

# DOUBT

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Vol. II

Whole Number 43

<sup>66</sup> *Science does not know*  
*its debt to imagination* <sup>99</sup>  
+EMERSON+



SCIENCE-PEERING-UNDER  
THE-SURFACE-OF-THINGS

EDITED BY

TIFFANY THAYER

35c.

2/— in Great Britain

## DOUBT

### The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the  
FORTEAN SOCIETY  
Box 192 Grand Central Annex  
New York City

1931 A D = the year 1 F S

We use the Fortean 13-month calendar

Membership available to all

Annual dues \$2.00

Dues in Sterling countries 8/—

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In Great Britain, THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT may be obtained from Markham House Press, 31 Kings Road, London, S. W. 3. The price is £ 2-2-0.

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## FIRST PRIZE

Passing the plums around this session is admittedly arbitrary, the top level being so rich that nothing more substantial than piquancy separates the first three.

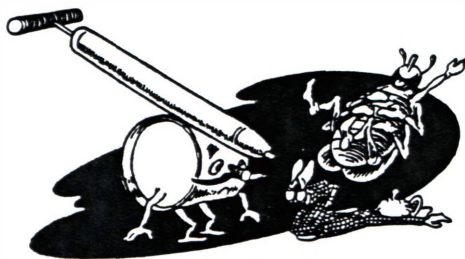
Markham made us laugh the loudest, with a piece from the *Rocky Mountain News*, 9-7-53. It tells about a storekeeper in Cortez, Montezuma County, Colorado, who heard a can of his tomato juice "ticking". Customers heard it too. He buried it, and called Sheriff A. W. Anderson. Anderson dug it up, and "retired behind a distant tree" from which point he shot the can several times with a rifle. Then the can was opened with a hatchet. Contents—tomato juice—just like it said on the label, but by Gar the ticking had stopped. Markham slugs it: "Scientific Method!"

Markham also contributes notice of the C-bomb as pictured by "A British nuclear scientist" unnamed by UP. "It might wipe out the human race at one

shot." To which Markham adds—"Wait for the S-bomb. That's going to ruin the universe!"

He also noticed that the colored lady who froze to death in Chicago, but did not die—remember?—is alleged to have tried to commit suicide by drinking iodine, aceto UP. Sept. 8.

A Scots lady, MFS Ritchie, sends one from the *Daily Express*, 4-8-53, about a new device for "putting identity tags on house flies" used in testing insecticides. The inventors of this labor saver claim that "until now a worker has been able to tag only 800 flies in a day, but with the mechanical device he can tag up to 1500 without undue fatigue." No price is mentioned, but if the machine is costly enough, the U. S. Army will be ordering them by the thousand, to protect us from invasion from Venus, Mars, etc.



In the insecticide connection, a NANA story in the *N.Y. Times*, 9-30-53, relates that Gov. Gen. Sir William Slim wanted to clean out the flies of Canberra, Australia, in time for the Queen's visit . . . "so the Government scientific research organization brought large numbers of species of cannibalistic flies into Canberra and liberated them."

The cannibals married the locals and "now the area is plagued with a vigorous and aggressive hybrid fly that is easily the biggest in the Southern Hemisphere." *Cr Mitchell*.

Out of Pasadena by AP comes a lulu. Five-year-old Janet Gray modeled for the city schools art class and thereby earned \$3.00, but to get her check she has to sign a loyalty oath. Her parents object to signing, and so the baby goes unpaid until she can swear "that she hasn't belonged to any party or organization advocating the overthrow of the government." The *World-Tele* copy-desk headlined it, "It's that Da, Da that's suspicious."

Milton Smith, with his usual sharpshooting marksmanship brings down a full bag. See elsewhere in this issue, a piece on therapy for mental cases, plus the following:

Van Camp Laboratories has asked the city of Los Angeles for permission to experiment in extracting vitamin B-12 from sewage sludge. It wants an option on LA sludge for this purpose until Dec: 1954. *L. A. Daily Mirror*, 9-29-53.

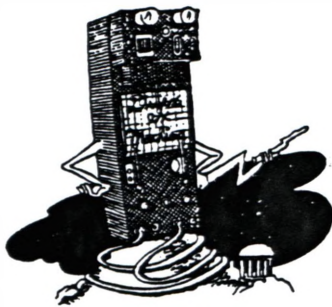
In England they make lipsticks out of the same stuff.

Smith sends, from *Frontier*, a mag, Nov. issue, a tale of the May Co., a department store, which had a publicity stunt on the air, and announced that one Paul Price would appear on the program. The May

Co. received four protests, letters and postcards, bearing four several signatures, whereupon it cancelled Mr. Price.

Trailing the complaints revealed that all were written by one 15-year-old boy. Whereupon the courage of free men returned to the May Co., and Price was reinstated.

In *Civil Liberties*, October issue, is the case of a former Polish inmate of Nazi concentration camps who was denied U. S. citizenship because he was an Atheist. The denier was a judge in Hawaii. Appeal in San Francisco won the case, and the Northern California American Civil Liberties Union has a right to boast that this is, "the first case in which a Court has ruled that an Atheist may affirm." *Cr* M. Smith, and one more:



The *Mirror*, LA, 11-9-53, carries an ad for POLY-GRAPH TESTS. This outfit calls itself "Los Angeles' Only Licensed Lie Detection Laboratories" and offers to rent the machines to "movie and TV companies".

MFS Mealy sends a squib from the Minneapolis *Morning Tribune*, 10-13-53, stating that the Florida Ku Klux Klan is admitting Negroes to membership.

A little girl of 7 was standing outside her home, a farm cottage three miles from Bicester, Oxon, at seven o'clock Sunday evening, Sept. 1, 23 FS, with her baby sister in a pram. A plane passed over, there was an explosion, and Margaret Brookes' hand was blown off, fragments of shrapnel entered her body and entered the pram at several points. Both British and US Air Forces have flying fields in the vicinity. Both disclaim responsibility. The arm was amputated at the elbow. *Cr* Knothe, Russell, Graham and anon.

In this connection, Mitchell sends a piece from L. I. *Newsday*, 10-2-53, AP out of Farrel, Pa. "An Air Force Sabre jet plane, its electric firing device out of order, sprayed this western Pennsylvania town with machine gun bullets for several terror-filled seconds."

"A missile—believed to be a bomb—dropped from the air and exploded . . . at South Somercotes, Louth, Lincolnshire." Witnesses saw a plane, but the Air Ministry were unable to trace any bomb-carrying aircraft in the area yesterday. *Daily Mail* 10-6-53.



Same paper, 10-20-53. After a crash like a bomb that shattered tile and guttering, five holes were found in a roof in Aldermans-hill N. "They searched—and found nothing."

A box of electronic equipment weighing 500 pounds dropped into a backyard in St. Paul, Minn., 11-13-53. Not a peep about what it would have done to anybody in the yard. "It apparently tore loose from its parachute."

An MD, also MFS, who shall be nameless temporarily, sends us a quote from the *New England Journal of Medicine*, June 18, 1953 old style. "The most innocuous botanicals or synthetic organic chemicals will, in some patients produce untoward reactions and, in a few cases, death."

This is "innocuous"?

If the manufacturers of pharmaceuticals are going to operate openly on a percentage basis, 49 per cent of us are dead ducks.

*Modern Medicine*, June 15, 1953 old style, has an article on "Prevention of Fatal Penicillin Reactions". which states that "penicillin should be given only when necessary (sic) . . . Treatment has caused at least 4 deaths, all in persons with bronchial asthma."

The same medico sends in an AP story dated Providence, Oct. 17. "The Most Reverend Russell J. McVinney, D. D., Catholic bishop of Providence" is quoted: "The American concept of freedom has been pushed to insane horizons, until it threatens to destroy us." To which the Doc adds—"Whom does he mean by US?"

The same member sends us a basket of data indicating a very general wake-up by Vox Pop on the subject of fluoridization of municipal water. Again Mitchell is germane with a UP report to the *N Y Times*, 7-30-53, stating that the Milwaukee Common Council moved to stop that city's fluoridization after a one-week trial.





The drug reference above ties with one from Russell, from the Liverpool *Echo*, 9-16-53. Russell suggests that these products be called, "I Wonder" Drugs. (I wonder if I'll survive the first dose.) The UN World Health O, issued a warning from Geneva, against "indiscriminate use of cortisone and other hormone remedies".

Alex Grant of Glasgow sends a snipping from the British *Tit Biss*, which is the most sensational, unreliable and irresponsible publication we ever see, but Grant's jest is good. *Tit Biss* prints: "Scientists in Ottawa chase pigs round a meat-packing plant to tire them before slaughtering. It is said to improve the bacon." To which Grant adds—"at last a useful occupation has been found for scientists, and something tells me that it will also improve them."

No kidding, a parson named Ernest Morton Meredith Davies, of Stafellwenisaf, Llanybyther, Carmarthenshire was forbidden, two weeks ago, by a judge, to interfere with divine worship in any church of the Church of Wales.

Ernie couldn't stop, so Mr. Gwyn Rees, Church of Wales, had him up before another judge. The judge said, "It seems to me that this man is not entirely sane." And the plaintiff replied, simply, "He is a pacifist." *Cr Knothe*.

The Boston *American*, 10-27-53, found space to print that an Evangelist came to Phoenix, Ariz., and "before he could get his tent up, burglars stole his clothing."

Anon: from *Tempo Magazine*—"Expect a big drive to keep Communist-made ornaments off U. S. Christmas trees."

The *Star*, British, 9-1-53, states that a baby seal "rescued" from the River Gipping at Ipswich died. It would happen to a salmon!

An 8 lb marrow, squash to you, was put in the larder (pantry) of a house at Hucknall, Notts. An explosion was heard. Plates were smashed. "It is thought the marrow was over-ripe, and that the warmer temperature indoors caused gases inside it to expand." *News-Chronicle*, 9-21-53.

Tut-tut. Let the FBI at it! Somebody must have hissed some atomic data into the marrow patch. *Cr I. O. Evans*.



## MITCHELL'S BEST

One Miss Eunice Merton, West Richfield, Ohio, who predicts "seasons" for the neighbors, says this is going to be one of the worst winters, because—among other things—the woolly caterpillars are "black on both ends, and then black in the middle, too." *N Y Sunday News*, 9-20-53.

One Frank Curran called a "Westbury weather expert", using the same type caterpillar, predicts a mild winter, because—among other things—of "the density of black hair on the crawler's head and tail!" *N Y Sunday News*, 10-25-53.

The American College of Surgeons held a Clinical Congress in Chicago, in October. They are worried about so many patients dying under anaesthetics. A survey of 1,344 cases was made. Decision was that use of multiple drugs in operating rooms was the cause. "Ether should be used more often than it is," a spokesman asserted. *N. Y. Times*, 10-8-53.

Accto UP, Axtell, Neb., the fourth ammunition truck to blow up in six weeks went, on Oct 23, old style. A similar "mishap" had occurred the day before at Lovelock, Nev. The Axtell job carried 17 tons of bombs accto firemen. It dug a crater in the pavement 15 feet deep, tore up railroad tracks, etc. "The only known casualty was a relief truck driver, who inhaled fumes from a tire that caught fire before the blast. He was taken to a hospital but was not in serious condition."

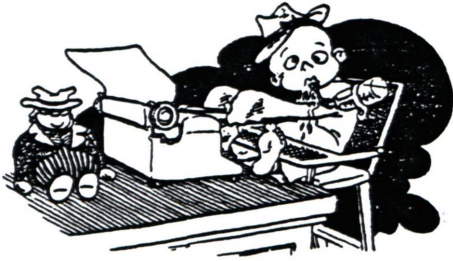
"As a result of a similar explosion near Omaha two weeks ago, the Omaha City Council banned ammunition trucks from the streets, BUT TRUCKERS OBTAINED A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION IN FEDERAL COURT THAT DELAYED ENFORCEMENT." *N Y Times*, 10-24-53.

Remember when Henry Kaiser was pictured by the daily wipers as a National Hero for making Liberty ships so fast—and shown with "E" flags flying from both ears?

Then, remember how the Liberty ships began breaking in two in the middle—full of draftees?

Now (7-14-53) L. R. Sanford, pres of the Shipbuilders Council of America—whatever that is—told a subcommittee of the Senate they should scrap 1000 of the remaining 1500 Liberty ships, because—for one thing—they "were obsolete when they were built."

Hello, Sucker!



Anything good we ever said about the L. I. *Newsday* is hereby withdrawn. On Sept. 25, 1953, that sheet published a scare supplement in cooperation with Civil Defense, full of horror pictures and headlined, A-BOMB HITS LONG ISLAND. Mitchell's comment is—"A new lining for the Society's garbage can."

Bones which Perry Martin has been calling attention to for six years without a tumble from Science, are now identified as the petrified spine of a dinosaur. They were along a railroad track near Lewiston, Mont. *N Y Times*, 8-29-53.

Maybe some member at Harvard can look this up. You know how much help the Astronomy Department would give YS.

Accto Science Service (which is in Washington, D. C.), but under a Cambridge, Mass., dateline, a "comet", said to be of nineteenth magnitude, "too faint to be seen except through a large telescope", was found in 1947. Its motion 1947-1948 was observed and its path "forecast". It was given the name "Reinmuth (2)"—probably because it was reported by an astronomer named Reinmuth, and was his second similar discovery. Now it is said to have "returned"—in the Constellation of Libra, low in the southern sky—about where astronomers had "forecast".

"It was found" (on this trip, one assumes) by the McDonald Observatory, Mount Locke, Texas.

It would be a pleasure to read the forecast, and see what Science Service means by the phrase "about where astronomers had forecast it would be". Probably in the same sky, anyway.



### RUSSELL'S BEST

Poisonous food again:

Iced lollipops—six of them were examined: one contained too much tin, one, too much copper and tin, one, too much tin and lead. The chairman of the health committee said, "It might do people less harm if they left the lollipop and swallowed the stick." *Daily Express* 11-4-53.

An Italian, who shall be nameless for fear of drawing the wrath of the Electrical Gods down on him, claims to have invented a means of transmitting electric power by radio. A similar notice appeared in USA papers in 1929 A.D., pertaining to an American. That is all that ever was heard about it. This new one is sponsored by the Italian government. YS respectfully suggests that they surround him with Swiss soldiers.

Loss of 350 trained homing pigeons in Australia is blamed on "atomic tests". Not one pigeon could find his way home. *Liverpool Echo* 11-6-53.

If the armed services of the world are not stopped from exploding their noxiousness none of us will be able to find the way home in a little while.

Pertinent is the disappearance of fish from the North-West waters of the British Isles. *Ibid*, 10-30-53. Also see elsewhere in this issue.

A quantity of tinned meat—about 90,000 tins—from the stores of British Army units in Germany was dumped today (Oct 16) in the North Sea, accto the Manchester *Guardian*, Oct. 17. The tins were marked "good only till 1951". The meat had been condemned for human consumption.

*Ibid*, 11-10-53, a change in the rules for selling "condemned meat" to retail butchers was announced. Formerly it had to be stained green. Under the new rule it will be "sterilized"—and quoth the Minister of Food, "Local Authorities were given the right of access to Government slaughterhouses . . . and their inspectors might take any meat unfit for human consumption and dispose of it as they thought fit."

Gripe, little Isle!



What appears to be a column, "Wonders of the Universe", perhaps by a Dr. Levitt—altho the make-up of the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* makes this guesswork—receives a piece on atomic garbage, by L. P. Hatch of the Brookhaven National Laboratories. Hatch wants to build rockets and send the waste from atomic plants into "space", or, better still, send it just outside the pull of gravity, where the cans can "range" until somebody wishes to reclaim them. *Cr Mealy*.

"After an operation to deliver her fourth child which died a month later, Mrs. Mary Petty . . . complained of abdominal pains. She went into hospital but died last month. At the Bradford inquest

yesterday it was stated that . . . a gauze swab 17½ inches long, by 11½ inches wide had been found in the body.

"Professor C. J. Polson, of Leeds University . . . said he thought the swab did not cause the peritonitis from which she died . . . The coroner, Mr. R. S. Bishop . . . accepted Professor Polson's views. He recorded a verdict of death from natural causes." *Manchester Guardian*, 11-7-53.

Dr. Ralph Lapp, former executive director of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission's Research and Development Board, is quoted in the *Liverpool Echo*, 8-24-53, from a telecast alleged to have been sent from Washington, D. C. the previous Sunday.

If this appeared in any U. S. daily, it was not sent to YS by any member.

The quotes run—"that atomic secrecy was a fiction that had hurt, not helped, U. S. national defense . . . He did not believe the theft of atomic secrets by such spies (I'm quoting) as Klaus Fuchs and Julius and Ethel Rosenberg had done anything to speed up atomic energy development in the Soviet Union . . . *It is just not true*, he said . . . H-bomb destruction will be much more limited than the average layman believes."



## FALLS AND BALLS

Rangoon, the Wednesday before Jan. 10, 53 old style, rice rained in parts of Mandalay. "Residents gathered fistfuls." The *Daily Telegraph* "Natural History Correspondent" explains—and what do you think he said? Right you are, but he adds, "The fact that rice grains are not mixed with other objects is due to a differential action which sorts them out so that only objects of approximately the same size or weight are lifted at any given time."

Dig that differential!

Witnesses saw what was called "ball lightning" in San Antonio, Texas, in the month of Fort, 16th day, 23 FS. "Size of a watermelon, round, glowed like fire, and then exploded with a blast that sent sparks flying."

Frogs "of all descriptions" scattered for a mile on Paxton Avenue, Leicester, Mass., in a downpour shortly after midnight, Sept. 2, 23 FS. "Thousands of 'em."

"Weather Bureau experts . . . doubt that they were whirled aloft . . . inclined to the theory that ponds overflowed." Residents say, "Nothing of the sort occurred here."

The *Boston Herald* states, without dates, that the same area has seen "red snow and a rain of fish". *Cr* Markham, D. Carlson, Borden, Martin, and others.

Blue snow at Selly Oak, Birmingham, England . . . "believed to be a deposit of zinc oxide from factory chimneys". No ordinary snow with it, as far as this account goes. *Daily Mail* 10-13-53. *Cr* non-member Graham.

A "strange dark skin-like substance which covers an area of 25 acres to the depth of about one half inch"—near Kelso, Wash., has "authorities baffled." Reported by Richard Feeley to the ed of *Current Topics*, Amesbury, Mass. "What it is, and where it came from, nobody seems to know. Witnesses say it fell from the sky. (But you know what liars they are! T.T.) Can it be the result of atomic tests and artificial rainmaking?"

## REDS MENACE WEATHER BUREAU

The boy wonder from Wisconsin whose first allegiance is to the Pope should investigate the obvious Red plot which threw the Weather Bureau for a loop in N.Y. Friday, Nov. 6, 23 FS.

"Fair and continued cool," they said, and four hours later we were buried in a blizzard that lasted most of the night and left more than 3 inches of snow in Manhattan streets. The next day we had a record high tide, the like of which could not be remembered by man or beast. Obviously, these phenomena were sent from Moscow and kept from the Weather Bureau's tickers by spies.

Private weather forecasters saw the trouble coming and warned their paying subscribers from 3 to 6 hours before the storm hit. *Cr* Sussman and others.



## WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

The last "war" between segments of humanity has been fought. Minor shootings will occur still, in Jordan, Indo-China, Pakistan and South Africa, but only until the individual Arabs, Communists, Hindus and Negroes are convinced by their leaders and their rivals' bullets that this is true. As soon as the new philosophy is understood by the rank and file, mass killing is over forever on Earth.

Lots of people think that is a good thing, and YS is not prepared to contradict them. Lots of people are going to praise their various gods for it, and others will thank their lucky stars. Some will credit

Lenin-Stalin-Musseltoff, others will say it was the design of good fairies, or J. Edgar Hoover, Joseph McCarthy and Cardinal Spellman working together.

Each group will try to grab the honors for its heroes or its magic, but the attention of fair-minded posterity is called to the facts.

War between nations, as such, has been given up because better means of throwing away tax monies has been discovered, and it was Charles Fort, the Fortean Society and YS, who discovered the method to the politicians who now merely implement it.

As one laborer in the vineyard for the New Way has written, "No acknowledgment would be complete without a most grateful thought cast in the direction of the shade of the late Charles Fort, whose researches have literally saved me years of labour."

Indeed they have. The researches of Charles Fort have not only provided that writer with material he never would have dug up for himself, but those same researches have been the well-spring, fountain and inspiration for his entire book, and for practically every other book written to promote the New Way.

YS gave the New Way a shove in the right direction with the Fortean Perpetual Peace Plan announced in DOUBT #17, lol these many years ago, and DOUBT has continued to supply the armed forces of the world with fresh ideas constantly.

Now the New Way is in full swing, and everybody loves it, except YS and a few who recall page 2 of the *Book of the Damned*.

"Or everything that is, won't be.

"And everything that isn't, will be—

"But, of course, will be that which won't be—"

In other words, now that Orthodoxy, Authority, the Armies, Navies and Air Forces of the world—to say nothing of the Freeprez and its dupes—consider interplanetary travel a fit subject for serious debate, and still more serious expenditures, now that everybody either "believes in" or "does not believe in" flying you-know-whats, now that radar screens, floating anti-gravity airfields in space, defense against meteors and raiding parties from other planets, watch-towers manned 24 hours a day and equipped with the costliest cameras, etc., etc., etc., have taken the place of vulgar War to bolster a staggering economy, there is nothing left for YS to do—in the strictest Charles Fortean tradition—but dissent from the received opinions.



Many have not understood this inevitable attitude, and have expected YS to beat the drum for books that are palpable frauds. How can any of you be so short-sighted? Practically the first thing to be learned from Charles Fort is when to jump OFF the bandwagon. You jump off as soon as 51% of the world climbs aboard.

Mexico climbed on the saucer-spree cart Sept. 9, 1953 old style, when the newspaper *Ultimas Noticias de Excelsior* printed a press release of Colonel Carlos R. Berzunza, General Secretary of the Mexican Air Force, teacher in Escuela Superior de Guerra (the High School of War?), professor also at the University of Mexico and Mexico City College.

Col. Berzunza takes seriously, and tells his students that the U. S. can prove that the planet Venus has been sending the "saucers". To be sure, he credits the Mount Palomar Observatory with the findings of a man who merely lives near by, one who has no more connection with the White Elephant than Rumpel Stiltskin. The Colonel also appears to believe implicitly that a wrecked interplanetary flying apparatus was found four years ago with a dead pilot in it, found by the U. S. Air Force who watched it crash. Those of us who read these reports more carefully know how worthless they are as evidence.

The point is that the Mexican Army is now in the swim. *Cr MFS Rueda*.

Also the Canadian government. The Department of Transport and the National Defense Research Board have built a "lookout laboratory" at Shirley's Bay near Ottawa, equipped with pieces of apparatus "entirely new to electronics", and not cheap, one imagines. The place will be manned by scientists keeping a 24-hour watch. All news services carried the story Nov. 11 and 12.

British officialdom is not yet sucked in, but the press there is working on them for all it's worth. Sir Harold Spencer Jones, Astronomer Royal, told a group of 700 in Boulder, Colo., Aug. 27, that Earth was safe from aggression from any planet in our system. "As for other systems and other galaxies—it may be another matter," writes Robert L. Perkin, in the *Rocky Mountain News*.

Those "other" systems, especially the invisible or "radio stars" have been burning up the British appropriations to date. Sir Edward Appellon, President of the British Association, is called a "radar pioneer", and his baby is a whopper being built at the U of Manchester—called the world's largest radio-telescope. They have one operating at Cambridge already.

Opposing these staid individuals who are content to pursue their old fashioned rackets, is Arthur C. Clarke, called "Chairman of the British Interplanetary Society, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and authority on space flight." He authored a series which ran in the *Star*, in September, and the first sentence before me reads:

"There is no longer any excuse for regarding space-flight merely as a matter for the comic strips and fantastic fiction: it is something that has already begun."

The second piece is, "Moon-based Men Land on Mars"—and so on.

In October, the *Star* ran a "news" story about Anthony Avenel, called a "Yorkshire scientist", who was leaving to speak in the U.S. He says he can

build "the world's first space station", 1000 miles from Earth, for a little less than \$3,000,000,000. He thinks it will be started in 10 years, and states, "The Russians are working on the technical and mathematical aspects, but as far as is known they have not started practical tests. The station would provide an overwhelming military advantage—the only reason to justify its cost."



Incidentally, the Leftest Lefts are the loudest and most insistent talkers about "saucers" and at least pretend to believe they are creature-fabricated, either in "other worlds" or upon "other planes". This simply leads YS to speculate that the new boondoggle for interplanetary defense is a dodge agreed upon between Moscow and Washington, D. C., to take the place of War.

The *Sunday Graphic*, London gave the *Star* a leg up on Nov. 8, with a front page story. "Air Ministry officials admitted to me (unsigned) last night" that "British and American Intelligence experts (sic) are now exchanging Top Secret information about Flying Saucers."

The pay-off for YS's thesis appeared in *American Weekly*, 11-22-53. One Captain Walter Karig, called "Special Deputy to Chief of Information, U.S. Navy,"—which is to say, press-agent, publicity-man, planter of yarns—signed a piece called "Operation UFO, the official Truth about Flying Saucers". The article cites the assertion of Dan Kimball, then Secretary of the Navy, that his plane was "buzzed" mid-Pacific by a UFO.

From the very beginning, as YS has pointed out before, the sources of the majority of these stories have been persons generally thought of as "quality". The wipers have pointed that out too, putting emphasis upon the non-stupid side of alleged witnesses.

YS doesn't say they are stupid. He merely asks Socratic Question #1001. Who has more to gain from the New Way than such persons as Secretaries of the Navy and Colonels of the Mexican Army?

Appended here are a random smattering of data relating to the ways Science and the military is burning up the taxes or the tax-free grants.

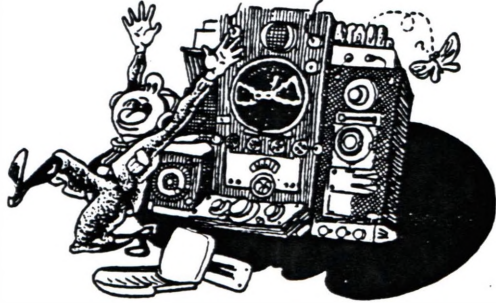
May 22, Chicago. The Army ordered 74 "lie detectors" at a cost of \$99,000. Obviously to take to Mars.

Aug. 17, Pasadena. Dr. Fritz Zwicky of Cal-Tech wants \$10,000 for the purpose of shooting "bullets" out of a balloon 20 miles in the air. "Some of the projectiles would explode on contact with the moon or Jupiter, and could possibly result in nuclear explosions."

Get this! Dr. Jack E. Myers, U of Texas, was asked by the U. S. Air Force "Department of Space Medicine", to determine "what power, weight and size factors would be involved in incorporating into a spaceship an engineering apparatus capable of producing oxygen from plants stimulated by artificial sunlight."

They probably asked somebody else—for a price—to work out the details of making artificial sunlight. My country 'tis of thee!

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* put it on page one. 9-10-53.



W. J. Eckert, of the Watson Scientific Computing Laboratory, told astronomers, gathered at Northwestern U, how to take the "drudgery" out of their work . . . photographic plates had done much to aid the astronomer in his studies . . . now automatic computing machines will locate the star image, measure its position, and record all." *N.Y. Times*, 9-5-53.

Same thing for the weather man!

Accto Ann Ewing, who signs herself unashamedly, "Science Service Staff Writer", writes from the International Toronto Meteorological Conference, "Models of the world's weather, made either in whirling bowls or computed mathematically by giant electronic brains, promise much more accurate weather forecasts within the next few years." *World-Tele*, 9-15-53.

The U.S. Navy has been "searching" for oil near Cape Barrow, Alaska, accto the *Daily Mail*, 9-8-53. They did not find any, but they spent about \$52,500,000.00 looking.

Accto *Newsweek*, 9-14-53, "Army mathematicians have discovered that the standard set of dimensions of the earth, used for mapmaking since 1910, are not accurate enough for use in directing long-range guided missiles. It will take more than a year to figure out an exact worldwide map, even with electronic calculators."

After they have paid IBM for the calculators, they can discover that "guided" missiles don't guide, and start all over again.

At press time comes the word that the U.S. Air Force has installed 75 of the most costly cameras in the world, in 33 States, to look for you-know-whats in the sky!

Once more, YS protests that this kind of deficit financing is okay with him. At least it beats killing 18-year-old kids. Even the Senators must like it better.

## BRING OUT YOUR DEAD!

Irresponsible scientists, with the armies of the world back of them, are turning loose into the atmosphere vast clouds of deadly pollution, noxious fumes and radioactive dust, which pass immediately out of their control. Nobody knows where the filthy stuff will go or what it will do to people when it gets there. Nobody in authority seems to care. The only consolation we poor dogs of civilians have is that the Army officers, Senators and Scientists all have to breathe too, so that the dead-wagons will be backing up to their doors as well as ours.

We just had a five-day seige of what was called "smog" in NYC, from Nov. 27 to Dec. 3, FS. The wipers tried to sell the public the obviously false notion that the stifling, irritating, black air was the product of local factories, held to Earth by "inverted" temperatures of air masses. Naturally, nobody in any phase of "public relations" would dare to admit that this pea-soup came from bomb-tests. Even when the New York Operations Office of the Atomic Energy Commission hired researchers in Troy to make local tests, the story was hidden on p. 25 of the N. Y. *Times*, 11-29-53, under a sweetly innocuous headline so dull that only a Fortean would look under it. "Radioactivity Test Set," says the *Times*, "Rensselaer to Conduct Research in Troy-Albany Area"—and only away, away down deep in the small type do we see, "It has been known for seven months that atomic explosions in the Nevada desert have caused 'fallouts' of radioactive particles on Troy and Albany."

Hush, little malformed baby, don't you cry. It was only a "fallout"—nothing to worry about.

"With Geiger counters Dr. Herbert M. Clark, Professor of Nuclear Chemistry at Rensselaer, found the greatest deposits after a heavy rainstorm last April 26. (Now get this!) The manifestation has not been shown injurious to humans, animals or plants. Many scientific institutions throughout the United States conduct investigations of radioactivity in their communities because of atomic explosions in the west. 'Fallouts' have been detected in all parts of this country, especially downwind from the explosion, and are not particularly heavy hereabouts."

Consoling, that.

Chronologically, we have these data on smogs and related topics received in the last six months or so, supplementing somewhat the list on p. 222 in DOUBT #41:

London, 1-23-51, at 3 p.m. Drivers had to put on their lights. "A Meteorological Office expert said the darkness was caused by a very low cloud and smoke becoming mixed. *Evening Standard*."

London, 1-25-53. "Londoners clamored for government action to stop a series of smogs—the worst in living memory—that killed thousands of persons here in a winter of daytime darkness . . . fogs have contained more filth, especially sulphuric acid . . . killed 6000 in December . . . Most death attributed to the smogs are from heart trouble or respiratory diseases."

Vancouver, B.C., 4-3-53. "Radioactive dust from the recent atomic explosion at Nevada has fallen in parts of British Columbia, more than 1000 miles away . . . It is, however, stated that the dust is harmless, as the radiation is so weak." *London Times*, 4-4-53.



*Life*, a mag, for 4-20-53, re-notices the smarting, blistering, blue snow near Dana, Calif. "There has been no more colored snow, no scientific explanation and no change in the story of the four witnesses."

Western New York State, 4-23-53, fall of "gritty mud" although moon and stars were out. Fell in pellets the size of a match-head. Dr. Paul Saunders, federal meteorologist at Alfred U, Honnreil, N.Y., gave his "official" opinion—"a light rain fell through a dust cloud." He did not give an "unofficial" opinion, probably for fear of getting the bounce.

An airliner crashed near Marshall, Texas, 5-18-53, killing 19. Witnesses said the plane had flown "directly into an ominous-looking black cloud." *San Francisco News*.

Prof. Harold Urey, speaking in Zurich, Switzerland, 8-10-53, said, "If the Russians had exploded an H-bomb, this fact should be detectable from the radioactivity in the air." *N.Y. Times*, 8-11-53.

Conducted tours to the bomb crater at Almagordo, New Mexico, were announced in the *Liverpool Echo*, 8-31-53. "The surrounding desert has been covered and planted with grass to prevent the blowing of radioactive dust."

North End of Boston, before daylight, 9-7-53. Fall of a silt-like substance covered cars so children spelled out their names in it, streets, so that walkers left footprints. Hundreds of families woke up with coughing spasms. *Boston Daily Record*, 9-8-53.

Los Angeles has become so inured to almost constant smog that members out there don't even bother to send in the reports.

Wildwood Crest, N.J. 9-10-53. Houses and boats turned brown or black. State police sent samples to the state lab.

Ruin of painted surfaces by a foul-smelling smog in sections of Pittsburgh, "gets worse every year". Smells like sewer-gas, smarts the eyes, peels silver off mirrors and plated tableware. *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 9-28-53.

Union, N.J. 10-2-53. "A new device which automatically collects samples of air twenty-four hours a (d)ay, records wind direction and traps impurities"—put into use "because of complaints to local health authorities".

Canberra, Australia, 10-16-53. Radioactive dust clouds reached the city within a few hours of a bomb test at Woomera. Had traveled 40 miles an hour. "No dangerous concentration of activity would have existed," states the *N.Y. Times*, but goes on, "Instrument readings showed the amount of radioactivity emanating from the cloud to be surprisingly compact."

Pittsburgh, several sections, 10-20-53. "Pungent" odor—"combination carbide and garlic"—"stock-yards stench". No source ascertainable.

Road from Beverly to Danvers, and from Topsfield to Haverhill, all Mass., were blocked off by police because of smog so thick "you can't see one foot in front of you." Attributed to fire in a peat bog. A local MFS scoffs that attribution. *Boston American*, 10-27-53.

Amesbury (Mass) *Daily News*, 11-3-53, quotes the Richmond (Va) *Times-Dispatch*. "Astronomers report a thick layer of dust on the moon."

At Moore, near the Cheshire boarder at Warrington, "poison gas" reported damaging crops and trees. Attributed to chemical factory, but they have not decided which direction of the compass to follow to find such a factory . . . "fumes in the form of vapour pockets, giving off offensive smells, have been seen at night floating up the Runcorn road."

Credit for the above, and other data in this issue, to Oltcher, Mitchell, Russell, Jessup, Steinberg, Comfort, Joquel, Bonavia, non-member Graham, D. Carlson, B. Goldstein, Markham, Ritchie, Duncan, Parr, J. McCarthy (no relation), E. S. Anderson, Millar, Mealy, Gee, Hibbert, Bump, Clayton, M. Smith, Borden, Darling, Savage, Nellie, Bowring, Trupp.

## DON'T PICK IT

It will never get well if you pick it, Benjamin Franklin used to tell the girls in Philly, and so says H. J. Eysenck, in substance, in writing about neurotic disorders. See *Journal of Consulting Psychology*, 1952.

"Patients treated by means of psychoanalysis improve to the extent of 44%. Patients treated (by other types of therapy) improve to the extent of 64%. Patients treated only custodially by general practitioners improve to the extent of 72% . . . The more therapy the smaller the recovery rate." *Cr M. Smith*.

Lindner, author of *Prescription for Rebellion*, which some of you haven't read yet—\$3.50 from the Society—writes:

"It seems that no longer do you merely have the choice between having your brain blasted and your frontal lobes knifed, but if you so choose, you may now elect the slow broil. Two Swedish psychiatrists publishing in the April 24, 1953 edition of "Svenska Läkarnidningen", Vol. 50, pp. 925-30 report on the treatment of 20 patients with microwave (radar) irradiation. "The Ray-Therm apparatus was used. This generates waves of 12-15 cm. wave length; 2000-2450 megacycles. The director is placed beside the temple, and, using 40 to 70 per cent of the total output of the machine (150 watts), the head is irradiated for 10 to 20 minutes. Usually a total of 4 to 10 treatments is given. The treatments are spaced, as in electroshock therapy, according to the progress of the individual."

Whether this is the same or different technic, YS knoweth not, but the *Pittsburgh Press*, 10-27-53, recounts "Brain Surgery with Sound Waves" successful in 17 out of 20 cases. It is used by Dr. Peter Lindstrom to relieve pain, mostly in cancer cases. The superiority of this method over lobotomy is enlarged upon for two columns by one John Troan, who writes that "nobody knows how the

sound waves do their magic . . . even the best tools of science aren't good enough to measure the exact effects of the sound on the brain tissue . . . 18 of the 20 remained awake during the whole operation—because you not only can't hear the sound but you can't feel it either . . . All these patients needed was a local anaesthetic to deaden the skull while two holes, ranging from the size of a nickel to that of a quarter, were bored through the top front of the head. The sound waves, generated by a box-like contraption which works somewhat like a diathermy machine, are beamed through the holes into the brain."

That is all, Dr. Lindstrom.

Next Dr. Karl Menninger, interviewed by UP, is quoted: "I don't believe for one minute that all criminals should be considered sick, but I do believe that much crime could be prevented if all criminals were examined by psychiatrists when they first showed evidence of being unable or unwilling to conform with the requirements of our society." *Philadelphia Bulletin*, 10-9-53.

Another "machine" is noticed by *The People*, British, 11-8-53. It is called a "toposcope" and it's supposed to indicate anti-social tendencies in children before the kids show them to the naked eye. Dr. W. Grey Walter, head of the research team at Burden Neurological Institute, Bristol, is the swami sponsoring this device for making everybody quite alike. He wants 100 or more volunteers to submit to the test, and then the group will be watched for 15 years. "If youngsters recorded as potential delinquents actually turn out to be criminals the importance of our work will be shown."

This is followed up in the *Sunday Chronicle*, 11-15-53, with cracks from Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, one-time crime chief of Scotland Yard. He likes the toposcope, and some MPs were going to get him to testify in its favor. "If homicidal tendencies were revealed they think the 'patients' should undergo compulsory surgery or medical treatment."

And the British laugh at Americans for their love of gadgetry!

## FORTEAN LOSSES

Within a few weeks of each other, died, AFFS the Duke of Bedford and John G. Scott, publisher of the magazine, MONEY, both veterans of the struggle to inform mankind how the "interest" racket really works.

In the previous July, still another humanist familiar to many Fortean had gone too, Bert Taylor, the pamphleteer founder of General Welfare Movement, Chorley, Lancashire.

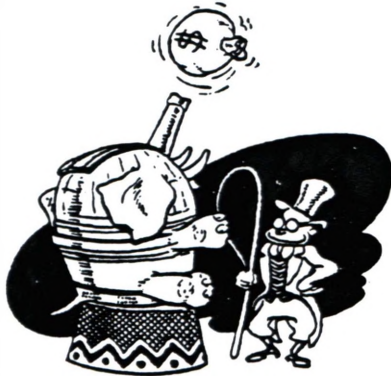
What characterized all three men was their complete independence of any party dictation. They will be sorely missed in a world hell-bent upon conformity.

Jo Ann Scott, the widow of John will continue to publish *Money* as long as she can. \$1.00 brings you 16 issues. Send the money to her, Route 1, Craryville, N. Y.

Clara and Alfredo Studer who translated Bedford's the *Financier's Little Game* into Italian, write an encomium upon the Duke's personality, and reminiscences of a nine-year correspondence with him. "To this Fortean," Clara writes, "he will always seem the most spiritually fine, intelligent, articulate person of his age. Certainly the bravest Englishman, if not man."

## HUBBLE DIES

Dr. Edwin Powell Hubble, Chairman of the joint Mount Wilson-Palomar Research Committee, father of the White Elephant, died after a heart attack, 9-28-53.



## NEW MONSTER

Lick Observatory is sending out publicity on its new mirror, 120 inches. Two and a half million simoleons—to see what Piccard saw when he got down two miles into the sea. "Stygian blackness broken only by ghostly flickers of phosphorescence... There was nothing else to see," the Professor said.

The *Times* editorialized, 10-2-53. "Science progresses by engaging in seemingly useless tasks."

Well—"progresses"? Maybe "pays off" is a better way to put it.



## TWO MUSEUMS BLUSH

A Jefferson City, Mo., museum "admitted" that it had been showing—for 25 years—an "Aztec Indian relic" which is in fact a clay toy whistle made in Japan, and so stamped, only Japan is spelled backwards. *Sunday News*, 9-20-53.

The British Museum is now supposing that old boy Piltown is not the bone he has been cracked up to be, but that seems a little silly to YS, who would as soon believe the first "experts" as these Johnny-come-latelies.

"After a new test with modern techniques . . . they declare the skull an elaborate hoax."

Pooh! What else are their "modern techniques" but the "elaborate hoaxes" of tomorrow?

One day after the "disclosure", along comes Dr. Alvin Marston who says the ape-jaw is older than the rest of the head. Ho-hum.

## NOMINATIONS

Below are the last nominations for Named Fellow, 23 FS. Your votes and comments should be in YS' hands by Jan. 26.

Frank Edwards, radio commentator for comments upon allegedly Fortean topics.

Harry Hale Purvis, for advertising World Peace on his roof-top and contesting the police order to remove the sign.

Robert M. Hutchins, former president of U of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. William N. Turner, who kept their children home from public school and gave them sufficient education to equip the eldest at 14 to pass an aptitude test with a college-sophomore's score. The judge said that cut no ice, but the Turners appealed the case.

## ON YOUR TOES

You may not wish to register, but you will do well to hear, Mary H. Weik, of the U. S. Central Registry, International Registry of World Citizens. She is touring the U. S., and if we know in time we'll inform you personally when she is near you. If you have already decided you wish to register, send your name to 224 Southern Avenue, Cincinnati 19, Ohio. Send a dollar there for subscription to *The World Citizen*.

This data is provided because of its interest and possible future importance. YS cannot himself "register", but your consciences are your own.



## HOLE IN SAUCERS

Following here are data inadvertently left out of DOUBT #40. YS tried to hide them from himself but his sin caught up with him.

These interline the data as already printed. In the Index to Volume II, we will straighten it out as well as possible.

### 1950 = 20 FS

June 18. *Sunday Tribune*, Durbar, South Africa. Several over Pretoria the previous week.

Aug. 9. Southern California. Green flash of fire. No use of word "saucer" but "atom bomb" is mentioned. *LA Times*.

Aug. 14. Nantes, France, Reuters. Two—several seen. No pick-up.

Aug. 17. Nanaimo, B. C. Reported to British UP by Asst. Mngr of an airport.

Sept. 9. Winona, Ont. Local viewer, no pick up. Hamilton, *Spectator*.

Sept. 21. British UP, Halifax, N.S. Local viewer, no pick up.

- Oct. 6. UP. Oakland, Calif. Reported by pilot.  
 Oct. 21. *Scots Peoples Journal*. Local viewer on North shore of Loch Ness, no pick up.  
 Oct. 11. In *Natural History*, Jan. 1951 issue. Fall of "spider web" at Paradise. Butte County, Calif.  
 Nov. 3. C. P. Ottawa. Seen in Ontario, Quebec, Northern U. S., called a meteor.  
 Nov. 25. *Reynolds News*. Landed at Aberdeen, Scotland. Called a "sonde" attached to a balloon.  
 Dec. 24. Letter in the *Observer*, British. Cites May issue of a Swiss publication, *Wetswoche*, and July issue of *Readers Digest*.  
 Dec. 2. At a Rugby match in Towyn, North Wales. Reported by letter to *Pickun Post* Jan. 4.

## 1951 = 21 FS

- Jan. 12. BUP. Melbourne, Australia. Not called "saucer". Fireball struck shopping center caused much damage.  
 Jan. 23. Stockfield, England, "Flying pencil", correspondence printed for several days in *Newcastle, North Mail*. It caused a "fantasy" to be written by G. E. Stone, *Evening Chronicle*, Jan. 24.  
 February issue *Jewish Hope*. Editorial.  
 Feb. 2. UP. Seen 1000 miles along Pacific Coast. Seattle to San Luis Obispo.  
 Feb. 3. Williams Bay, Wisconsin, seen all over State. No use of "saucer". Called a meteor. *Chicago Tribune*.  
 Feb. 7. Reuter, Copenhagen. Chairman of British European Airways calls them "hoocy".  
 Feb. 11. *Pittsburgh Press*. Local viewers, no pick up.  
 Feb. 12. *Look*, dated Feb. 27, began getting publicity today. Article by Richard Wilson, quotes Dr. Urner Liddel. The dailies all gave *Look* a beautiful break, *Manchester Guardian*, *N. Y. Times*, *Christian Science Monitor*, everybody pitched in.  
 Feb. 15. AP, Dayton, Ohio. Reported by pilots.  
 Feb. 15. Belfast. A Bible student quotes Zechariah, ch. 5.  
 Feb. 15. Bugs Baer devotes his syndicated column to the subject.  
 Feb. 16. INS, Washington. Keyhoe calls Liddell a "deceiver".  
 Feb. 18. AP, Washington. Says Navy saw in Korea, previous December.  
 Feb. 18. AP, Washington. Controversy played up between "experts".  
 Feb. 19. AP and Reuters, Africa. Over the highest peak, Mt. Kilimanjaro. Two Americans pointed telescopic lens cameras, but no pictures accompany the story.  
 Feb. 20. Yakima, Wash. UP. No use of "saucer". Bright object exploded in air.  
 Feb. 21. *Manchester Guardian*, Derogatory remarks of Prof. P.M.S. Blackett who was speaking about cosmic rays.  
 Feb. 21. Letter to ed of *N. Y. Daily News*  
 Feb. 21. Same paper. Mention in column, Broadway, by Danton Walker.  
 Feb. 22. Spokane valley. No use of "saucer". Called ball of fire. *Chronicle*.  
 Feb. 23. AP, Kansas City. No use of "saucer". Flash of light. "Might have been a meteor."  
 Feb. 25. AP, Scituate, Mass. A new critic of Liddel appears, Dr. Anthony O. Mirarchi.  
 Feb. 26. UP, Hamilton Air Force Base, Calif. Facetious remarks by officers about something seen by civilians.  
 Feb. 28. Letter to ed of *S. J. Mercury-Herald*,

signed Jean H. Pike, cites Fort.

- Mr. 1. *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, col by Frank Lynch devoted entirely to story not reported at the time, said seen in Seattle April 17, 1950.  
 Mar. 2. *LA Times*. No use of "saucer", called "balloon-type sphere"; local viewers, no pick up.  
 Mar. 3. AP, UP, Las Vegas, Nev. No use of "saucer", called a meteor.  
 Mar. 6. INS, Washington. Alleged that Dr. Robert L. Stearns, president of U of Colorado, has been named chairman of a new defense committee on "meteorological equipment".  
 Mar. 11. *Sunday Dispatch*, British (AP). States that a coloured film (movie) taken by Ray Overstreet. "an American radio operator", from that plane over Africa (see Feb. 19 above), was screened in Johannesburg on March 10.  
 Mar. 16. AP, New Delhi, India. Reported by a pilot.  
 Mar. 20. *Newsday* of Mar. 26, Long Island. Called "unusual cloud formation".  
 Mar. 27. CP, Vancouver, B.C. A paper balloon observed, trailed to a crash point and picked up.  
 Apr. 2. AP, Sydney, Australia, F. S. Cotton, Sydney University, says people are seeing their own corpuscles.  
 Apr. 10. AP, New York. Alton L. Blakeslee writes a column of publicity for Gerald Heard's book, *Is Another World Watching?*  
 Apr. 13. *Newsday*, Huntington, Long Island. A sonde unit found dangling in a tree.  
 Apr. 24. *Pittsburgh Press*. Scottsdale or Reagans-town, Pa. A kite-like contraption found by Elmer Carnes. "He plans to turn it over to State Police."  
 Apr. 25. *Variety*, reviews Heard's *Is Another World Watching?*  
 May 10. *Commercial Appeal*, Memphis, Tenn. Apparatus found near Columbus, Miss. Had directions attached: "return to Electronic and Atmospheric Project, Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico."  
 May 16. AP, Cumberland, Md. No use of "saucer". Called a fiery ball.  
 June 1. CP, Vancouver, B.C. The boys who were sending up paper balloons were stopped.  
 June 2. Alton (Ill.) *Telegraph*, St. Louis (Mo.) *Post-Dispatch*, Indianapolis (Ind.) *Star* and AP, Nashville, Tenn. No use of "saucer". Called meteor. Observed by MFS Spingola, who writes: "It moved across the sky so slowly that we mistook it for fireworks. It broke into two sections, one of which fell and faded, the other continuing across the sky before fading."  
 From this date on, the data are all printed in DOUBT #40 or 41.

## LIKE US

- In a speech reported by AP from Coventry, England, 11-15-53, Aneurin Bevan said that the British press is driving the people "practically insane".  
 "They are no longer newspapers. They are power papers, used not for the purpose of communicating news to people, but for indoctrinating ideas and concealing from people things they ought to know."  
 The Britons are better off than Americans in this respect. They have the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Liverpool Echo*. We have no comparable dailies in the U.S.A. today.  
 You can get a good bite of international news once every two weeks in WORLD INTERPRETER, a news letter. Send \$4.00 to them for a year's sub, Wilton, Conn.

# MORE *NOTES* of CHARLES FORT

The material on this page and those following comes from the MSS notes of Charles Fort. The notes begin with the year 1800 AD, and we are printing them chronologically, transcribed to the best of our ability. As you have observed from the several we have reproduced in facsimile—life size—the handwriting is difficult, to say the least; many are written in symbols and code, a personal shorthand. Each date is on a separate scrap of paper. They fill 32 boxes. The boxes are in two series, one numbered, one identified by letters of the alphabet. The numbered boxes contain records of non-human phenomena, the others, records of persons. It is our device to alternate the two series so that the printed record is chronologically consecutive.

The letters BA refer to Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which many US libraries have. The numerals, such as '11 or '64 etc., in connection with BA sometimes refer to volume number, sometimes to year. In applying for this material at your public library, mention that to the attendant and you should have no difficulty.

Back numbers of DOUBT contain all the notes to the point where we begin below. Subsequent issues will continue them until the 32 boxes are printed.

1866

## BOX 3 (Continued)

- Nov 12 Due 1899 Denning, Nature 54-623 / Leonids take 6 years in crossing earth's orbit, ac to Denning/advises watch for the first of the returns in Nov 14 or 15 1896
- 12 An equal display? Nov 12-13 1863 Rept B A '64
- 12-14 A cor in Sydney Morning Herald, Nov 10, calls attention to the expected display of 12-14th and gives suggestion for observations/ Following issue no meteors mentioned.
- 13 In Cape Argus 17th, Mr George W H Madean quoted, as observer from the roof of the Observatory, from 10 PM (13th) to 1 AM (14th) some scattered meteors, then the first of the expected shower from Regulus near the horizon and rising toward the zenith. At 1:15 a splendid discharge from Leo west and SW from Maximum at 2:11 AM Last at daylight at 4:20 AM total no less than 2,742.
- 13 Nothing in Otago Witness Dunedin N. Zealand
- 13 etc Nothing in The Age (Melbourne)
- 18 6 AM/ 24°S and 173°W—Capt of a ship reports heard by his ship a roar as of innumerable pieces of heaviest artillery LT March 19 p 9
- Nov 18 Ship event 20 minutes earlier than other event / great tidal wave Friendly Islands LT Nov 29 p 4

20 4 AM / Nashville, Tenn. Great det meteor BA 67/320-377

28 LT p 8 Met kills

## BOX A (Resumed)

30 Evening / As brought out by the Board of Trade inquiry at Shields, Dec 28 (Shields Gazette, 29th) the Margaret and Jane, a barque-rigged vessel of 408 tons, from Alicante, in charge of Captain William Shield, crew of 8 men few miles south of the Tyne. Bet 5 and 6 PM a light was seen on the shore. It seemed to be a revolving light. Capt thought it was the revolving light of Tynemouth and steered accordingly. It was not, and he struck upon rocks known as the Whilburn Steel. The boatswain testified similarly saying that after the vessel had struck the light was seen again, always appeared to revolve and as if high upon a cliff. Captain of another vessel testified that he had often seen an unknown light here. According to him steamboat men had often seen it. It was thought to revolve because brightened and dimmed. "A distinct light and not a reflection on a cloud like that from a blast furnace."

/Lights were Whitburn/

At the second-day hearing, another captain of a vessel said that he had seen the unknown light, night of 30th. It was a large, flashing light. He saw it again Dec 26 when returning from London 1/2 mile south of Sonter, near Sonter Point. He saw it flash three times/

Laurence Byrne, chief office of the coast guard of Tynemouth testified. Said he knew of no light. No lights were allowed after sunset. If men carrying lights were met, they were made to extinguish their lights. /

The decision of the court was that the master of the vessel could not be considered free of blame, but in consideration of his good character his certificate should not be taken from him./

At Whitburn this vessel ran ashore. /

Night of Dec 1, 9:30 PM, another vessel, the barque Catherine and Elizabeth of London struck at the same place (Shields Gazette, 3rd and 6th). He too had thought he had seen the Tynemouth light, which however was behind Sonter Point and steering accordingly had been wrecked in the same place. This vessel, not wrecked, was towed off.

In the Gazette Jan 8 is published the official report upon an investigation by the

- Board of Trade upon the "False Lights of Whitburn". Said that no foundation for the many reports had been found except that the light of Tynemouth was sometimes reflected as a glare in the sky. "This appearance might not and certainly would not mislead a seaman of ordinary experience or observation"
- Nov 30 At Whitburn / ab midnight / Cap lost his vessel seeing large glaring light Seen at Whitburn (false lights of Durham) at 5 PM lights seen on which a vessel was lost mistaking it for a revolving light of light-house. Lt Jan 2 p 12 1867

Dec. 4 LT p 5 Whitburn lights

### Box 3 (Resumed)

- 6 Langas de Onis / Spain (F)
- 7 Meteors / noticed in York / J B A A 24/223
- 8-13 Many mets Eng / BA 67-340
- 10 bet 11 and 12 PM at York 15 mets mostly from Castor Details of about 40 others at York during night BA 67-330
- 11 Venus inferior conjunction Jupiter
- 12 At Birmingham "meteors very frequent. One per minute unassisted observer BA 67-336
- 12 Morning at Kishnaghur, Lower Bengal, India, 2:30 AM mets at a rate of about three a minute BA 67-408
- 13 New York 7 PM / Met from a point eastward of moon to point near moon (cut) B A 1867-336
- 13 Night. "Fine display of Aurora Borealis" at Birmingham. Details of 12 large meteors at York this night. BA '67
- 14 11:55 PM Several places in Cheshire "very large" meteor followed by a loud detonation. BA '67-338
- 14-16-25-27 / Linné as light spot. (Schmidt) B A '67-7
- 19 Cosmos of aerolite not long before at Santander / I think Santander is in Spain.
- Dec Fine black spot on Linné. Buckingham and Schmidt Student 1/268

### 1867

- Opinion of Schmidt that change in the moon that could not be attributed to sun's illumination. BA 67/22
- About Carbon / India D-74
- Jan Axe flint / Eng / 43
- Early Insects Victoria, Australia. First seen near Ararat, column of beetles, 20 yards broad, so thick as to cast a dark shadow, 2 hours in passing. Noise they made like hurricane (indecipherable word) rigging of a ship Jour of the Proc of the Ent Soc of London 3/5/85

### Box A (Resumed)

- Body of Mrs. W. I. Peters, Frankfurt, Ind. See Dec. 22, 1888
- About 1867 Mr. Alvin Smith and his wife, known as a writer, as Mrs. Oakes-Smith left their house at Patchogue, L. I. which was known as a haunted house, until it burned

down about 1885. See paragraph in B. Eagle, 1895, Feb. 28, p. 7. Said that both Smiths were noted for eccentricity. Died several years before 1895.

South Bend, Incl. Body of Anna Rees See Aug 11, 1872

Sleeper Susan C. Godsey, near Hickman, Ky. See July 14, 1869

H. H. Gardner, Kansas. See March 7, 1874

### Box 3 (Resumed)

- Jan 1-2 Sky overcast in England / Evening of 2nd clear in London no mets seen BA 67-409
- 2-3 Quakes Algeria / Atlas mountains appeared to be enveloped in a luminous atmosphere / L'Annie Sci 12/311
- 2 Quake Algeria 6:30 AM / LT 5th etc.
- 2-3 Feb. 7-8 Quake Belg Celt 8/38
- 3 8:30 to 8:45 PM — 8 meteors at Bridport / BA 67-342
- 3 Spa. Belgium Three concussions loud sounds / Bull de l'Ac. de Belgique 2-23-52
- 8 See Dec 12, 1889
- 8 Klamath Met and column of smoke See Feb 16, 1912
- 8 Klamath column of smoke from a meteor See May 2, 1890
- Klamath / column of smoke, meteors, See Nov 15, 1859.
- 8 Fort Klamath, Oregon / daylight / Smithsonian Miscel. Col. 37/appendix. p. 71. Ac to L. Tennyson, quartermaster's clerk, at daylight the garrison startled from sleep by a quake and sound like thunder. For a time nothing more — then came darkness — the whole heavens shook — Klamath Lake fell six feet. Ref May 13, 1850.
- Jan 10 Op Mars A1
- 13 LT p 6 The Meteor shower in Turkey N Y Times
- 13-19 and 24 Linné Schmidt BA 67/7
- 14 Linne A strong impression of a dark spot but definition poor Knott B A 67/11
- 15 Substance / der sogennte "Rothe Schnee." / Schweiz. met. Beob. Zues. 4/9-14 Zeit Met 4/66
- 15 Red snow various parts of the Grisons, Switzerland Mineral matter, diatoms, spores, pollen vegetable fibres. Nature 2-169
- Winter /Canton DuVaud, Switzerland — reddish dust estimated 1500 tons minute particles of mica, feldspar, quartz and various shaped organic matter. Chem News 22-262 / D-287
- Jan 15 Day and night fall of snow colored by reddish dust several places in Switzerland La Sci Pour Tous 15-126
- 15 Red snow Grisons Bull Soc vaud. Lausanne 10-281 La Sci P.T. 15/126
- 16 Linne by Knott "Very strong impression of a small central dark spot in Linne nevertheless that may (indecipherable word) B A 67/11
- 19 Khetri, Rajpoutana, India F
- Feb 10 8:30 PM / Met France BA 68-348
- 17 Darkness Paris Cosmos 3/2/4 May 30

- 22 11 PM / France det met Ston See Feb 22, '66 BA 68/348
- 22 Quake Morecambe Bay Nature 3-406 See '64, '65, '66.
- Mar 4 7:20 PM / Germany Meteor Zeit Met 2/216
- 7 6:30 PM Violent quake, Smyrna At the moment of the quake fell heavy rain Cosmos 2/5/317
- 7-16 Quake Asia Minor 3,000 houses destroyed '11
- 9 Enormous flight of locusts over Malta ac to Malta Times, from noon all afternoon. Had been a similar visitation in 1814 and in 1850. The Field, March 30, 1867
- 12 Yellow-like pollen / South Union, Ky./ Sc.Am. 16/233
- Mar 15 by Dawes/"an excessively minute black dot in the middle of Linné B A 67/17
- 20 6:15 PM/ Galizien / Dust fall / Zeit Met 2:380
- 28 Near Bellary, Madras, India, hail as large as coconuts — several human beings and 400 sheep killed / Village of Bondalavada — blocks of ice 2/3 cubic yard in size — 3 pounders fell somewhere else — said been verified. Here 2,470 sheep killed — some of the records from reports of Government officials. Symons Met Mag 2-53.
- April Figs at Sagon, (?) Cochin-China Cosmos N.S. 2-47 Dictionary for this.
- 9 Astro Reg 5/114 T.G.E. Elger writes from Bedford that at 7:30 PM he was surprised to see on the dark part of the moon's disk a light like star 7th mag. probably in Aristarchus. It became fainter and almost extinguished at 9 o'clock. Mr. Elger had seen similar lights but never before one so clear as this — Quote Webb as from him.
- 10 At sunrise on Linné, by Respighi, "a brilliant spot or point entirely isolated on an obscure ground. B A 67/17.
- 14 Hailstone at Leamington / Proc. Bul. Met. Soc. 3/405
- 20 Cor omits address says in Land & Water, May 25, that after a heavy rainfall found in his garden and in trees innumerable hairworms he thought fallen in the rain.
- 20 No reports of mets BA 67-409
- 24 Kansas etc., severe quake. Bet 1 & 3 PM 2 quakes — waves Kansas, Neb, No, Ill, Ind, Ohio. A. J. Sci. 2/44/132 2/45/128
- 29 Missouri Kansas quake BA '11
- May-early Shocks, Comrie / Gent's Mag N.S. 3/797
- May Sci. Amer. Ap. 8, 1871, Charles W. Libby, of Cambridgeport, Mass. writes to us as follows: "While I was at Panther Springs, Western Texas, in May, 1867, I observed a curious phenomenon. Early in the morning, after a heavy thunderstorm had passed over, the air appeared to be full of snow flakes, which gave the appearance of a driving snow storm. Upon examination I found the white objects which were descending, were small insects and the instant they touched the ground, their white wings dropped off and left them in the form of small worms resembling maggots.

This continued for twenty minutes when the insects disappeared.

- May Insects P. Spring see May 19, 1878 White ants?
- 3 dry fog and yellow powder called "pine-pollen" at Paris / May 4 — Toulouse and Naples La Sci Pour Tous 14/38
- 6-7 Moon Linne dark in dark part of moon ac to Flammarion p. 6, but very perceptible light in Aristarchus — "doubtless reflected earthlight". Sc. Am. Sup. 7/2696
- 7 Brilliant point in Aristarchus in dark part / by Temples at Marseilles Astro Reg J/220
- 7 Northern Whig (Belfast) 20th ab midnight, Glenelg, Scotland, remarkable meteor s. to n.
- 8 Shock at Comrie — immediately afterward torrents fell. Dublin Daily Express 15th.
- 9 Dublin Express, May 14, an account in the same issue. "They presented a charred appearance and when broken emitted an aromatic flavor. They are unlike any growing in these latitudes and have defeated efforts of botanists and chemists who might be supposed to throw some light upon the subject of their identity." It is said that the quantity was so great that a hoax was out of the question. A cor in the 14th says he had been told that they fell with such velocity that policemen though protected by their helmets had been obliged to seek shelter. /
- Cor in 15th writes that they were unripe oranges — distributed by the high wind from some distillery or carried by a whirlwind from the south of France. Ex May 15 — That a Mr. Leslie a chemist in Brideshead having an immense number of shrunken oranges had got rid of them by scutting them in the streets.
- 9 Some one sends extracts from Dublin newspapers and a sample to the Editor. He writes that his correspondent "is informed that they are simply hazel nuts preserved in a bog for centuries." Symons Met Mag 2/59



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