



## DOUBT

### The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the

FORTEAN SOCIETY

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To prick a swollen one  
in the belly, I call  
good pastime.

Nietzsche

### RUSSELL IS OUT!

The best news on this desk in three years is that HFFS Eric Frank Russell is *out of uniform!* Mrs. Russell has worked valiantly through Eric's absence to keep the Society from slipping back in Great Britain, and many members have doubled their own efforts, to keep data flowing, to distribute THE BOOKS, and to increase the membership, but without the spark plug it was a shoulder-to-the-wheel kind of progress, halting, limping, slow.

Now he's out — and our mail is no longer censored — so all kinds of British Orthodoxy is warned to get out of the way.

He writes:

"So short a time at home isn't long enough for me to formulate a worthwhile report on the state of affairs over here: all I would say is that the country's in an unrestful state of incipient revolution, with a pseudo-socialist government trying to put over Toryism disguised as reform, and with the people pulling in the opposite direction, sometimes irefully. The Bank of England, once the doghouse of the Big Bad Wolf, seems to have been replaced by Wall Street, and there are plenty of deep, dark suspicions that we are being sold across the counter to your local cloak and dagger boys. There's more opposition to the American loan than our papers have cared to admit, plenty of people cannot see any reason why the allegedly huge and wealthy British Empire should have to go cap in hand begging for Yankee dollars, plenty think they'd like to see your compatriots told to keep their money, and lots think that the entire financial set-up is surrounded by a peculiar aura which to their nostrils smells

of polecat. What with this, and Truman's ill-timed demand that Jews be exported to Palestine ad lib (while British troops pay the price in blood-letting) has, I'm sorry to say, caused somewhat of a reversion from wartime pro-Americanism. There has been a slight drift of sentiment away from the American world-policy and toward the Russian world-policy, a fact that our scheming diplomats are finding extremely embarrassing in their efforts to make common cause with Americans against Russian finaygling — it's unfortunate for said diplomats that armed intervention against Russia is now likely to precipitate something that can't be stopped in this country, and even more unfortunate that the Russians are aware of it and willing to take advantage of the fact. Your international ballup-the-works boys are now paying for past misdeeds along with are our specimens of like ilk. They've cast their bread upon the waters and it's coming back all wet.

This is as fine a time as any for wholesale Forteanising, and I lick my lips when I think of it. This situation, plus a good deal of revulsion from orthodox science caused by the manifest benefits of atom bombs, is all to the hey-ho.

"Joy!

"Eric F. Russell."

### BEST SELLER

Wherever one goes in New York, according to MFS Fred Keating, everybody is reading *Frank Fay is My Co-Pilot*, by God.

### WHAT KIND OF BOTTLES?

Poltergeists or ugly neighbors had been hurling bottles at the home of Harold Hickman, Cheyenne, "for the last several nights," according to the Wyoming state *Tribune* of Nov. 21, 1945 old style. *Cf* Bloch.



HFFS  
ERIC  
FRANK  
RUSSELL

### HEHR ON GOLD HILL

Practically everybody has heard John Litster's plot near Gold Hill, Ohio. *The American Weekly* has noticed it, we have mentioned it before. The phenomena described are very similar to if not identical with those on display in "crazy houses" at big city amusement parks.

The first MFS to report upon a visit to the place was Albert E. Page, who found evidence to support the Pagian Vortex theory, of which you read something in issue No. 5 of this family journal. The latest is Frederick G. Hehr, who reports that he "came prepared to check on aberrations of gravity, but found a force which does affect gravity, but as a secondary or even tertiary effect." (Mr. Hehr employs the term "gravity" as if it had some absolute meaning with which he is conversant. Probably he adopts this orthodox viewpoint only temporarily and for a specific purpose.) "It is the focus of a force," he goes on, "which I have reason to suspect emanates from a machine or instrument buried at this place in pre-historic time, perhaps Atlantean or even extra-terrestrial origins." (Mr. Hehr has before this reported upon his personal acquaintance with inhabitants of Venus.)

P.S. Litster, too, is an MFS.

### ATHEIST ACTION

An impressive list of the leading lights of Atheism in the United States are planning an active campaign against organized religion. This appears to be the most energetic group since the days of Ingersoll, and several of its leaders are FOR WRITE to "Temporary Committee" 27, Clifton, New Jersey . . . Send no more — now — just write.

## PHILLY TARGET?

What was described "by scientists" as "the most brilliant (bolide) in many years" was seen in the sky to the east of Philadelphia "a few minutes after 3 o'clock this (10-21-45 old style) morning." Which recalls a similar occurrence on the morning of 5-4-45 old style at 3:38. The May meteor got much more publicity than this one in October, although judging from the above data it was the smaller of the two. Also — regarding this later arrival — "The meteor appeared at the crest of a three-night meteor shower." (Orionids? Ed.) *Cr Bloch.*

## BRONX MIRACLE

Coverage of the doings of 9-year-old Joseph Vitolo, Jr., who says he sees "the Virgin Mary" from time to time has been adequate. For the benefit of members who have seen no photograph of this *erdgeist*, we report that all he lacks is a pair of horns. The infant Panurge must have had eyes like that. In twenty years he'll be the wag of his regiment.

## CONCHY SPECIALIST

As you drive through the beautiful Everglades, hook your tarpon off Fort Meyers, play checkers at St. Petersburg or get cock-eyed in Palm Beach, you may forget to have an attitude toward the disposal of black sewage in the neighborhood. It wants disposal to prevent contamination of Florida water.

Building privies is one way that helps, and under WPA some of these were erected. More recently Conscientious Objectors have put to the task.

Some are proud of the Fortean membership among these toilers in the vineyard, and proudest of Werner Janney. Werner (called "Casey") is so literate that his course — since the reinstatement of slavery in the United States — can be followed by a broad trail of pamphlets. Wherever he goes he sets up a Camp Magazine. The latest, called "27 F" after the number of his unit, is the best, and it contains the information that an "installation" which required 1.1 man-days under WPA is made in 3.4 man-days under CO. Of course, the men were paid under WPA; the CO gets less than nothing. The booklet closes with this note, by Janney: "The writer of this article was not born with a flush toilet in his mouth. As Woodrow Wilson might have said, he used open plumbing openly arrived at, until he got to college."

In a letter he discusses Florida politics, saying such things as might work hardship upon him if he quoted it, and adding:

"I like the term *pyrotic*. What is the term for people or families susceptible to falling stones, *lithotics*? And what is the name for the one who receives the attentions of an ordinary poltergeist, as distinct from the out-door type? There really ought to be some all-embracing term for the person (adolescent girl?) who is the center of any disturbance, whether she cracks her big toes or entertains visitors from Pluto, who like to shy stuff at her. *Vortex*?"

## OUR LOSS

Now Benjamin De Casseres is gone, at the last of the none-suches. Boys and girls of today know him, if at all, as one of our earliest columnists, a book reviewer and anti-Russ. His flag-waving of late years has

made many forget that he was once a considerable poet and fire-spouting rebel. Early in life, he had sublime self-confidence and a grand impatience with all Philistines. Because publishers could make no money from his books they rejected them, but De Casseres had the courage to print them himself, in the face of widespread popular scorn for that practice. He employed no "vanity publisher", nor was his motive vain. Read anything he wrote before 1925 to taste the salt he was made of.

You will find many contributions in the old *Smart Set*. H. L. Mencken knew his merit. And De Casseres was one of the first to recognize the quality of Fort. They corresponded, and De Casseres wrote his essay — *Charles Fort: the Puck of Mysticism* — out of a great feeling of kinship for a brother poet-prophet.

When the Fortean Society was founded (1931 = the year 1 F S), De Casseres refused to participate, under the misapprehension that "joining" implied discipleship, and he, of course, would be no man's disciple. In refusing, he assured Fort of his unflinching affection; and many times, since, in his Hearst columns, he urged Fort upon his readers.

The Society is now negotiating with the De Casseres estate, in the hope of publishing the Fort chapter of *Raiders of the Absolute* together with the Fort-De Casseres correspondence.

## CONFIDENCES RESPECTED

Any U. S. Navy personnel who have participated in voyages with mysterious, unknown personages aboard (not as prisoners), destination Tampico, Havana or Buenos Aires, in the last year of World Fraud II, please send complete details to Your Secretary. Your identity will be held in absolute secrecy.

Members who would recognize Mussolini, Claretta Petacci, Hitler or his alleged mistress, are urged to be alert in Barcelona, Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Hollywood and Moscow, for a sight of any of them — and report.

*The Last Three Days of Mussolini*, in the December *Atlantic Monthly*, is too circumstantial by half. It is signed by one V. Lada-Mocarski, a vice-president of J. Henry Schroder Banking Corporation (*sic!*), and a former Colonel in the Office of Strategic Services (*sic!*).

Hitler has been reported seen in Cranston, Rhode Island, by United Press, and in Cairo, Egypt, by Reuter.

## AND PATTON TOO!

Warren G. Dugan was born in this same squirrel cage the rest of us still live in. He didn't know it was a squirrel cage until some men in uniform tried to teach him tricks. They wanted to dress him in a monkey suit and send him off to kill — for the good of humanity — to protect other people from a scourge.

Dugan could not see it. He became a Conscientious Objector. He was sent to a camp, and when opportunity offered, transferred to an asylum as an orderly. From there he got something better, the post of laboratory assistant at the Yale School of Medicine. His work was innoculating monkeys with the virus germs of polio, and

observing their reactions. Funny — he never did see the similarity between himself and those monkeys. It never occurred to him that they had objections to being stuck with needles full of infection — for the good of their jailors. But a beneficent god passing that way was not so blind as Dugan, and when he saw what the Conscientious Objector was doing to the helpless monkey, he let a scratch admit the virus into Dugan's system — and kill him.

Your Secretary does not know the name of the god who managed this bit of blind justice, but he offers to touch off one votive light of respect to the deity, whatever his name, immediately upon indubitable identification.

## SAME PAPER

All newspaper accounts of What-is-it hunts are written by the same man, whether it is for the *N. Y. Times*, the *Toledo Blade*, the Chicago *Daily News* or the Paris edition of the South African *Herald*. This omnipresent writer is just under twelve years of age, slightly sub-normal mentally, suffering under the delusion that he is a comical wit. He covered the Geezil-the-Weasel story, and thousands of others — all facetiously, all disarmingly, all to prevent public panic. Searching out facts which may be submerged in columns of unfunny flapdoodle is a bore-some business — but must be done . . . This time it's "Montie the Monster". In the Sheep's Hill section of Pennsylvania, five miles north of Pottstown, something which "(a) screams like a panther, (b) barks like a dog (c) wails like a banshee and (d) laughs like a hyena," had been — on 11-14-45 old style — raiding hen houses and "snarling at children coming home from school" for the previous ten days.

The journalistic insistence upon taking it all lightly assumes this form in lieu of description: "Those who claimed (*sic*) to have seen Montie (*sic*) described him in odd shapes, various colors and a hodge-podge of features . . . It was agreed, however, that he possesses a most magnificent tail." *Cr Farnsworth*

## PENINSULA PYTHON

A superior type of journalism was displayed by Robert Bordner in covering the mysterious appearance of a "python" about 19 feet long near Peninsula, Ohio, summer of 14 F.S. The hunt and subsequent disappearance of the snake is summed up in the "November 1945" *Atlantic Monthly*. *Cr Waring.*

## MORE ANIMALS

At North Smithfield, Rhode Island, an unexplained armadillo, found (11-28-45 old style) about 3:15 p.m., crossing the highway with the green light! *Cr Brooks*

In Chicago, 11-2-45 old style, a deer — a buck — leaped into an auto show room, through the plate glass window: leaped out through another window — and led police and boy scouts a mile-long chase for upwards of an hour. Then it disappeared. *Cr Fritz*

A two-inch fish — just the one fish — fell on the umbrella of a letter carrier, I. J. Williams, Birmingham, Ala., 3-28-44

old style. Rain had been heavy for days. The fish lived in the man's hand for about 20 minutes. Identified by an amateur as of a "salt water variety". Cr non-member Bairnsfather

An unidentified beast was roaming Wildcat Hollow, near Latrobe, Pa., 9-8-45 old style. "About four feet tall, weighing 100 pounds, it broke up a corn-roast by leaping into the crowd" and grabbing two cars of corn"! Cr Hoernlein.

A monkey in Mrs. Mary Murray's kitchen, San Francisco, threw dishes at her, 5-30-45 old style, bit a cop and got its picture in the paper. Nobody questioned knew where the monkey came from.

### FAREWELL TOUR

We have had the last word on Pearl Harbor, the last last-word, and the absolutely last last-word. One is reminded of Sarah Bernhart, Harry Lauder and others who kept coming back and coming back for years to make positively, absolutely last, final farewell tours. And every mother's son of us in sufficient possession of our faculties to stay in out of the mid-day sun knows full well that the last word on Pearl Harbor will not be made public until some "natural law" makes the Official Wink, the Nod, the High Sign not only indelible and self-explanatory but admissible as evidence as well.

In words of one syllable, Pearl Harbor was agreed to by the potent of the United States and Japan, in all personal friendliness, as a necessary step in the development of World Fraud II, and the only "evidence" of the fact which ever existed was the Wink passed.

### 30 FIRES ONE WEEK

The first fire started in a table drawer, Sunday night, 9-9-45 old style, in the home of Mrs. Annie Bryan near Midland, Ark. By the following Friday "about thirty" mysterious blazes had occurred, in curtains, wall paper, clothing, etc., etc. A barn burned down Wednesday, and nine fires were discovered Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Bryan had no insurance. Cr Wakefield, Giles & Merker.

### SKY BLAST

South of Great Pond, a lake which is 12 miles Southwest of Waterville, Maine, about 1:45 a.m., 8-1-45 old style, a "terrific" explosion in the sky followed by a bright light. The observer, Raymond Stickney, said it rocked the earth. Cr Brooks.

### POWER

Last issue we noticed, incidentally, that motors to utilize high explosives could have been perfected at any time since the invention of dynamite if those who control our economy had considered such engines good for us. Pertinent too is the past neglect of the steam-driven automobile. Some places even have laws against their use on the highways. Why? Is it because the bugs couldn't be overcome by Yankee ingenuity? — or because water is so much cheaper to boil than gasoline to octane?

### FROM LABOURLAND

Something flew "at an unheard-of speed", about 10,000 feet up, going South, over Vaesterbotten, Sweden, just before 7-9-45 old style: "shape resembled that of a bird."

If it was a plane, it was one the like of which "the Swedish General Staff" never had seen before.

An African native who could pretty well substantiate an age of 130 years died in Serowe just before 8-31-45 old style. He had been blind many years.

Portugese children are given airplane rides to cure whooping cough. "The method has proved successful in the Azores." 8-29-45 old style.

When Dr. J. W. C. Wand was confirmed Bishop of London, 8-22-45 old style, over 100 men in the audience shouted protests and sang songs of criticism. It did not stop the ceremony.

Hammersprings Spa, in South Island, New Zealand, was rocked by a quake, which lasted 27 hours, according to *Daily Herald* 9-1-45 old style.

VERBATIM: "Haunted house, at Breamore, Hants, occupied by United States Army generals, has been returned to the War Office. *Herald* 5-29-45 old style.

J. W. Fletcher, of Cremorne, New South Wales, started standing on his head a few minutes every day, five years ago. He has not had a cold since.

A "very old" rose bush in Newbiggin, which has never done anything of this kind before, put forth a branch which bore seven red roses and one white one. 7-24-45 old style.

Ants have taken complete possession of the village of Joane, Portugal. The population (under 200 persons) was compelled to evacuate 9-13-45 old style, *London Times*.

St. Paul's is moving West, down Ludgate Hill "at the rate of about one inch every hundred years."

Credit Elselder for all the above.

### BEEES

Jimmy Allison, 2, San Bernardino, Calif., was in a serious condition, 11-14-45 old style, "from poisoning and shock" after being attacked by a swarm of bees. Cr Brackett.

Swarms estimated to total 100,000 bees took over the village of Woodcliff Lake, N. J., 9-16-45 old style, when a beeman tried to move them from a house to a hive. At least 700 persons were stung. No fatalities reported. Cr Reagan.

Mrs. Isabella Mason, ae 64, of Manor House, Leck, North Lancashire, was stung by "a bee or a wasp", and died 15 minutes later. At an inquest the verdict attributed death to *pernicious anaemia!* Cr Elselder.

### GOING UP

A column of water about 20 feet wide and 100 feet high arose from the ocean (and ascended into heaven?) Oct. 31, 1945 old style, "in the afternoon", between Cape Henry and Cape Charles, off Norfolk, Va., according to J. Arthur Addenbrook and a party of fishing friends. They thought it was caused by an explosion but no sound was heard and the Navy could not explain it even after investigation. Cr Reagan.

### THE ROCKETEERS

When we were founding the Fortean Society, Charles Fort refused to join. We wanted to name him Honorary President, or to give him some other title, one especially calculated to remove all onus of vanity or self-exploitation, of which he had

an insuperable dread. "No," said he "I'll do it the Interplanetary Exploration Society and I'll come in, but not as long as my name on it."

Ever since, we have had the warmest cordiality for the rocketeers, and kept tabs on their progress here and abroad until censorship interfered.

Now we are delighted to announce that the President of the United States Rocket Society, the well known pioneer in this field, R. L. Farnsworth, and one of the vice-presidents, John M. Griggs, are members of the Fortean Society, and will thenceforward be our liaison — transportation-wise — with Luna, Mars, and points up.

Farnsworth edits a quarterly for his organization, *Rockets*, \$4.00 per year. Address: 69 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn, Ill. Probably he will report upon the recent "radar" high jinks in the columns of his publication. No advocate of flight to Luna could afford to scorn such an opportunity. For what it may be worth, however, we pass along the observation of MFS Stevens, that such nonsense as the "Heavside layer" and other "ceilings", which have been "bouncing back radio waves" for ever so long, must have parted like the Red Sea to let "radar" through — round trip!

### COLOR HEALING

An all-woman jury in Brooklyn Federal Court decided (6-26-45 old style) to let the Government stop Dinshah P. Ghadiali from selling any more of his "spectrochrome" machines. These machines give off colored light and were used to help people feel better.

The use of colored lights in healing is no new thing. One recalls that Babbitt advocated use of yellow light for a physic. Our MFS Faber Birren will cite you books on the subject for the past two or three centuries. MFS George Starr White M.D., has had wide experience in the field. He illustrates and describes some "fundamental work in colored music as a therapeutic agent" in his book, "Lecture Course to Physicians, 7th Edition", and he "even built a piano so the rolls would play automatically when cut, playing the music and giving the color that corresponded to the theme."

Apparently it's all in the way you go about it, because the Auratone Foundation of America Incorporated, "Music in Color," has a book full of testimonials from hospitals, the voice of Bing Crosby on its records, and the names of at least two Jesuits on its letter-head. One Cecil Stokes is the impressario, but he does not sell his machines or charge for demonstrations. What he sells, or plans to, is fabrics or the color designs for fabrics made after the patterns music puts on color film.

One is reminded of Thomas Wilfred and his "Art Institute of Light", which was the esoteric fad of the 1920s. Wilfred had built a "color organ", soundless, which "played" in response to pressure on a keyboard. The colors were projected upon a screen, falling in patterns the player could devise, and repeat at will. The "range" was limited only by the size of the instrument and the ingenuity of the "composer". Ever became of Wilfred? We have heard from him or of him in years.

## WILL O' THE WISPS

When the ground is very moist" in Southwestern Missouri Ozarks, near Everton, residents observe "strange balls of light which float" over the swamps and sometimes along the roads. Reports appeared 7-11-45 old style, in the Kansas City *Times*. Cr Merker.

## LOOK FORWARD

1947 old style, the year 17 FS, should mark publication of a sealed MSS deposited in the Library of Congress by Abraham Lincoln. Watch for it.

1956 is the year the Phoenix rises again from the flames.

## JEWEL FOUND

While reading Reverend Joseph Berington (1750-1827), on the *Literary History of the Middle Ages* — this gem! . . . " . . . from the time of Nicolas (Pope Nicholas V Parentucelli, d. 1455) to our own, with the single exception of Alexander VI (Borgia) . . . no pontiff will be named whom we can justly load with the reproach of ignorance or of vice."

That's a WOW, son. A WOW, that is.

## STEIN IS STEIN IS STEIN

That's Gertrude, of course.

In *Life* she wrote: "When General Osborne came to see me just after the victory, he asked me what I thought should be done to educate the Germans. I said there is only one thing to be done and that is to teach them disobedience, as long as they are obedient so long sooner or later they will be ordered around by a bad man and he will be trouble. Teach them disobedience, I said . . . General Osborne shook his head sadly, you'll never make the heads of an army understand that"

## POLIO FROM VACCINE

According to MFS F. S. Hurd, who has data on the subject, infantile paralysis is caused by vaccination. In fact, Mr. Hurd has been telling people this for a long time, and has successfully fought legislation to make vaccination compulsory in several localities. If you want to know more about it address P. O. Box 191, Evanston, Ill. Individuals injured by inoculations who take their cases to court may obtain evidence against the racket from this source.

Pertinent is the death of 10-month-old twins "after they had received injections against diphtheria and whooping cough from their family doctor". They were Garry and Donald Miraglia, of Jackson Heights, Queens. *Daily News* 6-20-45 old style.

Private Butler, RAMC, was forcibly vaccinated "against his wish and contrary to the King's Regulations . . . in the Anzio bridgehead. The M. O., Major Carson, was called on the carpet but got off without disciplinary action on the plea that he had "acted in good faith". *Reveille* 7-31-44 old style. Cr Elselder.

Beatrice Cook, ATS, ae 24, died after being injected with a vaccine used against typhoid. *Daily Express* 8-4-44 old style. *Ibid*

## ARMY STUCK WRONG MAN

When the U. S. Army doctors at Fort Hospital decided to puncture the spine of MFS Bartholmew R. Reagan, September, 42, they didn't know their man. Accord-

ing to Reagan, his permission was not requested, no explanation was offered, no waiver was presented for his signature, no opportunity given him to refuse. He had not been in a hospital for twenty years and had no idea what they meant to do to him. "Had I known, I would have refused . . . A spinal puncture is a major operation, and a FORCED one is a criminal assault, by act of Congress."

Reagan has been in one hospital or another ever since, and doctors have reported disability from 30% to 75%. He was discharged from the Army 2-26-43 old style, with a pension of "30%". He has been fighting ever since for 100% pension, from the date of the puncture. All appeals have been denied, and he now places his only hope in an act of Congress to cover his case specifically. It is case No. C-3 146 621.

## THAT CAMPBELL

Ever on his toes, Jack Campbell, from his home in Florida, sends a cutting from the Orlando *Sentinel-Star* of Dec. 2, 1945 old style. The salient portion occupies three columns, between an item — STOCKS HAVE BANNER WEEK, and an ad for cemetery lots in Woodlawn Memorial Park. The aforsald salient portion consists of a diagram plus mathematics, "squaring the circle" and somehow employing Holy Writ (Daniel and Revelation) to create a "Formula for Nullification of Destruction" etc. It's all very atomic, signed by William Kendrick Hale, and not one whit more goony than anything else you have seen on this subject. We are hard after Mr. Hale and plan to stack him up against some of the men who get paid for this sort of thing. In fact, we conceive a Blindfold Test for higher mathematicians. We think that not even the best of them can tell the difference between a page from one of their own books, and an artfully contrived page of *no import* put together by a man who never studied algebra. We'll see.

## STETTER SELECTIONS

Archaeologists and geologists snapped back to normalcy all over the world without apparent regard for the dilemma in which their physicist colleagues have become embroiled. A Russian party took off (6-28-45 old style) for the Chukotka Peninsula in Siberia opposite Alaska "to clarify many questions in connection with the population of North America". Attention is directed to theory of a land bridge between continents, there once, now sunk . . . A. M. MacGregor, "a (British?) government geologist" in the "remote" Sebungwe District of Southern Rhodesia, reported (7-20-45 old style) discovery of two ancient lake beds wherein were fossilized remains "of giant reptiles, fish and other fauna that roamed . . . Africa millions of years ago."

Only a week before, a dredging crew working in a peat bog on the Dale Keith farm near Martin (near Allegan) Michigan, turned up a jawbone three feet long, weighing forty pounds, containing back molars seven inches long, a section of spine three feet across, a shin bone and ribs, of what was identified as "definitely" a mastodon. R. A. Smith, chief of the geology division of the State Conservation Department did

the identifying and indicated that he might ask U of Mich. to form a research expedition in Allegan County. (Also see Wombat below.)

Residents of East Lansing saw a strange light "in the general vicinity of the moon" (roughly, *up*, you might say) and asked police what it was (8-4-45 old style). The police asked the Weather Bureau "experts", and after a "huddle" the police "came out with an *unofficial* verdict" (Ed's italics) that it was "Venus showing off". Doing a strip-tease, no doubt.

"Thousands upon thousands" of what were "tentatively identified" by Dr. Robert C. Miller, of the San Francisco Academy of Natural Sciences, as "monarch butterflies" flew in from the ocean near Golden Gate, 9-28-45 old style. (Cr, also, Merker)

On the twelfth of the same month, the *Detroit News* announced that the orbit of the planet Pluto is so eccentric that in 1989 A D Pluto will be the eighth planet from the sun instead of the ninth. It will swing in closer than Neptune.

On 10-6-45 old style the same paper announced finding — by archaeologists (*sic!*) — of a burial urn bearing the name "of Jesus" (*the Christ* is implied). It is about time the schoolmen came up with some concrete evidence for the Church. The proponents of the Christ-was-a-myth argument have been gaining ground with every warmiracle published.

Lastly — the south magnetic pole is moving from the Indian Ocean toward East London, South Africa. "It may require a century or two (*sic*) for the pole to make the trip."

All above to the credit of LMFS Augusta Stetter, all from the *Detroit News*.

## GREEN MEANS GO

Your Embattled Secretary, forced by the exigencies of that post to stand at a perpetual cross-roads and attempt to keep traffic moving, is called upon often to act as arbiter in questions of precedence. One of these which has been awaiting publication this good while concerns color.

As a part-time painter, we have known that any color could be mixed from pans of red, yellow and blue (if one but had the patience), and as an observer of the human scene we have been aware that scarcely any two people called colors (other than those three) by the same set of names. Moreover, we never yet have met a female who did not know better than the next one what colors every member of her sex could and could not wear. Next only after an extremely high arch, this amazing color-sense is the most nearly universal of all feminine characteristics.

Aside from those rudiments, our familiarity with the field of color has been limited. When a question arose, we always referred it to MFS Faber Birren. Faber is the man who showed billiard champs that they could run higher scores on a purple cloth than they ever had on green, and the man who put up yellow "black-boards" in our most progressive schools. Notwithstanding these achievements, we have ever taken his dicta with more than a pinch of salt because of his acceptance of the orthodox philosophy of the spectrum. To wit — that *because*

a beam of sunlight, intercepted by a prism, turned into a sort of rainbow, that "light" *per se* was the sum of all the colors thus "separated". That deduction has always seemed to us to be a good deal less than necessary, representing — in fact — only one of a score or more various inferences which might be drawn from the phenomenon. With only that somewhat basic reservation, we have let Faber Birren draw all our color lines.

What, then, was our amazement to receive a broadside attack upon Birren as a color expert by a new member, Marie P. Sweet, who fired salvo after salvo to the glory of Wilhelm Ostwald. Specifically, Birren was accused of not doing Ostwald justice. Not to be caught with our Forteanism down, we volunteered to look into the matter, and offered MFS Sweet the opportunity to tell the membership about Ostwald in DOUBT. While she was preparing her paper, we dipped here and there into Birren's published work to see how Ostwald fared there, and discovered this — in *Color Dimensions*, by Faber Birren, 1934, p. 35:

"It has remained for Wilhelm Ostwald to blaze new trails and literally to mark out original paths to beauty heretofore unknown because no previous color charts either respected or divulged the true nature of sensation. Ostwald has pioneered in fields of which no other colorist has ever dreamed . . . Wilhelm Ostwald was the greatest scientist ever to devote a large portion of time and energy to color harmony. An eminent man, Nobel Prizeman in Chemistry (1909), honorary member of a dozen or more scientific societies, he yet understood intimately the many temperamental and psychological idiosyncracis of hue and sensation. Though he was a great abstract colorist in his own right his enduring contribution to the art lies in the remarkable manner in which he has charted the spectrum and has forced it into alliance with human sensation and experience of color . . . Let me confess now that at least half of my own principles of harmony to be described in the next chapter have been made possible by Ostwald's ingenuity."

A man could scarcely acknowledge a debt more fully or honorably than that, and greater praise could hardly be heaped upon anyone less than Abe Lincoln.

The paper prepared about Ostwald by MFS Sweet follows here. Its many dogmatic assertions are permitted to pass unchallenged simply because they are the commonplace prejudices of all men in this field, including, alas, MFS Birren.

Twenty years of research and experimentation have brought us an organized system of color relationships such as we have not previously known. The old 'mystery' of color no longer reigns with its confusion and chaos. Orderly relationships have been measured and established as sound and workable by a scientist well versed in the fields of physics and chemistry where color has its source of origin and expression.

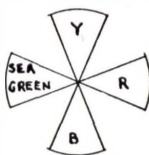
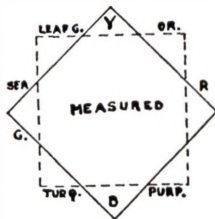
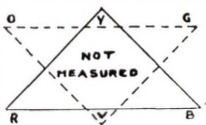
Color, as light-ray waves and frequencies, dwells in the realm of physics. Color, as surface preparation, which gives the human eye colorful impressions or stimulation,

makes use of pigments and dyes or other chemical influences to produce its manifold variations.

But in the last analysis, color becomes a psychological sensation as it reaches the vision and mind of the observer. It was this aspect that gave Dr. Ostwald his clue to the logical method of measurement and correlation to set up an organized system of color identity and relationships.

To illustrate the relationship of color stimuli to color sensations in the human observer Ostwald sets up the following sequence, in terms of OPPOSITE sensations. In the visible spectrum, depicted on surfaces by chemical pigments, there are FOUR outstanding chromatic or hue sensations called fundamental (or unmixed) hue areas. From a subsequent mixture of these four and the addition of white and/or black, ALL other variations are obtained. To chart this progressive process in color relationships we make a circle, placing opposites directly across from one another. Wave length measurements and psychological analysis determine correctly balanced opposites.

To illustrate:



In terms of psychological sensation, as well as pigment or surface color, White and Black (and their mixture, Grey) are colors also, though in terms of light, White is

total light remission (all color blended together) and Black is total absorption of absence of any remitted rays.

The hues are known as chromatic colors, and pure or saturated hue has no black or white content. White and black (and their mixture into grey gradations) are known as achromatic color, or color without hue content. These two groups are simply two types of color. Pigment mixtures are necessary to produce surface color variations . . . in terms of the many tints and tones.

To summarize:

First step—selection of the FOUR fundamental (unmixed hues . . . located as opposites.

Second step—mixture of adjacent fundamental four hues to produce secondary links.

Third step—mixture of white and black (achromatics) to produce grey gradations. (Eight of these gradations, at equal intervals, are used by Ostwald).

Fourth step—mixture of white with hues to produce lightest variations or clear TINTS.

Fifth step—mixture of black with hues to procure darkest variations or clear TONES.

Sixth step—mixture of greys (from mid-grey to white) for greyed-tints.

Seventh step—mixture of greys (from mid-grey to black) for greyed-tones.

Eighth step—mixture of eight fundamental hues with adjacents for 24 hue-circle.

Ninth step—using 24 hue circle as equidistant and eight achromatic gradations as center pole, to procure a color-solid of 680 measured color relationships. (Ostwald's semichrome series.)

Combinations of these color variations, with areas in measured juxtaposition, is used to form the various types of harmony. Selection at measured intervals gives an orderly series of relationships. The Law of Order equals harmony. This provides us with a fool-proof method of color selection and control. In combination with psychological color association and symbolism, we can get predetermined reactions to color stimuli by use of this method of control.

Any person can understand, become aware of, and use color successfully through an adequate study of Ostwald's system . . . each observer and user then being his own 'expert', so to speak.

For a technical explanation of these principles of color, consult Ostwald's "Color Science", 2 vols., and Color Album, published by Winsor Newton, Ltd. 1931. (Out of print. Go to your public library.)

NOTE: Spectrometric measurements establish the four basic complementary wave lengths. Photometric measurements establish the Grey Scale of eight logarithmic gradations. Pure Hue (no white & black content) circle of 24 hues are identified by number. Steps in the Grey Scale are identified by letter intervals. Thus any variation in the Color Solid can be identified by means of three symbols: C + W + B. Color (hue) plus White plus Black content. This eliminates confusion of ambiguous terms and color names.

## RATTLERS TURN

God's chillun in the tall and uncut who with snakes, as reported last issue, set the district to squabbling about whether it was legal or not. Coming under the head of religion, nobody could stop them, but the Virginia State Police did kill some of their snakes.

Scoffers said the snakes were not prime specimens, that poison had been removed, fangs drawn, and the crawlers drugged before the services.

Nevertheless, Lewis E. Ford, a "lay" preacher died of a bite, and so did Mrs. Anna Kirk, and her baby, delivered between the bite and the mother's death. Four of the *Bible* thumpers were indicted on a murder charge then, 10-18-45 old style. Cr Reagan.

"I have never envied God his friends, nor he mine, perhaps." *Ben Hecht.*

## VOLCANOS ACTIVE

Ventura County, Calif., has a baby volcano, discovered 1866, quiescent for the past 10 years. 5-12-44 "a large section of hillside caved away" and the nameless waif smoked. 4-6-45 old style, it was smoking again. Cr Lovejoy.

Crater Lake, Ore., is an "extinct" volcano. On 10-8-45 old style, and again 10-26-45, strange clouds of "gas or smoke" hovered over the still water. That is all. Cr Hoernlein, Bowring, Stevens.

## MAGNETIC NORTH

The crew of the Aries, a British plane, announced 5-26-45 old style that they had found the magnetic pole to be from 200 to 500 miles NNW from its formerly accepted position. They place it on Sverdrup Island, 1500 miles from the geographical North Pole.

They do not convince the Canadian Mines and Resources Department, which holds with its "numerous investigations" placing magnetic north on the Boothia Peninsula. The Scientists there add that the Magnetic Pole may move about as much as 100 miles during "severe magnetic storms".

MFS Elsender, who contributes the data, adds that the Aries times its "discovery" at 3 a.m., DBST (actually 1:00 a.m.) May 26. That on May 27, a full moon was due at 1:48 a.m., GMT. "On this day Uranus was in opposition to both luminaries. What could have happened had they been 24 hours late in their flight?"

## SĒMANTIC

Attention is called to a current, living, active example of word metamorphosis. The process is somewhere midway of its course, but the end is clearly in sight. Most of us are too young to remember how or when "usury", "citizen", "anarchy" and a thousand other words were perverted from their original meanings, but here — for everyone to see — the same thing is being done to the word "discrimination".

Time was when the term was complimentary, indicating fastidiousness, skill, taste, breeding, experience, ability, judgment — in short, *discrimination*. Now, by a change in the tone of voice employed to pronounce it, "discrimination" becomes a hardly act, even punishable by law in the States. Commandment XI: Thou shalt choose.

## BLUE MOONS

Reported "only a few years ago" by inhabitants of Suva, Fiji Islands, that the moon rose a "vivid Blue". *Kansas City Star* 7-29-45. Further details are being sought. Cr Merker.

J. Hugh Pruett, the Oregon Astronomer who prefers God, wrote in his column 8-13-44 old style, that four blue moons had been reported in "the past five years", and that he himself had observed one "shortly after sunset on July 28, 1944". Cr Hoernlein.

Ida Griffin of Hampstead saw one 2-21-45 old style, and wrote to the *London Times* about it — "pale blue and duck green." Cr Elsender.

## MORE PRUETT

The astronomer mentioned above, a sort of poor man's Garrett P. Serviss, got a whack athwart his pantaloons in these columns some months ago, and by way of retaliation asked Your Secretary to write a statement of the Atheist's reason "for believing the universe Godless". The statement was wanted for inclusion in a book Prof. Pruett was putting together, and he promised not to tamper with the words.

No man to shun encounter, Your Secretary whittled a pencil and let fly. Months passed without a word from Pruett, not even acknowledgment of receipt. At length we wrote asking if the MSS was in hand. Well, sir, it was, but it had reached Prof. Pruett too late for inclusion in his book. He had got some "other" Atheist to fill those pages, but, *as of that date the proposed book had no publisher*. This is a Fortean accident if we ever encountered one: the phenomenon of a MSS arriving "too late for publication" by a publisher who does not yet exist!

What the "other" Atheist wrote, we can only guess, but probably it was less difficult for the pious Prof to swallow than the following, which is Your Secretary's piece:

Asking an atheist to explain why he thinks the universe "godless", is like asking a baby who never heard of alcohol why he isn't drunk; or like asking one with two sound legs to explain why he doesn't use a crutch. The question, the world-condition which makes the question possible, and the concept which conditions the phrasing of the question, are uniformly preposterous, barbaric and synthetic. "Preposterous" in that artificial symptoms of a non-existent disease have been created for which a spurious remedy is then suggested. "Barbaric" in that worship of the supernatural is a survival from savagery. "Synthetic" in that the whole is a purposely and purposefully acquired but superfluous accretion. In short, the shoe should be on the other foot.

If thinking the universe godful, or getting soused, or walking with a crutch, have advantages, the burden of proof is on the side of those who have these boons for sale. We innocent, curious, healthy children of the twentieth century whom the religious call atheists, negatively, are the truly affirmative (the UNconditioned) in such a fantastic debate.

Even in so meager a source of evidence as this world's books afford, one may trace any and every god back to origination by humans seeking to compensate for their

own shortcomings or seeking to take advantage of their fellows'. In like wise one may trace back every non-religious, "scientific", mechanistic *explanation* of the universe and its alleged "laws", to no-less-human sources, and to equally selfish motives.

Thus, we atheists, who are the pure in heart, unpoisoned by doctrine or dogma, unlamed by awe for god or for professor, take confidence from the example of men who have lived before us. What man may do, man may criticize — perhaps improve upon. So that, when we observe the sky at night, over the desert or over the sea, and dwell upon all the gods and hypotheses men have put forward to date to explain that spectacle, we are struck by the inadequacy of the entire lot. We are inspired, on our own behalf, to guess — and guess again.

Perhaps this is not the standard view of the atheist. The writer has no portfolio from that clan. It is, rather, the view of a Fortean, embracing atheism without insisting upon it. For instance, if the next man's guess calls for a *new* god, by all means let him be heard. So be his god is not indigent, neither beggar nor despot, nor bearded: and if his god's name should be called "Law", then let his principle be all-embracing, infinite, truly universal, and not some make-shift rule-of-thumb purporting to comprehend eternity on the evidence of a single four-thousand-year instant. Or — if you will have a god named "Flux", with Infinite Diversity, for his first principle, strong knees will bend before *him*. Yea! If you don't ask too much for your candles, a Fortean might light one — yes, even I.

## VERBATIM

"I am convinced that any group of people, if given educational advantages and proper research facilities are potentially dangerous."

Dr. James W. Broxon, U of Colorado physicist speaking, as quoted by AP in *Buffalo Evening News* of 8-27-45 old style.

## NEUMANN STILL ALIVE

The stigmatic Therese Neumann, reported dead in 1939 (see DOUBT No. 3) is still alive and bleeding according to AP. Cr Hoernlein, Merker.

## A REAL CONTRIBUTION

Whatever may be said for or against Vaughn Bachman Brokaw's economic theories, called "Equitist", we must acknowledge his contribution to the American language. He has invented a pronoun for those awkward third-person spots where we mean both sexes and have to say "he" or "his", and sometimes use the singular when we mean the plural. *You* know.

The pronoun is VEY, and here is how it works: "An economic fundamental of it is that each sane adult be free to spend the whole of veys adult life working for veys own benefit. That vey is free to spend every hour of veys adult life on veyself."

Want any more? Write to the Equitist League, Del Rosa, California. Specify whether you want your pamphlet in English or in "Ido".

## SOCRATIC QUESTION

Do you think the "Allies" painted out the "USA" on the tanks we sent to Java?

## VIVA O'DONNELL! VIVA CORNELL!!!

We are delighted to report that John O'Donnell, Washington columnist for the N. Y. *Daily News*, covered the case of Ezra Pound 11-27-45 old style with a degree of fairness seldom encountered in the freeprez today.

We are gleefully glad to announce that LMFS Julien Cornell, attorney for the Fortean Society, author of the *Conscientious Objector and the Law*, has been attorney for Ezra Pound and would have defended him if the poet's condition had permitted the obscene trial to proceed.

Pound is at present in St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, where Fortean has visited him. He is translating Chinese poetry while he waits for the world to become sane.

## WATER FROM NOWHERE

Midday, 10-16-1920 old style, in Dublin, Georgia: rain that formed "a short distance off the ground" on a perfectly clear day, in front of the bank: steady shower, large drops, "went on for days . . . at intervals for three years . . . then it stopped abruptly." *Oakland Tribune*.

Same date, died in Oakland, Dr. Duncan McDougall who claimed to have weighed the human soul. He carried a postal scale in a grip, and "dashed hither and thither on a bicycle looking for people who were dying". *Cr Yetter*.

## SUNSPOTS CAUSE WAR

After studying the eclipse of 7-9-45 old style, Prof. Knut Lundmarch, chief of Lund U Observatory, Stockholm, said that sunspots caused wars and the "next" one will come in 1962. *Cr Rayner*.

## NO GOD IN SCHOOL

Mrs. Vashti McCollum who refused to permit the Illinois public schools to teach her son religion received so many commendatory letters from all over the country that it was necessary to *print* a thank-you reply.

## FREE PAMPHLET

Jhetong ko Tal has published a pamphlet called *The Barrier, a brief discussion of the rise and fall of civilization*. Members who keep abreast of such fluctuations may have this piece by addressing P. O. Box 300, Stoughton, Mass.

## "DIFFERENT"

Lilith Lorraine, a Texas writer and an MFS, gets out a magazine called *Different*. One thing "different" about it is that almost anybody can understand the poetry it prints; whether it is all worth printing or not is another question, and one which nobody asked us to answer. *Different* also has a department of Fortean called "Strange Experiences," edited by Dariell Dunay. Send 35¢ for a sample copy or \$2.00 for a year, to *Different*, Rogers, Arkansas.

## WEIRD FORCE

The Chicago *Tribune* was frankly nonplussed, 7-30-44 old style, by the fall of a bridge at Chester, Ill. A 650 foot span over the Mississippi was "hurled" into the river in the midst of a thunder storm about 9:30 p.m. No lightning marks near. No tornado damage anywhere in the vicinity. Jupiter pluvius — the bridge fell. *Cr Davis*.

## NOR HAIL NOR SLEET . . .

On the bank of the Green River near Walton, Ill., about 5000 first class and registered letters — unopened — dating as far back as 1922, were found on a dump, 9-19-45 old style. No Post Office in Walton for past ten years. No explanation offered. *Cr Yetter*.

## A SKY ANCHOR OF COURSE

Across the roof of 347 Hale Street, Oakland, Calif., and two adjoining houses, a steel cable was draped. It was 750 feet long and 3/16 inch thick. "Found" by a patrolman. No mention of anybody hearing it arrive (night of June 4-5, 1945 old style). No damage done.

Fourth Air Force Headquarters had no record, but said it "could have been tossed overboard by an airplane crew which may have thought itself over the ocean."

Query: Is 750 feet of steel cable standard equipment of planes? Or were the boys attempting to tie to a wave? *Cr Yetter*.

## PYROTICS

Clayton Metzler, *ae* 43, farmer, Rt. 1, Crimera, Va. . . . "in a blazing bed" about 6 a.m., 10-17-45 old style. *Cr Reagan*.

Arthur Bangard, *ae* 39, an invalid, Lancaster, N. Y., 2-2-43, burned beyond recognition, all his clothing burned off — "it seems strange that none of the furniture was even scorched." *Cr Giles*.

Herbert Evans, 55, "suffocated . . . when his bed caught fire, evidently from a cigarette . . . The fire had burned itself out before spreading beyond the bed." *Seattle Times* 8-9-45 old style. The *Star* of same date attributes death to "overexertion . . . extinguishing a fire". *Cr Hoernlein*.

Mrs. Lillian Chastain, 42, Tacoma, 9-13-45. "Fire department reports show" — smoking in bed. *Ibid*.

The rest are all from MFS Bowring, chief of our Pyrotic Dept.

Ernest M. Forbes, 34, Los Angeles 6-16-45, "on a blazing divan".

Forrest E. Smith, 33, Bellflower, Calif., called "a human torch", attributed to "defective wiring". 8-2-45 old style.

Malcolm McGregor, 53, actor, Los Angeles, 4-30-45, "bedclothing caught fire from a cigarette".

The Los Angeles Fire Department posed a photograph to show how it happens. Says Bowring: "Quite an effective way of stilling any isolated charges of spontaneous combustion."

MFS Reagan calls attention to a chapter on the subject in *Death: Its Causes and Phenomena*, by Hereward Carrington Ph. D., Dodd Mead, 1921.

## PRINCETON'S NEW DANE

Although he was born in 1813, and has been dead a good while, Soren Kierkegaard, a Danish mystic, parent of "existential thinking", has only recently been dignified by translation and publication by the-up-and-coming Princeton U Press. Fortean opinion of his work is solicited.

## BLEEDING GOOD

No statistics are available that we know of, if indeed they would be compilable, but this phenomenon is sufficiently evident to

cause remark (not to say alarm) among physicians: *item* — that minor aches, and complaints, that "touch of liver", headaches and a score of other human ailments, diminish — aye! vanish — among the patriotic who give their blood for plasma. No fooling. Whatever becomes of the blood — how necessary or helpful it may or may not have been to The Brave who were duped into being shot or burned — the benefits of bleeding to the blood donors is causing widespread discussion among the medicos. Or maybe you should plant potatoes in the dark of the moon!

## LIE-DETECTOR LETTER

Mr. William J. Conway

Associated Press

Chicago

Dear Mr. Conway:

A member of this Society has sent us a clipping from the *Times-Herald* of Newport News, November 30, 1945 old style. It is an Associated Press dispatch from Chicago signed by you, relating to the so-called "lie detector".

You credit John E. Reid of the Chicago Police Department, Richard E. Gorman, and Prof. Fred E. Inbau of Northwestern University law school, with "improvements" upon this device which "make it a tough job to beat the machine". You quote the report of "tests" demonstrating that "45 of 147 verified guilty criminal suspects tried to falsify their recordings, and were trapped".

May we ask how you came to write this story? Were you assigned to it by superiors in the Associated Press office? were you handed a publicity release by Chicago Police Department, by Mr. Reid or his press agent? By the public relations office of the electrical appliance manufacturer who sells the "lie-detector"? By the District Attorney or somebody else interested in obtaining convictions no matter how?

Were you aware, when you wrote the story, that you were aiding in the deception of the public? That you were helping to impose upon innocent people an awesome respect for an inquisitorial device which has no merit whatever? And just what IS a "verified suspect"? Just how is it possible to keep tabs upon this machine's hits and misses? Does "conviction" by a jury truly *verify* guilt? And how do the marks of the machine's records differ when a guilty man hears the question upon which his life depends and when an innocent man hears the same question and reacts to its menace which is no less dreadful to him before trial than it would be if he were guilty?

Dear William J. Conway, will you not take thought, and *refuse* to write any more crap about "lie-detectors" — out of simple respect for yourself? Please?

Sincerely,

SECRETARY

## PAINE IN THE HALL

The Thomas Paine Memorial Committee, an activity in which Anti-God Joseph Lewis has been a moving spirit, announced in November of the year 15 FS, that a twenty years of effort it had finally succeeded in getting Thomas Paine admitted to the Hall of Fame.



"Just ignore it. The Times says there isn't any such thing."

Courtesy of the New Yorker and the artist.

## DREISER DIES

Charles Fort and Theodore Dreiser were cub reporters together, just after the turn of the century. They arrived in New York City about the same time, Fort from Albany, Dreiser from the banks of the Wabash. Two young radicals, both contributed to *Tom Watson's Magazine*, a publication the life of which is not on the stands today.

Their was a life-long friendship, and we founded the Fortean Society (A D 1931), Dreiser was one of the most energetic and helpful.

Since the death of Fort in 1932, Dreiser contemplated writing a biography of his friend. He was the only man equipped to do it. Now his own death has intervened. Perhaps we never shall have that greatly desired book. The Society is making every effort to acquire the MSS, in whatever stage of completion, as well as the extensive correspondence between the two men over a period of about thirty years.

## SURPLUS DISPOSAL

Cutting tools used in war factories, many new, unwrapped from original boxes, worth \$6 to \$8 each, were being methodically destroyed by Government order according to the Lansing State Journal 9-18-45 old style. *Cr* Yetter.

## WHERE WE CAME IN

"Work" has started on the White Elephant of Palomar again. The puff is a hand-out from the Carnegie Institution but AP sends it to its papers as news under a Washington date line. We have it from MFS Stevens and many others.

Nothing will ever come of it but reams of gush and bilge, but we do not disparage the effort. It's a safe and sane semi-private boondoggle, and we add it to the Fortean Society Plan for Perpetual Peace:

*Item* — Erection of a 200-inch telescope in every village and cross-roads in the world as a means to use up steel and keep unemployed — it beats making and sinking air-craft carriers all hollow.

## NO SUCH ANIMAL

One tangled with a fishing net and was killed with three harpoons, off Gothenburg, before 8-26-45 old style. Towed to shore, the Swedish "scientists" did not recognize it . . . "12 feet long, had a tail a yard across and a queer head". *American Weekly*. *Cr* Price.

7-20-45 old style, off the Tyne, Andrew Lownie, skipper, and John Hamilton, salvage officer, working on a wreck, saw 5 or 6 feet of it above the water: appeared to be 8 to 9 feet across. They lowered a motor boat and pursued it for 5 or 10 minutes, once getting as close as about 200 yards. "Although swimming against the tide it kept its distance." The next day a fisherman towed in a ship's derrick found floating, and the newspapers promptly identified it as the "monster" seen and pursued the day before. *Cr* Bowring, Elsender.

Another, N. Y. *Times* 7-15-45 old style: three witnesses, bathing Lake Storsjoe, Sweden: "The lake's calm shining surface was broken by a giant snakelike thing with three prickly dark bumps." Swam at a good speed.

## "ROCKET" IN N. CAROL.

"A shiny object (described as) tubular in shape, glistening in the light as if covered with shiny aluminum . . . five or six feet long and three or four inches in diameter" with a blue flame spurting from its tail, whizzed over Morganton, North Carolina, going Northwesterly, at about 7:30 p.m. 6-1-45 old style. It vanished, and "a few seconds later" an explosive sound was heard from the vicinity of the mountains at the head of Lake James. *Cr* Bush.

## METEORITE FIRES HOUSE

*The American Weekly* of Nov. 18, 1945 old style, records that a meteorite was observed to fall upon and to ignite the home of G. E. Thompson, Tulsa, Okla. Time of day, and date, not stated. *Cr* Reagan.

## INDIANA'S SKY MONSTER

(Contributed by MFS Gaddis)

Fifty-four years ago a large and mysterious object appeared in the sky over Crawfordsville, Ind. A brief account of the occurrence taken from the *Brooklyn Eagle* (Sept. 10, 1891) will be found in *THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT* (p. 637). The writer, residing close to the scene of this occurrence and having access to newspaper files containing a direct report from a Crawfordsville correspondent, adds the following notes to the published account:

Self-luminous, or surrounded by an aura of dim white light, the object resembled "a white shroud with fins." No clear-cut shape or outline could be observed. It was about 18 or 20 feet long, eight feet wide, and no "head" or "tail" was visible. It moved rapidly, "like a fish in water" with the aid of "side fins". At times it flapped its fins with rapid motions. Emitting a wheezing, plainting sound, it hovered about 300 feet above the surface most of the time, but several times it came within a hundred feet of the ground.

All the reports refer to this object as a living thing, but it could have been a construction. A flaming, red "eye" (or light) was noticeable. At times it "squirmed as if in agony." Once it swooped low over a group of witnesses who reported that it radiated a "hot breath."

This visitor from the void made its appearance for two successive nights, Sept. 4-5, 1891, first coming into view about midnight on both nights, and disappearing upward about 2 a.m. On the first night the Rev. G. W. Switzer, pastor of the local Methodist Church, and his wife, watched the sky phantom for over an hour. Although Charles Fort confirmed this statement, he was never able to obtain a detailed report from Rev. Switzer.

On the second night several hundred residents of the town watched the monster as it moved slowly over various parts of

the business district for two hours. On the third night almost every adult in the town waited for its appearance, but it never came. Many remained up all night, only to be disappointed.

The monster's appearance was strictly localized to the sky over Crawfordville. The writer has carefully checked all Indiana news dispatches for six months preceding and following this appearance, but no additional information or reports can be found.

### STANFORD U PAYS OFF

The dough which has been spent at Stanford U to build a "new microwave laboratory" brings home this choice slice of bacon: Dr. William V. Hansen, director, announced 10-24-45 old style that the speed of light could be measured to within an accuracy of .00000000000003 of a second. Cr Merker.

### SOCIETY'S SOCIAL SIDE

Two esteemed members of opposing sexes, Hilda Downing and George Christian Bump, both of Chicago, wed. This is the first Fortean marriage on record as such. The bride's friends gave her a shower of frogs.

MFS Edward T. Chase, Jr., is now leading the orchestra at the Hotel Mayflower, Washington, D. C.

### SEE MASTODON ABOVE

Bones of the a giant wombat (diprotodon) reported found, 6-29-45 old style, in the dry bed of Lake Callabonna in Central Australia. Cr Elsander

A small fossilized tree found in Duncedin, New Zealand is estimated to be 50,000,000 years old.

### GIANTS IN AFRICA

A sandal "turned to stone" bearing a footprint  $12\frac{1}{2}$  by  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches was found, together with several Stone Age axes, in diamoniferous gravel in the Klerksdorp district of South Africa. Buffalo *Courier-Express* 9-23-45 old style. Cr Giles, Kreiger

### FIRE-BALL IN REVERSE

About 5 p.m., 11-29-45 old style, residents of Modesta, Calif., and of districts as far east as Fallon, Nevada, saw a flaming object in the sky. It exploded and then transformed itself into a ball of fire, which apparently landed nowhere. The object was moving northeast, "quite low", at a speed estimated to be no more than 800 miles per hour. The Turlock (Calif.) *Daily Journal* named the object a "comet". Cr Sayres

While MFS Wakefield comes along with the Oakland *Tribune* version which states that "It was reported sighted in western Nevada a full five hours after it was first sighted here." Also Cr Oliphant.

### PILE IT OVER THERE!

We had resolved not to give their semantic bomb another line of free publicity, but this bit from the *Motion Picture Herald*, 11-10-45 old style, sent in by MFS Subotsky, is too good to pass up. You have read about the fogged film — fogged by radioactive cardboard. Well, that has been topped. The magicians — that is, the physicists, at M.I.T., under Robley D. Evans, examined the cardboard and discovered that what made it radioactive was the straw, which was grown in Illinois. You see, active ingredients of the bomb, "which

escaped being smashed, were carried to great altitudes caught in prevailing winds, borne eastward, and then deposited by rain on the fields of southern Illinois." And the writer, bless him, adds: "If this keeps up, it won't be only the film that's fogged." Cr also Merker and Douglas.

### POOR ECONOMISTS

The same people who wail about the destruction of Japanese cyclotrons lament the "wasteful" disposition of surplus goods stored by practically every branch of the U.S. Government, military or simply bureaucratic. This mourning is utterly ridiculous. Even the simplest minded of them must realize by this time that destruction is what makes the mare go. The Japs will build new cyclotrons. *That's* the whole idea . . . In the course of World Fraud II, the U.S. government handed out to *somebody* \$317,600,000,000. How much of it did you get? Cr Farrow.

### FODOR SPEAKS

MFS Nandor Fodor LL. D., of talking mongoose fame, read a paper, *the Psychoanalytic Approach to the Problems of Occultism*, before the Association for the Advancement of Psychotherapy, March 30, 1945 old style, and the paper was printed in the *Journal of Clinical Psychopathology*, in the July issue.

This may not be an entirely new approach to the study of mediumistic phenomena, but it is certainly a milestone in American psychics. Leastwise, it is the first instance on the Society's records of a body of the Orthodox lending ear to a report of a psychic investigator with almost straight faces on both sides of the fence. Harvard's inquiry into the "Margery" case does not begin to compare, neither as an achievement for the goats nor as a concession by the sheep. Most noteworthy in preventing on this occasion such an aftermath of mutual recrimination as followed the Harvard-"Margery" show, was Fodor's skillful and unobtrusive insistence upon categorical nomenclature — which is not quite the same thing as semantics. In this particular the speech was worthy of at least an Archbishop.

### ANY ICE TODAY?

MFS Martin J. Fritz writes:

I found an old article that is new to me, concerning the appearance and disappearance of ice in Kane Basin and Smith Sound, between Ellesmere Island and Greenland, in winter of 1923-24. To quote, from the *National Geographic*, Volume XLVII, Nr. 6, page 677, "This disappearance and re-appearance of drift ice is so astonishing that Newfoundland fishermen declare that it rises from the bottom and sinks beneath the surface."

Also, page 679, "By September 6, the harbor was so firmly frozen over that my men, all new to the north, thought we were in for the winter. The next morning the ice had completely disappeared." Now you see it, now you don't.

### ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

*Time* told about one Cherepanov being "dead" for some time and recovering, which started correspondence about where his "soul" was interim. The subject was settled by E. M. Smola in the Oct. 1, 1945 issue. The soul "remained attached by a tenuous chord" to the man's heart, "within seven feet of his mortal body". Cr Reagan.

## The Truth About INDIA by Kanhayalal Gauba

(continued)

But why go to the State Peoples Conferences or to the Rajastan? The Administration Reports tell us all we need to know. For instance of the Hyderabad Legislative Council and the Bikaner Legislative Assembly. The Hyderabad Council met twice in the year 1926-27. As the Administration Report for the year tells us, it passed exactly two bills. The report is however silent as to the time spent in the consideration of these bills and also as to why no other business was transacted. The Bikaner Assembly, on the other hand, when it meets sets up a world's record in the quantity of public business transacted. There were two Sessions in the year 1927-28. The January Session lasted three days, the September Session two days. The business transacted during the three-day Session consisted of an important pronouncement by His Highness on the position of the Princes and the States, also the definition of the duties of Kingship, already cited, the presentation and the discussion of the budget for the financial year 1927-28, six resolutions, seven interpellations and six bills. The two-day Session later in the year consisted of an opening speech by the Prime Minister, a closing speech by His Highness, four interpellations, four resolutions and eight bills; a record, which it will be agreed, is more wonderful than the speeds attained for the Schnieder Trophy.

### 11

It may be asked what is the use of such Assemblies. Why establish mock Councils at all? Why the humbug that Taine describes as the language of democracy and the way of tyrants? There are a few Princes, as already admitted, who are genuine in their desire to associate their subjects in the Administration. But there are often other reasons for the establishment of such Assemblies. There may be the necessity of affording a democratic argument to the Prince during a European tour. Europe likes Princes but abhors despots. A Prince who can show that he is progressive and democratic is popular. In some cases the motive may be sinister. There may be widespread discontent and misgovernment in the State. The Prince may be absorbing more of the State revenues than even the Chamber of Princes could justify. If, therefore, he wants to white-wash his administration, a good way to accomplish the desired object is to show to the Political Department and the Agent to the Governor-General that he is a constitutional ruler. An Assembly or Council may be formed: in mock proceedings the crimes of a generation may be condoned by the puppets of despotism and the slaves of tyranny. Typical of this class of pseudo-Democrat is the Ruler of a Southern State:

"The Prince was unpopular. From the first day of the marriage of his son, the

Maharaja seemed to take no unwholesome interest in his daughter-in-law, which naturally gave rise to the suspicion in the mind of the Prince. It did not take much time for the Prince to detect the surreptitious motives of his indiscreet father upon his wife. The Yuvraja deliberately and boldly refused to accede to the wishes of a Don Juan father and the result unpleasant friction. Life grew unbearable for the Yuvraja as he was oppressed in every conceivable way. He was given no money for his necessities of life; the Sardars and Officials of the State were strictly prohibited by the orders of the Maharaja from showing their due respect and regard towards the future ruler of the State." — *Princely India*, 27th January 1928.

This Ruler was, at the same time, reported to have "impoverished the State Treasury by his vicious and wasteful ways of life," "collected revenues from the ryots several years in advance" and paid "no attention to the welfare of his subjects, pursuing "his pleasures with increasing zeal." So a Representative Assembly" was summoned, and it was announced by the President of the Council, on behalf of the Government, that "the State would take up the question of compulsory education in right earnest if the Assembly desired it". Incidentally "the annual budget was also discussed and passed"!

In spite of the brave declaration that "we are moving with the times", in their heart of hearts the majority of rulers have little sympathy with democratic ideas and popular suggestions. They look with suspicion upon the demand of their subjects. This is natural, for democracy spells constitutional monarchy. It is too altruistic a conception of human nature that five hundred odd autocrats, will, of their own free will, divest themselves of the powers and privileges they now enjoy. It is true many of them recognize that their safety lies in the good-will of their subjects, but precept is easier than example and almost all clutch with fond hopes the crumbling hillside. Read between the lines of orations such as this:

"The fact is that the people's ignorance of modern and progressive ideas makes them an easy prey to bigotted conservatism, which leads to most deplorable communal strifes and creates a feeling of aversion in their minds to the initiation of social and other reforms. Their opposition to their education and their obstinacy against their adoption of modern medical, sanitary and scientific methods stand in the way of their political progress. You cannot alter these conditions by, so to say, a wave of the magic wand. You need centuries of persistent and honest work, and I think that it would not be practical politics to aspire to rule with any success a medieval people by 20th Century methods. After all, one cannot lose sight of the fact that an ignorant and irresponsible democracy is, and can be, the greatest danger to a country, and thereby, to the peace of the whole world. I am convinced that the success of an oriental people lies in their remaining oriental.

I am afraid, we have already had too many western ideas forced on our Eastern rulers, and that too at the expense of our culture, and to the detriment of our

civilization. There is no more room left for any further additions to these, at least not till we feel sure that this process will not lead us to become completely oblivious of India's own greater past. Therefore, my earnest advice to all true sons of the country is that they should fully consider and weigh the pros and cons before they think of demolishing an existing edifice." (*Nawab of Bhopal to Assembly*, 21-9-29).

## 12

Chudgar maintains that with the exception of Mysore, Travancore and Cochin there is practically no State in which the representatives of the people have an effective voice or indeed any voice at all in the matter of legislation. Laws are issued in the form of orders, decrees or firmans either by the Prince or by action taken under his instructions. They have no broader foundation than the mere caprice of the Prince. In some States, British Indian legislation is adopted with such modifications as the Prince pleases, but these so-called laws are in no way binding on the Prince. He can repeal, amend, and suspend them at his will and pleasure, and deprive any man of his liberty, commit him to prison for an indefinite period, and banish him from his birthplace at will without reason, charge, or trial. He can confiscate anybody's property, withdraw cases pending in courts, and pass such orders as he likes, regardless of the law. A subject cannot sue the Prince or his friends in the Courts for breach of contract or infringement of their rights. If an official, however low, commits a criminal offence in his private capacity, and even if the act constituting the offence is not in any way connected with his duty as an official, he cannot be prosecuted without the Chief's sanction. Even if there is no definite law prohibiting public meetings, the publication of newspapers or the forming of associations, no public meeting, even of a social nature, can be held, no newspaper can be started, no association formed without the Chief's sanction previously obtained. If these are held, started, or formed the police can at any time step in and interfere. Against this there is no remedy. (*Indian Princes under British Protection*, p. 556).

## 13

The administration of the State is above public opinion. The reasoning if logical is absurd. The King is the State, L'Etat c'est Moi or "I am the State." The King can do no wrong. Here are two doctrines — legal criteria, as Sir Leslie Scott would call them — that regulate the relations between a ruler and his subjects. If the Kings can do no wrong and the administrative reins are in the King's own charge, the administrative machine must be inflexible. What is not or cannot be wrong must be perfect. As the King can do no wrong, therefore whatever he does must be right. Whatever his administration is like, it cannot be impeached on any score whatsoever. Upon this theory is conducted the administration of several hundred principalities. Anyone who presumes to differ from these well established legal formulæ, treads perilous ground. If he is a foreigner, that is not a state subject, he may be expelled. If the critic is a newspaper, it may be banned from the State. Even the *Times* of

India is reported to have suffered this fate in certain States. Whoever you may be, your life, your property, your freedom, not infrequently the honour of your womenfolk is entirely at the mercy and caprice of the ruler. Against his orders there is no appeal, no revision, no action can lie in any of the Courts either in the State or elsewhere. The Paramount Power will merely file your petitions. The Prince knows he is maintained in his authority not by the will of his people, not by the sanction of any assemblage, not by reason of any conquest or military right, but the accident of birth or adoption and by recognition of the Paramourty. Autocracy is impregnable in and out of the State. Whoever attempts to show up the details of any particular Administration in its true colours runs the gauntlet of the Prince's Protection Act. Within the boundary pillars of the State, a ruler can do pretty much as he pleases and how he pleases. He may create an offence which was not an offence when it occurred, he may withdraw your citizenship and direct you to quit the State within 24 hours, he may dissolve your marriage, disinherit your children, send you to the lock-up and keep you there for such time and on such terms as he pleases. He may give you hard labour for life for a small misdemeanour or for an imaginary crime, he may grant you an estate, if you commit a murder in his interest. The theory of sovereignty translated into practice means the unimpeachable divine right to do anything, that is morally, socially and constitutionally wrong, without interference from the Paramount Power and the consequences of its displeasure.

(To be continued)

## MORE INVISIBLES

A "super Nova", 5,000,000 light years away, discovered by Milton L. Humason of Mt. Wilson, 5-19-45 old style. "Such discoveries occur about once every 500 years, Humason added." Norfolk *Virginia-Pilot* Cr Reagan.

## FORTEAN DEFINITIONS

HISTORY—Posthumous electioneering.  
SEMANTICS—New word for "advertising". (which is described as the art of stating facts in such a way that nobody can fail to misunderstand them.)  
REPUBLICAN—An anarchist with a bank account.  
DEMOCRAT—An anarchist with a bank account.

## WALPOLE ON BAYLE

"The perfection of history is when it displeases all sects and all nations, this being proof that the author neither flatters nor spares any of them, and tells the truth to all parties."

## THEY LET HIM DOWN

The following paragraph was written by Brigadier General Frank Percy Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., in 1937. It is from p. 235 of his book, *The Men I Killed*.

"There is one aspect of the whole question (of World Fraud II) that is never touched upon by those military commentators and armchair theorists — and that is the possibility, the probability, of revolution in this country should war over England break out and the people be doomed be-

cause of the inability of our rulers to read the writing on the wall. I, personally, cannot see how a revolt in this country could be avoided if we were subjected to aerial invasion. And I do not see why it should be avoided. I should be more than surprised if the betrayed civilians were calmly to submit to the doom brought upon them by their false leaders, were idly to lie down and die without having a shot at stringing up to the lamp-posts those responsible for the visitation of horror and massacre."

**NEW GAS**

A dentist, who shall be nameless, reports that he has been using a new and improved gas for extractions. He recommends it, especially to his women patients, and observes that, after telling them of its virtues, as he prepares to administer it, they invariably cross their legs.

**HICCUPPERS**

Angelina Lucente, McKeesport, Pa., hiccupped 15 days in 1942, 50 days in 1943, and on 8-8-45 old style, she had entered the fifth day of a new attack, with one "hic" every seven seconds. *Cr Reagan.*

Perry Noll, Piqua, Ohio, who was *ae 59* at the time, was reported 3-25-40 old style as being in the ninth day of a siege. Seven years before he had endured a 13-day bout, and seven years before that he had his first attack.

**FISH DIE**

Death of fish "in the Baltimore region" was so great prior to 8-24-45 old style, that on that date the *Daily Press* of Newport News editorialized. The Governor of Maryland was investigating . . . death of "rock-fish" or "striped bass" — "by the ton". Also . . . "The surface of the Patapsco River was covered with dead alewives," about 4 tons, some in the 5 to 20 pound class. Also, crabs were fleeing the noxious waters, climbing up on piles, etc., and strewn the beach, dead, when the tide ebbed. *Cr Reagan, Kerr.*

**BLUE FROG**

The Philadelphia Zoo was showing a blue frog as of 8-31-45 old style. "Caught in New Jersey." *Cr Wheeler, Bowring.*

**SOME GLOW!**

The Chicago *Daily News*, (which, by the way, appears to have turned a sharp editorial corner on a steep down grade since the passing of Knox) advertised "The Leonids", 11-14-45 old style, and attributed the following nonsense to the authority of F. W. Schlesinger, director of the Adler Planetarium. The Leonids are described as "particles of matter . . . less than an inch in diameter, which burn so brightly . . . they may be seen for several hundred miles." If that is not a new high in visibility, kindly supply us with the datum which outstrips it. *Cr Farnsworth*

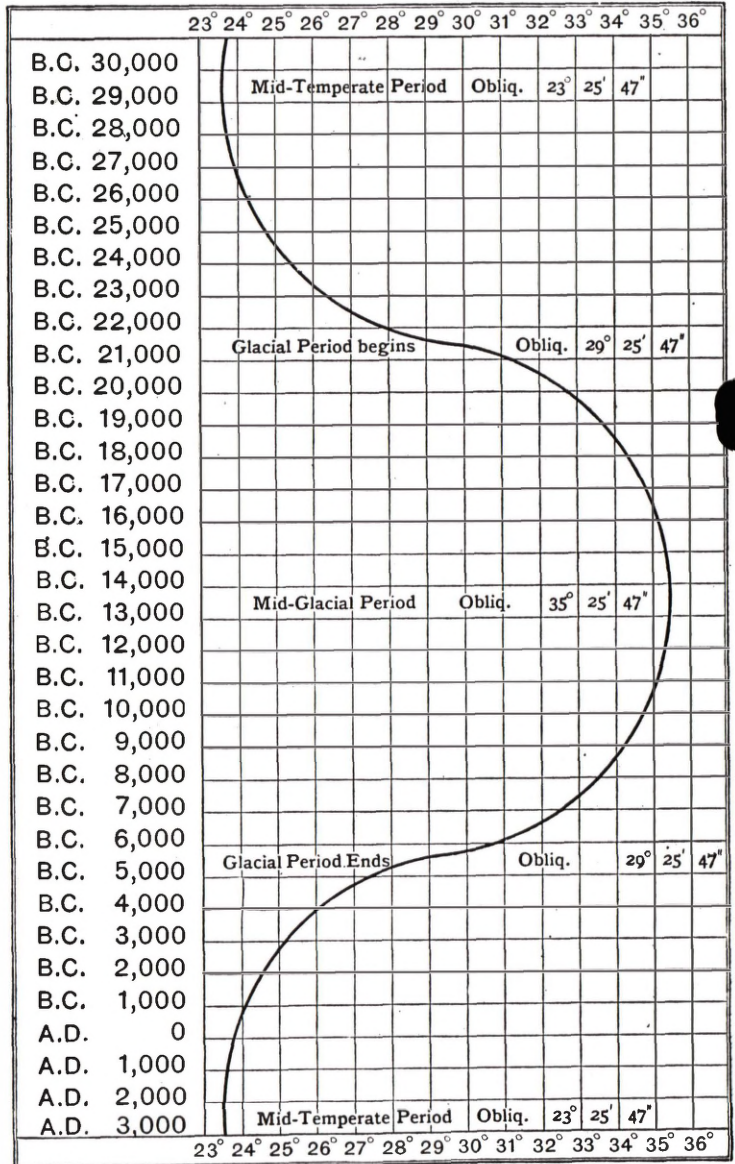
**RAIN OF BEANS**

Report of a rain of beans reached the weather bureau in St. Louis, 9-22-45 old style. The lady asked the bureau if the world was coming to an end. *Cr Burbank.*

□ GLACIAL PERIOD and DRAYSON'S HYPOTHESIS, by John Millis. Reprinted by permission from *Popular Astronomy*. . . . Published for the Society. 16 pp., diags., wrapps. . . . \$1.00

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**The Obliquity Curve During a Cycle of 31,756 Years.**  
Showing the commencement, duration, and termination of last Glacial Period.



"They haven't got anything on!"

Hans Christian Anderson

FROM "PUCK" 1888

(Incidentally, we're looking for a Nast or a Keppler. Know one?)



# MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

1837

**(Box 1 Continued)**

- 5 (Slag) Am. J. Sci. 33/395. According to Boston Daily Advertiser, slag, or stones that looked like scoria from a furnace, fell at Bridgewater, Mass., B.A. '60 (reverse) said been warm when found. Am. J. Sci. 50/322 Prof. Shepard says nothing but slag and had been on the ground in the first place.
- 5 between 3 and 4 p.m. East Bridgewater, Mass., according to A. J. Sci., 32/395, quoting the Boston (reverse) Daily Advertiser, June 10. A meteorite resembled lava or the scoria of a furnace.
- 16 London Times May 16, p. 7. Another wonder.
- 17 London Times p. 7. ext. phe.
- 17 Algeria. Mirage of troops? La Sci Pour Tous 2-206 col. 2.
- June 1 Quake in Syria, Safat and Tabereah. Athenaeum, 1837-416. Fire shot from ground many hot springs burst out. Throughout month of June.
- 21 About 11 a.m. Bleibourgh etc. Illyria. Quake preceded by a sound like (reverse) thunder BA '54.
- July 4 Insects may have been attracted by the light.

**Box A (Resumed)**

- July 4 Canterbury. From ruins of a fortress a stream of red light was (reverse) seen. Residents were alarmed, but it was found light came from swarms of small insects. Said that at same place been a similar phe about 30 years

before. (reverse) L. T. July 7, p. 7. See Sept. 6, p. 4.

- 7 At Colchester a countryman supposed to have come from the neighborhood of Thorpe engaged a room at the Mitre public house morning of the 8th he did not appear (reverse) Landlord found the door locked and key gone. Forced the door open. Floor, bed, curtains covered with blood — lodger gone. Because a penknife covered with blood thought he had committed suicide. Police inquiry—nothing heard of him. L. T. 12, p. 5.
- July 12 De Vico saw a small and perfectly round spot, without a trace of penumbra traverse a good part of the (reverse) sun's disc in 6 hours. Observatory 2/424.
- 14 Yonozu, Japan. Meteorite (F)
- 21 Beware "Exocetus". Niles Register, Aug. 5, 1837, that according to the naturalist, Dr. Wood, fishes had fallen in the storm into the streets (reverse) of Louisville. He considered them doubtfully a species of Exocetus but was doubtful because the pectoral fins were peculiar. Holding one up to a light he found it devoid of veins or arteries.

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**Box A (Resumed)**

21 Fishes streets of Louisville.

**Box 1 (Resumed)**

- 24 Redruth. Shower in one street only — small yellow flies — fell thick — bit or stung severely. L. T. July 31, p. 7. (reverse) See Cardiff, May 1907 or 1905.

24 (F) Gross-Divina. Hungary. Meteorite. BA '60. (reverse) Nagy-Divina Ac to F.

August Esnaude, Charente. Meteorite (F) BA '60.

2 St. Thomas, W. Indies. Light quake.

2 St. Thomas, W. Indies. Destructive quake. BA 1911-55.

2 Quake and hurricane. Islands of St. Thomas. BA '54 says account seems very doubtful.

2 Night. Sydney, N.S.W. BA '54.

3 Morning. Severe shock. Zanct., BA '54.

5 New Haven, Conn. Meteor BA 60-76.

9 Geneva. At 9 p.m.—clouds on horizon — none zenith — water fell — large drops — to such a degree (reverse) as to drive people to shelter. Fell for several minutes and stopped — but fell again several times during an hour. Ac to Watermann. C. R. 5/5.

Aug 9 The quakes here at Acapulco were from W to E till 12th of November — after that stronger and from E to W. In Dec., again W to E.

9 See Sept. 2. Shocks here (Mexico) went on (reverse) Sept. 18 violent severe 21st and 22nd.

9 Quake and phenomena. Morelia (Michoacan) Mexico — shocks — 15 minutes 4:15 p.m. (reverse) later great tempest and electric discharges so great that the air seemed on fire and falling stars in the evening. (reverse) Ref. early Nov. 1839.

9-10 The Perseids noted in Switzer-

land by M. Wartmann, noted as coming from Cepheus, Cassiopeia, and Pers. (reverse) C.R. 5-552. / (reverse) p. 183, M. Arago announced extraordinary number of meteors — as directed toward Taurus. (reverse) See that some noticed them in U.S. too. See A. J. Sci.

- August Meteors. A. J. Sci. 33-index 34-180.
- 9-10 Perseids. A. J. Sci. 34-180.
- 10 60 meteors an hour counted at Vienna. Athenaeum 1838-900.
- 10 Volc. Merapi, Java, N.M. C.R. 70-878.
- 10-11 between 11:15 and 12:15 M. Arago and 8 other astronomers counted 107 meteors. L.T. Nov. 2, p. 1.
- 26 L.T. p. 3. Astro. rarity. Aug. 25, p. 3, 23, p. 6 other notes.
- 29 Upper Silesia. Fireball. BA '60.
- 30 Cork, Ireland, Fireball. BA '60.
- Sept 2 See Aug. 9. Mexico — after a storm — clouds around volc. Jorullo and at night many meteors. BA '54.
- 6 Barbadoes. Light quake.
- 21 7:48 p.m. At Paris great meteor from near the Eagle. C.R. 5-555.
- 22 Big quake and phenomena in Van Dieman's Land. BA 54/269.
- 28 L.T. p. 6. High Tide Havre. L.T. 14th, p. 4. Ireland. Volc. eruption near Acheen East Indies. BA '54.
- End of Sept Loud rumblings at Agram. Oct. 6 detonation like discharge of artillery and earth trembled Oct. 7. (reverse) 2 reports. On 6th at intervals day and night. Great damage reported. Athenaeum. 1837-852.
- 6 Devastating gale. New Orleans. L.T. Nov. 21, p. 6.
- 11 Sky fire. 8 p.m. Oct. 18. 7 p.m. Nov. 5 11:30. Nov. 12. 5 to 10 p.m. Nov. 14. 10 p.m. red light in sky. (reverse) No arch as observed at Cambridge. L.T. Nov. 22, p. 6.
- 11 7:30 p.m. Dept. of Calvados, France. Violent shock and loud explosion heard. BA '54.

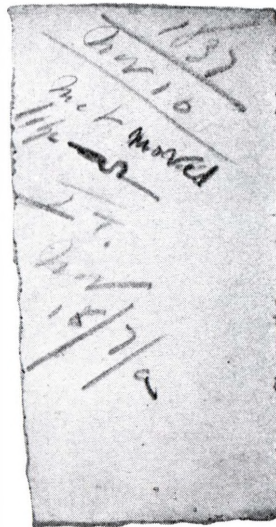
### Box A (Resumed)

- 12 LT p. 5. Wild man, Indiana.

### Box 1 (Resumed)

- 18 See 36. Aurora. Paris. CR 5-639.
- 20 Stowe, Ohio. 3 a.m. Tornado Very few tornadoes early mornings. (reverse) Finley's Rept.
- 20 Quake and sound. Devon. See May 3, '09.
- 20 At Camelford, rumbling sound and vibrations. (reverse) Thought was thunder but the atmosphere was too serene. L.T. 30, p. 6.
- 31 12:58 a.m. Morcia, Spain. Quake. Atmosphere suffocatingly hot. BA '54.
- Nov 1 Milan. Fireball. BA '60.
- 7 Chile. Severe quake.
- 7 Evening and night. A. J. Sci. 37-358. High waves Sandwich Isles 20 feet high one place 6:30 p.m. (reverse) quake, Chile, I think.

- 7 and 8 Samoa, shocks. C.R. 10-836.
- 10 Meteor moved like (illustration T.T.) LT Nov. 18, p. 7.



- 12 Time of great aurora, severe shock, Lucerne. BA '54.
- 12 Sky fire. England supposed conflagration sounds. L.T. Nov. 18, etc.
- 12-13 Paris, etc. Aurora. CR 5/726-704-761.
- 12 (cut) Aurora and quake. Severe shock at Lucerne — "During the night of the 12th and 13th a beautiful aurora borealis was observed at different places in Europe." BA 1854-272.
- 13 The Leonids in N.Y. L.T. Dec. 9, p. 6. (reverse) on Morning of ..... no one dated 1:15 a.m. 226 counted.
- 12-13 Aurora. C.R. 5/764-726-761.
- 13 8 groups of sunspots visible to smallest of telescopes. N.Y. L.T. Dec. 9, p. 6.
- 13-14 From 11:30 p.m. of 13th till daybreak 14th at Vienna 1002 meteors counted. Athenaeum 1837-900.
- Nov Leonids active. See Perseids.
- 12 About 6 p.m. Luminous red arch — sky cloudless — about 8 p.m. a great meteor appeared succeeded by others (reverse) up to 10 p.m. when clouds covered sky. L.T. 14, p. 7.
- 12 5:30 p.m. 2 belts crimson light. Manchester. L.T. 17, p. 3.
- 12-13 Night. Great auroral glare in sky at Paris, but only one meteor seen. L.T. 17, p. 3.
- 12-13 In issue of 18th and before — other accounts of this aurora and no mention of meteors.
- 14 Aurora. A. J. Sci. 34-267.
- 16 p. 2. Dec. 9, p. 6. Rara Avis.
- 18 to Quakes in Mexico every time just at (reverse) 10 p.m. and again at midnight. Reg. Early Nov. 1839.
- Nov Aurora. London. Am. J. Sci. 34/283.
- 22 Mexico. Great quake. '11.

- 25 Near bank of Bahama, Cape Cod vessel saw an enormous fire near horizon for 4 hours. The fire near a submarine volc. On Jan. 3, another captain found the sea disturbed and milky. Nov. 30 quake Martinique. Athenaeum 1838/349.
- 25 Banks of Bahamas for 4 hours great fire, as reported by captain of a ship (reverse) on the horizon, as if from submarine volc. Later water was seen discolored. C.R. 6-302.
- 24 About 11 p.m. Rutland. Quake. (about) See Dec. 15.
- Dec 2 Hurricane at Tortola, B.W.I. 36 ships wrecked in the harbor. (reverse) L.T. 1867, Dec. 3, p. 10. Houses carried away.
- 14 7:40 p.m. Great meteor. Connecticut. A. J. Sci. 37-130 27-130 (?) (Fort's question. T.T.)
- 15 Rutland. 3 violent shocks. People supposed been an explosion of gun powder. (reverse) Had been one 3 weeks before. L.T. Dec. 18, p. 3.
- 18 11 p.m. 3 shocks in Rutland. Violent enough to shake houses. Had been one here (reverse) 3 weeks before. L.T. Dec. 18, p. 3.
- 16 Athenaeum some time before — many stones Macao, Brazil. (See Nov. 11, 1836)
- 16 Met burst of Carinae. Sir J. Herschel / (undecipherable word) Hist Astro appendix.
- 26 Great part of Europe. At ... kenny, Ireland, looked like a great globe of fire throwing flame on all sides. (L) Les Mondes 26/80. (reverse) Bull de L'Assoc Scientif.
- 26 Lights in sky. Ireland / C.R. Siance sep. 18, 1871.
- 30 Trebnitz / N to S daylight fireball. BA 60.

1838

- about 1838 India D-274 See '39.
- Jan 2 Breslau N.E. to S.W. fireball BA 60.
- 2 Morning. Extraordinary display of mets at Mornez, near Geneva. Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 13-501.
- 5 7:15 and 7:30 a.m. Bellay (Ain) shocks and loud sounds. BA '54.
- 7 Kacc, Oude, Hindoostan. Oldham's date Fletcher Jan 29.
- 8-14 Umbria (It) flames from the earth and quake See 1805
- 8 Spoleto quake / said that flames seen issuing from earth. BA '54.
- 21 Tynhead quake / rent in earth extending 1/2 mile L T 1838 Jan 24, p. 7.
- 22 Great quake Transylvania, Turkey, Russia said that at Bersova. Hungary flames (reverse) were seen issuing from earth BA 54
- 23 Incip. volc. Transylvania quake and flames from earth. C.R. 6/244 BA '11. Russia (reverse) A 54/274 Tides Deb. Feb. 1836, 26, 27.
- 23 S. W. Russia, Hungary, Balkans,

- Heavy quake.
- 28 Venus greatest brilliancy A 1.
- 29 Kace, Oude, India / Meteorite / (F) See Jan. 17.
- Feb 2 Near Sassaric land violently lifted and torn. Athenaeum 1838-396.
- 14 Diron, France. 4:30 6:30 p.m. slight shocks (reverse) but violent explosions. BA '54.
- 14 Umbria, Italy. Light quake
- 26 Volc. Ternato, N.M. C. R. 70-878.
- 28- Night. Lisbon. shocks, thunder and lightning, rain, hail, wind. C.R. 17-619.
- Mar 1
- March 4 19 h. Venus Inf. conjunction Sun A 1
- 17 London fireball BA '60
- 17 Shrewsbury 1 p.m. quake rumbling sound L T 19, p 4., 21, p 7
- 17 4 p.m. / Barton and Grumsby and other places on coast sudden intense darkness and electric flashes (reverse) and then suddenly light again L.T. 26, p. 3.
- 17 4 p.m. / Near Barton (South Killingholme) Grumsby heavy clouds, darkness, thunder and lightning and soon passed away. L.T. March 26, p. 3.
- 30 Quake and aerial / reported by ship captain — a black, thin cloud passed overhead — "very heavy, distant thunder" quake at Lima and lives lost. (ournal) F(ranklin) Inst. 23/308. (reverse) the current seems to have passed over chain of ship's anchor parts had appearance of having been melted.
- April 8 Whirlwind near Calcutta A. J. Sci. 36-71
- 18 Akbarpur (Saharanpur) India. Meteorite. Mems. Geol. Am Soc of India. 43/part 2/ (F) (Rep) (reverse) N.W. Provs.
- April 20 to 4 a.m. 21st./ Knoxville, Tenn. 154 meteors seen/few in other places/ Am J. Sci. 34/398
- (?May?) Maggio / substance / Fass. q. 2/375
- May 18 Michigan, N.Y., Canada, meteor. BA 60-76
- 22 Isere, France, light quake.
- 26 Near Halle, Prussia / severe shocks "a dull sound was heard (reverse) which, according to some persons was subterranean". BA 54.
- 31 by Prof. Wartman, at 7 p.m. — sky clouded in zenith and more rain, lukewarm and in large drops fell/ Timb's 1839, 262.
- June 6 Chandakapur, Berar, India/, Meteorite (F)
- 7 11 p.m. Sound, Meleda BA '54 (reverse) but see June 7, 1839.
- 11 & 12 Iceland. Heavy quake.
- 18 At Arras, Great number of little frogs. L'Institut 6-212.
- 23 Pesaro — 9:45 p.m., Venice — 10:18 p.m. quakes. At Pesaro many large meteors (reverse) seen first/ At Venice torrents of hail and rain BA '54.
- 23 Pesaro (It) "Many shooting stars, rather brilliant and of large size and q." BA '54/277 (reverse) C.R. 7/89 8/344
- 23 Pesaro (Marches) Italy. Light quake.
- 23 Quake and meteors. At Pesaro, Italy 9 p.m. Many meteors coming from the east. (reverse) They were bright and large and in such great numbers that they looked like fireworks. A few minutes later a violent quake. (reverse) Rep't BA 73-385.
- 23 A few minutes before violent quake at Pesaro, Italy at 9 p.m., as recorded in the works of Count Joseph Mamiani, many large meteors from the east toward the south. The numbers attracted (reverse) attention of the people of Pesaro. BA 73-385
- 23 Quake — meteors. Pesaro, Italy, 9 p.m. / A few minutes after the (mets) a "very violent" quake (reverse) Many meteors were seen — from east to south. BA 73-385.
- 23 and into 1839. Quakes of St. Jean Maurienne Savoy, Italy. BA 1911.
- 25 At Toulouse "The atmosphere had become opaque but without any appearance of a (reverse) storm". Then streaks of fire from horizon toward zenith at regular intervals for about minute and a half. LT July 3, p. 6.
- 26 Aurora, Macao, Brazil C.R. 7-87
- 28 Whirl near Elgin LT July 19, p. 7.
- July 6 Liverpool 11:30 p.m. / a flash of lightning then a ball of fire (reverse) stationary 2 minutes emitting sparks then falling. LT 13, p. 6.
- July 4 Dec 15, 1939 — June 16, July 13 (noted) Mexican quakes and meteors BA '54
- 11 at noon. A whirl near Middleton / at 2:45 near Lincoln. L.T. 14, p. 6.
- 22 Montlivault, Loir-et-Cher, France/ Meteorite (F) C.R. 76-314.
- 25 Afternoon. Rushford, N.Y. / Tornado/ Also Belfast, N.Y. Finley's Report.
- 30 London. Frogs. Cor. to the Sun saw in Tower Street after the storm, dozens of young frogs, largest not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  (reverse) inch, hopping on the pavements. Mirror 32/112 D-80.
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 30 Frogs. London.
- Box 1 (Resumed)**
- Aug 1 etc. Vesuvius. An. Reg. '38-121, at least to the 11th day or so.
- August whole month. Etna in eruption. LT Oct 3, p. 5.
- 2 Near Neufchald, Switzerland, flight of birds size of (reverse) pigeons ac to some — or smoke ac to others. Said been gnats. LT 18, p. 6.
- 2-3 Night. Etna and Vesuvius in eruption not say when start (reverse) BA 54.
- 9, 10 Obs many places in U.S. upon looking for Perseids. A. J. Sci. 35/167
- 10 Flash in the sky so brilliant that the eye could not bear it. Aug 10, 1838 left a train like that of a meteor Prof. L. Wailman BA 1846/11
- 30 4 p.m. Providence, R.I./ Tornado/ Finley's Report.
- Sep 7 Oxford / 9:20 a.m. / Quake and rumbling sound/ "At the time the atmosphere was much disturbed indicating storms and (reverse) thunder though none were heard in the neighborhood. At Aderbury ac to Index. L.T. Sept 19, p. 3.
- 15 10 p.m. Waves of light from a dark belt of clouds Lincoln. LT 22, p. 7.
- 16 7:30 p.m./ St. Alban's / band of light that moved slowly. L.T. Sept 17, p. 7.
- 16 Arcturus beam. Taunton. 7 p.m. Auroral arch and especial ray from Arcturus to Lyra. L.T. Sept 22, p. 7.
- 18 Ec. Sun. / New Haven A. J. Sci. 35-403.
- 24 1:45 a.m. (Fr) Causerets near Bagneres? slight quake and rumbling sound. L.T. Oct 9, p. 5.
- 27 31:41 N 44:30 W sound like thunder and a ship violently quaked. On Oct 9 27:37 N 31:7 W 2 p.m. 3 small shocks same vessel (reverse) Athenaeum 1839-141.
- 27 31° 40' N. Lat. 44° 30' W Long. 3 strong shocks to a ship, and sound like thunder, 1 on Oct 9, but clear weather. But no disturbance of the sea (reverse) 27° 37' N and 31° 7' W Long again 3 concussions small ones CR 8-32.
- 29-30 Night. Etna increased violence BA '54.
- Oct 13 Meteorite hot and smoking yet was of combustible material. A. J. Sci. 40-199. (reverse) Oct 12 is the date here.
- 13 Cold Vokkeveld, Cape Colony, Meteorite (F)
- 18 Morning Bereas (Ardeche) Fr. Met after met from point in Hercules. C.R. 8-344
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 22 "singular and mysterious fire" in a huge hollow tree. Sheffield L T Nov 5, p. 3.
- Box 1 (Resumed)**
- Nov 12 Ac to cor in Times — nothing could have exceeded the grandeur of the heavens in the display at London (reverse) Too rapid to count. Nature 71-93.
- 12-13 Philadelphia night clear bet 1:45 and 2 a.m. and one meteor seen / 14-15 clear until 2:30 a.m. but also few seen at Princeton, Univ. of Virginia, and Kenyon College, Ohio (reverse) not even an ordinary average number of meteors seen. Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 1-60 p. 69.

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