

DOUBT

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE
Vol. II Whole Number 50

⁶⁶ *Science does not know*
its debt to imagination ⁹⁹
+EMERSON+

**NO
SMOKING**

IN GROUPS

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DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

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OUR COVER

The sign reproduced on our cover was taken from the wall of a Los Angeles restaurant by MFS Morgan, who writes: "Just wanted you to know that our city fathers finally solved our Smog problem."

FIRST PRIZE

It looks like Milton Smith again this session. He copied this from page 202 of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, June, 1955:

"The scientific community is a community of iconoclasts, in which no authority is recognized, and every young student is permitted—and encouraged—to argue against the most famous professor." The author is one Eugene Rabinowitch.

Second slot, if he'll forgive the expression, is filled by Bob Bishop. He sent a big black headline from the Humboldt (Eureka, Calif.) *Times*, of 6-16-55, which reads, "GUARANTEED ANNUAL PAY DENOUNCED AS IMMORAL." The story quotes one Rus Walton, identified as "assistant manager of the western division of the National Association of Manufacturers." This "Rus" was speaking

to "business and industry leaders of Humboldt county, and acto the *Times* he described the so-called guaranteed annual wage as, "not only economically unsound and politically dangerous, but downright immoral." No amplification of the term occurs in the clipping, but MFS Bishop writes, "I guess it will soon be considered obscene to ask for a raise."

Number three, to our wry way of thinking, is Milton Subotsky, who sends this from *Publishers' Weekly* of Aug. 20, which cites the *New York State Taxpayer* of June as its source:

That the Olean (N. Y.) Board of Education voted, 5 to 3, to recognize Golf as an official sport at Olean High School, and to hire a "coach". To provide funds for this innovation, the Board "hacked out all items in the budget pertaining to books."

The runners up were all familiar faces too. Bob Steinberg—who has responded valorously to our recent needle—found this in the Long Island Sunday Press, 8-7-55 old style: "The average Frenchman shrinks about five-eighths of an inch between dawn and dusk . . . says Dr. Maurice Berdun of the Catholic Institute of Paris . . . after intensive (sic) measuring of 300 of his countrymen between 18 and 35 years old."

Steinberg also detected this, in the *Times*, 8-19-55: That Dual King ran for sheriff in his home town of Selmar, Tenn. He was defeated. Eight days later—in pique no doubt—he robbed the local bank of \$46,000, acto the police who say he confessed. The Memphis FBI is said to have recovered \$43,000 of the loot.

Steinberg also reads the N. Y. *Post*, because this comes from there, 8-16-55: Acto Dr. E. W. R. Steacie, president of the (Canadian) National Research Council, their Chalk River atomic energy plant has "stringent regulations . . . preventing married couples from working at the plant (and) every effort is made to discourage marriages between workers . . . because of possible effects of radiation on Genes." Why AP capitalizes "Genes" is not clear to YS, but so it is in the clipping. "Genes transmit hereditary physical characteristics from parents to children . . . science does not know precisely the effect radization has on Genes."

Science may be grateful to the Society, in that case, for amassing such pertinent suggestions as come our way, and a garland of these monstrous births will appear in DOUBT soon. Keep them coming.

In the same paper, 9-4-55, Steinberg read about Dr. W. Grey Walter, British neurologist, and MFS Mitchell found virtually the same story in the N. Y. *Journal-American*. We also have it from Mrs. M. Fraser of Marlow, Bucks, who took it from the *Daily Express* of 9-2-55.

Dr. Walter showed the British Association for the Advancement of Science a machine he has invented which purports to foretell by brain-wave rhythms whether persons who wish to marry will be compatible. Mrs. Fraser comments, "I enclose two cuttings, simply for their inanity." She is a dear.

From the Long Island *Sunday Press*, 8-7-55, Steinberg snipped the orthodox quietus to a mystery we had from Anonymous, Washington (D. C.) *Post*, 8-4-55, both are UP dispatches.

First, something called the "Hairy Ghost of Edison"—that is, of Edison, Georgia—had made that name for itself and then appeared 30 miles away, near Dawson. A forestry worker fought it with his scythe but finally gave up and ran away, terrified.

But now, so you shouldn't be skeered no more, Delmar Jones, Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, said "the fantastic shapes reported by 'witnesses' near Edison, Ga., were pure imagination . . . his investigators found that (a) farmer, who was unidentified, had wrapped himself in a sheet like a Halloween ghost to discourage trespassers from his private lake."

Usually, such a steady performer as Elsender is taken out of this competition, but this item is such a ranker, and we are going to be woefully pressed for space again, so . . . Mrs. Phyllis Mastaglio, of Newcastle, called the *Evening Chronicle* to report that, while she was talking on the telephone to her brother, Raymond Robson, in Felling, their conversation was interrupted—about 11:50 a.m.—by a voice saying, "This is the police." Then they heard the voice of a Canberra bomber pilot off the coast near Amble reporting to Acklington (airfield) that his port engine was on fire. They listened to the conversation for 15 minutes . . . and the R.A.F. station passing him instructions and telling him that an emergency air strip had been prepared for his landing."

A *Chronicle* reporter went to work on the story.

Acklington denied any knowledge of the incident. Likewise the R.A.F. Station Ouston, ditto that at Blyth.

"Mr. G. Green, Newcastle Telephone Manager, said that such a thing (as the overheard conversation) is technically impossible."

Nonetheless, the testimony of the lady and her brother contains many subtle details which make invention incredible.

That was Aug. 12. In the *Chronicle* the next day the reporter had talked to one Osmond Edward and his wife Grace, of Gosforth, who recalled a ring on their phone one night about two years ago when they were in bed. A voice called, "Emergency! Emergency! Keep this line clear." Edward hung up, and the phone rang again. "Please keep this line clear," said someone, but Edward hung on, and heard a plane in trouble brought in to a landing, apparently by intercom directions, and—as he thought—at Acklington field.

"Mr. Edward reported the incident to The G.P.O. but heard nothing more about it."

Elsender's further grist for the period includes the news that windmills ARE practical, and will soon be on the market! If you want to make your own electricity, write to John Brown and Company, London.

Last July 13, whilst most of England was suffering heat up to 87f., the coast village of Flamborough, Yorkshire, registered only 45 degrees.

Following up an item we have had since June of the year 20 FS, which is over 5 years, Elsender learns from the *North Mail* that Richard Russell Mains, now aged 8, the boy of Pembury, Kent, who can feel no pain, is still under treatment and strictest observation. Only two noteworthy accidents have occurred in the five years since he came to Fortean notice. Once he himself scratched at the retina

of one of his eyeballs until he almost lost the sight of that eye, and another time an oven door fried one of his knees—but he felt nothing. Elsender will keep us posted.

He is also watching John Tuck of Stockton, who has begun to pave the section of street in front of his home, as ordered to do by "the city". The Council tried to stop him by court order, but ran into legal difficulties. I think we should name John for Fortean honors.

From the *London Times*, 8-6-55, Elsender sends a picture of three pieces of cranial bone that fit together tolerably closely. Two parts were discovered in 1935, at Swanscombe, Kent, and they are estimated to be between 100,000 years and 270,000 years old. The third part "found last Saturday"—about 50 feet away from the earlier discovery—was in ten pieces when picked up, but you should see how well it matches the others now, "except for some slight warping." Apparently the Piltown headache has had no more effect upon the addicts to that sort of thing than an ordinary hangover has upon another type of drunkard.

The *Daily Mail* announced last June 27 that "St. Matthew, the tax-gatherer of the New Testament, has been proclaimed by the Pope the patron saint of bookkeepers and accountants."

In the summer of 24 FS, a native son of Castelvete, Italy, a village across the bay from Naples, he now a resident of Florence, and nameless in this article, presented his home town with a rose-coloured statue facsimile of Canova's "Venus Emerging from the Bath."

The mayor put it up in the park, but the women and the local priest want it taken down.

Last May or March—Elsender does not write very plainly—the church got a new statue of its patron saint, St. Nicholas of Bari, and prevailed upon the mayor to cover Venus whilst the new St. Nich was given an inaugural procession.

Venus was partially covered with leaves—but the wind blew the leaves away. Now—see this article—comes the time for the annual parade of St. Nich around the town, and the priest refuses to let his statue leave the church as long as Venus stands there—and no more leaf tricks.

YS is asking some Italian members not too far away to find out what happened and if Venus held her own. Any bets?

Elsender took this from the Newcastle *Evening Chronicle* of 8-18-55: "Ducks lay radioactive eggs at a Hanford, Washington, atomic energy plant, two U.S. scientists told the atoms-for-peace conference at Geneva yesterday. Mr. W. C. Hanson and Mr. H. A. Kronberg said the ducks absorb radioactive phosphorus which the big plutonium factory releases as waste into the Columbia River."

Ibid, June 30, credits "British United Press" with a yarn that is hard to unravel, but curious. Has any USA member seen anything about this?

"New York diamond dealers, pawnbrokers and scientists (a classy trio, wot?) are trying to solve the great diamond mystery—how sparkling stones turn to a dull yellow in a few days."

A few days from when?

"Pawnbrokers have been the main people to suffer from the stones so far."

From *what* stones? Are they trying to say that all diamonds are going dim and yellow, or only those one pawns?

"Some scientists say an X ray machine or a cyclotron could bring lustre to a dull diamond. Others claim atomic radiation would change the colour permanently . . . Another expert said flatly: 'It can't be done with X-rays.'

"A dealer said he had seen diamonds treated successfully with fluoride."

Treated for what? Jaundice?

Said a spokesman for a loan company: "The whole thing is a very transparent racket."

What whole thing?

What is the racket?

And if it is so transparent—where does that first paragraph come from? Maybe I am the only baffled head in the audience. Will somebody in the diamond racket please explain that "news" to me?

Here's another about people close to home. Have you read anything about this in local papers?

Ibid, May 23: "Farmers living near the Vera Cruz State border, in Mexico, are reported arming and fleeing for safety today following the hanging, under mysterious circumstances, of 50 farmers during the last two months . . . Panic and efforts to reach the safety of the mountains are reported from the towns of Matias, Romero and Kuchitan following the hanging of seven men in the nearby railway town of Ubero by an armed band of 20 men last Friday . . . The raiders (were) described as 'rural police' by some farmers . . . Units of Mexican State troopers are now guarding Ubero."

In a paper called the *Sun*, but where published I cannot decipher, is stated that an Irish child of nine weeks died in Londonderry City and Count Hospital. Its father, Robert Donaldson, was informed by police. He telephoned the hospital and "arranged to have the body sent by rail to Fintona," 40 miles distance. When he inquired of a station porter if a coffin had arrived he was handed a brown paper parcel, with a stick-on label, containing the child's body. The label read, "For immediate delivery. Carriage forward." I don't know what "Carriage forward" may mean, but assume it is something like our, "Return postage guaranteed."

In Beech Grove, Bedlington, is a house where water began flowing under the floor boards about July 1. Not a leak, says the water company. Not from a drain. Not a spring, say workmen who have been pumping it out for a week without reducing the flow or locating its source. *North Mail*, 7-8-55.

Several other Old Faithfuls performed in their wonted manner. MFS Millar of Alberta reported that, in Keswick, Ontario, the volunteer fire department had just bought a new "inhalator" (?pulmotor?) last July when a man drowned. Nobody knew how to get the machine started. Now they are taking lessons.

MFS Oltcher, co-ed alumnus of good old F.U., sent the news that, only a few minutes after the Civil Defense sirens started screaming in Washington, D. C., June 15, the deputy director of wardens was fired. His name is John Garrett Underhill, and John was fired for calling the Operation a "fiasco—not a drill, but a show." *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 6-18-55.

Also from Oltcher, several versions of the story of Jesse F. Reese who lets people sit on his farm near Comanche, Texas, at \$2.00 a head, for an hour and a half. An average of 500 to 600 people a day come and bury their feet or their hands in the dust there which contains a trace of uranium. They hope to cure themselves of rheumatism, arthritis and even cancer, but Reese makes each one sign a document stating that HE has made no curative claims for the place and did not ask them to come.

An AP photo of the sitters appeared in *News-week*, 7-25-55, and we have it also from MFS Forster, as it appeared in the San Jose (Calif.) *Mercury*, 7-12-55. Cf Russell, also, *Liverpool Echo*, 7-11-55.

Forster's contributions also contained an account of price control in Istanbul, Turkey, 7-29-55. AP cites the *Istanbul Milliyet*. After the government had permitted increases in sugar and "transport" prices, the "Bordello Madams' Association" petitioned for an increase in their rates. The gov't turned them down on the ground that, while it could control the price of goods, it could not regulate services.

A bit of inconsistency there, even if *Milliyet* was jesting. Is not "transport" also a service?

In Chicago is a man who has the police department upset because he pawns money. There's nothing illegal about that, so the cops charged him with "disorderly conduct" and held him while they tried to find out what he was up to, as if it were any of their business.

The man is Joseph K. Johnson, a butcher, and he has pawned between \$750 and \$1000 in 15 pawnshops in the last 3 years. It costs him 3% every time he moves money from one pawnshop to another, but if he doesn't mind, why should the police?

Judge Emmett Morrissey dismissed the case, saying, "there's something in the wind here, and I can't smell it." *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 7-8-55 and 7-9-55.

In North Park, near Pittsburgh is a spring which has been dubbed "the Fountain of Youth," and for years people have come from miles around to drink the water and carry it home.

Now Charles R. Stowell, "regional sanitarian for the State Health Department" has ordered the spring closed to the public. No harm is known to have come to anyone from drinking the water, no complaints whatever, but a regional sanitarian has to do something to justify his existence and so he found "coliform organisms" in the water. Coliform organisms are normally found in the intestinal tracts of all living humans and animals. Nevertheless, the Fountain of Youth is closed "until it can be adequately chlorinated." *Pittsburgh Press*, 5-11-55.

Oltcher matches the radioactive duck eggs, above, with one laid by a hen, in the *World Almanac*, 1955 old style, p. 382.

Anonymous found this in the *N. Y. News*, 7-3-55: "The Army today notified its officers to quit calling chemical, germ and radiological material 'mass destruction' weapons." From now on these mass destruction weapons will be called 'special purpose' weapons. Maybe that will fool the masses of women and children who are destroyed by these materials for the Army's special purposes.

MARKHAM ERUPTS

Out of Denver comes a flow of Forteanas, 17 epistles wide, 73 pages long, and of depth beyond sounding, all from MFS Markham whose contributions you have admired here before. All this is original stuff and does not count the body of press clips which came along in between.

You will have the opportunity to read a good part of Markham's cogitations in future issues, but in this cramped space we can only touch the high spots of his gleanings from the news.

The piece that moved me most, and should be made the basis for a lead article with both fists swinging, appeared in the *Denver Post*, 3-18-55. It's an AP dispatch from Washington, D. C.

"In a report written by Representative Fogarty (D) of Rhode Island, the (appropriations) committee said from 3 million to 5 million children are in the 'mentally retarded' category, 'yet the problem has gone almost unnoticed by the leaders in education and in medical research.'"

UNNOTICED, hell! If the "leaders in education and in medical research" as well as the Congress and all its committees, and all their sisters and their cousins and their aunts, were not doing everything in their power to retard the mentality of the children the problem would not exist.

Pertinent is another squib in the batch, from the *Rocky Mountain News*, 4-8-54. The headline reads, U.S. MILITARY MAY NEED SUB-NORMAL PERSONS, and the article quotes Capt. Elmer L. Caveny, head of the neuropsychiatric branch of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, speaking in Chicago. He said that "manpower planning for future emergencies must provide for the mentally marginal, substandard and handicapped individuals."

Elmer can say that again. What other kind of man would voluntarily join his vicious, degrading, monkey-suit brotherhood?

Out in L.A., Henry Quintana was found dead under a bridge. It was learned that his "home" was Pueblo, Colo. The body was sent there with a coroner's certificates attesting death by "coronary sclerosis".

Deputy Coroner A. C. Jones of Pueblo discovered a wound in the abdomen. Coroner C. N. Caldwell of Pueblo removed a bullet slug. "The bullet was sent to Los Angeles police with a request for further investigation." *Rocky Mountain News*, 3-10-54.

Oltcher has a tie-in with that, but in reverse. Elmer Glacklin was found bleeding from arm and wrist in his hotel room. His condition was critical from loss of blood. A note pinned to a calendar indicated a suicide attempt. "Doctors claimed the wounds were at least four days old" but "guests of the hotel said they had seen Mr. Glacklin walking around last night" and—"No trace of a weapon was found." *Pittsburgh Press*, 7-8-55.

Vance L. Wise, principal of Steele School, Denver, sent parents of his students a mimeographed letter of school news containing this note: "Will you please help to see that children do not bring knives and guns of any kind to school? It has long been the policy of Steele School that pupils not carry knives and guns to school. We are sure you realize the reason for this policy."

If a non resident may be permitted a guess, is it to keep the students' pockets from bulging?

Last October 1, the *Denver Post* quoted Rep. Charles B. Deane (D) of N. C., speaking at Mackinac Island, Mich. "That America (should be U.S.A.) will lose its fight against communism in this country unless it finds a superior ideology based on absolute moral standards. Unless we in America (should be U.S.A.) solve our ideological problems we will be sunk."

On Oct. 10, a headline in the *Rocky Mountain News* showed how seriously Rep. Deane's remarks had been taken. NEW COURSE IN KILLING IS PLANNED BY ARMY, and the story begins, "Dr. Francis E. Jones wants to make a more efficient killer out of the American (should be U.S.A.) soldier. In his opinion, a doughfoot who uses two bullets to kill one man is 50 per cent off. A psychologist on loan from George Washington University to the Army (at Fort Benning, Ga.), Jones is evolving and testing methods to make more competent killers."

If memory serves correctly, George Washington University is a Roman Catholic institution.

In a Scripps-Howard dispatch to the *Rocky Mountain News*, 5-19-55, this list of observations appears. YS has eliminated the semantic garbage. In Russia there are:—

"No air raid sirens.

"No drills.

"No demonstrations.

"No public evacuation plans.

"No 'in case of war' signs on the highways.

"No shelters.

"No newspaper editorials demanding same.

"Students of Soviet life cannot remember seeing a single reference in Russian newspapers or magazines to civil defense as we understand it—methods to protect civilian populations, especially in large cities, from the destruction of nuclear war.

"There have been no published accounts of radar defenses for Russian cities."

In a word, the suckers trust us. So—now that we have our "absolute moral ideology" all straightened out—now that we have changed the name of "mass destruction" weapons—now that we have college Profs making us more efficient killers—what are we waiting for? What the hell good is Moral Rearmament if you don't move in when The Enemy's guard is down?

Markham saw this in the *Denver Post*, 4-7-55. "The French News agency said Thursday police have arrested a man they believe has been putting needles in asparagus sold near site of a U.S. air base in Morocco." A woman at Sidi Slimane pricked her finger on one. "Examining the rest of the bunch, she found a needle in each stalk." Several similar bunches were found in local markets.

And the last of Markham for this session: "A Colorado Springs pediatrician revealed Saturday that the number of juvenile ulcers in his care jumped a fantastic 600 per cent in the first three months after Colorado Springs got TV." *Rocky Mountain News*, 4-5-54.

THOSE HOSES

The only mystery about why water hoses bury themselves in certain types of soil is the same mystery as why does water usually run down hill, or why do guys like gals. For five years YS lived in the San Fernando Valley, and did a lot of sprinkling with a hose. Every time a hose was left running in an appropriate position it crawled into the ground. It will be genuine Fortean when a hose does NOT do that.

The papers are mighty hard up for "news" when they begin beating the drum for the ordinary. Probably the reporters who went off their nuts on the subject would think a Manx cat came from Mars in a saucer.

THAT WINDOW

The plate glass that healed itself reminds one of the insects which now fatten and thrive on DDT. After several years of splintering for no reason at all at all, glass has now developed the defense mechanism of human skin and animal hide. Break it, it grows together again, and apparently leaves a less discernible scar than most surgeons.

For the benefit of anyone who may have missed it, the story is, than on Thursday, June 30 old style, "lightning" struck the display window in the front of Eleanor Cline's dress shop, International Falls, Minn.

There, at the outset is Fortean. Since when has "glass"—one of the better known non-conductors—attracted lightning? But, we may assume that the "strike" was of the metal frame around the glass, not the pane itself. All the accounts we have are identical save one. The *Oklahoma City Times* inserts this sentence which does not occur in any other of the AP reprints: "She (Mrs. Cline) said the light was more like a flash than like a bolt of lightning." All agree that "no one was hurt and nothing in the store was scorched."

A crack was opened in the glass, they say, an eighth of an inch wide and some eight feet long. Rain came through it, so the dresses had to be moved out of the window.

Witnesses attesting the crack, besides Mrs. Cline, are Fire Chief Vernin McMicken and twenty nameless.

The story does not state when the glass people were called, but glaziers seldom work in the rain, so, we ask, how long did the storm last? Not waiting for an answer, the story states that "workmen arrived a half hour later"—that is, after they were called—and the crack was gone. All that remained was a streak "like a pencil mark, and we couldn't rub it off." Cr E. S. Anderson, Borden, Scandrett, and many others who do not write their names on their data.

NOT FOR US

Amongst the *Gurtime* data is a snip from *Tempo*, a mag, 7-12 54, stating that the Vatican "has announced that it is willing to work with the U.N. in planning a world calendar." But the details go on to describe a calendar of "equal quarters" but months quite unequal in length. Why change?

Also in hand is one from Russell, Vienna date-line, stating that "Communist Czechoslovakia will introduce a so-called World Calendar from January 1, 1956." The details look to be the same as the Vatican's with months of unequal length.

Wouldn't you know that when the Vatican and those Damned Reds got together on something they would both be wrong?

MRS. THEODORE DREISER

Helen, the widow of Theodore Dreiser, she an Honorary Life Member, and he a Founder of the Fortean Society, died in Gresham, Oregon, 9-22-55 old style.

FALLS

Worms, in Central Finland, says Reuter from Helsinki, night of 5-15-55 old style. "Violent winds whipped them up from a wet meadow and blew them onto the town of Kinomaeki." Any other questions? Cr C. Williams.

"A block of ice found in a garden at Loughton is believed to have fallen from an airplane." That is all. *Evening Standard*, 6-1-55. Cr N. Harris.

Whether floating on the water or in the air is not stated, but, "yellow dust" in a "belt" 15 miles long, reported by the Japanese freighter Shinchi Maru, 80 miles north of Keelung, Formosa. Called "unexplained." *Journal Every Evening*, 7-2-55. Cr Wrobbel.

"A piece of ice measuring four by six inches and weighing six pounds fell on a Brampton, Ont., rooftop today during a hailstorm. Officials said they believe it was the largest hailstone on record." *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 7-16-55. Cr Wrobbel—who should tell those officials to read Fort, eh?

Wrobbel also sent us a "black snow" over Geneva, Switzerland, but that occurs whenever U. S. representatives are there, and its cause is known. It's the waste paper of the delegates, including Dulles' doodles, which is burned in the hotel furnace to keep native junkmen from finding out how stupid our diplomats are. *Journal Every Evening*, 7-21-55.

Sheets of "filmy, transparent plastic", of various sizes and shapes, falling around Wilton, Calif., and on ranches for miles around, through the last two weeks of July and up to Aug. 4. The largest piece, "pretty well shredded", measured 75 by 50 to 60 feet. Nobody will admit knowing, and all guesses are brushed aside. *Sacramento Union*, 7-29 and 8-4. Cr Wakefield.

In an adjoining column in the earlier issue, a fall of nails in Rariton, N. J. Daniel Franchino appears to have been the target. One nail "stuck in his arm". AP states that, "Pigeons had been taking them from a box of nails a carpenter left in a tower" etc. And—as everybody knows—pigeons hate Franchinos.

The fall of a sturgeon, four feet long, "weighing more than 14 pounds," on the porch of Walter Hudson at Grand Bay, New Brunswick, may inspire some incredulity. Be pleased to remember that this is not our story, but one put out by AP. Mr. Hudson subdued the live fish with a club, and then kept it alive "for some time" in a tub of water.

An eagle is suggested as the fisherman. "There were small claw marks in the (fish's) tail." Cr Goldstein and Steinberg.

RUSSEL'S BEST

The value of human life in India is fairly exemplified by a Reuter dispatch to the Liverpool *Echo*, printed 8-15-55.

Some 200 unburied bodies have been lying on the shore of Rupkund Lake, in the Himalayas, north of Nainital, since they were discovered in September 1942, old style, and nobody knows how long before that. "obviously, for years," says the finder, Mr. H. K. Madhwal. The only other person known to have seen the bodies was Lt. Hamilton of the British Army, also in 1942.

England was still in the saddle then, but "because the authorities were too preoccupied with the war effort, no steps were taken to investigate the tragedy . . . Nothing can be done until September, however (that is to say this month just expired), as heavy monsoon rains make the lake inaccessible until then."

The dear old *Echo*, again with the help of Reuter, reports a flourishing racket in Germany. West German firms have been doing well with "an electrical device which is claimed to prevent illness by neutralizing the effect of 'earth rays' on the body."

An enterprising Briton, Mrs. Muriel Howorth, of no stated address, seven years ago founded the IAIL or IFAIFTL, Institute for Atomic Information for the Layman. "The Institute runs monthly atomic energy club meetings in London for women, and now Mrs. Howorth plans a book for the housewife with the title, *Atom and Eve*."

One of the gang of convicts working in Mbabane, Swaziland, made a break for it. A guard shot "at his feet". The man stopped and stood until handcuffed and put in the wagon. Then he died. No trace of his having been hit could be found on his body. *Echo*, 8-19-55.

We can at least tie that with a datum from the L.A. *Times*, 11-4-54, which tells of two 5-year-old boys "hunting" in a vacant lot at Grand Rapids, Mich., with a broken pop-gun. They pointed the gun at a pheasant in a tree, shouted, "Bang!" and the bird fell. They brought it home—alive.

DATA BLIZZARD

Our guess is that MFS Gustine has been hoarding Fortean for years, perhaps with a view toward publishing a book of his own, but when his mother could no longer sweep under his bed, she said, "You get that TNT out of here!"

True or not, it all landed on TT in a shower as big as hailstones, and sorting it will take a while. It just goes to show how greatly we need more space, because the Gustine contribution is a wheaty fall of data, and that brings us to the vari-colored fall of letters about a bigger DOUBT and increased dues.

An amazing number responded, and with rousing enthusiasm. As a matter of fact, to date, only one dissent has been received, and that is essential to make the move *bona fide* Fortean.

On details, some difference developed. Only that one member objected to raising dues to \$4.00, but a majority said, "Don't go back to the old page size. just give us more pages of the present size."

That's okay with YS, but several took occasion to complain about the small size of our present type, thereby hooking us on the horns of a new dilemma.

If we add 8 pages and increase the type size throughout, the one will cancel out a substantial portion of the other. So, please answer me these questions:

Is the present type too small to read with ease?

Which would you rather, more matter or larger type?

MITCHELL'S BEST

The West German province of Hesse has halted anti-Polio injections of the Salk formula, 5-25-55. The British Government-backed program for Salk inoculations has been cancelled, 7-16-55, both N. Y. *Times*.

In Peoria, Ill., on that same drill day that the Washington man called a "fiasco"—6-15-55—no drill was held. The local Civil Defense Director, Marvin L. Merritt, said, "I just can't see a lot of people running around with armbands on."

In Coral Gables, Fla., Mrs. Martha Brumenbach has gone on a "fast unto death"—or until her son is released from drafted military service. Her son is in as a dentist. *Newsday*, 7-18-55. We should have a follow up on that by now but none has appeared.

SATELLITE EXPOSED

"Please expose this Artificial Satellite business," writes MFS Gee, from London, "on present showing it is extremely doubtful if anything can get that high off the earth and keep there."

The lady's point is well taken if we approach these announcements flat-footedly, with the same literal-mindedness that causes the President of the United States to accept the dreams of his technological propagandists as fact, but—are we Flatfeet or are we Forteans? If we be Forteans, the press releases threatening to "launch artificial satellites" are self-exposing. The purposes of such announcements are accomplished by the announcements themselves. It is no more necessary for such drawing-board satellites to stay aloft than for God to make a six-year-old calf in a day. As long as thousands of men can be employed in the project, and billions of dollars spent on the experiments, what officeholder or scientist cares whether the man-made moons will stay up there or not?

Let there be ten thousand launchings, say we. It is a damned sight better to keep the economy inflated with this nonsense than by burning 18-year-old schoolboys to death with napalm.

DOWN THE DRAIN

by Jay J. M. Scandrett

(In answer to our appeal for a volunteer to take over a certain batch of data which had been piling up—and the like of which continues to arrive in steady flow—who should step forward but that old-time pamphleteer and kicker from away back, MFS Jay J. M. Scandrett. Following here is his unedited rendering of that material. Perhaps this is the beginning of a new department in DOUBT, unless, of course, this pointing finger scares the greed out of the military. Until then, all our thanks to Jay J. for "Down the Drain." Ed.)

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT:

I. That, primarily, to secure the rights and powers of the Owners of Big Business, governments, especially the United States Government, are instituted among men;

II. *That*, secondarily and expediently, the Owners of Big Agriculture, and Big Labor Unions, may receive seemly material recognition in proportion to their capacity to generate political pressure;

III. *That* all other denizens of the terrain, to wit, the great majority, are, and of right ought to be, glad to subordinate their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to the Governmental Policies hereinbefore specified;

(Youse and me:
The booboisie
And the yokelry,
Must think we're free.)

IV. *That* anyone in any wise recalcitrant, unenthusiastic, or lax in approving the foregoing obviously Sacred and Benign Principles is a pinko, a security risk, a fellow-traveler, a creeping socialist, a subversive, an anarchist, a filthy bastard, and a communist, deserving nothing better than extermination;

V. *That* the Giant Business Corporation is the Image of God: Immortal, Inhuman, Inexorable, and the Giver of Every Good and Perfect Gift; and it is altogether sweet and proper for us jackasses to be killed in far distant places unto the uttermost reaches of the globe, or even *chez nous-même*, that the Blessed Privileges of such Reverend and God-like Creatures may continue uninterrupted and burgeoning;

("If I should die, say only this of me:
There is some corner of a foreign field
That is forever asinine.")

VI. *That* "whatever is good for General Motors is good for the United States" and the universe.

VII. *That*, in furtherance of the Governmental Objectives hereinbefore devoutly recognized, the most efficient imaginable agency for the absorption of the fruits of human and mechanical endeavor, at a suitable profit, is a gigantic military establishment, endowed by the Creator with insatiable appetites (such being indeed the prime function of the Military Establishment), for thus perpetual production at a high level, and without the gruesome peril of unsold inventory, is assured, and therefore,—

VIII. *That* the steadfast and staunch loyalty of the intermediaries, to wit, political office-holders, should be assured by a seemly recognition of their right to partake of the rich gravy;

IX. *That* there should be officially constituted and authorized a superb quantity of Big Brass, to effectuate the Holy Principles hereinbefore reverently approved;

X. *That*, nevertheless, it is deemed prudent not to stress the fact that waste is of the essence of the procedure, but rather to pretend that the waste is but incidental, like the fleas on the dog, and to be vigilantly deprecated.

("Calling all cars! Calling all cars! Go to Washington! Go to Washington! Investigate governmental extravagance! Investigate governmental extravagance! That is all!")

The following items are merely a few sample drippings from the capacious tank; and any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is strictly fortuitous.

Left Behind In War Areas

Hundreds of bombers; aircraft hangars; tanks unnumbered; landing craft; acres of quonset sheds

filled with military supplies; uncounted drums of petroleum products; masses of heavy and light artillery.—N. Y. Sunday News Magazine (With photographs), 6-8-47.

MINE IN SEA REPORT — Brighton Star, 12-22-53—Cylindrical object believed to be a mine seen off shore by Ovingdean people, drifting slowly toward Brighton.

FISHERMEN HAUL UP A 500-LB. UNEXPLODED BOMB—(reference undecipherable) 1955 —The fishing smack *Zyava* made the catch in Liverpool Bay with a net.

KOREAN SCRAP—Newsweek, 9-3-51—"... producers are starting a campaign to have the metal shipped right to America."

REPORTED DEAD IN SHIP BLAST—N. Y. Times, 5-10-25FS—"Seven crewmen were reported killed . . . as World War II shells were being loaded" (at Taipei, Formosa) "to be dumped at sea."

GAME PRESERVE—Oakland Tribune, 11-22-53 —"Masses of United States Army equipment and more particularly of munitions are stored in wooded areas near Kaiserslautern, Germany, surrounded by high fences and guarded carefully. The areas are 'off limits' to everyone. Deer and hare have discovered these refuges and are making the most of them, feeding unconcernedly in the view of hunters who don't dare risk a shot."

U. S. OWNS 60 ACRES IN CITY OF AMSTERDAM. WHY? NO ONE KNOWS.—Boston Globe, 2-7-54—"Rep. James B. Utt (Rep. Cal.) is all set for critics of Congressional junketing abroad this past summer.

"He not only reminds House members of the traveling Congressmen who discovered a multi-million dollar, 80-mile pipeline constructed by the Air Force which was laid to carry gasoline for an airfield that was never built, but points out also that one House member discovered millions of board feet of lumber rotting in a desert dump abroad, which was salvaged for over \$10,000,000. The Congressman's trip cost the taxpayers \$10,000.

"Utt also noted that one Congressional committee discovered that the United States owned 60 acres of high-priced land in the middle of Amsterdam, but couldn't find anybody in our government who knew why it had been purchased, or what for."

MINE WASHED UP AT NEWBIGGEN—(reference illegible) 3-13-55—Near Edinburgh, Scotland.

Ships

HUDSON RIVER RESERVE—A FLEET IN BEING:—N. Y. Times Mag. 10-17-48—In this one location, 160 ships "laid up" (Tompkins Cove). Continuous upkeep and materials costs, with 300 permanent keeper-uppers. There are at least eight other "sites" in use, including those near San Francisco, Mobile and Newport News. There are some 2,000 ships costing \$4,000 per ship per year.

SCRAPPING SHIP COSTING \$9,500,000 IRKS CONGRESSMAN—Boston Globe, 1-24-54—The ship in question was the *Corn Husker Mariner*, "only six months old . . . one of 35 high-speed cargo vessels congress ordered constructed."

BARGAIN WARSHIPS—A. P., 11-24-50—"U. S. Government officials said today that 'bargain price' surplus U. S. warships have been offered to the Argentine, Brazil, and Chile to maintain the existing naval balance in South America. The total number

of ships offered is secret but each country has been offered two 10,000-ton cruisers."

Atom-Bomb

TWO GREAT DELUSIONS ABOUT THE A-BOMB—N. Y. Times Mag., 7-10-48 (Hansen W. Baldwin)—(1) "That the bomb insures complete security," (2) "that secrecy means security."

ATOMIC WORK COST UP TO \$4,938,092,939—N. Y. Times, 1-31-52.

GIANT ATOM HOOP TO CREATE ENERGY OF 25 BILLION VOLTS—N. Y. Times, 1-10-54—"... to be built at Brookhaven for \$20,000,000, will use new 'strong focusing' principles." (The strong-focusing principle is not mentioned. It ain't new.)

SEALED CONTAINERS DROPPED BY NAVY IN ATLANTIC—(reference illegible), 1-29-55—"1500 tons of radioactive waste into 1200 fathoms southwest of Land's End... elaborate precautions had been taken to insure that the containers did not disintegrate until their contents had become harmless. In some cases this would not be for 30 years. Some of the material... would have gone into disused coal mines in Gloucestershire, but the plans had to be changed because of local protests." (Contemptible cowards, those Gloucestershireans!)

POLICE DUMP LOAD OF WAR SOUVENIRS—VERY EXPLOSIVE—Buffalo Evening News, 1-15-54—"Lake Erie swallowed a 'hot' dish today... outside the breakwall... discarded war souvenirs... 200 small-bore shells, 25 hand grenades, a live shell-detonator and several hundred dynamite blasting caps... 'People are careless about how they throw out battle souvenirs,' Mr. Schmidt" (Police laboratory director) "added. He said some of the explosives were turned in from garbage cans, vacant lots, and scrap-pile shipments reaching local foundries."

CLAY MAY SAVE 25TH CENTURY FROM A-LAB WASTE RAYS—Newsday, 6-23-54—"According to a finding made public today at the International Congress of Nuclear Engineering... at the University of Michigan by Brookhaven National Atomic Lab Scientist L. P. Hatch... 'Since the radioactive elements will retain their toxic properties throughout their entire period of existence, regardless of any physical, chemical, or biological forms they may eventually take, it is clear that we cannot simply discharge the fission product wastes from nuclear reactors (atomic piles) into the streams, or the ground, or into oceans, or hold them as soluble substances in stockpiles, ponds, or even in tanks and at the same time give assurances of safe disposal for centuries to come,' Hatch asserted.

"This, Hatch said, if done, would mean that there would be hidden time bombs which would threaten men hundreds of years from now... Hatch explained that 'an attempt' is being made at Brookhaven to chemically combine radioactive substances within stable, solid substances. 'One stable material,' he said, 'which shows considerable promise... is a kind of clay known as montmorillonite... Briefly, the radioactive fission products are absorbed in the clay mineral by a process known as an ion exchange and are then fixed there by heating the clay to a high temperature. The end result is a radioactive ceramic product which is intended for final burial,' he concluded."

MONTH'S ATOM "POISON" OUTPUT COULD KILL ALL IN 2 BIG CITIES—Washington Post, 7-26-50—

WASHINGTON CALLING—Scripps-Howard, 2-11-51—"Underground 'Pentagon' costing millions is being built in mountains near Maryland-Pennsylvania border."

Four years later the caves had been dug, and the Civil Defense jokers appropriately executed "Operation Alert," with the President of the United States *et al.* interring themselves on the same day as Molotov's arrival in this country for the U. N. decennial (I. F. Stone's Weekly, 6-27-55).

DEFENSE FLASHES—Newsweek, 5-2-55—"A drastic shift is taking place in the concept of Air Force overseas base-building. Planners have decided that many bases laid out in the last few years are too big and close together for atomic warfare. From now on the emphasis will be on scattered, smaller, squadron-size fields. The shift will be expensive."

Guided Missiles

ARMY WANTS LONG ISLANDERS TO LIKE "NIKE"—Long Island Daily Press, 1-6-55—"The Army is moving into Long Island with secret installations for launching deadly Nike missiles at enemy bombers. Along with each Nike base, which occupies about 25 acres and has a permanent contingent of 100 officers and men, goes a careful public relations program to convince suburbanites that having a guided missile base next door is not so bad.

"'We tell people as much as we can about what the Nike is and how it works,' a First Army spokesman said. 'Actually a Nike site is less dangerous than a filling station, where you have a lot of gasoline stored comparatively near to the surface of the ground.'..."

"Each Nike base is like the nest of a supersonic bird of prey. It involves an elaborate underground emplacement and a few buildings. The Nike streaks up to pluck a bomber out of the sky at 1,500 miles per hour... Chambers of commerce, property owners and other civic organizations have protested the choice of some Nike sites. The complaint is usually that property values will depreciate... Army public relations men tell townspeople that have a Nike base nearby makes them less likely than ever to be sought out as a target by the enemy... Some protesting women at Westport, Conn., admitted their chief concern was having idle soldiers around to distract their daughters." (But what's a distracted daughter or so to us patriots?)

PROTEST WON'T HALT WORK ON AMITY NIKE BASE: ARMY—Newsday, 3-23-55—"Copiague—Construction of a guided missile installation in North Amityville will begin this summer regardless of public protest, Army officials said at an open meeting last night.

"The Army spokesman told the audience of more than 200 persons at the Great Neck Rd. School that the 33-acre \$700,000 Nike launching and control center was essential to the defense system of the metropolitan area... Civic groups in the area have protested the proposed installation. Many in the audience last night again expressed opposition."

WORK TO START ON AMITY NIKE SITES—Newsday, 5-18-55—"Babylon—An Army official in-

formed the town board yesterday that construction of a guided missile site in North Amityville will start on schedule next month. . . . Leading the fight to enlist board opposition were the Central Long Island Branch of the National Association for the Advancements of Colored People and the North Amityville Civic Association.

"Civic leader Edward Greene of Wyandanch, a retired New York policeman, had criticized the opposition group. He said that there were 'a lot of floaters behind it and the people of this town are fed up with them.'"

"THE BRAIN" BLASTS ROBOTS—London Herald, 5-14-54—"The latest and deadliest of anti-aircraft guns—nicknamed 'The Brain'—showed its paces yesterday. The gun, an American 75-millimeter, is the first to incorporate radar and a computer on the mounting. It can: Pick up and automatically track a plane 15 miles away. Fire 45 shells a minute up to 7,200 yards (about four miles). Shoot with equal efficiency by day or night, in any weather, as the crew does not need to see the target. . . . In a few seconds it shot three 250 m.p.h. radio-controlled robot planes out of the sky. It is claimed to be effective against planes traveling at 900 m.p.h." Cost of each: £112,000.

REPUBLIC SEES PROSPEROUS '55. PROFITS UP 400% IN FIRST QUARTER—Newsday, 5-11-55—"Wilmington, Del.—Republic Aviation Corp.'s first-quarter profits are up more than 400 per cent over the same period last year, and the Farmingdale airplane firm expects a big year, Mundy I. Peale, president, told stockholders at the company's annual meeting yesterday. . . . Sales of \$124,131,152 were markedly up in the first quarter of this year. . . . The company is in volume production of F-84F Thunderstreak fighter bombers and RF-84F photo reconnaissance planes. . . . Development of the F-105, the 'follow up' airplane for the F-84 series, is progressing smoothly. . . . The company has an experimental contract for a radically new interceptor model; its guided missile program is moving along well. . . . Republic planes are serving now in Japan and Formosa as well as in NATO countries."

AIR FORCE ASSAILED ON ROCKET CONTRACT—N. Y. Times, 4-15-55—"Investigators charged today that the Air Force had given a \$3,660,000 contract for rocket launchers to a California concern after the Navy had rejected some of the company's launchers as 'a hazard to planes.'

ARMY SECRET CLASSIFIED RIGHT OUT OF ARMY—N. Y. Times, 5-18-55—"Robert T. Stevens, Secretary of the Army, asked Congress today to approve \$45,000,000 in military construction work so secret that even he does not know what it is."

Tanks

266 MILLIONS FOR TANKS—N. Y. Daily News, 7-18-54.

ARMY ACCOUNTS FOR 9,000 TANKS THOUGHT LOST—Seattle Times, 11-15-50—"The committee" (on the Hoover Report) "reported the Army couldn't account for 9,000 tanks during the three years following V-J Day. But the Army, after a three-hour check, came up with the report saying only 7,170 were 'missing' in the first place. All since have been accounted for, it added. The

committee praised the Army today for its improved accounting system. . . ."

ADMIRAL DEFIES ANYONE TO SAY LIFT-TRUCKS AREN'T JUNK—Savannah Evening Press, 6-22-55—" . . . came with gasoline engines under the drivers' seats. They seemed to squirt raw gasoline onto the exhaust pipes when an innocent customer stepped on the starter. This causes an explosion which wasn't lethal as a rule, but which left his ears ringing. . . . The committee, it developed, has been investigating Gibson trucks now for a long time. . . . it would be pleased when all 885 of them are sold for junk. The Gibson Manufacturing Co. of Longmont, Colo., it turned out further, had been a manufacturer of garden tractors and lawn mowers. Somebody in the military (name still not available) decided the grass-cutting specialists could make lift-trucks, too, and awarded them a contract for \$2,500,000 worth.

"Gibson and Co. started delivery in a hurry back in 1950, but nobody dared hurry its merchandise. Pieces kept falling off these behemoths, which continued to turn over when negotiating corners, and to envelope themselves in noise and black smoke when their starter buttons were touched.

"The navy delivered 600 of these trucks to the army and kept 285 of them. Representative Riehlman said it also spent between \$300,000 and \$400,000 trying to rebuild them so the drivers could work without fear of being maimed, or worse. This was money down the flame-spurring carburetors. The machines kept on disintegrating. So eventually they were parked, shiny and new, in supply depots around the country.

"They're junk for sure, and the admiral defies anyone to say otherwise." (How about yourself, Admiral?)

CHRYSLER WINS BIG TANK ORDER—N. Y. World-Telegram, 9-29-54—" . . . News of the decision came a few days after Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D. Wash.) had charged that General Motors Corp., which Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson formerly headed, had been receiving the bulk of military contracts. Mr. Wilson's reply was that the majority of the orders with G.M. had been placed under the previous administration."

The Chrysler deal was "a \$160,601,200 contract . . . for production of Patton M48 medium tanks . . . part of a \$266,000,000 vehicle procurement project announced by the Army July 15."

LATEST NEWS—United Press, 9-29-54—"The Army disclosed today that the Chrysler Corp. soon will begin production of a long-range guided missile called the Bedstone. It said Chrysler had contracts totaling more than \$22,000,000 for production of the missile." (How do you like *them* apples, you snoopy old Democrat?)

Surplus Equipment

ARMS FOR THE ATLANTIC PACT—N. Y. Times Mag., 8-14-49 (with pictures)—"39,000,000 square feet of outside storage in addition to covered spaces." "Hundreds of mobile gun mounts" kept in condition in sealed metal containers. Etc.

COMMITTEE WAS IMPRESSED BY SURPLUS RUBBER HEELS—Savannah Evening Press, 6-24-55—"The subject today is heels. Millions of heels. Army heels. Navy heels. Air Force heels. Rubber heels, of course. Seems that a special committee of

government folks went on a tour of military warehouses . . . The committeemen were particularly impressed by heels. They saw warehouses in Schenectady, N. Y., jammed with heels, floor to ceiling and wall to wall. . . . The committee eventually wrote a report, saying it had seen in military warehouses between 50,000,000 and 52,000,000 pairs of surplus rubber heels. That, as even a mere civilian like a congressman can figure out, is a lot of heels.

"So the government operating subcommittee . . . asked Maj. Gen. Andrew T. McNamara of the Army's surplus department how come he had so many heels in Schenectady. . . . The general . . . said 50,000,000 was a little high. He pulled out a piece of paper which showed that the Army's entire heel supply amounted to 3,792,000 pairs. He did not know how many heels the Navy and Air Force had."

NO MORE BOLTS, PLEASE, FOR THIS ARMY ENGINEER—Ass. Press, 8-18-52—"The young engineer depot commander held up his hand in resignation and said: 'Please do something about the bolts.'

"He has 15,525 bolts today.

"'More come in on every train from Pusan,' he said. 'I can't get rid of them.'

"They are all eighteen-inch steel bolts, three-quarters of an inch thick. About all they are used for is to build timber trestle bridges, the lieutenant said. He figures he has enough on hand for 300 bridges each fifty feet long, about the normal length for Korea.

"I told another engineer outfit there was a shortage of eighteen-inch bolts," he said. 'I got rid of ten boxes that way. Those guys probably still have those ten boxes. It didn't do me much good,' he added. 'I got in thirty boxes from Pusan the next day.'"

ILLINOIS POLICE FIND PLANE VALVES WORTH MILLION ON DUMP GROUND—U.P., 11-23-49—"State police reported today that they have found more than \$1,000,000 worth of high quality Army aircraft engine valves discarded in a suburban dumping ground.

"Former officials of the Dodge-Chicago aircraft plant said the valves, made of tungsten carbide steel, were dumped after the war. The plant made 18-cylinder engines for B-29 bombers. . . .

"Officials said the Army gave as its reason for dumping the valves the fact that the cost of disassembling and scrapping them would be prohibitive. . . . But one airline said it currently is paying \$75 apiece for valves of the same type. The Army and Navy also have in use planes of the type which could use the valves, aviation experts said."

THE NAVY CONTINUES TO DRINK QUICK-MIX UNDER FORCED DRAFT—Savannah Evening Press, 6-26-55—"Let us pity today the satiated sailors faced with consuming thirty-eleven million gallons of a drink (just add water and sugar and stir) known as Quix-Mix, orange flavor, deal, but the salts in our Navy are going to drink every last tank of it. Some of them like it. . . .

"Ellis said . . . some stewards refused to inflict it on their passengers. 'I understand there is a serious question about the utility of this material,' added Ellis, who has been a government man now

for a long time and so chooses his words carefully. 'It is quite untasty to certain palates.'

"Rear Admiral Neil K. Dietrich . . . swore under oath that some people like it. . . ."

WRONG CONCERN NAMED—N. Y. Times, 6-29-55—"A United Press dispatch incorrectly identified Hal B. Grubbs & Co. of Long Beach, Calif., as the manufacturer of . . . Quix. . . . The Grubbs Company said it had no part in making the sale to the Navy and merely made deliveries from its warehouses on behalf of the manufacturer's representatives."

Miscellaneous Waste

BILLIONS FOR DEFENSE—HOW MUCH FOR WASTE?—Readers Digest, Feb. 1949—

Bombers: \$4,000,000 each;

Warships: \$150,000,000 each;

Military budget for 1950: \$30,000,000,000

(more than double the entire national budget before Pearl Harbor);

Public Relations: \$8,000,000;

1546 M46 tanks for National Guard:

\$337,500 each

\$38,000 tropical worsted uniforms: \$129 each;

"Modernizing" 1205 tanks (including 102 non-existent): \$100,000 each; etc.

REFUSES TO OPEN RECORDS TO SENATORS—Savannah Evening Press, 6-23-55—Military hat-maker "Sol O. Schlesinger said he was withholding the data on grounds of possible self-incrimination because federal tax agents are after him. He denied making any 'payoffs' to federal procurement officials, and said it was 'preposterous' when asked if he gave \$100,000 to three such officials in 1950.

"Schlesinger said he has done some three million dollars worth of government cap work in the past 10 years."

BRITISH JET ENGINES REPORTED IN PLANES SHOT DOWN BY U. S.—U.P., 4-25-51—"Rep. Brown (R. Ohio) said 'every single enemy plane' shot down in Korea was found to be powered by British-built jet engines. "He said he was told this by a member of Gen. of the Army Douglas MacArthur's staff."

HOW THE MONEY GOES—London Express, 12-22-53—"It cost the United States Defence Department about £10,000,000 to work out how many billions the military budget should be for the 1954 fiscal year. About 12,000,000 man-hours went into drawing up the budget which goes to Congress next month. The hourly wage of the people working on the Budget average about 17 s." (Envious, huh?)

"THE SHADOW" ON U. S. PAYROLL SEEMS A BIT ODD TO SEN. AIKEN—U.P., 7-10-51—"There he was listening to the radio, Aiken said, when all of a sudden: 'I was surprised to find that 'The Shadow' had a new sponsor—The United States Armed Forces.'"

ANTARCTIC AIR BASE FOR U. S.—N. E. C., 4-7-55—"American Navy men will build an air base and runway on the Antarctic continent next year about 800 miles from the South Pole." (That will stop any communist infiltration among the penguins.)

SOLDIERS IN TINS—N. Y. Herald, 1-16-51—"United States Air Force engineers are experimenting with metal containers capable of holding infantry.

They have a capacity of nearly three tons." (Dressed or on the hoof?)

(PUNY LITTLE BANG)—Wall St. Journal, 5-23-51—"Army engineers set off a blast of 160 tons of TNT yesterday in western Utah. It was the most powerful explosion ever to occur without the use of atomic energy." (The hell it was. How about that explosion in Halifax harbor during WW I?) "It was made as part of a series of tests to determine the effect of underground blasts on buildings and installations."

U. S. SCIENCE COST LEVELS FROM PEAK—N. Y. Times, 10-5-24FS—"... The report estimates the Government will obligate itself to spend about \$1,890,000,000 in the present fiscal year on research and development, about 10 per cent under the preceding year. Actual spending on research and development is estimated at about \$2,019,500,000. . . .

"Actual spending on research related to the nation's security, such as new weapons and aircraft, was estimated at \$1,711,900,000 for the current fiscal year, about \$111,000,000 less than the preceding year.

"We felt the increase in actual expenditures from \$100,000,000 in 1940 to around \$2,000,000,000 in 1954 gives a misleading estimate of increasing governmental activity," Mr. Gant said. "Actually, a lot of the increased cost represents changes in the purchasing power of dollars." (At last! A good 5-cent dollar!)

MOFFETT FIELD TO GET ANOTHER WIND TUNNEL—Oakland Tribune, 2-6-55—"Another new wind tunnel, under construction for four years and costing \$27,500,000, will go into operation this summer at the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory at Moffett Field.

"The Ames Laboratory, one of three operated by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics already has 15 wind tunnels which are among the largest and fastest in the world.

"These would seem to be enough, but they aren't. Each tunnel serves a limited purpose." (Sure. Everything's limited but the dough and the wind.)

MANY WAYS TO WASTE MONEY—N. Y. Sun-Telegraph, 4-14-51—"A House Appropriations Committee has just discovered that the Navy has 11,000,000 dozen oyster forks on hand. That's 11 million dozen. Nobody in the Navy quite knows why or how so many were purchased, or what they are going to do with them. There aren't that many oysters, let alone Navy personnel.

"The Government is buying 100 electric organs, valued at \$150,285.

"Along with a 93-year supply of light bulbs accumulated by one Washington bureau there are stacked up 3,000,000 pounds of peanut butter, 6,000,000 pounds of sugar, 175,028 cans of condensed milk and, something to sneeze about, 100,000 pounds of black pepper.

"The Department of Justice" (sic) "has 1,600 lawyers on its payroll, wants more. Sixteen of them engage in private practice, seldom visit their offices, yet receive full pay, accrued leave, and a 30-day annual vacation." (An annual vacation from staying away from the office must be confusing.)

ARMY SEEKS DOGS TO HUNT PLANES—N. Y. Times, 1-24-55—"... General Michelsen said he wished to try out the German shepherd as a

plane spotter . . . He reasoned" (Watch that cerebral pressure, General!) "that a dog, endowed with hyper-sensitive hearing, could pick up the roar of an aircraft engine even before the troops." (For supersonic targets, special supersonic dogs will be bred, no doubt.)

Grâce à Dieu, un Peu de Différence!

CONGRESSMEN WANTED TO KNOW WHAT TAIL GATE BUSINESS MEANT—Savannah Evening News, 6-23-55—"The air force this year expects to sell more than \$1,000,000,000 worth of surplus property, ranging from flying machines to radio tubes, from chaplains' supplies to women's winter-weight panties.

"For these mountains of merchandise the aerial merchants should, if they maintain their present record, get back about five cents on every dollar they spend. . . . Rep. Chet Holifield (D.-Calif.) and company on the government operations committee insist these military salesmen ought to do better than that, particularly on items of general use. That's where the feminine underwear came in. The question was whether 14,619 pairs of olive drab panties, size medium, and 12,800 pairs, size large, were special military items. . . . They cost the government \$22,390.39, they were made of half wool and half cotton, and they were available as is, F.O.B. Tail Gate.

"The congressmen wanted to know what that tail gate business meant; it developed that the panties would be delivered to the back of a truck at Shelby Air Force Base, Ohio. . . . They went for a fraction of their cost, and the lawmakers thought they should have brought more, particularly if they were desirable to ladies in general.

"Some of the gents (the married ones) gave it as their considered off-the-record opinion that olive-drab underwear does not appeal to females. Particularly when it is half wool." (And with no tail gate.)

Japanese Arms

MACARTHUR DRAWS JAPAN'S FANGS—N.Y. Sunday News, 12-16-45—Collected and photographed by the untold millions of items and uncounted thousands of tons, and then dumped in the ocean by MacArthur's minions. Thus were the nasty Nips demilitarized.

BUSINESS BRIEFS—Jour. of Commerce, N. Y. C., 2-26-55—"A new, as yet unnamed synthetic fibre . . . The Gifu plant of the Kawasaki Aircraft Co. has received an order from the U. S. Far East Air Force to partially overhaul 45 training planes, eventually expected to be given to Japan's embryo air force." (Tempus fugit.)

Agriculture

DEAD STORAGE—Monthly Economic Letter, Northeast Farm Foundation, 11-1-49—"The government now has its hands on one-third of last year's cotton crop. Ditto one-third of the wheat, three-fourths of the peanuts, four-fifths of the flaxseed, and well toward one-half of the potatoes and dry beans.

"It owns about half the butter now in cold storage.

"It has corn piled up in all manner of cribs from Kansas to Ohio, until the landscape of the Central States is speckled with government corn.

"Out in a cave near Atchison, Kansas, it has dried eggs piled up five barrels high and covering fifteen acres of underground storage space. The present stock of eggs owned by the government equals a nine-year supply for consumers.

STEERS FATTEN ON POTATOES—Seattle Post-Intelligencer, 10-23-50—"Meat and potatoes are getting together by the mouthful. . . . Hereford steers are fattening on surplus spuds.

"With a surplus of potatoes, many growers have had to sell their crops to the government at support prices—less sorting, sacking, warehousing and transportation costs.

"By the time the growers get their checks, they realize about \$10 a ton. . . . Tons of No. 2 potatoes are sold to ranchers for cattle feed. First the government has the potatoes dyed, so they can't sift back into the commercial market, and then ranchers pay \$2 a ton for the cattle feed."

WASHINGTON SCENE (George Dixon)—King Features, 10-22-50—" . . . The Department of Agriculture . . . has bought upwards of 20 million bushels of this year's potato crop, and says it expects to buy another 80 million bushels . . . Of this 100 million bushels . . . 75 million bushels will be dumped, destroyed, or plowed under. . . . What would you expect to do with potatoes? Eat them? . . . About 5 millions bushels of these dumpable potatoes were grown in Southern New Jersey, just across the Delaware River from one of the country's biggest alcohol plants, which could use potatoes for alcohol. And you have heard how we are going to need alcohol for the big new synthetic rubber program.

"Well—members of Congress who must appropriate the money for this huge synthetic rubber project have been informed by the same Department of Agriculture . . . that it would be cheaper if we bought the alcohol in France.

"But, hold on! . . . Our ECA has allocated \$1,200,000 . . . to France so that France can buy alcohol from the United States!

Peanuts

U. S. GENERAL SPENT £18,500 DECORATING MANSION—Yorks Post, 3-21-55—"A Congressional Committee disclosed today how a United States Army General spent \$2,000 dollars (£18,500) redecorating a 30-room German mansion and used false book keeping to hide the alleged waste and extravagance.

"He was identified as Brigadier-General Oliver Wendell Hughes, former head of the Western Area Command at Kaiserlautern (Germany). He has been appropriately disciplined, the Committee was told." (Probably the naughty boy was confined to his 30-room quarters for several days.)

ROSY FOR RINGS—London Herald, 3-25-55—"Four out of seven firms tendering to supply street-lighting equipment for Wembley all quoted the same price—£11,963 7s. 8d." (Call *that* collusion? Don't be so petty, cousin. You ought to just love that "8d.")

U. N. SAYS SEOUL BLOCKS AID—N. Y. Times, 4-23-25FS—"United Nations officials charged today that 'non-cooperation' by the South Korean Government had resulted in the tying up of \$36,500,000 worth of United States air materials in Korean ports." (Why, Syngman!)

BUSINESS VENTURES OF U. S. FACE INQUIRY—N. Y. Times, 4-3-55—"The Senate Committee on Government Operations is considering an investigation of Government-operated businesses." (It's creeping socialism, that's what it is!) "This was announced here today by the committee chairman . . . He declared that only a fraction of government purchases was subject to proper management and control. In citing 'costly examples of mismanagement he said that last July the Government had an eight and one-half year supply of short-life flashlight batteries and that the Navy accumulated an excess of surplus scrap lead while the Army and General Services Administration bought lead in the open market.

"He added that in 1951 the Army shipped 807,000 pounds of tomatoes from the West Coast to New York while the Navy shipped 775,000 pounds the other way." (What's there to kick about? They weren't the same tomatoes, were they?)

DRUGS COSTING \$28,050 DESTROYED BY ARMY—Phila. Evening Bulletin, 5-5-55—"St. Louis, May 5—(A.P.)—Major J. V. Huffman, chief of the stock control division of the St. Louis Army Medical Depot, said 11,000 bottles of quinine sulfate tablets were burned last month because it was not economically sound to put them on the surplus market. Each bottle contained 1,000 five-grain tablets. They cost a total of \$28,050 and had a current value of \$7,920. Major Huffman said he did not know when the tablets were acquired nor how many were still fit for use.

"He said yesterday there was no longer an Army demand for the tablets, which were used for malaria but had been superseded by more effective drugs."

I.C.I. GIVING UP POTASH PLAN—SPENT £400,000—London Herald, 3-4-55—"After spending £400,000 the giant I.C.I. combine is dropping the North Yorkshire potash scheme . . . failed to solve the problem of mining it."

(OTHER TRICKLES FROM BRITAIN)—Spectator, 12-15-50—"A film called 'How To Make a Telephone Call' was made by the Central Office of Information, at the cost of £6,000, to impress on members of the Civil Service the improvement which the efficient handling of the telephone is likely to achieve in the conduct of business.

"A film called 'Four Men in Prison' was made by the COI at the instance of the Home Office at a cost of £16,000. No reasons given.

A film called 'Come Saturday' was made by the COI at the instance of the Foreign Office, at a cost of £14,634, 'to show that the British are not an exclusively dour people and do not take their pleasures sadly.' Some £3,000 was recovered by the exhibition of the film."

PEANUTS FOR ALL FOR 300 DAYS—Milwaukee Journal, 10-3-50—"Earlier this year it was estimated that the government had approximately 246 million pounds of peanuts in storage. This would fill 1.3 billion three ounce bags. Since four million-odd seats is the rated capacity of major parks, stadiums and arenas in the country, the government had enough peanuts to supply every seat-holder with about one bag each day for 300 days if there were that many capacity events held in a year."

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

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

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

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

1868

Box 3 (Continued)

Oct.

- 21 (Original date smoke) 5:54 a.m. shock San Francisco and other places in California (San Fran Ev Bulletin, 21st) buildings damaged, several persons killed / other shocks during the day / Oct 22 / Editorial that for several weeks preceding the quake there had been a smoky atmosphere along all the coast of California and as far as Puget Sound. There was no forest fire to which it could be attributed / said it had disappeared after the quake. (p.2) "There was a burnt smell." It was destructive in many other places in Cal. (BO)
- 21 Dry fog and quake / Quake San Francisco / smoky condition of atmosphere several weeks before / Herald, Oct 24,p.3 See Sept 11-12 and before Alpine
- 21 Several pages of this quake in Cal in Edward S. Holden's catalog
- 21 7:50 a.m. Severe shocks California / In many places earth opened and water gushed out. But Bay at San Francisco was not disturbed, though vessels felt shock / L.T. Nov 12,p.12

- 22 N.Y. Times of,p.4, quake San Francisco / same paper, 24th,p.3, Nov 6,p.8, 9th,p.5
- 23 Moon storm / 7h.30m. / W. R. Bost (?name TT, but whoever he was, he wrote a book or contributed to a periodical called) Ether (which see) 31/415 / surface of Mare Serenita of an appearance such as not remembered / having seen in 10 years experience / darkness of it and details obscured.
- 24 L.T. of,p.8 / Volc Mexico
- 24 Mallow etc Cork / quake followed by rumbling noise / L.T. Oct 26,p.7 / On 23rd acto Times of 28th
- 27 sky phe and sound at Moitura, Lough Carrib, Ireland acto the Freeman's Journal
- 28 Times of,p.10 / quake near Mallow
- 30 8:45 p.m. Brilliant meteor Tainworth, Australia / Syd Morn Herald, Nov 4
- 30 10:35 p.m. quake at Carmarthan / Wm. Spurrell, Carmarthan / See Oct 21, 1812 (could be 1802,TT) Dec 30,1832 / Jan 24,1841 / Oct 6,1863 (X)
- Nov 1 night / Blandford, Dorset / shocks / Land and Water, Nov 7,p.256
- 1 quake at Melbourne, Castleman and other place in Victoria / Argus of 7th,p.5 / ab 1 a.m.
- 1 The quake at Castlemaine / vibration and ten minutes later a loud clap of thunder / Melbourne Age of the 3rd,p.2
- 1 evening / worms / Acto the Argus of the 4th,p.5. That during the storm, East Melbourne, fell a shower of many worms (all alive) from 2 to 2½ inches long
- 1-6 quake Mexico / II / BA '11

Box A (Resumed)

- 1 Worms / Melbourne

Box 3 (Resumed)

- 3 3:22 p.m. Sussex / detonating meteor "in full sunshine" L.T. Dec 2,p.8
- 3 ab 3:15 p.m. great met in sunshine / Birmingham, Rugby, Chipping Norton / L.T. Nov 5,p.4 / Worcester Cit — London / BA 69-242 / 280 / Appendix / Symon's Met 23/170
- 4 Isle of Jersey / a dense shower of tiny white fishes like a snowstorm / Land and Water, Nov-14,p.270
- 4 Trans Mercury
- 5 Trans Mercury / Obs. 29/416 / luminous point on / M. Notices, 38/338
- 8 In a letter so dated, Mr. B (paper cut off) calls attention to something that suggests the architectural / It is east of Delisle "a group of three hills in a(n) acute-angled triangle and connected by

- three banks / 3 lower embankments / Astro Reg 20/167
- 8-9 right date for the Euphros-
- 8-9 See Oct 8-9 / Midnight / L.T. Dec 9,p.5 / Capt of the bark Euphrosyne reports, at lat 16.40 S, long 4.W. Sky suddenly densely overcast — sound like distant cannonading — meteors appeared / sea disturbed and vessel shook / rumbling increased / the agitations continued until sunrise.
- 11 sudden heat and fall of dust, Melbourne — then rain / Argus of the 12th,p.5
- 12 7 a.m. Near Melbourne great waterspout / Melbourne Leader 14th,p.11
- 12 No mention of meteors in Melbourne Argus
- 12 soon after midnight slight shock Lahore / The Pioneer, Allahabad, 18th / severe at Dera / I Mail Khan — 23rd
- 12 Cyclone at Akyab / Pioneer 30th
- 13 9 a.m. Bucharest, violent shock / L.T. 16th,p.12
- 13-14 Mets reported by Prof. Daniel Kirkwood, of Bloomington, Indiana, as "unexpectedly brilliant. During 3 hours morning of 13th, 165 seen / Proc. Amer. Phil Soc 10-54 / On night of 13-14 from 11 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Probably should read 4 a.m. TT) a committee of students counted 2,500. From 4 a.m. to 6:11, one observer counted 780
- 13 great shower U.S. (and) Italy / BA 69-294
- 13-14 from 10:30 p.m. until sunrise like a shower of rockets / like other southern obs. moved in all directions. This from a ship 26.3 S. 27-37 W. / BA 69-290
- Nov No mention of meteors in Nourse's Hall's Second Arctic Expedition" / See Appendix I / "Hall's Astronomical Observations"
- 13 14 (This is a two-page letter to Fort, handwritten. On its folded exterior, Fort has written, "Letter G in sky" TT) Hudson Kansas Aug 10-25 (Presumably 1925 TT) Mr. Charles Fort / My Dear Sir / I have your article relative to meteors falling in Kansas. K.C. Star fell in this vicinity—some 25 mi S.W. of center of State. Some 5 ft. in diameter "burned green vegetation" / "Question" how deep would it penetrate. There is depression some 3 ft. deep. Wall perpendicular. Made a loud detonation. If it has not penetrated below water level, could easily be brought to top. I am enclosing a clipping from K.C. Star in regard to recent meteors. Seen also at Hutchinson. "in Nov 1868 or 69. I lived at Knox, Ind., about 69 mi S.E. from Chicago. I saw a shower of meteors as thick as any fall of snowflakes—but none of them seemingly larger than an ordinary snow ball; as I remember we must have watched for 30 min or longer. When daylight put an end to Our Show and another thing—directly overhead was a flaming Capital letter G or C Probably 4 times the dimensions of the moon—I have read in the Chicago of others seeing this Meteor Shower but none spoke of this Letter G which I remember as distinctly as though it happened yesterday. (p. 2) Can One imagine that Jules Verne has got to the moon and firing Missiles at us "Exploration beyond this Earth" you think it a coming event." do you mean Spiritually or Phy(s)ically. Remember *we*. Our Bodies are of the Earth Earthy. could one carry a supply of Oxygen Sufficient for a return Trip—and too there is Gravitation to be considered. how far from the Earth it reaches. to what extent gravitation of the Planets extends. Well enough of this matter that I know so little about. I am getting aged. Born in 1857 / and my Grammar and Orthography is not what it Once was.
- I have been Much interested in the "Dayton Tennessee Trial." their only trouble is the difference between Belief and Knowledge "Many of us believe" but a "divine providence" does not permit any One to know "Whence he came or whither goes." I speculate on worlds without number—as Our astronomers Lead us to believe. The toughest "poser" is to my mind "what *would be* if there was Neither Time Space or foundation.
- I would be pleased to get an answer from. Please State if I may have it printed in Our daily Papers K.C. and Hutchinson Papers / Very Truly yours / Ed W French / PO. Hudson Kansas
- 13-14 San Francisco Evening Bulletin of 14th / display surpassed that of 1867. From 10:30 p.m. till about 2 a.m. Some in different directions but mostly from east to west / "Most wonderful exhibition ever witnessed on the coast" Just before the display a slight shock of earthquake, and afterward a more pronounced shock. (BO)
- 13-14 Cor writing Nov 12, 1898, to Nature 59-55 says on Channel near Calais / clouds suddenly cleared away, and he saw morning of 14th / 1:30 / a splendid display of Leonids
- 13-14 At Toronto from 10:45 p.m. to 6 a.m. ab 3000 meteors counted / L.T. Dec. 8, p. 8 / Many larger than Sirius, appeared mag. ab 90% (indecipherable) Leo
- 13-14 Meteors in N.Y. 30 between 11:18-11:55 / Trib 14th, p. 1 / Several directions from NE to SW—some from Orion, some from Cancer
- 14 Cosmos of / Subterranean detonations at Verona
- 14 from 2 a.m. to after daybreak. At sea ab 51 N and 8 W. Mets like innumerable rockets / BA 69-289
- 14 Morning / North Unst, Scotland / "a great falling of mets" BA 71-39
- 14 4:15 a.m. In Switzerland extraordinary number of mets / BA 71-39

- 14 Met trains Marathon, N. Y. Brunswick, Me. New Haven, Conn. Bloomington, Ind. Boston, Mass. MWR 07-391
- 14 N.Y. Times of / also 15th / both p. 1 / Meteors
- 14 5, 6 a.m. New Haven, Conn. Met train / BA 69-246 Appendix / On 15th train in Brazil and one in Spain
- 14 Morning / from 3:30 a.m. until between 6-7 at Shetland extraordinary display of meteors until daylight—all from one point in Leo / LT Dec 7, p. 10
- 15 Great eruption of Vesuvius, in a period of activity / Heavy shower of ashes on 20th / CR 67-1109
- 15 1:30 a.m. Bahia, Brazil / Mets—large train / Sci Op. 1/187 (L)
- 15 Great meteor at Bahia, Brazil / Seems the display of 13-14 not seen there but "several" night of 14th / LT Dec 23, p. 9
- 15 Night / eruption of Vesuvius / See Oct 9
- 15 N.Y. Herald of / two columns on the meteors of 14th / also Herald of 16th, p. 5
- 15 Vesuvius began / La Sci Pour Tous 14-11
- 16 etc Vesuvius violent / Nouvelles Meteorologiques 2-240
- 16-27 Atmosphere at Hawaii very smoky, seeming to come from Mauna Loa / San Fran. Eve Bulletin Dec 17
- 17 etc Vesuvius provides spectacle / LT 18th, p. 5
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 20 Disap / New York / Harpers 38/507
- Box 3 (Resumed)**
- 21 Paducah, Ky. shock / San Fran Ev Bulletin, Dec 14
- 24 Vesuvius less violent / LT (?Dec?) 4, p. 8
- Nov 27
- & Dec 5 / Specimens gray stones very much alike (S. Kensington)
- Nov 27 Etna began / La Sci Pour Tous 14-32
- 26 Etna violent gradually subsided but Dec 8 with renewed violence / LT Dec 10, p. 7
- 27 Danville, Alabama, F / See Dec 5
- 28 Etna in eruption / Trib of 30th, p. 1
- 30 3:40 p.m. Nelson, N.Z. smart shock and had been several on 29th / Taranchi Herald Dec 26
- Dec 1 quakes and volc Iceland / Nouv. Met. 2/42
- 4 Alabama stone / See June 23, 1881
- 5 Frankfort, Alabama / See Nov 27 (F)
- 5 ab 3 p.m. 4 miles south of Frankfort, Franklin Co., Ala. (F) A. J. Sci / 2/48/240
- 8 8 p.m. Etna / See Novm 26 / At Malta 120 miles away spectacle magnificent / subsided on 9th (Try LT) 23rd, p. 5 (reverse) quake—meteors at sea Oct. 8-9, 1868
- 8 from 9:45 p.m. 67 Geminids counted / Trib of 10th, p. 5 (reverse) At least was from Gemini
- 10 Mets not parallax. / BA 69-275 / Other cases here
- 11 5 p.m. Met Germany / Zeit Met 4/204
- 13 9:25 p.m. Karrsten / Met / Zeit Met 4/46
- 17 Small eruption Mayon volc, Philippines / Ref Feb 1, 1814
- 20 Great quake Mexico / (BA) '11
- 20 Disastrous quake Colina (?TT) and Manzanillo, Mexico. Cosmos 3/4/64
- 22 (Aust) Moli-ka-nasta / Rajputna, India (F)
- 22 Met explosion / Franklin Co., Alabama / 3 distinct sounds like cannon-fire / Am J Sci. 2-48-241 (cut) ("Cut" means you will find an illustration in Fort's source. TT)
- 1869**
- 1869 Santorin still active / CR 68-555
- Jan Santorin still active from 1867
- 1869 Comrie / Shocks recorded 1851 / 57 / 67 / 69 / (Looks like "N M Roper" TT) List of Earthquakes / See Ap 8, '86
- 1869 See Sig—Moon / Mars —forspots on moon
- 1869 Mets of France (Fort made a list of ten dates, then crossed them out and simply noted where to find them. TT) BA 68-281
- 1869 etc quakes in Greece mets in Germany
- Jan Great bush fires in Australia—Tasmania / Melb. Age Jan 14, p. 2, 3, 4, 5 / and before / 15th, p. 3 Etc / 16th, p. 3 / 19th, p. 2
- Jan Angra dos Reis / Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (F)
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 1869 Body of Mrs. W. I. Peters. Frankfort, Ind. See Dec 22, 1888
- 1869 South Bend, Ind. Body of Anna Rees / See Aug 11, 1872
- 1869 A. W. Underwood / Negro boy / Paw Paw / Fire breath / See May 1, 1880
- 1869 H. H. Gardner, Kansas. See March 7, 1874
- 1869 early / Stones (or Scines or Stories TT) recorded under March, 1872 / Natal
- Box 3 (Resumed)**
- Jan 1 Metite Hesse / CR 68-363. Common
- 1869 Krahenberg, Rhenish Bavaria (F) type / most resembled / Dec 9, 1858
- 1 (Sound 3) (F) early evening / Stockholm / Three loud detonations and stones fell / At south of Upsal in a lake / L'Astro 5/297 / carbonaceous
- 9 Yaxtry, Suffolk and Stowmarket / 20 miles from Colchester / loud report and quake / ab 11:15 a.m. Times, of 12th, p. 5 / of 15th, p. 3 / of 16th, p. 5 (reverse) Someone else miles from W. Harling, Thilford (?TT) heard loud reverberating sound but felt no quake.
- 10 Violent quake Bengal / Cosmos 3/4/171 and 206
- 10 7:35 p.m. Aberdeen, Scotland / fireball 1/2 ap size of moon. BA 69-252
- 10 Violent quake Assam / L Ann Sci 14-352 / BA '11
- 10-21 quake Calcutta etc / Y.B. 170-234