

# DOUBT

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Vol. III NORTH JERSEY U. F. O. GROUP Whole Number 57

POST OFFICE BOX 606

MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY, U. S. A.



EDITED BY

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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 \$4.00

Dues in Sterling countries 16/—

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TO PRICK A SWOLLEN  
ONE IN THE BELLY I  
CALL GOOD SPORT.



### OUR COVER

The cover design is by Jules Feiffer, taken from his sensational new book, *Sick Sick SICK*.

This is a collection of his strip cartoons which appear in the *Village Voice* every week. Send your sub to the Voice, 22 Greenwich Ave., N. Y. C., with \$3.00 and get the book free — or order the book from your dealer (McGraw-Hill) \$1.50.

Feiffer is easily the most inventive cartoonist for adults since Herriman drew his last *Krazy Kat*.

## FIRST PRIZE

Concentrating our attention, as we did last issue, on a single Fortean element in the news necessarily shouldered aside other data of prime quality and enormous significance.

The daisy of the lot comes from Simpson, but other contributors to the bouquet were Mealy, Sharp, Moray, Steinberg, Tronstad and Barneson, as you shall see.

As the (London) *Daily Telegraph* puts it, the sheriff at Redding, Calif., has arrested two teenage boys for breathing. 9-2-57.

We knew the cops would get us for that, sooner or later, now it's here.

"Examples were made of them, it was explained, in the hope of thwarting the worst wave of breathing in Redding's history. For weeks, youngsters have been telephoning the sheriff, the police department and innocent householders and breathing huskily into the transmitter—saying no words." One housewife said, "He breathed at me for five or six minutes."

No less shocking is the revelation that Britain's police tap phones and open first class letters quite as a matter of course, and the protest against that infraction of Magna Charta is only now (8-18-57) becoming organized and audible. The *Sunday Pictorial* quotes a memorandum from the Campaign for the Limitation of Secret Police Powers: "Phone-tapping and letter-opening is very like searching a man's house without showing him the search warrant."

One would have thought that a truth so basic would have been self-evident and firmly established for several centuries but apparently Homer Sap has to win his freedom all over again each generation.

Nobody in the U S A sent this in, but the (London) *Daily Telegraph*, 2-18-58, quotes the *Congressional Record*. A letter from a constituent to Senator Goldwater of Arizona reads, in part: "My friend Bordeaux over in Pima County received a \$1000-cheque from the government this year for not raising 50 hogs. So I am going into the not-raising-hog-business next year . . . what is the best kind of farm not to raise hogs on and the best kind of hogs not to raise? . . . I plan to operate on a small scale at first, holding myself down to about 4000 hogs, which means I will have \$80,000 . . . I understand that you also pay farmers for not raising corn. So will you pay me anything for not raising 100,000 bushels of corn not to feed to the hogs I am not raising? I want to get started as soon as possible."

Simpson also sends a press release from Dublin, 9-4-57, where scientists were gathering for the annual meeting of the British Association. The writer John Prince ballyhoos the "discovery" of a new element, 102, which is called the 10th transuranium element and named "Nobelium". To synthesize this stuff required a team of Swedish, American and British, and their leaders were Dr. J. Milled and Mr. H.A.C. McKay, both of the Heavy Elements Group, Harwell Chemistry Division.

Both gentlemen named addressed the BA, and their lectures were reported in the *Yorkshire Post*, 9-10-57. The headline reads, "Hazardous research at Harwell produced it VERY RADIOACTIVE", and

in the small type this astounding flash of candor—"The two scientists said that No. 102 was a scientific creation rather than a discovery. It was a substance that had perhaps existed a thousand million years ago but had decayed. Mr. McKay agreed that it was substantially correct to say that it had no practical significance."

This is not the place to get on the topic of fall-out, but the linkage of these several pieces is inescapable. We have remarked the increase of monstrous births, twinning and so on, in DOUBT before. Now the *Daily-Telegraph*, 8-20-57, reports Siamese-twin swallows, joined at the base of the wing, observed through binoculars by Mrs. A. E. Kidd, Sandiacre, Nottingham.

A detail we never should have thought of in this connection was raised by a correspondent in *The Sign*, a Catholic publication out of Union City, N.J. June, '54, p. 62. MFS Mealy, who sent this in, heads it, "A theological point settled."

The correspondent writes: "Every so often, an infant is born with two heads. Would such a baby have two souls? Some say there would have to be two hearts. Would the priest baptize both heads?"

ANS: As expressed in Church Law (Canon 748) the general norm of procedure is that, if alive, any such infant, no matter how malformed, is to be baptized. In doubt as to whether there be one or two individuals, one head should be baptized without condition, the other conditionally. The presence of two hearts would be reason for baptizing both heads absolutely. A case of Siamese twins is more clear-cut. In a case such as you inquire about, the development of speech in later life would indicate either one or two persons. But, since it is inadvisable to postpone so urgent a sacrament as Baptism, the safest procedure is to provide for the probability or at least the possibility of two souls.

Even children with only one head apiece are smarter than they used to be, and Dr. J. Ford Thomson, consultant psychiatrist of Wolverhampton Education Authority, gives the credit to fall-out. Using the Raven matrix test on 5000 children "all over the country", for 18 months, Dr. Thomson reported, "The result was wonderful . . . In the last 90 we tested, age group seven to nine, 26 had an I.Q. of 140, which is recognized as a neo-genius. I believe strontium 90, a radioactive product taken into the body is responsible. This material probably did not exist before the explosion of the atomic bomb in 1945." Sunday Dispatch, 9-22-57. Cr Sharp.

On the other hand, out in Oakland, an effort was being made to bring adults up to par in their mental powers. U of California instituted an extension course in "The Art of Thinking . . . Enrollment is open to any adult, and no previous training is necessary." Hayward Calif *Daily Review*, 9-16-57. Cr Moray.

Whether from ingestion of strontium 90 or some other cause, warts are enjoying a "phenomenal" increase acco Dr. G. A. Grant Peturkin, Royal infirmary, Edinburgh. In 1934 his department had only 261 cases, but in 1956 — a whopping 2510. Chicago *Tribune*, 10-16-57. Cr Tronstad.

Brother Tronstad heads his next piece, "My, what will the Sputnik do next?" Acco the Chicago

*Drover's Journal*, 10-28-57, Chester Ciastko has been growing bananas in Hammond, Indiana, for three years. He has three large trees — one 18 feet tall with 16 bunches on it — six small trees and a dozen ready to plant "next" year.

The Empire State Building shut off its all-night beacon Sept 25 to Nov 1, to save the lives of migrating birds who have been bashing themselves to death there in migrating season. The move was made at the instigation of the National Audubon Society. Chicago *Tribune*, 9-26-57. *Ibid*

"Unless a synthetic oil source is discovered within the next 30 or 40 years, oil will have to be reserved for essential services," acco Prof. Rhodes W Fairbridge, Columbia U. San Francisco *Examiner*, 9-13-57. Cr Moray.

*Ibid* also sends a NANA copyright story from the Edmonton (Alta) *Journal*, 8-24-57, claiming "the longest case on record of suspended animation." Seeds of a Chinese lotus, estimated to be a thousand years old by Dr. Ralph W. Chaney, U of California, using the radioactive carbon method, have grown so profusely in Washington (D.C.) that they had to be curbed or they would now cover more than five acres.

It does not state here what method of time measurement was employed, but the State Education Dept., Albany, N.Y., reported that the *actual* age of the mastodon in the Northeastern part of this continent "had been established for the first time". It was exactly 11,410 years ago. N.Y. *Post*. 12-11-57. Cr Steinberg.

Bob also sends the information that an expedition headed by Dr. S. H. Scougall, a Sydney orthopedic surgeon, headed into the Australian bush to find out why the aborigines like to rest standing on one leg, like ruddy storks, cranes and flamingos. N.Y. *Times*, 9-8-57.

Out of Grenoble, France, came the news that Aime Jay, "a former goatherd", already the inventor of the lumandar, which turns street lights on and off automatically, has now come up with an "electric eye . . . for police to use when they suspect a thief or prowler has entered a house. By directing its ray against the building any person inside can be seen distinctly." Chicago *Tribune*, 8-23-57. Cr Tronstad.

"Seventh-day Adventist officials have asked the navy to exempt sailors of their faith from bearing arms and from duty on Saturday." Minneapolis *Star*, 11-30-57. Cr Mealy.

In Norfolk, Va., Joseph De Cusi, a former soldier, received the army's Bronze Star medal 13 years after the award was made. "He also isn't quite sure just what combat incident brought him the medal." Los Angeles *Herald & Express*, 10-23-57. Cr Barneson.

*Ibid*, *do*, 11-11-57. The tale of Local 13, Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers International Union, Long Beach, Calif. They were building a new union hall and had Secretary John J. Murphy out from Washington to lay the cornerstone. Trowel in hand, he waited while the stone was hoisted, but the hole was not large enough to receive it. Ceremony postponed for nine days.

Anonymous sends the allegation of Richard Church, a British writer of 64 years, that "from early boyhood until the age of about 55" he could fly or float at will, his feet about a foot off the ground,

without mechanical aid. Bernard R. Singer, U of St. Andrew, doesn't believe him. *Detroit News*, 9-19-57.

Those compatriots of the late Gandhi, who would rather starve than eat a cow, exported 84,649 monkeys during the first six months of last year "for medical research and polio vaccine". UP, New Delhi, 11-20-57.

Even if the items first above had not such fine Fortean quality, Simpson still should have the award for sending in the question of one H. Langley of Birmingham.

Langley is a retired police officer who has had experience of drunks, and he writes to the *Daily Herald*, 10-22-57, describing three habituals who were separate but frequent visitors to a certain gaol.

#

These men were so different, yet, when drunk, they had one strange thing in common: *They all "saw", in the cell, a pink-colored, rat-like animal which waved its paws at them, apparently beckoning them to be seated on the cell bench.*

*Each saw it in the same place, on the right-hand side of the lintel over the cell door.*

*Can anyone explain to me why three men of different mentalities, reduced to a common level by drink, should "see" the same creature, "see" it in the same place, and always performing the same antics? — H. Langley Baldwins-Lane, Birmingham.*

#

YS is happy to supply the answer. It is because there was a pink rat sitting on the lintel waving at them.

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MFS Moray named above also has gone far beyond the line of duty, carrying several of the Fortean arts to new heights. She is the former Arrow Mackey, poet and publisher of little magazines, herbalist, and now taxidermist of space fauna.

Her recipe for Fortean Bouquet for Split Pea Soup will be printed soon. At the mo we can only commend her exhibition of Animals from Outer Space which took over the San Lorenzo Public Library for the month of September.

Seventeen species were represented, all authentic. At least YS can vouch for the two specimens sent to him, (1) the MLINK, adult male, and (2) the CHOLLYFORT. These marvelous creations appear to be composed of whatever the artist puts her hand on — pipe-cleaners, bits of fur, cornflakes or whatever. She is also the sculptress of the famous statue carved out of butter for the U of California faculty — entitled "Destiny with the great splay feet."

## THE HERRMANN BUSINESS

You have all read about the Herrmanns of Seaford, L.I. Probably you have seen photos of them or watched one or more of them on TV. They look like a fun-loving family, most unlikely to betray each other while they were the center of interest. Little Lucille is 13. Little James is 12.

Phenomena quite typical of practically all poltergeist cases began about 3:00 p.m. 2-3-57, and continued more than a month. Nothing whatever happened when both children were out of the house, or both in the same lighted room under skeptical eyes.

It is a great pity that the whimsical inexplicable should so consistently require the presence of mischievous children, but the data are inexorable.

The chief editorial writer of the *N.Y. Herald-Tribune* tracked us down and asked for comment. We replied with a copy of the Sputnik issue of DOUBT, suggesting that he would serve his readers better by calling their attention to the adult shenanigans listed there. We have not heard from him since.

Credit and thanks for coverage of the Herrmanns is due E. S. Anderson, Giles, Hibbert, Mealy, Borden, Essenhigh, Wimmer, Zrust, Pekownik, Millar, Janney — and some 37 anonymous.

## FALLS

Navy beans coated with ice fell in a hailstorm in Van Nuys, Calif., 3-6-58. Miss Teto Emerson picked them up. The quantity is not stated in any of our reports. MFS Fortner, Long Beach, remarked an oddity in hail falling there in a storm "a few days later", but no beans. He calls them "little pellets of clear ice about the size of peas. Some were round and had a ring around them like a molded rubber ball, and some were tetragons. I hope I have the name right. Pyramids with only three sides."

In the *Detroit Free Press*, 3-11-58, columnist Jimmy Pooler evoked the spirit of Fort on this subject. *Cr Passage.*

Stop press!!! Just as this issue was put on the machines we received four of the Van Nuys beans, sent by MFS Squadrilli, but acquired by the industrious curiosity of his nephew, Edward Mercurio, age 13. There is a proper Fortean spirit, and we're proud of him.

Squadrilli reminds us of Jack and the Beanstalk — so we're going to let him plant them and report.

Some few items below may have been mentioned before.

Ice, "huge chunk—so hard it couldn't be chipped", crushed roof of car in Valley Stream, N.Y., 3-3-57. Police "speculated" that it came from a plane. *Cr Gustine.*

Early in the Pennsylvania series, a 50-pound chunk of ice on a farm near Bernville, July 30.

A chunk hit roof of unoccupied house in Chester, Pa., night of 9-9-57. British UP says, "about 100 pounds". *Cr Steinberg, Simpson.*

More chunks fell in Philadelphia, 9-12-57, and Investigations began. Fused hailstones was the official explanation, much scoffed at by local householders. *Cr Oltscher, Borden.*

Sept 25, in Yeadon, a district of Philadelphia. *The Evening Bulletin* sums up the falls —

July 31 (should be 30)

Aug 14

Aug 27

Sept 8

Sept 10

That is either inaccurate or incomplete. Add Sept 12, and now Sept 25.

More investigations.

Pittsburgh police broadcast an appeal for samples, also State Police in Harrisburg.

Slivers of aluminum alloy and "small pieces of colored fiber" had been found in the ice by analysts.

Suggested by one cop that a milkman dropped the ice.

Martha Martin, writing in the N.Y. *Sunday News*, 10-27-57, dug up some oldies we may not have: "within the past four years" ice in chunks fell three times, "in Long Island and Denver, Colo." Also, Cazorla, Spain, June 15, 1829, and in southern Nebraska, June 20, 1881.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration admitted they could not guess where the ice was coming from. 10-17-57.

On 11-7-57, a "10-pound chunk" hit a house in Kensington, Pa.

On 1-6-58, a chunk almost hit John Malesky on the head, 4:00 p.m., Fountain Hill, Pa.

On 1-18-58, in Freemansburg, near Bethlehem, only about 4 miles from the Fountain Hill fall. This one — also in the street — narrowly missed Mrs. Shirley Arawjo. "It was as clear as crystal."

Now the CAA thinks it comes from planes "because of towel lint found in some specimens". 1-22-58, *Pittsburgh Press*.

A "block" of ice crashed through the roof of an ice cream factory in Paris. Said, definitely, to have been from a plane. *London Evening News*, 3-10-58. Cr Gee.

Feltings of houses by stones are multiplying in Australia, but they are mere pebbles, not to be compared with a boulder — "about 30 inches by 30 inches" — which crashed through a window near where Abson Wesley was watching TV, in Dundalk, Md. *Baltimore Sun*, 1-27-56. Cr Gustine.

In Western Australia, near Pumphrey, rocks varying in size from tiny pebbles to 8-inches fell three evenings in succession, then morning, afternoon and night. Dunedin, N.Z. *Evening Star*, 3-19-57. Cr Powell.

Later said the stones fell softly — "gently plopping" — inside a tent as well as outside. *Daily Express* 3-22-57.

Only 150 miles away, on the farm of W. W. M. Hack, similar phenomena had occurred "for almost two years", generally more stones fall in winter than in summer. *Paris Herald-Tribune*, 3-23-57. Cr Campbell.

Red rain, Grenoble, France, "the second in recent weeks". *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, 5-3-57.

Red rain, Kerala, India. *Evening News*, 7-18-57. Cr Gee.

Housewives in Sands End, Fulham, complain that their washing on the line every week — for how long? — is "peppered with yellow spots" which corrode into holes. *Evening News*, 5-9-57. Cr Gee, Essenhigh.

Washing streaked with green, and paintwork turned green, every day for a week, at Poole, Dorset. *London News-Chronicle*, 11-21-57. Cr Evans.

More than 200 white houses in Rutherford, N.J., turned brown overnight. Had been a fog which "appeared to be laden with dirt particles". All AP papers, 6-26-57. Cr Speer, Barnston, Borden, Bennett, E. S. Anderson, Weidemann.

Rain of radioactive yellow "mud" in Rome, stained cars and clothing. The Sahara was blamed as usual, but *Il Tempo* related the phenomenon to "a nuclear accident" in the Soviet. *N.Y. World-Telegram*, 4-25-58.

Same details from Funchal, Madeira Island, but the contributor failed to date or identify the clipping, so one is not certain if same incident.

A strip of thin, rubber-like material about 15 feet square fell in Lansdowne, Md. Also described as "silky", very thin but heavy, very wet and stinking. Seen to fall by John Barton. *Baltimore Sun*, 8-26-57. Cr Gustine.

"A small flaming object equipped with tiny lenses landed in a school playground in Alexandria," Egypt. *Chicago American*, 11-6-57. Cr Hinkle.

Object seen to fall in Long Beach, California, by Grace Wells. Thinking of Spuds, she called police. They found a pair of plastic water wings wrapped around a cartridge of CO2 gas used to inflate the wings. Guess it is part of a military survival kit. 12-57.

Not seen to fall, but found on a canopy of the Savoy, London, 60 feet below a window where Charlie Chaplin and family had been roomers — a small brown and black snake, alive, and four babies of the species dead. 9-18-57. Cr Gee.

Not seen to fall, but found in a Dublin garden after the householder heard "a loud bang" — a black and white rabbit. *Evening Standard*, 10-21-57. Cr Essenhigh.

Down a chimney into the fireplace of a home — a cow's hoof. *Yorks Post*, 10-1-57. Cr Simpson.

Not seen to fall, but found in a street, Fall River, Mass., a dead shark eight feet long, weighing 400 pounds. *Pittsburgh Press*, 12-1-57. Cr Oltscher.

Not seen to fall: "a lot" of minnows found in a pool formed by melting snow in a downtown Detroit street. *Edwardsville Intelligencer*, 4-29-54.

Not seen to fall, but found on the roof of a market in Boron, Calif., — six dead fish called freshwater perch. Boron is a desert town. Only one ladder in the county will reach the roof — and it was accounted for. Neither could the finder throw the fish to the roof from the street. He tried. *Boron Enterprise*, 3-13-58.

Something blasted a series of holes about two inches across, and burned several rows of okra growing in a field near Locust Park, Alabama. Lightning was thought of but discounted. "The holes resembled those left by a small charge of dynamite." *Birmingham News*, 6-13-57. Cr Bruening.

Also in Alabama (where stars fall), near Vina and Red Bay, six months after the discovery just above, William Blackburn heard an explosion, or "a loud roaring racket", and discovered a hole in one of his fields — 48 feet long, 3 to 4 feet wide, and waist deep. Three smaller holes, 2 to 3 feet in diameter and 2 to 3 feet deep nearby. A barbed-wire fence had been broken and the metal fused as if by heat. Lightning was thought of but that day was clear. Redstone Arsenal for guided missiles is near Huntsville, Alabama. The Army said it must have been lightning. They had not dropped any bombs. Cr Barneson, Pierce and others.

A blast in a freight yard at Niagara Falls injured 60 persons and left a hole 40 feet deep and 150 feet across. "The sense of mystery was further heightened soon after the explosion by the arrival of a team from a nearby anti-aircraft artillery unit equipped with Geiger counters. The team left after

declaring the area safe and free from radioactivity AP 1-23-58.

Three Navy bombers let their 5-inch practice rockets fly at a Chesapeake Bay lighthouse, manned by four members of the Coast Guard. No one was killed, apparently, but the "rockets tore gashing holes in (the light's) wooden sides and ripped away much of the steel frame supports." *Baltimore Sun*, 2-20-57. Cr Gustine.

About 12 miles from Annapolis, Joseph Musick saw a missile — a rocket or torpedo — with its nose buried in a field, only rear sections and tail fins exposed. It had not exploded, but apparently had "plunged to earth from an unidentified airplane." Military bomb squads were investigating. *Baltimore Sun*, 3-16-57. Do

A "rain of hot metal" was reported in the San Leandro (Calif) *Morning News*, 4-17-57, but apparently no other papers picked it up. "Hayward police surmised" that the fragments were those of a rocket accidentally discharged by a defective mechanism of the Air National Guard.

MFS Moray talked to the finder whose lawn and roadway were pitted and burned by the fragments, the largest only an inch and a half in its largest dimension. Pieces were scattered over an area 20 feet square, and it is estimated that the original object was no larger than 7 inches in diameter.

The object fell without a sound, between 1 and 3 p.m. Our good member sent us a piece of it, and it looks like pot metal, cast and machined, and either painted with an ochre color or subjected to heat after shaping. MFS Moray reminds us that this find is only about 20 miles from the place "where they found that big hole in the ground recently".

In a quarry in the Isle of Purbeck, Dorset, a missile landed "with considerable force . . . narrowly missing workmen." Although land gunfire could be heard at the time, the "theory that the object came from a tank on a firing range in the area was not supported by the War Office." *Daily Telegraph*, 7-14-57. Cr Essenhigh.

"A fire-spouting object" was seen in the air and followed by Pittsburgh police to the Schenley Park golf course, where it landed with a loud explosion, scattering its fragments over a 50-foot area. "The object consisted of a metal container, plastic bag, five feet of rubber hose and about 200 yards of nylon cord." On the container was this marking: "Signal Corps, hydrogen generator, Jan. 12, 1945."

Neither the Weather Bureau nor any branch of the armed services will admit ownership. *Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph*, 10-26-57.

An Air Force jet caught fire at Truex Air Force base near Madison, Wis., and discharged a live but unguided missile. It detonated shortly after leaving the plane and narrowly missed a residential area. The warhead was found at the city airport. Mayor Restingen of Madison is authority for the above, and UP says he wrote the Air Force a "strongly worded" protest. *N.Y. Times*, 11-3-57.

In Holland also, civilians are dodging fiery objects that flash across roadways. One motorist was "hit" and a motor-cyclist narrowly missed near Huizen. *Newcastle Evening papers*, 11-7-57. Cr Simpson.

A schoolteacher was driving home in Ogden, Utah, when something smashed through his windshield, leaving a hole the size of a half-dollar, with fused edges. The missile was not found but "it filled the car with smoke and dust which settled all over the inside of the car". Analysis of the dust showed iron, cobalt, nickel, tungsten "and possibly some other elements". The teacher, Van E. Heninger, thinks it was a meteorite. *Kansas City Times*, 12-18-57.

Maybe it was, but the object that hit the rain-pipe of the Lupfer home and bounced into the yard looks more like the coupling device that attaches hose to airplanes for refueling. It hit about 2:00 p.m. 12-6-57. The Lupfers live in Lansdowne, Pa. *Philadelphia Bulletin*, 1-12-58. Cr Borden.

Metal fell from the sky at Ronda, Malaga, 5-18-57. Details are in Spanish, *ABC*, Madrid, cr Hibbert.

On a farm near Asahikawa, Northern Japan, fell an object identified as a "radiosonde" — covered in thick rubber, thought to be from a rocket or sputnik launched from the Vladivostok or Khabarovsk area of Siberia. *Manchester Guardian*, 1-9-58. Cr Russell, Essenhigh.

Into a vacant lot in Naples, Italy, a steel cylinder descended, burrowing a 4-foot hole. It made a noise but it did not explode although it was "packed" with explosives. Military experts said — at first — that it appeared to be the last stage of a rocket, but they changed that later, second-guessing that it was a German shell of World-Fraud II. Certainly this is no time for anybody to admit that any stage of a rocket might fall on anybody. AP 2-8-58 *et seq.* Cr Barneson and others.

We don't believe it, but simply to get it into the record for future researchers, we observe that the Ripley cartoon feature, Believe It or Not, Copyright 1955, King Features Syndicate, Inc., announced that the "first" man to be killed by a meteorite was one Manfredo Settala (1600-1680), and he is described by the cartoon as "famed Italian physicist".

Nevertheless, and in the face of the numerous other deaths by meteorites reported in DOUBT through the past 21 years, the Associated Press has the brass-balled ignorance to put on its wires this story verbatim.

Tusculoosa, Ala., March 16:

A star fragment which fell on Alabama and brought fame to Mrs. Hulitt Hodges because it hit her has been given to the University of Alabama.

The nine-pound meteorite plopped through the roof of her home near Sylacauga November 30, 1954. A few hours later she was famous as the only person ever known to have been struck with a missile from outer space. Cr Gustine.

Granted, details are lacking, but the *St. Paul Dispatch*, 10-9-57, did not scorn to print the tale of Robert Hopkins, Chicago, who was hit on the head by a "smouldering bluish-gray stone" which he "concluded" must have been a meteorite.

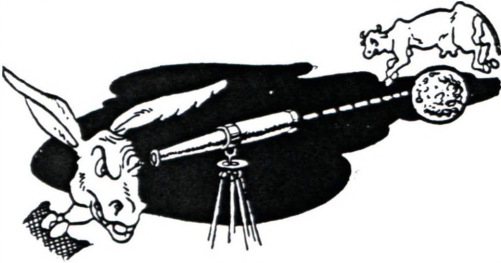
More of those webs were falling at Los Lunas, N.M., 2-21-58, but whether they were migrating spiders or chaff to confuse the taxpayers is not easily determined. Our account comes from the *New Mexican*, Santa Fe, and it contains the contradic-

tory descriptions of "cob-web-like" and "looked like tinsel". Will somebody please make up his mind?

The phenomenon of spiders transporting themselves on the sails of their webs is well established. On the other hand, we have the tinsel distribution by several federal agencies for their own peculiar purposes. Formerly we heard of this tinsel as a means to "jam" enemy radar. Now we are told that the varicolored strips are cast loose aloft to track wind patterns by the Weather Bureau. Probably both are true, inasmuch as the interbureau schemes to eat up the tax-take are the confidential essence of "classified" data.

Incidentally, a non member in Oregon has sent us a sample of varicolored ribbon foil picked up by her husband in the woods where he is a logger.

Not to mince words, YS is of opinion that without this tinsel we never should have heard of either flying saucers or artificial satellites. Like the icicles on the Christmas tree, which it resembles, it is essential to the illusion of the new, year-round Santa Claus.



## SPUTS

Space cannot be spared to carry on a running critique of the daily reportage of satellite nonsense. The motto at Cape Canaveral is, "Just get the damn thing out of sight." The quotation is attributed to Gen. Joseph McNarney, by Leonard Lyons, *N.Y. Post*, 2-2-58.

Most members who commented on the Sput issue were laudatory, but a dissident few said that YS had gone far out on a bending limb. One is not disposed to argue the matter. The main point was clearly established. Belief in orbiting satellites is purely an act of faith. If you wish to believe you will do so, but you do so without an iota of verifiable evidence, you do so by accepting the dicta of Authority, exactly as the Catholic swallows Canon Law.

Keep that in mind as you read your daily papers and it will not be necessary to waste DOUBT's limited space pointing out the inconsistencies of the ever-growing fraud.

This does not mean that we shall cease to belabor the engineers of the new fairy-tale economy, but only that we shall not waste time trying to persuade anyone to adopt our point of view.

Specifically, work goes forward on two sets of data as natural follow-ups to the sput issue — (A) the resume of our file on radioastronomy, and (B) the efforts of the boys who make electronic computers to sell them to governments for uses other

than tracking satellites — such as weather prognostication et cetera.

The basic soundness of our approach to this data was demonstrated one month after we wrote the closing lines about the broker's Monthly Letter. We chided that house for concentrating their analysis of stocks to buy in this field on the makers of missiles and fuels. In the same broker's letter for April, eleven pages are devoted to plugging what they call "militronics" — that is computers, guidance systems, radar, sonar and their ilk.

In this connection, Brother Scandrett has written us a Fortean Prayer. You may read it aloud every morning, or at vespers or bedside.

#

Lift up your heads, O wie gehts, and the KEEING of GLEAURY shall come in! Who is this KEEING of GLEAURY? The Sputnik Bitchevich, she is the KEEING of GLEAURY! Everlasting unto everlasting! The eternally ineffable and inscrutable! SHE is the KEEING of GLEAURY! For this our beloved stockmarket that was defunct shall rise again! The bellowing voice of the Babylonian Baal Bear Hoover no more shall be heard in the land! Hysteria, praise the Lord, hath been restarted! The ugly visage of peaceful co-existence hath been pressed into the tongueless silence of the dreamless dust! Hallelujah! All existing armament can now be conscientiously cast upon the scrap-pile! Hence, loathed melancholic disemployment! Praise Obsolescence, from Whom all blessings flow! And Lockheed too, but Boeing the Most! Let us sing the hymn: Number 37, "Come All Ye Fortniks, Joyous and Triumphant!" And may the Grace of Ike the Intellect, the Love of John Foster Cato, and the Communion of Holy Ignorance be and abide with ye forever! Amen.

## EZ TO ITALY

Most readers will be glad for Ezra Pound, happy that he is released and on his way back to Italy. Every man loves freedom, and Pound loves Rapallo, so it looks like a victory for the poet over Uncle Shvlock.

The facts are not so clearly cause for jubilation. Ezra could have left St. Elizabeth's five years ago on the terms he has now accepted, but he refused — until recently — to accept his liberty wearing the badge of a madman. It was a bitter alternative to swallow, but one trusts he will not regret it.

## MEMORIAL TO REICH

Another Federal prisoner was not lucky enough to survive incarceration. Wilhelm Reich, inventor of Orgonomic Medicine, died in prison Nov. 3, 1957, and was buried at Orgonon, near Rangely, Maine.

His arrest and imprisonment were even less justified than Pound's, but it is too late to rectify this pig-headed abuse of authority now. Reich's followers announce that his instruments, library, "and all else he valued" will be preserved intact at Orgonon as a memorial which will be open to the public eventually.

You may obtain a pamphlet, The Joining of a Great Scientist in the USA, by application to Box 215, Old Chelsea Station, N.Y. 11. N.Y.



## RUSSELL'S BEST

A little dossier on the postwar rise of Alfred Krupp has been growing in the archives for over a year. Apparently we are not alone in our resentment. When Herr Krupp got off a plane in Melbourne, Australia, he got the Nixon treatment from a crowd, and this account says that he got a similar greeting in Montreal last September. Did anybody see that in USA papers? *Liverpool Echo*, 2-25-58.

Or did anybody see a local account of USA "intellectual" soldiers on a hunger strike at Fort Belvoir, Virginia? Seems that 60 recruits, including mathematicians, chemists and statisticians, boycotted the mess in protest against being assigned to KP and other Army routine. *Manchester Guardian*, 3-17-58.

Or did you know that the USA has been shipping brand new caterpillar tractors and auto trucks to the Burtonwood Air Base expressly to be broken up for scrap? The *Liverpool Echo* says "tens of thousands of pounds worth" — and Eric says that a previous estimate was "some millions of dollars worth". The *Echo*, 3-7-58, goes on: "The reason for this is that the quantity of vehicles and equipment is so great that it would flood the markets both here and abroad if the Americans were allowed to sell indiscriminately."

Questioned, the U S officer in command at Burtonwood, refused to estimate the total value of equipment destroyed to date, and, asked whether the flow of goods-to-be-smashed would continue for a long time, he refused to comment.

The British Army has some surpluses too. They have about 1,250,000 pairs of boots and a million extra soles that are causing blushes and name-calling in Parliament. Also, enough bloomers to last the War Girls for 22 years. The elastic tops are perishable. *Echo*, 3-21 and 4-8-58.

Reuter is credited with a despatch from Oklahoma City, stating that "200,000 neck-tie clasps in the form of an Air Force missile, which is still top secret, have been withdrawn from circulation by a leading missile manufacturer." *Echo*, 12-28-57.

An oyster bed, said to be the oldest in the world, was discovered in Duisburg Harbor, the Ruhr. The age of 20,000,000 years "was established through measuring the radioactive content of granite for the same period." *Echo*, 3-15-58.

At the resort, Taurikura, near Whangarei, New Zealand, a sunfish, estimated to measure about 7 by 9 feet, permitted swimming children to play on its back and scratch it for a period of about 3 hours. *Echo*, 2-10-58.

Congo, a chimp at the London Zoo, who has had his paintings exhibited before, is "displaying signs of progress" in his later work, aceto his mentor, Dr. Desmond Morris. D.B. 2-16-58.

A series out of Copenhagen:

"Health authorities here are investigating the deaths of six people after receiving blood transfusions." *Manchester Guardian*, 3-10-58.

"The death of six . . . may have been caused by a poison created in blood containers . . . bacteria called gram-negative." *Do*, 3-11-58.

"Radioactive cockroaches in the medicinal anatomical institute at Copenhagen were hunted with the aid of geiger counters. They set the geiger counters ticking after drinking blood that had been made radioactive for an experiment." *Echo*, 3-11-58.

## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

The response to our appeal for aid in classifying data has been sensational, electrifying, and YS thanks you all from the bottom of the archives.

No fewer than 41 of the 71 categories now has a specialist keeper, and that should mean a big improvement in the usefulness of DOUBT.

Some of you will be disappointed not to obtain the category you asked for, but there was considerable duplication — nay, octuplication — of choices.

#37. Life on Other Planets, was most popular, followed closely in this order —

- # 28 Dowling
- # 23 Mass Mental Control
- # 70 Menace of Nuclear Tests
- # 66 Censorship
- # 59 Velocity of Light
- # 11 Sea Serpents
- # 27 Taxes

Since the operation is highly experimental, we shall feel our way and be prepared for readjustments as we go along. Again, thank you all for your most heartening response.

The finest suggestion of all comes from MFS Grant, of Oxford, Miss. He suggests that we add the category — Eccentric People — to our list, and he justifies his specialty thus:

"In an age when conformity is more and more stressed, when 'squares' and 'egg-heads' are always good as the butt of jokes (as if 'squares' and 'egg-heads' weren't the very people who have made the world what it is) I think respect for and in some cases glorification of the eccentric person is all the more necessary, and I can think of no group more logical for this than our group. After all, every Fortean is eccentric or he wouldn't be a Fortean, and Mr. Charley himself must have been a prime example of the eccentric — of the creative type of course.

"From where I sit, it looks as though there are several distinct types of eccentric person. Of course all criminals can be so considered, and so can the insane, not to mention perverts, but I am thinking of the more legitimate types.

1) One type is just a cheap publicity seeker; he deviates from the usual in order to attract attention to himself, and his deviations may not really be sincere. For this type I have only contempt. The two fellows who just fought a duel are an example.

2) Another type I do not respect is the conformist-in-reverse. He is eccentric for the sole reason that other people are not. If other people get around to doing as he does, then he changes and does as they did in the first place. He's just got to be different no matter what the cost or inconvenience.

3) A more legitimate type is the unconscious eccentric. He isn't even aware that what he does is different from what others do, and he might be surprised — perhaps even offended — if told he is eccentric. I believe the Collyer brothers might have been of this type. Many 'cultists' are probably of this type.

4) A still better type is the one who purposely runs counter to convention in order to make fun of convention. It is his way of being satirical, of poking fun. He haw-haws at people, and I think usually in a good-natured manner.

5) Then there is the man who is eccentric because of a principle—and I almost wrote Principle. I have a clipping of a man who walked all the way from Sicily to St. Peter's in Rome on stilts in order to atone for his sins. Jacob Coxey was another; so was Joe Palmer who was 'persecuted for wearing the beard.'

6) Closely related is the man who knows he is eccentric, but who finds it more convenient, more comfortable, or more pleasant than being usual. People may agree with his way of thinking and doing, but not have the courage to do likewise.

7) The eccentric who is suffering from a compulsive neurosis is not so much to be admired. Mrs. Winchester, who built the famous 'Mystery House' near San Jose, Calif., may have been of this type. There can be no doubt about the man in New Zealand who has kept 44 pins in his mouth for 46 years or the Pennsylvania woman who carried two nickels in her right hand for 30 years.

8) I have already mentioned the creative eccentric — surely a high type. Nikola Tesla, the inventor, is a fine example. In a more humble category I should like to mention the man who, having lost his teeth, made himself a set of false teeth from shark's teeth. Only he benefited, of course, but it surely did some good.

9) Of course there is always the person who is just a plain 'nut'—a 'screw-ball'. Less respectable—but I'll take him in preference to a conformist who is too much of a panty-waist to run the risk of what people might think!

"Another type that might be mentioned is the person who appears eccentric because of the actions of others. There was a lady who from time to time received a \$50 bill in the mail . . . There was Tisrov Tasrov Isrov Hasrov Searisrov Silas McGee, who claimed the world's oddest name, but his parents were the real eccentric ones.

"My scrap-book on eccentric people has an item about a man arrested in England for driving his bicycle without holding to the handle-bars; he was using his hands to hold his cornet, on which he was playing 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing'. Then there was the man who walked into the Canadian Pacific Station in Edmonton, Canada, and bought a ticket for Calgary, but instead of getting into the train he ran back and forth on the roof while it moved along. The train was stopped at a town

along the way, where the Mounties took him off the roof, but they refused to arrest him . . . Another favorite is the 72-year old man who took his 70-year old wife on a bicycle tour . . . As I glance through my scrap-book I see such headings as 'Preached 18 Years in Empty Church', '35 Dogs taken from Home of Man Who Just Likes 'Em', 'A Baby's Bathtub is Vessel He'll Use to go to Alaska', 'Sane Inmate is Freed / Seals Himself 14 Years in World of Madmen', and the like.

"I maintain such things add spice to life, and in some cases the people mentioned are highly worthy of respect. I'll take them to the ultra-conventional any day!"

## ARTHUR MILLER AND J B S HALDANE NOW HONORARY FOUNDERS

One of the most exacting tasks we survivors must perform is finding proper and willing successors to the Fortean Founders who fall off the tree. The custom is to keep the number of Founders always the same as the original eleven, and insofar as possible to replace the same qualities or characteristics we have lost.

We needed a writer in the place of Burton Rascoe — and found one of the finest living specimens in the playwright Arthur Miller. If we Fortean held with parades this would send us all into the streets with bass drums and red fire. Every play he has written exemplifies the finest Fortean spirit, and outside the theatre he has consistently demonstrated the religion of self respect.

His acceptance is all the more appropriate because, he writes, "Burton Rascoe was the only critic in New York City who found some promise in my first play . . . when all the rest of them told me to go home and forget about being a writer."

Welcome Arthur Miller!

In the place of Anton Julius Carlson we needed a scientist — and had to go as far as India to get just the right one. He is J B S Haldane, a Briton, and so, somewhat better known in England than in the U S A, but some of his books have been reprinted here. Ask your dealer to find some for you. Start with *Possible Worlds*, published by Harpers.

Haldane is a Fellow of the Royal Society as well as an honorary member of the Moscow Academy of Sciences. He left England last July to live permanently in India because "I want to live in a free country where there are no foreign troops based all over the place."

Welcome J B S Haldane!

## GOLDEN RULE FELLOWS

Never before have so many members sent so many nominations of the same individuals for Fortean Fellowship. When Albert Bigelow, William Huntington, George Willoughby and Orion Sherwood were sent to jail in Honolulu, the tidal wave of praise for them — and condemnation of the bomb tests — began rolling in.

At the same time protest demonstrations started in seven U S cities, and in Montreal and in London.

If anybody missed the facts, here they are. The four men are the crew of the ketch *Golden Rule*

which they purposed to sail into the area of USA bomb tests in defiance of a federal injunction. Now they are convicts under suspended prison sentences and the case is being appealed. You can help by sending money to Walter Longstreth, Treasurer, Non-Violent Action Against Nuclear Weapons, 2006 Walnut Street, Philadelphia 3, Penna.

### FINAL NOMINATIONS 27 FS

Judge Henry C Ferguson, Chicago, has declared radar evidence in speeding cases unconstitutional.

Two Town Court judges in Greenwich, Conn., also refuse to accept such evidence. They are William L. Tierney Jr., and John P. Knox. The latter said, "I just don't believe the machine is completely accurate. I had one in my court once and jingled a set of keys in my pocket while I was standing behind it. The machine registered a speed of between 10 and 15 miles per hour."

It is too late to do any but posthumous honors to the memory of Judge Jerome N Frank, formerly of U S Circuit Court of Appeals, but his daughter Barbara Frank and an attorney, Harold M Hoffman, collaborated with the judge on a book, *Not Guilty*, published by Doubleday at \$3.75. Order it from your dealer. It is a study of 36 cases of unjust convictions of innocent people.

Mariner Eccles is the first banker ever to be nominated for Fellowship. He is tapped for a speech he made in Chicago, 12-11-57, calling for an end to sabre rattling by the U S A and urging the nation to show the way in leadership toward peace.

Then there was Roy Gordon Jacobsen, a student of Columbia University, who sued the school for \$7000 damages because it failed to teach him wisdom.

### MORE RADAR FLOPS

MFS Gallant, now aboard the USS *Ingersoll*, sends a wealth of fascinating snippets from the *Notice to Mariners*, supplied to the Navy and any private vessels who apply at the Hydrographic office. The data comes from shipmasters all over the world, providing an endless reminder of our ignorance.

The mysteries include abnormal variations of the magnetic compass, vast areas of discolored water, subsurface explosions, uncharted islands, the striking of unidentified submerged objects, and literally thousands of floating menaces to navigation, steel tanks, balls, spars and derelicts, almost all of unknown origin.

Discussing the question with Gallant, which of the data were true Fortean, brought this, an excerpt: "Just a few weeks ago a 'phantom ship' passed through this very ship off the California coast, and radar reported an unidentified invisible object hurtling towards us at 75 knots, which stopped dead in the water and 'disappeared' off the screen at 500 yds. So you see, it's all a big mystery to me."

### MONEY — MASTER KEY

While they last we can supply a book about money that is lucid, shocking and fascinating. Written by a Canadian expert, John H. Blackmore, seeking to reform Canada's monetary system, the contents is equally applicable to the same problems in the U S A. No publication date appears, but the book was written some years ago. Still it remains timely, because the abuses Mr Blackmore complains of still flourish on both sides of the

border. Order, Money — the Master Key, 191 large pages, paper bound, from the Society, \$1.00. Only a few copies left.

### RUSSELL TOO

We also have a few copies of the British edition of Russell's *Dreadful Sanctuary*, laid in the AD year 1972. This is probably Eric's most popular science fiction opus, and it has been out of print in the U S A for some time. Cloth bound, 254 pp., from the Society, \$2.50.

### RED CHINESE ALPHABET

When rumors began coming out of Red China about discarding picture writing in favor of letters, one assumed that the alphabet to be adopted would be the Russ. Surprisingly, the changeover is now actually in progress and the alphabet is the Latin one, expanded to 29 or 31 letters to provide sounds peculiar to the Chinese language.

Probably everyone will agree that this is an epoch-making move toward better understanding and peace. Now if the Muscovites, Greeks, Turks, Gaels et al, will do the same we shall have advanced at least one step toward overcoming the curse of Babel. *Cr Mealy*.

### PERPETUAL DAYLIGHT

In the early flutter of Americanism aroused by the press on Sput I, a story came out of Petersburg, Ind., about David Nicely, a local printer's devil of 1904, who proposed a scheme for providing the world with perpetual daylight. His plan is described in *Popular Mechanics* for that year. He wanted to build giant towers with mirrors on top, so arranged that they would keep reflected sunlight bouncing around the world around the clock. *Pittsburgh Sun-Teleg.*, 10-10-57.

Now NANA feeds its subscribers a plan to "bathe our cities in perpetual twilight". This is the aim of the new science of aeronomy and the subject of experimentation now forward in New Mexico. "The plan would depend on the creation of air glow from 10 satellites circling the middle of the globe, about some 20,000 miles out in space, just once every 24 hours." *Kansas City Star*, 3-14-58.

### SEMPER FREUDELIS

"The dean of a London medical school has seriously suggested that nurses flirt with male patients to aid their recovery." The Schering Science Bulletin quotes R. N. *Boston Daily Globe*, 1-15-58. *Cr Darling* who also wrote the headline.

### TRACKS ON OCEAN FLOOR

At the Dublin meeting of the BA, Dr Anthony Laughton showed photos taken by an underwater camera two and a half miles down in the Atlantic. Strange "footprints" were visible in the mud. *Cr Hibbert, Essenhigh, Simpson, Gustine, Oltscher. Daily Telegraph* and other papers, 9-11-57.

In the Arctic Ocean, 400 miles from the pole, Dr. Kenneth Hunkins let his camera down through a hole in the ice to a depth of 7000 feet and got photos of "chicken tracks" 2 to 2½ inches long, by a quarter to a half inch wide. *N.Y. Times*, 2-24-58. *Cr Steinberg*.

In the Kermatek Trough, north of New Zealand — that's the Pacific Ocean — tracks "of a big, unknown sea animal" snapped by a "young Soviet scientist, Nikita Zenkevitch," at a depth of over 6

miles, said to be a record. *Manchester Guardian*, 3-19-58. Cr Russell.

### KELP HEADS WE

Man is not an animal but a plant accto Dr L S Dillon, Texas A & M. As a matter of fact, so are lions, apes and all else living, in this variation on an old theme. One contributor, MFS Speer, asks what effect this will have on the vegetarians.

### TAN BY SKYFLASH

In the evening, 2-17-58, two women on U S Route 64, north of Espanola, N.M., saw two successive brilliant flashes of light, then observed an object giving such a bright light they couldn't keep their eyes on it "go down toward the ground". The ladies are Mrs Leroy Evans, Albuquerque, and Mrs. Fred McIntosh, Los Lunas.

Mrs Evans said that two minutes later she "got a burning sensation on my skin. It never has stopped burning yet (2-20-58). I have felt like I have a fever and I have a lovely suntan I didn't have before." Portions of her body that had been covered by clothing did not show this effect.

A Geiger counter which registered 40 to 70 for the normal background jumped to 1400 to 1700 when either of the women was exposed to it. Other women tested did not push the counter over 50.

Three days later, Dr. Wesley Bliss, an archaeologist, reported that he had seen "a meteor" that evening, and old Green Balls La Paz jumped up to say that "it was unlikely that the flash was caused by any experiment being conducted by the government." *Sante Fe New Mexican*, 2-20-28 and 2-23-28. *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, 2-21-58. Cr Zrust and others.

### COINCIDENCE

On the same date, 9-15-57, AP sent their papers a tale with a Moscow dateline, about terrified residents fleeing the Black Sea City of Tuapse because they took seriously a science fiction story serialized in the local paper, depicting a huge fiery mass rushing upon Russia from the air; and the N.Y. *Times* special correspondent in Hartford (Conn.), told about the local scare caused by a TV program that day "showing what might happen if the country was actually invaded".

### CAROLINA "QUAKES"

At 9:40 a.m. 2-17-58, a tremor shook Wilmington, N.C.

At 9:25 a.m. 2-18-58, a second shock.

At 9:25 a.m. 2-19-58, a third shock.

Dr G R McCarthy, seismo at Chapel Hill, "It's got me worried too . . . mathematical odds against three tremors on three days running almost at the same time made it highly unusual — the wildest sort of coincidence." He did not discount the reports at that time or deny that they were quakes.

By 3-15-58, UP was ready to make the total 8 "in two months, all between 9 and 10 a.m." Two shocks that morning, at 9:10 and 9:32, each lasted about 10 seconds, but Dr McCarthy had not caught those two, and now asserted that "the first one is the only one I can verify was an earthquake . . . From the descriptions, it appears the pushes are coming through the air rather than waves through the ground."

Armed services denied responsibility in any and all departments. Cr Henson.

### CREDITS

In the UFO department, 203 items were received, including books and periodicals. The latest saucer magazine is printed in Icelandic. Credit for the above and for other valued data goes to MFS Cinca, Wimmer, E H Anderson, Hibbert, Zrust, Essenhigh, Howe, Oltecher, Barneson, Parr, Mealy, Dickhoff, Steinberg, Ray Smith, Hinkle, Simpson, Lee, Powell, Gee, Nelle, Moray, Adams, Kemp, Wiltzie, Bishop, Forster, Pekownik, Barrows.

### THESIS WITHOUT COMMENTARY

Contributed by Art Castillo.

As the generation of leaves, so is that of men. HOMER

Whether we listen with aloof amusement to the dreamlike mumbo jumbo of some red-eyed witch doctor of the Congo, or read with cultivated rapture thin translations from the sonnets of the mystic Lao-tse; now and again crack the hard nutshell of an argument of Aquinas, or catch suddenly the shining meaning of a bizarre Eskimo fairy tale: it will always be the one, shape-shifting yet marvelously constant story that we find, together with a challengingly persistent suggestion of more remaining to be experienced than will ever be known or told. JOSEPH CAMPBELL — *The Hero With a Thousand Faces* — 1956

Our canvasses are the milestones of Man — from the reindeer on the walls of caves to the cliffs of Monet — from the hunters, the fishermen who inhabit the tombs of Egypt, the comical scenes of Pompeii, the frescoes of Pisa and Siena, the mythological compositions of Veronese and Rubens, from all these the same spirit comes down to us . . . We are all the same man. CEZANNE

Impressionism . . . appertains to madness; it is a deliberate excursion into the realm of the horrible and the execrable. One might surmise that all these pictures were painted with closed eyes by the insane who on tin palettes mixed, haphazard, the most violent colors. LE PAYS, PARIS 1877

Nothing is more curious than the self-satisfied dogmatism with which mankind at each period of its history cherishes the delusion of the finality of its existing modes of knowledge. Skeptics and believers are all alike. At this moment scientists and skeptics are the leading dogmatists. Advance in detail is admitted; fundamental novelty is barred. This dogmatic common sense is the death of philosophical adventure. The Universe is vast. WHITE-HEAD

Behind everything that everybody believes, or disbelieves, is somebody's pocket. FORT

. . . how are you? . . . I am sending you a piece of baloney . . . NOTE FROM CEZANNE TO ZOLA

Yes, Braque and James Joyce, they are the incomprehensible whom anybody can understand. PICASSO

Blind unbelief is sure to err.

And scan his work in vain;

God is his own interpreter.

And he will make it plain. COWPER

In life and in painting, too, I can very well dispense with God, but as a man acquainted with suffering, I can't do without something greater than

myself, which is my very life: the power to create.  
VAN GOGH

At last appeared a man who was pupil of nobody, the heir of everyone . . . who saw and expressed the meaning of it all. BERENSON (on Michelangelo)

True, these are architects so called in this country, and I have heard of one at least possessed with the idea of making architectural ornaments have a core of truth, a necessity, and hence a beauty, as if it were a revelation to him . . . What reasonable man ever supposed that ornaments were something outward and in the skin merely — that the tortoise got his spotted shell, or the shellfish its mother-of-pearl tints, by such a contract as the inhabitants of Broadway their Trinity Church? THOREAU — Economy

Reality is ever and always the nature of Nature but, to distinguish ourselves, we continue to assume and refer to a *Human Nature* because in such, civilization, as we have known civilization, fails precisely because it has not been made integral with, or even natural to, Nature. Our civilization itself therefore, is still, in the affair of culture—antagonistic assumption? Have all the attempts to build the fruitful life of a society failed because of such antagonism? Yes. FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

The course of all these civilizations was the same. Conquest, confiscation, the erection of the State; then the sequences which we have traced in the course of our own civilization; then the shock of some eruption which the social structure was far too weakened to resist, and from which it was left too disorganized to recover; and then the end. ALBERT JAY NOCK — Our Enemy the State — 1946

Did not the same Greek verb mean "to trade" or "to corrupt"? Did not the German tongue tend to confuse *tauschen* ("to deceive") with *tauschen* ("to exchange"); *Händler* ("trade") with *Handel* ("dispute")? SEDILLOT — History of the World in 300 Pages — 1941

Nevertheless, human expression being what it is, the greatest . . . literary artists, the Shakespeares and Heines, are those who have known subconsciously to fit or trim the deeper intuition to the provincial accents of their daily speech. In them there is no effect of strain. SAPIR — Language — 1921

We are the lords of life, and life is warm.

Intelligence and instinct now are one. MEREDITH

One item is the general belief, encouraged by mechanical and social efficiency, that progress is automatic and can be imposed from outside . . . It is a reversion to magic; a pandering to man's natural sloth . . . For English Catholics, sacraments are the psychological equivalents of tractors in Russia . . . Liquidate undesirables, distribute enough money and goods — all will be well. HUXLEY — Eyeless in Gaza — 1936

"You are mediocre. Verloc . . . was mediocre. Everybody is mediocre. Madness and despair! Give me that for a lever, and I'll move the world. Ossipon, you have my cordial scorn. You are incapable of conceiving even what the fat fed citizen would call a crime. You have no force." CONRAD — The Secret Agent — 1907

The repression of hostile impulses thus becomes the most significant fact in the domestication of the human animal and is, in conjunction with anxiety, the core of every neurosis — a neurosis being nothing but a failure in the process of domestication. FRANZ ALEXANDER — Our Age of Unreason — 1942

But thru them all — thru Jung, Fromm, Horney — all the rest — seems to run an image of a "natural" "spontaneous" or primordial creature whose recovery (or, better, rediscovery) is important for social well-being and whose attributes personify "freedom" . . . Instinct requires to remain uncategorized and unlabelled, it has to be recognized as free from valuation and judgment. A major consequence of the confusion of instinct and morality is the widespread belief that everything belonging to the instincts is, by definition, "bad" or "base". LINDNER — Prescription for Rebellion — 1953

Recently I saw a woman spank a baby of about ten months for crying when it was thirsty . . . I feel like despairing of humanity: I feel like crying: Let humanity retire and give the rats or the rabbits a chance, for no animal ever shows crass and criminal stupidity in dealing with its young. A. S. NEILL — The Problem Family — 1949

I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and self-contained . . .

They do not sweat and whine about their condition,

They do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins,

They do not make me sick discussing their duty to God,

Not one is dissatisfied, not one is demented with the mania of owning things,

Not one kneels to another, nor to his kind that lived thousands of years ago,

Not one is respectable or unhappy over the whole earth. WHITMAN

Why, we do not even know where we are to find real life, or what it is, or what it is called. Leave us alone without any books, and we shall at once get confused, lose ourselves in a maze, we shall not know what to cling to, what to love and what to hate, what to respect and what to despise. DOESTOYEVSKY — Notes from Underground

That symbolic systems should have become so fulcral to cultural existence that their extirpation would abolish discourse, pulverize book-knowledge and topple education from its pedestal — constitutes the measure of man's alienation from his pre-historic roots and not an index of their relevance to truth . . . This accounts for the fact that in my capacity as inmate of the lunatic asylum that constitutes the current world, I try to abide by all the methods of its madness in order to abide at all. S. GREINER — Prelude to Sanity — 1943

What a Bedlamite is Man! JEFFERSON

". . . The boys were taking him away and I said to Rags, 'Well, this is once the insanity plea justifies itself. He'll never see the gas chamber.' And he turned on me . . . and said, 'Nonsense, sir! Do you think I would cast doubt on my sanity merely to save my life?'" ANTHONY BOUCHER

— The Stripper — 1945

# 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.

1869

## Box A (Resumed)

- 23 On a farm on the Holmwood at night flock of 50 geese killed / their necks bitten / several nights before lambs killed on another farm. Supposed by dogs / West Surrey Times, Sept 4
- Sept 4 Weekly Budget of / Crowds around an unoccupied house near the Blackheath road, Greenwich. Reported that a luminous ghost been seen in it
- 15 Weekly Budget of / Acto N.Y.Trib a ghost light in Brooklyn like that of Woburn, but had form
- 20 Vamp / Inquest Henry Hamshire / (LT) 21st,p.4

## Box 3 (Resumed)

- Aug 21 Hampshire Chronicle of / at Winchester the ladybirds "swarming in all directions, in great numbers, and in all imaginable places" / not only went north
- 21 Ill.London News of / Plague of black caterpillars at Mendrisio, in the Ticino. Caused painful swellings. Prayers for their removal.

- 23 San Francisco Ev Bull. That at Keokuk, Ia, after a "recent" shower, Dr. Sanderson and other residents of the town had picked up a large number of minnows and crawfish
- 24 7:25 p.m. great det met Philadelphia / BA 1870,p.90/ N.Y. Times, 26,p.5
- 24 7:25 p.m. 200 miles W. of Philadelphia great met exploded / Its cloud seen far / ab sunset. BA 70-90
- 24 7 p.m. An ascending meteor in Western sky at Philadelphia. Met hair for 10 minutes / Trib 25th,p.5 / was seen at Trenton, N.J. — time ab 7:30 / (N.Y. Times) 26th p.3 and 27th p.5 / At N.Y. exploded almost due West — almost directly above Venus
- 27 BO / Common type of phe — large balloon seen at Hastings — unknown. Kentucky Express Aug 28 (reverse) Note this as myst because kept an eye looking over dozens of papers
- 27 N.Y.Times of / Aurora luminous band from N.Y. to Michigan
- 28 Birmingham Gazette — a "flying toad" recently caught at Cape Henry near Washington
- 29 Repeats / Exeter — 1 p.m. shock felt. Sound 1:15 p.m. similar sound heard and no shock felt / see May 3, '09

- Aug-Sept An outbreak of a group of spots in Plato — by W.R.Birt. E. Mec. 12/374 (On the moon, that is.TT)
- Aug 30 Tropical Fish / Cork Daily Herald / During the past week large quantities of fish which are peculiar to the tropics of fish which are peculiar to the tropic regions have been seen along our coasts. Shoals of the bonita, the dolphins, swordfish and other species are observed. This visit is to be attributed to the unusual warmth of the weather in this latitude
- Sept first week / "Extraordinary flight of landrails" at Wingham, Kent. Cor knew of someone who had killed 50. Formerly he had seen 2 or 3 to the season / "all these birds were lean and poor" Zoologist 1869-1951
- Sept 1 Dover Telegraph of. People at Llangollen thought a comet, but a lantern on a kite.
- 2 LT p 4. Ext. change in atmosphere.
- 3 (2) This Mag of 20th tells more of these locusts in India / says that no such visitation in numbers had ever been known before
- 3 A flight of locusts at Sadra, on the Sabarmalin 7 miles long. Gardener's Magazine Nov 13, p. 513.

- 5 Aurora C R 69/642  
 5 Aurora La Sci Pour Tous 14-330  
 7 Flies. That some peasants planting trees on the heights of Esperon, France, were startled by a dull sound. It came from a dark cloud enveloping a low hill. A cloud of flies estimated ab 500 yards long, fifty wide. (indecipherable sentence) Sci Sp. 1870-65  
 8 7 PM / Germany. D. Met. Zast Met 4/510  
 8 Great fireball s.w. Europe / BA 70-76 LT 24 p. 10, 28 p. 9  
 8 Meteor/ 7 PM / Near Salzburg, Bavaria, brilliant slow meteor LT 28 p 9,6 / At Lucerne, Switzerland, LT 24, p. 10 / At Venice, Oct 1 p 4.  
 9 3 to 4 PM Extraordinary high tide in Thames Parts of London under water / Ev. Standard 10, p.5-4.  
 11 Tarbes etc 5:50 AM / a rolling sound ending with sound of an explosion. Cosmos 3/5/361  
 12 10.8 PM Cheltenham. Remarkable meteor e. to w. Standard 15-3-7.  
 13 8:40 PM / Cor saw object like Mars only redder and brighter — turned his telescope upon it. It was moving fast but he was able to keep it in telescope fixed — disappearing having lasted ab 2 minutes. E Mec 10/47  
 17 Quake St. Thomas, W.I. BA '11 (D)  
 17 Severe quake island of St. Thomas, W. Indies LT 29, p. 10  
 19 Trabe, Java, meteorite (F) C.R. 104-205  
 19 Trabe (Sadangam) Java Meteorite Les Mondes 29-723 See Dec 10, 1871.  
 20 Streak of light on floor of Plato first seen Elger B. Assoc. 72/262 (Then often)  
 27 At Maryport 8 PM Cor saw a fiery red glare in northern sky for 10 minutes then obscured by clouds. Carlisle Journal Oct 5 p. 3.  
 27 Aurora magnificent Worcester between 8 and 9 PM. LT Oct 2, p. 10  
 28 LT p. 10 Etna  
 29 10 AM Exmouth An immense wave LT Oct 2, p. 10.  
 29 Wave ran 20 feet beyond high water mark at Exmouth and Plymouth, Tiverton Times Oct 5. See Oct 8.  
 29 5 PM — 9:30 Hungerford, Berks. Great display of lightning. The Field Oct 9, p. 307.  
 Oct 1 8:12 PM / Kent to Brussels Great Met. BA 70-78.

### Box A (Resumed)

- Fall The Woodward hypnotized by Downs case of Auburn Maine. Religio-Phil Jour. Nov 27 p. 2.  
 1869 In Auburn, Maine, man named Downs bewitched or hypnotized 2 others—who acted as if (indecipherable) drunk or hysterical. N Y Times Oct 1, p.2.  
 Oct 1 Ab. Rel. Ph. Jour., J'n 29, 1870. A

young girl, daughter of De Loss Lyon, formerly a resident of Richland Co., Wis., then living west of the Kickapoo River, in Cranford Co., came under strange influences — went 6 or seven days at a time with neither food nor sleep — at times had violent convulsions. These times she was very profane. She talked with an invisible young man who, she said, dictated to her, and made her obey. If she resisted she was mauled by this being, and then into convulsions. In this story convulsions are described as struggles with a demon. Said that a medium drove out the evil spirit. / Young girls, themselves, may be very profane.

### Box 3 (Resumed)

- 2 11 PM. Liege, Belg. Quake C. et T. 8/38  
 Oct 2 Little before midnight of 2-3 severe shocks and alarm. Coblenz Nature 1-26  
 2 LT p. 10 Aurora  
 3 Algiers and Orang Mets. BA 74-292  
 3 6:50 PM / Utah Violent shock and rumbling. Trib 4 p. 7.  
 4 Erupting volc Puracc, /U.S. Colombia. Cosmos 3/5/532  
 4 "On Monday morning at three o'clock some fishermen lying about 10 miles W.S.W. of Looe, saw a strange light which at first they took to be a ship on fire until it rose gradually from the sea and disappeared in the clouds." Western Daily Mercury (Plymouth) 9, p.3.  
 4 Sudden eruption of volc. Puracc, U.S. Colombia. LT 13, p. 5 C.R. 70-503.  
 Autumn new plants. See March 18, 1872  
 Autumn plant See Oct 24, 1885  
 Oct 4 Disastrous shock at Kholoom, between Bhokara and Cabul Keene's Bath Journal. Jan 14.  
 4 10 PM Tidal wave 18 feet high New England coast. Great damage See N.Y. newspapers.  
 5 Waterspout 12:45 PM Waterspout at Oundle. It was preceded by a slight rain. Appeared like a hollow tube down from clouds. Standard 7, p. 2.

### Box A (Resumed)

- 5 Fire. Morning. A house in Holloway, furniture had been removed from it and no fires in grates. "All of a sudden flames were seen to rush out of the first floor window. But it was the upper part of the building that was destroyed." Standard 6, p. 7.

### Box 3 (Resumed)

- 6 Lumpkin. Ga. See May 8, 1829 (F)  
 6 11:30 AM / Meteorite 12 miles from Lumpkin Co., Ga. A. J. Sci 2/50/337.  
 6 Aurora at Bedford. 9:50 peculiar glow near horizon in North — 10:15 3 rays from horizon to zenith. D News, Oct 9, p. 6.

- Oct 6 Aurora Paris rose from horizon to Dragon. C.R. 69-832.
- 7 Ab 5 PM a waterspout was seen from Sandown, Isle of Wight. Standard 9, p. 3.
- 8 Standard 19th, p. 5 that in the Goozeon district there had been enormous flights of locusts from the 30th of July to the 8th of August.
- 8 2 AM Great tide predicted for, because earth then part of orbit. Nearest earth predicted by Lieut S.M. Saxby R.N., London Morning Adventurer Sept 13.
- 8 With locusts. Tropical insects and climate in England. Same cor write at Rugeley, had picked very fine strawberry in his garden, Oct. 12. Standard, 14th, p. 2.
- 8 With tropical locusts. At Lewes thermometer stood at 77 degrees in the shade. Standard 12, p. 6.
- 8 One of the highest tides ever known predicted for Oct 8 in newspapers I get from Llangollen. Advertiser Sept. 17- / See Sept 29 C R / (indecipherable word) there was a tide.

### Box A (Resumed)

- 9 Rel.-Phi. Jour. Oct 9, p. 1. / near Tippecanoe. Harrison Co., Ohio. Mrs Nancy (Burney-?) CF'parenthesis. For 23 years, every 2 weeks had been preaching in a state of unconsciousness but the language and thought were inferior to hers when normal. She attributed the spells to injuries once when struck by lightning, but that was 24 years before she took on the spell-character. Her husband, a farmer, was considered wealthy. Said it was as if the spirit of some old-fashioned uneducated preacher of 40 or 50 years before, possessed her.
- 9 Kenish Express. Grocer named Huckle at Dierford. His windows broken by stones thrown at them unaccountably. Policemen alert but saw no one. When they near the stones ceased—when away began again. Day after day—finally all windows boarded up. All stones wrapped in paper on which written threats badly spelled. At last police constable caught daughter of Mr. Huckle, a girl aged 13 throwing a stone. She confessed she had thrown all the stones.

### Box 3 (Resumed)

- Oct 11 5:39 PM Great meteor Wiltshire, Wales, Svms Met Mag 4-155.
- 11 5:40 PM York and Lancashire / Great Met. BA 70-78
- 11 Meteor seen from Yorkshire to London / To all it fell perpendicularly but nearer some than others. At London size of a large star. At Sheffield size of the moon. Standard 16, p. 5.
- 11 5:40 PM Sunset meteor, York and Lancashire. BA 70-78.

- 12 Between 7 and 8 AM / Camelford. "Sudden noise like the rattle of musketry, and vibrations / Western Daily Mercury (Plymouth) 13, p. 2.

### Box A (Resumed)

- 12 Aberdeen Free Press of. A whole street of new houses demolished in Belfast by persons unknown.

### Box 3 (Resumed)

- 13 LT 13, p. 6. Meteor Sheffield.
- 13 5 meteors Malta BA 74-292
- 14 5 PM British Guiana Sound like report of cannon. N.Q. 5/7-293
- 14 LT p. 8 Met. Dartington
- 15 The Sunday before. Downpour at Malta 5 to 6 inches in different places 6 hours. Town of Cospicua flooded. People in streets saved from drowning by ropes let down from 2nd floor windows. Symons Met 4-170.
- 17 Chester / Mock Moon (?) Eng Met. XI/187-205
- 22 5:30 AM Severe shock. Conn. NY Times Nov 6, 1877.
- 22 5:45 AM / Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Severe shock and rumbling sound. NY Trib. 25, p. 1 BA 11/43
- 26-Nov 2 200 shocks at Gross-Serau. See Oct 31, Nov 2. LT Nov 6, p. 10. Preceded by sounds like distant musketry.
- 26-Nov 2 Series / Germany — region of Darmstadt to Stuttgart about 200 shocks. In accounts from Frankfurt newspapers copied in the Carlisle Journal 9th, p. 4., said accompanied by detonations like sound of musketry and that lights were seen — not described much mentioned several times — upon one occasion were three flashes.
- Oct 27 Date of report from Galle. Severe quake Manila LT Nov 9, p. 9.
- 27 Det met. / Ab 3 AM / terrific explosions Forest etc., Ohio some thought a quake, but met was seen. A.J. Sci. 2/49/140.
- 29-Nov 2 Nov 8-9 Quakes Rhine L'Ann Sci. 14-356
- 31 First shock ab 5 PM at Darmstadt, then Nov 1 4:30 AM LT 5, p. 10. Most severe at Gross Gerau.
- Nov 2 Darmstadt, Gross Gerau etc., Germany / evening / quakes LT 4, p. 10.

### Box 4 (Begins)

- Nov 3 Great explosion aboard HMS Thistle at island of Sheppey / near Sheerness I Standard Nov 5.
- 5 10 meteors at Sunderland LT 9, p. 9.



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