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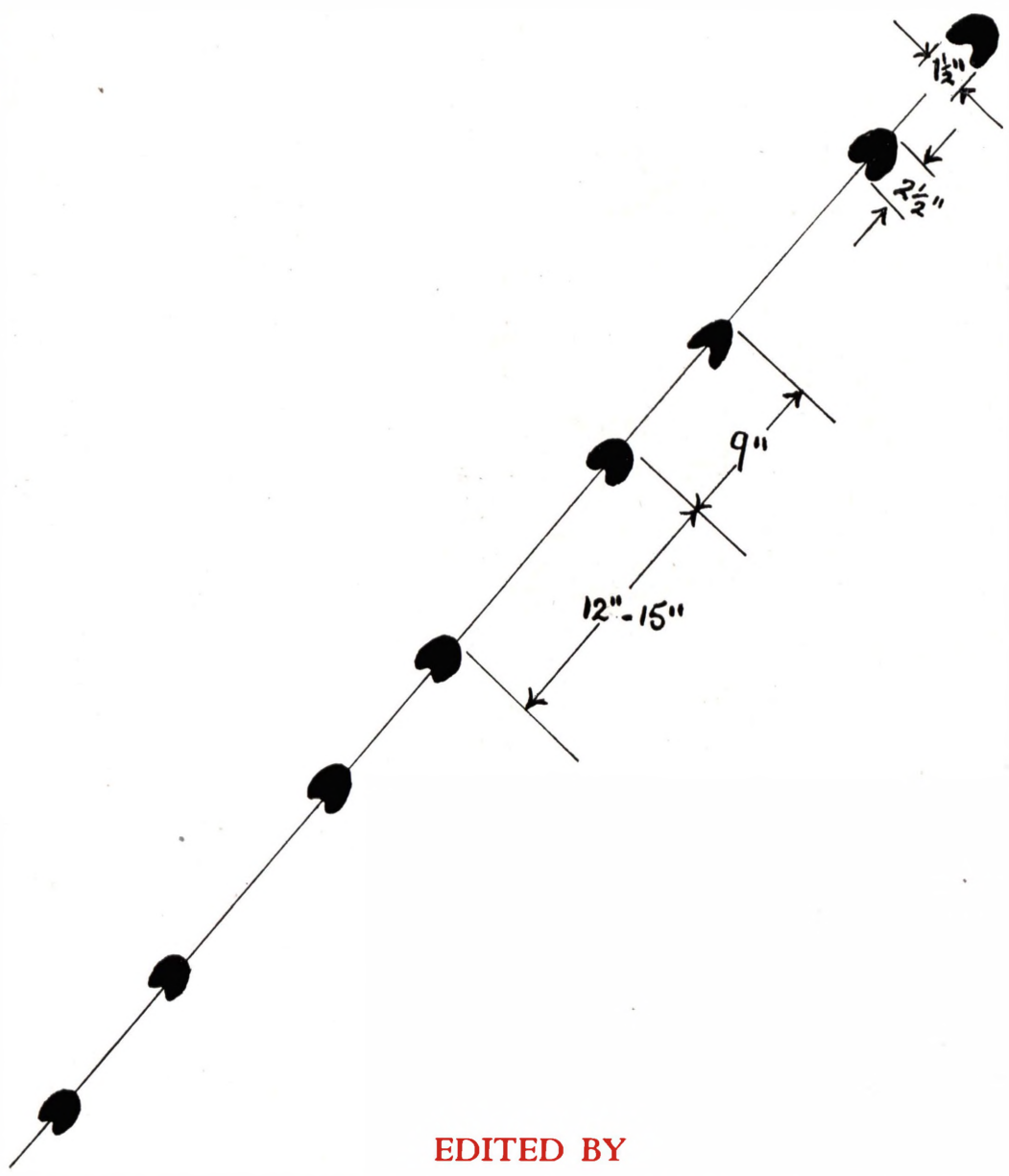
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DOUBT

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THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE

No. 15
Summer
16 FS



EDITED BY

25c

TIFFANY THAYER

DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the
FORTEAN SOCIETY

Box 192 Grand Central Annex
New York City

1931 A D = the year 1 F S

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FIRST PRIZE

Complete coverage of the "most serious" quake in the history "of Seattle" (2-19-16 F S), and of the tidal wave (4-9-16 F S), was provided by the membership at large as well as by residents of the devastated areas. Nothing particularly Fortean occurs in any of these accounts or in their normally "scientific explanations". The quake was accompanied by "a loud *roaring and grinding*", but sound-effects have become quite commonplace in most quake reports of recent years.

One oddity of the tidal wave impressed Howard Coombs, U of Washington seismologist, but he was rather Fortean in his comments. The wave did not follow the "usual pattern" of such waves, he said. "And I don't think anyone can tell why the wave didn't go out in a circle instead of a straight line." Cr Hoernlein

MFS Wernher, a resident of New York City writes to say that she had a premonition of the event (seeing mental pictures, etc.) at about the time "the quake started near Alaska".

The new volcanic island, called Yokousha, 200 miles off Honshu, born in February, was also fully reported upon, and thanks are due to all who sent it in: but—here again the "marvels", if any, were unexcitingly natural. Nobody reported "expecting" this birth, so the most amazing feature is that such a fetching name was thought up so quickly. We assume that MacArthur stood godfather.

Yokousha has "split in two" since it was first reported, recalling a much less-publicized twin-birth of islands (11-28-45 old style), about 180 miles off Karachi, India, in the Arabian Sea. This pair, still nameless, caused a tidal wave which demolished a hill, obliterated two villages

and crushed seven others along 100 miles of the Mekran coast, south of Baluchistan: 4000 people were killed, as compared to 400 in the Hilo disaster, but, of course, these were only East Indians, so it attracted little notice. Those Hindus are always dying like flies, usually of starvation. Cr Elsenser, Reagan, and others.

MFS Elsenser sends a piece from the *Daily Mail* (4-20-46 old style), stating that the first man to see "the new island in the Pacific" is now (was then) missing"; not in action, he just disappeared. His name was Alfred Robert Hetherington Tedford: but perhaps this refers to another "new island", not to Yokousha at all, because the *Daily Mail* is of the opinion that the isle Tedford saw, before he disappeared, is to be named *Urania*, after Tedford's vessel.

Further competent reporting was done by many on the subject of sun-spot-auroral disturbance of weather and radio. From the first of February until the present, four months, these reports have continued. Peaks were reached the first nine days of February and the last week in old style March. Special credit goes to Reagan, Elsenser and Hoernlein, again: also to HFFS Russell, and to McMahon, Kerr, Giles, and others. The display of aurora was most brilliant over N. Y. C., 3-28-16 F S, and had become so common in Seattle that the *Times* of that city made news of the fact that no display was visible 4-5-16 F S.

The "experts" on these phenomena still give off their double-talk about "cycles"; and the promised Fortean paper on that racket is progressing in great shape. Please don't let a single item with the word "sun-spot" in it get away from you.

Still none of these praiseworthy contributions takes the gold star this session. It goes to HFFS Russell for this tit-bit:

In Athens, Greece, where the natives have to be murdered by their liberators to convince them of how friendly we are—THE ASTRONOMERS WENT ON STRIKE, 1-19-16 FS.

OUR COVER

The "devil's hoofmarks" on our cover come from HFFS Russell too. He observed them at first-hand, and this is the way he tells about it, in his letter of 2-9-16 FS:

"Wonderfully, they were first seen by me, and I could hardly believe my eyes. They were spotted on a snow-covered hill behind the Chateau de Morveau, near Everberg, which is partway between Brussels and Louvain, Belgium, at 10 p.m., on January 10th, 1945, O.S. The snow varied from two to four feet in depth, and I traced the prints for half a mile in a north-westerly direction until they entered a tiny wood, or copse, where abruptly they disappeared. A thorough search of the copse revealed no hole, lair or tree where anything might have concealed itself without leaving some evidence in the snow. I then traced the prints in the opposite direction, south-easterly, for nearly two miles, crossing several fields and a small stream, until they faded out on a hillside thick with

windblown snow which had drifted over the prints for an unknown distance. But the footprints didn't reappear on the crest of this hill, nor was there any sign of them on the opposite sheltered side.

"The prints measured about 2½" in length by 1½" wide, were spaced in pairs directly one behind the other (see sketch), the distance between prints of one pair being about nine inches, and between pairs twelve to fifteen inches. They ran in: a dead straight line, one print immediately behind the other, without slightest misplacement to left or right. Judging by their depth, whatever made them was at least the weight of an Airedale dog, a good medium-sized creature of some sort.

"Due to frost, and lack of further snow, the prints remained visible for two days, during which time I drew the attention of several people to them, including one Arthur Davies, of Sheffield, Victor Beha, of London, and some local Belgians. Unfortunately, all were singularly lacking in curiosity. Beha suggesting that they'd been made by a gyroscopic rat—which is probably as good a guess as that of any dogmatic scientist. Local Belgians couldn't think what they might be, never having seen the like before. Three cameras were available, but not a film to be got for love or money, otherwise I could have got several good photographs of this phenomenon. (Films were hell on the Continent—the number of useless cameras being toted around would break your heart).

"Looked to me somewhat like the prints of a goat, and there were goats in that part of Belgium—but I don't step leaving single-line spoor. Unfortunately, the prints weren't as dramatic as Gould's—they didn't run for miles over several counties, and they didn't hop across rooftops. I remain firmly convinced that to me has been vouchsafed a sight of a typical piece of Fortean and that I've seen the inexplicable. But I wished I'd been able to photograph them as Smythe did those prints of the Abominable Snowmen in the Himalayas. Anyway, there's the data, for what it's worth."

THE MOTHER COUNTRY

Even if Eric had not sent us the striking Athenian astronomers, he still would have taken the mustard pot this quarter. Hist!—to the Liverpool *Echo*, 3-27-46 old style:

A glass standing in the sun on a windowsill of Mrs. G. Vanderberg's house in Paar, Cape Province (South Africa), suddenly exploded and injured a dog that was basking nearby.

The glass contained a tube of tooth-paste, and experts consider that extreme heat and moisture probably combined to form a nitrous salt that, acting on the glycerine in the tooth-paste, formed a small quantity of explosive nitroglycerine.

MORE—from Russell: Under a Madrid dateline, the *Daily Express*, 4-17-46 old style, states that the *New York Times* is sending 100 vitamin pills a month to all its foreign correspondents . . . *Cavalcade*, 7-7-45 old style: that the first in milling "pure white" flour is to the whole grain with cyanide "to kill

weevils" . . . Liverpool *Echo*, 1-15-46: The Pope received in private audience Mr. David Lewis (Metro - Goldwyn - Meyer, *sic*.) and Captain Pilade Levi (Paramount Films)." . . . Madrid dateline, *Daily Telegraph*, 5-13-46: That Cayetana, Duchess of Alba ("model for two famous portraits" by Goya), who died suddenly, *ae* 40, in 1802, was not poisoned. They dug her up, November, 14 FS, and her remains after nearly 150 years were examined by Dr. Blanco Soler, assisted by Drs. Piga and Petinto. Piga, Petinto and Soler told the Royal Spanish Academy of History that she died of tuberculous pleurisy. The present Duke of Alba is president of that Academy . . . *Daily Telegraph*, 2-12-46 old style: "The United States Senate Committee on atomic energy learned yesterday, states Reuter, that the process of making atomic bombs, supposedly the greatest secret in the world, has been filed with the United States Patent Office." . . . *TIT-BITS*, 1-11-46 old style: "When we run the world on atoms . . . a breath of air would operate a powerful aeroplane (*sic*) for a year continuously . . . The energy in a railway ticket would run a passenger train several times around the globe." To which Eric adds—"Good Christ!"

Liverpool *Echo*, 5-6-46 old style, under a Buffalo, N. Y., dateline: That Dr. Marion L. Pool, of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, Ohio State U., told the American Ceramic Society (*sic*) that the scientists working on it did not know what "meson" was, but that they knew it to be many times more powerful than the energy of the atomic bombs produced to date . . . *Daily Telegraph*, 2-11-46, Grantham Lincs, dateline: That Denis Kendall, M. P., has been letting John Wilson of Harrow work on a car, to be run by atomic energy, in his factory. Wilson was allowing "heavy water" to drop on uranium suspended in a lead-lined metal case containing other elements (*sic*), and this was supposed to produce "pure hydrogen". This, mixed with "compressed oxygen", was supposed to make the car go. It didn't (but see below) . . . *Times*, 1-20-46 old style: That a "lad" employed by an "engineering firm" was informed (in a letter to his father) that if he did not submit to a tonsilectomy, "the Factories Act" would compel the employer to discharge him . . . "Earlier this week (1-19-46 old style)" a swan and a pike fought "to the death" at Car Mill Dam. Survivor not named. "About noon today" a fine, full-grown one was brought to the Cat Shelter by a postman and a messenger who said it "accompanied them docilely". (Suppose Dorothy didn't like cats!)

British papers made more fuss than usual about the Swiss quakes (of 1-27-16 FS ff.), but the *Daily Telegraph* was the only one to mention that before the first shock "a huge meteor flew over the Berne area. It lit the skies with a blinding flash."—and that the quake "was followed by a white glow in the sky" . . . Here in the United States, all press accounts give credit to Armain (Aemin) Deutsch, of Yerkes Observatory, Williams Wisconsin, for recognizing the flare-up of T Coronae Borealis as something

extraordinary in the sky. He saw it without a telescope, about 2:30 a.m., Saturday, February 9, 1946 old style. (*Cr*. Stetter, Giles, Reagan., McMahon, and non-member Thompson of Jackson, Miss.). The American story continues to the effect that Fra Deutsch told his Bishop, Struve, and Struve wired Pope Shapley at Harvard. The Pope, as is canonical, sent the Word all over Christendom, but we do not know exactly when. If Shapley was away from the Harvard Vatican for the week-end, as seems likely, perhaps the Encyclical did not go out until Monday, February 11. However, that may have been, Sir Spencer Jones, Archbishop in charge of Solar Distance, Astronomer Royal of Great Britain, did not receive his tip from Shapley, but from M. Woodman of Newport, a *Monmouthshire schoolboy*. The lad had written a letter to Jones asking what strange star that new bright one was. Liverpool *Echo*, 2-12-46 old style . . . Same paper, 4-9-46 old style: A lake in Liscard Central Park, Wallasey, caught fire. It was reported at 11:00 p.m., on the 8th. Firemen watched "for some twenty yards at one end of the lake sparks . . . breaking from the surface, just out of reach of the bank, flashing at separate points in rapid succession and giving off slight wisps of smoke." Perplexed, observers finally decided, "a schoolboy might have been making an interesting experiment in chemistry." . . . Liverpool *Daily Post*, 4-2-46 old style: During a heat wave, a mirage appeared "about 3:20 yesterday afternoon and lasted two hours." It stretched over about twenty miles of the southern part of Bridlington Bay, showing Bempton Cliffs, which are to the north of Bridlington, and ships on the Humber, 35 miles to the south. Half an hour later it changed scene, showing Hull, 38 miles to the South. Smoking factory chimneys and other features of the Hull landscape appeared and disappeared. The show was over at 5:25 . . . *Echo*, 5-15-46 old style: Lloyd Bruce Ennis, former American soldier, and his English bride, Elizabeth Hammond of Hanwell, died in Neosho, Mo., only a month after the bride's arrival in the U. S. They were asphyxiated by gas from a heater which had killed another couple in the same house last October . . . The Gill Memorial Medal was awarded by the Royal Geographical Society, 3-13-46 old style, to D. S. McKinley "organiser and leader" of flights to the (new) North Magnetic and North Geographical Poles (see last issue of DOUBT), in May, 1945, in the aircraft Aries.

THOSE DAMNED REDS

As if two magnetic North Poles weren't a great plenty, the Soviet *Evening Moscow* announces a third—one of their own! It is located on the American continent, was first observed by one Ostreikin in 11 FS, and now (4-4-16 FS) is confirmed by B. P. Orlov, "Soviet magnetic specialist". *Cr*, besides Russell—Oltcher and Kerr.

L.MFS Stetter sends two pieces from the *Detroit News*, quoting Moscow on phenomena which support Drayson's theory. 1-16-16 FS, the announcement was

that the "belt of permanently frozen earth" in the Archangel region had moved "100 kilometers (60 miles) farther north during the last 96 years".

2-14-16 FS, the same source published another warm blast: "average temperature" is rising, and glaciers in the Arctic Sea are receding.

The rest, *Cr* Russell: That the Russ is making a special study of Mars at Kazakh Academy of Sciences in Siberia. "Particles of cosmic dust which are now falling on the earth are being analysed." . . . Around Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla, the Reds are looking for dodos, which they don't believe are extinct . . . *Echo*, 4-13-46 old style: One of them announced on the radio—"a considerable step towards effective treatment of encephalitis, hydrophobia, influenza, measles, thrush, and similar (virus) diseases." . . . *Telegraph*, topper, 4-29-46 old style: "Television sets will be installed in all new blocks of flats to be built in Moscow." (The price in U.S.A., of even date, is from \$1500 to \$2500, and in England you can't buy one at any price.)

MORE EMPAH!

MFS Elsander is chiefly exercised by what is called a "stag", killing sheep near South Brent, Devon. Called a "rogue" and an "outlaw", "about the size of a Dartmoor pony", identification was far from certain (3-28-46 old style), and guns appear to have as little effect upon him as the hard names. The *Western Morning News* states that "the presence of a stag in the district has not been heard of before and it is a mystery where this animal could have come from."

Perhaps by coincidence, columnist Eldon, writer of *Northern Outlook*, 3-21-46 old style, received a postcard picture of "the famous Allendale" wolf. This is the beast with which Charles Fort had such good sport in *Lo!*; although the name "Allendale" does not appear there, the circumstances and date make identity certain. After killing many sheep it was run over by a train, and its head was mounted as a wall-ornament.

What Charles Fort never did discover was where the wolf had come from. Now one of Eldon's correspondents in Blaydon "remembers" that it was "one of a pair kept by a lady in a stable attached to the house at Elm Park. The other was a white one which the owner used to take out on a leash." . . . The lady couldn't have taken her wolf out very often in December of 1904, because the entire countryside was wolf-hunting those days, and somebody certainly would have demanded payment for his dead sheep.

Coincidence in this affair multiplies: see p. 654 of THE BOOKS. In trying to follow the wolf, Charles Fort came upon the track of "a phantom bicyclist" near Brighton (London *Daily Mirror*, Feb. 6, 1905). And here, from Russell, *Echo*, 12-27-45:

"The Phantom Cyclist

"They were saying in Smithboro, Co. Monaghan, at Christmas that a phantom cyclist is haunting the roads leading to the village.

"Civic Guard James Green returned

from a late patrol—and collapsed in a faint—in police barracks.”

He had tried to stop the cyclist—who passed him—and “Green saw he was wearing clerical garb and the rider and machine passed through a closed gateway into a field.”—where both instantly disappeared.

“Several other people in the district have seen the phantom rider.”

Russell also has a sheep-killing datum, but his quarry is not a “stag”. *Reynolds News*, 4-28-46 old style (a full month after Elsender’s notice): “The hunt goes on for the giant Alsatian dog—silver grey with a black streak on its back - which is believed to be responsible for the deaths of over 60 sheep on the Yorkshire moors between Keighley and Colne.”

In the U.S.A., too - Seattle *Star*, 4-15-46 old style: “. . . 20 sheep and 4 turkeys during the month of February by marauding canines (sic, plural).” *Cr Hoernlein*.

All the rest are from Elsender: *Daily Mirror*, 12-10-45 old style: “Thomas Gowell . . . duckshooting . . . marshes at Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire . . . saw a ‘sheep’ . . . as he came up, ‘sheep’ roared and leaped . . . he fired.”

The beast weighs more than 200 pounds, “and from its two large flappers, long, strong black claws and soft brown fur . . . assumed to be a sea-bear or sealion.”

Daily Mail, 10-17-45 old style: Dogs dying from mystery disease - paralyse their hind-quarters . . . *Ibid*, do: “Sheep as well as cows are dying suddenly on farms all over the county (Worcestershire) without any apparent cause . . . One theory is that the animals are being poisoned by weeds growing on land formerly in use for crops” (SIC)!

Newcastle *Evening Chronicle* 4-8-45 old style: “Mysterious deaths . . . pigs . . . some parts country . . . an official (sic) saw some rhubarb leaves among the swill . . . made various tests . . . that was it. To be sure it may have been the DDT on the leaves - but “the National Farmer’s Union has issued a warning . . . that the leaves are poisonous.”

Herald, 2-2-46 old style: Rats attacked a 1 months old boy in his crib, Borough of Chelsea, West End of London. Mother left seven week’s baby, to care for an elder. Rats attacked it - so severely that the hospital advised immediate baptism (sic)!

Mail, 2-14-46 old style: London and “all industrial centres” blacked out by “anti-cyclonic gloom” - a new name for low clouds and smoke. (A Fortean would like to know what was *above* the pall.)

Mail, 10-12-4 old style: Choking cloud of vapor “drifted” over Hyde Park residential district of Dorchester . . . a mystery. “Dense, grey cloud . . . caused many - especially elderly people and children - to be seized with sickness and violent bouts of coughing . . . burning, choking . . . throat . . . lay for about an hour . . . Breeze blew it away.

Mail, 10-17-45 old style: Twenty-five women of the British Legion, Wombwell, met to discuss “Poppy Day” (international racket). Mrs. Darnley appeared

to be asleep. When others tried to wake her, they passed out too - total of 16. Fresh air fixed them up.

Return of slavery is international too. It starts at *ae* 18 in England, with “Bevin Boys”. One was fined £5 for not taking a job in a coal mine.

Times, 5-13-46 old style: Llewellyn Oliver Moss, test pilot, was flying a “Meteor jet . . . over 500 mph . . . when it broke in the air . . . simply disintegrated . . . over Besford Village . . . Emyln G. Davies, aircraft inspector, said . . . was airworthy before the flight.”

Chronicle, 2-7-46 old style: The Royal Navy has sunk 114 U-boats at sea *since* V.E. Day. (International data on surpluses destroyed is piling up in the archives.)

Mail, under a Sydney, Australia, date-line, 10-30-45 old style: An anonymous 75-year-old dowser, probably a native, although the *Mail* does not say so, brought his “native sticks” (willow-wand) to the office of the Army Inventions Directorate the morning after Sydney had been shelled “by midget Jap submarines” in June, 1942, old style. His son *ae* 40 was with him . . . He located the sub, 35 miles offshore, to the satisfaction of the officers. “He also located seven other submarines, fixing their directions and their distances, ranging from more than 400 miles to about 60 miles.” At sea, he repeated the performance “unerringly”. He would take no pay, “nor accept even his expenses”. He is not named.

Chronicle, 12-6-45 old style: A New Guinea native, named Koigi, received the Loyalty Medal in Melbourne, for serving “as a sort of human radar station”. When Japanese approached, although unseen, Koigi’s arms broke out with pimples.

(Stray): Sir Morton Smart, “manipulative surgeon to the King”, a trained and acute observer, tells that he was aboard ship for Madeira, “when he suddenly seemed to see his brother” in England. Brother was aboard his yacht, in difficulties. Near yacht was an upturned boat with three men clinging to it. “Sir Morton saw two of the men drown.”

Four days later, Sir Morton read an account of that scene in English newspapers. (see Dunne’s *Experiment With Time*.)

One of the drowned men had been a patient of Sir Morton’s, undergoing an arm operation. Professional advice had been never to put a strain on that arm. “Obviously,” says Sir Morton, “the man was thinking of the warning I had given him as he drowned. He somehow got through . . .”

Elsender supplements Russel’s datum on J. W. Wilson and his “atom car”, with a story from the *Herald*, 11-30-45 old style, telling why a scheduled test of the car did not come off. Mr. E. Shinwell, Minister of Fuel and Power was to be given a ride. “A few hours before the . . . demonstration, the car, declares Dr. Wilson, was stolen from outside his offices in Regent Street, London . . . sabotaged . . . a copper pipe broken . . . Dr Wilson suspected the people responsible . . . were apprehensive of the effect of the apparatus on industry.” Or perhaps the generous

M.P., above - Denis Kendall - owns considerable oil stock?

Elsender has a swan too. It was pecking (5-28-16 FS) at a brown paper parcel floating in the canal at Hollin Bank, Blackburn. Workmen opened the parcel and found the body of a newly born baby girl. Elsender slugs it: “Once the Stork.”

Supplementing the story of the Bridlington mirage: that it was “right side up.”

Chronicle, April. 16 FS: A recurrent mirage at the London airport at Heathrow appears at the end of the runway . . . looks like a large blue lake. “Planes taking off appear to be running straight into it . . . An engineer who has seen it several times “says it is exactly like (one) on the Bagdad-Damascus run.”

Herald, 1-5-46 old style: Sydney, Australia - that South Pacific islands “missing” for 130 years may reappear as result of violent undersea quakes . . . *Herald*, 1-10-46: Wellington, New Zealand - that the volcano Mount Ruapohu is flavoring the local butter with garlic! . . . Writes Elsender: “The hand that pushes up islands after 130 years must have studied cookery as well . . . Maybe when it reaches Sydney after dispensing in New Zealand, Sydney will get vanilla. Should it reach Newcastle, I’m certain the cows would prefer peppermint . . . We have been short of peppermint here, while gin has been plentiful.”

Mail. 2-4-46 old style: A quake “during the great gale, is believed to have caused the collapse of . . . a viaduct at Shepton Mallet, Somerset.”

FIRST ANTARTIC QUAKE

Telegraph, 4-12-46 old style: A “mystery” quake was reported “early yesterday” by J. J. Shaw, West Bromwich seismologist. He couldn’t tell whether it was east of the West Indies or in the Himalayas! It lasted nearly TWO HOURS.

Echo, 4-24-46 old style: Sydney, Australia - a submarine quake “about 1000 miles south of Adelaide” (5-3-16 FS), lasted about THREE HOURS.

Echo, 12-20-45 old style: Mr. Shaw of West Bromwich again - reported the first quake, in his 38 years of experience, within 1000 miles of the South Pole. It lasted FOUR HOURS. *Cr Russell*.

HOPPER WRITES

MFS E. Guilan Hopper contributes an item:

In 1943, teetotal, non-smoking Henry Payance had enjoyed 14 years of carefree married bliss. A model husband and father was Henry. Energetic too. Although Mrs. Payance ran her own small candy-store, Henry added to the joint income by working full time at a nearby tonsorial saloon.

Thursday was Henry’s half-day off and on one Thursday afternoon in April, 1943 the good barber set off for what he called a “nice long walk”. Mrs. Payance, who is no walker, stood at the door of her candy-store in Finsbury Park, London and waved him goodbye.

No one ever saw Henry Payance in the flesh again.

He was fit, 38 years old and happily married.

Scotland Yard added the name Payance, Henry, to the page headed "P" in the book labelled "Missing Persons".

Last week busy London re-construction workers recoiled from an already bleached skeleton lying in a cellar in a bomb-wrecked Hampstead house. No means of identification save for a scrap of faded fiber-board clutched between the bony fingers.

Britain's up-to-date Criminal Investigation Department gave the scrap of board an acid bath. Took infra-red ray photos.

The developed film showed a faint scrawl . . . *Henry Payance*.

Case closed? Bomb victim?

No.

House was bombed in 1942.

FORT-DREISER LETTERS

At the moment of going to press, word comes from Mrs. Theodore Dreiser, widow of the Founder, that all the correspondence between her husband and Charles Fort in her possession is on its way to the Fortean Society, to be added to the archives as part of its permanent collection. Exception is made for only two original letters of Dreiser's to Fort, which are being presented to the Libraries of the University of Pennsylvania. Photostatic copies of these two letters will also come to the Society.

No other comparable collection of Fortean is ever likely to appear. Until the correspondence has been examined, no predictions of publication can be made, but Your Secretary has the highest hopes that these letters - perhaps with others already in our possession, including his own - will appear in book form in due course.

Mrs. Dreiser, who so graciously contributes this treasure to us, has accepted Honorary Life Membership in the Fortean Society.

ABORIGINE FORTEAN

IKTOMI appears to be the name adopted by a remarkable man, half Sioux, half white, who gathered together, wrote and illustrated a ponderous and fascinating book, by name, *America Needs Indians*. This was published 1937 old style, and a copy has only now reached us from Denver, sent in by HFFS Don Bloch.

The illustration on this page is from Iktomi's book. It is only a marginal sketch, but full of meaning when you have assimilated the fiery, ghastly, grizzly, nauseating contents of this truthful, factual, but wital desperately hopeful tome. The book contains many full-page half-tone drawings too. Iktomi is an artist.

His book is an indictment, stuttered out, stammered down on paper in words that have a writhing, biting, stinking life of their own - an indictment of the red man's "guests", that is, yourself and me.

Don't shrug. Don't think, just because you agree that the 'akotas have had a raw deal, that you know what this book is about. You don't. You couldn't know the one hundredth part of it: but it is the highest time you learned. You think you know what scabrous vultures politicians, office-holders, statesmen are. You don't. Until you read this book, you cannot



have dreamed how low in the animal scale white men can sink.

The book is handsomely bound, 425 pp., with a big folding map in a pocket inside the back cover. It is a map of "Your debt - our duty. Your honor - our existence." And here are a few words taken almost at random from this book which comes closer to being a human child than a lot of babies I have seen. It breathes, it pulses, it speaks, it lives.

The eleventh commandment: "Thou shalt not think."

I wouldn't be a Democrat if I had to be a Republican to escape it. I wouldn't be a Republican even if I couldn't help it.

Today . . . No one can either present, or represent, Current Indian Opinion. All I can do here is to present . . . A plan that is most *Indian* in Life, Nature, Objective, Practicalness . . . And suitable to such types of Indians . . . As may be found in every tribe . . .

A very few copies of *America Needs Indians* are available at \$7.00 each from the Society.

SHOOTING THE MOON

Let us be chronological.

MFS Staehlin supplied us with a datum from the Louisville *Courier-Journal* of 11-23-45 old style, containing a "special" despatch from London, dated Nov. 22. The statement was that "British scientists" had determined that radio waves traveled from Earth to Luna and return in "two and one-half seconds". "London reports they have been working on the location of meteor trails by radio reflections, and possible radio location of the moon." As if, indeed, Diana were lost!

How the British scientists had "determined" the time without accomplishing the silly feat is not stated.

1-24-46 old style, the U. S. War Department announced that the Signal Corps had done it, under Lt. Col. John H. DeWitt, Jr. It was accomplished with a lot of specially designed equipment - for which you helped pay, of course.

Jack Gould, writing in the *Times* of that date, begins: "The first man-made contact with the moon was achieved on January 10 when the Army - -" etc.

Apparently this was an error, but the *Telegraph* did not detect it. The story was brought down to size in that paper - from front-page multiple-col. stature to 10 lines. *Cr Russell*

An AP wirephoto of the hero DeWitt, printed in the *Seattle Times*, came to us from MFS Hoerlein. Sending that out was an error too . . . W. E. Osborne, an Australian, in Los Angeles, said that he and J. H. Piddington had been bouncing radio waves off Luna since October of

1941 old style. "He predicted rocket trips to the moon within ten years." And just to show they were not kidding, 1-29-46, an Australian scientist who refused to give his name recorded radar "noise waves" from the sun. He went the U. S. clowns one better, on another score too. *He didn't send out any impulses at all.*

In reporting this, Reuter makes the distance to the moon, 240,000 miles. Jack Gould of the *Times* had the round-trip down as 450,000 miles. The War Department thinks Luna is "about 238,857 miles" away, and *Newsweek* calculates that from New York to Paris via the moon is 477,000 miles, while M. G. Clemence of the Naval Observatory thinks "we know the distance to within ten miles".

Time Magazine mentions the Doppler Effect (2-4-46 old style) and then runs like hell.

Life Magazine dated 2-4-46, covered the "experiment" with elaborate half-tones (still giving the U.S. heroes the credit). That issue was on sale Feb. 1. It takes time to print *Life* and to make those elaborate half-tones. They couldn't have done it between the War Department release date, 1-24-46, and Feb. 1.

Philadelphia *Enquirer*, 2-1-46 old style: That an unidentified object in the air "approximately over Bridgeton, N. J., about 40 miles southeast" of Philly bounced back a radar echo at 2:25 p.m. the day before, causing an "alarm". Flying boats took off to see what it was. Nothing found. "Officers pointed out an unusual cloud formation or other natural phenomenon might have been responsible." *Cr Darnell*

Copyright *Colliers*, 1-12-46 old style: That during the "war" radar operators were unable to tell the difference between radar effects from fast-moving vessels and low-flying gulls. *Cr Reagan*.

EXPLAINS EVERYTHING

When GI babies die aboard ship or soon after arrival in the US, whether from contaminated food, unsanitary living quarters enroute, neglect of drunken nurses, overcrowding, incompetent doctors, or any other cause - the name for the "disease" which carries them off is *pneumo enteritis*. This is described as a very deadly disease for which there is no cure.

The Chicago *Sun* printed the AP story which credits "the War Department" with the name of the ailment. The War Department "explained" eight deaths with that rubber stamp, to the apparent satisfaction of Congressman Jackson (Wash.). The disease "never had occurred among humans in this country before". *Cr Carlson*.

WOTTA WYPER

The San Francisco *Chronicle* must have an age-limit for its active staff: nobody over eleven hired, nobody over fourteen retained.

Example:

An editorial in the issue of 5-20-46 old style states that "the Navy" has found a layer of water off California, 1000 to 1500 feet down, which bounces sound waves as if it were stone. "This layer rises each evening several hundred feet . . . and sinks back each morning . . . (Now, get this.) Why this layer of water should be different from the water above and below has not yet been worked out, but we may expect that the answer will be found."

Like it?

The confidence of the *Chronicle* writer in the ability of Science to "work out" an answer has been justified in an analogous case. A Dutch sub found "a huge trough" in the surface of the Indian Ocean south of Java, 1926-27. It was a ditch "several hundred miles long and many miles wide", but HIST! . . . to the scientists of the K-XIII it had a simple explanation . . . Under this trough is a strip where the force of gravity is less than on either side . . . Likewise for the curious ocean layer off the coast of California science will probably find a cause as soon as it has time. It will not be necessary to assign a malign influence." *Cr* Non-member Hulse.

MFS ATWATER WRITES:

I'd like to put in my vote for P. D. Ouspensky as the next Named Fellow of the Society. I'll admit that many names—Huxley comes second for me - on the list are equally deserving, but it's just that Peter is, I believe, the oldest.

I don't know whether the Society is aware of it or not, but a complete Egyptian tomb, curse and all, was being shipped on the "Titanic" on its last voyage. A secretary here tells me that her uncle, a London editor, was with the group of archeologists. If it's not already a matter of record, I'll get more information. She says that she knows about it through the family, that "it's always been hushed up." That last got me . . . but of course such a thing should be easy to trace.

The most famous curses around here are those of the goddess Pele on the men who in 1936? bombed the lava flows of Mauna Loa to divert them from Hilo. The natives wisely nod their heads . . . "all dead!"

A lot of Hawaiian Kahunaism still survived here before the war - see Fort's example of the fire walkers - the Navy has even paid Kahunas to remove curses of the Shark God at Pearl Harbor.

There's a lot of literature on these things.

The articles on the Chinese egg - standing said that the eggs were *not* shaken. Any school kid has heard the story that Columbus stood an egg on end by breaking the sac. If you have any members in China Feb. 1, you'd better have one get a close look.

Kilauea was supposed to blow in 1945. It didn't. No signs.

The great quake at Karachi, India in, I *think* 1942, was accompanied by purplish aurora-like phenomena in the sky. This was told me when I asked a G.I. geology professor if a deep fault wouldn't sometimes release lava or gas during a quake. Some scientists claimed that the lights were ignited gases from the under-sea fault!

He said he'd never heard of crews smelling gas at sea, or seeing other "burning gas" before.

Did I mention Gustav Stromberg's "Soul of the Universe" (McKay)? I like it despite its introduction by Einstein. It appears to give new and heretofore "daring" views of the kosmos in general, tied in somehow with the more recent discoveries of science.

How about "punctoid" for those mysteriously wounded people? Only thing close in Webster's Colleg. is "punctate."

I suppose most of the members have noted the total disappearance of the five navy planes off Florida, and other unexplained aerial disappearances, such as that of Gen. Harmon, a nice one as they go, and with him his steward, a friend of mine. No trace.

I have been, since 1938, a professional photographer. Did anyone ever get a good sharp shot of Alaskan sky magnifications, in color? Sharp, that is, as magnifications or mirages are.

I wish more photographs were sent in of the punctoid's missiles, when "removed" or even of the wound where said to show evidence of rifling. We need more Forteans in or in close acquaintance with police forces and law courts. (sic!)

I wish there were some study of the lives of some pyrotics, an attempt to discover any uniformity that would lead to a temporary theory on *why* some people combust spontaneously. I can see an easy medieaval one - that they were punished without benefit of inquisition by heaven, for trafficking with the devil! *Why* did Miss Duncanson fear fire? Who knew her? Many of these people were reclusive.



BOOTH

TARKINGTON

July 29, 1869 AD

June 1, 16FS

ELEVATIONS

Three new Honorary Founders:
Hereward Carrington in the place of J. David Stern.

Don Bloch in the place of B. J. S. Cahill (who succeeded Harry Leon Wilson).

Frederick S. Hammett in the place of Booth Tarkington.

To the roster of Accepted Fellows -

Manly P. Hall
Morris Ernst
Norman Thomas
Albert Jay Nock (deceased)
Claude Fayette Bragdon
The Duke of Bedford

we now have the honor and privilege to add:

Frank Lloyd Wright

To the roll of Honorary and Life Members:

R. Buckminster Fuller
Mrs. Theodore Dreiser

(Life Membership was tendered Susannah Tarkington, widow of our Founder, but in an excess of modesty Mrs. Tarkington declined.)

These Named Fellows (non-members) are now permanent for the years designated, filling vacancies:

For the year 4 FS - H. L. Mencken
For the year 6 FS - Dorothy Parker
For the year 7 FS - Vilhjalmur Stefansson

These have been added to the nominations, to be named at a later date:

George Santayana (16 FS)
B. W. Huebsch (8 FS)
E. Haldeman-Julius (10 FS)
Philip Wylie (15 FS)
Eamon de Valera (15 FS)
Richard Aldington (16 FS)
Bill Mauldin (15 FS)
Waldo Lee McAtee (15 FS)
Joseph McCabe (9 FS)

Posthumous Forteans suggested have been:

Bierce
Sterne
Cleridge
Gibbon
Hugo
Veblen
Joyce (James)
Kipling

These lines are offered to substantiate the Kipling nomination!

Who shall doubt "the secret bid Under Cheops' pyramid"
Was that the contractor did Cheops out of several millions?

A General Summary

FORT IN PRISONS

Any member who has observed how THE BOOKS of Charles Fort levels mental walls to the ground, has within his easy reach the opportunity to feel like a beneficent god . . . Just send us your check for \$4.00, and say - "Send a copy of THE BOOKS to the library of the penitentiary in my State, with my compliments."

The glow you get from mailing that note and that check is something special in earthly satisfactions. You don't have to tell a soul what you've done. You just like YOURSELF better for doing it.

BLACK RAIN

On the North shore of Lake Erie, at Eriean, Ontario, night of 5-20-46 old style, precipitation left roads, sidewalks, houses and trees covered with black marks "as if it had rained ink". One correspondent called it "confusing", and MFS Larry Wilson comments that he'll "tell the Jacobean world it's confusing!" Cr, also, Wheeler, Hollyer, Brooks.

FORT PRESS

Far and away the best MFS who labors still in the vineyard of Science is Frederick S. Hammett, of the Marine Experimental Station of the Lankenau Hospital Research Institute, editor of the magazine GROWTH, author of the *Nature of Growth*, \$1.00, from the Society . . . In the May, 1946 old style issue of *Scientific Monthly*, MFS Hammett writes upon "Integration in Science Teaching", beginning his essay with a quotation from Charles Fort, and devoting a great part of what follows to the development of the Fortean attitude in the teaching of "science". This is carrying the Word to the heathen with a vengeance.

In a recent letter MFS Hammett adjures us: "If you could do something to get this so-called Growth Committee of the new cancer research set-up to get out of the rut and spend a little money in isolation, identification, and investigations of this notsomewhat transmissible agent productive of cancer you might be doing some additional good."

Your Secretary is at a loss, however, knowing the secret of getting a national alms-collecting outfit to forsake its gold-plated rut. If any other member is privy to the needed information, we shall be delighted to act upon it.

The April *True* ran an article about us, by MFS Gaddis. The May *Horoscope* contained "If the Time Has Come" - a grand piece, by MFS Carl Payne Tobey. The April *Atlantic* printed "Don't Believe All you Hear" - being negative musings upon Fortean by a Professor of English at Northwestern. The Prof. Bergen Evans, has made up a book of this matter, to be published soon, by title - *The Natural History of Nonsense*. Your Secretary has already been engaged by *Pathfinder* to provide its readers with his recipe for "Minced Evans with Celestial Periwinkle Sauce", on publication.

CONFIDENTIAL BULLOCK

Here is a four-page something or other headed "Confidential / Atomic Energy: Theory and Practice/The Principle Is Now Easily Followed. The Politics Are More Difficult to Fathom./By William E. Bullock, M.E., New York". And on the last page we learn that it was published, October, 1945, and "Copyright by the author".

"The author is a Member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was at one time Assistant Secretary of The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and later Secretary of the American Institute of Weight and Measures opposing the compulsory adoption of the metric system in this country. He was at no time employed by the

Manhattan District Project." Mr. Bullock does not say that he's sore about that, but he has written a broadside, cogent and barbed about equal parts sacrilege and heresy, and perhaps only barely escaping sedition. For all these reasons we should be happy to announce that the broadsides may be had from the Society, but Bullock won't sell.

F B I KILLS C O

Danshul Stanley, 39, of Townsends, Va., did not wish to go to war. He "was shot and killed by F B I agents and Virginia State police", 5-12-46 old style. Cr Reagan.

SPINNING BALLS

According to *Science Service*, in the *World-Tele*, 5-10-46 old style, the U of Virginia can spin a little steel ball "at a measured speed of" 211,000 times a second. Your Secretary humbly asks - how do they know? Who counts 'em? Nothing touches the sphere, (one-sixteenth-inch) as it spins. It is help (sic) up by a carefully adjusted magnetic field and kept going by an electric drive. To eliminate friction it is operated in a vacuum." It would please the backers of Science Service down to the ground if your mind operated in the same locale.

APOLOGIST DIETZ

Harvard Medical School just got a handout of \$204,000 from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The details in the column of David Dietz, Scripps-Howard Science Editor, reveal that Harvard can sling that dough around pretty much as it likes. In fact, the restrictions are so loose that somebody must have been criticising, because Dietz pouts: "It is . . . entirely pointless to take the amount of money raised by the foundation and divide it by the number of polio cases in America and then quote a figure purporting to be the expenditure per case of polio." . . . Then David stamps his feet. "The entire field of medicine benefits by polio research." . . . Aye, verily. (According to *Frauds*, a mag. more babies were accidentally suffocated in their cribs in 15 FS than the total number of all ages who died from infantile paralysis.)

NOW BOTH BODIES GONE

Remember that story about Il Duce's murder - written by a N. Y. Banker - member of Washington's "Office of Strategic Services", published in *Atlantic*? We doubted it. Now Mussolini's "body" is missing . . . Rock-a-bye, baby, on the tree top!

MFS GREENLEAF WRITES

In the June 1946 issue of one of the "digest" magazines, there is an article by Willy Ley on strange animals reported by the tribes of the African equatorial regions. Two very interesting reports concern a "furry elephant" (mammoth?) and a "dragon", which Ley thinks is a huge, dinosaur-like lizard!

Also, in *Best* for May, 1946, is an article telling of a French explorer, who, in the Llanganati territory of Ecuador, has seen a live dinosaur. The creature was said to be about 36 feet long, a

biped, and herbivorous. It is also said that the region is greatly feared by the natives.

An opportunity for any adventurous Fortean Society members.

Also, about 1939 or so, I heard a report to the effect that a large, dinosaur-like creature had been seen in the unexplored regions of the Nassau Mountains of Dutch New Guinea.

So we have dinosaurs, or dinosaur-like animals, reported from three different parts of the world. This is worth checking. If any member has any similar data, or extensions on the above data, let me know.

"BULLETS" FROM WHERE?

Nancy Lowney, ae 12, on a picnic, north of Des Plaines, Ill., toppled (4-27-16, "Good" Friday) into the river. That night she died "of an unexplained bullet wound". Cr Stevens.

James B. Reeves, 40, truck driver, at Washington, D. C., city dump, Forty-second and Meade Streets, 4-15-16 FS. "A bullet was removed at Providence Hospital. Police were unable to determine whether he was hit by a bullet from a cartridge exploding in burning refuse or by a stray bullet." Cr Kerr.

Not so in Norfolk, where the president of the Norfolk Southern Railway and Portsmouth Belt Line Railroad got it, 3-19-16 FS. He was Morris S. Hawkins, and he was found dead "near his home on fashionable North Shore Point". "Police believed Hawkins was struck by a stray bullet by someone target shooting." Cr Kerr.

"HOME, JOCKO!"

Residents of White Plains - and where else? - received letters stating that apes trained as servants were being delivered to them. *The Stars and Stripes*, issued in Germany, dated 4-8-46 old style, explains: "An investigator of the sheriff's office announced it was a hoax. The letters had been sent out by James C. Adams, of Bernardsville, N. J., with Government permission to test the gullibility of the American mind." Cr Weller, who asks, "When does the American Government do things like this?"

BALL OF FIRE

About 7:25 p.m., 5-10-16, a shooting star, meteor, rocket, comet, or something fell westward, "about four miles South" of New Rome, Adams County, Wis., near Racine. Seen also in Wisconsin Rapids, Nekeosa and Racine. A barn near Highways 11 and 41 burned at 7:30. A youth of Wisconsin Rapids brought a piece of something to the newspaper office (Racine?). The grass was "scorched" where he found it. A "high school science teacher" said it appeared to be "partially combusted, low grade lignite", upon "cursory examination". Cr Klingbiel.

Same phenomenon visible in Chicago. "Disappeared in space" toward the NW. Cr Farnsworth.

FORTEAN DEFINITIONS

CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED is a contradiction in terms.

ART is what you find there.

STUDY is the process of finding out which questions have no answers.

WE FLEAS PERHAPS

HFFS Don Block quotes *Paris Salons, Cafe's, Studios*, by Sisley Huddleston:

"Doctor Jaworski was a favorite of the Faubourg. I believe he is a specialist of distinction who is to be taken seriously in his profession. But in a series of books (ital. mine) he has developed a strange theory regarding the life of the world. So far as I can follow it - though it must be understood I do not pretend to expound it in a few sentences - the world is a sentient being, which is passing through exactly the same stages as mankind. The pre-human world has epochs which correspond to the different aspects of the embryo, and between embryology and geology is a precise analogy which he has carefully worked out . . ."

Our spies in Paris are seeking the Doctor's books. We'll report.

NEW USE FOR "SCIENCE"

T. Cunliffe Barnes, called a "Philadelphia scientist", told a group in St. Louis (3-29-46) that a healthy human who complained of fatigue after working from 8 to 5 was a "scientific fibber". A man can't get tired that fast. "Tests concluded by the scientist among a group of medical students, he said, led to his conclusion that the 40-hour work week is too short." *Cr Hoernlein*

BLUE BALLS OF JOLIET

Beginning 3-21-16, Saturday night "during a peculiar thunder storm", and continuing for an unstated period (of days, apparently), "blue balls of fire" broke twenty windows "in a residential area" of Joliet, Ill., according to the residents. A former Northwestern prof said they were "bolides", resulting from two kinds of electricity coming together. The government meteorologist in Chicago said he didn't see how a bolide could break a window. A loca linsurance man called it an Act of God. Some unbroken windows "turned a peculiar, burned color". *Cr Patterson*.

In *This Week*, April 14, 1946 old style, a child of nine-and-a-half, writing under the name of "Robert Conly", contributed a piece called *Joker in the Sky*. In it, "the Weather Bureau's Dr. William Humphreys, our foremost lightning authority", reaches the conclusion that there is no such thing as ball lightning. *Cr Bucher*.

SATAN IN IOWA

Perhaps this sort of thing goes on all the time. Your Secretary would not know. As recently as July 28, 1935 old style, which is but eleven years ago, a pamphlet was published by Rev. Celestine Kapsner, O.S.B., St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minn., under the *Imprimatur* of Jos. F. Busch, Bishop of St. Cloud, with these words on the cover:

"Begone Satan! A Soul-Stirring Account of Diabolical Possession in Iowa/ After 23 Days' Battle in September, 1928, Devil Was Forced to Leave" And on the title page, besides the title, we read: "Woman Cursed by Her Own Father, Possessed from 14th Year Till Her 40th Year/ Devils Appearing: Beelzebub, Lucifer, Judas, Jacob and Mina".

The booklet sold for 15 cents per copy, 8 copies for \$1.00, 100 copies for \$8.00, and it purports to be a true account of actual incidents. Here is one from p. 12:

The woman was placed firmly upon the mattress of an iron bed. Upon the advice of the Father, her arm-sleeves as also her dress were tightly bound so as to prevent any devilish tricks. The strongest nuns were selected to assist her in case anything might happen. Suspicion was had that the devil might attempt attacking Father during the ceremony. Should anything unusual happen the nuns were to hold her quiet upon her bed. Soon after the prescribed prayers of the Church were begun the woman sank into unconsciousness and remained in that state throughout the period of exorcism. Her eyes closed up tight so that no force could open them.

Hardly had Father begun the formula of exorcism in the name of the Blessed Trinity, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, in the name of the Crucified Savior when a terrible scene followed. With lightning speed the possessed dislodged herself from her bed and the hands of the protectors, her body, carried through the air, landed high above the door of the room and clung to the wall with cat-like grips. All present were struck with a trembling fear. Father alone kept his peace. "Pull her down, she must be brought back to her place upon the bed!"

Real force had to be applied to her feet to bring her down from the high position on the wall. The mystery was that she could have clung to the wall at all! This was through the powers of the evil spirit, who had taken possession of her body. *Cr Wakefield*.

LICK MAKES KILLING

The State of California has appropriated (exactly the word for it) \$1,300,000 for a new telescope to be put up on Mt. Hamilton at Lick Observatory. Elinor Hayes, writing in the *Oakland Tribune* of 3-15-46 old style, states that the mirror will be made of pyrex. A bit farther along she states that Dr. C. E. Shane, Lick director, will "go shopping" for the mirror in the East in May. That means he has been here, and probably the order is placed, but the implication of going "shopping" is that the order had not been placed when Elinor Hayes was writing in March. There's one little weasel word in the story, however. Unless Your Secretary is off-base, "pyrex" is a trade-name, and only one firm can supply it. *Cr Wakefield*.

RICH MAN'S CHAS FORT

Some years ago MFS Washburn asked what we thought of Alfred Korzybski. Our reply, based on some magazine articles, the publication "etc", some publicity for the Institute of General Semantics, and some quotations by other writers on semantics could not be called laudatory. Your Secretary wrote that an essentially simple subject was being perverted, obfuscated and purposely made difficult, for the chief reason of providing an income for Korzybski. We thought he was inventing a nomenclature - as priests and magicians have always done - to make his

essentially simple work seem difficult to laymen, to scare off the rabble - as astronomers, bankers and physicists had done before him.

Other members asked the same questions, since the founding of the Chicago "Institute", in the year 8 FS; and with the publication of the newly revised, 2nd Edition, of *Science and Sanity*, Your Secretary subjected his prejudice to the acid bath of self-examination, in the pages of Korzybski's magnum opus: with the result that - if we could afford it - every Fortean would receive a copy of this book gratis. The price is \$6.00 - from the Society. That is why Korzybski is being called "the rich-man's Charles Fort".

Oddly enough, it is not necessary to revise our first opinion very much to make such high praise possible. This book IS an attempt to create a mystical nomenclature for an essentially simple study: but one doubts (now) that Korzybski's intention is to befuddle anybody. He writes like a damned scientist - but probably because that's the only way he can write. The job he is doing is colossal. It is long overdue. When it is done - in his scientific manner - the task will still remain for somebody to paraphrase his canon for the lugs.

If you have a stomach for polysyllabic generalizations highly pertinent to your thinking processes, get this book. The subtitle is "An Introduction to Non-Aristotelian Systems and General Semantics". A full century will elapse before the contents is made much simpler than that.

On p. xl, of the Introduction, read: a non-aristotelian system we are stressing the differences between the animal reflex, automatic signal reactions, which do not involve 'thinking', human 'intelligence', etc., and human symbol reactions, with their flexibility, based on conscious evaluations, etc. These differences could hardly be conveyed better than by studying THE RAPE OF THE MASSES, by Dr. Serge Chakotin" . . . Thank you, Dr. Korzybski! Get it from the Society, \$2.50.

HONORARY FULLER

You have heard a great deal about R. Buckminster Fuller. You'll hear a great deal more. Mr. Fuller is - in all his attributes and pediculae - the antithesis of a secret.

Fortune devoted ten pages to his doings in the April issue. *Life* has done even better - fifteen pages - about three years ago. His picture, in life-like color, and his life, anything but drab, are features of the *Fortune* piece. You are urged to see them there.

As long ago as the year 8 FS, R. Buckminster Fuller revealed his Fortean characteristics in a book, *Nine Chains to the Moon*. Although one winces many times in the course of that volume at the faith of Mr. Fuller in his jade-mistress, Science, at length it becomes clear that he is using the term to mean "technical proficiency" rather than "God", and that he is quite ready to forsake her the moment a more accomplished work comes along. The Society has been seen *Nine Chains to the Moon* for years. You'll

find an alarm clock - ringing - on almost every page

In *Life*, March 1, 1943 old style, Mr. Fuller published a map which could be cut out and glued together to form a 14-faced "globe". Although he arrived at this "Dymaxion World" without reference to B.J.S. Cahill's Butterfly Projection, it is based on the same kind of horse-sense, and is - by the same token - Fortean.

Now Mr. Fuller is stamping out round houses, dwellings, on machines once used for making planes. You - being Fortean yourself - will not wish to live in one of them, but they are a whale of an idea. For particulars, address Fuller Houses, Inc., Wichita 6, Kansas.

To top all, Mr. Fuller is a paid-up MFS in good standing, and in appreciation of his long record of independent and original thinking - he has now been made an Honorary Member for life.

MIGHT IS RIGHT

How many remember the thundering opus of Ragnar Redbeard LL.D., that Nietzsche of Chicago, the Max Stirner of Evanston, who flourished 1903-1925 A.D.? He had previously operated in London, was supposed to own a cattle ranch "in Montana", and was put forward as "a literal re-incarnation of Wodin". We have a copy of his book, **MIGHT IS RIGHT**, from MFS Roueche. If sufficient interest is shown, the Society will republish this work, or see that it is republished.

Jews, Christians, Masons and politicians of every race, creed and color take a drubbing under phrases that remove the hide without anaesthetic. The author's Forteanism is far from perfect, but his attack upon this civilization of, by and for "mental geldings", should be a part of every Fortean's literary heritage.

AMATEUR COMET

The comet discovered, 5-28-46 old style, by David Rothard, an amateur astronomer (of N.Y.C.?), must be an amateur too. Acc. to Science Service in the *World-Tele*, it is "just bright enough to be seen with the naked eye", a condition eschewed by professionals this long while.

OLD BACK-SCRATCH

Remember when Pope Pius gave Pope Shapley a prize of \$2500 for "work" on nebulae? We noticed it in **DOUBT #6**, Jan. 1942 old style.

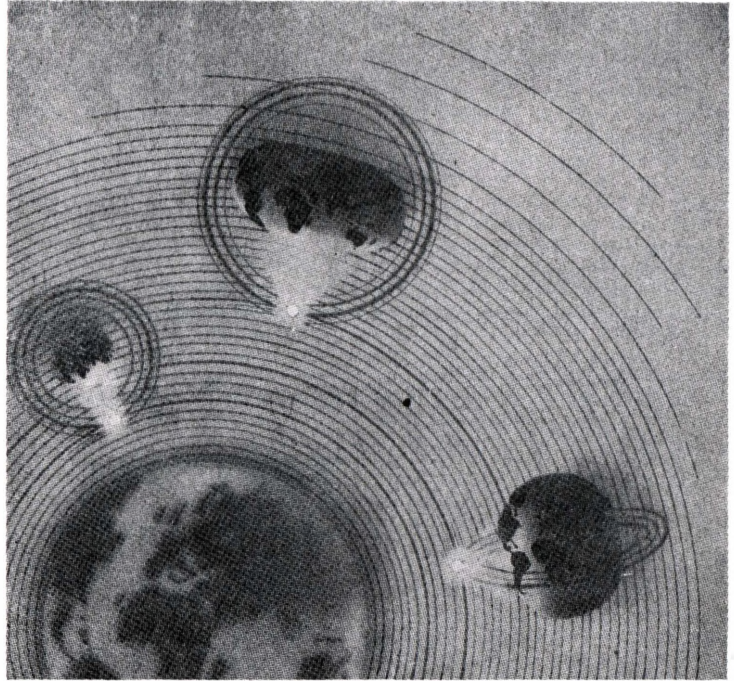
Now 2-11-16 FS - His Holiness Harlow named a comet after Rev. Matthaues Timmers of the Vatican Observatory in Rome, who is called the comet's discoverer. "Whether it will be visible to the naked eye is not known at present, he (Harlow) added." *Cr* Hoernlein

RED SAND STORM

Cairo, Egypt, "turned blood red" 3-15-16 FS, "as a heavy pall of crimson sand . . . dropped upon the city. It was the most unusual sand storm in the memory of living inhabitants."

Get this:

"Meteorological experts (this must be from the *World-Tele*) . . . said there were no records of a similar phenomenon (sic) except in their history books. They explained the rare red sand of the wes-



tern desert . . . was easily lifted by strong winds . . . The gales blew from the south." *Cr* Reagan and non-member Dufur.

LOTTA FISH

Between 8,000 and 10,000 tons of dead fish have washed up on the banks of Lake Poinsett, near Brookings, S. D. MFS Farnsworth estimates that makes a solid block of 416,666 square feet of stench. The "official" explanation is that "poisonous gasses given off by the vegetation at the bottom of the lake" killed all these scavenger fish. Almost no game fish are among the dead. "Mighty selective gasses," says Farnsworth. *Cr*, also, Oltscher and Hollyer.

HOLE IN BACK YARD

A hole 35 feet deep and 12 by 18 feet "around the edge", appeared back of a house in Sturgis, S. D. (75-31-46? old style) "Neighbors reported a blinding flash about midnight." Geologists are going to look down for meteoritic material. *Cr* McMahon.

HALONIC THEORY AND BIMANITY ADVENT

Two Italians in Milan are responsible for the nomenclature above. They are E. I. Azzario and P. A. Pollini, and a third - G. Pessina - has contributed commentary.

Since the original works upon which these radical departures from "Copernico's heliocentric conceptions" are based are in Italian, we cannot yet report upon them fully. A press-sheet in English arrives with the books, however, and from

that we gather that Luna is neither so far away as Pope Shapley thinks, nor so close as Bernard Shaw estimates, 37 miles, but, between the two, the distance being "as short as the distance from Europe to Australia". "Bimanity" means that *humanity* on Luna and *humanity* on Earth are about to unite to form *bimanity*, as spirit joins matter, as love unites with wisdom, promising great things in a seven-dimensional future.

The "Halonic" theory "considers the Copernican system totally wrong from point of view of the reality; the heavenly bodies consisting only of Images of cosmic planets and stars, which are directly invisible . . . The celestial visions are only optical and electrodynamic images formed in our (crystalline) sky, due to the crossing of electrical energies, radiating both from Earth and other planets and cosmic bodies."

The illustration purports to bear out these theories, and probably it does so with as much credibility as the *World Almanac* brings to the same problems under a different system.

Meantime, P. A. Pollini is acting as Fortean correspondent in Milan.

CAMPBELL KEEPS COMING

In the matter of Crosse's acari (cf. 1-5, Oct. '41, p. 4) of which you quote from the *Express*, this account suggests that he set up his apparatus to "amuse his children," and that on the fourteenth day he got results that "puzzled" and (a little) frightened him. His children must have been damned easy to amuse, to stick by him that long. But that's not the way I heard it. He was, I understand, precipitating silicate crystals by passing a current through siliacic (?) acid (H₂SiO₃). His crystals came through, all

right; but he was excusably "puzzled and a little frightened" when some of his crystals climbed up on top of whatever it was that they had formed on the bottom of. A silicon crystal is covered with spines, I gather, just like an acarus. Andrew Crosse noted one obvious difference, however: silicon is not noted for mobility. He had the specimens examined by authorities, who agreed that they were acari, but disagreed as to species. Some held that they were hitherto unknown. Crosse (or somebody) called them acarus electricus.

Subsequent experiments showed that a return to the brew was fatal to them, whether because of the acid or the current or both I know not. They seldom (never?) survived the frost; I have no data on the reactions of normal oviparous acari to frost. It is to be assumed that he ran a control group in a chamber of constant temperature; if this is the case then it was the occasion rather than the temperature that did away with these anomalies. No mention was made of the fate of specimens generated during or after the first frost. Whether or not the new species was fertile I have forgotten, but I believe something was said about it. Also there was the suggestion that spores were present in his apparatus. If so, that lays *that* idea to rest, but it brings up another almost as pregnant: can life be developed in a lethal environment? If so, to what extent? Etc.

GRIST FOR TOBEY

Any poker player, or gambling man in whatever category, can tell the mathematicians how little "law" there is in their theories of probability. Recently MFS Carl Payne Tobey began introducing a time factor into his experiments with a roulette wheel. We reported that here. Now - from Las Vegas, where gambling is legal and perpetual - comes the tale of an eight-handed draw poker game in which two royal flushes were filled in the same hand, both on one-card draws. "Probability" says that even one royal occurs only once in 100,000 hands. *Cr Hoernlein*

HAIL GRAPEFRUIT SIZE

Roofs were beaten off 2500 houses in Austin, Texas, 5-16-46 old style, by hail "as big as grapefruit". *Cr Hoernlein*

SPONTANEOUS BIRD-NEST

Firemen of Tacoma attributed (5-17-46) old style, a fire to "spontaneous combustion" of a pigeon's nest in the eaves.

SPARROWS CHOP CHIMNEY

In Springfield, Minn., a brick factory chimney, 102 feet high, fell, shortly before 3-23-16 FS. "Company officials said constant pecking . . . by sparrows apparently weakened it so that it was a victim of a gust of wind." *Star*, Washington, D. C. *Cr Kerr*

MORE BIRDS

A cormorant stopped off at Lake Sullivan, near Indianapolis, "in season" of the years 11, 12, 13 FS: skipped 14, but returned in 15. *News*, Detroit, *Cr Stetter*.

Letter in the London *Times*: "In your issues of December 5, 1944, you recorded the arrival of the scaup on its annual

visit to St. James's Park lake. This year he has come nearly a fortnight later . . . Yours faithfully, C. J. Purnell." *Cr Elsender*.

A loon, "goony bird which can neither walk on land nor take off from solid ground", was found beside a road near Laramie, Wyo., shortly before 2-5-16 FS. "How the bird reached Wyoming remains a mystery, but it is believed it was blown 500 miles off course by a strong wind."

The San Juan Capistrano swallows are described as arriving in the rain on "St. Joseph's Day", 3-19-46 old style. The lie is that they have done so every year for a century. Will some California MFS check the papers? Your Secretary recalls one miss between the year 3 and 6 FS, *incl.* How about earlier ones? When did publicity for the "legend" start?

An estimated 300 to 700 wild geese and ducks were apparently killed by lightning at about 8:30 p.m. 2-8-16 FS, near O'Bannon's Corner, Sutter County, Calif. The birds were found on the ground, strewn along an area 400 feet wide, by a mile and a half. Many of the birds showed burnt places of various sizes. Others, none. *Cr Raven* (sic), and Brooks.

Times, 4-7-46 old style: That a red-winged blackbird has returned every year for three years to be fed by hand by the E. C. Atchinson family of Marquette, Ia. *Cr McMahon*

Between Richmond and Petersburg, Va., 4-23-16 FS, a "huge bird" crashed through the windshield of a bus and went on out the back window. Some called it a duck. It was not found. *Cr Kerr*.

WE HAVE PICTURES

While a little spotted mongrel stood staring into a street drain on the campus of North Texas Teachers College, in Denton, waiting for something, a woman, identified as Mrs. Mabel Jean Palmer, "stood in silence four hours in a public lane in Miami," Fla. The woman held a pot of burned prunes, and between her thumb and the handle of the pan protruded a wooden match. Mrs. Palmer kept her eyes fixed on the sky and would not speak until she was put in a police car. Then she said: "Please God! Please God!" The incident is undated, but an Acme photo appeared in the Boston *Post* of 2-19-46 old style. *Cr Reagan*.

The dog's picture was in the Washington, D. C., *Times-Herald*, 3-4-46 old style, and the story was that he had been waiting at the drain opening for 41 consecutive days. He is surrounded by firemen in the picture. The firemen had run a stream through the drain to see if they could wash out what the pooch was waiting for . . . No result. *Cr Kerr*.

MASS INDUCTION

Off the west coast of Ireland, near Clifden, are two islands, Turn and Turbot. County Galway claims that the 200 inhabitants are its citizens, much as Massachusetts claims the Vineyard and Nantucket: but the Turners and Turboters are not so docile as our local islanders. and they have declared themselves an untaxable republic. Then Galway officials tried to surprise them, at dawn 2-3-46 old style, to collect about \$48,000 "back

taxes", not a living human was to be found. Their livestock was on the common, but they had all gone to Aran for the day. This has been going on for the past forty years, according to the *N. Y. Times*.

In appreciation of their nobly Fortean attitude, the Society has extended Honorary Membership to the entire population.

? EARHART ?

Dr. Robert W. McAllister of Macon, Ga., sent *Time* a photo of some half-clad blacks beside a plane. Walking on a wing of the plane is a figure which looks like Amelia Earhart in slacks| (See *Time* 1-21-46 old style). Allegation is that the picture was taken from the pocket of a dead Jap on Okinawa. *Cr Reagan*.

GUESS WHO!!!

A Swiss "scientist" with funny hair - and other clownish characteristics - is building a diving ball which he hopes will take him down to and bring him back from the floor of the Atlantic . . . No, not Wilkinson, not Byrd - and you only get one more guess . . . *That's* right - Piccard! Auguste Piccard, Scaramouche of the Stratosphere, Pagliacci of Physics, makes the announcement from Sierra, Switzerland (sic). Our information does not name the sponsor. Perhaps Dr. Piccard would like to hear that name too. *Cr Russel* and Hoernlein.

OUR CONTEMPORARY

Talk of the Town in the New Yorker is anonymous, but everybody knows the MFS Russell Maloney writes a good deal of it. We suspect him of the story about the "Plants Without Flowers" Show in their issue of 3-30-46 old style. It pays off: thus - quoting Dr. Ernst E. Naylor:

"About three hundred and fifty thousand plants have been discovered all over the world so far, and about a hundred and fifty thousand remain to be discovered." We asked how, if they hadn't been discovered, anyone knew how many there were. "You leave that to us," Dr. Naylor said sharply. *Cr Bucher*.

MAN THEY COULDN'T

Willie Francis, *ae* 17, convicted of killing a druggist in St. Martinville, La., was strapped in the electric chair, "tickled" by the current, unstrapped and taken back to his cell. Some papers said he "squirmed" to avoid the full voltage. One - *Times-Herald*, Washington, D. C. - said "because of faulty electrodes". Willie says it was God, which will probably please astronomer Pruett.

TRANSLATORS

(Contributed by E. Hoffman Price)

The translator whose incompetence warps mankind's thinking on matters of human interest is infinitely more dangerous than the scientist whose guesses at a comet's orbit, or the age of pre-cambrian rock are offered as fact.

Millions have gulped the one about ravens feeding Elijah, though there have been septs who concluded that Elijah told a whopper to build up prophetic prestige. Actually, it's probably a translator's crime.

See Philip K. Hitti's version of MEMOIRS OF USAMAH, page 35: "Choosing horsemen . . . I said to them, 'Go ahead of us and I shall follow right after you.' They dashed off at a gallop and I dashed after them. One of the returned to me, saying "Not a single one at al-Jafr. Perhaps what the guides saw was nomadic Arabs." Then there is this footnote: "urban. Since the manuscript ignores diacritical marks, the word may be *ghirban*, ravens." That is, the scribe's omission, or the translator's misreading of the small strokes and dots above (or below) the line of script leaves it a toss up, EXCEPT FOR THE CONTEXT, whether the word means ravens, or nomadic Arabs.

And translators rarely have any regard for context. They set forth the first definition the dictionary offers. And there are works such as John Richardson's A DICTIONARY, PERSIAN, ARABIC, AND ENGLISH, in the preface of which the author naively admits he's never been in the east. He consulted other text books!

There's every probability that Elijah was an honest man who for forty days got his chow from nomadic Arabs, and that the mis-translators of King James' day made him a miracle man - or a liar!

See Dr. Hitti's introduction to MEMOIRS OF USAMAH, and note how easy it is to make a hash of Arabic, Aramic, Hebrew, kindred languages; and take a look at George M. Lamsa's scriptural translations and scriptural commentaries. Between the two of them, they present a splendid expose of translators.

Here's a gem from HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF ASSASSINS, A Frenchman's translation of a German's translation of Persian and Arabic MSS. One Ustad is allegedly put to death because, since the name he assumed, Ustad, means "master", he was presumed to have had pretensions to the office of Grand Master of the Order. *Ustad*, according to the dictionary, does not mean "master" - but in the sense of scholar, doctor, professor, not ruler.

In the same work, the translator demonstrates how proper names are warped beyond recognition. DSCHIHANKOUS-CHA, in German phonetics, is a pretty fair rendering of a Persian proper name; but in a French text, it's a nightmare, though it wouldn't have taken much savvy to have written it Jehan Coucha, which decently approximates the Persian original.

J-A-C-O-B is nonsense in English. It's hard to account for even a translator's giving spelling for a Semitic proper name which is approximated in English phonetics, by YAKUB, YAKOOB, IAKOOB. And J-E-S-U-S would make sense if written Yeshua, which is about what his mammy called him.

B. K. Featherstone's translation of Emil Trinkler's *Quer Durch Afghanistan Nach Indien* contains an illustration captioned, TOMB OF THE EMPEROR TIMURIDEN. Pure idiocy! Never was any emperor name Timuriden. What the German author meant was, TOMB(S) OF THE TIMURID EMPERORS.

Ever hear of the eastern dude who went out west and stopped at the town of OJO CALIENTE (Hot Spring.) He

wrote home saying that HOT EYE was a heli of a name for a town. His glowing misuse of the dictionary - ojo means not only eye, but also spring, loop and a lot of other things - would qualify him for a high place among the really serious mistranslators who have duped trusting readers for centuries.

Happily, there are a few Hittis and Lamsas at work, who know English, and who translate works written in their native speech. They are rarities. They're trying to correct time hallowed absurdities, and showing that in most cases, it was bungling translation, and not original fraud or imbecility which is responsible for so much of the solemn, sacred nonsense that clutters historical and theological and philosophical works which have come down from ancient days.

EDISON SPINNING

The source of the tidal wave, mentioned elsewhere in this issue, has at length been determined. It was caused by Atheist Thomas Alva Edison spinning in his grave. Even the U of Virginia revolutions-counter, who can tally up to 211,000 per second, said that Edison was turning over too fast for him. The motivating impulse was the award of "The Thomas A. Edison Foundation Gold Medal for 1945", announced by Dr. Robert D. Hobday. The winner was Cardinal Spellman.

The Truth About INDIA

by
Kanhayalal Gauba

(continued)

14

Modern jurisprudence has virtually forgotten the offence of "sedition." The right to free speech and free association are among the main foundations of modern society. There are however clear laws regulating the right of speech and association in British India for obvious reasons. But such laws are constantly being applied with less and less vigour. What was the sedition twenty years ago is no longer construed as seditious today. The maximum penalty for sedition is two years imprisonment, but the Courts seldom award the full penalty and sentences are generally reduced on appeal. The laws of sedition, in the States are considerably more drastic than those in British India. Five years hard labour is frequently the Penalty for even a minor difference with the administration.

Typical of the sedition laws in the States may be cited regulations current in two Rajputana States. The law in Alwar is cited as follows:

"(1) A meeting of more than five persons shall be presumed to be a public meeting within the meaning of this Act until the contrary is proved.

"(2) At any public meeting no such subjects will be discussed or preached

which are likely to do anything which may be contrary to the interests of Alwar State, its government, its sovereign or against the interests of His Majesty the King Emperor of India, His Government or against the interests of any other Ruling Prince of India.

"(3) No person shall concern himself or conspire in convening or organising or otherwise knowingly taking part in the public meeting. No one may write, print or publish or circulate or attempt to write, print or publish or circulate any article or document inside the State or outside it which has a tendency indirect or direct against the interest of His Highness the Maharaja of Alwar, and his Royal family or his government or H. M. the King Emperor of India or any other ruling Prince.

"(4) No person may subscribe or import to hold in his possession any such articles. Such persons whenever found shall be punished with imprisonment for five years or fine amounting to two thousand rupees. The offenders, if necessary, may be ordered to quit the State."

There are similar provisions in Jodhpur:

"Whosoever by words spoken or written or by sign or visible representation or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt or excites or attempts to excite disaffection or disloyalty towards His Majesty the Emperor of India or His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur, or his administration, shall be deemed guilty of sedition.

No public meeting can be held for furtherance or discussion of any subject likely to promote sedition or cause disturbance of public tranquility or for the exhibition or circulation or distribution of any written or printed matter.

Any person of Marwar knowing that any other person has received seditious pamphlets or prohibited newspapers or periodicals hostile to British Government or the Marwar Durbar, or any matter likely to cause public disturbance or peace must report the same within 48 hours to the nearest magistrate or Police Officer.

No subject of Marwar shall harbour or give shelter to any person whom he knows to be a notorious seditionist.

No subject of Marwar shall receive or keep in possession or distribute or help in distributing seditious writings or prohibited newspapers or periodicals hostile to the British Government or the Marwar Durbar or correspond or associate with notorious seditionists."

15

In a State, where there can be no intelligent criticism of the administration, where the executive and the Judiciary merely register the decrees of the Ruler, the public services cannot be maintained in any degree of integrity or efficiency. No person is quite certain in what light he will appear in the Ruler's eyes the next day or what currents are moving in the deep waters of palace intrigue.

So while the sun shines, state officers make hay, collecting it in cosy barns across the frontiers. Because there is no security, no guarantee, that even a life-

time's service will be safe for the next 48 hours in the hands of the ruler or a successor, almost every officer from the Chief Minister downwards to the Octroi Superintendent is often corrupt and steeped in graft.

Excepting in certain States the highest officers are not recruited for any definite qualifications. It is well known that the best qualification not infrequently is a relationship to the ruler himself. A "father-in-law" or a "brother-in-law" of the Chief has scope of appointment, promotion and favours—while the lady looks good in the Prince's eyes. The surest way to success in many States is to provide a companion for the Prince. Virgins are preferred, but generally any good looking lady will do. The longer the lady stays in the palace, the better. Those who are in a position to provide variety for the Prince, gain considerable influence at the Court. There are several instances within the writer's knowledge, but two or three need only be mentioned. There is the fairly well known case of the Prince who had a child by the unmarried daughter of his European Private Secretary. Matters were hushed up by sending the girl and her baby to Europe and promoting the father to high ministerial appointment. Affairs in a certain State are also well known. The Chief was educated in one of the Chiefs Colleges and on his investiture with the power of the *gadi*, appointed one of his tutors as a minister of State. This minister gained great influence. More than one Chief Minister resigned in disgust, owing to the sinister influence exercised by this man and his relations. He kept the Chief well supplied in the fair sex, and the Ruler soon became "a tool in their hands". A Journal reporting the conditions in this state disclosed the following facts:

"Two notorious figures in the State misguide the young Ruler and thus spell ruin to the State. The Minister and his son are ipso facto the rulers of the State and the Ruler is only in name. The family of can do anything and everything as they like and nobody to question their authority. Appointments in the State are distributed to the members, relations and favourites of the family. No qualification is required for posts in the State if the candidate is in any way connected with this family. If anybody happens to be in the bad books of (M)..... then he is oppressed by a band of Gondas who are afforded protection by the Superintendent of police, who is a son of the minister."

There is also the case of a Ruler promoting a sepoy in the State infantry to the rank of a noble to "wield so much influence (that he) was practically the ruler of the State. There was no safety for women . . . Ladies of respectable families had to quit the state if they cared for their honour. Illiterate, though he was, he resorted to all sorts of cruel means to wreak his vengeance upon those who happened to incur his displeasure." The Maharaja's eye fell on an attractive married lady. The one time sepoy, now a first class Sardar said he would get her for his King. Get her he did, raiding

her home one night and shooting her husband dead. "She was carried away to the palace in a waiting motor car. She refused, however to respond to the Ruler's attentions, for which she was ordered to be raped. Ten men carried out the execution, after which her throat was cut and her body thrown down a well." A Minister who protested lost his job.

If for any reason a favourite ceases to be the favourite, he is usually allowed 24 hours to take himself and his belongings out of the State. He may have served two years, he may have served twenty years, he may be a *tahsildar*, he may be a Chief Minister, he may be drawing Rs. 10/- a month or Rs. 3,000 /- a month, if his Chief has no more use for him, he has to go and get out quick. If for some reason he is unable to cross the frontier in the 24 hours specified, he may be arrested and tried for treason or embezzlement. His estates are forfeited and he is himself transferred to the dark dungeons for life. If sometime later he wants to buy his freedom, and his ruler's favour, he may be deputed to put some inconvenient person out of the way or to seduce some person who has received the glad eye of royal favour: If he succeeds, he may be a Minister of State again.

While procurers have great vogue in certain States, so do some of the procured. There is the well-known case of a prominent ruler who squanders his youth and his fortune on a demimondaine from Lahore. His Highness is the President of the Council, but the real ruler of the State is reported to be the one-time street girl of this city. The influence of a dancer some years ago in the politics of a certain Rajput State was widely discussed.

"Love alone remains unchanged in X. Love is a thing which happens like the measles or a toothache. It is a thing that can happen to most and the best. She was decidedly the nicest and jolliest girl in (town). But men thought she was wasted on that old (ruler). It was true he was old enough to be her grandfather but you see she actually loved the old man, which was not a silly thing for a humble dancing girl for the sake of his immense wealth. She was first engaged on rupees sixty a month but then she grew so attractive that in the whole city there was none second to her in dancing. A look with the corner of her eye penetrated the heart of the most powerful man in (town)."

"Her word was law and she made use of her influence to the best advantage. All the people who had to deal with (the ruler) flocked to her place with innumerable presents in silver and gold. For full five years she controlled the affairs of (the State)."

(To be continued)

NOT BOOKS OF FORT

"As he was receiving a book from the librarian" in the Kenton, Ohio, public library, 5-20-46 old style. Charles Brown, called "the human lightning rod", was struck for the tenth time. Cr Wheeler, Hollyer.

SUPREME COURT PICKETS

Two women were picketing the Supreme Court, Washington, D. C., in the middle of last December, and they may be there yet. That system may not get them inside, before the august bar, but it airs the case. The women are Edith Nycum and Mrs. Mildred Phillips Lena Nycum, and they hand out broadsides which are very difficult to read. They appear to have been written by people who suffered a sense of deep injustice without knowing what to do about it. The copy is jumbled, incoherent, ungrammatical, highly confusing, but if one stays with its legal, pseudo-legal and impassioned verbosity long enough, a story emerges.

The story concerns pretty Margaret Jane Shields, graduated from high school in Altoona, Pa., *ae* 17, married, *ae* 18, to Willis D. Emerick, an Altoona city policeman, May, 1941. On November 16, 1941, old style, Margaret died, and ever since then, with apparent sincerity, the girl's family has been trying to prove that her policeman husband murdered her. The two women picketing the Supreme Court are aunts of the deceased.

The family has paid considerable sums of money to various attorneys through the past four and half years, but the cop has never been arraigned. He still wears his badge.

Your Secretary has no opinion in the matter; neither has MFS Crehore who submitted the broadsides; but in the full knowledge that a police officer almost anywhere can kill almost anybody assured immunity, we call attention to the case. Copies of the broadsides may be had by writing to Edith Nycum, 1210 Thirteenth Avenue, Altoona, Penna.

THE BET IS UPPED

A "young, non-professional (spirit) medium" has raised the "figure ordinarily given" for the speed of light (186,285 miles per second). The medium makes it 193,737,3295 mps. The source of the information is not stated by MFS "Nos tradamus" Roberts, who quotes MFS Layne's *Round Robin*, but one ventures that it's every bit as authentic and deserving of credence as the orthodox figure.

WHATEVER BECAME OF —

The Society for Propaganda Analysis?
Tyler Kent?
Su'fanilimide?
Town Topics, a publication.

ARK NOW BUILDING

William "Noah" Greenwood, of Rochester, Thurston County, Washington, is building an Ark to house and float the Faithful when the next Flood comes. Bill is 79. His ark is 15 feet long with an 8-foot beam. Cr Hoernlein.

BIGGEST STENCH

Frauds, a mag, suggests that "if Japan had capitulated before the new bomb had been perfected", the Manhattan Project would have become "the major scandal of the war" . . . In the name of Mervyn T. Christ, what does the think it HAS become?

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

1838

Box 1 (Resumed)

- Nov Mets. A. J. Sci. 35 Index 36-355
- 13 7 p.m. Meteor size of Moon at Cherbourg. C. R. 7-902.
- 16 7 p.m. At Conde-sur-Noireau, France. Met train seen, not met. C.R. 7-979
- 24 Volc. Palanbarg, Java, A. J. Sci. 29-363

Box A (Resumed)

- Dec 5-10 Banchory Aberdeenshire. Polt stones. Jour Soc. 9-27

Box 1 (Resumed and Concluded)

- 6 8:55 to 9:15 p.m. from zenith 42 Meteors at Tonton C.R. 8-255.
- 7 U.S. various places - meteors about 150 an hour. A. J. Sci. 35-365
- 7 bet. 6 & 7 p.m. by T. W. Webb in Herefordshire great number of meteors. (reverse) In half an hour 40 were counted. Nature 7-203. See Pro Met. Soc. 1838-39 p 9.
- 7 bet. 6 & 7 p.m. by T. W. Webb. Great number of mets. An auroral light at the time. Nature Jan. 16, 1873.
- 7 South Herfordshire. A great number of mets. 40 counted in ab. ½ hour. BA 52-185
- 10 2 mets in France. C. R. 7-1081.
- 12 Mets. A. J. Sci. 35-361, 36,-355. 43-398 (reverse) 36-355, 42-398, 41-403.
- 15 Mexico. Quake - mets. BA '54
- 16 Dunsink Observatory, Ireland. Last 4 hours of daylight clouds arranged in arches (reverse) converging to the NE and SW points of horizon. Athenaeum 1839-141.
- 16 Singular ap. of clouds. Proc Irish Acad. 1-249
- 23 Night La Rochelle. Shock and sound like cannon fire. BA '54
- 23 4 p.m. Shock at Woodhouse Eaves at time of quake in Naples. Gents Mag, Feb. 1839 p. 198.

Box A (Resumed)

1839

- 1839 Sunderland polt and a sick girl. Jour Sci 9-28
- 1839-1840
or
1840-1841 Beast Scotland / 171
- 1839 Spon Comb. Belgium

Box 2 (Begun)

- 1830 Nor Car. Siderite found on Black Mt. See 1882/See Am J Sci 2-4-82. 15 miles from Ashville - also another (reverse)

6 miles N of Ashville. See Am J. Sci. 1/36/81 2/4/79 Forall N Cass. See "1882"

- Jan to Feb Great quakes China. BA'11
- Jan to Feb China great quake
- Jan 1 Vesuvius. Early in morning - ceased in evening but again on 2nd. On 3rd quieter until evening. Temp 1839-230.
- 2 See Jan 1, 1842
- 2 N.M. See 1840 Jan 2 / Unusual Quadrantids. E. Mec. 74-446
- 2 Attention just drawn to Quadrantids. Nature 65-199
- 2 At Bosekop, Finland, a great number of meteors and a magnificent aurora (reverse) Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 13-501.
- 6 Milan fireball BA 60
- 6 } Milan
- 12 } Parma
- 6 } Parma fireball BA 60-76
- 11 Destructive quake. St. Lucia, W. Indies BA 1911-55
- 11 Martinique, Guadalupe, St. Lucia, light quake.
- 11 About 6 a.m. Quake Martinique and island enveloped in clouds (reverse) "might been clouds of dust from falling houses" BA '54.
- Jan 12 } Fireball Parma. Rep BA 1860
- Feb 6 }
May 7 }
July 6 }
Aug 13 }
Sep 3 }
Nov 6 }
Nov 10 }
- Jan 12 Fireball Parma BA '60
- 1839 About / See back '38 (Illustration, T.T.)
- (S) India 136

14 9 p.m. Upper Assam - quake preceded by rain and (reverse) snow in mts. BA '11.

19 Remarkable aurora, Dublin Athenaeum 1839-228.

- Feb to March Smaller quakes China.
- Feb 2 Dust 21.14.N 25.6 W. Fall of dust that (reverse) "certainly was not sand, but was like volc. ashes. Proc. Geology. Soc. 4-146 and Tasmanian Journal 1-333.
- 4 Off Cape Verde Islands on a ship fell a reddish brown powder (reverse) which resembled ashes from Vesuvius "and evidently was not sand blown from an African desert."
- 6 Parma Fireball BA '60
- 7 Night Near Bakou, in the Caucasus, quake (reverse) and an eruption of flames - mud BA '54.
- 9 to 13 Dust fell on another ship west of Cape Verde Islands. Nautical Magazine May 1839.
- 13 (F) A. J. Sci. 37-385 / Meteorite Little Penny, Mo./37-55' N 92-5 W between 3 and 4 p.m. Motion almost precisely westward (reverse) almost as if from same place as Tenn & Georgia mets, 1827 and 29.
- 25 7 a.m. / Borgotaro, Tuscany, quake preceded by a very loud noise. BA '54.

- Feb 27 to June 16 Quake and fog. Saint Jean de Maurienne 76 quakes. CR 9/486 (Reverse) sometimes preceded by a rolling sound said been subterranean. In strongest quakes the atmosphere obscured by a kind of fog of short duration.

Box A (Resumed)

- Early in March Light Amsterdam, N. Y. See Aug 22, 1883.
- Mar 11 Op Mars A 1

Box 2 (Resumed)

- 23 Burmah / Great quake vast quantities of water and black sand thrown out of fissures (reverse) volcanic eruptions in hills south of Kyook Phyoo / slight tremblings then for a year BA 14.
- 23 Between 3 and 4 a.m. Ava, Burmah, great quake. Great quantities of water and black sand (reverse) thrown to surface of ground and strong sulphurous odor. Apr 11th last news received by the writer. (reverse) Apr still some shocks. A. J. Sci. 38-385. BA '11
- 25 Volcano. Ternate Java N.M. C.R. 70-878



- 26 Isère, France, shocks preceded by sound like distant (reverse) thunder. BA '54.
- April 5 Florence, 5 p.m. quake preceded by very loud sound (reverse) then the sky became clouded. BA '54.
- 8 Quake Highlands, LT p. 5
Quake Crieff, May 29, LT p. 4
Quake Glengarry, Ap. 2 LT p. 6
Quake Bridgwater, June 11, LT p. 7
- 12 Rain of mud Constantine, Algeria. CR 8-715 See 14
- 12 Algeria quake and sand / finely powdered substance fell in Algeria/upon 14th a quake. C.R. 8-715, 768 (reverse) Philippeville/R-May 16, '46
- 13 Storm in Algeria / fall of hail or pieces of ice, described as falling in irregular masses CR 8-763
- 14 Quake and sand / quake in Algeria ab 2 p.m.
- Early May Dragon flies Germany / Mag Nat Hist N.S. vol. 3 / See Weissenborn
- May 2 3 clusters of sunspots / L.T. p. 6
5 between 11 and 12. Aurora Nottingham few details LT May 13 p. 5
5 Brussels Aurora CR 8-807
7 Parma Fireball BA 60
7 Saint-Brice Aurora CR 8-807
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 8 Near Radham Lum obj. See Lum Ojs.
- 16 Wildman of the year 1836
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 18 "pannetons" / fell around a coach between de Somnay & Sisors in such numbers the horses stopped. 1901/1/303 La Vie Scientifique.
- 1839 felt-like substance / Carolath, Silesia/ D-58.
- May 22 about 11 a.m. Bridgwater, loud report and shock L.T. June 11, p. 7
- 23 Afternoon/ Maumee, Ohio, tornado / Finley's Report.
- 24 L.T. p. 7. At Vendome, France, few days before fall of a "Waterspout" on (reverse) on one farm, 30 sheep drowned.
- June 6 8:30 p.m. Cambrai, Evreux, Chambery, Geneva, Lausanne. Great meteor Paris 279 CR 9-139 (F)
- 7 2 a.m. Explosive sound and quake. Mileda BA 54/284 (reverse but see June 7, 1838.
- 10 Ica, Peru. Light quake.
- About June ? Look up Salvador Great quake.
- June 11 Quake Lancashire. See March 10, 1843 (over) At Manchester Lloyds Weekly Newspaper, March 19, 1843.
- 12 8:15 a.m. / Quakes and sound like thunder. Lancashire/Roper p. 34
- 16 Mexico quake and meteors BA 54
- June 16 to Dec Successive quakes in Savoy and one with light in sky BA '54. See Nov. 29. (x)
- 18 Ice and dark / Brussels / D-180
- 1839 wet summer Proc Roy Soc London 1850 - 15a
- June 28 & 29 Saratof Govern Russia Medium quake.
- July 5 L T p. 7. Locusts at Clunie, Perthshire.
- 6 Parma Fireball BA '60
- 7 Arundel, Sussex/ Shower of pieces of ice four or five inches in diameter enclosing hailstones. LT July 12 p. 7.
- 13 Mexico quake and meteors. BA '54
- 24 Near coast of Lancashire - a cutter ran into numerous belts as far as eye could reach of Aphides. Sci. Gos. 1869.
- 28 Iceland / Smithsonian Inst. Rept. 1885-510.
- 31 Noon / New Haven, Conn. Tornado / Finley's Report.
- Aug 1 Quake and drought / violent shocks at Martinique / Had been drought since January (reverse) Immediately after shocks came rain which continued for days.
- 9 Maximum of Perseids. Observatory 46-169.
- 9-10 Great fall of Perseids / N.Q. / N.M. 3-11-32
- 10 etc Great Perseids at Paris. 1000 in about 4½ hours CR 9/375 (reverse) at Parma, night 10-11, 819 in 6½ hours / also great in U.S. CR 9-603.
- 10 from 9:30 to 3:15 a.m. at Breslau, 1008 meteors counted (reverse) L.T. Sept. 2, p. 2.
- 10 Perseids. A. J. Sci 37-330
- 11 8 to 4 a.m. of 12th, at Canton, China, 414 meteors Athenaeu 1840/578
- 12 Swarms of Harpatus near Dover Trans. Ent Soc. London
- 18 Irkutsk, Siberia, Great quake.
- 21 LT p. 4, Meteors.
- 23 LT p. 3. Village of Federowk moved as if by a quake.
- 24 d'Ange, France. M. Lemerrier in C.R. 3/375 (reverse) Seeming great motion of Venus or Mercury.
- 26 Coast of Albania, 9 p.m. great meteor and train 20 min. .AJ. Sci. 39-381.
- 27-31 About 1 p.m. on 27/ Messina. A quake at 5 & 8 p.m., other quakes and at 9:30 p.m. at moment of the concussion a reddish tint in the air - same day and until 31st in Calabria/ see 1805
- 30 Sunspot observed by Capt Davis N M Ast, Reg. 7-18
- Sept Comet reported near sun, in Ohio / L.T. Oct. 8, p. 8
- Sept 2 1 a.m. / Shock Bristol L.T. 9, p. 3.
- Sept 2 Many sunspots. A large cluster and 40 or 50 small spots appeared on 3rd. LT Oct. 12 p. 3
- etc. Bristol, 1 a m / S. Wales - quake and next night between 11 and 12 great aurora (quake and torrents) (reverse) Times
- of 11th reported from Monmouthshire - had been storm - rain falling in torrents - the violent shaking of earth and sound as of reports of many cannons. (reverse) LT 9, p. 3.
- 2 Meteors at Breslau. LT p. 2
- 3 Auroral beam. A J Sci 30/364
- 3 This aurora seen at New Orleans. CR 9/603
- 3 Aurora Edinburgh whole sky aflame N M / LT Sept 7, p. 4.
- 3-4 From 10 p m to 4 a m/ sheet of fire and meteors. Year Book 1840 (reverse). PLEASE PAY CASHIER.
- 4 1 a m Piedmont/ at Alexandria Sept 3-4 from 10 p m all night, brilliant aurora (reverse) CR 9/374.
- 5 In a field near Peterborough fell a fireball making a (reverse) hole a foot deep. LT 9, p. 6.
- 10 Fall River / Clear star-lighted night. Two black columns at first app to be smoke rising toward each other northeast. other southeast. Streamer shot from them. They obscured stars. LT Oct 9, p. 5.
- 10 Ghent fireball BA 60
- 17 Letter dated Sept 17 / from Sikkur on the Indus tells of descent of a large cloud of spiders and their webs. (reverse) "Maze within maze and fold within fold, an innumerable host of spiders" The morning was somewhat dark - there was distant rumbling of thunder. Mirror 35-47
- 20 Fish small space / India D-84
- Oct Comrie. See Ap 30, 1921
- Oct Comrie. See Aug 21, 1845
- Oct Comrie and Venus Inf. Conj. Sun. May 7, 1865.
- Oct 2 Vulcan by De Cuppis / round black object that traversed the sun in 6 hours / CR 83-314
- 5 Venus Inf conj. Sun (A1) 14h.
- 6 Noon. Constantine, Algeria. Rain from clear sky CR 44-786
- 12 Comrie
- 18 Intense darkness Quebec. Niles Nat Reg. (NM) Nov 16, 1839
- 20 Vulcan ? (Fort's query. T. T.)
- 21 and Prolonged but very slight shocks
- 22 Island of Antigua. BA '54
- 21-26 Reggio, Calabria, 62 shocks of which 26 were severe. BA 54
- 22 Aurora seen at Milan. LT Nov 5, p. 3
- 22 LT p. 4, at this date N. eye group of sunspots (?naked-eye? T.T.)
- 22 LT p. 4
- 24 LT p. 4. De Cuppis' dark body denied said had been sunspots. France and Italy / Aurora CR 9/538-602. 18/228
- 23 Pointed out in L T Dec 11 that shocks at Comrie were same time (reverse) shocks in St. Jean de Maurienne and at Reggio
- Oct A / Am J Sci. 2/7/315
- Oct Edin 34/97 that in Sept & Oct been uncommonly brilliant auroras "they had a curious color." Many felt electric shock

- (reverse). There were other shocks. Mr. Milne in his review in vol. 25, "This aerial sound was perceived to accompany most of the other shocks in October 1839.
- Oct 23 Quake felt simultaneously Comrie, Piedmont, Calabria, LT Dec 5, 1840
- 23 See BA '54 for series this year at (reverse) St Jean de Maurienne Savoy.
- 23 Comrie. A thin fleecy cloud was often observed hovering over the center of disturbance. BA '54
- 23 In Report B. Assoc. 1840 Milne says in reviewing of phe since 1768 - "occasionally there was a fall of fine black powder."
- 23 Aurora borealis and shooting stars in Scotland were more frequent than usually in Sept & Oct BA '54.
- 29 Comrie. Sound and Etna. Ap 13, 1822 Etna, etc.
- Oct Comrie. Stone in Perth. May 17, 1830
- Oct Comrie. Quake / Loud sound at Blackford. Oct 30, 1821
- Oct Comrie to distant. May 11, 1877
- Oct Comrie to Turkey, July 12, 1894
- Oct Comrie as sounding board or Comrie to distant quake, May 11, 1877. Collecting begins here.
- Oct Comrie stone Jan 27, 1863. b. rain March 14
- ly in
- Nov Night / great fall of meteors - next days p m detonations and falls of stones (reverse) at Sola, Mexico. Bull Acad Roy des Sci de Buxelles, 8/437
- Nov 9 Antigua - little after daybreak concussion detonation, brilliant meteor (reverse) Athenaeum 1840/930
- 9 Met explosion near Antigua, (W.I. at first taken for an earthquake but the meteor had been seen - 3 explosions. Am J. Sci. 39/282 (cut). (By "cut" Fort indicates that his source prints an illustration. T.T.)
- 9-19 Meteors as counted at Ceylon small displays mostly tending southward. Athenaeum 39/970.
- Early in
- Nov Nopalero, Mexico 2 p.m. W. to E. meteor BA '60
- Nov 12 This year? Not in Athenaeum for 1839/970/Nov '40
- 13 Moon-sized meteor (indecipherable) Athenaeum 1839-76
- 29 Before sunset large meteor at Naples moving Eastward. When over the Adriatic (reverse) turned back and passed over Naples again. BA '60
- 29 Naples. Meteorite. Phil Mag 4/8/460/See June 16 (reverse) Cosmos N.S. 3-55
- Dec 11 Quake-like aurora. St. Jean-de-Maurienne, Savoy 3:25 a.m. About 2 minutes after the (reverse) shock the horizon appeared brilliantly lighted so that one could easily distinguish the objects in a room. From 16th of June quakes here had stopped but had begun again Oct. 4. (reverse) BA 1854
- 13 Evening / Dover / Brilliant meteor LT 19, p. 7.
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 16 BO/LT p. 3, 4 large wolves seen in village of Lilleshall near Newport (reverse) 1 shot and three captured supposed escaped from a menagerie.
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 18 Breslau Fireball. BA 60
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 19 London Times. At Dover a rapping ghost (reverse) servant girl confessed "after a severe examination".
- 31 Upton-on Severn. See Lum Objs.
- 1840**
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 1840-41 Longest sunspot on record lasted 18 months. Todd Astronomy p. 175
- 1840 Carbon / Tenn. / N. D-73
- 1840 See 39 / fireballs Parma / Rep BA 1860 Ap 28 / May 2, 23, 31 / Also 41 / Feb 25, 27 / May 8
- Jan 2 LT p. 3 Comet / (also) Jan 3 p. 3 / Feb 3 p. 5/ Dec '39? (Fort's query. T.T.)
- 2-3 A great number of meteors, at Gand, and a bright aurora at Geneva (reverse) Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 13-501
- 2 See Jan 2, 1839 N.M. unusual Quadrantids. E Mec 74-446
- 2-3 See Jan 1, 1842
- 8 8 p.m. det meteor probably exploded over the German Ocean (reverse) BA '60
- 8 Meteors. Denmark. N.M. C.R. 10-119
- 8 10 p.m. / Donegal, Ireland quake and crackle in air and detonations. BA '54
- 8 Comrie / quake and a crackling sound in the air. Others compared this sound (reverse) to firing of cannons/ Mr. Milne lists and gives details of 18 other shocks in 1840 and 1841 / especially mentioning explosions of crackling sounds (reverse) "in the air" upon Jan 8, 1840, and April 21 and Sept 12, 1841 - explosions last instance in air - somewhere mistaken for cannon fire. Edin New P J 36/73
- 30 3 a.m. / quake and loud report at St. Louis (N.M.) Niles Nat. Registry, Feb. 22
- Feb 2 Volc eruption Moluccas. See 14th. Niles Nat Reg. 59-1
- Feb 2-14 Volc and quakes Ternate, Java, N.M. C.R. 70-878
- 6 Brussels, Fireball SE to NW BA 60
- 6 Sandwich Islands. Fireball. BA 60
- 7 A little before midnight volc eruption near Baku on the Caspian/Timbs 1841-257
- 8 Copenhagen Fireball BA 60
- 14 Moluccas violent quake and deluge from sky / Had been volc on Feb. 2. Niles Nat. Register 59-1
- 17 Berne Fireball BA '60
- 25 Met set fire Meteor set fire to roof of a wine press at Boissaux-Roux (Chanteloup) (Reverse) C.R. 112-514 (This 1841?) (Fort's query T.T.)
- Mar 4 Assam/ Quake and eclipse of sun (ordinary?) (Fort's query. T.T.) BA '54
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 14 The unknown footprints of B.D. in Athenaeum from Perth Comrie
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 15 Great meteor Princeton and New Haven BA 60-78
- 17 Meteor Canada. "Since said to be a false account". BA '60
- 21-22 Night / Loudly detonating meteor Sainte-Menehould (Meuse) (reverse) CR 12-662
- 22} Quake-magnetic. Quake Annecy in Savoy /
- 23} Many villages destroyed in Burmah (reverse) These days magnetic perturbations at Prague BA '54
- 24 Quake rain / Rajkot - India / in storm / D-65
- 24 7 p m / Mobile, Ala. Tornado. Finley's Report
- Apr 5 Volcanic eruption on Mindanao, Philippines. Ashes, great stones 7 N and 121 East (reverse) Also 300 miles NEast of 1st position (the ships) A J Sci. 40-198
- 5 Ship Niantic 60 miles from Mindanao (Philippines) (reverse) 2 a m ashes about one hour. Fell occasionally for several days / also on a ship 300 away. (reverse) Year Book 1842-245
- 24 Aurora / Proc Roy Irish Acad 1/451
- 28 Parma SE to NW large stone Meteor BA 60
- 29-30 Cloud of dust that obscured the sun 2 days in Russia Am J. Sci 2/10/287
- May 2 Parma Fireball BA 60
- 7 2 p m / Natchez, Miss / Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 9 Kirghiz Steppes, Tartary / Meteorite / BA 60-78 (reverse) Karakol Siberia (F)
- May A Toronto A.J. Sci. 40/337
- May 13 Albany, N. Y. 3 a m Detonating Meteor BA 60
- 13 At 3 a m. Great meteor Conn & adjoining states. A J Sci 39-382
- 13 29 / 2 meteors U S. BA 60-78
- 22 Violent eruption of Guteer, in Java. Athanaeum 1840-1014
- 23 Parma Fireball. BA 60
- 23 Aurora? Caraccas, Venezuela. Sky clouded one "star of first magnitude appearing at intervals" - a band of light that flickered and flashed. LT Aug 14, (reverse) CR 13/965 Timb's YB 1841/260
- 24 3 a.m. Volc Goentoe, Java N.M. CR 70-878

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