FBI
APR 19 1956
MAILED 25

JAN 10 1962
RECEIVED
JAN 10 1962
T. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

APR 19 10 28 AM '56
RECEIVED READING ROOM
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

cc - New York

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

~~Follow-up April 27, 1956. pulled per reply 4/21/56~~
NOTE: See Jones to Nichols memo 4/17/56 re "The Fortean Society." - ELL:nma

EEJ: nma: fp
157 (5)

MAY 4 1956

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: April 3, 1956

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
BOX 192
GRAND CENTRAL ANNEX
NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-97 BY 3803 RDD/ELW

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Mr. Willard E. Edwards, 3038 Oahu Avenue, Honolulu 14, Hawaii, by letter postmarked March 26, 1956, forwarded the Bureau some material relating to his "Perpetual Calendar" together with some printed material on The Fortean Society. One of the enclosures is a letter from Tiffany Thayer to Edwards in which Thayer states "It is a pleasure to tell you, however, that FBI men outnumber the Communists on our rolls by 2 to 1. Thus Forteanism bores from within both camps. The mark of Destiny is upon us!" In addition, a pamphlet of this Society indicates that membership is open to all and that "Atheists, anarchists, Jews, astrologers, Republicans, FBI agents, Communists, poets, are all on the rolls--for a great diversity of reasons."

The Bureau conducted an Internal Security - X investigation regarding the Fortean Society in 1947. It was revealed that the society was anarchistic, anti-Catholic, atheist and accepted all conscientious objectors of World War II as honorary members for the duration. Tiffany Thayer was reported as secretary, and in 1951 this society's magazine, "Doubt," was edited by Thayer. The general tenor of past issues of the publication appeared to indicate an unusually critical attitude toward law enforcement and Government. (14-75)

Bufile 42-11735-11 reflects that Thayer, a well-known author, was an employee of the J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency, New York City, where he was engaged in the writing and directing of radio programs in 1946. Bulet 11/11/43 directed that contacts with this agency be held in absolute minimum, inasmuch as this agency in November, 1943, wrote and directed a radio program on which the Director appeared. Following the Director's appearance on the air, a conversation occurred between two radio personalities which the Director considered an insult to himself and to the entire personnel of the FBI.

Bufiles reflect that W. E. Edwards, 3038 Oahu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii, was the sender of a communication received on 11/24/54 by the Soviet United Nations Delegation at New York, New York. Edwards was identified by Honolulu as Electrical Branch Manager at Pearl Harbor Navy Yard. Check of Honolulu files disclosed no adverse information. Edwards was interested in promoting international adoption of "The

Enclosure

ELJ:lmh/naf
(2)

CLASSIFIED BY 8884 DMC/KE
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

SECRET
CRIM

Memorandum for Mr. Nichols

April 3, 1956

~~SECRET~~

(U) Perpetual Calendar." [On 12/30/55 the Czech. United Nations Delegation, New York City, received correspondence from Willard E. Edwards, 3038 Oahu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii. This information has been disseminated to Naval Intelligence and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins. (105-33871) (S)]

In view of the statements of this organization and Tiffany Thayer, its secretary, it is believed he should be interviewed by Bureau Agents and challenged to produce the names of FBI Agents who are allegedly members of this organization.

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) That Tiffany Thayer, Secretary of the Society, be interviewed by Agents of the New York City Office and challenged to produce the names of FBI Agents who are allegedly members of this organization. Further, if he is unable to produce any names, he then should be politely but firmly advised that the Bureau will not tolerate such allegations as appear in this Society's publication concerning our Agents.

File

(2) That attached letter to Willard E. Edwards go forth.

✓

100

✓

my

GRH

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SAC, New York

April 27, 1956

Director, FBI

14-75-18

RECORDED - 81
INDEXED - 81

MR. TIFFANY THAYER
C/O SULLIVAN, STAUFFER, COLWELL
AND BAYLES, INC.
477 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK
120 RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

HW 4-1

ReBulet April 18, 1956, to captioned individual with copy to New York.

For your information, there is enclosed one copy of Mr. Thayer's reply dated April 21, 1956.

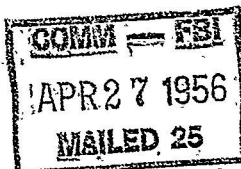
Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803RDD BCEL

NOTE: Bulet 4-18-56 requested Mr. Thayer to advise the names of Special Agents alleged to be on the rolls of The Fortean Society or, in the alternative, retract this statement to this fact appearing in a brochure of the society.

ELJ:pp
(4)

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____



3 MAY 14 1956

548
MAY 1 1956

PUBLISHERS OF
DOUBT

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

Box 192 Grand Central Annex
New ★ York ★ City

1931 A. D. =

4/28/56
4/21/56

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

John Edgar Hoover
Director
United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25 D C

Dear John Edgar Hoover

Reference is to your letter of
April 18, 1956 old style, addressed to me at
477 Madison Avenue, N.Y.C.

The brochure you have seen was
printed in 1951. The supply is exhausted. It
is no longer in use. In the revised version
the statement you quote does not appear.

INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD/BEL

TT:m

Secretary

Tiffany Thayer

RECORDED - 81

EX. - 120

6 MAY 3 1956

THE FOUNDERS

SURVIVING

Tiffany Thayer
Secretary

Aaron Sussman
Ben Hecht
Burton Rascoe
John Cowper Powys

HONORARY

Eric Frank Russell
3 Dale Hey, Hooton,
Cheshire, England
T. Swann Harding
Scott Nearing
Hereward Carrington.
Don Bloch
Anton J. Carlson

DECEASED

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Lincoln Steffens

Clarence Darrow

Havelock Ellis

Harry Leon Wilson

Felix Riesenbergr

Alexander Woolcott

Art Young

Abe Merrill

B. J. S. Cahill

Albert Jay Nock

Theodore Dreiser

Baith Tarkington

Claude Bragdon

George Bernard Shaw

Porter Sargent

Stuart X

John Dewey

Ernest Philipp Barthel

Guy F. Rogers

Frederick S. Hammett

XII Duke of Bedford

note
Letter to Dan 7/4
4-27-56
ELJ

APR 24 1956

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: June 20, 1956

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: TIFFANY THAYER
THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
NEW YORK CITYALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-77 BY 803 RDD/CEL

389/124

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Nichols	✓
Belmont	✓
Harbo	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Sizoo	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

You will recall that in April of this year we had a run-in with Thayer because a brochure put out by his Fortean Society stated "'Membership is open for all' and, further, 'Atheists, anarchists, Jews, astrologers, Republicans, FBI agents, Communists, poets, are all on the rolls -- for a great diversity of reasons.'"

We asked Thayer to furnish a list of any Special Agents who were on the rolls of The Fortean Society or else cease putting out such statements. In a brief reply Thayer said that the objectionable brochure was now out of print.

In view of the above, we thought you would be interested in the attached clipping from the June 11 issue of "Time." This account points out that Thayer has undertaken a 21 volume novel to be called "Mona Lisa." "Time" characterizes Thayer's novel as "an Everest of vulgarity" a "between-the-sheets foray into the political brawls and sexual excesses of Renaissance Italy," and as a "mountainous exercise in bad taste." It appears that Thayer is a pretty typical example of some of the misfits who delight in taking pot shots at the Bureau.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. This is for information.

Enclosure

HPL:mad

(2)

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED - 8

INDEXED - 8

JUL 3 1956

EX - 124

66 JUL 11 1956

3ay

Neapolitan Peep Show

MONA LISA (Vols. 1, 2, 3; 1,267 pp.)
—Tiffany Thayer—Dial (\$12.50)

Heaven only knows how many women have despairingly practiced the Mona Lisa smile since Leonardo da Vinci painted her around 1505. And what was she smiling about, anyway? Sixteen years ago Tiffany

Thayer, a writer of meretricious bestsellers (*Call Her Savage*, *Thirteen Women*), accepted the challenge to find out. The years passed, and with advertising copywriter jobs (now Pall Mall cigarettes) to keep him from want, Author Thayer learned Italian and let his fancy run riot. It ran to 47,000 handwritten pages. A more fastidious publisher might have been appalled by so mountainous an exercise in bad taste, but Dial Press President George Joel, who has made a killing with the sexual leers of Frank (*The Foxes of Harrow*) Yerby, decided on one of the most massive gambles in recent U.S. publishing history. He decided to launch *Mona Lisa*, a novel that will run to some 21 volumes.

Published this week are the first three volumes (boxed and priced at \$12.50). Breathlessly the publisher confides that "no one, absolutely no one but Tiffany Thayer, could have written it." No one is



NOVELIST THAYER
Nobody, but nobody.

set to quarrel with him, for Author Thayer has reached an Everest of vulgarity that may well stand as a mark until standards of literary decency are chucked entirely. His fancy is that *Mona Lisa* is written by French Poet Francois Villon; it turns out to be a between-the-sheets foray into the political brawls and sexual excesses of Renaissance Italy. It begins with the hero, Giovantonio Del Balzo-Orsini, lying under his mother's bed as she submits to her wifely duties, and it maintains that level of fictional and historical curiosity throughout. Prominent in the milling cast of characters is a queen of Naples whose appetite for men is inextinguishable. Pretending to be interested in Italian political squabbles, Author Thayer really saves his most conspicuous talents for scenes that normally have their origin in lecherous fantasy. A drool trickles from the wise-guy, smoking-car prose; and each orgy is dropped with a reluctance that promises another bout in the next

chapter. The promise is kept, to the point of bedroom boredom.

And *Mona Lisa* herself? At the end of these three volumes she is not yet born and will not be until the end of the next set of volumes. She may never make it. The economics of publishing being what it is, it is barely possible that not enough readers will pay their way in to bring a smile to the face of anyone connected with the enterprise.

TIME, JUNE 11, 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-87 BY 8803 RDD/BCE/LW
399164

14-72-17
ENCLOSURE

REF:MT

New York, N.Y.
March 20, 1942.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-5-87 BY SP8TJ/CJ

255,649

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a photostatic copy of a letter received from Leonard Lyons of the New York Post, together with a copy of the publication entitled "The Fortean Society Magazine".

Particular attention is directed to the article "Circus Day Is Over", by Tiffany Thayer, which Mr. Lyons describes as being seditious.

Your attention is also directed to the notation appearing on the last page of the publication, as follows:

"After the publication of this issue, Your Secretary fully expects to go to jail. The charge will be passing a red light or taking pennies from a blind man's cup or some other railroading device such as imprisoned Fritz Kuhn and Earl Browder...Accordingly, my affairs are in order and the cops may come at their convenience...The next issue of the Fortean Society Magazine will be published as soon as I am released. T.T."

In order not to waste the investigative time of the Agents in this office, this publication is being submitted to the Bureau, with the request that a decision be obtained from the Department as to whether or not such article is considered seditious, prior to the time we initiate an investigation.

The sponsors of the magazine will be found on page seven. No copy of this magazine is retained in the New York office.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director.

Enclosures

New York Post

FOUNDED 1801

March 28, 1942

Dear Sam:

Re Torres: He's writing another book now, about another ex-friend of his--Admiral Darlan.

Re Santa Cruz: No reports yet. Whenever her name is mentioned, the other person looks startled, and asks: "What about her? Is she on Ellis Island?"

Enclosed you will find an article written by Tiffany Thayer, the well-known writer. If that isn't addition, brother, what is. I suppose that it was sent through the mails.

Best,

Leon

Leonard Lyons

F. B. I.

MAR 19 1942

INDEXED

ROUTED TO

FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-29-83 BY SP5 BTJ/CL

555049

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

MAGAZINE

No. 6

JANUARY, 1942.

25c

5-87 169261/01
255,649

In this issue

JOHN

COWPER

POWYS

BEN HECHT

TIFFANY THAYER

and

MORE NOTES of

Charles Fort

CIRCUS DAY IS OVER

By Tiffany Thayer

Your Secretary and a few of his esteemed colleagues brought the Fortean Messiah to town with bass-drum and red-fire in the tradition of P. T. Barnum and Billy Sunday—a tradition honored by time if by none other. Now, however, since all the world has taken up the bass-drum and pitched its voice so stridently, it is more Fortean to eschew those methods and to insure ourselves an auditory by whispering. We'll be heard the better by contrast.

This does not mean that the Fortean Society will shirk its duty of calling attention to the crimes of Our Betters, far from it, and, accordingly, we quietly charge that the present international hostility is the most ghastly fraud ever perpetrated in history with the possible exception of the Holy Inquisition. By that is meant that the headlines you consume each day as "news" are not really news at all but are only the latest releases to us dupes of our daily capsule of dope. Every time you listen to a "news" broadcast on the radio you are taking poison through the ears. The dosage is administered at half-hourly intervals by Imperial Request from Washington, D. C.—two minutes of unadulterated poison on the hour and one minute of the same on the half-hour, twenty-four hours of the day, not counting the various five-minute regular "news" broadcasts by established agencies. Thus it is impossible for you to escape a dose if you leave your radio on for longer than 28 minutes in succession.

Our Shepherds—the politicians and bankers of the world—chiefly those of the United States, Germany, England and Japan—planned this gigantic hoax upon their peoples in all personal friendliness years ago. They decided then what should happen now—and it is happening and will continue to happen very much according to schedule until every possible dollar has

SOCIETY ACQUIRES DRAYSONIA

been squeezed out of the emprise and every last vestige of our already farcical "freedom" has been taken from us.

Probably the above is so obvious to Fortean that it did not need stating, but awareness of our condition does not give us the means to change it. Of what use is the Right of Petition against the opposition of unlimited free time on the air? That is to say that the President can chat over the radio as long and as frequently as he wishes, without paying one red cent for the privilege, but if I think the man should be impeached for making foreign alliances in defiance of the Constitution, I can finance my own expedition across the country seeking signers of my petition, with more than a fifty-one per cent chance of having my signatures thrown out of court as fraudulent after I get them. Our franchise is a fake and only the taxes we must pay are real. We do what the politicians tell us—or jump off high buildings—that is the only alternative left to common people today, be they British, German, Japanese or American: goose-step or suicide.

The reason for this condition is, clearly, to preserve tottering, rotten institutions which mankind—partially enlightened by the events of 1914 to 1918—was undermining diligently, intent—as the commonality has ever been—upon self-betterment. It is this determination for self-betterment which puts the fear of God into Our Betters perennially and demands military regimen for the rest of us on an average of at least once every twenty-five years. For present-day "civilization" operates on the working premise that the overwhelming majority of mankind is stupid, cannot be enlightened, and is happy to remain swinish or doltish; and the only way that lie can be maintained, sustained and perpetuated is by the use of such bludgeons as this one they call "War" and another, called "Authority". These great hammers are dropped on our heads every time we raise them because Our Betters do not sit securely in their superior seats by any virtue of theirs; but only by beating us back from around their legs.

The second crime of Our Shepherds which Your Secretary will mention in this quiet session is one in which "Authority" has been the bludgeon, but before we take it up, a word in praise of a man who might have played one of the largest parts in this, the most ghastly fraud since the Inquisition, but who refused.

He was a King—the King of England—and had been better loved as Prince of Wales. He is now known as Duke of Windsor, presently "employed" as Governor of the Bahamas. . . This man renounced a throne, and it was given out by the lie-mongering press that he renounced his birthright for the love of a woman. The statement was made that this man could not marry this woman and keep his crown because the woman was an American.

Here take time out to smile. For—it was to aid the same Britain which was alleged to have raised that objection that Our Shepherds led the despised Americans to "War".

Of course, nobody with an IQ of more than 6 and 7/8 believed the story at the time, but how many suspected the truth?

How many knew what the politicians of the world were planning? Who was present in Windsor Castle to hear the leaders of the world's greatest nations—the United States, Germany, his own England, Italy and Japan—tell Edward of Windsor that a repetition of 1914–1918 was going to be necessary to prevent the people of the world from claiming their birthright? How many heard Edward VIII, the uncrowned King of England, say to the other members of that most select of all clubs—The War-Makers: "No, gentlemen, I will not do it. . . I will not be party to your murderous scheme for the enslavement of millions. I am not even grateful for the opportunity. . . You forget that I was still a lad when your Club found this necessary the time before. You forget that I was duped along with the rest at that time. I was taken in by your flag-waving and your drum-beating—but I lived to learn that you and your class and myself and my class aren't worth fighting for.

"I visited trenches in 1914 and breadlines in 1930. You gentlemen dug those trenches on paper years before common men dug them in the mud—and you and I created those breadlines. Now you are asking me to go on playing that same unspeakable game—perpetuating trenches and breadlines to infinity—or—worse: you are asking me to help you deprive the peoples of the earth of their last shred of self-respect, the last glimmer of hope for human integrity.

"No, gentlemen. . . You may take the crown of England and stick it—on the head of one of my brothers: there are plenty of them—and one, at least, will be ready to do this for you. I refuse."

Edward of Windsor couldn't stop the plans the War-Makers had in hand but he could refuse to further them or to participate in them. Now, we cannot all be Governors of the Bahamas, but we can follow the honorable and upright example of Edward VIII part of the way. We can shut off the radio, stop reading newspapers and stay away from the movies. Their "war" stops automatically as soon as you do those three things. And the "outcome of the struggle" will not be varied one way or the other by any actions of yours, because the "outcome" was decided years ago—before the first shot was fired—and each "contender" in this criminal farce knows now exactly what part of the earth and its inhabitants is to be his to tax when it's all over. All that passes between now and then is no more than Poo Bah's "corroborative detail intended to give artistic verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative." Your Secretary's objection to the "detail" is that some of the wrong men might get killed.

The second crime of Our Betters as mentioned above has been less publicized than the Grand Hoax, but its purpose is identical—that is—to maintain the reputa-

tions and incomes of a class of persons which has strutted for countless centuries before the world in garments of that mystic fabric of legend—woven of nothing. In fact, the men who wear this material weave it themselves, and through the ages their yarn has differed fancifully. Of late, "light-years" form the *war* and "spectrum-analysis" the *woof*. . . That is to say, the Astronomers, of course, and it is further to say, that they "haven't got anything on!"

Like the leaders of every other "recognized science", these intellectual prostitutes have all but entirely relaxed from any search after truth they ever did prosecute, and have become sycophants, courtiers, jesters and murderers to the monopolists and the politicians, the modern Khans, Princes and Barons of the air, the waters and the earth.

They hold before youth the great ideal of selfless devotion to the finding out of all the truths of nature in order to make life more worth living for all who are forced to live it, yet they are, almost without exception, willing to betray youth by making capital of their discovery of half-truth, however lethal, and by commercializing half-comprehended clues to cosmic revelations in the name of sainted Progress, under the patronage of public utilities and the lords of a civilization which is based upon fraud and chicanery.

As examples of half-truth operating murderously, I give you the airplane and sulphanilimide. . . As examples of a clue to the operation of the so-called "cosmos" which has been perverted to the ends of man's lowest tastes and prostituted for the profit of the few, to the mental emasculation of the many—I give you the radio—the motion picture—and next, whenever it is needed by Our Betters (probably for their next "War"), the blend of those two in television.

And queening it over all her brother and sister sciences is the great Bell-dame—Astronomy. Out on the West Coast some men are polishing what might be called "the White Elephant of Mount Palomar" or "Corning's Triumph"—for there is a 200 inch piece of glass for which even the Astronomers themselves have no use. They will tell you—if you can catch them in an honest mood, which is quite a trick, but possible—that they would *much* rather have two 100 inch glasses: that they are not going to see one damned bit more in this thing the Corning people have sold them than they have been seeing right along: that the whole gargantuan episode from conception to the expected failure was a double-barrelled gag—one, publicity for "Authority"—two, a rather staggering transfer of funds.

By such methods Astronomer holds her place, the mysterious, inexplicable, untouchable science; the cornerstone of Authority, parent of all hocus-pocus. This is not to say that studying the stars is bootless or that making gigantic mirrors is a crime: not at all. In fact, Your Secretary recommends that a similar mirror be made for every hamlet in the world and that the acquisition of knowledge be substituted

for the acquisition of money (One writes "gold" and crosses it out.) as an universal ideal. As our youths turn 18, let us hand them telescopes or microscopes or tables of logarithms instead of rifles: set them to the business of measuring Earth in platoons, to shattering atoms in brigades. Send them by ship-loads to find out where those islands are in the South Pacific: nobody knows now. Doubtless the proprietors of Big Steel would relish their caviar no less if it were bought with profits from the sale of planetariums and cyclotrons and exploring vessels instead of from the sale of battle ships made for the express purpose of being sunk and blown up. One can hardly suppose that their food tastes better to them because it comes dripping in human blood.

What sort of a civilization might we not build out of an universal brotherhood dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge? Something rather fine perhaps: but the present incumbents of the superior seats would oppose any such innovation: the incumbents of those superior seats of any "present" oppose innovation to the last ditch. (Innovation is to Authority as Peace is to a duPont.)

In its opposition to all innovation lies Authority's greatest crime. Our example is the Drayson Problem.

THE DRAYSON PROBLEM

If you read your Magazine for October, 1941, you will recall that Alfred H. Barley was quoted there on the subject of an astronomical problem: a *problem*, mind you, not a "theory"—which might be established or refuted—but a problem which may only be studied.

Mr. Barley was the author of a booklet of 48 pages, plus a 24-page "Prologue", plus covers bearing diagrams, published in England in 1922. The title is *The Drayson Problem*, and the contents reveals that Orthodox Astronomy has been faced since 1859 with the discovery of an anomaly in the very foundation upon which all its mathematics has been based since Newton if not since the building of the pyramids.

The discoverer of the anomaly was an anonymous student in one of the astronomy classes of Major-General Alfred Wilks Drayson, Fellow Royal Astronomical Society, late Royal Artillery, then Professor of Astronomy at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, England. The boy asked his teacher a question which the teacher could not answer. Not being the average teacher, Drayson admitted his ignorance and set out to inform himself—with the result that today—simply to mention the name of Drayson or of Barley within the hearing of an astronomy professor is likely to produce seismic phenomena.

You may read a good deal more about the Drayson Problem in these columns as the years go by, because, by the terms of the will of the late Alfred H. Barley, and at the direction of his executor and heir, his wife, Mrs. Annie Barley, the Fortean Society became the proud custodian of all

Mr. Barley's literary, documentary and Draysonian remains. . . More: the Fortean Society inherited the obligation and the privilege of carrying the work forward. The work—in the case of the Drayson Problem—consists of bringing this *fault* in their figures to the attention of the younger generation of astronomers in such a way that the importance of the matter can no longer be ignored. Correspondence to that end is already in progress and the results will be duly recorded here.

To familiarize yourself with this problem and to help the work along—order one or more of the following books from the Fortean Society today.

- (1911) DRAYSONIA, by Admiral Sir Algernon F. R. de Horsey, K.C.B. (cloth) \$5.00 (contains folding plates and diagrams) The above is out of print and extremely rare. We have only a few copies.
- (1921) WARMER WINTERS and the Earth's Tilt Fully Explained, by Major R. A. Marriott, D.S.O., (illustrated wrappers) \$3.00 Very few copies available. Orders from public libraries will be honored first.
- (1922) THE DRAYSON PROBLEM, by Alfred H. Barley (diagrams on wrappers and throughout) \$1.50.
- (1927) THE ICE AGE: ITS DATE, DURATION, AND ASTRONOMICAL CAUSE, by Major R. A. Marriott, Lieutenant Colonel T. C. Skinner, R. E. (Retired), Fellow Royal Meteorological Society, and others, including D. W. Hörner, F.R.A.S., Sir Wm. Salmond, Alfred H. Barley and Lord Sydenham of Combe; with diagrams and maps (wrappers) \$1.50.

These books were written by the foremost exponents of Drayson's cause. Admiral de Horsey was Drayson's first disciple.

This is the Preface to his book DRAYSONIA:

In the following treatise I have adopted the title 'Draysonia' in honour of a man whose scientific attainments have been but little known or recognized, whose death in September 1901 was a great loss to astronomical science, and who in future days will, I think, be acknowledged as having been a remarkable discoverer. I refer to the late Major-General Alfred Wilks Drayson, F.R.A.S., late Royal Artillery, who, in addition to distinguishing himself in his profession, was for fifteen years Professor, Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and for two years attached to the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, author of *Practical Military Surveying, The Common Sights in the Heavens, The Last Glacial Epoch, Experiences of a Woolwich Professor, Thirty Thousand Years of the Earth's Past History*, read by the aid of the second rotation of the earth, *Untrodden Ground, Important Facts and Calculations for the Consideration of Astronomers and*

Geologists, Proper Motion of the Fixed Stars, etc.

I am fully aware of the difficulty of my task and of how imperfectly I can do justice to Drayson in attempting to describe his system; indeed, I should not venture the attempt were it not that General Drayson, shortly before his death, repeatedly urged me to write upon the subject. Writing to me very shortly before his death, he said: 'The reason why I thought that you ought to write something is that it would be a loss to astronomical science if the accurate calculations which you have made were allowed to be buried in your workbook and among my papers. I refer especially to your investigations to obtain the annual motion of the pole 20".0529, the annual angle of C. 40".8114, the zero year A.D. 2294.75, the cycle 31,756 years, the annual precession of the equinox in 1900, the annual diminution of the obliquity and the variable rate of this decrease.

'All these calculations are based on sound geometry.' In again urging me in his last touching letter before his death when complaining bitterly of the unreasoning opposition he had encountered, he said, 'I have spent between two and three hundred pounds in getting my books, pamphlets, etc. published, and have received less than ten pounds in return. Money-making has not been my object, but that truths in nature should be made known. I can only claim to have done my best, though whether good results will follow. I cannot say.' I also can only claim to have done my best.

My work in assisting Drayson began after reading his *Untrodden Ground*, and has been carried on almost entirely by letter. Drayson's letters to me amounted to three or four hundred, and were continued until his death. From this correspondence and from Drayson's works I learned a great deal, and found the occupation enthralling—too much so, for in working with Shor-trede's admirable logarithms, which admit of accuracy to the 1/10 of a second of arc and to 1/100 of a second of time, up and into the small hours of the night, I considerably impaired my eyesight. I was induced to look into Drayson's system by my old and distinguished friend, the late Sir John Cowell, who, when on duty at Osborne, had lent Drayson's *Untrodden Ground* to H.R.H. the then Crown Princess of Germany, afterwards the Empress Frederick, and told me how great an interest H.R.H. had taken in the matter. The subject also has engaged the attention of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who, when at Woolwich Academy as a cadet, had studied under Drayson, and was thus aware of his great ability. I mention this as another instance of the great interest taken by members of our Royal Family in scientific matters.

I believe I have been a good scholar of Drayson's, judging from his kind appreciation of my efforts, for in an article of his some years ago in the *Yorkshire Post*, the following commendation appears: 'It is quite unnecessary for me to refer to the scientific attainments, especially in practical

astronomy, possessed by Admiral de Horsey. In the Royal Navy these are well known. I may say, however, that during the fifteen years that I was Professor of Woolwich, I looked over several thousand examination papers on various questions in practical astronomy which had been worked out by officers and cadets, who were excellent mathematicians, and to whom the practical working of spherical trigonometry was mere child's play, but in no single instance have I seen anything equal in accuracy and neatness to the work accomplished by Admiral de Horsey."

The above flattering opinion of my attainments far exceed such abilities as I may possess, but I here insert it as a record of General Drayson's appreciation of the assistance I rendered him in astronomical computations from 1893 until that distinguished astronomer's death in 1901. Drayson's lamented death occurred without his receiving that public recognition of his scientific attainments and discoveries which he merited, and which I trust posterity will accord him.

Cowes, March 1911.

A.F.R. DE HORSEY

After Admiral de Horsey, came Major Marriott, who applied Drayson's work to the problem of dating "the" Ice Age:

THE GLACIAL EPOCH

The Date and Duration of the Last Ice Period

(This inset is brought to the notice of the readers of this issue of the "Proceedings," not with the intention of endorsing the views therein stated, but out of respect to one of the chief founders of this Society, the late Dr. W. Allen Sturge, whose immense activities in prehistory are well known, and whose critical acumen led him to favour the acceptance of Drayson's contention as a WORKING HYPOTHESIS for the elucidation of the various ages to be assigned to flint cultures in East Anglia. Several discoveries since his death have done much to favour an unexpected extension of the stages of man's progress, and of the enormous antiquity to be assigned to primitive man, while certain facts on the astronomical side have so strengthened the position of Drayson's supporters as to make their claims a matter inviting serious attention.)

Readers of the Proceedings will recall the paper read by Dr. W. Allen Sturge in Vol. L, part iii, 1913, containing arguments based on the recurrence of glacial periods, such as may be postulated from an acceptance of Drayson's discovery of the true motion of the Pole, and especially as to the chronology of the last one with reference to the Neolithic culture; and many subscribers are further acquainted with the numerous corroborative evidences bearing on this question of glaciation furnished by geology and other sciences, as set forth in a recent pamphlet by Major Marriott.

This strong chain of evidence, however,

laboured under the disadvantage that the connecting astronomical links had not received the hall mark of official astronomy, and therefore were considered unsound; and it is only quite recently that the orthodox school have deigned to give their reasons for rejecting the astronomical evidence without investigation.

The objections brought against Drayson's conclusions have thus been displayed in all their weakness, and have given Mr. A. H. Barley an opportunity to combat them, phrase by phrase, by the production of mathematical proofs from several sources, which place the matter on an impregnable footing, such as no unprejudiced astronomer can fail to see establishes a claim for minute investigation.

Apart from these concise proofs, researches into archaeology and the orientation of ancient monuments mirror the same deductions from terrestrial sources, being corroborated by recent pronouncements on prehistoric climatology, while providing a basis for many myths, especially in connection with Vedic and Avedic traditions, and enhancing the grandeur and utility of the Great Pyramid by giving it a new astronomical significance.

Until the exhumation of this discovery, which was first put forward in 1859, geologists have failed to get any nearer to the solution of the Ice Age question, since the days of Agassiz a century ago; but it has now been revived by independent research, giving a new impetus to geology and providing us with a clue of great importance to serve as a guide in prehistory.

From a letter of Admiral Sir Algernon de Horsey, K.C.B. to Drayson, dated 23rd April, 1894.

"It is inconceivable to me that the Royal Astronomical Society has not enthusiastically taken up a subject which gives such strong evidence of its truth. To sift such a matter—a matter affecting the basis of all astronomical calculations—to the bottom is surely the first duty of a learned society which has the privilege of the prefix 'Royal'. I should have imagined—as I believe you did—that you had only to whisper '29° 25' 47"'—in order to put astronomers on the quiver to elucidate a discovery of enthralling interest, which for a chaos of supposed proper motions of millions of stars substitutes a simple movement of the instrument (the earth), by which and from which all astronomical observations are made."

From "The Change in the Climate":

"Something more is required from astronomers than the invocation of the great name of Newton in support of a circle with a phantom centre. This philosopher, when he made his great discovery of the mechanism of the Universe in the laws of motion, naturally applied them to the finding of a cause of Precession, but Newton was not confronted with geological research, and knew nothing of the decrease in the obliquity, nor the true conformation

of the earth. Are his conclusions, then, never to be questioned?

"We are not more capable certainly than the great minds of the past, only better equipped. Not to use these advantages will be to incur the reproach of the age of Galileo. Let the facts here outlined be faced and admission made that much remains to be investigated, and Drayson, ere long will be assigned his place among the Immortals."

And after Marriott came Colonel Skinner—who is still very active on behalf of Drayson in England—and Alfred H. Barley.

Correspondence with England is irregular now, but we hope to be able to report upon Colonel Skinner's progress in our next issue.

ALFRED HENRY BARLEY

Certainly the most active and acute—and probably the most effective—of Drayson's adherents since de Horsey was A. H. Barley, elder son of Hildyard Barley and his wife Emma; born Stoke Newington, London, England, February 7, 1872. When Alfred was six years old, his parents removed to Ramsgate, Kent, where the boy attended a small "dame school" until he was ten. His father was a Wesleyan "local preacher", and as such sent the boy to a school for the sons of Wesleyan clergymen at Woodhouse Grove, Yorkshire, until he was fifteen. He spent a year, then, in Stuttgart, Germany, where he mastered the language and studied music. Later he studied chemistry and took a degree in Pharmacy but music called him back and he became an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music, as well as Bachelor of Music, London University. Several of his original compositions were well received.

Like many young thinkers, Alfred Barley was Agnostic, then Spiritualist, then Theosophist—but he appears to have been associated with the Theosophical Society at a time of schism and—unable to reconcile preaching and practice—resigned from the Society in 1917.

In 1910 he had married Annie Lewton, of Wells, Norfolk, England, and they pursued their Theosophical studies together, suffered the same revulsion at conditions in the Society, and resigned together.

Mr. Barley was for many years an associate of Alan Leo, a well known astrologer and author of astrological works who died in 1917: he was an editor of *Modern Astrology Magazine*, and editor of many of Alan Leo's books. Both Leo and Barley aimed at "restoring Astrology to its early purity" and looked forward to its establishment on a basis similar to that of Astronomy.

Barley discovered the Drayson Problem in connection with his Astrological work, and took it up rather nose-in-air, as he put

it, with the avowed intention of refuting Drayson.

These details have been furnished, at the Society's request, by Mrs. Barley who writes: "That beginning never had an ending, for he was still working hard on it the day before he died."

The Barleys were residents of Canada from April 1927 to November 1934 when they located in the State of Washington. Mr. Barley died very suddenly at Everett, Washington, May 14, 1940.

He had been a member of the Fortean Society since 1937 and his correspondence with Your Secretary reveals a keen, brilliant, incisive mentality and—as Fort would have said—a man of "cordial acceptances".

Space limitations prevent a proper exegesis of Alfred Barley's work on the Drayson Problem, but it will be touched on again and again in these columns as the Society takes up the live brand he dropped and carries it on into the mental darkness which established, Orthodox Astronomy—as vested "Authority"—seeks to force upon the human race.



ALFRED HENRY BARLEY

FORT ON THE AIR

When *The Books of Charles Fort* was published last May, Mr. Joseph T. Shipley gave it this send-off over Station WEVD, New York:

Among the dreams of living are a good many things commonly accepted as fact. For instance, do you really believe the earth revolves around the sun? Do you think that the earth is round, or, shall I say more technically, that our planet is an oblate spheroid, and what by the way, makes you call it a planet? And what do you imagine is the speed of light? And how about that floating ocean of ice which moves above the stratosphere. Have you ever had trouble with the laws of physics, found it hard to understand that when Eve ate the apple, Adam fell, but when the apple fell Newton was struck with the law of gravitation? Just what is this idea of gravitation that the earth and sun are having a tug of war with the moon and that is what keeps it revolving around us? Do you remember Halley's comet and the eclipse that proved Einstein's relativity? Except that the next eclipse refused to work the same way. Some persons think that science has become a new religion and that no one, especially no layman, may question its laws. To them science is the latest superstition. Chief among these rebellious figures of our time was Charles Fort whose followers have established the Fortean Society of which the otherwise less serious novelist, Tiffany Thayer, is Secretary. This Society and Henry Holt have just issued, in one overwhelming volume, the four big books of Fort's lifetime, *Wild Talents, Lol, New Lands and Book of the Damned*. The "damned", as Fort uses the term, are the facts of experience for which Science has no explanation. In revenge, science bars them from polite society. They are printed only in the maga-

zine pages of the lesser newspapers along with the tales of the hack-saw suicide and the dog-faced baby. Charles Fort has gathered them—has set them in a devastating column, and with dive-bombs of wit and poison gas of sarcasm, advanced against the entrenched ranks of the scientists. Most of his pages list actually recorded happenings. Fort's favorites are showers of strange objects from the sky—stones—stones that seemed aimed at a special person as though a demon were looking down and following the victim, taking pot shots at him. Fish—by the thousands—frogs, out of the sky like one of the old plagues of Egypt. Icicles falling—not hailstones—but thousands of icicles. What were they hanging on in the sky? And rain—rain of blood recorded countless times from ancient Rome to modern Ireland. Each of these science has tried to explain away but Fort explains away the explanations. He's deliciously sarcastic about the methods of the men who have to fit these strange occurrences into the known laws of nature. These men are quite careful. He compliments them. When they say that a certain soft matter looks like marsh paper the wind has lifted and dropped, they make their identification depend upon several points of likeness. They would never be satisfied with saying, for example, that a camel is a peanut because both have humps. They would demand further agreement—that both can live a long time without water, for instance. Mixed with a vast accumulation of strange happenings and the swamping ridicule are some other observations that have to be taken seriously. One of the powers, some mediums claim, is teleporting—the carrying off of things in far-away places. If this is true, says Fort, why have so many banks their money still in them. And if scientists for many years

have been attacking claims of magic, Fort aims his shots at what he calls witch-craft in science. The new ideas of the Nobel Prize winner, Dr. Born for example—the quantum theory—the idea of electrons and protons playing leap frog without having to leap over the other frog and the notion that the sun derives its energy from nowhere. According to the old law, says Charles Fort, these ideas are much more nonsensical than his own protests. And indeed he hammers hard to break down every one of the so-called proofs of such items as the shape of the earth and the speed of light. Try one. We can tell the shape of the earth, scientists say, from its shadow on the moon but if the moon is a sphere as most scientists claim, it is convex. And on a convex body a straight edge makes a curved shadow. So far as this proof goes the earth may be flat. Or look at the discovery of the planet Neptune. Hailed as a great triumph of astronomers—did not Leverrier predict it? But while Leverrier said there would be one planet beyond, Hansen said there would be two. And Airy said most likely none at all. Somebody had to guess right and at once the good guesser is hailed as the genius. And around many such heavenly discoveries Charles Fort finds the large number of men that guessed wrong and who therefore are left out of the books. It seems that the astronomers have been playing the old gossip game. Whenever someone is late, all the women in the family begin to say something has happened but they forget all the times we came home safely and remember the one occasion when they foretold the accident. Can't you hear them saying: "I knew it." Behind all Fort's scoffing at science rests the positive belief which he fortifies with brilliant images and impressive phrasing. He believes in a

sort of compensation that gives intelligence its grain of stupidity whether in man or in nature. Somewhere in the beauty of a theorem or a peacock lurks the grotesque. Nature presents us with so graceful a stroke as a swimming seal and fumbles her seal on the shore. Baudelaire has a poem about the albatross, the most majestic of birds in the upper air, but the clumsiest of creatures when on land. Mete, also, is Fort's suggestion that every age has what he calls a dominant—a body of beliefs accepted as science and that into this dominant it squeezes willy-nilly every event that comes along—everything must be explained in terms of the dominant, like the bed of a Procrustes—stretch your bones if you're too short, lop off your legs if they're oversize. A tremendous sense of the fitness of things. Thus every age manages to maintain its own sense of importance and of wisdom. But actually, says Charles Fort, all things merge so that we can not tell where one ends and the other begins. . . . present and past, right and wrong, truth and falsity, youth and age. Where are you now? Each of us has an existence like a bridge, he declares, say like the Brooklyn Bridge, upon which multitudes of bugs are seeking a fundamental, coming to a girder that seems firm and final. But the girder is built upon supports. The support then seems final but it is built upon underlying structures. Nothing final can be found in all the bridge because the bridge itself is not a final thing in itself but is a relationship between Manhattan and Brooklyn. And each of us is a relationship between our ancestors and our descendants, and today science is only a stage between a dream and awakening. And THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT are a stage in your awakening from the school-day of acceptance of what the teacher says are the laws of science to an exciting watching of a challenging and mysterious world.

HOW LONG IS A DEGREE?

Here we have an account of what purports to be the "first Attempt of this Kind" to determine the true figure and dimensions of the earth. The following quotation is from *A New and Comprehensive System of Philology; or a Treatise of the Literary Arts and Sciences, According to their present States Containing—"Science VIII"—Physico-Geology: or, Philosophical Geography, etc., by Benjamin Martin, London, Printed and sold by W. Owen, near Temple-Bar, and by the Author, at his House in Fleet-street- 1764* (The volume was contributed to the Fortean Society Library by Tom Elsonder, Gateshead, Tyne, England):

The Figure of the Earth has been long well known to be globular, or spherical. It was originally supposed to be flat, or a Plane; but this was too gross an Error for any Person to continue in long; because, if a Person walks directly North or South, it will cause the Stars to have a greater or lesser Elevation above his Horizon; but no

Alteration in that Respect would happen to him in walking on a Plane, though the Distance be ever so great. This, therefore, afforded an evident Proof, that the Surface of the Earth was of a curvilinear Form. And because walking over equal Spaces occasioned an equal Difference in the meridian Altitude of the Stars, it was a Proof that the curve Surface was of the spherical Kind; and that therefore, the Body of the Earth was in Form of a GLOBE, or SPHERE.

And this was the general Opinion till the Beginning of the last Century. When Experiments on Pendulums, the Nature of Gravity, a centrifugal Force in revolving Bodies, and some other physical Principles came to be understood, there was great Reason to suspect, that the Figure of the Earth could not possibly be that of a *Globe*, but that of a *Spheroid* as above mentioned.

These Discoveries excited a great Desire among the Learned to be satisfied (experimentally) of the true Figure of the Earth, which they easily knew could not be done, without actually measuring a Degree on the Surface of the Earth in several different Parts of it, and the more remote from each other, the better. At length, by the Munificence of Kings, and great Propensity of Philosophers and Mathematicians, the arduous Undertaking was attempted, prosecuted, and finished with Success, beyond Expectation.

To be more particular on this important Head, we shall give the following Instances of their Industry in this Respect. The first Attempt of this Kind was by *Snell*, a Dutch Mathematician, who measured a Space between *Almaer* and *Bergen-Op-zoon*, and between *Almaer* and *Leiden*, and from the Mean of both, he found a Degree to consist of 55021 *French* Toises, or Fathoms of six Feet each: The next was our Countryman *Norwood*, who, in the Year 1635, measured the Distance between *London* and *York*, and found a Degree to consist of 69½ Miles, *English* Measure.—After this *Ricciolus*, from different Measurements, found a Degree to contain 61650 Toises, but these Measures were all unsatisfactory, as there was so little Agreement between them. (sic-sic-sic!) That of *Norwood*, however, was most generally received, which gave 57300 Toises to a Degree. After this, by Order of the French King *Louis XIV*, Mr. *Picard* measured an Arch of the Meridian between *Malvoysin* and *Amiens*, by which he found a Degree to contain 57060 Toises. The King, to be further satisfied, ordered the whole Arch of the Meridian of *France* to be measured in the same Manner, which was finished by Mr. *Cassini*, in 1718. The Result of which gave 57060 Toises, the same with *Picard's*. The present Professor *Muschenbroeck*, measured over the Arch of *Snellius* a second Time very exactly, and found it to give 57033 Toises to a Degree.

These last Measures, all agreeing so well, prove the Measure of a Degree, in the Middle Latitudes of the Meridian, exactly enough; but it still remained to determine the same at each End of the Meridian, in order to know if the Earth were of a

globular Figure; and if not, how much varied from it. To this End, it was ordered by the King of *France*, that a degree should be measured at the Equator, and another under the Arctic Circle, and accordingly, two Parties of the Royal Academicians were appointed, and dispatched for that Purpose. Those who went to *Lapland* finished their Work in *December*, 1736, and their Measures produced 57437 9 10 Toises to a Degree.

The Department, destined for the South Expedition, set out in *May*, 1735, and having finished their Work, they found the first Degree of the Meridian to contain 56767 4 5 Toises. But as this Number was so considerably different from what the Theory would give from the Measures of a Degree in *Lapland* and *France*, it occasioned the King to give an Order for the Meridian of *France* to be measured over again, which was performed by the Messrs. *Cassini De Thury*, and the *Abbe De la Caille*; and this new Measurement gave 57050 Toises for the Measure of a Degree in the Parallel of 45; so that upon the Whole, the Measure of a Degree in the Middle of the Meridian, at the Equator, and the Arctic Circle, are as below.

At the Equator — 56767 4 5

In the Parallel of 45°, — 57050

Under the Arctic Circle, — 57438

From these Measures of a Degree by the Mathematical Theory, as we shall show in its proper Place, we can find the Proportion of the Diameter of the Equator to that of the Earth's Axis. Thus for Example, the Measures of a Degree at *Lapland* and in *France* give the Proportion, as 266 to 264 3/10; but by taking the Measure of a Degree of *France* and at the Equator, we shall have the Diameter of the Equator to that of the Earth's Axis, as 266 to 265, but, if we take the two extreme Measures at the Equator and at *Lapland*, we shall from thence find the aforesaid Ratio will be expressed by 266 to 265 73/100; and as this is a Mean between the other two, we may conclude it to be very near the Truth; nor can we, perhaps, ever hope for anything more exact.

Notwithstanding the Difference between the two Diameters of the Earth through the Equator and the Poles is so considerably great, and so plainly proves the spheroidal Figure of the Earth; yet it can by no Means be represented, or made sensible in Globes, or Maps, of a small Size; I mean in any less than about 10 Feet Diameter; but in particular Maps it may, as we have said before.

In order to express the True Dimensions of the Surface of the Earth, we first determine that of a great Circle; and therefore, supposing that 69½ Miles were equal to one Degree, then, if the Earth was truly spherical, a great Circle would contain 25020 *English* Miles.

But as it is customary with Geographers to reckon 60 Miles to a Degree, upon the Surface of the Earth, because there are 60 Minutes in one Degree of a Circle, and therefore, to each Minute of a Degree, there will correspond one such geographical Mile, and consequently, in a Quadrant, or Quarter of a Circle, which contains 90

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Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

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Degrees, there will be 90 times 60, or 5400 geographical Miles; and this will be the Case, with regard to a Quadrant of the Equator, which therefore will contain, in the Whole, 21600 geographical Miles.

But since a Meridian is of an elliptic Form, as we have shown, whose longest Diameter is that of the Equator, a Quadrant, or fourth Part of such an Ellipsis, will be less than that of a Circle; and by the Measures of a Degree at *Lapland*, the Quadrant of such an Ellipsis will contain but 5370 geographical Miles; and therefore a Meridian of the Earth will be to its Equator as 5400 to 5370; but, according to the Measure of a Degree at the Equator, the Quadrant of such an elliptic Meridian will contain 5390 such geographical Miles.

If then we take a Mean between the two elliptic Quadrants above mentioned, it will contain 5380 geographical Miles, and so the whole Meridian may be estimated at 21,520 such Miles; therefore the Length of an elliptic Meridian of the Earth, is to that of the Equator, as 21,520 to 21,600, which is nearly the Proportion of 215 to 216. From these Measures and Proportions, every Thing, relating to the Dimensions of the Earth, may be known very near the Truth, by such as have Curiosity or Skill to manage the *Calculus*, by which, the whole Dimensions, in regard to the square Miles on the Surface, and cubic Miles of Solidity, may be expressed in *English Measure*.

But for common Use, it may suffice to have a general Idea of these Things, and therefore we may, without much Error, look upon the Earth as a Globe, or Sphere.

THE FOUNDERS



JOHN COWPER POWYS

JOHN COWPER POWYS on Charles Fort

Mr. Powys, author of *Wolf Solent*, *In Defense of Sensuality*, *The Meaning of Culture*, *The Enjoyment of Literature*, and many, many other books, is now living in his native Wales. Correspondence with Wales is not at its best during Great Hoax II, but from the archives we produce a copy of what Mr. Powys wrote when he read Charles Fort's *Book of the Damned* the first time.

I am indeed struck sharply and starkly by the curious genius of Mr. Charles Fort; and here in the "Times" of yesterday or today comes on the front page an allusion to one of those "red rains" with its automatic explanation of "African sand-storm" blamed exactly as Mr. Fort points out, with his exquisitely humorous "up in one place, down in another place" of the conventional rendering (The Determinant: The Dominant) by hide-bound, excluding and damning scientists!

Mr. Charles Fort's book does not only liberate the mind from those sublimated herd-dogmas of science along the particular lines he deals with in his enormous pilings-up of evidence to the contrary, but it also liberates the mind from all sorts of other prepossessions and idolatries of the market place. In fact, his "Book of the Damned" is a book that sets a person's intellect with a wholesome jerk upon its own feet. From this book, with its drastic mental "keel-hauling", a person learns to think for himself and to look at the whole of life with that direct physiognomic eye which Spengler so significantly praises

Goethe for using. One is left after reading "Book of the Damned" with that open mind towards the mystery of life which allows for all manner of strange and even "improper" occurrences. Such occurrences, suggesting that there are super-human if not supernatural, agencies at work, seem to me most powerfully suggested if not proved by this extraordinary book, and this their proof, so shocking to the mind enslaved by the "Dominant" or the pseudo-scientific code, seems to afford a wonderful liberation to my mind, such as few books bring.

The style of the book, too, with its laconic humor and sardonic implications, seems exactly the right one to give the reader the sort of disconcerting shudder (or pleasing shock) that creates that curious awe in the mind, in the presence of this inexplicable universe, which Goethe in "Faust" declares to be one of man's noblest attributes. In fine, I haven't read for a long while any book that has given me more of mental and imaginative "shaking up", and that's the kind of thing. Like butting your head into ice-cold water, that is wonderfully good for the human intelligence, so apt to fall into dull, flat, planed-out grooves and to take the smooth, casual, conventionally explained procession of events for granted.

I hope that the author will receive encouragement enough to make him go on and go still further.

John Cowper Powys

Charles Fort did go on after that He wrote *New Lands*, *Lol* and *Wild Talents*—and all four volumes are included in *The Books of Charles Fort*, 1125 pages, indexed. Get it from your bookseller or from the Fortean Society.



CHARLES FORT

Playing a solitaire game of
super-checkers—his own invention.

WOOLLCOTT

Ever since I first heard the startling and ominous trumpet blast—*The Book of the Damned*—twenty-three years ago, I have been full of enthusiasm for the works of this singular man.

TARKINGTON

I read this vigorous and astonishing book straight through, and then re-read it for the pleasure it gave me in the way of its writing and in the substance of what it told. . . Retort must be left to the outraged astronomer—lay brethren must content themselves with gratitude to a man who writes such books.

HECHT

He has made a terrible onslaught upon the accumulated lunacy of fifty centuries . . . He has delighted me beyond all men who have written books in this world. . . He has shot the scientific basis of modern wisdom full of large, ugly holes.

POWYS

Fort's books not only liberate the mind from those sublimated herd-dogmas of science along the particular lines he deals with in his enormous pilings-up of evidence to the contrary, but they also liberate the mind from *all sorts* of other prepossessions and idolatries of the market place.

RASCOE

You can read the Books of Charles Fort in almost any way you like or in any mood your temperament dictates and whatever way you read it, it is my expression that it is a great book.

THAYER

This is one of the very few books in the world which make their readers think without ever telling them *what* to think; in fact, I can recall no other. It encourages the curious to question, the prying to pry, the inquisitive to inquire. If there is any higher mission on earth I don't know what it is.

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DAVID G. MARKHAM REPORTS

(Mr. Markham has been working for several years on Fortean data of "maritime vanishments" and has arrived at some quasi-conclusions which he asks the Secretary to withhold temporarily as possibly too dangerous to make public. He asks specifically for details of the "loss" of a Japanese submarine, the I-63, which "sank" 2-6-39. It may have gone down in Bungo Channel. Can anyone help Mr. Markham? The following notes are released by him.

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NEW YORK TIMES 1-1-34 (21:4)
STOCKHOLM, DEC 31 1933
SWEDISH ARMY AVIATORS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO CHASE A MYSTERIOUS AIRPLANE WHICH HAS BEEN SIGHTED FOR MANY WEEKS OVER LAPLAND. IT IS BELIEVED TO LAND AMONG THE MOUNTAINS, MAKING FLIGHTS AT NIGHT.

THE PILOT WAS RECENTLY HEARD FLYING TOWARD NORWAY IN A HEAVY SNOWSTORM. IT IS THOUGHT HE IS A SMUGGLER

.

TIMES 1-10 (11:1)
STOCKHOLM JAN 9 1934
A MYSTERIOUS AIRPLANE VARIOUSLY SAID TO BELONG TO NARCOTIC SMUGGLERS, JAPANESE SPIES AND RUSSIAN SPIES WAS REPORTED TODAY OVER WESTERBOTTEN IN NORTHERN SWEDEN.

THE SWEDISH AIRFORCE HAS ALREADY LOST TWO AIRPLANES, WITHOUT LOSS OF LIFE, IN EFFORTS TO LOCATE THE BASE OF THE STRANGE PLANE. CONCERN IS NOW FELT FOR LT WANBERG WHO DISAPPEARED ON A SCOUTING EXPEDITION ON FOOT ON CHRISTMAS, AND FOR A PARTY OF THREE SKIERS FORMING A RESCUE PARTY. MILITARY HEADQUARTERS REPORTED TODAY THAT SEARCH FOR THE FOUR ALONG THE NORWEGIAN BORDER HAD BEEN FRUITLESS.

TIMES 1-13-34 (3:3)
HELSINGFORS 1-12-34
FINNISH EXPORT: NOT "GHOST" FLYERS SMUGGLING, BUT RUSSIANS WHO ARE USING A MOTHER SHIP IN THE ARCTIC.

"AVIATORS—WHO HAVE BEEN—EXPLORING A NEW AND IMPORTANT AIR ROUTE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE ATLANTIC"

THE CZARIST GOVERNMENT WAS, DURING THE WORLD WAR, ANXIOUS TO ESTABLISH SUCH A ROUTE BUT FAILED. THE EXPERT SUGGESTED THE PROPOSED RUSSIAN ROUTE LIES BETWEEN LENINGRAD, ARCHANGEL,

MURMANSK AND THE ATLANTIC.
TIMES 1-29-34 (6:1)
STOCKHOLM:

SWEDISH AIRFORCE STILL TRYING TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE "PHANTOM" PLANES. NATIONALITY OF THE MYSTERIOUS FLIERS NOT YET KNOWN, BUT IT IS BELIEVED THEY ARE BOUND ON SOVIET TEST-FLIGHTS TO ARCTIC ICEBREAKERS.
TIMES 2-4-34 (9:2)

HELSINGFORS 2-3
CONTINUED NIGHT FLIGHTS OVER NORTHERN FINLAND SWEDEN AND NORWAY BY SO-CALLED "GHOST" AVIATORS, WHICH HAVE CAUSED SUCH APPREHENSION HERE AS TO PROMPT THE GENERAL STAFF TO ORGANIZE RECONNOITERING ON A WIDE SCALE BY ARMY PLANES ALL OVER NORTHERN FINLAND, STILL REMAIN A DEEP MYSTERY. MANY EYEWITNESSES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE PLANES.

MYSTERIOUS LIGHTS OVER HELSINGFORS AND VIBORG HAVE CAUSED ALARM. LAST NIGHT AT LEAST ONE LARGE, UNIDENTIFIED AIRPLANE WAS SIGHTED OVER EASTERN FINLAND, CLOSE TO THE RUSSIAN BORDER, EVIDENTLY SCOUTING THE DISTRICT.

AS THE AUTHORITIES ARE EXTREMELY RETICENT, THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE INTERVIEWED AVIATION EXPERTS, WHO STATE THE MYSTERY FLIERS SHOW EXCEPTIONAL SKILL, UNDOUBTEDLY SUPERIOR TO THAT OF THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN AVIATORS ACCORDING TO ONE EXPERT'S THEORY, THE FIRST OF THE "GHOST" AVIATORS WAS A JAPANESE SCOUTING THE ARCTIC REGIONS WHOSE ACTIVITIES CAUSED THE SOVIET DISPATCH AIRPLANES TO WATCH THE JAPANESE. THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES, HOWEVER, REFUTE THIS THEORY.

THE APPEARANCE OF A MYSTERIOUS AIRPLANE OVER LONDON HAS STRENGTHENED THE BELIEF THAT THE FLIGHTS CONSTITUTE AN EXTENSIVE SCHEME TO EXPLORE THE AVIATION POSSIBILITIES FOR A FUTURE WAR.

(REPORTS ON THESE "GHOST FLIERS" APPEAR TO STOP SHORT AT ABOUT THE TIME OF INFERIOR CONJUNCTION OF VENUS (FEB 5, '34) - - ALSO NOTE THAT IN THIS SAME PERIOD, THE FOLLOWING INCIDENT IS REPORTED FROM NEW YORK CITY.): TIMES 12-27-33

WITH NEW YORK BLOTTED OUT FROM ABOVE BY THE SNOWSTORM YESTERDAY AN AIRPLANE WAS REPORTED WANDERING BLINDLY ABOVE THE TOWERS OF PARK AVENUE AND HARLEM'S TENEMENTS. ALTHOUGH MANY HEARD, OR THOUGHT THEY HEARD, AN AIRPLANE ENGINE, NO ONE REPORTED SEEING THE PLANE

THE FIRST CALL CAME FROM C N GEDROYCE, OWNER OF A RADIO

STORE AT 1755 PARK AVENUE AT 122ND STREET. HE SAID HE HEARD THE ENGINE FIRST ABOUT 9:30 AM AND AT INTERVALS FOR THE NEXT HOUR. IMPRESSED WITH THE PLIGHT OF THE PILOT HE TELEPHONED TO THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY. AN ANNOUNCEMENT OVER THE RADIO BROUGHT OTHER CALLS FROM PARK AVENUE FURTHER SOUTH, AND FROM RIVERSIDE DRIVE AND HARLEM. EVIDENTLY THE PILOT WAS CIRCLING IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND OUT WHERE HE WAS. USING SHORT WAVE, THE BROADCAST COMPANY SENT OUT A MESSAGE, ON THE CHANCE THE FLIER HAD A RECEIVING SET, INFORMING HIM OF HIS APPROXIMATE POSITION AND GIVING HIM THE WIND DIRECTION.

ALL AIRPORTS WERE NOTIFIED, AND AT NEWARK AIRPORT THE RADIO OPERATORS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND AIRLINES JOINED IN OFFERING WHAT HELP THEY COULD. BEACONS ON THE FIELD WERE LIGHTED AND SEARCHLIGHTS FLASHED THROUGH THE WHITE SMOTHER OF SNOW.

AN HOUR AFTER THE FIRST MANHATTAN REPORTS, DWELLERS IN JERSEY CITY NOTIFIED THE NEWARK AIRPORT THAT THEY HAD HEARD THE PLANE. AT THAT TIME THE VISIBILITY OVER NEWARK AIRPORT HAD INCREASED SLIGHTLY WITH A CEILING OF PERHAPS 500 FEET. PILOTS GROUNDED THERE BY THE STORM WATCHED IN VAIN FOR THE MYSTERIOUS FLYER.

A CHECK OF THE VARIOUS CALLS INDICATED THE FLYER HAD GONE AS FAR AS 72ND STREET, CIRCLED ABOVE CENTRAL PARK, AND THEN PROCEEDED NORTH TO THE VICINITY OF 231-STREET AND SEDWICK AVENUE, THE BRONX.

FOR A TIME NO FURTHER REPORTS CAME IN, BUT ABOUT 2:25 PM THE SOUND OF A MOTOR WAS REPORTED OVER RIVERSIDE DRIVE AND 155TH STREET. AT THAT TIME SEVERAL AIRPORTS ANNOUNCED VISIBILITY OF A MILE AND PILOTS SAID THAT, IF HE HAD WISHED, THE UNKNOWN FLYER COULD HAVE FOUND A SAFE LANDING IN NEW JERSEY OR LONG ISLAND.

ALL FIELDS IN THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT REPORTED THERE HAD BEEN NO FLYING DURING THE DAY, AND NO STRAY PLANE HAD DROPPED DOWN FROM THE SNOWY SKIES.

BLIMP WRECK SEARCH VAIN

TIMES 10-12-31 (23:5)
POINT PLEASANT, W. VIRGINIA. 10-11 SEARCH FOR A BLIMP REPORTED TO HAVE CRASHED AND BURNED IN THE HILLS SOUTH OF THIS CITY WAS ABANDONED TONIGHT AFTER A FRUITLESS ALLDAY SEARCH AFOOT AND IN THE AIR.

SOME PERSONS WHO SAID THEY WITNESSED THE ACCIDENT DESCRIBED THE BLIMP AS *PLUNGING TO THE GROUND IN FLAMES*, MEN LEAPING FROM IT IN PARACHUTES AS IT FELL. (???) NO REPORTS ON A MISSING BLIMP WERE RECEIVED FROM ANY SOURCE, HOWEVER.

TIME 10-11-31 (26:7)

POINT PLEASANT, W. VA., 10-10-31 A SEARCHING PARTY ORGANISED BY PORT PLEASANT POLICE TONIGHT STARTED TOWARD HILLS BACK OF GALLIPOLIS FERRY, W. VA., BEHIND WHICH A BLIMP WAS REPORTED TO HAVE FALLEN IN FLAMES.

ROBERT P. HENKE, HIS WIFE, AND DR AND MRS CLAUDE CARTER OF GALLIPOLIS, SAID THEY SAW THE BLIMP CROSS THE OHIO RIVER AND THAT IT FELL WHILE HENKE WAS WATCHING IT THROUGH FIELD GLASSES. HENKE SAYS THE BLIMP WAS BETWEEN 100 AND 150 FEET LONG, AND FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 300 FEET WHEN IT BURST. A MOMENT BEFORE IT FELL HE SAW SOMETHING WHITE, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN A PARACHUTE, FLOATING DOWNWARD.

DR CLAS E. HOLZER OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, WHO OWNS THE AIRPORT THERE, AT DAWN WILL SEND AIRPLANES . . . TO SEARCH FOR THE . . . DIRIGIBLE.

SAME PAPER:

AKRON OHIO, OCT 10: U.S. NAVY OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE GOODYEAR ZEPPELIN COMPANY, SAID TONIGHT THAT THE U.S. AKRON AND THREE BLIMPS BELONGING TO THE GOODYEAR ZEPPELIN COMPANY, WERE SAFE IN THEIR HANGERS. THE AKRON RETURNED THIS EVENING AFTER PASSING OVER SANDUSKY, TOLEDO AND OUT OVER LAKE ERIE.

TIMES 12-30-32 (18:21)

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., 12:29:

A REPORT THAT A TRIMOTORED AIRPLANE HAD BEEN FORCED DOWN IN THE WOODS EIGHT MILES WEST OF HERE CAUSED SQUADS OF STATE POLICE TO MAKE A SEARCH LATE TONIGHT, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS, FOR TRACES OF THE SHIP. ALL PLANES AT THE NEWARK, HADLEY AND NEW BRUNSWICK AIRPORTS WERE ACCOUNTED FOR. PRACTICALLY ALL PLANE SCHEDULES HAD BEEN CANCELED BECAUSE OF FOG AND CLOUDY WEATHER.

THE REPORT WAS TELEPHONED TO THE STATE POLICE BARRACKS AT MILTOWN ABOUT 11 30 PM BY TONY TRAFICANTE OF 29 REDMOND STREET, WHO SAID HE SAW THE PLANE, WITH ITS MOTORS SHUT OFF AND ITS LIGHTS BLINKING, DISAPPEAR BEHIND THE WOODS AS HE

WAS DRIVING NEARBY.

TIMES 12-6-31 (31-A:3)

HAMMONTON, N.J. 12-5

STATE TROOPERS, LOCAL FIRE COMPANIES AND 200 VOLUNTEERS SEARCHED TONIGHT THROUGH THE FOLSOM SWAMP HERE, ONE OF THE DENSEST SECTIONS OF BOG, QUOGMIRE AND WOODLAND IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE STATE. FOR AN AVIATOR REPORTED BY RESIDENTS TO HAVE FALLEN INTO IT IN A PARACHUTE. THE SEARCH BEGAN SHORTLY AFTER FIVE O'CLOCK TONIGHT WHEN ELMER CRAIG, A RESIDENT OF THIS VILLAGE, AND RESIDENTS OF WEYMOUTH, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SWAMP, INFORMED TROOP A OF THE STATE POLICE HERE OF SEEING THE AVIATOR FLOAT INTO ITS DEPTHS FROM A HIGH ALTITUDE. *NONE SAW THE PLANE*, BUT IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT IT COULD HAVE DROPPED PREVIOUSLY.

EVERY AVAILABLE TROOPER WAS PRESSED INTO SEARCH, TO BE JOINED BY CHIEF HENRY M. PHILLIPS AND 20 MEMBERS OF THE HAMMONTON FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH LIGHTING APPARATUS.

NEARBY RESIDENTS FAMILIAR WITH THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE MILES OF MORASS, ALSO JOINED THE HUNT, BUT WHEN DARKNESS FELL NO TRACE OF THE MAN HAD BEEN FOUND.

THE SEARCH WAS CENTERED BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD ROADS, PATHS CUT THROUGH THE JUNGLE-LIKE SECTION ONE MILE APART, IN THE VICINITY OF 9TH STREET. A TWO-MILE AREA, BUT PROGRESS WAS SLOW, SINCE MEMBERS OF THE SEARCHING PARTY HAD TO PICK AND CUT THEIR WAY THROUGH THE UNDERBRUSH, SKIRTING NUMEROUS DANGEROUS AREAS. THE SEARCH WOULD CONTINUE ALL NIGHT, HOWEVER, UNLESS THE AVIATOR WAS FOUND OR ACCOUNTED FOR, OFFICIALS DECLARED.

. . . . THE SWAMP, SAID TO BE ONE OF THE MOST TREACHEROUS IN THE STATE, CONTAINS AREAS NEVER PENETRATED BEFORE EXCEPTING BY INDIANS, ACCORDING TO THE POLICE

TIMES 12-7-31 (4:6)

HAMMONTON, N.J. 12-6

AT DUSK TODAY NO TRACE OF MAN OR PARACHUTE HAD BEEN FOUND. THE SEARCH WAS DROPPED. A CHECKUP AT NEARBY AIRPORTS ACCOUNTED FOR ALL PLANES AND AVIATORS.

MINUTES OF THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

By Ben Hecht

(This was Ben Hecht's "review" of *The Books of Charles Fort*, in P. M. last May. It has since been reprinted in the book *1001 Afternoons in New York*.)

This month our master, Charles Fort, sits up in his grave, sticks his head through a geranium pot, and favors his disciples with a large wink. The occasion will be the appearance of his complete writings all in one fat blue volume labeled *The Books of Charles Fort*. Our master will most certainly throw a basket of frogs in the air and hurl his tombstone over the fence.

But I wish he would come out altogether. He is needed.

When he was on earth not so long ago he went to a lot of work establishing the three great Fortean Laws. These are—that Man is a fool, that his soul is a swamp in a derby hat, and that his intellect is a fetus in a frock coat.

In promulgating these three great basic laws, our master had to do a lot of groin-kicking. Ask any astronomer who Charles Fort was, and see for yourself. If you can't find an astronomer, try a physicist or geologist, or a philosopher with initials after his name. They will all pretend to laugh, and they will all give the same answer. They will tell you that our master, Charles Fort, was an imbecile.

This is untrue. But it is understandable. The astronomers have to say that or give up their astronomy. The same with the physicists and philosophers. They would all have to resign if there was any truth in the visions of Charles Fort. As one of the founders of the Fortean Society I can assure you that they will all resign—some day.

During his lifetime, our master investigated some 100,000 phenomena. These included tiger children, leopard boys, poltergeist girls, red rains from the sky, meteors with writing on them, and mountains that moved themselves. All the strange facts of earth and sky, and the misfit data that scientists had always omitted from their text books because they couldn't explain them—were his laboratory.

Where the footprints of Man or Thing that had disappeared into thin air stopped—there our master began. Where fires of unknown origin had raged and destroyed nothing, where trees walked and rivers flowed up hill, there our master stood, note book in hand. In his office he had 20,000 pigeon holes full of miracles. These he had clipped out of the newspapers and magazines of the world. And most of them he ran down and proved.

Before his death he succeeded in demonstrating that the moon may be made of green cheese for all we know. He exposed the law of gravitation as a hoax.

(Continued on page 12)

He trampled the hell out of the Darwinian theory. And he made one large comical sieve out of all our dogmas.

I don't want to exaggerate the genius of Charles Fort. He was no philosophical comet. He was more a roller coaster that took everybody for a ride. And for us Fortians the sciences have never quite recovered from this frolic. For us, the lights in the skies, the strange things cast up by the sea, the things that vanish from earth without trace, and the presence of all sorts of goofy-dust rains everywhere will always take first place over Euclid, Edington and even Einstein. No such tales of lightning haunted people, of hobgoblin footprints and interplanetary fandangoes were ever taught us in school. The textbooks of science disdained what they couldn't explain. Our master preferred the inexplicable to science.

It is possible that our master was a little mad, and given to seeing chimeras where only crackpots existed. It is possible, too, that there is a touch of Flash Gordon in his vision of sky monsters, cloud demons and astral were-wolves bedeviling the earth. But the looney fringes that hang from his sacerdotal robes are a minor matter.

The major matter is that long before the headlines bore them out, our prophet had offered his Laws to the world. The folly of man, documented as never before in any books, is to be found spread out in his writings. They are writings that should be read today. They will relax you. They will throw the present troublesome idiocies of the race into soothing perspective. You will see that these political idiocies are mere nothings as compared to the pompous and unremitting imbecility that has been going on among professors with long whiskers and savants with high hats. You will see that man is no nearer the truth of life than are the sea shells. He only makes a little more, and a little less tuneful, noise.

There are quite a number of us Fortians. We have a letter-head with some moons and planets on it, a president, and an active secretary—Tiffany Thayer. Our roster includes J. David Stern, Booth Tarkington, Aaron Sussman, Burton Rascoe, Alexander Woollcott, John Cowper Powys, Theodore Dreiser and numerous other sane and notable gentry. We lack, however, evangels. In our Society at present there are only two, both of them a little footling. One is Dreiser, who squats in the Golden West and grunts away in behalf of the befuddled Communists. As for the other—Woollcott—that fearless champion of the obvious is lying fallow just now, waiting for some Tweedledum to defend.

There is room in the Fortean Society for some high and clacking tongues to cut loose in behalf of our master, and plenty of room for members to provide the proper niche in the world for this Apostle of the Exception, Keeper of Ghosts, Observer of Secret Rays, Avenger of Forgotten Theories, Lost Causes and Strayed Comets; Jocular Priest of the Improbable and Demonstrator of Idiocies.

ON CORONET FEATURES

Several members have enquired if certain feature columns in the Magazine *Coronet* are written by Your Secretary. It is pointed out that these draw heavily upon the books of Charles Fort for much of their material.

The answer is that Your Secretary does not write them but that their author, Mr. R. DeWitt Miller, is a sustaining member of the Fortean Society, and—in common with all other members—has access, through correspondence, to the Society's archives.

DON'T LAUGH

Our valued correspondent and Fortean to the last *gene*, Frederick S. Hammett, Scientific Director of the Lankenau Hospital Research Institute, formerly on Cape Cod and now at the Fiddlers Point Station, Sarasota, Florida—where he likes it (as who wouldn't?)—writes: "In SCIENCE for November 21st, 1941 under Science News, Science Supplement, page 8, read the following: *Astronomers were considerably shocked to find, according to their most recent measurements, that the sun is more than a hundred thousand miles farther from the earth than was previously supposed. Thank you.*"

The same datum was reported by other members. . . . At first one cannot think of any other field in which such an admission of utter nonsense as the very basis, of its being could occur without seriously damaging the repute of the practitioners therein—until one recalls the Gallup Poll. Your Secretary considers it highly probable that the distance between Earth and Sol was measured, *before* the correction, by George Gallup while Russia was under "Dictator" Stalin, and the same distance was remeasured by Mr. Gallup after Russia became a "Democracy" and Mr. Stalin a Third Term President.

EARHART ECHO

Now that the United States Navy is so well represented in the South Pacific Ocean, Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan may turn up any day. Your Secretary has never lost hope for the lives of those two people nor lost his confidence that the U. S. Navy navigators would find the Island of Doubt if they kept looking long enough. They might find their way about more swiftly if they employed Andrew W. Comrie—I don't know.

Mr. Comrie wrote (10-11-39). . . . After reading your article regarding the present system of Navigation as applied to the last flight of Captain Noonan and Amelia Earhart, I have tried to find your address, and finally did through the courtesy of Mr. J. David Stern, Publisher of Philadelphia, Pa. Your opinion of the present system of Navigation has been a great inspiration to me, as I am quite sure you are the only man in the world who has the courage to say what he thinks, and I am in a position to prove, and have proved before the best professional licensed deep sea and air transport Cap-

tains, Astronomers etc. Miami (Florida) can produce, that you were more than right, and I have gently told them that from now on they are deliberate murderers from choice.

For your information the writer has been granted through Victor J. Evans & Co., patent attorneys, Washington, D. C., U. S. Patent No. 2108042 issued the 15th day of February, 1938. My patent relates to Navigation and specifically to an unvarying declination of the Sun, which is the basic principle of the new method. Latitude and Longitude time and miles always synchronize one with the other, as they have always done since the beginning of time anyway, the exact position of the Sun as relating to Latitude and Longitude or any part thereof is always known regardless of speed or direction, or time of day or night without the use of an instrument, and of course a sextant can be used when desired.

No one has been able to deny that the new method would be practical for the Aviator, who could read his position at any instant in flight without the use of any mechanical aid whatever, and what is perhaps more important, could change his course at any time and proceed to any desired destination, the new course being automatically shown.

The present (Orthodox) system is based on a theory that in practise denies its own existence, it is obvious that if the 365 days in our present Calendar were actually used the Sun would arrive back on the Equator five days ahead of time. It is also true that our Magic City, Miami, Florida is, according (to) Sextant observations and the Official Nautical Almanac two or more degrees north of the North Pole at certain seasons of the year. This I have demonstrated before the highest rated here many times without denial. Have also demonstrated without denial that Captain Noonan and Amelia (Earhart) with my method aboard could have given their position at any instant. This demonstration was made by request and then the papers refused to publish it on the grounds that it would be criticizing the Navy. Names, dates, witnesses are available.

If you are interested I will forward to you charts and data etc. as I would very much like to have your opinion.

(signed) Andrew Comrie

In February, 1940, Mr. Comrie was reported by the Miami (Florida) *Herald* to be sailing under private auspices on a "scientific" cruise to test his system of navigation.

On May 15, 1940, Mr. Comrie wrote to the Society:

"Replying to your letter of March the 3rd, the delay in answering is due to the fact I was in Spanish Honduras when your letter arrived, returned several days ago and since have been in the throes of organizing a proposed corporation to carry on my invention which appears at this writing to be going along O. K.

The result of the trip as far as I am concerned is enclosed, signed by Captain James Huggins, former Lieutenant Commander U. S. Navy, and for twenty years

Master of Ships any tonnage all parts of the World, and Captain Otis Hyde (Master for) 14 years.

I was more than delighted to hear from you and to know that you are interested in my invention and experience in trying to put it over, which have been many and varied, and still continue. I have met the customary official stupidity, or according to my belief traitorism, also every kind of opposition from petty prejudice to real criminal attempts to beat me out of my invention, for which three men are now serving an apprenticeship in the art of breaking big rocks into little ones in a federal prison, and many more have earned that privilege. I have no scruples personally in sending you all the data in my possession which is considerable. However it must be in some sort of order and notarized which will be done as soon as I possibly can do it, and I sincerely hope you will tear em all apart as you know so well how to do. They like to dish it out but can't take it.

Will send you in a few days proof that your contention that Amelia Earhart and Captain Noonan were murdered was fully justified, as well as the basis of my invention, which will be followed by the full theory.

(signed) Andrew W. Comrie

Enclosed was what purported to be a copy of a witnessed document:

Miami Florida
May 1st 1940

To whom it may concern:

This will certify that the undersigned was engaged to sail on the Yacht *Venture* for the purpose of studying, the new and simplified method of Navigation for which Mr. Andrew W. Comrie has been granted U. S. Patents with other patents pending, relating to the subject matter, and to report on same under practical working conditions at sea.

We left Miami Fla., March the 1st and returned to Miami April the 27th sailing at times, under the most adverse conditions due to gales and heavy seas. We visited some 8 or 9 widely separated ports in British and Spanish Honduras as well as some of the Islands in the Caribbean, and the port of Key West, Fla.

Mr. Comrie had full charge and was responsible for, the Navigation of the ship at Sea, using his own charts and method, and proved that his method deserves the serious consideration of Mariners and all who are interested in Navigation.

Due to the fact the present method of Navigation is not practical for high speeds such as the modern Air Craft, I do not hesitate to say that Mr. Comrie's method of Navigation should prove of inestimable value to the Air Lines etc; enabling as it does the Pilot of a plane, at a glance, to determine his Latitude and Longitude Position, without the use of the customary calculations, and without any mechanical aid whatever.

Captain Otis Hyde James Huggins
Witness (Signed) Master Mariner
U. S. Naval Reserve

Then—September 11, 1940—Mr. Comrie wrote:

Am forwarding to you Chart covering the Earhart-Noonan last flight, a glance at

the chart will show there are 43 red dots $\frac{1}{4}$ inch apart each $\frac{1}{4}$ inch representing 60 miles, conforming to the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch scale chart, multiplying 43 by 60 makes 2,580 miles which is 24 miles more than the officially estimated distance, however the exact point of departure was never given to my knowledge, and the difference would be negligible for the present purpose. It is apparent that it would be impossible to fly the course without sighting the Gilberts, not to mention the Tug boat that was supposed to be half way, and the smoke from the Coast Guard at Howland. It is also most unlikely that they could have been near the Phoenix even if they had enough gas to get there, according to the Official Coast Guard files only once during the entire flight did Amelia receive the Itasca signal and that on a frequency good only for 30 to 35 miles from the sender, Amelia's voice came in clearly at 8 that she was receiving the Itasca's signals. For an hour the signals came in at the same strength indicating she was circling, and the Itasca's smoke screen stretched for ten miles. The last message from the plane, "We are on line of position 157-337: We are running N and S." The visibility is given as clear with the exception of a cloud bank to the North West where it is supposed they were. Granting they were for the moment, it would obviously be most difficult to be circling in a plane without coming outside the cloud bank in an hour and even more difficult to be on the line of position given and in the cloud bank mentioned at the same time, as the said line of position with Howland as the destination would be N.N.W. instead of N.W. It would be also rather difficult at an altitude of 1,000 feet with or without glasses to not see the smoke from the Itasca from the estimated distance.

Professor Brownell of the University of Miami, graduate of the Commander Weem's school of Navigation admitted that he could not go find them or even tell their approximate position from the line of position given, and when I asked him what good their system was in that case he did not know. Some of the old practical mariners are equally at a loss. Maybe you will have better luck as to date I have found no one who could explain anything.

Am also sending Chart showing an unvarying declination for each day of the year, considering the Sun to be vertical over the Equator March the 21st and arriving back there one year later on the same date. It is clear that to conform to 90 degrees of Latitude North & South the extra five days cannot be included without arriving back on the Equator 5 days ahead of time. No one can or will answer the question, that includes the Highest Navy Officials. I strolled in the Navy Offices one day when I was in Washington, Quite amusing.

No one has yet explained why it is necessary to have 93 degrees of Latitude in the Northern Hemisphere and 89 in the Southern with the exception of the so-called Leap Year as in the present system of Navigational Astronomy. My proposed 360 day Calendar would at least overcome that

trouble. From all indications this stuff does not please certain persons who would no doubt cheerfully murder me, so—pardon me—but to hell with em.

(signed) A. W. Comrie

NOW YOU STROKE ME

Pope Pius gave Harlow Shapley (the Pope of Astronomy at Harvard) a prize of 50,000 lire—worth about \$2500 in U. S. paper money—for his studies of nebulae, at the recent session of the Pontifical Academy of Science. . . . Dear Harlow: How far away do you think the sun is today?

BOOKS FOR FORTEANS

Your Secretary is often asked what to read for certain specific Fortean purposes. He is always glad to answer if he is able. Follows a short list of books every Fortean should own and read. If your bookseller can't supply, you, address the Secretary.

The Books of Charles Fort \$4.00
Henry IV (a play) Pirandello
Autobiography Lincoln Steffans
Man's Own Show: Civilization,
George A. Dorsey

Although it isn't a "book", Fortean's attention is called to *The Pamphleteer Monthly*, "A Guide to Current and Worthwhile Pamphlets", address 313 West 35th Street, New York. They'll send you a sample copy. Very interesting.

(1911) DRAYSÓNIA, by Admiral Sir Algernon F. R. de Horsey, K.C.B., (cloth) \$5.00 (contains folding plates and diagrams). The above is out of print and extremely rare. We have only a few copies.

(1921) WARMER WINTERS and the Earth's Tilt Fully Explained, by Major R. A. Marriott, D.S.O., (illustrated wrappers) \$3.00. Very few copies available. Orders from public libraries will be honored first.

(1922) THE DRAYSON PROBLEM, by Alfred H. Barley (diagrams on wrappers and throughout) \$1.50.

(1927) THE ICE AGE: ITS DATE, DURATION, AND ASTRONOMICAL CAUSE, by Major R. A. Marriott, Lieutenant Colonel T. C. Skinner, R. E. (Retired), Fellow Royal Meteorological Society, and others, including D. W. Horner, F.R.A.S., Sir Wm. Salmond, Alfred H. Barley and Lord Sydenham of Combe; with diagrams and maps (wrappers) \$1.50.

ADD NEW MADRID

Too late to insert in the October issue of the Magazine in connection with the strange phenomena attendant upon the New Madrid, Missouri, quakes contributed by Bart Reagan, came a clipping from *Time* sent in by Norman MacBeth. The Quotes are from a review of the book *The Steamboat*: "In 1811, 'the year of the comet'—a horde of squirrels, moved by some common impulse, pressed forward from Indiana over a wide front, poured into the river, swimming—clutching at driftwood . . . thousands of lifeless little bodies floated downstream' . . . in December a terrible earthquake tore the middle valley to pieces, sank dozens of flatboats and keelboats, smashed others on the banks. 'Shock followed shock, the ground rose and sank in sickening waves, the earth opened fissures a half-mile long, sulfurous gases poured out. . . .'"

STONE BARRAGE

A shower of stones fell (?) shortly after 8 p.m., in Philadelphia, according to the *Evening Ledger* (7-26-41). Houses were bombarded before and after dark. One person was struck, others escaped "narrowly". Police, men and boys searched vainly for clues. (Forty or more similar falls are noticed in *The Books of Charles Fort*.)

AIN'T NO SUCH ANIMAL

Standing (3-5-40) beside a partly decomposed creature on the beach near Vancouver—a creature ten feet long, "with a horse-like head. . . bulbous nostrils. . . cartilage instead of bone in skull . . . the body covered with bristly hair"—not a seal nor a shark nor a horse—Dr. W. A. Clemens, F.R.S.C. biology professor at the University of British Columbia and director of the Dominion Biological Station said: "I can't say what it is . . . But I don't believe in sea serpents."

"TIDE" COMES TO LAKE HURON

The account in the London, Ontario, *Free Press* is not specific as to time, but the story is that (probably) Sunday (7-27-41) morning the level of the water in Lake Huron dropped two and a half feet in a few minutes. It rose again, somewhat more slowly. The phenomenon is not so rare that Science cannot name it. The name is *seiche*: a word not findable in Webster or in *Chambers' Technical Dictionary*. The cause of a *seiche* is "barometric pressure".

CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

When Fortean move, they sometimes neglect to inform the Secretary of their new address and so miss out on special notices, issues of the Magazine, etc. . . . PLEASE remember to inform us of every change so that we need not ask the Post Office Department for any favors.

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

1819

Nov. 9 d (for "dense" likely—T.T.) fog and quake See Sept. 1. 1841

No date /In M.W.R. 1904/23 from the Columbian Centinel (St. L.) Nov. 24—that "the late smoky atmosphere was experienced at nearly the same time far at sea, in the Canadas, and in (reverse) the Eastern, Western, and Southern states, attended with colored rain." Said that many terrified inhabitants of Montreal had fled from the city." The Montreal papers contain whole columns of accounts of the 'astonishing appearances', and it (cont'd on second page note) was conjectured that they were occasioned by eruptions of some neighboring volcano. Issue of Dec. 8th that according to Bermuda papers, dated Nov 6—"They complained much of the (cont'd on third page of note) smoky appearance and scent of the atmosphere which some (reverse) conjectured to have been occasioned by a great fire on the American continent or to exhalations of the Gulph Stream. (reverse of note 2) And it was assured that during the darkness there were three shocks of earthquakes"/ Said that there was a great forest fire in Kentucky, in North Carolina and in Canada.

Nov (no date) Montreal, slight quake and

noise like distant thunder at 3 PM, the flash and peal and shake at 3:20

7 See Dark Day and meteor, Madagascar, May 21, 1877.

(no date) See effects of Vesuvius Ap. to 27th 1906.

9 See Nov 8, 1842

9 right date/ In the Northern Sentinel (Burlington Vt) astonishing appearances in the heavens at Montreal—a series of awful events equally impressive to the mind of the (reverse) illiterate and the learned. Said that the first unusual appearance to attract attention was upon the 7th. A remarkably dark morning—about 8 AM appeared a thick cloud of (page 2 of note) haze of a dingy orange color. About three quarters of an hour later rain like ink fell impregnated with a fine substance like ink or ashes. "It was conjectured that a volcano had broken out in some distant quarter and (reverse) the ashes of the eruption floating in the cloud giving it its unusual color." The weather then cleared and the afternoon was pleasant. Nothing noted the next day. Upon the 9th darkened in the morning.

By noon (third page of note) candles lighted in all the public offices. "and even in the butchers' stalls". The darkness increased and (indecipherable

word) a general dread. About 3 o'clock in afternoon a slight shock of earthquake and sound like distant gun fire (reverse) 20 minutes later when darkness at its greatest intensity—the whole city suddenly illuminated by "one of the most vivid flashes of lightning ever witnessed in Montreal and an awful peal of thunder so loud and near as to (fourth page of note) shake the strongest buildings to their foundations." Said that the concussion was so violent that it was supposed by many persons to be a second earthquake. There were other such detonations and (reverse) then fell rain darker than that of the 7th—"apparently more charged with sooty matter."

Nov 10 shock Lunroe, Norway, BA '54 where had been phenomena (reverse) quakes and sounds since Aug 31/ quakes in Sweden back to Aug. 18.

13 Fireball, St. Domingo BA 60

18 London Fireball BA '60

19 Fireball Rochelle BA 60

21 Detonating meteor, Baltimore, Direction S. BA '60

21 slight quake Lunroe BA 54 Series goes on.

21 Meteor—Chester Co. Pa. Amer. Journal Science 6/316 going E. N.E. (reverse) half size of full moon, well defined tail, detonation 3' minutes later.

21 evening/brilliant meteor Phil.

adelphia 6 PM/ streets lighted by it—Then detonations (reverse) also Wilmington and Washington Quebec Mercury Dec. 28 Am. J. Sci. 6/315.

25 Vesuvius at time of great rain-storm In Philadelphia Register 3-190

28 1:30 AM severe shock, Comrie BA 54

29th to Dec 3 China, medium quakes BA 11

Dec 1 Vesuvius, one of greatest in 20 years London Magazine Feb. 1820

1820

1820 Nantes/shower of small fish/ Magasin Pittoresque 4-371
Cosliot 3-5-79

1821 Box A (Resumed)

Jan 5 (Aside: This is a sheet of typed manuscript of Fort's composition, apparently a "cut" from one of his books. My guess is that it was originally written for THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED then held and used later in WILD TALENTS where the following appears almost verbatim. T.T.)
Persecuting Flames/ see Dec. 1904/ November 14, 1870 (or 1890 T.T.) (reverse) (p.) 198/
That Elizabeth Barnes, a girl aged 10, had been brought to court, accused by John Wright, a linen draper, of Foley-place, Mary-le-bon, London, of having, upon divers occasions, and by "some extraordinary means", set fire to the clothing of Wright's mother, by which she had been burned so severely that she was not expected to live. The little girl had been a servant in the Wright household. Upon January 5th, an unexplained fire had broken out. Upon the 7th, Mrs. Wright and the girl were sitting by the hearth, in the kitchen. Mrs. Wright rose and moved toward the door. She found herself in flames. Upon January 12th, 1820, when, with the girl, she was in the kitchen, about eight feet from the hearth, where "a very small fire" was, again she found her clothes burning. On the 13th, Wright heard screams from the kitchen, where his mother was, and where the girl had been. He found his mother in flames. This time "part of her clothes were burned to a cinder, and her flesh was materially injured." Then Wright accused the girl, who had left the kitchen a moment before this occurrence. But it was Mrs. Wright's belief that "something supernatural" had assailed her. On the 14th, her daughter arrived, to keep guard; but, going to the kitchen, where the girl was, "again, by some unknown means, she caught fire." "She was so dreadfully injured by the fire that she was put to bed." When it seemed that she had gone to sleep, she was left there—and her screams brought back her son and daughter, who found her in bed, surrounded by flames. Then the girl was told to leave the house. She did so, and there were no more fires. The magistrate said that he had no doubt that the prisoner was guilty, but that he could not pronounce sentence until Mrs. Wright could testify.

1820 Box 1 (Resumed)

Jan 11 London Times, page 2/ page 3, January 15/ Vesuvius Table of Eruptions of Etna

16 Opposition Mars A-1

16 Vesuvius BA 54

Feb 12 Starks Vulcan about twice the size of Mercury—C.R.-83-314 B D., 193

15 21 etc. St. Maure (Ionian Islands) quakes and heavy rains London Mag 2/25

21 St. Maure, Gr. medium quake

23 Vesuvius 'violent/ had been active/ BA 54

March 3 New Aleutian volcano BA 54

1820 Box A (Resumed)

March 3 London Times, page 2, extraordinary activities of a wolf

1820 Box 1 (Resumed)

March 21 (volcanic) eruption Aleutian Islands An Reg 1822-683

April 5 about 20 N and 51W. aerolite fell with rain on a vessel. Mag. Nat. Hist. 6-297

1820 ?/ Apr 5/ In sea near Antiqua Fireball aerolite according to Baumheuer BA 60

1820

April 7/ B/ Irkutsk/ violent shock BA '54/128

11 2-3 AM/ Cork, Ireland, quake and sounds like cannon BA '54 (over) London Times, p. 2, April 14.

18 Fireball, Augsburg BA 60

27 Vulcan/Monthly Notices 1862 / D-193

May 1-2 Immense comet at St. John's, N. Brunswick for several nights in the (reverse) N.W. sky. 60 or 70 degrees between nucleus and end of tail. Philadelphia Register 3-324

About May 1 etc. Vesuvius An Reg. 1820/129 active on 20th.

May 2 Brest/ quake and "thunder" A. Reg. 1820/129

4 Great quake Mexico '11

10 Great Tidal wave, Acapulco BA 54

10 Andernoch Fireball BA 60

21 Gedenburg, Hungary, meteorite BA 60

June 11 volcano Api, Java N M C.

R.70-878

July 12 Lixna, Dunaberg, Russia, meteorite BA '60 (F)

12 Meteoric stone fell at Listen (?) (Witebsk) Russia. A violent thunder storm. Niles Register Jan 6, 1821 (Thunder stone)

16 4.5 AM at St. Neots near the Ouze Mirage said be of Great Paxon An. Phil 16/149

17 people at Schwartz, Tyrol, in churches at annual day of thanksgiving for (reverse) having been spared quakes since July 17, 1670, when a violent quake and great damage. London Mag 2/329

20 Brunn/ Fireball BA 60

22 London Times, page 3, atmospheric phenomena, Huntingdonshire, not looked up

30 3 hours/Venus Inferior conjunction (A 1)

Aug 6 Ovelgonne, Finland aerolite according to Baumhauer (reverse) According to BA 60 substance from hayrick burned by lightning.

31 London/solid ice 18 inches by 6/(fell ? T.T.) English Mechanic 84/18

Sept 7 In Ouvres, XI/576, M. Arago's description suggest military formation but they were separated by equal distances all in a straight line/ An. de Chemie 30/417

27 Barmouth, Merionetshire (thunder stone or shower?) quake and sound like cannon BA 54

About Oct 1/Milky substance, Pernambuco, A. Reg 1821/681 D

Oct 1 Spiders Times of Oct. 9. That over area of miles from Liverpool and especially at Wigan, field and roads covered with a substance that was mistaken for cotton. Came down like a sheet on Wigan. Found to contain (reverse) flies so small as required a magnifying glass to make them perceptible/ Nov 12 that all summer for the first time, his garden clear of celery flies. After middle of September they appeared in vast numbers.

Oct 19 Honduras, medium quake

Nov 12 4 PM/ detonating meteor, globe of fire Kuzok, Russia Magazine of Popular Science 3-62

20 Cholimsch, Russia, detonating meteor BA 60

29 aerolite/Cosenza, great meteor, stones fell according to Arago

29 Cosenza, Italy / meteor train / An. Reg 1821/14

29 aerolite See Nov 29 '09

Dec 5 Naples Fireball BA 60

9 Tumca Fireball BA 60

13 London Times, page 2/ quake Leadhills and Wanlockhead

29, 30, 4:10 AM / quake ice meteor/ Zante "dreadful bellowing"

ORDER the BOOKS of CHARLES FORT TODAY!

- noise" said been subterranean—but lumps of ice, and quake (reverse) or hailstones some weighing 10 ounces each fell—No—first a luminous meteor visible 5 or 6 minutes/ on 30th another meteor BA 54
- 29, 30, See An de Chimie 18/413 get series right—about 1820
- 29 Ionian Island a luminous object or meteor "apparently 4 to 6 feet in diameter" was seen over the sea. Three or four minutes later the quake—on 30th another meteor passed over Zante (Cot) objects and quake BA Sept. 1854—131
- 29 Zante. The quake was preceded by a single flash of lightning. Edinburgh Philo. Jour. 36/267 (or 767?)
- 29 Zante / a meteor, 3 or 4 minutes later great quake—torrents of rain and masses of ice up to night of 300 grammes (reverse) C. R. 17-618
- 29 Celibes, great quake and sea rose to "a prodigious height." Quar. Jour. Roy Inst. 12-427
- Dec 29 Zante/ quake and rain and hail/ quake and "unexampled deluge of rain" and lumps of ice $\frac{1}{4}$ pound each. A deluge from the hills in, which 20 houses were washed away. London Times, Feb. 26, page 3, Feb 27, page 3, 1821. (reverse) shocks several a day in January (at least).
- 29 Chile, medium quake BA 11 Zante Fireball BA 60 See Jan 6
- 31 Nellore, India, several quakes N.Y.Eve Post Sept 12 page 2-3, 1821
- 1821**
- 1821 Dept. of the Meuse (Fr.) frogs and toads after violent storm Magasin Pittoresque 4/371
- 1821 fish, ("fell" is probably understood—T.T.) Lorn, Argyleshire Journ of F. Inst. 4/43
- 1821 New Hampshire Tornado, B. (for "Brooksyn" ? T.T.) Eagle 1896 Oct 25—22—3
- Jan 6 Shocks Zante in Gulf of Corinth, a tidal wave, carrying away houses BA 54
- 18 Valparaiso, Chile, medium quake
- Feb 4-7 luminous spot on dark part of moon by Capt. Kater in Aristarchus like a small star,

- appeared and disappeared. (reverse) An Reg. 1821/689
- 5 By Dr. Olbers of Bremen—saw the luminosity that was seen by Capt. Kater in or near Aristarchus (reverse) equal to star of 6th magnitude on dark part Man R.A. 1/156
- 12 light quake China BA '11
- 12 Breslau Fireball BA 60
- 27 etc Isle of Bourbon A. Reg 1821-117 volc/March quake especial in April/ Reunion Island
- End of Feb Volcano Kamtschatken BA 54
- March 1 Comet seen first (by Mr. X) in Pegasus/ London Times, p. 3, March 7.
- 5 meteor quake ? / Pomèrania/ according to several catalogues stones fell during a (reverse) quake in BA, 60. Said been a doubtful fall. Stones not found.
- 20 Italy Umbria Lomba luminosa and quake/ See 1805
- 20 St. Thomas Island Large meteor BA 60
- 21 Rielt, Italy concussion column of fire passed over the village and fell into Lake Cantelin C.R., 17-621
- 1821 Box A (Resumed)**
- April 26 London Times, p. 3/ Poltergeist stones/ At Truro persons amused, astonished, or alarmed according to nerve and judgment, by bombardment of a house in Carlew Street. Missiles from no findable source (reverse) breaking the windows of a depot in which were the arms of a regiment and in an adjoining house. The Mayor was appealed to. He arrived. Soldiers arrived. All (second page of note) investigated, and nothing more learned. Said that the "lower classes who always have a taste for the marvellous", thought it was supernatural. Guards were (reverse) placed around the house, but still the stones arrived. London Times. May 1, p. 3 (Carlew Street) Stones still arriving. Nothing found out.
- 1821 Box 1 (Resumed)**
- April 28 Leipsic Fireball BA 60
- May 4 Moon (dark part) the light in Aristarchus by Rev. M. Ward

- looked like a small comet on moon (reverse) None appeared that Francis Bailey had seen it Mem R.A.S. 1/159
- May Red organic/ ("fall of matter" may be read—T.T.) Giessen, Germany D-287 (reverse) May Flammarion Atmosphere p. 410
- May 13 Mexico, light quake
- 16 Munich Fireball BA 60
- 17 German fireball in BA 60 question (reverse) asked "same as last (16th)?"

1821 Box A (Resumed)

- June early/ Near Blanford, England/ Will-o-the-wisp Paper read before Linnean Soc. by R. Chambers Mag. of Sci 3/323 (reverse) friend of his, T. Stothar, had seen luminous thing of irregular shape outside coach, rising falling for considerable distance
- 1821 Box 1 (Resumed)**
- June 7 5 PM over Willistown, Goshen cloud of dragon flies that darkened sky mile wide and one hour in (reverse) passing N.Y. Evening Post Aug 17 p 2-3
- 12 County Mayo, Ireland, according to Prof. Pictet, Metallic nuclei in nail—B. O. Univ. 18/78 (This may read "metallic nail in nuclei"—but neither reading is too satisfactory. Also there is some doubt about the "O" in the initials of the University. It might be a "U" or a "V". T.T.)
- 15 3 PM / meteor / Field near Crosde Libones, Commune of Julnas, France (reverse) A meteoric stone. Parts carried away. A remaining block weighed 108 pounds. N Y Eve. Post Sept 12 p 2-4
- 15 Aerolite weighing 220 pounds Juvenes, France A. J. Sci. 5/ 175 (over) According to 2 analyses was entire absence of nickel 6/397 See Dec 13, 1813.
- 15 about noon/ Juvenas, Ardeche France, meteorite BA 60 Bib. Univ. 18-80 (reverse) Gents Mag., March 1822, p. 265
- 21 Majo, Spain, hailstones with nuclei composed (reverse) of ferrocyanide of potassium/Gal-ignani's Messenger, March 14, 1872

NEXT ISSUE:

After the publication of this issue, Your Secretary fully expects to go to jail. The charge will be passing a red light or taking pennies from a blind man's cup or some other rail-roading device such as imprisoned Fritz Kuhn and Earl Browder. . . . Accordingly, my affairs are in order and the cops may come at their convenience. . . . The next issue of the Fortean Society Magazine will be published as soon as I am released. T. T.

THE FORTLEAN SOCIETY

MAGAZINE

No. 6

JANUARY, 1982

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In this issue

JOHN

COWPER

POWYS

BEN HECHT

TIFFANY THAYER

and

MORE NOTES of

Charles Fort

SOCIETY ACQUIRES DRAYSONIA

CIRCUS DAY IS OVER

By Tiffany Thayer

Your Secretary and a few of his esteemed colleagues brought the Fortlean Messiah to town with bass-drum and red-fire in the tradition of P. T. Barnum and Billy Sunday—a tradition honored by time if by none other. Now, however, since all the world has taken up the bass-drum and pitched its voice so stridently, it is more Fortlean to eschew those methods and to insure ourselves an auditory by whispering. We'll be heard the better by contrast.

This does not mean that the Fortlean Society will shirk its duty of calling attention to the crimes of Our Betters, far from it, and, accordingly, we quietly charge that the present international hostility is the most ghastly fraud ever perpetrated in history with the possible exception of the Holy Inquisition. By that is meant that the headlines you consume each day as "news" are not really news at all but are only the latest releases to us dupes of our daily capsule of dope. Every time you listen to a "news" broadcast on the radio you are taking poison through the ears. The dose is administered at half-hourly intervals by Imperial Request from Washington, D. C.,—two minutes of unadulterated poison on the hour and one minute of the same on the half-hour, twenty-four hours of the day, not counting the various five-minute regular "news" broadcasts by established agencies. Thus it is impossible for you to escape a dose if you leave your radio on for longer than 28 minutes in succession.

Our Shepherds—the politicians and bankers of the world—chiefly those of the United States, Germany, England and Japan—planned this gigantic hoax upon their peoples in all personal friendliness years ago. They decided then what should happen now—and it is happening and will continue to happen very much according to schedule until every possible dollar has

PUBLICATIONS

14-75-1

been squeezed out of the emprise and every last vestige of our already farcical "freedom" has been taken from us.

Probably the above is so obvious to Fortean that it did not need stating, but awareness of our condition does not give us the means to change it. Of what use is the Right of Petition against the opposition of unlimited free time on the air? That is to say that the President can chat over the radio as long and as frequently as he wishes, without paying one red cent for the privilege, but if I think the man should be impeached for making foreign alliances in defiance of the Constitution, I can finance my own expedition across the country seeking signers of my petition, with more than a fifty-one per cent chance of having my signatures thrown out of court as fraudulent after I get them. Our franchise is a fake and only the taxes we must pay are real. We do what the politicians tell us—or jump off high buildings—that is the only alternative left to common people today, be they British, German, Japanese or American: goose-step or suicide.

The reason for this condition is, clearly, to preserve tottering, rotten institutions which mankind—partially enlightened by the events of 1914 to 1918—was undermining diligently, intent—as the commonality has ever been—upon self-betterment. It is this determination for self-betterment which puts the fear of God into our Betters perennially and demands military regimens for the rest of us on an average of at least once every twenty-five years. For present-day "civilization" operates on the working premise that the overwhelming majority of mankind is stupid, cannot be enlightened, and is happy to remain swinish or dolish; and the only way that lie can be maintained, sustained and perpetuated is by the use of such bludgeons as this one they call "War" and another, called "Authority". These great hammers are dropped on our heads every time we raise them because Our Betters do not sit securely in their superior seats by any virtue of theirs but only by beating us back from around their legs.

The second crime of Our Shepherds which Your Secretary will mention in this quiet session is one in which "Authority" has been the bludgeon, but before we take it up, a word in praise of a man who might have played one of the largest parts in this, the most ghastly fraud since the Inquisition, but who refused.

He was a King—the King of England—and had been better loved as Prince of Wales. He is now known as Duke of Windsor, presently "employed" as Governor of the Bahamas. . . This man renounced a throne, and it was given out by the lie-mongering press that he renounced his birthright for the love of a woman. The statement was made that this man could not marry this woman and keep his crown because the woman was an American.

Here take time out to smile. For—it was to aid the same Britain which was alleged to have raised that objection that Our Shepherds led the despised Americans to "War".

Of course, nobody with an IQ of more than 6 and 7/8 believed the story at the time, but how many suspected the truth?

How many knew what the politicians of the world were planning? Who was present in Windsor Castle to hear the leaders of the world's greatest nations—the United States, Germany, his own England, Italy and Japan—tell Edward of Windsor that a repetition of 1914–1918 was going to be necessary to prevent the people of the world from claiming their birthright? How many heard Edward VIII, the uncrowned King of England, say to the other members of that most select of all clubs—The War-Makers: "No, gentlemen, I will not do it. . . I will not be party to your murderous scheme for the enslavement of millions. I am not even grateful for the opportunity. . . You forget that I was still a lad when your Club found this necessary the time before. You forget that I was duped along with the rest at that time. I was taken in by your flag-waving and your drum-beating—but I lived to learn that you and your class and myself and my class aren't worth fighting for."

"I visited trenches in 1914 and breadlines in 1930. You gentlemen dug those trenches on paper years before common men dug them in the mud—and you and I created those breadlines. Now you are asking me to go on playing that same unspeakable game—perpetuating trenches and breadlines to infinity—or worse: you are asking me to help you deprive the peoples of the earth of their last shred of self-respect, the last glimmer of hope for human integrity."

"No, gentlemen. . . You may take the crown of England and stick it—on the head of one of my brothers: there are plenty of them—and one, at least, will be ready to do this for you. I refuse."

Edward of Windsor couldn't stop the plans the War-Makers had in hand but he could refuse to further them or to participate in them. Now, we cannot all be Governors of the Bahamas, but we can follow the honorable and upright example of Edward VIII part of the way. We can shut off the radio, stop reading newspapers and stay away from the movies. Their "war" stops automatically as soon as you do those three things. And the "outcome of the struggle" will not be varied one way or the other by any actions of yours, because the "outcome" was decided years ago—before the first shot was fired—and each "contender" in this criminal farce knows now exactly what part of the earth and its inhabitants is to be his to tax when it's all over. All that passes between now and then is no more than Poo Bah's "corroborative detail intended to give artistic verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative." Your Secretary's objection to the "detail" is that some of the wrong men might get killed.

The second crime of Our Betters as mentioned above has been less publicized than the Grand Hoax, but its purpose is identical—that is—to maintain the reputa-

tions and incomes of a class of persons which has strutted for countless centuries before the world in garments of that mystic fabric of legend—woven of nothing. In fact, the men who wear this material weave it themselves, and through the ages their yarn has differed fancifully. Of late, "light-years" form the *warp* and "spectrum-analysis" the *woof*. . . That is to say, the Astronomers, of course, and it is further to say, that they "haven't got anything on!"

Like the leaders of every other "recognized science", these intellectual prostitutes have all but entirely relaxed from any search after truth they ever did prosecute, and have become sycophants, courtiers, jesters and murderers to the monopolists and the politicians, the modern Khans, Princes and Barons of the air, the waters and the earth.

They hold before youth the great ideal of selfless devotion to the finding out of all the truths of nature in order to make life more worth living for all who are forced to live it, yet they are, almost without exception, willing to betray youth by making capital of their discovery of half-truth, however lethal, and by commercializing half-comprehended clues to cosmic revelations in the name of sainted Progress, under the patronage of public utilities and the lords of a civilization which is based upon fraud and chicane.

As examples of half-truth operating murderously, I give you the airplane and sulphanilimide. . . As examples of a clue to the operation of the so-called "cosmos" which has been perverted to the ends of man's lowest tastes and prostituted for the profit of the few, to the mental emasculation of the many—I give you the radio—the motion picture—and next, whenever it is needed by Our Betters (probably for their next "War"), the blend of those two in television.

And queening it over all her brother and sister sciences is the great Bell-dame—Astronomy. Out on the West Coast some men are polishing what might be called "the White Elephant of Mount Palomar" or "Corning's Triumph"—for there is a 200 inch piece of glass for which even the Astronomers themselves have no use. They will tell you—if you can catch them in an honest mood, which is quite a trick, but possible—that they would *much* rather have two 100 inch glasses: that they are not going to see one damned bit more in this thing the Corning people have sold them than they have been seeing right along: that the whole gargantuan episode from conception to the expected failure was a double-barrelled gag—one, publicity for "Authority"—two, a rather staggering transfer of funds.

By such methods Astronomy holds her place, the mysterious, inexplicable, untouchable science; the cornerstone of Authority, parent of all hocus-pocus. This is not to say that studying the stars is bootless or that making gigantic mirrors is a crime: not at all. In fact, Your Secretary recommends that a similar mirror be made for every hamlet in the world and that the acquisition of knowledge be substituted

for the acquisition of money (One writes "gold" and crosses it out.) as an universal ideal. As our youths turn 18, let us hand them telescopes or microscopes or tables of logarithms instead of rifles: set them to the business of measuring Earth in platoons, to shattering atoms in brigades. Send them by ship-loads to find out where those islands are in the South Pacific: nobody knows now. Doubtless the proprietors of Big Steel would relish their caviar no less if it were bought with profits from the sale of planetariums and cyclotrons and exploring vessels instead of from the sale of battle ships made for the express purpose of being sunk and blown up. One can hardly suppose that their food tastes better to them because it comes dripping in human blood.

What sort of a civilization might we not build out of an universal brotherhood dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge? Something rather fine perhaps: but the present incumbents of the superior seats would oppose any such innovation: the incumbents of those superior seats of any "present" oppose innovation to the last ditch. (Innovation is to Authority as Peace is to a duPont.)

In its opposition to all innovation lies Authority's greatest crime. Our example is the Drayson Problem.

THE DRAYSON PROBLEM

If you read your Magazine for October, 1941, you will recall that Alfred H. Barley was quoted there on the subject of an astronomical problem: a *problem*, mind you, not a "theory"—which might be established or refuted—but a problem which may only be studied.

Mr. Barley was the author of a booklet of 48 pages, plus a 24-page "Prologue", plus covers bearing diagrams, published in England in 1922. The title is *The Drayson Problem*, and the contents reveals that Orthodox Astronomy has been faced since 1859 with the discovery of an anomaly in the very foundation upon which all its mathematics has been based since Newton if not since the building of the pyramids.

The discoverer of the anomaly was an anonymous student in one of the astronomy classes of Major-General Alfred Wilks Drayson, Fellow Royal Astronomical Society, late Royal Artillery, then Professor of Astronomy at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, England. The boy asked his teacher a question which the teacher could not answer. Not being the average teacher, Drayson admitted his ignorance and set out to inform himself—with the result that—today—simply to mention the name of Drayson or of Barley within the hearing of an astronomy professor is likely to produce seismic phenomena.

You may read a good deal more about the Drayson Problem in these columns as the years go by because, by the terms of the will of the late Alfred H. Barley, and at the direction of his executor and heir, his wife, Mrs. Annie Barley, the Fortean Society became the proud custodian of all

Mr. Barley's literary, documentary and Draysonian remains. . . More: the Fortean Society inherited the obligation and the privilege of carrying the work forward. The work—in the case of the Drayson Problem—consists of bringing this *fault* in their figures to the attention of the younger generation of astronomers in such a way that the importance of the matter can no longer be ignored. Correspondence to that end is already in progress and the results will be duly recorded here.

To familiarize yourself with this problem and to help the work along—order one or more of the following books from the Fortean Society today.

(1911) DRAYSONIA, by Admiral Sir Algernon F. R. de Horsey, K.C.B. (cloth) \$5.00 (contains folding plates and diagrams) The above is out of print and extremely rare. We have only a few copies.

(1921) WARMER WINTERS and the Earth's Tilt Fully Explained, by Major R. A. Marriott, D.S.O., (illustrated wrappers) \$3.00 Very few copies available. Orders from public libraries will be honored first.

(1922) THE DRAYSON PROBLEM, by Alfred H. Barley (diagrams on wrappers and throughout) \$1.50.

(1927) THE ICE AGE: ITS DATE, DURATION, AND ASTRONOMICAL CAUSE, by Major R. A. Marriott, Lieutenant Colonel T. C. Skinner, R. E. (Retired), Fellow Royal Meteorological Society, and others, including D. W. Horner, F.R.A.S., Sir Wm. Salmond, Alfred H. Barley and Lord Sydenham of Combe; with diagrams and maps (wrappers) \$1.50.

These books were written by the foremost exponents of Drayson's cause. Admiral de Horsey was Drayson's first disciple.

This is the Preface to his book DRAYSONIA:

In the following treatise I have adopted the title 'Draysonia' in honour of a man whose scientific attainments have been but little known or recognized, whose death in September 1901 was a great loss to astronomical science, and who in future days will, I think, be acknowledged as having been a remarkable discoverer. I refer to the late Major-General Alfred Wilks Drayson, F.R.A.S., late Royal Artillery, who, in addition to distinguishing himself in his profession, was for fifteen years Professor, Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and for two years attached to the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, author of *Practical Military Surveying*, *The Common Sights in the Heavens*, *The Last Glacial Epoch*, *Experiences of a Woolwich Professor*, *Thirty Thousand Years of the Earth's Past History*, read by the aid of the second rotation of the earth, *Untrodden Ground*, *Important Facts and Calculations for the Consideration of Astronomers and*

Geologists, *Proper Motion of the Fixed Stars*, etc.

I am fully aware of the difficulty of my task and of how imperfectly I can do justice to Drayson in attempting to describe his system; indeed, I should not venture the attempt were it not that General Drayson, shortly before his death, repeatedly urged me to write upon the subject. Writing to me very shortly before his death, he said: 'The reason why I thought that you ought to write something is that it would be a loss to astronomical science if the accurate calculations which you have made were allowed to be buried in your workbook and among my papers. I refer especially to your investigations to obtain the annual motion of the pole 20" .0529, the annual angle of C. 40" .8114, the zero year A.D. 2294.75, the cycle 31,756 years, the annual precession of the equinox in 1900, the annual diminution of the obliquity and the variable rate of this decrease.

'All these calculations are based on sound geometry.' In again urging me in his last touching letter before his death when complaining bitterly of the unreasoning opposition he had encountered, he said, 'I have spent between two and three hundred pounds in getting my books, pamphlets, etc. published, and have received less than ten pounds in return. Money-making has not been my object, but that truths in nature should be made known. I can only claim to have done my best, though whether good results will follow I cannot say.' I also can only claim to have done my best.

My work in assisting Drayson began after reading his *Untrodden Ground*, and has been carried on almost entirely by letter. Drayson's letters to me amounted to three or four hundred, and were continued until his death. From this correspondence and from Drayson's works I learned a great deal, and found the occupation enthralling—too much so, for in working with Shorrede's admirable logarithms, which admit of accuracy to the 1/10 of a second of arc and to 1/100 of a second of time, up and into the small hours of the night, I considerably impaired my eyesight. I was induced to look into Drayson's system by my old and distinguished friend, the late Sir John Cowell, who, when on duty at Osborne, had lent Drayson's *Untrodden Ground* to H.R.H. the then Crown Princess of Germany, afterwards the Empress Frederick, and told me how great an interest H.R.H. had taken in the matter. The subject also has engaged the attention of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who, when at Woolwich Academy as a cadet, had studied under Drayson, and was thus aware of his great ability. I mention this as another instance of the great interest taken by members of our Royal Family in scientific matters.

I believe I have been a good scholar of Drayson's, judging from his kind appreciation of my efforts, for in an article of his some years ago in the *Yorkshire Post*, the following commendation appears: 'It is quite unnecessary for me to refer to the scientific attainments, especially in practical

astronomy, possessed by Admiral de Horsey. In the Royal Navy these are well known. I may say, however, that during the fifteen years that I was Professor of Woolwich, I looked over several thousand examination papers on various questions in practical astronomy which had been worked out by officers and cadets, who were excellent mathematicians, and to whom the practical working of spherical trigonometry was mere child's play, but in no single instance have I seen anything equal in accuracy and neatness to the work accomplished by Admiral de Horsey.

The above flattering opinion of my attainments far exceed such abilities as I may possess, but I here insert it as a record of General Drayson's appreciation of the assistance I rendered him in astronomical computations from 1893 until that distinguished astronomer's death in 1901. Drayson's lamented death occurred without his receiving that public recognition of his scientific attainments and discoveries which he merited, and which I trust posterity will accord him.

Cowes, March 1911.

A.F.R. DE HORSEY

After Admiral de Horsey, came Major Marriott, who applied Drayson's work to the problem of dating "the" Ice Age:

THE GLACIAL EPOCH

The Date and Duration of the Last Ice Period

(This inset is brought to the notice of the readers of this issue of the "Proceedings," not with the intention of endorsing the views therein stated, but out of respect to one of the chief founders of this Society, the late Dr. W. Allen Sturge, whose immense activities in prehistory are well known, and whose critical acumen led him to favour the acceptance of Drayson's contention as a WORKING HYPOTHESIS for the elucidation of the various ages to be assigned to flint cultures in East Anglia. Several discoveries since his death have done much to favour an unexpected extension of the stages of man's progress, and of the enormous antiquity to be assigned to primitive man, while certain facts on the astronomical side have so strengthened the position of Drayson's supporters as to make their claims a matter inviting serious attention.)

Readers of the Proceedings will recall the paper read by Dr. W. Allen Sturge in Vol. L, part iii, 1913, containing arguments based on the recurrence of glacial periods, such as may be postulated from an acceptance of Drayson's discovery of the true motion of the Pole, and especially as to the chronology of the last one with reference to the Neolithic culture; and many subscribers are further acquainted with the numerous corroborative evidences bearing on this question of glaciation furnished by geology and other sciences, as set forth in a recent pamphlet by Major Marriott.

This strong chain of evidence, however,

laboured under the disadvantage that the connecting astronomical links had not received the hall-mark of official astronomy, and therefore were considered unsound; and it is only quite recently that the orthodox school have deigned to give their reasons for rejecting the astronomical evidence without investigation.

The objections brought against Drayson's conclusions have thus been displayed in all their weakness, and have given Mr. A. H. Barley an opportunity to combat them, phrase by phrase, by the production of mathematical proofs from several sources, which place the matter on an impregnable footing, such as no unprejudiced astronomer can fail to see establishes a claim for minute investigation.

Apart from these concise proofs, researches into archaeology and the orientation of ancient monuments mirror the same deductions from terrestrial sources, being corroborated by recent pronouncements on prehistoric climatology, while providing a basis for many myths, especially in connection with Vedic and Avedic traditions, and enhancing the grandeur and utility of the Great Pyramid by giving it a new astronomical significance.

Until the exhumation of this discovery, which was first put forward in 1859, geologists have failed to get any nearer to the solution of the Ice Age question, since the days of Agassiz a century ago; but it has now been revived by independent research, giving a new impetus to geology and providing us with a clue of great importance to serve as a guide in prehistory.

From a letter of Admiral Sir Algernon de Horsey, K.C.B. to Drayson, dated 23rd April, 1894.

"It is inconceivable to me that the Royal Astronomical Society has not enthusiastically taken up a subject which gives such strong evidence of its truth. To sift such a matter—a matter affecting the basis of all astronomical calculations—to the bottom is surely the first duty of a learned society which has the privilege of the prefix 'Royal'. I should have imagined—as I believe you did—that you had only to whisper '29° 25' 47"'—in order to put astronomers on the *quivive* to elucidate a discovery of enthralling interest, which for a chaos of supposed proper motions of millions of stars substitutes a simple movement of the instrument (the earth), by which and from which all astronomical observations are made."

From "The Change in the Climate":

"Something more is required from astronomers than the invocation of the great name of Newton in support of a circle with a phantom centre. This philosopher, when he made his great discovery of the mechanism of the Universe in the laws of motion, naturally applied them to the finding of a cause of Precession, but Newton was not confronted with geological research, and knew nothing of the decrease in the obliquity, nor the true conformation

of the earth. Are his conclusions, then, never to be questioned?

"We are not more capable certainly than the great minds of the past, only better equipped. Not to use these advantages will be to incur the reproach of the age of Galileo. Let the facts here outlined be faced and admission made that much remains to be investigated, and Drayson, ere long will be assigned his place among the Immortals."

And after Marriott came Colonel Skinner—who is still very active on behalf of Drayson in England—and Alfred H. Barley.

Correspondence with England is irregular now, but we hope to be able to report upon Colonel Skinner's progress in our next issue.

ALFRED HENRY BARLEY

Certainly the most active and acute—and probably the most effective—of Drayson's adherents since de Horsey was A. H. Barley, elder son of Hildyard Barley and his wife Emma; born Stoke Newington, London, England, February 7, 1872. When Alfred was six years old, his parents removed to Ramsgate, Kent, where the boy attended a small "dame school" until he was ten. His father was a Wesleyan "local preacher", and as such sent the boy to a school for the sons of Wesleyan clergymen at Woodhouse Grove, Yorkshire, until he was fifteen. He spent a year, then, in Stuttgart, Germany, where he mastered the language and studied music. Later he studied chemistry and took a degree in Pharmacy but music called him back and he became an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music, as well as Bachelor of Music, London University. Several of his original compositions were well received.

Like many young thinkers, Alfred Barley was Agnostic, then Spiritualist, then Theosophist—but he appears to have been associated with the Theosophical Society at a time of schism and—unable to reconcile preaching and practice—resigned from the Society in 1917.

In 1910 he had married Annie Lewton, of Wells, Norfolk, England, and they pursued their Theosophical studies together, suffered the same revulsion at conditions in the Society, and resigned together.

Mr. Barley was for many years an associate of Alan Leo, a well known astrologer and author of astrological works who died in 1917: he was an editor of *Modern Astrology Magazine*, and editor of many of Alan Leo's books. Both Leo and Barley aimed at "restoring Astrology to its early purity" and looked forward to its establishment on a basis similar to that of Astronomy.

Barley discovered the Drayson Problem in connection with his Astrological work, and took it up rather nose-in-air, as he put

it, with the avowed intention of refuting Drayson.

These details have been furnished, at the Society's request, by Mrs. Barley who writes: "That beginning never had an ending, for he was still working hard on it the day before he died."

The Barleys were residents of Canada from April 1927 to November 1934 when they located in the State of Washington. Mr. Barley died very suddenly at Everett, Washington, May 14, 1940.

He had been a member of the Fortean Society since 1937 and his correspondence with Your Secretary reveals a keen, brilliant, incisive mentality and—as Fort would have said—a man of "cordial acceptances".

Space limitations prevent a proper exegesis of Alfred Barley's work on the Drayson Problem, but it will be touched on again and again in these columns as the Society takes up the live brand he dropped and carries it on into the mental darkness which established, Orthodox Astronomy—as vested "Authority"—seeks to force upon the human race.

FORT ON THE AIR

When *The Books of Charles Fort* was published last May, Mr. Joseph T. Shipley gave it this send-off over Station WEVD, New York:

Among the dreams of living are a good many things commonly accepted as fact. For instance, do you really believe the earth revolves around the sun? Do you think that the earth is round, or, shall I say more technically, that our planet is an oblate spheroid, and what by the way, makes you call it a planet? And what do you imagine is the speed of light? And how about that floating ocean of ice which moves above the stratosphere. Have you ever had trouble with the laws of physics, found it hard to understand that when Eve ate the apple, Adam fell, but when the apple fell Newton was struck with the law of gravitation? Just what is this idea of gravitation that the earth and sun are having a tug of war with the moon and that is what keeps it revolving around us? Do you remember Halley's comet and the eclipse that proved Einstein's relativity? Except that the next eclipse refused to work the same way. Some persons think that science has become a new religion and that no one, especially no layman, may question its laws. To them science is the latest superstition. Chief among these rebellious figures of our time was Charles Fort whose followers have established the Fortean Society of which the otherwise less serious novelist, Tiffany Thayer, is Secretary. This Society and Henry Holt have just issued, in one overwhelming volume, the four big books of Fort's lifetime, *Wild Talents*, *Lo!, New Lands* and *Book of the Damned*. The "damned", as Fort uses the term, are the facts of experience for which Science has no explanation. In revenge, science bars them from polite society. They are printed only in the maga-

zine pages of the lesser newspapers along with the tales of the hack-saw suicide and the dog-faced baby. Charles Fort has gathered them—has set them in a devastating column; and with dive-bombs of wit and poison gas of sarcasm, advanced against the entrenched ranks of the scientists. Most of his pages list actually recorded happenings. Fort's favorites are showers of strange objects from the sky—stones—stones that seemed aimed at a special person as though a demon were looking down and following the victim, taking pot shots at him. Fish—by the thousands—frogs, out of the sky like one of the old plagues of Egypt. Icicles falling—not hailstones—but thousands of icicles. What were they hanging on in the sky? And rain—rain of blood recorded countless times from ancient Rome to modern Ireland. Each of these science has tried to explain away but Fort explains away the explanations. He's deliciously sarcastic about the methods of the men who have to fit these strange occurrences into the known laws of nature. These men are quite careful. He compliments them. When they say that a certain soft matter looks like marsh paper the wind has lifted and dropped, they make their identification depend upon several points of likeness. They would never be satisfied with saying, for example, that a camel is a peanut because both have humps. They would demand further agreement—that both can live a long time without water, for instance. Mixed with a vast accumulation of strange happenings and the swamping ridicule are some other observations that have to be taken seriously. One of the powers, some mediums claim, is teleporting—the carrying off of things in far away places. If this is true, says Fort, why have so many banks their money still in them. And if scientists for many years



ALFRED HENRY BARLEY

have been attacking claims of magic, Fort aims his shots at what he calls witchcraft in science. The new ideas of the Nobel Prize winner, Dr. Born for example—the quantum theory—the idea of electrons and protons playing leap frog without having to leap over the other frog and the notion that the sun derives its energy from nowhere. According to the old law, says Charles Fort, these ideas are much more nonsensical than his own protests. And indeed he hammers hard to break down every one of the so-called proofs of such items as the shape of the earth and the speed of light. Try one. We can tell the shape of the earth, scientists say, from its shadow on the moon but if the moon is a sphere as most scientists claim, it is convex. And on a convex body a straight edge makes a curved shadow. So far as this proof goes the earth may be flat. Or look at the discovery of the planet Neptune. Hailed as a great triumph of astronomers—did not Leverrier predict it? But while Leverrier said there would be one planet beyond, Hansen said there would be two. And Airy said most likely none at all. Somebody had to guess right and at once the good guesser is hailed as the genius. And around many such heavenly discoveries Charles Fort finds the large number of men that guessed wrong and who therefore are left out of the books. It seems that the astronomers have been playing the old gossip game. Whenever someone is late, all the women in the family begin to say something has happened but they forget all the times we came home safely and remember the one occasion when they foretold the accident. Can't you hear them saying: "I knew it."? Behind all Fort's scoffing at science rests the positive belief which he fortifies with brilliant images and impressive phrasing. He believes in a

sort of compensation that gives intelligence its grain of stupidity whether in man or in nature. Somewhere in the beauty of a theorem or a peacock lurks the grotesque. Nature presents us with so graceful a stroke as a swimming seal and fumbles her seal on the shore. Baudelaire has a poem about the albatross, the most majestic of birds in the upper air, but the clumsiest of creatures when on land. Mete, also, is Fort's suggestion that every age has what he calls a dominant—a body of beliefs accepted as science and that into this dominant it squeezes willy-nilly every event that comes along—everything must be explained in terms of the dominant, like the bed of a Procrustes—stretch your bones if you're too short, lop off your legs if they're oversize. A tremendous sense of the fitness of things. Thus every age manages to maintain its own sense of importance and of wisdom. But actually, says Charles Fort, all things merge so that we can not tell where one ends and the other begins. . . . present and past, right and wrong, truth and falsity, youth and age. Where are you now? Each of us has an existence like a bridge, he declares, say like the Brooklyn Bridge, upon which multitudes of bugs are seeking a fundamental, coming to a girder that seems firm and final. But the girder is built upon supports. The support then seems final but it is built upon underlying structures. Nothing final can be found in all the bridge because the bridge itself is not a final thing in itself but is a relationship between Manhattan and Brooklyn. And each of us is a relationship between our ancestors and our descendants, and today science is only a stage between a dream and awakening. And THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT are a stage in your awakening from the school-day of acceptance of what the teacher says are the laws of science to an exciting watching of a challenging and mysterious world.

HOW LONG IS A DEGREE?

Here we have an account of what purports to be the "first Attempt of this Kind" to determine the true figure and dimensions of the earth. The following quotation is from *A New and Comprehensive System of Philology; or a Treatise of the Literary Arts and Sciences, According to their present States Containing—"Science VIII"—Physico-Geology: or, Philosophical Geography, etc., by Benjamin Martin, London, Printed and sold by W. Owen, near Temple-Bar, and by the Author, at his House in Fleet-street. 1764* (The volume was contributed to the Fortean Society Library by Tom Elsonder, Gateshead, Tyne, England):

The Figure of the Earth has been long well known to be globular, or spherical. It was originally supposed to be flat, or a Plane; but this was too gross an Error for any Person to continue in long; because, if a Person walks directly North or South, it will cause the Stars to have a greater or lesser Elevation above his Horizon; but no

Alteration in that Respect would happen to him in walking on a Plane, though the Distance be ever so great. This, therefore, afforded an evident Proof, that the Surface of the Earth was of a curvilinear Form. And because walking over equal Spaces occasioned an equal Difference in the meridian Altitude of the Stars, it was a Proof that the curve Surface was of the spherical Kind; and that therefore, the Body of the Earth was in Form of a GLOBE, or SPHERE.

And this was the general Opinion till the Beginning of the last Century. When Experiments on Pendulums, the Nature of Gravity, a centrifugal Force in revolving Bodies, and some other physical Principles came to be understood, there was great Reason to suspect, that the Figure of the Earth could not possibly be that of a Globe, but that of a Spheroid as above mentioned.

These Discoveries excited a great Desire among the Learned to be satisfied (experimentally) of the true Figure of the Earth, which they easily knew could not be done, without actually measuring a Degree on the Surface of the Earth in several different Parts of it, and the more remote from each other, the better. At length, by the Munificence of Kings, and great Propensity of Philosophers and Mathematicians, the arduous Undertaking was attempted, prosecuted, and finished with Success, beyond Expectation.

To be more particular on this important Head, we shall give the following Instances of their Industry in this Respect. The first Attempt of this Kind was by Snell, a Dutch Mathematician, who measured a Space between *Alcaer* and *Bergen-Op-zoon*, and between *Alcaer* and *Leyden*, and from the Mean of both, he found a Degree to consist of 55021 French Toises, or Fathoms of six Feet each: The next was our Countryman *Norwood*, who, in the Year 1635, measured the Distance between *London* and *York*, and found a Degree to consist of 69½ Miles, English Measure. After this *Ricciolus*, from different Measurements, found a Degree to contain 61650 Toises, but these Measures were all unsatisfactory, as there was so little Agreement between them. (sic-sic-sic!) That of *Norwood*, however, was most generally received, which gave 57300 Toises to a Degree. After this, by Order of the French King *Louis XIV*, Mr. *Picard* measured an Arch of the Meridian between *Malvoysin* and *Amiens*, by which he found a Degree to contain 57060 Toises. The King, to be further satisfied, ordered the whole Arch of the Meridian of France to be measured in the same Manner, which was finished by Mr. *Cassini*, in 1718. The Result of which gave 57060 Toises, the same with *Picard's*. The present Professor *Muschenbroek*, measured over the Arch of *Snellius* a second Time very exactly, and found it to give 57033 Toises to a Degree.

These last Measures, all agreeing so well, prove the Measure of a Degree, in the Middle Latitudes of the Meridian, exactly enough; but it still remained to determine the same at each End of the Meridian, in order to know if the Earth were of a

globular Figure; and if not, how much varied from it. To this End, it was ordered by the King of France, that a degree should be measured at the Equator, and another under the Arctic Circle, and accordingly, two Parties of the Royal Academicians were appointed, and dispatched for that Purpose. Those who went to *Lapland* finished their Work in December, 1736, and their Measures produced 57437 9/10 Toises to a Degree.

The Department, destined for the South Expedition, set out in May, 1735, and having finished their Work, they found the first Degree of the Meridian to contain 56767 4/5 Toises. But as this Number was so considerably different from what the Theory would give from the Measures of a Degree in *Lapland* and *France*, it occasioned the King to give an Order for the Meridian of France to be measured over again, which was performed by the Messrs. *Cassini De Thury*, and the *Abbe De la Caille*; and this new Measurement gave 57050 Toises for the Measure of a Degree in the Parallel of 45°, so that upon the Whole, the Measure of a Degree in the Middle of the Meridian, at the Equator, and the Arctic Circle, are as below.

At the Equator — 56767 4/5
In the Parallel of 45°, — 57050
Under the Arctic Circle, — 57438

From these Measures of a Degree by the Mathematical Theory, as we shall show in its proper Place, we can find the Proportion of the Diameter of the Equator to that of the Earth's Axis. Thus for Example, the Measures of a Degree at *Lapland* and in *France* give the Proportion, as 266 to 264 3/10; but by taking the Measure of a Degree of *France* and at the Equator, we shall have the Diameter of the Equator to that of the Earth's Axis, as 266 to 265, but, if we take the two extreme Measures at the Equator and at *Lapland*, we shall from thence find the aforesaid Ratio will be expressed by 266 to 265 73/100; and as this is a Mean between the other two, we may conclude it to be very near the Truth; nor can we, perhaps, ever hope for anything more exact.

Notwithstanding the Difference between the two Diameters of the Earth through the Equator and the Poles is so considerably great, and so plainly proves the spheroidal Figure of the Earth; yet it can by no Means be represented, or made sensible in Globes, or Maps, of a small Size; I mean in any less than about 10 Feet Diameter; but in particular Maps it may, as we have said before.

In order to express the True Dimensions of the Surface of the Earth, we first determine that of a great Circle; and therefore, supposing that 69½ Miles were equal to one Degree, then, if the Earth was truly spherical, a great Circle would contain 25020 English Miles.

But as it is customary with Geographers to reckon 60 Miles to a Degree, upon the Surface of the Earth, because there are 60 Minutes in one Degree of a Circle, and therefore, to each Minute of a Degree, there will correspond one such geographical Mile, and consequently, in a Quadrant, or Quarter of a Circle, which contains 90

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Application for membership—which includes the Magazine—should be addressed to the Secretary, TIFFANY THAYER, Box 192, Grand Central Annex, New York.

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

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Degrees, there will be 90 times 60, or 5400 geographical Miles; and this will be the Case, with regard to a Quadrant of the Equator, which therefore will contain, in the Whole, 21600 geographical Miles.

But since a Meridian is of an elliptic Form, as we have shown, whose longest Diameter is that of the Equator, a Quadrant, or fourth Part of such an Elipsis, will be less than that of a Circle; and by the Measures of a Degree at *Lapland*, the Quadrant of such an Elipsis will contain but 5370 geographical Miles; and therefore a Meridian of the Earth will be to its Equator as 5400 to 5370; but, according to the Measure of a Degree at the Equator, the Quadrant of such an elliptic Meridian will contain 5390 such geographical Miles.

If then we take a Mean between the two elliptic Quadrants above mentioned, it will contain 5380 geographical Miles, and so the whole Meridian may be estimated at 21,520 such Miles; therefore the Length of an elliptic Meridian of the Earth, is to that of the Equator, as 21,520 to 21,600, which is nearly the Proportion of 215 to 216. From these Measures and Proportions, every Thing, relating to the Dimensions of the Earth, may be known very near the Truth, by such as have Curiosity or Skill to manage the *Calculus*, by which, the whole Dimensions, in regard to the square Miles on the Surface, and cubic Miles of Solidity, may be expressed in *English Measure*.

But for common Use, it may suffice to have a general Idea of these Things, and therefore we may, without much Error, look upon the Earth as a Globe, or Sphere.

THE FOUNDERS



JOHN COWPER POWYS

JOHN COWPER
POWYS
on Charles Fort

Mr. Powys, author of *Wolf Solent*, *In Defense of Sensuality*, *The Meaning of Culture*, *The Enjoyment of Literature*, and many, many other books, is now living in his native Wales. Correspondence with Wales is not at its best during Great Hoax II, but from the archives we produce a copy of what Mr. Powys wrote when he read Charles Fort's *Book of the Damned* the first time.

I am indeed struck sharply and starkly by the curious genius of Mr. Charles Fort; and here in the "Times" of yesterday or today comes on the front page an allusion to one of those "red rains" with its automatic explanation of "African sand-storm" blamed exactly as Mr. Fort points out, with his exquisitely humorous "up in one place, down in another place" of the conventional rendering. (The Determinant: The Dominant) by hide-bound, excluding and damning scientists!

Mr. Charles Fort's book does not only liberate the mind from those sublimated herd-dogmas of science along the particular lines he deals with in his enormous pilings-up of evidence to the contrary, but it also liberates the mind from all sorts of other prepossessions and idolatries of the market place. In fact, his "Book of the Damned" is a book that sets a person's intellect with a wholesome jerk upon its own feet. From this book, with its drastic mental "keel-hauling", a person learns to think for himself and to look at the whole of life with that direct physiognomic eye which Spengler so significantly praises

Goethe for using. One is left after reading "Book of the Damned" with that open mind towards the mystery of life which allows for all manner of strange and even "improper" occurrences. Such occurrences, suggesting that there are super-human if not supernatural, agencies at work, seem to me most powerfully suggested if not proved by this extraordinary book, and this their proof, so shocking to the mind enslaved by the "Dominant" or the pseudo-scientific code, seems to afford a wonderful liberation to my mind, such as few books bring.

The style of the book, too, with its laconic humor and sardonic implications, seems exactly the right one to give the reader the sort of disconcerting shudder (or pleasing shock) that creates that curious awe in the mind, in the presence of this inexplicable universe, which Goethe in "Faust" declares to be one of man's noblest attributes. In fine, I haven't read for a long while any book that has given me more of mental and imaginative "shaking up", and that's the kind of thing, like butting your head into ice-cold water, that is wonderfully good for the human intelligence, so apt to fall into dull, flat, planed-out grooves and to take the smooth, casual, conventionally explained procession of events for granted.

I hope that the author will receive encouragement enough to make him go on and go still further.

John Cowper Powys

Charles Fort did go on after that He wrote *New Lands*, *Lol* and *Wild Talents*—and all four volumes are included in *The Books of Charles Fort*, 1125 pages, indexed. Get it from your bookseller or from the Fortean Society.



CHARLES FORT

Playing a solitary game of
super-checkers—his own invention.

WOOLLCOTT

Ever since I first heard the startling and ominous trumpet blast—*The Book of the Damned*—twenty-three years ago, I have been full of enthusiasm for the works of this singular man.

TARKINGTON

I read this vigorous and astonishing book straight through, and then re-read it for the pleasure it gave me in the way of its writing and in the substance of what it told. . . Retort must be left to the outraged astronomer—lay brethren must content themselves with gratitude to a man who writes such books.

HECHT

He has made a terrible onslaught upon the accumulated lunacy of fifty centuries . . . He has delighted me beyond all men who have written books in this world. . . He has shot the scientific basis of modern wisdom full of large, ugly holes.

POWYS

Fort's books not only liberate the mind from those sublimated herd-dogmas of science along the particular lines he deals with in his enormous pilings-up of evidence to the contrary, but they also liberate the mind from *all sorts* of other prepossessions and idolatries of the market place.

RASCOE

You can read the Books of Charles Fort in almost any way you like or in any mood your temperament dictates and whatever way you read it, it is my expression that it is a great book.

THAYER

This is one of the very few books in the world which make their readers think without ever telling them *what* to think; in fact, I can recall no other. It encourages the curious to question, the prying to pry, the inquisitive to inquire. If there is any higher mission on earth I don't know what it is.

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DAVID G. MARKHAM REPORTS

(Mr. Markham has been working for several years on Fortean data of "maritime vanishments" and has arrived at some quasi-conclusions which he asks the Secretary to withhold temporarily as possibly too dangerous to make public. He asks specifically for details of the "loss" of a Japanese submarine, the I-63, which "sank" 2-6-39. It may have gone down in Bungo Channel. Can anyone help Mr. Markham? The following notes are released by him.

NEW YORK TIMES 1-1-34 (21:4)
STOCKHOLM, DEC 31 1933
SWEDISH ARMY AVIATORS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO CHASE A MYSTERIOUS AIRPLANE WHICH HAS BEEN SIGHTED FOR MANY WEEKS OVER LAPLAND. IT IS BELIEVED TO LAND AMONG THE MOUNTAINS, MAKING FLIGHTS AT NIGHT.

THE PILOT WAS RECENTLY HEARD FLYING TOWARD NORWAY IN A HEAVY SNOWSTORM. IT IS THOUGHT HE IS A SMUGGLER

TIMES 1-10 (11:1)
STOCKHOLM JAN 9 1934
A MYSTERIOUS AIRPLANE VARIOUSLY SAID TO BELONG TO NARCOTIC SMUGGLERS, JAPANESE SPIES AND RUSSIAN SPIES WAS REPORTED TODAY OVER WESTERBOTTEN IN NORTHERN SWEDEN.

THE SWEDISH AIRFORCE HAS ALREADY LOST TWO AIRPLANES, WITHOUT LOSS OF LIFE, IN EFFORTS TO LOCATE THE BASE OF THE STRANGE PLANE. CONCERN IS NOW FELT FOR LT WANBERG WHO DISAPPEARED ON A SCOUTING EXPEDITION ON FOOT ON CHRISTMAS, AND FOR A PARTY OF THREE SKIERS FORMING A RESCUE PARTY. MILITARY HEADQUARTERS REPORTED TODAY THAT SEARCH FOR THE FOUR ALONG THE NORWEGIAN BORDER HAD BEEN FRUITLESS.

TIMES 1-13-34 (3:3)
HELSINGFORS 1-12-34
FINNISH EXPORT: NOT "GHOST" FLYERS SMUGGLING, BUT RUSSIANS WHO ARE USING A MOTHER SHIP IN THE ARCTIC.

"AVIATORS—WHO HAVE BEEN—EXPLORING A NEW AND IMPORTANT AIR ROUTE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE ATLANTIC . . ."

THE CZARIST GOVERNMENT WAS, DURING THE WORLD WAR, ANXIOUS TO ESTABLISH SUCH A ROUTE BUT FAILED. THE EXPERT SUGGESTED THE PROPOSED RUSSIAN ROUTE LIES BETWEEN LENINGRAD, ARCHANGEL,

MURMANSK AND THE ATLANTIC.
TIMES 1-29-34 (6:1)
STOCKHOLM:

SWEDISH AIRFORCE STILL TRYING TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE "PHANTOM" PLANES. NATIONALITY OF THE MYSTERIOUS FLIERS NOT YET KNOWN, BUT IT IS BELIEVED THEY ARE BOUND ON SOVIET TEST-FLIGHTS TO ARCTIC ICEBREAKERS.
TIMES 2-4-34 (9:2)
HELSINGFORS 2-3

CONTINUED NIGHT FLIGHTS OVER NORTHERN FINLAND SWEDEN AND NORWAY BY SO-CALLED "GHOST" AVIATORS, WHICH HAVE CAUSED SUCH APPREHENSION HERE AS TO PROMPT THE GENERAL STAFF TO ORGANIZE RECONNOITERING ON A WIDE SCALE BY ARMY PLANES ALL OVER NORTHERN FINLAND, STILL REMAIN A DEEP MYSTERY. MANY EYEWITNESSES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE PLANES.

MYSTERIOUS LIGHTS OVER HELSINGFORS AND VIBORG HAVE CAUSED ALARM. LAST NIGHT AT LEAST ONE LARGE, UNIDENTIFIED AIRPLANE WAS SIGHTED OVER EASTERN FINLAND, CLOSE TO THE RUSSIAN BORDER, EVIDENTLY SCOUTING THE DISTRICT.

AS THE AUTHORITIES ARE EXTREMELY RETICENT, THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE INTERVIEWED AVIATION EXPERTS, WHO STATE THE MYSTERY FLIERS SHOW EXCEPTIONAL SKILL, UNDOUBTEDLY SUPERIOR TO THAT OF THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN AVIATORS ACCORDING TO ONE EXPERT'S THEORY, THE FIRST OF THE "GHOST" AVIATORS WAS A JAPANESE SCOUTING THE ARCTIC REGIONS WHOSE ACTIVITIES CAUSED THE SOVIET DISPATCH AIRPLANES TO WATCH THE JAPANESE. THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES, HOWEVER, REFUTE THIS THEORY.

THE APPEARANCE OF A MYSTERIOUS AIRPLANE OVER LONDON HAS STRENGTHENED THE BELIEF THAT THE FLIGHTS CONSTITUTE AN EXTENSIVE SCHEME TO EXPLORE THE AVIATION POSSIBILITIES FOR A FUTURE WAR.

(REPORTS ON THESE "GHOST FLIERS" APPEAR TO STOP SHORT AT ABOUT THE TIME OF INFERIOR CONJUNCTION OF VENUS (FEB 5, '34) - - ALSO NOTE THAT IN THIS SAME PERIOD, THE FOLLOWING INCIDENT IS REPORTED FROM NEW YORK CITY.): TIMES 12-27-33

WITH NEW YORK BLOTTED OUT FROM ABOVE BY THE SNOWSTORM YESTERDAY AN AIRPLANE WAS REPORTED WANDERING BLINDLY ABOVE THE TOWERS OF PARK AVENUE AND HARLEM'S TENEMENTS. ALTHOUGH MANY HEARD, OR THOUGHT THEY HEARD, AN AIRPLANE ENGINE, NO ONE REPORTED SEEING THE PLANE

THE FIRST CALL CAME FROM C N GEDROYCE, OWNER OF A RADIO

STORE AT 1755 PARK AVENUE AT 122ND STREET. HE SAID HE HEARD THE ENGINE FIRST ABOUT 9:30 AM AND AT INTERVALS FOR THE NEXT HOUR. IMPRESSED WITH THE PLIGHT OF THE PILOT HE TELEPHONED TO THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY. AN ANNOUNCEMENT OVER THE RADIO BROUGHT OTHER CALLS FROM PARK AVENUE FURTHER SOUTH, AND FROM RIVERSIDE DRIVE AND HARLEM. EVIDENTLY THE PILOT WAS CIRCLING IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND OUT WHERE HE WAS. USING SHORT WAVE, THE BROADCAST COMPANY SENT OUT A MESSAGE, ON THE CHANCE THE FLIER HAD A RECEIVING SET, INFORMING HIM OF HIS APPROXIMATE POSITION AND GIVING HIM THE WIND DIRECTION.

ALL AIRPORTS WERE NOTIFIED, AND AT NEWARK AIRPORT THE RADIO OPERATORS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND AIRLINES JOINED IN OFFERING WHAT HELP THEY COULD: BEACONS ON THE FIELD WERE LIGHTED AND SEARCHLIGHTS FLASHED THROUGH THE WHITE SMOTHER OF SNOW.

AN HOUR AFTER THE FIRST MANHATTAN REPORTS, DWELLERS IN JERSEY CITY NOTIFIED THE NEWARK AIRPORT THAT THEY HAD HEARD THE PLANE. AT THAT TIME THE VISIBILITY OVER NEWARK AIRPORT HAD INCREASED SLIGHTLY WITH A CEILING OF PERHAPS 500 FEET. PILOTS GROUNDED THERE BY THE STORM WATCHED IN VAIN FOR THE MYSTERIOUS FLYER.

A CHECK OF THE VARIOUS CALLS INDICATED THE FLYER HAD GONE AS FAR AS 72ND STREET, CIRCLED ABOVE CENTRAL PARK, AND THEN PROCEEDED NORTH TO THE VICINITY OF 231-STREET AND SEDWICK AVENUE, THE BRONX.

FOR A TIME NO FURTHER REPORTS CAME IN, BUT ABOUT 2:25 PM THE SOUND OF A MOTOR WAS REPORTED OVER RIVERSIDE DRIVE AND 155TH STREET. AT THAT TIME SEVERAL AIRPORTS ANNOUNCED VISIBILITY OF A MILE AND PILOTS SAID THAT, IF HE HAD WISHED, THE UNKNOWN FLYER COULD HAVE FOUND A SAFE LANDING IN NEW JERSEY OR LONG ISLAND.

ALL FIELDS IN THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT REPORTED THERE HAD BEEN NO FLYING DURING THE DAY, AND NO STRAY PLANE HAD DROPPED DOWN FROM THE SNOWY SKIES.

BLIMP WRECK SEARCH VAIN

TIMES 10-12-31 (23:5)
POINT PLEASANT, W. VIRGINIA. 10-11 SEARCH FOR A BLIMP REPORTED TO HAVE CRASHED AND BURNED IN THE HILLS SOUTH OF THIS CITY WAS ABANDONED TONIGHT AFTER A FRUITLESS ALLDAY SEARCH AFOOT AND IN THE AIR.

SOME PERSONS WHO SAID THEY WITNESSED THE ACCIDENT DESCRIBED THE BLIMP AS PLUNGING TO THE GROUND IN FLAMES, MEN LEAPING FROM IT IN PARACHUTES AS IT FELL. (???) NO REPORTS ON A MISSING BLIMP WERE RECEIVED FROM ANY SOURCE, HOWEVER.

TIME 10-11-31 (26:7)

POINT PLEASANT, W. VA., 10-10-31 A SEARCHING PARTY ORGANISED BY PORT PLEASANT POLICE TONIGHT STARTED TOWARD HILLS BACK OF GALLIPOLIS FERRY, W. VA., BEHIND WHICH A BLIMP WAS REPORTED TO HAVE FALLEN IN FLAMES.

ROBERT P. HENKE, HIS WIFE, AND DR AND MRS CLAUDE CARTER OF GALLIPOLIS, SAID THEY SAW THE BLIMP CROSS THE OHIO RIVER AND THAT IT FELL WHILE HENKE WAS WATCHING IT THROUGH FIELD GLASSES. HENKE SAYS THE BLIMP WAS BETWEEN 100 AND 150 FEET LONG, AND FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 300 FEET WHEN IT BURST. A MOMENT BEFORE IT FELL HE SAW SOMETHING WHITE, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN A PARACHUTE, FLOATING DOWNWARD.

DR CHAS E. HOLZER OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, WHO OWNS THE AIRPORT THERE, AT DAWN WILL SEND AIRPLANES . . . TO SEARCH FOR THE . . . DIRIGIBLE.

SAME PAPER:

AKRON OHIO, OCT 10: U.S. NAVY OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE GOODYEAR ZEPPELIN COMPANY, SAID TONIGHT THAT THE U.S. AKRON AND THREE BLIMPS BELONGING TO THE GOODYEAR ZEPPELIN COMPANY, WERE SAFE IN THEIR HANGERS. THE AKRON RETURNED THIS EVENING AFTER PASSING OVER SANDUSKY, TOLEDO AND OUT OVER LAKE ERIE.

TIMES 12-30-32 (18:21)

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., 12:29:

A REPORT THAT A TRIMOTORED AIRPLANE HAD BEEN FORCED DOWN IN THE WOODS EIGHT MILES WEST OF HERE CAUSED SQUADS OF STATE POLICE TO MAKE A SEARCH LATE TONIGHT, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS, FOR TRACES OF THE SHIP. ALL PLANES AT THE NEWARK, HADLEY AND NEW BRUNSWICK AIRPORTS WERE ACCOUNTED FOR. PRACTICALLY ALL PLANE SCHEDULES HAD BEEN CANCELED BECAUSE OF FOG AND CLOUDY WEATHER.

THE REPORT WAS TELEPHONED TO THE STATE POLICE BARRACKS AT MILLTOWN ABOUT 11 30 PM BY TONY TRAFICANTE OF 29 REDMOND STREET, WHO SAID HE SAW THE PLANE, WITH ITS MOTORS SHUT OFF AND ITS LIGHTS BLINKING, DISAPPEAR BEHIND THE WOODS AS HE

WAS DRIVING NEARBY.

TIMES 12-6-31 (31-A:3)

HAMMONTON, N.J. 12-5

STATE TROOPERS, LOCAL FIRE COMPANIES AND 200 VOLUNTEERS SEARCHED TONIGHT THROUGH THE FOLSOM SWAMP HERE, ONE OF THE DENSEST SECTIONS OF BOG, QUOGMIRE AND WOODLAND IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE STATE, FOR AN AVIATOR REPORTED BY RESIDENTS TO HAVE FALLEN INTO IT IN A PARACHUTE. THE SEARCH BEGAN SHORTLY AFTER FIVE O'CLOCK TONIGHT WHEN ELMER CRAIG, A RESIDENT OF THIS VILLAGE, AND RESIDENTS OF WEYMOUTH, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SWAMP, INFORMED TROOP A OF THE STATE POLICE HERE OF SEEING THE AVIATOR FLOAT INTO ITS DEPTHS FROM A HIGH ALTITUDE. NONE SAW THE PLANE, BUT IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT IT COULD HAVE DROPPED PREVIOUSLY.

EVERY AVAILABLE TROOPER WAS PRESSED INTO SEARCH, TO BE JOINED BY CHIEF HENRY M. PHILLIPS AND 20 MEMBERS OF THE HAMMONTON FIRE DEPARTMENT WITH LIGHTING APPARATUS.

NEARBY RESIDENTS FAMILIAR WITH THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE MILES OF MORASS, ALSO JOINED THE HUNT, BUT WHEN DARKNESS FELL NO TRACE OF THE MAN HAD BEEN FOUND.

THE SEARCH WAS CENTERED BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD ROADS, PATHS CUT THROUGH THE JUNGLE-LIKE SECTION ONE MILE APART, IN THE VICINITY OF 9TH STREET, A TWO-MILE AREA. BUT PROGRESS WAS SLOW, SINCE MEMBERS OF THE SEARCHING PARTY HAD TO PICK AND CUT THEIR WAY THROUGH THE UNDERBRUSH, SKIRTING NUMEROUS DANGEROUS AREAS. THE SEARCH WOULD CONTINUE ALL NIGHT, HOWEVER, UNLESS THE AVIATOR WAS FOUND OR ACCOUNTED FOR, OFFICIALS DECLARED.

. . . . THE SWAMP, SAID TO BE ONE OF THE MOST TREACHEROUS IN THE STATE, CONTAINS AREAS NEVER PENETRATED BEFORE EXCEPTING BY INDIANS, ACCORDING TO THE POLICE

TIMES 12-7-31 (4:6)

HAMMONTON, N.J. 12-6

AT DUSK TODAY NO TRACE OF MAN OR PARACHUTE HAD BEEN FOUND. THE SEARCH WAS DROPPED. A CHECKUP AT NEARBY AIRPORTS ACCOUNTED FOR ALL PLANES AND AVIATORS.

MINUTES OF THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

By Ben Hecht

(This was Ben Hecht's "review" of *The Books of Charles Fort*, in P. M. last May. It has since been reprinted in the book *1001 Afternoons in New York*.)

This month our master, Charles Fort, sits up in his grave, sticks his head through a geranium pot, and favors his disciples with a large wink. The occasion will be the appearance of his complete writings all in one fat blue volume labeled *The Books of Charles Fort*. Our master will most certainly throw a basket of frogs in the air and hurl his tombstone over the fence.

But I wish he would come out altogether. He is needed.

When he was on earth not so long ago he went to a lot of work establishing the three great Fortean Laws. These are—that Man is a fool, that his soul is a swamp in a derby hat, and that his intellect is a foetus in a frock coat.

In promulgating these three great basic laws, our master had to do a lot of groin-kicking. Ask any astronomer who Charles Fort was, and see for yourself. If you can't find an astronomer, try a physicist or geologist, or a philosopher with initials after his name. They will all pretend to laugh, and they will all give the same answer. They will tell you that our master, Charles Fort, was an imbecile.

This is untrue. But it is understandable. The astronomers have to say that or give up their astronomy. The same with the physicists and philosophers. They would all have to resign if there was any truth in the visions of Charles Fort. As one of the founders of the Fortean Society I can assure you that they will all resign—some day.

During his lifetime, our master investigated some 100,000 phenomena. These included tiger children, leopard boys, poltergeist girls, red rains from the sky, meteors with writing on them, and mountains that moved themselves. All the strange facts of earth and sky, and the misfit data that scientists had always omitted from their text books because they couldn't explain them—were his laboratory.

Where the footprints of Man or Thing that had disappeared into thin air stopped—there our master began. Where fires of unknown origin had raged and destroyed nothing, where trees walked and rivers flowed up hill, there our master stood, note book in hand. In his office he had 20,000 pigeon holes full of miracles. These he had clipped out of the newspapers and magazines of the world. And most of them he ran down and proved.

Before his death he succeeded in demonstrating that the moon may be made of green cheese for all we know. He exposed the law of gravitation as a hoax.

(Continued on page 12)

He trampled the hell out of the Darwinian theory. And he made one large comical sieve out of all our dogmas.

I don't want to exaggerate the genius of Charles Fort. He was no philosophical comet. He was more a roller coaster that took everybody for a ride. And for us Forteans the sciences have never quite recovered from this frolic. For us, the lights in the skies, the strange things cast up by the sea, the things that vanish from earth without trace, and the presence of all sorts of goofy-dust rains everywhere will always take first place over Euclid, Edgington and even Einstein. No such tales of lightning haunted people, of hobgoblin footprints and interplanetary fandangoes were ever taught us in school. The textbooks of science disdained what they couldn't explain. Our master preferred the inexplicable to science.

It is possible that our master was a little mad, and given to seeing chimeras where only crackpots existed. It is possible, too, that there is a touch of Flash Gordon in his vision of sky monsters, cloud demons and astral were-wolves bedeviling the earth. But the looney fringes that hang from his sacerdotal robes are a minor matter.

The major matter is that long before the headlines bore them out, our prophet had offered his Laws to the world. The folly of man, documented as never before in any books, is to be found spread out in his writings. They are writings that should be read today. They will relax you. They will throw the present troublesome idiocies of the race into soothing perspective. You will see that these political idiocies are mere nothings as compared to the pompous and unremitting imbecility that has been going on among professors with long whiskers and savants with high hats. You will see that man is no nearer the truth of life than are the sea shells. He only makes a little more, and a little less tuneful, noise.

There are quite a number of us Forteans. We have a letter-head with some moons and planets on it, a president, and an active secretary—Tiffany Thayer. Our roster includes J. David Stern, Booth Tarkington, Aaron Sussman, Burton Rascoe, Alexander Woollcott, John Cowper Powys, Theodore Dreiser and numerous other sane and notable genies. We lack, however, evangéls. In our Society at present there are only two, both of them a little footling. One is Dreiser, who squats in the Golden West and grunts away in behalf of the befuddled Communists. As for the other—Woollcott—that fearless champion of the obvious is lying fallow just now, waiting for some Tweedledum to defend.

There is room in the Fortean Society for some high and clacking tongues to cut loose in behalf of our master, and plenty of room for members to provide the proper niche in the world for this Apostle of the Exception, Keeper of Ghosts, Observer of Secret Rays, Avenger of Forgotten Theories, Lost Causes and Strayed Comets; Jocular Priest of the Improbable and Demonstrator of Idiocies.

ON CORONET FEATURES

Several members have enquired if certain feature columns in the Magazine *Coronet* are written by Your Secretary. It is pointed out that these draw heavily upon the books of Charles Fort for much of their material.

The answer is that Your Secretary does not write them but that their author, Mr. R. DeWitt Miller, is a sustaining member of the Fortean Society, and—in common with all other members—has access, through correspondence, to the Society's archives.

DON'T LAUGH

Our valued correspondent and Fortean to the last *gene*, Frederick S. Hammett, Scientific Director of the Lankenau Hospital Research Institute, formerly on Cape Cod and now at the Fiddlers Point Station, Sarasota, Florida—where he likes it (as who wouldn't?)—writes: "In *SCIENCE* for November 21st, 1941 under Science News, Science Supplement, page 8, read the following: *Astronomers were considerably shocked to find, according to their most recent measurements, that the sun is more than a hundred thousand miles farther from the earth than was previously supposed. Thank you.*"

The same datum was reported by other members. . . . At first one cannot think of any other field in which such an admission of utter nonsense as the very basis, of its being could occur without seriously damaging the repute of the practitioners therein—until one recalls the Gallup Poll. Your Secretary considers it highly probable that the distance between Earth and Sol was measured, before the correction, by George Gallup while Russia was under "Dictator" Stalin, and the same distance was remeasured by Mr. Gallup after Russia became a "Democracy" and Mr. Stalin a Third Term President.

EARHART ECHO

Now that the United States Navy is so well represented in the South Pacific Ocean, Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan may turn up any day. Your Secretary has never lost hope for the lives of those two people nor lost his confidence that the U. S. Navy navigators would find the Island of Doubt if they kept looking long enough. They might find their way about more swiftly if they employed Andrew W. Comrie—I don't know.

Mr. Comrie wrote (10-11-39). . . . After reading your article regarding the present system of Navigation as applied to the last flight of Captain Noonan and Amelia Earhart, I have tried to find your address, and finally did through the courtesy of Mr. J. David Stern, Publisher of Philadelphia, Pa. Your opinion of the present system of Navigation has been a great inspiration to me, as I am quite sure you are the only man in the world who has the courage to say what he thinks, and I am in a position to prove, and have proved before the best professional licensed deep sea and air transport Cap-

tains, Astronomers etc. Miami (Florida) can produce, that you were more than right, and I have gently told them that from now on they are deliberate murderers from choice.

For your information the writer has been granted through Victor J. Evans & Co., patent attorneys, Washington, D. C., U. S. Patent No. 2108042 issued the 15th day of February, 1938. My patent relates to Navigation and specifically to an unvarying declination of the Sun, which is the basic principle of the new method. Latitude and Longitude time and miles always synchronize one with the other, as they have always done since the beginning of time anyway, the exact position of the Sun as relating to Latitude and Longitude or any part thereof is always known regardless of speed or direction, or time of day or night without the use of an instrument, and of course a sextant can be used when desired.

No one has been able to deny that the new method would be practical for the Aviator, who could read his position at any instant in flight without the use of any mechanical aid whatever, and what is perhaps more important, could change his course at any time and proceed to any desired destination, the new course being automatically shown.

The present (Orthodox) system is based on a theory that in practise denies its own existence, it is obvious that if the 365 days in our present Calendar were actually used the Sun would arrive back on the Equator five days ahead of time. It is also true that our Magic City, Miami, Florida is, according to Sextant observations and the Official Nautical Almanac two or more degrees north of the North Pole at certain seasons of the year. This I have demonstrated before the highest rated here many times without denial. Have also demonstrated without denial that Captain Noonan and Amelia (Earhart) with my method aboard could have given their position at any instant. This demonstration was made by request and then the papers refused to publish it on the grounds that it would be criticising the Navy. Names, dates, witnesses are available.

If you are interested I will forward to you charts and data etc. as I would very much like to have your opinion.

(signed) Andrew Comrie

In February, 1940, Mr. Comrie was reported by the Miami (Florida) *Herald* to be sailing under private auspices on a "scientific" cruise to test his system of navigation.

On May 15, 1940, Mr. Comrie wrote to the Society:

"Replying to your letter of March the 3rd, the delay in answering is due to the fact I was in Spanish Honduras when your letter arrived, returned several days ago and since have been in the throes of organizing a proposed corporation to carry on my invention which appears at this writing to be going along O. K.

The result of the trip as far as I am concerned is enclosed, signed by Captain James Huggins, former Lieutenant Commander U. S. Navy, and for twenty years

Master of Ships any tonnage all parts of the World, and Captain Otis Hyde (Master for) 14 years.

I was more than delighted to hear from you and to know that you are interested in my invention and experience in trying to put it over, which have been many and varied, and still continue. I have met the customary official stupidity, or according to my belief traitorism, also every kind of opposition from petty prejudice to real criminal attempts to beat me out of my invention, for which three men are now serving an apprenticeship in the art of breaking big rocks into little ones in a federal prison, and many more have earned that privilege. I have no scruples personally in sending you all the data in my possession which is considerable. However it must be in some sort of order and notarized which will be done as soon as I possibly can do it, and I sincerely hope you will tear em all apart as you know so well how to do. They like to dish it out but can't take it.

Will send you in a few days proof that your contention that Amelia Earhart and Captain Noonan were murdered was fully justified, as well as the basis of my invention, which will be followed by the full theory.

(signed) Andrew W. Comrie

Enclosed was what purported to be a copy of a witnessed document:

Miami Florida
May 1st 1940

To, whom it may concern:

This will certify that the undersigned was engaged to sail on the Yacht *Venture* for the purpose of studying the new and simplified method of Navigation for which Mr. Andrew W. Comrie has been granted U. S. Patents with other patents pending, relating to the subject matter, and to report on same under practical working conditions at sea.

We left Miami Fla., March the 1st and returned to Miami April the 27th sailing at times, under the most adverse conditions due to gales and heavy seas. We visited some 8 or 9 widely separated ports in British and Spanish Honduras as well as some of the Islands in the Caribbean, and the port of Key West, Fla.

Mr. Comrie had full charge and was responsible for the Navigation of the ship at Sea, using his own charts and method, and proved that his method deserves the serious consideration of Mariners and all who are interested in Navigation.

Due to the fact the present method of Navigation is not practical for high speeds such as the modern Air Craft. I do not hesitate to say that Mr. Comrie's method of Navigation should prove of inestimable value to the Air Lines etc; enabling as it does the Pilot of a plane, at a glance, to determine his Latitude and Longitude Position, without the use of the customary calculations, and without any mechanical aid whatever.

Captain Otis Hyde James Huerns
Witness (Signed) Master Mariner
U. S. Naval Reserve

Then—September 11, 1940—Mr. Comrie wrote:

Am forwarding to you Chart covering the Earhart-Noonan last flight, a glance at

the chart will show there are 43 red dots $\frac{3}{4}$ inch apart each $\frac{1}{4}$ inch representing 60 miles, conforming to the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch scale chart, multiplying 43 by 60 makes 2,580 miles which is 24 miles more than the officially estimated distance, however the exact point of departure was never given to my knowledge, and the difference would be negligible for the present purpose. It is apparent that it would be impossible to fly the course without sighting the Gilberts, not to mention the Tug boat that was supposed to be half way, and the smoke from the Coast Guard at Howland. It is also most unlikely that they could have been near the Phoenix even if they had enough gas to get there, according to the Official Coast Guard files only once during the entire flight did Amelia receive the Itasca signal and that on a frequency good only for 30 to 35 miles from the sender, Amelia's voice came in clearly at 8 that she was receiving the Itasca's signals. For an hour the signals came in at the same strength indicating she was circling, and the Itasca's smoke screen stretched for ten miles. The last message from the plane, "We are on line of position 157-337: We are running N and S." The visibility is given as clear with the exception of a cloud bank to the North West where it is supposed they were. Granting they were for the moment, it would obviously be most difficult to be circling in a plane without coming outside the cloud bank in an hour and even more difficult to be on the line of position given and in the cloud bank mentioned at the same time, as the said line of position with Howland as the destination would be N.N.W. instead of N.W. It would be also rather difficult at an altitude of 1,000 feet with or without glasses to not see the smoke from the Itasca from the estimated distance.

Professor Brownell of the University of Miami, graduate of the Commander Weem's school of Navigation admitted that he could not go find them or even tell their approximate position from the line of position given, and when I asked him what good their system was in that case he did not know. Some of the old practical mariners are equally at a loss. Maybe you will have better luck as to date I have found no one who could explain anything.

Am also sending Chart showing an unvarying declination for each day of the year, considering the Sun to be vertical over the Equator March the 21st and arriving back there one year later on the same date. It is clear that to conform to 90 degrees of Latitude North & South the extra five days cannot be included without arriving back on the Equator 5 days ahead of time. No one can or will answer the question, that includes the Highest Navy Officials. I strolled in the Navy Office one day when I was in Washington, Quite amusing.

No one has yet explained why it is necessary to have 93 degrees of Latitude in the Northern Hemisphere and 89 in the Southern with the exception of the so-called Leap Year as in the present system of Navigational Astronomy. My proposed 360 day Calendar would at least overcome that

trouble. From all indications this stuff does not please certain persons who would no doubt cheerfully murder me, so—pardon me—but to hell with em.

(signed) A. W. Comrie

NOW YOU STROKE ME

Pope Pius gave Harlow Shapley (the Pope of Astronomy at Harvard) a prize of 50,000 lire—worth about \$2500 in U. S. paper money—for his studies of nebulae, at the recent session of the Pontifical Academy of Science. . . . Dear Harlow: How far away do you think the sun is today?

BOOKS FOR FORTEANS

Your Secretary is often asked what to read for certain specific Fortean purposes. He is always glad to answer if he is able. Follows a short list of books every Fortean should own and read. If your bookseller can't supply you, address the Secretary.

The Books of Charles Fort \$4.00
Henry IV (a play) Pirandello
Autobiography Lincoln Steffans
Man's Own Show: Civilization,
George A. Dorsey

Although it isn't a "book", Fortean's attention is called to *The Pamphleteer Monthly*, "A Guide to Current and Worthwhile Pamphlets", address 313 West 35th Street, New York. They'll send you a sample copy. Very interesting.

(1911) DRAYSONIA, by Admiral Sir Algernon F. R. de Horsey, K.C.B., (cloth) \$5.00 (contains folding plates and diagrams). The above is out of print and extremely rare. We have only a few copies.

(1921) WARMER WINTERS and the Earth's Tilt Fully Explained, by Major R. A. Marriott, D.S.O., (illustrated wrappers) \$3.00. Very few copies available. Orders from public libraries will be honored first.

(1922) THE DRAYSON PROBLEM, by Alfred H. Barley (diagrams on wrappers and throughout) \$1.50.

(1927) THE ICE AGE: ITS DATE, DURATION, AND ASTRONOMICAL CAUSE, by Major R. A. Marriott, Lieutenant Colonel T. C. Skinner, R. E. (Retired), Fellow Royal Meteorological Society, and others, including D. W. Horner, F.R.A.S., Sir Wm. Salmond, Alfred H. Barley and Lord Sydenham of Combe; with diagrams and maps (wrappers) \$1.50.

ADD NEW MADRID

Too late to insert in the October issue of the Magazine in connection with the strange phenomena attendant upon the New Madrid, Missouri, quakes contributed by Bart Reagan, came a clipping from *Time* sent in by Norman MacBeth. The Quotes are from a review of the book *The Steamboat*: "In 1811, 'the year of the comet'—a horde of squirrels, moved by some common impulse, pressed forward from Indiana over a wide front, poured into the river, swimming, clutching at driftwood . . . thousands of lifeless little bodies floated downstream' . . . in December a terrible earthquake tore the middle valley to pieces, sank dozens of flatboats and keelboats, smashed others on the banks. 'Shock followed shock, the ground rose and sank in sickening waves, the earth opened fissures a half-mile long, sulfurous gases poured out. . . .'"

STONE BARRAGE

A shower of stones fell (?) shortly after 8 p.m., in Philadelphia, according to the *Evening Ledger* (7-26-41). Houses were bombarded before and after dark. One person was struck, others escaped "narrowly". Police, men and boys searched vainly for clues. (Forty or more similar falls are noticed in *The Books of Charles Fort*.)

AIN'T NO SUCH ANIMAL

Standing (3-5-40) beside a partly decomposed creature on the beach near Vancouver—a creature ten feet long, "with a horse-like head" . . . bulbous nostrils. . . cartilage instead of bone in skull . . . the body covered with bristly hair"—not a seal nor a shark nor a horse—Dr. W. A. Clemens, F.R.S.C. biology professor at the University of British Columbia and director of the Dominion Biological Station said: "I can't say what it is . . . But I don't believe in sea serpents."

"TIDE" COMES TO LAKE HURON

The account in the London, Ontario, *Free Press* is not specific as to time, but the story is that (probably) Sunday (7-27-41) morning the level of the water in Lake Huron dropped two and a half feet in a few minutes. It rose again, somewhat more slowly. The phenomenon is not so rare that Science cannot name it. The name is *seiche*: a word not findable in Webster or in *Chambers' Technical Dictionary*. The cause of a *seiche* is "barometric pressure".

CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

When Forteanes move, they sometimes neglect to inform the Secretary of their new address and so miss out on special notices, issues of the Magazine, etc. . . . PLEASE remember to inform us of every change so that we need not ask the Post Office Department for any favors.

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

1819

- Nov. 9 d (for "dense" likely—T.T.) fog and quake See Sept. 1, 1841
- No date /In M.W.R. 1904/23 from the Columbian Centinel (St. L.) Nov. 24—that "the late smoky atmosphere was experienced at nearly the same time far at sea, in the Canadas, and in (reverse) the Eastern, Western, and Southern states, attended with colored rain." Said that many terrified inhabitants of Montreal had fled from the city." The Montreal papers contain whole columns of accounts of the 'astonishing appearances', and it (cont'd on second page note) was conjectured that they were occasioned by eruptions of some neighboring volcano. Issue of Dec. 8th that according to Bermuda papers, dated Nov 6—"They complained much of the (cont'd on third page of note) smoky appearance and scent of the atmosphere which some (reverse) conjectured to have been occasioned by a great fire on the American continent or to exhalations of the Gulph Stream. (reverse of note 2) And it was assured that during the darkness there were three shocks of earthquakes"/ Said that there was a great forest fire in Kentucky, in North Carolina and in Canada.
- Nov (no date) Montreal, slight quake and

noise like distant thunder at 3 PM, the flash and peal and shake at 3:20

- 7 See Dark Day and meteor, Madagascar, May 21, 1877.
- (no date) See effects of Vesuvius Ap. to 27th 1906.
- 9 See Nov 8, 1842
- 9 right date/ In the Northern Sentinel (Burlington Vt) astonishing appearances in the heavens at Montreal—a series of awful events equally impressive to the mind of the (reverse) illiterate and the learned. Said that the first unusual appearance to attract attention was upon the 7th. A remarkably dark morning—about 8 AM appeared a thick cloud of (page 2 of note) haze of a dingy orange color. About three quarters of an hour later rain like ink fell impregnated with a fine substance like ink or ashes. "It was conjectured that a volcano had broken out in some distant quarter and (reverse) the ashes of the eruption floating in the cloud giving it its unusual color." The weather then cleared and the afternoon was pleasant. Nothing noted the next day. Upon the 9th darkened in the morning. By noon (third page of note) candles lighted in all the public offices "and even in the butchers' stalls" The darkness increased and (indcipherable

word) a general dread. About 3 o'clock in afternoon a slight shock of earthquake and sound like distant gun fire (reverse) 20 minutes later when darkness at its greatest intensity the whole city suddenly illuminated by "one of the most vivid flashes of lightning ever witnessed in Montreal and an awful peal of thunder so loud and near as to (fourth page of note) shake the strongest buildings to their foundations." Said that the concussion was so violent that it was supposed by many persons to be a second earthquake. There were other such detonations and (reverse) then fell rain darker than that of the 7th—"apparently more charged with sooty matter."

- Nov 10 shock Lunroe, Norway, BA '54 where had been phenomena (reverse) quakes and sounds since Aug 31/ quakes in Sweden back to Aug. 18.
- 13 Fireball, St. Domingo BA 60
- 18 London Fireball BA '60
- 19 Fireball Rochelle BA.60
- 21 Detonating meteor, Baltimore, Direction S. BA '60
- 21 slight quake Lunroe BA 54 Series goes on.
- 21 Meteor—Chester Co. Pa. Amer. Journal Science 6/316 going E. N-E. (reverse) half size of full moon, well defined tail, detonation 3 minutes later.
- 21 evening/brilliant meteor Phil-

adelphia 6 PM/ streets lighted by it—Then detonations (reverse) also Wilmington and Washington Quebec Mercury Dec. 28 Am. J. Sci. 6/315.

25 Vesuvius at time of great rain-storm In Philadelphia Register 3-190

28 1:30 AM severe shock, Comrie BA 54

29th to Dec 3 China, medium quakes BA 11

Dec 1 Vesuvius, one of greatest in 20 years London Magazine Feb. 1820

1820

1820 Nantes/shower of small fish/ Magasin Pittoresque 4-371 Coshot 3-5-79

1821 Box A (Resumed)

Jan 5 (Aside: This is a sheet of typed manuscript of Fort's composition, apparently a "cut" from one of his books. My guess is that it was originally written for THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED then held and used later in WILD TALENTS where the following appears almost verbatim: T.T.) Persecuting Flames/ see Dec. 1904/ November 14, 1870 (or 1890 T.T.) (reverse) (p.) 198/ That Elizabeth Barnes, a girl aged 10, had been brought to court, accused by John Wright, a linen draper, of Foley-place, Mary-le-bon, London, of having, upon divers occasions, and by "some extraordinary means", set fire to the clothing of Wright's mother, by which she had been burned so severely that she was not expected to live. The little girl had been a servant in the Wright household. Upon January 5th, an unexplained fire had broken out. Upon the 7th, Mrs. Wright and the girl were sitting by the hearth, in the kitchen. Mrs. Wright rose and moved toward the door. She found herself in flames. Upon January 12th, 1820, when, with the girl, she was in the kitchen, about eight feet from the hearth, where "a very small fire" was, again she found her clothes burning. On the 13th, Wright heard screams from the kitchen, where his mother was, and where the girl had been. He found his mother in flames. This time "part of her clothes were burned to a cinder, and her flesh was materially injured." Then Wright accused the girl, who had left the kitchen a moment before this occurrence. But it was Mrs. Wright's belief that "something supernatural" had assailed her. On the 14th, her daughter ar-

rived, to keep guard, but, going to the kitchen, where the girl was, "again, by some unknown means, she caught fire." "She was so dreadfully injured by the fire that she was put to bed." When it seemed that she had gone to sleep, she was left there—and her screams brought back her son and daughter, who found her in bed, surrounded by flames. Then the girl was told to leave the house. She did so, and there were no more fires. The magistrate said that he had no doubt that the prisoner was guilty, but that he could not pronounce sentence until Mrs. Wright could testify.

1820 Box 1 (Resumed)

Jan 11 London Times, page 2/ page 3, January 15/ Vesuvius Table of Eruptions of Etna

16 Opposition Mars A-1

16 Vesuvius BA 54

Feb 12 Starks Vulcan about twice the size of Mercury—C.R.-83-314 B D., 193

15 21 etc. St. Maure (Ionian Islands) quakes and heavy rains London Mag 2/25

21 St. Maure, Gr. medium quake

23 Vesuvius violent/ had been active/ BA 54

March 3 New Aleutian volcano BA 54

1820 Box A (Resumed)

March 3 London Times, page 2, extraordinary activities of a wolf

1820 Box 1 (Resumed)

March 21 (volcanic) eruption Aleutian Islands An Reg 1822-683

April 5 about 20 N and 51W. aerolite fell with rain on a vessel. Mag. Nat. Hist. 6-297

1820 ?/ Apr 5/ In sea near Antiqua Fireball aerolite according to Baumhauer BA 60

April 7/ B/ Irkutsk/ violent shock BA '54/128

11 2-3 AM/ Cork, Ireland, quake and sounds like cannon BA '54 (over) London Times, p. 2, April 14.

18 Fireball, Augsburg BA 60

27 Vulcan/Monthly Notices 1862 / D-193

May 1-2 Immense comet at St. John's, N. Brunswick for several nights in the (reverse) N.W. sky. 60 or 70 degrees between nucleus and end of tail. Philadelphia Register 3-324

About May 1 etc. Vesuvius An Reg. 1820/129 active on 20th.

May 2 Brest/ quake and "thunder" A. Reg. 1820/129

4 Great quake Mexico '11

10 Great Tidal wave, Acapulco BA 54

10 Andernoch Fireball BA 60

21 Gedenburg, Hungary, meteorite BA 60

June 11 volcano Api, Java N M C.

R.70-878

July 12 Lixna, Dunaberg, Russia, meteorite BA '60 (F)

12 Meteoric stone fell at Listen (?) (Witebsk) Russia. A violent thunder storm. Niles Register Jan 6, 1821 (Thunder stone)

16 4.5 AM at St. Neots near the Ouzze Mirage said be of Great Paxon An. Phil 16/149

17 people at Schwartz, Tyrol, in churches at annual day of thanksgiving for (reverse) having been spared quakes since July 17, 1670, when a violent quake and great damage. London Mag 2/329

20 Brunn/ Fireball. BA 60

22 London Times, page 3, atmospheric phenomena, Huntingdonshire, not looked up.

30 3 hours/Venus Inferior conjunction (A 1)

Aug 6 Ovelgonne, Finland aerolite according to Baumhauer (reverse) According to BA 60 substance from hayrick burned by lightning.

31 London/solid ice 18 inches by 6/(fell ? T.T.) English Mechanic 84/18

Sept 7 In Ouvres, XI/576, M. Arago's description suggest military formation but they were separated by equal distances all in a straight line/ An. de Chemie 30/417

27 Barmouth, Merionetshire (thunder stone or shower?) quake and sound like cannon BA 54

About Oct 1/Milky substance, Pernambuco, A. Reg 1821/681 D

Oct 1 Spiders Times of Oct. 9. That over area of miles from Liverpool and especially at Wigan, field and roads covered with a substance that was mistaken for cotton. Came down like a sheet on Wigan. Found to contain (reverse) flies so small as required a magnifying glass to make them perceptible/ Nov 12 that all summer for the first time, his garden clear of celery flies. After middle of September they appeared in vast numbers.

Oct 19 Honduras, medium quake

Nov 12 4 PM/ detonating meteor, globe of fire Kuzok, Russia Magazine of Popular Science 3-62

20 Cholimsch, Russia, detonating meteor BA 60

29 aerolite/Cosenza, great meteor, stones fell according to Arago

29 Cosenza, Italy / meteor train / An. Reg 1821/14

29 aerolite See Nov 29 '09

Dec 5 Naples Fireball BA 60

9 Tumca Fireball BA 60

13 London Times, page 2/ quake Leadhills and Wanlockhead

29, 30, 4:10 AM / quake ice meteor/ Zante "dreadful bellowing

ORDER the BOOKS of CHARLES FORT TODAY!

- noise" said been subterranean—but lumps of ice, and quake (reverse) or hailstones some weighing 10 ounces each fell—No—first a luminous meteor visible 5 or 6 minutes/ on 30th another meteor BA 54
- 29, 30, See An de Chimie 18/413 get series right—about 1820
- 29 Ionian Island a luminous object or meteor "apparently 4 to 6 feet in diameter" was seen over the sea. Three or four minutes later the quake—on 30th another meteor passed over Zante (Cut) objects and quake BA Sept 1854—131
- 29 Zante. The quake was preceded by a single flash of lightning. Edinburgh Philo. Jour. 36/267 (or 767?)
- 29 Zante / a meteor, 3 or 4 minutes later great quake—torrents of rain and masses of ice up to night of 300 grammes (reverse) G. R. 17-618
- 29 Celibes, great quake and sea rose to "a prodigious height." Quar. Jour. Roy Inst. 12-427
- Dec-29 Zante/ quake and rain and hail/ quake and "unexampled deluge of rain" and lumps of ice 1/4 pound each. A deluge from the hills in, which 20 houses were washed away. London Times, Feb. 26, page 3, Feb 27, page 3, 1821: (reverse) shocks several a day in January (at least).
- 29 Chile, medium quake BA 11 Zante Fireball BA 60 See Jan 6
- 31 Nellore, India, several quakes N.Y.Eve Post Sept 12 page 2-3, 1821
- 1821**
- 1821 Dépt. of the Meuse (Fr.) frogs and toads after violent storm Magasin Pittoresque 4/371
- 1821 fish, ("fell" is probably understood—T.T.) Lorn Argyleshire Journ of F. Inst 4/43
- 1821 New Hampshire Tornado, B. (for "Brooksyn" ? T.T.) Eagle 1896 Oct 25—22—3
- Jan 6 Shocks Zante in Gulf of Corinth, a tidal wave, carrying away houses BA 54
- 18 Valparaiso, Chile, medium quake
- Feb 4-7 luminous spot on dark part of moon by Capt. Kater in Aristarchus like a small star,

- appeared and disappeared. (reverse) An Reg. 1821/689
- 5 By Dr. Olbers of Bremen—saw the luminosity that was seen by Capt. Kater in or near Aristarchus (reverse) equal to star of 6th magnitude on dark part Man R.A. 1/156
- 12 light quake China BA '11
- 12 Breslau Fireball BA 60.
- 27 etc Isle of Bourbon A. Reg 1821-117 volc/March quake especial in April/ Reunion Island
- End of Feb Volcano Kamtschatken BA 54
- March 1 Comet seen first (by Mr. X) in Pegasus/ London Times, p. 3, March 7.
- 5 meteor quake ? / Pomèrania/ according to several catalogues stones fell during a (reverse) quake in BA, 60. Said been a doubtful fall. Stones not found.
- 20 Italy Umbria Lomba luminosa and quake/ See 1805
- 20 St. Thomas Island Large meteor BA 60
- 21 Rielt, Italy concussion column of fire passed over the village and fell into Lake Cantelin C.R., 17-621

1821 Box A (Resumed)

- April 26 London Times, p. 3/ Poltergeist stones/ At Truro persons amused, astonished, or alarmed according to nerve and judgment, by bombardment of a house in Carlew Street. Missiles from no findable source (reverse) breaking the windows of a depot in which were the arms of a regiment and in an adjoining house. The Mayor was appealed to. He arrived. Soldiers arrived. All (second page of note) investigated, and nothing more learned. Said that the "lower classes who always have a taste for the marvellous", thought it was supernatural. Guards were (reverse) placed around the house, but still the stones arrived. London Times, May 1, p. 3 (Carlew Street) Stones still arriving. Nothing found out.

1821 Box 1 (Resumed)

- April 28 Leipsic Fireball. BA 60
- May 4 Moon (dark part) the light in Aristarchus by Rev. M. Ward

- looked like a small comet on moon (reverse) Note appeared that Francis Baily had seen it. Mem R.A.S. 1/159
- May Red organic/ ("fall of . . . matter" may be read—T.T.) Giessen, Germany D-287 (reverse) May Flammarrion Atmosphere p. 410
- May 13 Mexico, light quake
- 16 Munich Fireball/ BA 60
- 17 German fireball in BA 60 question (reverse) asked "same as last (16th)?"

1821 Box A (Resumed)

- June early/ Near Blanford, England/ Will-o-the-wisp Paper read before Linnæan Soc. by R. Chambers Mag. of Sci 3/323 (reverse) friend of his, T. Stothar, had seen luminous thing of irregular shape outside coach, rising falling for considerable distance

1821 Box 1 (Resumed)

- June 7 5: PM/ over Willistown & Goshen/cloud of dragon flies that darkened sky mile wide and one hour in (reverse) passing N Y Evening Post Aug 17 p 2-3
- 12 County Mayo, Ireland, according to Prof. Pictet, Metallic nuclei in nail B. O. Univ. 18/78 (This may read "metallic nail in nuclei"—but neither reading is too satisfactory. Also there is some doubt about the "O" in initials of the University. It might be a "U" or a "V".)
- 15 3 PM / meteor / Field near Crosde Libones, Commune of Julnas, France (reverse) A meteoric stone. Parts carried away. A remaining block weighed 108 pounds. N Y Eve. Post Sept 12 p 2-4
- 15 Aerolite weighing 220 pounds Juvines, France A. J. Sci. 5/ 175 (over) According to 2 analyses was entire absence of nickel 6/397 See Dec 13, 1813.
- 15 about noon/ Juvenas, Ardeche-France, meteorite BA 60 Bib. Univ. 18-80 (reverse) Gents Mag., March 1822, p. 265
- 21 Majo, Spain, hailstones with nuclei composed (reverse) of ferrocyanide of potassium/Galignani's Messenger, March 14, 1872

NEXT ISSUE:

After the publication of this issue, Your Secretary fully expects to go to jail. The charge will be passing a red light or taking pennies from a blind man's cup or some other rail-roading device such as imprisoned Fritz Kuhn and Earl Browder. . . . Accordingly, my affairs are in order and the cops may come at their convenience. . . . The next issue of the Fortean Society Magazine will be published as soon as I am released. T. T.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-17-97 BY 9803 RDD BELM

New York 7, New York

LNF:IV/FSR
100-28630

... ..

HC

November 19, 1943

Date: 11/11/19

Director, FBI

RE: THE FORTEAN SOCIETY
TIFFANY THAYER
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the request of the Bureau, there is being transmitted herewith one copy of THE PORTMAN SOCIETY magazine dated June, 1943. Also enclosed are two photostatic copies of the same issue.

It may be noted that instant copy of the issue dated June, 1943 was furnished to the New York Field Division on July 20, 1940 by RUSSELL MALONEY, editor of the New Yorker Magazine. In an accompanying letter RUSSELL MALONEY stated that the article entitled, "THE SOCRATIC METHOD" seemed to be obviously the work of a man who is more of a crank than a skilled propagandist. Maloney stated that his only contact with TIFFANY THAYER was about three years earlier when the New Yorker magazine was considering a long biographical story or profile about him. At that time MALONEY made a preliminary investigation and after two interviews with THAYER found him to be too eccentric and uncommunicative to be a good profile subject.

According to the files of the New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York City, Volume I of THE FORTEAN SOCIETY magazine was dated September, 1937. The magazine suspended publication from November, 1937 to December, 1939. The later issues of THE FORTEAN SOCIETY magazine are as follows:

- #3 - dated January, 1940;
#4 - dated May, 1941;
#5 - dated October, 1941
#6 - dated January, 1942;
#7 - dated June, 1943.

FILE ⁵³ COPY

Letter to Director
NY 100-28630

November 19, 1943

The New York Public Library has not received any issue subsequent to the one dated June, 1943.

The attention of the Bureau is directed to Page 7 of the magazine dated June, 1943 wherein it is stated that the editor cannot predict when his next issue of the magazine will be forthcoming.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY
Special Agent in Charge

Encls. (3)

PUBLICATION FILE

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

MAGAZINE

No. 7

JUNE 1943

25c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS

DATE 10-17-97 BY 8032 DBCLM

THE SOCRATIC METHOD

or

Please Pass the Hemlock
some questions by

Tiffany Thayer

Official Organ of
The Fortean Society
Founded 1931

Ben Hecht
Booth Tarkington
Aaron Sussman
Burton Rascoe
John Cowper Powys
Harry Leon Wilson
Secretary
Tiffany Thayer

The Magazine is edited by the Secretary
and does not necessarily express the views of
the other Founders.

The Fortean Society
Box 192, Grand Central Annex
New York City

1. How long is an "emergency" and who says so?
2. Can New York City be bombed without the connivance of Washington, D. C.?
3. Does anybody still think the ballots are counted on election day?
4. What makes anybody think this so-called "war" ever will be "over"?
5. Where was James A. Farley from July 27, 1939 until Sept. 2, 1939?
6. Was he Chairman of the Democratic National Committee then?
7. Did the then Chairman of the Republican National Committee (John D. M. Hamilton) visit Europe at the same time?
8. Did they both see Hitler or his agents?
9. What is the difference between a "Republican" and a "Democrat"?
10. What is the difference between cyanide and bichloride?
11. Why did "Doc" Giannini change the name of the Bank of Italy to Bank of America?
12. Did a seagull sent by God tell him war was coming?
13. Who tells Gallup and Roper what their "polls" should indicate?
14. Does Secretary of the Navy Knox still own or publish the Chicago Daily News?
15. Is James G. Stahlman (publisher of the Nashville Banner, and some-time President of the American Newspaper Publishers Association) an assistant Secretary of the Navy or an understudy—or what?
16. (Deleted on second thought.)
17. Do you consider it a menace for newspapers to own approximately 25% of all the radio stations?
18. Why do radio announcers warn listeners not to repeat anything they don't read in the papers or hear over their radios?
19. Is it coincidence that so much fighting is being done around far-off, savage islands and on deserts?

MORE NOTES OF CHARLES FORT

20. Does it matter to the Lords of Creation how many Solomon Islanders, African blacks, Russian and Chinese "Reds" are killed?

21. Day for day, how do white casualty lists compare in this so-called "war" and the last?

22. Is that lucky for somebody?

23. Can you think of a faster way to demolish "big" steel than by building it into ships and tanks and then sinking them in the sea or blowing them up?

24. When big steel flourisheth what happens to all other "business"?

25. How does organized Charity do in such times? How does Labor do?

26. Does anybody think there ever was the slightest hope or intention of actually enforcing price ceilings on anything?

27. Did you read in the *New Yorker* that oil tankers have difficulty getting complete crews together?

28. (Deleted on second thought)

29. Does any State other than New York pay for advertising space in the *Freepress* to sell its citizens milk?

30. Do you suppose the white liquid sold over the counter as "milk" in New York City is any more nourishing than it is palatable?

31. Do you feel like a dog jumping through a hoop when you hear an air raid warden's whistle?

32. Is that the way you are supposed to feel?

33. Do you think the United States is a Fascist country?

34. If the Great White Father tells you to buy a gas mask are you going to do it? And carry it in a sack on your back to your work every day?

35. Is it agreed that Japan shall have the Philippine Islands for keeps?

36. Could existing electricity generating plants make enough juice to keep factories working all night, all radios going full blast and the Great White Way blazing simultaneously?

37. Are new generating plants costly?

38. What would an electric company do with new generating plants if emergency ceased?

39. Why do we have dim-outs?

40. If the Gallup poll man asked you to name the "war aims" of the combatant nations—to which countries would you accord credit the following:

(A) To create prosperity for the survivors?

(B) To increase tax rates to the highest point in history?

(C) To break the back of the recently awakened Russian giant and that of his Red Starred Chinese brother?

(D) To disorganize labor unions?

(E) To impose upon the people reforms and restrictions not possible under any other than a "war" economy?

41. Do you think the "shortages" of sugar, coffee, gasoline, meat, etc., etc., are on the level?

42. When similar events occurred in Germany were they intended to test how far a dictator could go before his body politic exploded and blew his head off?

43. Did Webb Miller know too much?

44. When is an "accident" and who says so?

45. Do you think that the officers convicted of negligence for "Pearl Harbor" were made the goats to prevent further investigation?

46. Do you think Dache M. Reeves and Lynn Farnol suffered for the "air-marker hoax" because it was a hoax or because they went a bit too far?

47. Do you think Senator Burton K. Wheeler ever really believed in "isolation"?

48. Did Lindbergh?

49. Did the Associated Press invent the term "Axis"?

50. When did you first read it?

51. Had war been decided upon then?

52. Had "sides" been chosen-up?

53. Did you read on page 8 of the *Journal of Commerce*, July 20, 1942 the statement of Elliot E. Simpson in Washington to the effect that the "rubber shortage" was a myth?

54. Do you think that the "scrap" collection drives are intended to rid our houses and shops of metal gadgets so we will have to buy more when the Great White Father will permit?

55. Do you think that a people has the government it deserves?

56. Do you think the common people of England are being regimented pretty much after the German pattern?

57. Do you think the common people of the United States have already been herded a long way on the same path?

58. If you recognized that you were living in a Fascist state under a dictator what would you do about it?

59. Does George Seldes seriously believe that the *Chicago Tribune* and the *New York Daily News* are "anti-war" papers?

60. Do you remember that we taxpayers coughed up \$150,000 for a sort of over-sized bus (Poulter's Folly) for Admiral Byrd to take to the South Pole?

61. Do you remember that it was supposed to navigate glaciers, ice-bergs and what-not—and that it got stuck in a simple road-side ditch somewhere in Ohio or Indiana?

62. Where is the damned thing now?

63. Where is our \$150,000?

64. Will the 200-inch mirror which Corning made for Palomar ever be used?

65. Is the pitch to be a split of the Democratic Party, staged by Farley vs. Roosevelt, so the Republican candidate is certain to win?

66. Is that strategy already planned and agreed to by both parties?

67. Would they be surprised if Norman Thomas ran off with the election?

68. If he should—could we look forward to a repetition of Spain in the U.S.A.?

69. That is to ask: If the people by some freak of chance used their franchise to elect

a man outside the two allegedly antagonistic big parties, who would start the inevitable revolution?

70. Who would be blamed for it?

71. Who has all the guns?

72. Whom do the cops work for?

73. Do you buy War Bonds because you think the United States is at "war", or because your boss would be sore if you didn't?

74. Is "global" Fascism the aim of this so-called "war"?

75. What would that do to the individual?

76. What would it do to your ability to think?

77. What would it do to the arts?

78. Have you hitherto held that the poets are the true prophets?

79. Is it not rather the poets' business to unscramble current history as soon after each event as the politicians will permit?

80. Are the youngest soldiers in the army being taught to shoot their over-38 fathers and brothers if those fathers and brothers go on strike?

81. Are the children in our schools being taught that THIS is "freedom"?

82. What has become of the associations of mothers who opposed this alleged "war"?

83. Does George Seldes think those mothers were "native Fascists"—financed by profits from international cartels?

84. Do the great majorities prefer lies to the truth simply because nobody has taken the time and trouble to think up a system for making the truth profitable?

85. When is "Red Tape" and who says so?

86. Did you read the AP despatch of 8-9-42 which included this paragraph: "The British Government of India met the outbreaks with tear gas and direct gunfire."?

87. By what token is it possible for Mrs. Edna Ballard and her son Donald to be convicted of fraud for their shenanigans in the "I Am" cult while Catholic Priests continue to take cash for Masses daily, Protestant Divines continue to scare little children with lies about Hell-fire, and Doc "Psychiana" Robinson continues to peddle his brand salvation from Moscow, Idaho—and all go scot-free?

88. Did you read the statement attributed (10-6-38) to Phyllis Bottome, British writer, to the effect that England was "already Fascist—in its sleep"?

89. How many members of the Roosevelt family went to Europe in 1939?

90. Did any of them visit Hitler or talk to his agents?

91. How many "secretaries" or other similar functionaries in those parties?

92. Did any of them visit Hitler or talk to his agents?

93. Did Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, sail to Europe on the *Normandy*, August 2, 1939?

94. Did he or any of his suite see Hitler or any Hitler agents?

95. Could you in honesty call the African campaign a "second front"?

96. Is there at present and has there been for some time a standing, blanket order to all writers on the New York *Times* forcing them to mention "war" in every news story whether it has even the remotest connection with the alleged "war" or not?

97. Was it no more than coincidence that three submarines of different nations sank by "accident" in the space of less than five months in 1939?

Feb. 3, the "I-63", Japanese

May 24, the "Squalus", U.S.A.

June 17, the "Phenix", French

98. Or might these sinkings have been heroic token pledges of good faith—and at the same time the signal of readiness for "incidents" to begin?

99. Is Hitler the only politician who knows that the bigger the lie is the more readily the mass swallows it?

100. Was the *Panay* incident an abortive "Pearl Harbor"?

101. Who wasn't ready?

102. Did James A. Farley (then Postmaster General) kiss the Blarney Stone late in August, 1939?

103. Did he kiss the Pope's toe, hand or ring about August 20, 1939?

104. What did he kiss in Berlin, August 5 and 6, 1939?

105. Did he—with some fanfare—"refuse" an appointment with Mussolini in Rome about the same time?

106. Could that have been to allay public suspicion?

107. Might he not have dined with Mussolini any day from August 16 to 20, without fanfare?

108. Did Mr. Farley *deny* that the "New Deal" had "war aims" on April 24, 1939, at a Catholic Communion Breakfast in New York City?

109. What was Mr. Farley's real mission to Warsaw and Cracow, Poland, August 7 to 13, 1939?

110. What became of the the former necessity to match blood "types" for transfusions?

111. Which spelling do you prefer: plasma "bank" or plasma "bunk"?

112. Is "inflation" a bugaboo invented to frighten you into *liking* the highest taxes of all time?

113. To frighten you into accepting "frozen" wages to keep you poor?

114. Is "syphoning off excess purchasing power" merely another term for robbery by the tax-eaters?

115. What will be the difference between you and a slave if "your" Congress legislates to "freeze" you in your job?

116. Who told the grocers to raise all their prices outrageously thirteen months before a single price "ceiling" was fixed as of "the year" before?

117. Was that done so that later inquiries would reveal only fractional percentages of increase in cost of living—although in reality the cost had almost doubled?

ACCIDENT PRONES..

Our valued member, ABRAM BROOKS, has supplied the Society with data on a score of subjects recently, including:

intelligent horses
time lapses
hollow snowballs
rain of birds
mysterious wounds (next issue)

But the most remarkable datum is a quotation from L. Ron Hubbard, writing in the magazine *Unknown*, Feb. 1940, p. 53. Reference is to a class of men, said to be known by "any" insurance company, called "accident prone". These men are said to be innocent of any wrong doing or blame, but "accidents" occur where they are. Mr. Hubbard says: "Not until recently was it completely proved, beyond all shadow of doubt, that the elimination of certain men from industrial plants met with a decrease if not a cessation of accidents in that plant."

Members are urged to write to their insurance companies for more details and to forward replies to the Secretary.

U. S. A. KILLS ITS OWN SOLDIERS

The indefatigable BART REAGAN has enriched the Archives since the last writing with data on practically every subject of Fortéan interest:

"dust" storms
possible beatification of Pope

Pius XII
sight restored and physician

non-plussed
quakes
bureaucracy
jinxes
the Clan-na-Gael
strange shape over Princeton
the Mary Celeste
censorship
the Johnstown flood
true shape of Earth
eclipses

a Roanoke Virginia "dreamer"

who "anticipated" Pearl Harbor
lightning (one man struck twice)
fireballs

the N. Y. *Sun's* screams of anguish
at the suit against AP.

a tornado accurately predicted
45 minutes before it occurred.

mysterious coughing gas in Philadelphia 4-3-42

Bertrand Russell persecution
sulfa drugs

morphine addiction

"social illness"

bees (the fire department was called out) in Pueblo, Colorado 4-5-40,

sunspots
meteorology
civilian plane crashes
volcanos

syphilis
rabies
the "varmint" on the Eastern Shore
of Maryland 7-18-40.
beetle plague
new element ("eka-iodine")
devastating hail
Aurora Borealis
mysterious "critter" loose around
Evergreen, Pa., 2-23-40.
"mad" dogs
ten acres disappear—Alabama
bottomless fissure—Kansas
"thought waves"
a man who hasn't slept for 26 years.
signals from ?Mars?
atoms
train wrecks
explosion at Du Pont when "nobody" was near 5-4-40.
teaching Christianity in public schools

"freedom of the press" as understood by editors and publishers of daily propaganda—and a few howlers. . . .

The editor of the Hornell, N. Y., *Evening Tribune* criticized (2-16-42) former Ambassador Davies for talking about Hitler's "death", over the air. Says the editor: "Newsprint where everything is available at once, is the medium for such tricky matters. No newspaper headline mislead readers into taking frank speculation for established fact."

And the note about a one-legged veteran of the "World War I" who took vocational training at the Government expense, learning to be a printer. "Then he sought a government job as a printer and was told he was not eligible because he had lost a leg."

And the one about the four-engined B-24 bomber autographed (1-23-43) by 225 Oklahoma "newspaper folk", carrying on its side a message to *Adolph & Tojo*. What appears to have escaped the attention of these heroic journalists is that for their jest to have point, the B-24 has to be brought down in enemy territory where it might be read if the plane didn't burn: but, read under those circumstances rather turns the tables—

But the high spot in Reagan's contributions comes from the *Daily Oklahoman* (1-24-43) and quotes Lieut. Gen. Leslie J. McNair, "army ground forces commander" on the subject of using "live" ammunition—real bullets in training U. S. soldiers. . . . "He said the tactics (mentioned above) will be introduced to the entire United States Army. *We have lost men in this manner*, he said, *but neither the men nor their families have objected because they know this type of training is the real stuff—they know it's the best way to teach themselves self-reliance and self-confidence*"

Every night when your Secretary goes to bed, and—instead of praying—has a personal interview with the Archangel Michael, he asks Mike to have God send the Society more and more and more members like Bart Reagan.

ALEXANDER WOOLLCOTT

Founder 1931

Resigned February 12, 1942

Died 1943

"LIGHT'S VELOCITY"

A new member, MORRIS RONYON, would like to champion the late Professor A. A. Michelson's figures and experimental methods for finding that old cosmic yardstick "the velocity of light". Does any member have the time to take the young man on? . . . He has no special quirks but sticks by the guns of Orthodoxy, even old fashioned Orthodoxy, lumping the figure at 186,000 miles per second, ignoring Michelson's greater refinements and later experiments.

Your Secretary despairs of convincing a "speed of light" addict that the velocity of any such experiment is not to be measured in miles per second, but in dollars per man.

To quote that Dean of Science Reporters, the learned and jovial Waldemar Kaempfert: "At a cost of \$60,000 Michelson laid a tube three feet in diameter and a mile long and installed pumps to suck as much air out of it as possible. It was no mean job to make the tube air tight with canvas, adhesive tape, rubber and paint so that it could withstand an atmospheric pressure of 55,000 tons. Edgar C. Nichols of the Mount Wilson staff, who did the engineering work for Michelson, still perspires when he thinks of it."

And Your Secretary fancies that some sweating was done by others, originally, to amass the \$60,000 for Michelson to play with.

The quote from Kaempfert is part of a long article on other attempts to clock "light", sent to us by Fortlean N. M. Layne, and it describes a mirror about as big as an egg, "built to resist the terrific rending forces set up when it is spun at 60,000 revolutions a minute." (The spinning engine and its fuel are not named.)

As recently as September 1939, Dr. Wilmer C. Anderson "achieved the 300-year-old dream or science" in a small Harvard laboratory, using a photo-electric cell and causing light rays to streak "back and forth across a room . . . nearly 2,000,000 times a second." The cost of setting up Wilmer's apparatus is not noted by *Popular Science*, nor does the story say who did the sweating, but the figures are not like Michelson's being 20 miles per second slower.

**UNCENSORED
LETTER FROM
ENGLAND**

By some mischance, or perhaps not, a letter has arrived from a Fortlean in the British Army with its seal unbroken. No censor read it. This is what got by:

Things worsening this side. The forces of reaction are closing their ranks. Our Home Guard has been warned that after the trouble is all over they may be

called upon to defend the sanctity of dividends and the divine right of Big Bankers by administering lead in the belly to any demobilized warrior who dares to get ideas about the things for which he has fought. Of course, the Tory mustang who uttered this grave warning didn't put things either so bluntly or so coarsely. He defined public ambition as "post-war indiscipline". Somewhere there's some government servant who earns a good living searching the dictionary for inverted names for things. It does not seem to occur to the Big Boys that, when the time is ripe, they may receive a good stiff taste of discipline themselves—or maybe they've already calculated that a judicious dose of official violence will avert the evil day.

But the whole situation has become retrograde. Our social reform hopes (embodied in the Beveridge Plan), have been kicked hard and well upon the ass. Every speech by anyone who means anything is designed to show that, like our fathers, we're going to continue to shed blood and tears for exactly nothing. All is going to be exactly as it was before (maybe), and heaven help anyone who dares say, "Yah!" Our Gestapo is in full cry—one of my letters, containing an untoward remark not considered seemly by higher circles, was delayed ten days while our non-combatant snoopers made a note of it—and of me. But, you know, a gang which has blundered repeatedly is not likely to display astounding shrewdness in the future. I think they're miscalculating the temper of the public, and I think their Gallup polls and Mass Observation reports are worthless, particularly since they don't take into account the opinions of those citizens who are temporarily muzzled by virtue of service in the fighting forces. And it is precisely those, the silenced citizens, who're going to explode one of these fine days. I reckon so. I hate to think otherwise.

For obvious reasons the author's name is suppressed here. But, the tocsin sounded had a familiar ring. We note in FACT 4-12-43 referring to the St. Paul *Dispatch* which printed photographs of soldiers at Fort Snelling "quelling" a labor riot (practice, of course). "The signs carried by the soldiers playing the part of workers read: *Strike. More pay, less work. Unfair to labor. Etc.*"

And in the CALL 4-16-43, an expose of the "Gauleiter School of Military Government" at Charlottesville, Va., where troops are being instructed in similar methods of controlling masses of men—under the pretext of quelling rioting Germans after "invasion"!

WHAT'S A SPELEOL?

Perhaps no other member has laid the Society under greater obligation for his general, informed usefulness, and for data and books contributed, recently, than has DON BLOCH, moving spirit of the National Speleological Society. If you don't know, that means folks who explore caves and other holes in the ground, and for

Your Secretary's part, them for it!

From Don Bloch we have books and pamphlets on—his own hobby of cave-crawling, snow and ice algae, Ulugh Beg's Catalogue of Stars, and other astronomical items, spontaneous ignition of hay (and barns)—an especially fine collection of material now out of print; falls of fishes, toads, frogs, etc., etc., whistling meteors, "Occurrences of Red Water Near San Diego"; Mars, Atlantis, thought transference, and the following: That 115 tons of rain fell on 1 acre in 1 minute in the San Gabriel Mountains of California (4-5-26) . . . That two Zagreb, Yugoslavia, professors claim red rains are increasing in the Balkan peninsula. Out of 21 recorded, 10 have occurred since 1900, of which 4 came in one year—either 1934 or 1935. In one red rainstorm 250,000 tons of the stuff were estimated to have fallen . . . Fish fell at Agua Caliente (AP July 14, either 1934 or 1935). "during a heavy rain yesterday" . . . From January 16, to February 10 and perhaps after, 1934, "a ghost Kangaroo" was upsetting South Pittsburgh, Tenn. At about the same time inexplicable sounds were heard on the farm of J. Hibbs Buckman, at Parkland near Langhorne, Pa.

If space permitted the list might be continued almost endlessly, but let us conclude with a fragment Don Bloch has pasted in the front of his first edition of *New Lands*. He did not date it, drat him, but it comes from *Pathfinder, Washington, D. C.*, that stalwart defender of Orthodoxy and misinterpretation of facts for the farmer:

"ICE LAYER IN AIR"

French scientists who have been conducting experiments in East Greenland say there is a layer of ice in the air over the polar regions. This ice ceiling (congealed atmosphere a million times finer than water) is situated approximately 60 miles above the earth. The discovery was made when electrical impulses from an electrical sounding machine were reflected back. Time of the impulses in transit was recorded and computations made which gave the height of the ice layer. This ice is believed to be the cause of the storms at sea.

On the other hand, the Society Archives contain a slightly different version of the matter under the headline:

**EARTH HELD
CIRCLED BY
FIERY BAND**

And the AP despatch from London, 8-27-35 credits Professor E. V. Appleton, Chairman of the British National Committee for Radio Telegraphy, with the theory "that in the upper atmosphere encompassing the earth there is a vast layer of intense heat hitherto unknown to science." The layer is called a "celestial inferno" and the temperature is asserted to be 1000 degrees centigrade. Prof. Appleton based his deductions (called "discoveries") on the bouncing back of radio "waves" sent "150 miles from the earth".

At the moment Don Bloch is hampered by the alleged paper "shortage", but as soon as possible he will publish *Sightseeing Underground*, at \$1.00 a copy. Order your

copy through the Society. From the personal experiences while communing with the mole related to Your Secretary, it is judged this will be a thriller from way down *there!*

HUSH! HUSH! HUSH!

Now you can go back to sleep:

44 inmates of the Oregon State Hospital (for the insane) died (11-19-42) after eating scrambled eggs, which were of the "frozen" variety. Frozen eggs are a great forward stride of Science—like the sulfa drugs.

Later 3 more succumbed.

By the 21st (two days later) the alibi was that one of the nuts had brought the cook roach poison instead of powdered milk.

Rock-a-bye, baby, on the tree top!

WHY CREHORE

Fortean has been asking if the Society has sold out to the physicists' union, because of the big push we've been giving ATOMIC THEORY by Albert Cushing Crehore, Ph.D. . . . Not so. . . . As a matter of fact, degrees can be deceiving, and Dr. Crehore is not a member of their union. He is, rather, to the physicists, as poison ivy is to a Boy Scout. (That is to say—they won't touch him.)

He gave the world his atom in 1921. The good union members went right on with what they were doing. In 1926, he amplified his ideas in a larger book which nobody in the Sacred Circle has taken the time to read—nobody, that is, except H. A. Lorentz, who read it and died. Before he died, he wrote Crehore a 28-page letter, which may be the most important unpublished Lorentz document in existence. The letter is said to praise most of Crehore's work, and to reveal basic misunderstanding of the points to which it takes exception.

Crehore answered Lorentz, explaining the misunderstood points—mostly mathematical—but before the letter could be delivered Lorentz was dead. Whereupon Crehore offered the correspondence to publications which should have been interested but they declined to publish it. Since then, Physicist Crehore has been on the union's leper list.

To most Fortean who have examined Dr. Crehore's new, simplified text. (which we are pushing) the matter appears to be no more than the same old black magic that keeps Millikan and Einstein in pin money, although the contention is that it links up Newton and Max Planck, and truly explains "gravitation". We wouldn't know. Nevertheless the Society champions the outcast, on the theory that no physicist's preposterousness is any sillier than another's, and that Crehore is entitled to have his name engraved on appeals for funds to save delinquent youth, just like any other "leader of American thought".

To be sure, Crehore himself would prefer "recognition" from his colleagues, but he does not appear to realize that such "recognition" is not based upon the merit

of an individual's performance, but comes from political, philanthropic or some other commercial connection. The Society's recommendation to the author is that he either (A) make pals with a Carnegie, Du Pont or some war millionaire who will endow an institution for the prosecution of his researches, thus affording employment for a lot of the boys, or (B) think up some good boob-bumping dodge like Einstein's "only twelve men understand me". We wish Dr. Crehore well, and accordingly warn him that his publicity stunt must be of higher calibre than Sir Hubert Wilkins' submarine to the North Pole, Byrd's "bus" to the South Pole, or Auguste Picard's toy balloons to the "stratosphere". Let him take a tip from the politicians and make his hoax so enormous that everybody will swallow it.

SAID FORT:

"I Think We're Fished For!"

Perhaps somebody is collecting blimp pilots. Anyway, a navy blimp landed, 8-16-42, in Daly City, Calif., from which its crew of two "veterans" had disappeared. None of the life-saving apparatus—parachutes and rafts—was missing. The men were just—gone. They wore life-belts as part of standard equipment on such flights but search of the nearby sea produced no trace of them.

GET OFF THE POT

The physicists' union, like Poe's raven, still is sitting, still is sitting—since May 1940—on a source of atomic energy one pound of which is equal to the "power output of 5,000,000 pounds of coal or 3,000,000 pounds of gasoline". What the coal and oil men—including John L. Lewis—think of this discovery has not come to the Society's attention, but if there is anything more to it than ballyhoo for the cyclotron, which is highly dubious, one ventures that Professor John R. Dunning (Columbia) and his "team" mates will lead sedentary lives thenceforward.

Apropos: who makes cyclotrons? how much do they cost? who pays for them? . . . AND if every public high school had one wouldn't that help to obviate the necessity for building tanks to turn the wheels of commerce?

BEES STILL KILL

Bees killed a female bee-keeper in the N. Y. Times 10-4-41. . . . Elsewhere herein, note a fire department called out to stop them. . . . And a team of horses was stung to death on a ranch near Live Oak, Calif., before they could be unhitched, observers attesting that after the animals were dead the bees continued to sting the corpses! (From B. F. Stevens Sr., of whom you will hear more.)

"SCIENTIFCTION" ASCENDING

Before Fort, any fiction making more or less free with "Science" was classified always, as of the Jules Verne school, and there wasn't a great deal of it, but in the past

twenty years, what its exponents and admirers call Scientifiction, has grown like something in a dream. Millions of fans prefer these tales to either whodunits or horror, and the number of publications devoted to the imaginative extension of "scientific laws" and the enlargement of human attributes (Wild Talents, so to speak) has become legion.

The band is almost unanimously Fortean and some of our most prized members come from its ranks, all whooping up Charles Fort's fame. To name but a few—we have

James Blish
Robert Spencer Carr
Don Brazier
Claire P. Beck
Jesse Douglass
Paul H. Klingbeil
R. DeWitt Miller
Nelson Bond

Foremost among these is, of course, our esteemed colleague, "The Fortean Society in Great Britain"—ERIC FRANK RUSSELL.

Another leader in the field, Arthur Louis Joquel II, addressed the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, 1-14-43, on The Researches of Charles Fort, "especially mentioning Fort's influence on current literature". Other meetings are scheduled.

3 HUMAN TINDERS

The coincidence in this case is that the Society received the following notices all the same day:

From L. F. BAIN—the account of Allen M. Small *ae* 82, found dead in his home on the Eggmoggin Reach road in Deer Isle (Maine) 1-13-43. Fire "had burned the clothing from the upper part of the body". The carpet beneath the body was charred. Although the room "was in confusion" nothing else was burned. His pipe was on a shelf and the stove had all its lids in place. (Ellsworth, Maine, *American*)

From H. W. GILES—the account of Arthur Baugard *ae* 39, an invalid, found burned beyond recognition in his home in Erie Street, Town of Lancaster (N.Y.) 2-1-43. As in the case above, surprise is expressed by investigators that the house did not catch fire. In this case nothing but the body was burned and the sheriff's office launched an investigation.

From VINCENT FORD—the undated account of Paul V. Weekly of Sioux City, Iowa, "awakened by an itching foot" at 3:30 a.m. He rubbed his feet together, threw back the covers and saw his bed aflame. He put it out, went to sleep, and an hour later the entire routine was repeated. Mr. Weekly said that sheet, quilt and bedspread were all new.

NOT THE STORK?

Maybe it wasn't Adam and Eve after all—nor even a seed from space falling into the ooze on the shore of that first primordial sea. Maybe life originated in volcanos! At least, A. L. Herrera, Mexican biologist rises to make that suggestion. (Washington *Star*)

RUBBING IT IN

The National City Bank of New York ran an advertisement in the New York Times, Sunday, 1-3-43. . . . The picture shows two soldiers, ostensibly U. S. soldiers, and a tank, against a war background of fire and smoke, a half demolished building, rubble, and rifles cast aside, palm-trees torn down—in short, a battle scene in tropical lands. The headline is: "You can't see the Banker in this picture . . . but he's there" . . . which is either the acme of naive frankness or the grossest braggadocio. In either case, it is certainly "making us like it" with a vengeance.

JACK'S LAST JEST

In common with all other possible means to suppress native intelligence, Religion has been given a shot in the arm by Washington, and in advertising, planned short stories, specially designed movies etc., etc., we are all being led back to the Throne. The trouble is—we don't lead that way with any more docility than the miners were led into slavery: and when we're told that there weren't any Atheists in the fox holes, we reply that—on the other hand—there are no fox-holes in an Atheist's brain.

Whether it was part of that propaganda campaign or simply the recurrence of the Catholic's ancient and oft-repeated lie about death-bed conversion (they told it about Ingersoll, remember?), the N.Y. Sun saw fit to print the yarn that "in his last hours" John Barrymore "re-embraced the Catholic faith". . . . Well, Your Secretary wasn't there, but he knew Jack Barrymore well enough to put dough on the line that—either he was past knowing what he was doing when the alleged "re-embracing" took place, or—like the King of Comedians he was—he obeyed the first rule of the theatre—"leave them laughing". . . . Ring down the curtain.

FIVE PAPERS YOU SHOULD READ

All Fortean will find a great deal of interest in these five periodicals, all published in New York City:

The CALL (weekly)
303 Fourth Avenue
\$1.50 a year
IN FACT (weekly)
19 University Place
\$1.00 a year
BULLETIN (monthly)
317 East 34th St.
\$1.00 a year
TRUTH SEEKER (monthly)
38 Park Row
\$1.50 a year
CONSUMERS' COOPERATION
167 West 12th St.
\$1.00 a year

Your Secretary regrets that he cannot steer you to an honest daily. He has tried to find one. How he has tried! . . . In this connection, if any Fortean knows of a readable daily newspaper being published today, he can do the Society, mankind, the world no greater service than to spread its

fame far and wide. . . . What a commentary that is upon us as a people and upon this civilization. that *nowhere* is a daily newspaper telling the truth today.

VAIL'S THEORY CONTINUED

Two young men, Donald Lee Cyr and Lawrence W. Smith, descendants, it seems, of Isaac Newton Vail, are carrying his labors forward in a workmanlike manner.

The Society has already acknowledged the gift of several of Vail's books, received from his daughter, Mrs. Alice Vail Holloway. Members are requested to check their local public libraries for Vail titles and report any found. His theories merit study and consideration—and the boys named above mean to see that they get it. The Cyr-Smith team adopt a tone which Your Secretary must decry, but it is certainly well calculated to impress the impressionable and to raise their kinsman to a respectable and didactic status among the pedantic. They attempt to establish that Vail's notions were sound, and it is clearly their aim to have him hailed as a neglected and unsung genius. They dub him "Professor Vail" and refer to him as "this little-known scientist"—which puts them all beyond the Fortean pale even unto the third and fourth generation. Nonetheless, they have the Society's heartiest commendation for striking out for themselves with a rejected theory, and it is no wonder that they feel the need for "acceptance" for their work on the part of the professors who so lately fledged them.

In ten words, Vail's idea was that Saturn with its rings gives you a picture of what Earth once was, and that all planets pass through that "annular" phase in their development.

Wasn't it Courteline who said: "There's nothing impossible about it."?

If you would know more about the "ring-canopy" process a la "Professor" Vail, address Annular World Association, 925 Dalton Avenue, Azusa, California Tell them the Society sent you.

DRAYSON-FORT LINK

Pursuing the Society's labors in behalf of the Drayson Problem, which inquiry we fell heir to on the untimely death of Alfred Henry Barley, certain members were asked to check learned societies and public libraries for Drayson books. Mr. Barley had sent many copies to such institutions and our effort was to learn if anybody ever looked at them. The returns are not all in. More of that anon. . . . Special thanks are due many members for their interest in this search, and acknowledgement will be duly forthcoming.

Our Worshipful Brother ROSS M. COLVIN turned up the two letters from Drayson which appear below:

20, Ashburton Road,
Southsea
9th Nov. '90

Dear Mrs. Moore

I waited till I had read your pamphlet "True Science" before writing to thank you for sending it.

The whole tone of the original is clear and advanced, and presents a pleasing contrast to the dogmatic, presumptuous style of those men who call themselves Scientists.

A revolution in thought is rapidly coming about and will displace the present "Cheap Jack" who calls himself "Professor" but whose real business seems to be to obstruct truth.

I have long heard of Keely, and of many experiments he has shown, beyond those mentioned in your extracts. He like others has been obstructed by the self seeking man of the world.

I have been plainly told by more than one man, "I don't care whether the Earth has one, two, or a dozen rotations, but I find it pays best to stick to the astronomical authorities."

I think you would like the little book described herein, it was published in 1888. (He refers to his book, I imagine. "Thirty Thousand Years of the Earth's Past History".) (Aside by Colvin. T. T.)

Do you happen to know Mrs. F. A. Moulton in Paris? She possesses one of the most advanced minds of the day.

I shall read with interest anything you will send me:

Believe me,
Sincerely yours,
A. W. DRAYSON

31st March 1891
20, Ashburton Road
Southsea

Dear Mrs. Moore:

I have to thank you for a copy of your clear logical lecture on Keely's discoveries, which I read with great interest. It must be a great aid to have so able an advocate. I can quite sympathize with him in his struggle against arrogant ignorance and vested interests because such has been my condition during 25 years—and during nearly all this time I have stood almost alone and have out of a small income had to pay for the publication of my books, in which the truth has been made known now however. I have powerful friends at work, and I think it will not be long before my discovery is forced through the opposition of a certain clique. I sent a short notice of a Lecture given here last week on the subject of the 2nd Rotation.

Believe me
Sincerely yours
A. W. Drayson

Then, says Mr. Colvin:

"When I copied the Drayson letters I had no idea who the Keely was that was referred to in them. I didn't know whether he invented the "Keely cure" for unhappy topers or the billiard game. Since reading your letter, though, I have a better idea. The bookplate in the front has on it the name, The Bloomfield Moore library. Does this mean anything to you? It didn't to me until I happened to look up the name in Schlanger's index to Fort's Books. Mrs. Bloomfield Moore was Keely's backer or his mysterious engine. It's the last item in "Wild Talents". Clara J. Moore is quite probably the same person. Thus we have Drayson on Fortean territory, which is very interesting, to me, at least.

JESUITS GIVE UP

(A) "The record is very peculiar," said Rev. Michael J. Ahearn, S. J., of Weston College, (Mass.), after two quakes had wiggled his seismograph for fifteen minutes. (AP, 1-15-43).

(B) "I never saw a seismograph record like it," said Rev. Alphons Schmitt, S. J., seismologist at Loyola University, after Chicago's lake shore had shimmied four minutes (1-29-43). Four hours later they had a strong one in Peru.

NOW THE TRICK IS TO CURE SULFA

No Fortean can ask a Science reporter to go further with frankness than this:

"A possible long step forward in combatting poisonous effects of sulfa drugs is seen in experiments recently reported by the United States Public Health Service." That's a verbatim quote of Thomas R. Henry, from his column, *Of Stars, Men and Atoms*, 11-21-42, in the *Washington Star*.

And from a UP despatch out of Rochester, Minn. 2-6-43:

"In addition to being more soluble than sulfadiazine," said Dr. Harrison F. Flippen, "sulfamerizine has a less toxic reaction." . . . *Toxic*, if one is not mistaken, means *poisonous*.

In Libya when wounded men look as if they would die under sulfa treatment, proflavin powder is the "dramatic" antidote.

In other words, this murderous invention, which is getting so much publicity that the intention must be to peddle it as the successor to "vitamins" when that dodge wears out, is being forced upon mankind by the medical profession, without scruple as the cure-all for practically every ailment under the sun—and so far they have not even perfected a cure for the sulfa itself.

We are at their mercy. There is no law anywhere in this nation effective in controlling diagnosis or prescription. Only medical testimony is valid against doctors and the clan sticks closer together than the cops in a station where a prisoner has been beaten to death.

SUNSPOTS

Sunspot "cycles" roll around so variously in the heads of the experts that it's no wonder if their pronouncements make you dizzy too. A chart is being prepared by Forteans for Forteans, showing the authoritative hazards about maxima received in the past five years. The latest guess is by Dr. W. Gleissberg, a German refugee who did not come to the U. S., (almost unique!) but went to Turkey instead. From Turkey the Doc announces that hell will pop on the sun (and here too) in 1948. Make a note.

GRAY SNOWFALL

Gray snow fell in Basle, Switzerland, 2-7-42. Orthodox explanation: "caused by an oily substance of the nature of soot produced by combustion at some great distance." . . . As far away as Mars perhaps?

THE FOUNDERS



YOUR SECRETARY, TIFFANY THAYER

CHARGE ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL CONSPIRED

Suit has been filed (4-19-43) in Pueblo, Colorado, federal district court, charging that President Roosevelt "resorted to every available device to involve the United States in the European War". A "private treaty" is alleged between Roosevelt and Churchill. The defendants named are General Lewis B. Hershey and Major Howard E. Reed. The appellant is George J. Knapp of Pueblo.

The Pueblo *Star-Journal* comments editorially that the suit should be "quashed without any consideration". . . . That is to say that the Freeprez advocates abolishing even the little that is left to us of the Constitution. . . . No doubt the *Star-Journal's* suggested disposal of the suit will have been followed before this is in print.

VITAMIN-D KILLS

Mrs. Laura Bartels, 65, of Tenafly, N. J. was said to have arthritis, a doctor prescribed vitamin D capsules. She took them, says the N. Y. *Times* 6-27-42. She experienced "burning sensations". She died.

Less than four months later, William L. Laurence (who works for the *Times* and is only slightly more awed by science than Kaempfert), announced (10-10-42) that discovery of the "chemical architecture of biotin" "was expected" to pave the way to the synthesis of this super-vitamin".

If the regular ones kill us, what great step forward may we expect from the "supers"?

SPEAKING OF WALDEMAR

Your Secretary was delighted to see Herr Doktor Kaempfert's column in the *Times* 3-14-43 featuring the Butterfly Map of Fortean B. J. S. Cahill. This projection has been before the learned of three or four continents since 1909, and the Society has been singing its praises since 1934. For the past two or three years it has been available in any respectable map store, enjoying a flourishing trade—and NOW, finally the N. Y. *Times*, via Kaempfert, confers its accolade.

Although we have thought it was the finest plane picture possible of the surface of a sphere, this latest success of its originator gives us pause. When Kaempfert and the *Times* take it up, there must be something wrong with it after all!

NEXT ISSUE

With the Government's ability to suppress any publication it wishes by denying paper supply, we cannot predict when we will be around again. To the following Forteans, our deep regret that material sent to us has been crowded out of this issue: Scott Nearing, Everett F. Bleiler, Dr. F. S. Hammett, Jesse Douglass, Frederick G. Hehr, Gertrude Hills. We will try to print these contributions next time.

ONE DOCTOR ADMITS HE'S ASLEEP

Edgar Cayce, of Virginia Beach, Va., goes to sleep. In that state he diagnoses cases and prescribes remedies. A stenographic record of over 12,000 cases in which he has helped people, ill or in trouble, attests the efficacy of a prayer sent in his direction. The story of this man and his work is in the book *There Is a River*, by Thomas Sugrue. Order your copy through the Society. The price is \$3.00.

FORT ON THE AIR

The amazing and terrifying Arch Oboler put in a good word for Fort on his LIGHTS OUT program, 12-15-42. Says Oboler:

Charles Hoy Fort was born in 1874 and died in New York in 1932. The unusual, the supernatural, and the supernatural fascinated him—just as one man might collect postage stamps, Charles Fort, for twenty or thirty years, collected records of phenomena which dogmatic science could not explain. In other words, for years, Mr. Fort recorded unexplainable murders, ghostly happenings, strange movements in the sky—anything which didn't add up to the closed-minded two and two are four. I suggest, therefore, that anyone who thinks that this is the only possible world, spend a pleasant week-end reading these records in Mr. Fort's work *THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED*. When they're through, I think they'll answer that ghost question with the best possible of all answers—an open-minded—"Who Knows?"

BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE

Our irreplaceable Eric Frank Russell, being under arms "in defense of the Empire", delegated a portion of his Fortean duties to TOM ELSONDER of Tyne, who has been doing yeoman service, especially assisting Forteans here with data in particular searches, contributing several bound volumes to the library, and covering the news front. . . . A seal in the Thames. . . . In egg with three yolks. . . . A new "planet" discovered by a Finn. . . . A "scene" created in Parish Church, Redcar, 4-6-42, when—on Youth Sunday—the headmaster of Coatham School appears to have suffered a wave of uncontrollable honesty. He arose in church, it is alleged, and told the congregation that it had been listening to a lot of hypocritical nonsense. The unfortunate—one W. G. Willis—was reasoned with, and wrote a letter of apology.

Clearly the international situation has vitiated Forteanism. . . . But the Newcastle Evening Chronicle noticed that Dr. Ray F. Dawson (U. of Missouri) had grown nicotineless "tobacco" by grafting it on tomato plants. . . . The London Times recorded, 2-2-42, that a "South American beaver" had been shot by a willow worker on Sedgemoor, Somerset. "It will probably be preserved in the Somerset police

museum at Taunton". . . A swan (perhaps Dorothy Arnold?) walked into the home of Dorothy (sic) Baggallay, Romans, East Chilton, Lewes, Sussex. 1-16-42. "It was starving and frozen."—but recovered and flew off. Forteans named Dorothy are warned to watch for it. . . . Several sea "monsters" variously "identified". . . . The annual report (1941) of the Committee for Recording "Abnormal" Happenings, of the Edinburgh Psychic College. . . . Announcement by a conference of Astrologers in session at Harrogate 4-7-42, that "something of great importance happened in Germany on March 26 or 27 which had a very adverse effect on the Nazi war programme." They got their dope from their star charts which were no more explicit than that. . . . And, finally: "After 12 years' intensive study by astronomers of 24 observatories scattered over five continents, Dr. H. Spencer Jones, Astronomer Royal, has decided (get that decided) that the sun is 93,005,000 miles from the earth—65,000 miles farther than previously believed. . . . "This is by far the most accurate measure of the sun's distance ever made (said the ASR). The goal for which astronomers have so long been striving has at length been reached. The final word has been said on this historic problem for many years to come, and the fundamental distance in astronomy—the sun's distance enters into any astronomical calculation—has been measured with all the accuracy that is needed." . . . Thank you, ASR, and thank you, Tom Elsonder.

Continue Reading

The following series of letters from Your Secretary to various editors and publishers is almost self-explanatory:

(A) To the Editor of the *World Almanac*: May we refer you to page 165, of the *World Almanac* (1941)? There under the heading "Astronomical Time", paragraph eight, the statement is: "The longest apparent solar day occurs about Dec. 23, and it exceeds the average day in length by approximately 30 seconds."

We would have no reason to doubt the accuracy of that statement if it were not contradicted by a popular book on astronomy (*Unveiling the Universe*, by Norton Wagner, Scranton, Pa., 1936) in these terms: "Technically the solar day is the interval between two consecutive transits; hence technically the longest day occurs around Sept. 18, being 24 hours, 0 minutes, 21 seconds; and the shortest day is about December 23, of 23 hours, 59 minutes, 30 seconds, duration."

Apparently two sets of astronomers using very similar faiths and figures arrive at almost diametrically opposed conclusions. Can you help us understand how that is possible? We are also writing to Mr. Wagner for his version.

Respectfully,

(B) To which the Editor replied—in part: ". . . paragraph 8 in the article on

Astronomical Time, ascribed to the U. S. Naval Observatory, in the *Almanac* of 1941. This statement is the correct one.

"The scientific explanation is a little technical; it has to do with the fact that about Dec. 23 the rate of motion of the equation of time (this is the difference between apparent and mean times) is then at a maximum for the excess of the apparent time.

"Perhaps the simplest explanation is that about Dec. 23 the sun is moving toward the east at the fastest rate during the year; hence it comes to the meridian at the longest interval which means that the apparent solar day is then the longest.

"This is easily seen by consulting the calendar pages in *The World Almanac*. It will be seen that in 'Sun on Meridian at Washington' the sun returns to the meridian 30 seconds longer in the interval about Dec. 23 than at any other time during the year."

(C) Your Secretary's letter to Mr. Norton Wagner follows:

Your book *Unveiling the Universe* (1936), has been in our library some time and, as a popular presentation of current astronomical faith, has proved very useful. We have recently discovered, however, what may be a misprint but appears rather to be an error. It is on page 43, in the first column under the heading: "Motion 10. The Equation of Time Motion." . . . There your statement is: "Technically the solar day is the interval between two consecutive transits; hence technically the longest day occurs around Sept. 18, being 24 hours, 0 minutes, 21 seconds; and the shortest day is about December 23, of 23 hours, 59 minutes, 30 seconds, duration."

This comes to our attention by comparison with the *World Almanac* (1941), p. 165, under the heading "Astronomical Time" paragraph eight, where we read: "The longest apparent solar day occurs about Dec. 23, and it exceeds the average day in length by approximately 30 seconds." This diametrical opposition of views is rather confusing to a layman. Can you clarify and justify your version of the facts? We are asking the editors of the *World Almanac* to help us in the same way.

Cordially,

The letter above was written and mailed June 20, 1942. We are still waiting for a reply. . . . Piqued by the mystery, we went to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, only to be further confused. The gist of the matter is in this letter to the Editor of that great reference work:

(D)

I refer you to the article Astronomy, sub-head: Spherical Astronomy, volume 2 of your 1941 edition page 581. There the sidereal day is given as 24 h 3 m 56.555s.

Yet, in volume 8, on page 664—under Equation of Time, you will find the figures for the same period given as 24 h 3 m 55.91s.

Should not these figures correspond? Respectfully,

In response, the Editor forwarded to us a copy of a letter *he* solicited in turn from Mr. W. J. Eckert, Director of the *Nautical Almanac*, Part of which reads as follows:

(E)

The adopted length of the mean solar day is 24 h 3m 56.555 seconds of sidereal time. The length of the adopted sidereal day is 23h 56 m 4.091 seconds of mean solar time.

There appears to be no conflict between the articles on Astronomy and on the Equation of Time, in your 14th edition. The quantity mentioned in the latter article (3m 55.91s) should be subtracted from 24 hours, instead of added as in your letter.

In the former article the statement is made that the Earth rotates once in 23h 56m 4.901s of ordinary time. This is evidently a typographical error for 4.091s. With this alteration the statement would not be strictly correct, since the adopted sidereal day is not precisely equal to the period of the Earth's rotation owing to precession. Correcting the length of the adopted sidereal day by 0.009s for precession gives 23h 56m 4.100 seconds for the true period of the Earth's rotation.

Very truly yours,

Thus, faced with error on all sides and agreement between no two "authorities" on any set of figures (although Mr. Eckert frankly calls the figures "adopted" and one would suppose that to mean *generally*, and one would further suppose that children of six could manage to agree if an arbitrarily "adopted" standard was the taking-off place for all), Your Secretary wrote again to the Editor of *Britannica*:

(F)

Thank you for the copy of Director Eckert's letter about the length of the sidereal day. He indicates a correction of *Britannica's* figures of even greater nicety than the one I thought proper. If you are going to make the alteration to conform with his suggestion, may I suggest that before you do you make identically the same inquiry of the Astronomical Department at Harvard University that you made of the U. S. Naval Observatory, without telling Harvard that you asked the Navy?

Respectfully,

No response has been received as we go to press, and we look forward to the next edition of *Britannica*, the *World Almanac*, and *Unveiling the Universe* with equal curiosity in each case.

STOP THAT LIE DETECTOR

To the citizens of Buffalo, N. Y., the death (2-7-43) of John Kocemba, 18, in a police cell, means the opportunity to get—at least temporarily—a better police administration . . . To the local press it affords an opportunity to parade in righteousness borrowed for the occasion, and to set up as the people's White Knight. . . To the band of politicians out of power, it means a grand chance to "drive the (other) rascals out". . . BUT to Fortean it is still another warning to *beware* the New Inquisition which is at hand.

Fifteen members of the Buffalo police force were subjected to "lie-detector" tests, and four of them were recalled "on the insistence of Chief Meegan" for a second bout with this nefarious gadget . . . We cannot and we must not shrug that off. By placing steadily increased reliance upon this allegedly "scientific" hocus-pocus, and by familiarizing the public with its infallible wonders, the despotism of vested power is building still another engine for the destruction of human reason. In 1443 they threw the accused into water. If he drowned he was innocent. If he floated he was guilty—and executed. Today they strap an electrical appliance on your arm and if you get excited, you're guilty.

The evidence garnered by means of this contraption is not admissible as evidence in any court in the United States but it damned soon will be if accused persons do not stand firmly upon their Constitutional rights and flatly REFUSE to submit to its use. *Innocent* persons are especially warned because, with their clear consciences, they may welcome such a test. DON'T DO IT. If you do, you are implicitly admitting faith in the "lie detector's" efficiency (and it is not efficient): you are helping however inadvertently—to strengthen the foundation under an insensate Moloch which can devour us all.

From the same source comes another datum of death by alleged police brutality, this one in St. Louis.

(From an editorial in the Buffalo Evening News 3-31-43:

St. Louis has a case that has several points in common with the case of John Kocemba the youth who died of injuries inflicted while he was a prisoner in the Fillmore Avenue Police Station. A man named Edward Melendes was found dead in a cell last July 27 at the St. Louis police headquarters, and physicians who conducted an autopsy reported that he had been severely beaten. Three detectives were indicted on the Melendes charge, but the indictments were quashed on the contention that improper methods had been employed before the grand jury. Recently a man named Andrew Brinkley, who has been Melendes' cellmate was indicted for the killing. He is said to have had a fight with Melendes and to have kicked him out of a bunk. The police represent that death resulted from the fall.

"Melendes had been cruelly beaten from head to toe and in all parts of his body," says the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*. "Even the soles of his feet were injured. The evidence of Melendes' body showed that he had been beaten more than once, with a considerable interval between. The details of the injuries found by the physicians are almost too revolting in their brutality to be repeated and they shake the credibility of the charge against Brinkley. It was also found that Melendes had no medical attention, though prompt action might have saved his life. If the authorities intend to make Brinkley the 'fall guy' for other persons, they are going to find serious factual obstacles in their path."

Which (by some odd chance) reminds one of Dr. Allyn King Foster who entered Bellevue (N.Y.) psychiatric ward, January, 1942, without a crushed larynx. Five days later he died in Bellevue "supposedly" of a crushed larynx. *The type of injury usually is caused by "mugging"—when a person is throttled by an arm from behind.* (World -Tel)

The Society has no record of any prosecutions for the man's death . . . And while we're on the subject, if they ever take Your Secretary into custody—you may as well get used to the idea now—there will be a flight of steep iron or marble stairs for him to conveniently slip on, or his body may be found swinging in a cell indicating suicide. Permit him to assure you now that the fall won't be an accident or the hanging suicide.

PERTINENT

Under this heading, from time to time, Your Secretary will print items of greater than average significance. Only time can reveal this significance. If that sounds somewhat mystical—wait.

N.Y. Times (7-19-42):

A few years ago it was discovered that the drug colchicine, derived from the European crocus and long used in treatment of gout, had a remarkable effect when applied to plants. It doubled the chromosomes, or hereditary units, in their cells. When this happened to the reproductive cells contained in the seeds, new species appeared. The line of heredity was broken and a new line started, something entirely novel among living things.

FOUNDER'S SON OBJECTS

HARRY LEON WILSON JR., was reported (3-18-43) to have been arrested for failing to report for army induction. . . . He was a librarian in Monteagle, Tennessee.

According to the UP story he "carried his case as a conscientious objector to President Roosevelt, but his I-A classification was not changed. . . . Faced with the alternative of jail or the army, he chose jail. It takes a lot to convince Our Betters that we are sincere these days.

ASTROLOGY AND THE COMMON COLD

The essence of what follows was written to Mr. DaCosta Williams M.F.S., about a year ago. Mr. Williams was at that time a practicing Astrologer in Titusville, Penna. At last accounts he was in uniform—unhappily.

We wrote, in part:

Astrology has too many faithful adherents, is too old, respectable and firmly entrenched to require any special official defense by the Fortean Society. We try to approach it with a completely open mind, neither condoning nor condemning. Your Secretary, however, suspects that ancient mathematicians (whence sprang both astronomers and astrologers) may have had a purer and more detailed knowledge of star-human relationships than anybody now accredits to them. He thinks this may have been especially true in Babylon, although the reasons for particularizing are not pertinent to this suggestion. How orthodox this view may be, you shall judge from the fact that he holds it possible that the stars and planets themselves may have large or small influence upon individuals but that regardless of that influence or absence of influence, the aspects of the heavens may inform observers of coincident or forthcoming events of certain kinds as concomitant phenomena. That is to say that (assuming that Earth is a spinning planet and that the solar system moves through "space") Earth and its atmosphere may encounter and pass through or pick up "conditions" in space (whether these are thought of as cosmic-dust-clouds or "rays" or whatever) at recurrent intervals, perhaps in a known or learnable rhythm which coincides with zodiacal recurrences.

It is not original in your Secretary to notice the possibility that life itself came to this planet through such an encounter. It seems highly probable that insect life, at least, was thus brought to us, since no insect "evolution" of "genealogy" is known. Such an explanation is easily applicable to "superstitions" about comets bringing calamity, and the same is true of "plagues" of every description.

Now we come to a suggestion which you may wish to investigate or develop: that the so-called "common cold" is not caused by wet feet or draughts, is not a germ or virus disease, but is the result of a *condition in space* into which Earth and its atmosphere intrude in Winter and cause "epidemics" of head colds etc. . . . That we should look for relief *not* to the medical profession which has been unable to prevent or to cure colds through centuries of pretended research BUT TO THE ASTROLOGERS who may be able to chart the space spots by reference to their star charts and so predict such epidemic conditions, warn the people and perhaps prevent all the sniffing and coughing which causes so much misery.

For instance—I suffered great nasal irritation beginning at 10 to 11 a.m., (Eastern so-called "War" time) February 22, 1942. I was in a room in which I work always.

I was dressed as usual; the ventilation was normal; I had suffered no exposure or chill; I had not been in the company of any who had "colds". Yet the nasal irritation came and developed into a full-fledged cold in the ensuing 48 hours. By observation from time to time for a week or ten days, I discovered countless others who had experienced exactly the same symptoms at almost that identical hour, followed by "colds" which developed in common with mine, day by day. . . . As a starter—what uncommon condition existed in the sky at (or just before) that hour? When will it recur? What was the state of "sunspots" that morning?

Please let us know if the potentialities of such an inquiry interest you and what you can report in the matter. Wouldn't it be delightful to remove "colds" from the tenacious grip of the medicine men—and prevent them forever BY ASTROLOGY? The prospect thrills me.

The suggestion is not that you go against your own convictions in your thinking, but only that you search them for possible novelty. There is, for instance, nothing startling in finding that an individual's birth date makes him susceptible to colds under certain conditions—or in referring to Mars as hot, dry and irritating—whereas (as a random flier to break down all walls to full cordiality of acceptance) the hazard that our "colds" are messages from Mars, or attacks by human enemies in space, or the effort of an hitherto undreamed of form of life to establish itself on Earth—or?—or?—might lead to some hair-raising speculation.

In reply to this appeal, Mr. Williams supplied this MSS. . . . Other Astrologers are invited to enter the lists with their suggestions.

THE COMMON COLD by DaCosta Williams

The life force of the universe comes from the sun. The flow of force from the sun is constant or nearly so. It is neither good nor bad but one force. Between the source of force and its various destinations there are many other forces in the form of vibratory disturbances, atmospheric conditions, reflection, absorption and other resistance to the sun's force.

Thus the force of the sun to the earth varies with the reason which determines the angle of radiation on the earth's surface according to the location in question.

Everything in the universe is influenced and controlled in varying degrees by the force of the sun's rays. The degree of influence depends upon the affinity of the object affected by the sun.

There are times when the affinity is greater, times when it is less and times when it is average. This is due to the conditioning of the body or object to other conditions which may both increase or decrease the affinity of the sun's force.

This brings us to the conditioning of an object at its origin or in the case of man and animals their time of birth and conception.

The solar force at that time conditioned the living body to be born. It determined the degree of sensitivity to all forces or conditions which might operate after birth.

When a disturbance arises in the flow of force to an individual or object it at once sets up actions and reactions within the individual or object which may or may not be constructive to the future development. The degree of this disturbance and the length of its operation determines the outcome or the ability to adjust or resist the force.

To simplify matters let us deal solely with the human factor, man himself. Each individual is as a radio receiving set. Birth sets the dial to a certain wave length. This wave length remains constant through the natural life on this earth for the individual. The forces received over this wave length hinder or hasten the individual growth, thought pattern, and flow of vital energies. Thus there will be periods when the reception of forces will be more disturbing, destructive, interfering, and hampering, so that more reserve energies will be utilized even to the point of exhaustion or death.

On the other hand the forces received may be beneficial and reception at its highest peak for that specific individual. If so, more reserve force is stored than is used and body functions operate at their highest efficiency for the individual. During a period such as this the individual advances in many ways even without much effort on the part of the individual, as life for that person is functioning at its maximum degree in harmony with the receiving equipment of the individual.

From this you can readily see that even individuals with apparently the same type of receiving sets but dialed to different wave lengths can receive entirely different programs at one and the same time. Even the same wave length of two individuals may be identical but under different volume controls which influence the degree of sensitivity. Thus our problem becomes more complex and difficult to follow.

With this introduction let us return to our subject, the common cold. This is the simplest illness to which man is subject and thus becomes the forerunner of all illnesses. That does not mean that before each type of illness characteristic to man takes hold of the body that a cold is first manifest and directly followed by other illness, but at some time in the past a cold was the first conditioning for the illness later to follow.

Until one understands cause symptoms and results are deceiving.

In a healthy body a cold or any other type of illness is unknown. This is due to the fact the body is functioning within its limitations, without undue strain or restrictions. The assimilation of energy is at its best and the elimination of waste products is well balanced. Thus the body is healthy because everything is there essential to life and is utilized accordingly.

The force of the sun is stimulating and heat producing through the agency of oxidation. Excessive heat or cold or excesses of any kind over stimulate. If not in itself then in the results produced. Over stimulation means excessive use of energy more than the

body can restore in a given time. When this takes place resistance is lowered due to over stimulation which is enervation.

Over stimulation means that the body is operating at a higher degree of action which adds more heat, resistance and strain to all of the tissues. This in time produces fatigue, and if carried on too long exhaustion.

Fatigue is built up due to the fact that the body is unable to eliminate the toxins resulting from stimulation as fast as they accumulate, while the degree of fatigue is felt according to the increase in body toxins above the normal level for the individual. The ability to restore the normal level of toxins in the body depends upon the reserve energy in the body and the rapidity of elimination of the excess toxins.

Therefore, fatigue is a form of enervation as it reduces the energy supply, thus prolonged fatigue means increased enervation with more retention of body toxins.

Toxemia becomes the one and only disease and the cause of all ill health.

The various types of illness depend upon the strength of certain organs and tissues, as the weaker tissues and organs will be slower to eliminate toxins and therefore favor their collection and retention.

All toxins irritate the body tissues because they are body poisons and unable to support life. To resist the action of toxins the body creates a mucous over the tissues to resist the toxic action and assist the reduction of inflammation which is taking place. The location in the body where this is taking place determines the type of illness, while the length of time this process takes place determines the seriousness of the condition.

Inflammation takes place as an agency to stimulate elimination and throw off the toxins accumulating. The various deficiencies in the body again determine whether the toxins shall be thrown off in a boil, cold, fever, abscess, infection, or pain.

As the toxic level of the system changes, just so does the whole body function including the temperament, desires, appetites and degree of sensitivity. Thus the appetite becomes abnormal before illness, either excessive or negative.

The first warning of on coming danger is discomfort and unless the degree of enervation is checked congestion is to take place in a few hours or days and manifest in some form, generally a cold. A cold takes on the average three days to reach its height of action but may continue indefinitely or until the toxic level is reduced. Yet through the cold body toxins are eliminated and thus a cold may become a house cleaning time for the system.

What is enervation? Enervation is any thing which places added strain on the system and reduces body resistance below normal levels for the individual while at the same time building up higher toxic levels than is normal for the individual body. Therefore, excess in any form becomes a form of enervation.

The nerve energy of the body which might be called the electrical energy determines the rhythm of body functions. Proper nerve supply means proper body functions. Lowered nerve energy means sluggish or

slow body functions. Thus enervation means lower nerve supply with less self control. The higher the degree of enervation the greater the degree of nervousness and strain. So that what at one time may produce a cold may at another produce rheumatism or neuralgia, but toxic accumulation is still the cause of the discomfort.

In the late fall of 1941 the Gallup Survey conducted a poll on the common cold to find out how many people suffered from a cold during the early part of November. The poll showed that one third of the people of the nation were so affected. While this in itself did not prove or disprove anything, except to give one an idea as to how many suffered, but the question naturally follows what about the other two thirds?

It proves that two thirds of the people were not enervated in the same way or to the same degree as the remaining third were. The poll almost reflected the one third our President has been talking about. The point is that two thirds of the people had better body resistance at that particular period.

Those with less reserve energy will be subject to colds easily and quickly whenever they over do. This is due to the fact they are normally carrying a high toxic level in their system but not sufficiently high to climax in any illness until the maximum toxic level is reached and passed for them. In some individuals the step is very short while in the more healthy with low body toxins the step is much greater. Therefore, any agency which tends to check toxic elimination as a sudden change in temperature from warm to cooler, added worries, loss of sleep, emotional upsets or fear may easily turn the scales from health to illness. In any event the agency which determined this is the degree of enervation which takes place.

Many people are surprised at how easily at times they can contract a cold while again the greatest exposures or sidesteps which ought to award a cold quickly pass unnoticed but seldom do they realize the load of toxins they are carrying and thinking they are in excellent health. Everything is blamed for their discomfort from germs to what-nots when the sole cause is based on their toxic level at the time.

The only preventive measure lies in understanding the body requirements according to the type of energy being used and its amount. Again an understanding is required as to how efficiently the system is handling the food supply taken and whether that food supply is building more toxins than energy assimilated or whether toxins are being retained longer than is safe for health.

Every individual has days, weeks, months and years when their health is easily upset by seemingly nothing and again the same individual has periods when almost nothing seems to affect the health level either way. Many individuals pay no heed to body warnings or try to understand them. Far too many eat whatever is at hand and, eat it excessively. They rest and sleep when all other interests stop or they are forced to relax. These people are subject to whatever is going around in the way of illness because they are all enervated in much the same way and in the same degree thus like

illnesses result.

The wise individual studies his body, takes heed to the warnings of approaching danger and tries to understand its cause and supply logical corrections. These people are more in tune with their own bodies and care for it as they would a machine so that the highest degree of efficiency is possible. The lives of these people becomes balanced. They have no cravings, no tension, no abnormalities and no complexes. Toxins do not rule their every act and thought because there is peace within and germs find no fertile grounds in which to grow and multiply because toxins are under control.

Each individual is born into this world with a problem to be faced with some it is health, others finances, jobs, education and other adjustments. Each body is equipped when it is born to do a certain task and do it well but when the energy is misapplied or over taxed due to inability to understand this point or lack of interest to seek it out then complications result in the health and all other activities. The moment of birth becomes the only safe factor to guide the individual safely on life's journey.

The NOTES of Charles Fort

Continued from Number 6 of the Fortean Society Magazine.

Students will find the *Index* to THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT of value in connection with these notes, especially in reference to bibliographical sources. Where only abbreviations appear in the notes, the full name of the publication usually appears in the *Index* Throughout the notes "BA" refers to reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. The numerals in connection with "BA" sometimes refer to volume numbers and sometimes to the year. This will cause no confusion in consulting the reports since either year or volume number will identify the publication to almost any librarian where the work is on the shelves.

1821 - Box 1 (Continued)

- June 21 (See 12) /pyrites / Ireland (94)
BA 54 or 60 (reverse) See June 10
- 25 shocks. Co. Cork, Ireland — fields turned into swamps BA 54
- July 10 great quake Peru '11
- 15 Destructive tornado and hail Counties of Oglethorpe, Wilkes and Lincoln, Georgia. NY Eve Post Aug 14-2-5
- Aug 2 Sept 12 (continuous? TT) / medium quake Calabria, Italy
- 18 Obscuration England/ 19-20 France / La Science Pour Tous 14/57 /Ph. Mag. Oct 1821 (reverse) May 21, 1822

Aug 18 Phil Mag. Oct, 1821 p.234. 314—account from Essex See Aug 3. 1831 / (reverse) The darkness came on and lasted three hours. Said many persons jumped and ran from their work — gigantic masses of dark clouds piled upon one another with (reverse) gleams of sulphurous light.

18 bet 9 & 10 AM blue sun in Essex and Sussex. Amer. Soc. Met. de France 1903-81 (reverse) In afternoon haze at Paris and the sun was white/ This haze in Dauphine on 19th to 30th.

18 Morning in London. People excited by blue appearance of sun. Changed to silvery. In Bristol (reverse) sun had a purple appearance. Felix Farley's Bristol Journal 25th

20 W. Indies Fireball BA 60

23 Whirlwind at Thrandiston, Suffolk. Objects seized from a stall. Broken crockery (reverse) fell more than a mile from T. Felix Farley's Bristol Journal 25th

1821 Box 1 - (Resumed)

25 Snails See Other Catalog.

25 Felix Farley's Bristol Journal of 25th. People of Bristol much amused with exhibition and sale of snails said to have fallen from (reverse) the sky, at Tockington. They had suddenly appeared on a farm. "Common rumor says that the snails fell like a great shower, which continued upwards of an hour and that the earth's surface was covered, nearly six acres, three inches deep!" (L)

25 heavy fall of snail shells near Tockington Gloucestershire, p. 3 L. T. Aug. 27/Ph. Mag. 58/310, 457.

Friday Letterkenny/Darkness with color effects on all objects. Phil. Mag 58/314

Aug 31 Dresden Fireball BA 60

31 Friday before/Letterkenny darkness and seeing description (reverse) of volcanic smoke the cauliflower cloud. Phil. Mag. 58/314

1821 Box A - (Resumed)

Sept 2 Shower of stones at home of Thomas Jones (reverse) village of Meifod, Montgomeryshire. Hundreds of persons visited the place. Cardiff Western Mail Sept. 8, 1921.

1821 Box 1 - (Resumed)

Sept 7 At sea Etc. W fireball BA 60

9 Tornado N. Hampshire, Mass/Finley's Rept.

20 Dreadful Earthquake. On the 21st September, 1821, what is described as a "dreadful earthquake" is recorded as having taken place the previous night. No lives were lost, but a Mr.

Ross and a Mr. Thelezau were seriously injured. Much damage to property was reported, including injuries to the Governor's residence and to Trinity Church and the Court House. On the 28th of the same month, the "Gazette" says:—"The reluctance expressed by many proprietors to have the injuries sustained by their properties made public induces us to suppress all further details of the damage done by the earthquake of the 20th instant." Trinidad Gazette

24 Fireball Beinuuef on Nile at 8 p.m. Another 3:43 a.m. of 25th BA 1874-290 (Series) (reverse) at 9:23. p.m. of 26th another, this apparently size of full moon.

Oct 7 Vosges. Quake and sounds BA 54 See Sept. 13, (18) 22

7 Saxony Fireball BA 60.

22 Comrie / quake and phenomena called "thunder and lightning" Milne Edinburgh New Phil. Journal 31/118

23 3 p.m. / severest quake then on record at Comrie. See Oct. 23, 1839? Phil. Mag. 58-458 at 9:30 p.m./Saxony detonating meteor See 1805.

29 7 a.m. Quake Island of Bute LT 1816 Oct. 31 p. 2

30 Marienweder Fireball BA 60

30 Quake at Comrie / loud sound heard at Blackford 12 miles on Oct. 31, London Times

Oct ("Early in" see The Books of Charles Fort TT) Oct. 15, 1820. Silk/Pernambuco D-58 (26)

Nov 17 Russian Lengia light quake

22 Abruzzi: (It.) detonating meteor See 1805 or Vannales de Chimie 33/405 2 a.m.

22 Medium quake. Italy. Adriatic Coast BA 11.

22 Quake and meteor / Naples/D-228

28 Naples Fireball BA 60

28 & 29 Night / Cape Town / brilliant spots on moon Philosophical Transactions 112/237

30 Aerolite? See Nov. 29 '09.

Dec 1 or 2 Fireball. Leipzig. BA 60

3 Weimar Fireball. BA 60

4 Gortitz Fireball. BA 60

11 Fireball England. BA 60

13 Great quake. Japan BA 11

20 to at least Feb. 28, 1822 violent eruption in Iceland, BA 54

24 Bromberg, Wirtemberg. Detonating Meteor. BA 60

24 Switzerland shock preceded by several meteors. BA 54/136

24 7 p.m. Ballenheim and Altdorf, Germany. Detonating meteors. L T Jan. 9, 1822 BA '60. See (reverse) Bromberg, Wirtemberg B.A. (See Nov. 25 '22 May 8 '23 May 13.)

Dec 26 Submarine volc. near Bima, Island of Sumbava. BA 54

28 Augsburg Fireball. BA 60

1822

No Date Quake at Lyons / magnetic storm and quake / violently affects magnetic needle at Paris Mag. Nat. History 6/296

No Date Fragments of calcite that fell on deck of ship near San Domingo. Sc. Amer. XI-343

No Date Gruithuisen discovered his city north of Schroeter—parallel lines branching out from a central line like veins of a leaf. Cherboung France Fireball. BA 60

14 Eichenfelt Fireball. BA 60

22 10 p.m. quake Yapshire? Seaton Ross, Everingham, Allathorpe, Beilby, Melbourne. LT Jan. 31 p. 3

29 India Madras. light quake. BA '11

Feb 6 An incredible number of insects fell upon Middlebourg, Belgium. Ciel et Terre. 21-258

7 Heavy quake Tokio Japan.

13-25 Vesuvius. BA '54

18 Opposition Mars. (A1)

18 Quake in Komorn, Hungary, preceded by a very loud sound which seemed to come from the air (reverse) but Danube in a commotion and threw up red sands on shores. BA 54

19 Savoy, Italy light quake.

28 Volcano in Iceland of Dec. 20 at least to this date.

March 1 Brunn Fireball. BA 60

7-16 Mercury Inferior conjunction (A1)

9 Meteor—Troy detonation 7½ minutes later—sometime after 10 p.m. A. J. Sci. 6/319 (reverse) at Canajoharie a strong sulphurous odor. Seen and heard Saratoga, etc/seen in S. W. at Quebec / Boston and in the west at Portland, Me. almost Mag of moon.

9 13h Venus Inferior conjunction (A1)

Mar 16 Richmond, Va. Great detonating meteor. BA '60

20 Sounds of Meleda / Adriatic / begin A. de Chimie 30/432

31 Leipzig Fireball. BA 60

Apr 5-6 Etna starts/quake around Etna BA '54 — 138

Apr 6-10 Quake Catania. BA 60 (May be 1821 TT)

6-10 Catania, Italy light quakes.

9 Rhodes "long, bright column of meteoric light exploding with many sparks" BA '60-68

9 Rhodes 9 PM Meteor trail and great explosion in air Arago Oeuvres. XI/571

10 Near Bangalon. Trans Bombay. Geog. Soc. Vol. 9 by Dr. Buist. Masses of ice size of pumpkins. Saw bodies of 27 dead bullocks killed by the ice. In one of the bodies of ice found a frozen shape which revived.

- 10 Volcano and meteor. Towns near Etna "a violent clap of thunder was heard while the sky was quite clear" (reverse) and a violent quake. Had been several shocks on 6th. BA '54/139
- 13 Comrie shock "accompanied by two loud reports, one apparently above our heads and the other which followed immediately under our feet." Edinburgh New Phil. Journal 31-119
- May 7 Costa Rica Heavy quake.
- 18 Bologna Sudden storm/fall of lumps ice some weighed $\frac{1}{2}$ pound. Annual Register '22-87
- 20 Ragusa Fireball. BA '60.
- 21 Dry fog. Paris La Science Pour Tous 14/58. See Aug. 1821 / Aug. 1831.
- 23 Kiel Denmark Fireball. BA '60
- 31 Quake France. BA '54-138.
- June 3-8 PM / Metite / Argus, France Small stone (30 oz) fell. BA '60
- 9 (F) ("F" refers to LOI TT) Stone fell Argus, France Phil. Mag. 4/8/459. An de Chimie 2 / 31 / 261
- 9 Moravia fireball. BA '60
- 13 Christiana, Norway. Fireball "a bituminous substance fell?" (reverse) BA '60 D-72
- June (No date) (F) See May 21. Cape Verde Island. Brownish dust. Writer says thinks came from (reverse) an African desert but says that was described as "like triturated pumice and had a sulphuric smell." Mag. Nat. Hist. 8-18
- June 16 (F) 4:15 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. several shocks at Cherbourg "Immediately after (reverse) the shocks a luminous meteor was seen. It seemed to rise from the ocean. It was followed by a loud explosion. Torrents of rain fell the same day. Said that a water spout passed over. BA '54-138
- 17 Catania, Italy. Undetermined. phenomena "detonating meteor?" (reverse) Repeats phenomena quake Apr. 10. BA '60-68
- June (no date) Shower of brownish dust, smelling of sulphur (reverse) like triturated pumice Tasmanian Journal 1-3 (3?)
- 17 Leipzig Fireball BA '60
- 21 China. Heavy quake.
- 26 Volcano Iceland great violence been quiet $\frac{1}{2}$ year. A. Reg. '22-111.
- Summer Italian fireflies near Reading. Nature 2-297.
- July 11 At dawn Vesuvius began. BA '54-140.
- 14 Italy. Light quake.
- 15 Marienwerder, Germany. After storm little round unknown seeds in great quantity. Inhabitants tried (reverse) to cook them but no effect after boiling an hour.
- Bull. des Sciences. 1/1/298
- 17 Silesia. After storm. Great quantity little round seeds (reverse) Then scientists said they were seeds of the Galium spurium. Bull. de Science 1/1/298.
- 17 Host of butterflies near Boulogne. (See July 26)
- 19 Hamburg Fireball. BA '60
- 21 Great quake. China. BA '11
- 21 Commune of Clohars-Fouesnon. Meteorite C. R. 124-1543.
- 23 6 AM. Violent volcanic eruption in Sumatra BA '54-140
- 26 Vast swarms of flies. Mag. Nat. Hist. 7-611 (See July 17)
- 28 Brunn, Fireball BA '60
- 29 Granada, Spain. Light quake.
- Aug (no date) Poitiers (?) frogs. L'Institut 2/410 (reverse) B try Country Gentleman.
- Aug 6 8:15 PM Paris Great serpentine meteor train more than 5 minutes. Arch. des Dicouv.—1822-199
- 6 Paris Caen Southampton Detonating meteor BA '60-68
- 7 Moravia Fireball. BA '60
- 7 Agra (Kadonah) N.W. Prov. India (F)
- 7 Aerolite also 1823. Eng. Mechanic 79/383.
- 8 Volc. Vesuvius p. 2 London Times.
- 10 Sounds of Meleda heard again.
- 11 Liege and Coblenz "a large mass of fire fell down with a great explosion; (reverse) possibly electrical" BA '60-68.
- 13 Egypt Asia Minor great quake. BA '54-140.
- 13-16 10 PM. quake Aleppo An. Reg. '22-151. Said that in same (reverse) latitude as Aleppo 2 rocks had arisen from sea near Cyprus.
- 16 Rochelle, France and Paris. Meteor with a serpentine course BA '60-68.
- 22 Bromberg Fireball. BA '60
- 23 Posin. BA '60
- 24 Volc. Iceland p. 2 London Times.
- Sept 1 Port Royal W to E great detonating meteor and train BA '60
- 5 Great quake. Asia Minor. '11.
- 7 8 PM. Fort Royal, Martinique. Great meteor detonating with extreme violence. Arch. des Dicouv 1823-183 (reverse) had been slight quake August 8, 8 PM p. 188 BA 60-681
- 1822 - Box A (Resumed)**
- Sept 7 Spontaneous combustion, France
- 1822 - Box 1 (Resumed)**
- 10 Karlstadt. Listed as a strong earthquake from E. to W. Aerolites mentioned. BA '54
- 10 Karlstadt (Sweden) noise—shocks—aerolites found A. R. 17-622 (reverse) great number of falling stars.
- 10 11:30 p.m. Strong quake felt throughout province of Wermland, Sweden—first a noise like cannon (reverse) then meteors / aerolites said to have fallen. B. Ann '54/141. Ph. Mag. 4-8-450.
- 13 Epinal. Vosges, France. Met. etc. (F) See Oct. 7, '21. BA '77-91.
- 13 Meteorite of Baffe (Vosges) 7 a.m. in a violent thunder storm
- 13 Q. I. Roy. Inst. 14-448. (1 h stone) Baffe (Vosges) In a tremendous storm exceptional thunder and lightning, violent rain stone fell. B.b. Univ. 22-68 Canton d'Ehinal.
- 18 Dunston, near Newcastle, quake between 1 and 2 AM. Quake and loud noise like distant thunder. BA '54/141. London Times. Sept. 24 p. 2.
- Oct 8 & 12 Great volc. eruption in Java L. T. Aug. 30, 1883.
- 13 Orenburg Fireball. BA '60.
- 16 from Sir John Herschel's MS Journal. Sky in east—great light like moon breaking through (London) no record of meteor at time. Rep. BA 1870-87.
- 18 Water in wells around Vesuvius disappears. 20th about 2 p.m. violent eruption. An. Reg. '22-213
- 20-28 Ashes ceased BA '54
- 22-24 Vesuvius A. Reg. Vesuvius Oct. 23 great explosion Q.J. Roy. Inst. 16-182 (reverse) London Times Nov. 15 p. 3, 18 p. 2, 22 p. 2.
- 22 (about) Verona, Italy, Sound/Rumblings See 1816.
- 22 Vesuvius "terrific" Ashes "at first reddish brown then more white. A.J.S. 6/385.
- 23 two "vulcs" Pastorff. An. Sci. Disc. 1860/411.
- 27 Berleburg. BA '60.
- 28 11 h 22nd 7 am Brighton, England Fireball BA '60.
- Nov 4 Trans. Merc. S. Op. 1.
- 4 Copiapo, Chili almost destroyed BA '54-142.
- 11 Freiberg. BA '60.
- 12 Potsdam Fireball. BA '60.
- Nov 15 Apenrade Fireball. BA '60.
- 19 Quake and deluge. 10:30. Time of shock the sky was cloudless, moon and stars shining brilliantly. Weather continued clear. Evening of 27th tremendous rainstorm. Quar. Journ. Roy. Inst. 17-145. Rain had never fallen before in month of November (reverse) shocks continued at least to end of Sept., 1923 (1823 TT)
- 19 (F) Chili quake writer in Quar.

Jour Roy. Inst. 17-38 says that some persons said that they had seen (reverse) an unusual light in the horizon to the southward. but that he had seen nothing. (2) This writer was at Concon 15 miles NE of Valparaiso. He says that at Valdivia 39° 50' S (reverse) 2 volcanoes burst out suddenly with great noise, illuminating the heavens and then as suddenly subsided. (This sky like?) On 27th tremendous fall of rain in a place where rain had never before fallen.

- 19 Fireball 2/3 moon. BA '60.
19 Quake and phenomena Chile. A. J. Sci. 30-110 10:30 p.m. Dried up wells and brooks several "meteors or blazing stars and flakes of (reverse) fire are said to have been seen in heavens; one very vivid meteor shot from the south west toward the south east." Had been many slight shocks in preceding month (page 2 of note) at Valparaiso. Then quakes every day.
19 Valparaiso, Chili Meteor 2/3 size of moon/ burst/ ball of fire BA '60-68
19 10:15 p.m. Great quake Chili Nov 21-28 BA '54-144
22 Valparaiso 10 A.M. 3 loud explosions (reverse) after each of which the earth trembled. Other quakes BA '54
24 Vesuvius renews with violence BA '54
22 Vesuvius. Eruption began 2 p.m. violent to 25th BA '54
25 3 & 5 A.M. Wurtenburg quake and sounds BA '54/144
26 Valparaiso. Tremendous rain-storm—never before known to occur at this season BA '34-144
28 Acrolite? See Nov 29, 1809
30 (F) Meteorite at Puttehpore shortly before sunset Jour. Asiatic Soc. Bengal 30/130 (reverse) Edin. N.P.J. 53/245
Dec 1 Light quake, Grenada, West Indies
21 Brunn Fireball BA '60
(no date) Eruption of vol Eyafalle Jokel, Iceland Q. J. Roy Inst. 16-396
31 Volc Api, Java, N.M. C.R. 70-878

1823

- 1823 Quake, Chile, Le Moniteo, p. 411 551 571
Jan 10 Medium quake, Murcia and Alicante, Spain
11 Augsburg Fireball BA '60
24 England Fireball BA '60
26 Gosport Fireball BA '60
Feb-
March Light quakes Formosa
Feb 16 First snowstorm recorded in Mobile, Alabama NY Sun, 1892 Jan 21-6-7

- Feb 24-25 Night. Quake and storm. Violent storm near Hanover and (reverse) quake and a crevice a foot wide appeared in the ground
Mar 5 Sicily, Italy. Great quake '11
6 Santa Lucia di Milazzo, Sicily. Quake and sounds. Concussion and 4 terrific crashes supposed to be subterranean. See 1816
14-15 Calabria, Abruzzo, Tuscany, at Bologna and through the whole chain of the Appennine-red snow (P) Mag. of Sci. 274/4-274 (reverse) See March 13, 1813
Apr 2 Manheim Fireball BA '60
6 Berlin Fireball BA '60
9 Potsdam Fireball BA '60
May 2 Embleton Fireball BA '60
7 Panama Heavy quake
8 Wurtenberg Yellow dust Archives des Decouvertes 1824/223
13 Yellow dust called "sulphur" Crailsheim Bull. des Sciences 1/1/301
22 In Nature, 14/195 T.W. Webb writes that he saw a small luminous body near Venus.
30 Waters of Lake Erie suddenly rose 9 feet BA '54
June 12 8 p.m. Metite, Angers, France. Taken up immediately—"not particularly warm" (reverse) Quar. Journ Roy. Inst. 14-447
19 9:30 P.M. Tornado Morgan, Finleys Rept.
June 22-
July 18 Volc Iceland C. R. 51-68 Loud sounds southern Iceland
June 22 On 26th violent eruption of Kotlugian. Ashes covered ships 90 miles at sea (reverse) Quar. Jour. Roy Inst 16-396
June 26-
July 23 Eruption of Katle, Iceland. (reverse) Smithsonian Inst. Rept. 1885-510
July 23 Blairgowrie Waterspout London Times Aug 8 p. 2
24 & 25 Two remarkable spots on sun by Pastorff (N.M.) C R 49/811
July In a heavy thunder storm, a ball of heavy material—about 7 in. in circumference (reverse) and weighing 8 ounces fell at Coddenham, in Suffolk. New Monthly Mag. 9-383
July 30 Leipsig Fireball BA '60
Aug 7 Quake Ragussa See Aug 20
7 Aerolite also 1822 E. Mech 79/383
7 Nobleborough, Maine Meteorite (F) See Sept. 1826 (reverse) Oct 11?
9 Singen N.E. to S.W. Fireball BA '60
12 Tubingen Fireball BA '60
19 Munich Fireball BA '60
20 Ragusa Fireball BA '60

- 20 Quake and meteor at Ragussa and quake there on 7th BA '54
20 Ragusa and Turkish Bosnia Meteor & quake and sea retired nearly a mile from coast. BA'54
20 At Ragusa Quake, phenomena dark. "On the 20th the air became (reverse) suddenly dark. A fiery-meteor-appeared-over the city, and fell into the sea, followed by an earthquake that overthrew many houses. The sea retired nearly a mile from the shore (reverse) 3 felt sharply in Turkish Bosnia. There it was reported that a volcano had broken loose. London Times Oct. 21- page 2
23 Report 54/153 That Aug 23, 1823 this time a mass of rock was moved from its place and rolled away, but that on all other occasions no such distinct earthquake like (reverse) occurrences of the sound listed for Oct & Nov 1824 "unaccompanied by any shock."
25 Asia Minor. Medium quake
25 Cor. sends stone to editor of (about) A. J. Sci. (7-56) saying that people of Stamford, Conn. (reverse) thought it had fallen from a thunder cloud. It was a composition of sulphur in granite. People named hill on which said fallen "Brimstone Hill."
26 At Dreux, France, whirlwind called waterspout. Blackish vapor and flames in the middle of it (reverse) Hailstones size of fists fell. A. J. Sci. 10/184

1823 - Box 1 (Resumed)

- Aug 29 London Times—p. 2 from Nottingham Review, Shook bedpost. For 5 or 6 weeks a house in Warsop (reverse) a sound like quacking of a duck, beginning at 3 p.m. and continuing until morning. When occupants were in bed the sound seemed to come from one of the bed posts.

1823 - Box A (Resumed)

- Sept 9 In Silesia 1:30 p.m. Sound like thunder like whirlwind phenomena See Sept. 26 BA 54/153
13-26 Volc on Iceland
16 Genoa Whirl like Aug 26 Same ref
Oct 3 Konigsberg Fireball BA '60
10 (x) Letter from M. Flaugerquesto Baron Zach—that he had not seen any spots on the sun for the preceding 16 months. Edin. J. Sci. 1-371
10 10h. Venus inferior conjunction A 1
Oct 11 (?) Nobleboro meteorite fell among sheep. A. J. Sci. 7-171 (reverse) analysis 9/400 (f)-Aug 7
19 16 h. Mercury inferior conjunction (?) (Fort's question mark. TT) A 1

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