

the answer ... should be accepted to a geocentric universe. Originally framed or the answer was put out in 1893 by Fitzgerald. Lorentz, that the experiment should be explained through the ether altered both sides of the experiment. The expected result if even a velocity u was contracted ratio $\sqrt{1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}}$, c being the speed of light, such a contraction most demanded.



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EDITED BY **J. M. P.**
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DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the

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FIRST PRIZE

The shooting began over Northern Finland, before February 25, 1946 old style, accto Helsinki Radio sent in by HFFS Russell. "Numerous meteors have recently fallen" etc. The story is told in exactly fourteen words.

Next, over Helsinki, 6-9-46 old style, accto AP sent in by MFS Kerr, when something emitting light and "followed by a smoke trail" was observed heading SW, at an altitude estimated as between 900 and 1200 feet. Ever since then, the reports have been coming in from all sides. The entire membership recognized the efforts of the wipers to blame those damned Reds, and coverage has been excellent, especially by MFS Crowe, Reagan, Hoernlein, Russell, Elsander, Kerr, Stevens, Brooks, E. S. Anderson, Bowring, Farnsworth, Hillyer, - and most particularly by Dorothy Carlson.

The Finnish-seen object was called a "ghost rocket". That was Sunday night, June 9, old style. On the night of the 10th, Monday, something passed over Tammerfors, West Finland, and the Newcastle *Chronicle* called it a "V2". "Later it was reported moving over Helsinki towards the SE." The *Mail* has the grace to use the phrase "unidentified luminous body", but adds that it emitted "luminous fumes", and that it "raced up to the coast and suddenly turned in the opposite direction" . . . That reads a little bit like terror-propaganda.

On "Monday morning (that would be June 23, two weeks after the third Finnish episode) heavy calibre shells coming from the direction of Germany landed . . . in Gennep and De Looy, Dutch border towns in Limburg". On the following Friday, that was June 28, Amer-

icans claimed to have sent a rocket "more than" 75 miles into the air at Whitesands, New Mexico.

The Swedish series begins July 9, a Tuesday, one old-style month after the second Finnish observation, when the L'pool *Echo* reports "Another mysterious missile moving at a tremendous speed . . . outside Stockholm. Residents of Sundsvall, in Northern Sweden, also reported a similar phenomenon almost identical with that observed in the past." No mention is made of anything falling, exploding or being found. But the Washington, D. C., *Post* quotes UP to the effect that "one fell near Sundsvall on July 9, and "A physicist declared the fragments were not those of a meteor." The same wyper mentions "six more meteorites or flying bombs" seen 10 - 11, in Sweden, and points the finger at the Russ. The Durham, N. C., *Sun* echoes the suspicion, confines identification to "rockets", adding that they "crashed . . . during a veritable shower of mysterious missiles."

The *Daily Telegraph* (Eng.) of the 12th, a Friday, counts "seven strange crashes" and quotes "a well-known Swedish physicist, Dr. Binger Backlund," as saying that he had found paper among the fragments he examined, "indicating that it was not a meteorite".

The *Daily Mail* of the same date comes up with more details, under the headline "Radio 'bomb' on beach / Mystery weapon", stating that what hit Sundsvall beach was "apparently steered by radio". The "paper" found is called "graph" paper "that might have been used with it, and a piece of marked cine film", also "a cylinder about an inch in diameter" (no length stated). Whatever it was, it had been coming NE, and when it fell there was no explosion. "The weapon was about 150 ft. long and as it flew a bright light sparkled in its tail . . . It was made of metal so light that it floated (? on water?)." The *Mail* mentions three other projectiles over Sweden on the 11th, one of which crashed in a lake. "All the weapons were cigar-shaped, flew low, and landed at slow speeds. All burnt up on landing." SIC! Apparently the one which crashed in the lake was not made of floating metal, and fire hot enough to burn up metal still left the graph paper and film unburned.

UP reported another over Southern Sweden, night of the 12th, "shaped like a giant torpedo and emitting a blinding light from its foremost part". (That gives us two types of engine, anyway, one fore and one aft drive.) This story states that citizens were urging their government to determine "what country is responsible for filling Swedish skies with the man-made meteors." (Get that country.)

Next, the *Daily Mail* has a "shooting star or Soviet buzz bomb" high over the Rhone Valley in Switzerland, on the 14th, Sunday. It was heading NE. (No matter which way they fly, those damned Reds start them all!)

Enter Norway!

A "big fire ball - similar to those seen recently over Sweden and Finland", over the village of Moss on Oslo Bay, Sunday night (July 14 old style). Eyewitnesses:

"followed by a trail of fire and smoke . . . altitude nearly 400 feet." UP wyper in U. S.

Again, on July 19, at 0030 h, "two objects believed to be rocket bombs, fell in Lake Mjoesa, 60 miles N of Oslo". They came from the W, seen at tree-top height, travelling at tremendous speed. "The lake is about 1200 ft. deep at the place where they (conveniently?) fell." These had no lights and attracted attention by whistling. *Daily Telegraph*

Either UP or the *Seattle Times* confuses the date, making the alleged fall of two objects into Mjoesa occur on the night of the 19th instead of early that a.m. "Today, for the first time (SIC), eyewitnesses described them as being very much like German V-1 flying rockets."

Chitrib, July 27, counts 500 "balls of fire" over Sweden in 26 days, and points the finger hard at the Russ. . . . The same day, the Washington, D. C., *Star* announced that Sweden was censoring news about "unidentified missiles". No names of places of observation were to be revealed (? for the same reason that no new comets can be seen, perhaps?).

August 3, INS told the Hearst papers, under a Copenhagen dateline, that the "mystery rockets were reported 'today' over Denmark.

August 6, Chicago *Sun* states that the Swedish government has announced officially that "rockets from the south" have been "crossing into Sweden".

August 11, AP wipers had no more discretion than to publish their press service's rehash of the high spots of the Swedish series, with the alteration to "ghost rockets, mysterious spool-shaped speeding objects with fiery tales" as the resume description. The uncut version of the despatch acknowledges that "only in a few cases is it known that the missiles landed in Sweden . . . evidently passed over . . . in a huge curve . . . at low altitudes seem almost square . . . bottom . . . appeared to have been painted red". (SIC). The finding of coke (allegedly as a remnant of one which consumed itself in the air) is noticed here for the first time, and some papers inserted paragraphs which others dropped. The *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* included this:

"Newspapers recently carried a picture of the (sic) rocket, obtained accidentally by a cameraman who was photographing a landscape (? about midnight?). It showed a streak of light trailing from a small dark body, looking much like a comet." (All Fortean will remember that the bottom of Halley's comet was painted red.) And the *Providence Journal* did not shun the paragraph which could easily explain the entire operation: "The Stockholm *Tidningen* labelled a recent editorial 'Ghost rockets and future war,' and said the appearance of the missiles pointed up a necessity for preparedness."

It has taken the Swedes a long time to catch on to the modern tax gatherers' racket for burning up billions, but now they mean to put their feet into the same trough with the big pigs.

Only the Sioux City (Ia.) *Journal-Tribune* ran the by-line of AP's Stockholm correspondent. If you must have an individual to blame for these yarns, it's given there as Lennart Strid.

August 13, Chicago *Sun* ran an AP wirephoto "released by the Swedish military staff". It does not state that the picture was taken "accidentally", and if the cameraman was shooting the landscape, he had better get a new finder. The story relates that a total of four were seen on the night of August 11, and the *Sun* calls that the "heaviest barrage" since the first "on May 24". (As stated above, our first datum is of February 26, and that in Finland.) The *Sun*: ". . . left hard, black metal objects similar to coal clinkers."

On the night of August 12-13, UP caught only one, AP got two, but UP told the Los Angeles *Daily News* that on the previous Sunday, August 11, one had crashed north of Stockholm. No report of anything found, but the object was sighted at 8:45 p.m., remained visible four seconds, but "determination of its size and construction was impossible because of the blinding, sparkling blue fire that came from its tail".

A Swedish air force lieutenant was not so hampered when he observed one "with a green foremost projecting part and white sides". The *News* headline is "Swedes cry for action on 'ghost bombs'" - and the word *country* (responsible) is here supplanted by "nation".

The AP told the San Francisco *Examiner*, from Stockholm August 13, that "The first 'ghost rocket' explosion over Denmark was reported today in Copenhagen." That gives Hearst's INS a clear beat of ten days - see above. But Your Secretary does not think that is the explanation. He thinks that these hand-outs to the press were written and scheduled for publication all at one time, and that a "1" fell out of the "13" on the flimsy in the office of the Chicago *Herald-American*, and that just that one paper ran the story ten days before it was "due".

A bit of substantiation for that theory comes from the coincidence that the Stockton (California) *Record* printed on August 13, verbatim, the same UP story which appeared in the Durham (N. C.) *Sun* on July 13, unless MFS Crowe has misdated his clipping. Regardless of where the error lies, all too obviously the three big press services are all in on the deal to get YOU accustomed to the fairy tale that rocket bombs controlled by radio can be sent over the north pole from Moscow to Minneapolis.

August 13, AP got fancy - ". . . near Goeteborg, where a group of Boy Scouts saw a flying missile turn 35 degrees and then return to its original course." Has the Swedish government lifted the ban on place names? The integrity of Boy Scouts cannot be questioned . . . Say! What ever became of those two press-agents for World Fraud II who strewed sacks in the field and ran pictures of them? Remember? They got bounced for getting caught. You don't suppose they are writing this scientifiction for the Office of Strategic Services, do you?

That touch about the Boy Scouts and the 35 degree turn smacks of Dache M. Reeves and Lynn Farnol.

The same note of unimpeachable witnesses is struck by AP August 13: "The published account was given by a trained observer of meteorological and astronomical phenomena who was gazing at clouds through field glasses when a nightmarish, torpedo-like object, with a tapered tail that spewed blue and green smoke and a series of fire balls, streaked across his line of vision."

UP of the same date sent out an "unconfirmed" report of a plane with three fliers being shot out of the air by one, adding, "A well-informed source said the bombs apparently were radio controlled. Witnesses (aye! Boy Scouts!) have reported seeing the bombs change course."

Next day, August 14, AP: "Military authorities said little attention was paid to a rumor that a bomber which crashed Monday had been hit by a rocket bomb."

August 16, INS: One exploded over Malmo, Sweden, "only damage was a broken window pane."

August 19 (Reuters gives it the classic touch): Two seen in Elsinore, "site of the castle, where, according to Shakespeare, Hamlet met his father's ghost."

August 20, AP from Paris: No number is stated, but residents of Chatillon-sur-Seine in Burgundy have been seeing them "every night for the past week" . . . "trailing orange-red lights and emitting piercing whistles".

August 22 (CTPS) London: That the Swedish government is buying radar equipment from England. (SIC)

August 28, UP has now, dropped all doubts and quotation marks and states flatly that a flying bomb crashed in the suburbs north of Jutland. You are now supposed to be convinced. But - "No trace of the missile was found and there was no damage."

That is the complete report, as of DOUBT'S press time. Members who prefer interplanetary visitors as an interpretation of the lights will find an appropriate, luminous figure "stalking" on a Swedish island under the heading "Ghosts" in this issue. The contributor neglected to date the datum, but it is early August.

Several major quakes were also well covered by many members, but none presented any Fortean phenomena, unless we regard as data the plea of Prof. G. E. Goodspeed, University of Washington, who wants the State to appropriate \$60,000 for a seismographic network. He would also like a new instrument, his present one being not only ancient but of Japanese (formerly Yellow Bellied Barbarian) design.

The Gazelle Boy came in from a good many, too: Kerr, Goldstein, Bloch, Carlson, Reagan, Ford and several other old regulars. The choice morsel of that lot is from *Science Service*. Their version of the story is a flat denial that humans ever are reared by or with wild animals, and they quote Dr. Dale Stewart, anthropologist at the National Museum, as saying that the stories are "always on hearsay evidence" (that is, evidence opposed

to Science's preconceptions), and that "No one has ever brought in proof." By way of reply, the Cairo wyper, *Akhbar El Yom* threw a telephoto of the kid at Dr. Stewart, via Acme . . . Granting that a photo proves nothing, this note does: the boy has been taken to a Damascus insane asylum to become civilized. That is altogether too real to be fiction, in fact, that is precisely what Dr. Stewart and *Science Service* would prescribe if the boy had been caught in Bucks County.

Yet, none of the above has that special dash of Fortean bitters which twists the intestines sufficiently to win the quarter's first prize. MFS Bonavia was runner-up for a while, with her contribution of a full page ad in *Life*, Sept. 2, 1946 old style, for *The March of Time*. It is on p. 112, of that issue, and the illustration is a barbaric, ceremonial mask of some heathen medicine man. The copy reads, in part, "Is Everybody Happy? . . . Far from it! Harvard's famed anthropologist, Prof. Earnest A. Hooten, flatly accuses humanity of multiplying its own misery . . . In this unusual new *March of Time*, the camera shows you how harassed Americans are trying to keep their personalities above water in these confusing days. (?What's confusing about them? The data is all-too-obvious.) The film unfolds a tale of baffled or beaten people as they seek out sincere counsel and too often fall among swamis, cultists, mystics and medicine men." That is, they fall among a different set of racketeers than those who own and operate Time, Life, etc., etc.

Delightful as that was, MFS Kerr topped it with George E. Sokolsky's column for August 5. That was the column in which that past-master of banality attacked the FCC for giving Atheists time on the air. This would have won, too, if it had not been topped, twice.

First, MFS Shaw sent in tear sheets from the August *Readers Digest*, in which, "Condensed from Hygeia", appears *Operation X - Survival*, by Albert Q. Maisel. It is a puff of illogical, groundless, contemptible publicity in favor of vivisection, an attempt to make heroes of dog-nappers, who steal pets for torturers at so much a head . . . We shall have more on this subject, another time; right now - to the prize!

It goes, this session to MFS Reagan, who seldom misses a bet. It is a quotation from the N. Y. *News*, which asserts that "not a single objection was raised (among 1000 worshippers) when . . . marriage bans were read . . . at Our Lady of Mercy (Roman Catholic) Church, Forest Hills, (N. Y.) . . . at the 11 a.m. Mass" (August 18 old style) for Gravel Gertie and B.O. Plenty, two comic strip characters, by Rev. (sic) Richard Gladney, an assistant curate. The curate's action appears to have had the approval of "Father Thomas Ryan".

Least this leave you without a sliver of hope for our degenerate selves, along comes MF Giles with this sponge of vinegar: In Washington, D. C., delivering the annual memorial lecture of the William Alanson White Psychiatric Foundation, G. B. Chisholm, deputy minister

of national health and welfare for Canada, called morality a poison, and the concept of "good" and "evil", and that of "sin", the cause of man's major ills, including war. Dr Chisholm is being scratched in the hope of finding a Fortean.

Pertinent to the *March of Time* ad, we have a report from Schenectady (12-6-45 old style), quoting Associate Curator John R. Saunders of the American Museum of Natural History, N. Y. C., to the effect that "Americans spend at least \$125,000,000 on fortune tellers every year". Museums, says the Ass. Cur., are fighting superstitious beliefs, including those which cause "many farmers still (to) farm by the moon and the zodiac". Cr. Giles

August 18, 1946 old style, N. Y. *Times*: C. F. Hickling, "fishery expert of the (British) Colonial Office, finds that the moon also exercises a mysterious influence on herring shoals", as well as on eels spawning and the feeding period of oysters and mussels. . . . Apparently this savant never heard of our own John Alden Knight. . . . Then, there's a well, on that Army highway in Alaska. For ten months (before 8-17-46 old style) it has followed this rhythm: goes dry with the new moon, then yields water increasingly as the moon waxes, until - at full - it's a gusher. Cr. Sullivan

So, while the *March of Time* and "the museums" fight superstition which may not be so all-fired superstitious after all, the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee (10-26-45 old style) "filed a Superior-Court suit . . . asking a mandamus writ to halt the teaching of religious subjects in the Chicago public schools". Cr. Hoernlein. . . . While the Week Day Religious Education Committee of the Page County (Va.) Sunday School Association, "which is planning for a religious course in Page County schools. . . . yesterday (7-6-46 old style) set the salary of the teacher at \$1,525". You'll recall that Virginia is the State in which the rattle snake is God's vicar on Earth.

November 15, 1946 old style: The Church of England Assembly (London) has approved the expenditure of \$4,000,000 in the next five years to finance a publicity program designed to revive interest in religion. Cr. Giles. . . . August 24, 1946 old style: The National Stewardship Institute of the Golden Rule Foundation announced that "the percentage of gifts to church and church philanthropies as compared with national income in 1944 was 73 per cent LOWER than it was during the depression year of 1932". Cr. Reagan

DAMNED REDS

"Numerous" green and red flares with "cumulus smoke clouds" puzzled state and county police of Grants Pass, Oregon, August 16 old style. Los Angeles *Daily News*. Easy as it is to puzzle police of any state or county, this datum savors of a Russian invasion. Every can of caviar should be watched!

MORE MONSTERS

The beast of the day - or beasts, perhaps - was or were mostly in Indiana, but a single precursor of the series comes

from Ohio, town of Kenton. On 6-9-46 old style, Orland Packer, on horseback, was attacked in the woods near Jumbo by a snake more than eight feet long and at least four inches of girth. Its action as described indicated a constrictor, for it wrapped around the rider's leg, breaking his ankle, and later bit his horse. A hunting party set out after him but found no trace. Cr. Waitman

Now, to Indiana, where the free press is unanimous, as usual, in attempting to laugh out of existence the testimony of eye-witnesses. These names appear as "authors" of the several yarns on the subject: Mary E. Bostwick, Indianapolis *Star*, William A. Drake and Judson Christy, of UP; besides several anonymous. The writers are all afflicted with that vile sense of imposed humor which comes of being told by the boss-man on the desk to "make it funny". None succeeds, but the effort has the effect of belittling the evidence.

Apparently "snake" scares are common to Indiana, because hazy references to points in time "several years back" etc., are common. Tossing aside all the words, as such, used by the local wipers to reduce the chances of panic, we here attempt to list the positive statements made in the chronological order of the subject matter:

"Some 35 years ago" - that is ca 1911 AD - a man who signs himself "C. Hartwell", of Seymour (Indiana), now alleges that he and his brother dragged a gallon jug through the dust and mud, "for the purpose of stirring up some excitement". Now, of all the pranks anybody ever heard of, which is more remote than this from the mind of normal jokers unless inspired in this singular vein by then current gossip or recollection? Is "dragging a jug through the mud" a common means of stirring up excitement? It was not in the district of Illinois which held me in 1911. . . . In other words, Your Secretary guesses that C. Hartwell and his brother had python stories as the model for their hoax.

In 1913, aceto Bostwick, "a snake (no more accurately described than that) . . . escaped from a circus during the flood", in the neighborhood of Petersburg, and "hung around . . . for quite a spell".

From ca 1935 old style until ca 1943, a snake about "eight feet long" was reported here and there around Cato in Pike County, first seen (?) by Edward Riley, then ae 15, in the Patoka River bottoms near Winslow. These towns are within crawling distance of Petersburg. . . . In 1943, "fishermen" saw it swim the White River (8 or 10 miles from Cato and Winslow), and "crawl up the opposite bank into Daviess County" (in the general direction of Flat Rock, nearly 100 miles away).

About July 25, 1946 old style, one J. L. Applegate of Flat Rock was visiting Indianapolis, presumably at the home of his brother-in-law, Willard Tollinger, and from Mr. Applegate the papers learned that Ray Rush and George Gearhart (perhaps seven persons in all) had seen - on July 19 - a snake about 20 feet long "coiled up in shallow water about a mile

and a half from Swinging Bridge" (Pony the Flat Rock River?). Gearhart (seen "tracks" (of a jug, perhaps) "a few weeks ago", in a corn field near Norris-town, four miles from Flat Rock (both in Shelby County). Dale Pherigo, postmaster of Flat Rock, has heard the tale before and never fully believed it. Notwithstanding, pigs and other small animals were missing.

On August 4, from Petersburg (100 miles away) came word that Glennie Craig's cat had disappeared - with snake tracks! - two miles south of Otwell, and about six miles northeast of Cato (in the direction of Flat Rock).

This was too much for the Indiana wipers, so that when an unidentified creature which "cried like a baby" - and killed live stock - was reported near Lebanon (about 65 miles from Flat Rock - with Indianapolis between), newsmen were sent to get a pronouncement from - guess whom? The State *Entomologist*, Frank Wallace, no kidding. And Wallace came up with the answer wanted: "No such animal." (August 13-14 wipers).

August 25: The "terrorizing" of Lebanon vicinity had continued two weeks. Mrs. Lulu Brownlee had heard the "weird sound like a baby crying", and Harry McClaim, a "hunter ae 64, had been engaged to kill or capture the beast, called "feline". Twelve hens disappeared. Leonard Hawkins joined the hunt.

Our correspondent, MFS Kemp, lives about 20 miles from Flat Rock and has kinsfolk closer. He threatens to kill any of these varmints he sees - and to see the remains to the Society. Also Carlson, Farnsworth, Goldstein.

Mr. Kemp also sends some Rosicrucian data concerning Mendocino County, Calif. When something began "crying and screaming like a baby" near Pottstown, Pa., it was identified as "a panther, a puma, a wild chow dog, a bear and a black fox". November 14, 1945 old style. Cr. Giles.

February 14, 1946, INS reported from Coatesville, Pa., a "monster described as a cross between a giraffe, a dog and a deer, that wails like a woman". Cr. Kerr

July 31, 1946 old style, the "angry peasants" of Valais, in the Swiss Alps were chasing one, variously described, "possibly even a wild man", "which in the last few weeks has slaughtered 70 sheep, goats, and cows"; all at night, in the Valley of Loèche, above the Town of Sierre. The throa' of the victim is slashed but the corpse is never eaten. Cr. Giles

June 3, 1946 old style, Miss Nancy Ellen Beechey, 39, of Pinner, Middlesex, England, vanished at Grindewald, Switzerland. She was an experienced Alpinist. She was near no known danger. She went for a walk. Cr. Elsander

Don Neff, student, Frederick High School (S. Dakota) found some teeth on the bank of the Elm River. He "did some sleuthing" and found "the remains of a giant 28-foot marine lizard buried in the shale". Prof. James D. Bump, director of the museum, State School of Mines, Rapid City, estimated the skeleton had been there "several million years

according to Dr. Bump, the species (Sasauer) has been extinct for 130,000,000 years. However, "about 12 years ago" a farmer "was forced to take to the ditch with his tractor to avoid running down a giant four-legged serpentine monster which slithered across the road". The track of this beast was followed across a muddy field "where it had wormed its way into the deep waters of Lake Campbell". Similar tracks have been seen since and many lambs and pigs have disappeared in the vicinity. Cr. Hehr

The Society means to set Iktomi on this trail. That is his bailiwick.

NO SUCH ANIMAL

"Head like a horse, large eyes and nostrils," had been taken for a large log, by Birger Anderson, Vancouver, B. C., skipper of the fisher *Scott Hill*. "Suddenly reared out of the water about ten yards from the boat . . . played around for five minutes and then disappeared." Cr. Russell. . . . The *L'pool Echo* calls it "British Columbia's famed (sic) sea serpent, cab-bor-saurus".

Sandy Topp (which is a fishy name for work like this), of West Highstreet, Bishopmill, Elgin, Scotland, and three companions were reported (July 9, 1946 old style) to have seen the Loch Ness Monster, "for five minutes". The last report of sighting her (?) was nearly three years ago. Cr. Russell

At Digby, Nova Scotia, a "monster" which spouted like a whale and bore "a high dorsal fin" was seen entering Annapolis Basin on Friday night (August 27, FS). It cruised along the shoreline Saturday (August 28, 16 FS), and on Sunday morning (Fort 1, 16 FS), "apparently became panicky, fearing it was trapped, and dashed itself against the wharf, lashing the piers with its tail". Early that evening "it was observed making its way through Digby Gut into the Bay of Fundy". Fishermen called it a "black fish", between 20 and 30 feet long. Other observers had guessed variously from 10 to 100 feet. Cr. Bloch

SHEEP KILLERS

The "sag" which MFS Elsander continues to stalk by correspondence, simply ceased his deprivations and went home, wherever that may be - perhaps to Sweden by rocket. But another terror of the fold set out on a murderous career about May 31, in the Masham, Colsterdale, Nidderdale, Coverdale, and Warfedale area. By June 10, old style, at least 60 sheep were killed, and hundreds of men were hunting the guilty "dog" - called a "ghost" dog. Farmer Russell, no relation, of Ilton, was first to see it, and he said it was bigger than an Alsatian.

The slaughter increased (in the *Daily Mail*) to 120 sheep and lambs by June 11, and 200 men were hunting. By a whimsy of coincidence, on June 12, a "Mr. Frank Buck, of Harmby" joined the hunt.

By the 14th, the hunters were getting sore, but sticking to their guns. The *York Post* modestly counted 82 dead sheep in 14 days. June 15 - a dog was seen and shot at - but he got away. By the 17th the army of hunters had reached

1000, and the British Army was aiding with radio field equipment, principally to keep the Nimrods from killing the Frank Bucks and vice versa. Two people claimed to have hit the beast on the 17th, but he remained at large. . . . The dead sheep now - "110".

On June 18th, Police-Constable C. Jackson, of North Riding, stationed at Askrigg, met a gigantic Alsatian on a railroad track and shot it dead. It measured 5 ft. 8 inches, weighed 5½ stone, and the photo published in exultation shows a beast which must have been formidable before it was shot. The lost sheep now total 134.

June 19, headline in the *Yorkshire Post*: HUNT FOR SECOND DOG ON MOORS. . . . "It was after the Alsatian had been killed that this second animal was seen coming off the moors. . . . the Alsatian already dead had no wounds." Cr. Elsander

CLOUD OVER FRANCE

A cloud, apparently stationary in the sky, since it suffered the probers of the Puy du Dome Observatory to study it "intensively" for three weeks, hovered over France, 20,000 feet in the air, August 11, old style. Airplanes "equipped with special instruments (much too special for you common dogs to comprehend) to test its composition. . . . have penetrated it 20 times". These ever-so-special instruments revealed that "the cloud particles contained unnatural characteristics" (Let us grave that crack in marble!), but was not especially radioactive, nevertheless, the French swamis plunked for Bikini as its source. Cr. Kerr, Reagan, Hoernlein, Anderson.

SEISMOS CHANGE MIND

The Jesuit seismograph at Georgetown did not respond to Bikini on July 1, old style. . . . Harvard? No. London? A minor shock at 5:15 p.m., "thought was heavy Sunday traffic". (That's a SCIENTIFIC instrument - on a par with the lie-detector!) . . . Hawaii? No. Cr. Reagan

The University of Washington? No. Dominion Astrophysical Observatory at Victoria, B. C.? No. Cr. Hoernlein

But, come July 25 old style, and the Ausies! "Government Astronomer (see elsewhere in this issue where the State Entomologist is authority on snakes) George F. Dodwell said the recording on the graph (at Adelaide, Australia) was most noticeable 16 minutes after the actual explosion which would correspond with the secondary wave of disturbance." If you can ignore the double-talk, Dodwell is saying that Bikini registered. Cr. Reagan

LA *Daily News*, July 31 - six days after the blast: Dr. Charles F. Richter of Caltech in Pasadena, "following a cautious check of seismograph readings" (You have to sneak up on them!), announced that for "the first time an atomic bomb explosion outside continental United States has been picked up by seismograph at such a distance". The *News* sets it in bold face, and adds that Mr. Wilson and Mt. Palomar both got it on their instruments too. Cr. Bowring. Your Secretary thinks it was heavy Thursday traffic.

LAST ATOM

We keep trying to ignore that filthy fraud called the atom bomb, but the data is too hilarious. . . . AP told the Seattle times (7-6-45 old style) under a Kwajalein date line, that a thief had stolen a "large package of top-secret film" on the subject, while its guardian was in a "telephone booth"! Cr. Hoernlein

WHAT'S THIS?

A correspondent of the *Liverpool Echo* (1-2-46 old style), one A.P. West, writes: "I should like to draw the attention of scientists in general to the possibility of something taking place which no amount of calculating will ever solve. . . . It depends not on measurement or experiment, but on inference alone. . . . I tell the scientist that that which he is searching for he has already noted and catalogued, and the mathematician I congratulate for producing an equation which I believe is actually telling him that at some time, somewhere, someone made a slip up. I refer to the so-called mystic formula PQ=QP=ih/211." Cr. Russell. . . Grayson and O'Conner please write!

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED

Tomorrow, the British publication of MFS Dagg and associates, with an aggressive advertisement of the Fortean Society in Great Britain, bidding for members. Cr. Russell

Beyond the Five Senses, by L. Margery Bazett, blurb'd - "A very valuable record of first-hand supernormal experiences which will be of great interest to all students of Psychological Research." Cr. Russell - but save your money.

Bulletin Number Eight of the National Speleological Society, edited by HFFS Don Bloch. An elaborate and beautiful brochure full of cave photographs, exciting adventure and sound data. A wonderful job! Order it from the National Speleological Society, 510 Star Building, Washington, D. C. Only 1000 copies printed. It costs \$1.50. Remit with order. Cr. Bloch

Nomina Abitera, by W. L. McAtee, an Honorary Member for his scholarly work in this brochure and in another pamphlet, received earlier, making a tramp of John Burroughs, the so-called "naturalist", and taking a fall out of Joseph Grinnell an extreme Darwinian. Cr. McAtee - but note that *Nomina Abitera* is not available to individuals.

Parliament Christian, July - August 1946 (old style): Official Organ of the People's Common Law Parliament, "To amend the deficiencies in present Parliamentary and Electoral Procedure. . . . To ensure that the Will of the people shall prevail. . . . To give security to all and remove the economic and other causes of War. . . . To establish a true Christian Social Order." Your Secretary does not pretend to know how the "causes of War" are to be removed by a group which aims to set up a "Christian Social Order", but that's what is printed on this paper. If you care to pursue that paradox, send a

quarter for some sample copies to Robert J. Scrutton, 5 Endsleigh Place, London, W.C.1, England. Cr Smith

Charter of United Individuals, no author named. This piece arrives from Salzburg, Austria, with a letter from Dr. Andre Salza, President General of the International League for Reconciliation and Fraternalization, called "Friends of Humanity", with assorted mottoes, such as KINDNESS, LOVE, FRIENDSHIP, and "One World or none", and "in the spirit of the United Nations Organization". This outfit purports to be carrying the *spirit* of UNO right down to the grass-roots, which is, they say, the only way it can be made to work. Prizes are offered for essays on the subject, published before December 1, 1946 old style, first prize being \$10,000. If you wish to cut in on this, address Dr. Salza, at Auer-spergstrasse 27, Salzburg. On the other hand, if you wish to give *him* money, he has an account at the 5th Avenue Bank, NYC.

Truth Seeker, September. "The decision of the Federal Communications Commission establishing the legal right of Free-thinkers of the United States to advocate Atheism over the radio is one of the most important forward steps ever taken in the cultural life of this country." Marshall J. Gauvin . . . "Best news since the war's end, it strikes me, is the FCC's affirmation of the radio rights of atheists." Paul Kinney.

IMP'S BULLETIN, July, August, September. This is the most amazing production of the contemporary press on this continent. It is a barely literate attack upon something its "writers" call JEW-TOCRACY. As nearly as one without special training can decipher its gibberish, it purports to be the organ of the Independent Music Publisher's Service, which offers for sale such hit tunes as "You Won't Know the Old Red Rooster" and "Won't You Come Walk with Me Nellie?" Subscription, \$1.00, from Victor Lindstrom, Sr., 1005 East First Street, Aberdeen, Washington.

Trends and Tides - a Paper of Information and Opinion, published by Louis Adamic . . . It is mighty sensible stuff for your soberer moments, trading heavily in foreign affairs: well-informed, enlightened, sincere . . . As you know, Adamic was a fellow-countryman of the recently publicised Tito. Subscription, \$1.00, Louis Adamic, Milford, New Jersey.

Christiania in Ecce Homo, Polma in Versi Sciolti Sulla Vita di Gesu' Cristo il Filosofo dell' Avvento per la Naturale Religione dell' Intuito e della Coscienza, nella Liberta' del Pensiero Fra Tutti i Popoli Afratellati della Nuova Era Sorgente, by Cesare Montanari. The author sent us this copy of his book, from Milan, "with admiration", which is fully returned. He is not to be confused with our correspondent and his fellow townsman, Pollini, the Messiah of Biaminity, mentioned elsewhere in this issue. Volunteer reviewers are called for: our Italian branch being fully occupied at the moment with the latter's productions.



IKTOMI

re-America, edited by Iktomi. Six issues (incomplete), printed in Minneapolis, 1939-1940? - together with *Iktomi Scrap-Book*. This is a further record of Ikto's life-long effort to better Indian conditions. It reveals him as an actor, dancer, lecturer and athlete as well as artist and writer. Cr Bloch

Neo-Economy Series (of pamphlets) of *Freedom and Plenty*, by Hugo R. Fack. Five numbers - 1. Age-old Social-Economic Problem Basically Solved, 2. Why Business Must Stand for Money Reform (by P. Weston), 3. History's Greatest Lesson, *The Gothic*, 4. Signal and Guide to the Post-War World, 5. When Money Power - Suppressing Successful Money Reform - Prepared the Way for Hitler. These are ten cents each, from Dr. Fack, 309 Madison Street, San Antonio, Texas.

Freedom and Plenty, October. This is another voice in the wilderness, published by Dr. Hugo R. Fack, 309 Madison St., San Antonio 4, Texas. The hero of the piece is Silvio Gesell, of whom you are destined to hear more and more and more as the world wakes up . . . BUT - call out the band and light red fire! In the July issue of *Harper's*, one George Richmond Walker ups and writes a rattling good thumb-nail sketch of Gesell's economic theories, and Dr. Fack seized the opportunity to reprint it in *Freedom and*

Plenty. The Society has been distributing this issue to those who should be interested. Ask Dr. Fack to start your subscription with this October issue. Send him \$1.00 for a year. Highly recommended.

Gesell, Silvio: *Foundations of Peace*, fifty cents. Order from Fack.

Men God Forgot, by Albert Cossery. A book, in boards, with cloth back, published by Circle (the magazine), which is the activity of MFS Liete and Bern Porter, on the coast, associated with MFS Henry Miller. Its 139 pages include five short stories about people in the slums of Cairo, Egypt. They fairly take the hide off. Order from the Society, \$2.50.

Free Soul, a Journal of Personal Liberation and Eternal Youth, edited by Don M. Flower. This is mostly poetry, but good, and the prose is specially selected to make the points expressed by the name of the paper. The editor has done Your Secretary the honor of quoting him. Issued monthly from Hartland, Vermont, which is in a nest of Fortean, Scott Nearing, R. Kolvoord, the Crehores and others.

Lycanthropy as a Psychic Mechanism, by MFS Nandor Fodor, Reprinted from *Journal of American Folklore*, October - December, 1945 old style. Once again our admiration for Dr. Fodor's choice of words is excited. He has completely mastered the technique of implying wh-

"believers" wish to read, without ever making a statement which a non-believer can assail. His tales of ladies-into-wolves and *vice versa* are interesting, but not half so entertaining as his semantics. Cr Fodor

Freethinker, August and September. Joseph Lewis is running a serial attack upon J. B. Rhine's ESP findings, by Professor Chester E. Kellogg of McGill, with which critique we are in accord. The immediate connection of Rhine with God is not so easy to fathom, but we greet the effort in fellowship. Bunk is bunk whether sacerdotal or academic.

Jaworski, Helan:

L'Humanite sa Croissance, 1918

Les Etapes de l'Histoire, 1918

Regeneration de l'Organisme Humain, 1925

Pourquoi la Mort?, 1926

La Decouverte du Monde, 1928

Comment Rajeunir, 1930

Le Geon ou la Terre Vivante

The last-named title is now being digested for us by HFFS Frederick Hammett, who will report on it for DOUBT.

Don Bloch discovered Dr. Jaworski to us, as stated in our last issue. MFS Lens, a bookseller of amazing attainments produced the seven titles listed. MFS Benjamin, the gland man you wot of, reported that he had visited Jaworski in Paris some years ago, and now we have a letter from the savant's brother in France, stating that Helan is in South America. More later.

Haunting of Cashen's Gap, by Harry Price and R. S. Lambert. This is the story of the talking mongoose in the Isle of Man. The phenomenon was investigated by MFS Fodor some years ago. He has a lecture on the subject which he delivers upon demand. The book (somewhat inadvertently reduces the question of authenticity to a matter of absolute faith in the integrity of an adolescent miss. Cr Russell

Natural History of Nonsense, by Bergen Evans. This is the book which Your Secretary was supposed to review for *Pathfinder*, but didn't. The reasons he didn't are (1) because *Pathfinder* never would have printed the review as it would have been written, (2) the book is hardly worth noticing. It has had the effect of bringing out a dyed-in-the-wool, capital "S" Scientist, the redoubtable, Dr. Gudger, on the Fortean side of the fish-fall argument (still clinging to the threadbare "up from one place, down in another", of course), and that is all. The author's major fallacy is his infantile faith in mass stupidity. In a thousand ways, on every level, he repeats the blunder of assuming that because the language has a saw to the effect that "lightning never strikes twice", the people who repeat it actually believe it. For the professor's enlightenment, we here record that them asses do not believe everything they say, nor all they hear neither.

Through Children's Eyes, by Blanche C. Weill, Island Workshop Press Co-op. Inc. Assistance for parents with problems in child behaviour. The author attempts to tell adults how the kids see things.

Order it from Worthwhile Books, 220 Broadway, NYC 7. Price \$1.60.

Shakespeare Myth, by Sir Edward Durning-Lawrence, Bt. According to the Bart, the Bard was Bacon. Cr Cornwall *Message to the Seeker of Divine Truth*, by the Supreme Voice. The chief mailing piece of the Brotherhood of the White Temple, a mail-order religion which appears to be doing very well. The proprietor is an MFS who sets up "Doreal", a sort of male Blavatsky. Cr Bonavia

Peoples Post, January-July, 1946 old style. The organ of the "British Peoples Party", which is the Duke of Bedford's. Luckily the Society does not have to embrace the politics of all or of any of its members. Some of these fences we just couldn't straddle. If you wish to follow the course of money reform in England, as pursued by Accepted Fellow Bedford, send a dollar to John Beckett, editor Peoples Post, 33 Maiden Lane, London W.C.2, England. Cr Russell

Popular Astronomy, April 1943 (old style). This issue was purchased to check the use of 1.618 as used by George M. Mc Corkey and W. Carl Rufus, p. 185 *fr* in their measurements of the Great Pyramid. You will recall that 1.618 is MFS Frank Lonc's "Cosmic Constant", and it was his criticism of the article which brought it to our attention. At the moment, MFS Lonc is engaged on a new philosophy of harmonics, employing - you will not be surprised - 1.618 for the intervals, if that is the term.

Temple of Ammon at Karnak, Note on the Age of the Great, ("as determined by orientation of its axis"), by F. S. Richards: Survey of Egypt Paper No. 38, Cairo, 1921. From the library of the late Alfred H. Barley, contributed by his widow LMFS Annie Barley. This is an application of some of the measuring principles employed on the Great Pyramid of Gizeh, to another Egyptian monument. Later, its significance may be analyzed in DOUBT.

RUSSELL'S BEST

Coincident drownings in their tubs of two Birmingham women, Mrs. Elizabeth Craythorne, 51, and Mrs. Winifred May Ashford, 22, on the same day, 6-1-45 old style. (See coincident suicides elsewhere in this issue) . . . When the British military abandoned compulsory church attendance, the number of uniformed men in the congregation at Chatham Garrison dropped from 290 to 7 . . . During an eclipse of the moon 6-28-16 FS, in Turkey, villagers fired several shots into the sky to "scare away the dragon which devoured the moon" (L'pool *Echo*). What's more, they succeeded . . . Accto the same paper, the city fathers of Waukegan, Illinois, have passed an ordinance forbidding roosters to crow . . . A lilac bush belonging to F. Gibson, Liverpool, had always borne "heliotrope" blossoms. This year it bore pure white flowers. *Echo* 5-24-46 old style . . . By using magnesium instead of lead in the batteries, the British have got an electric automobile which can do 50 . . . John Thomas Taylor, 32, an ex-soldier, died (? 5-18-46 ? old style) "from chronic bronchitis, emphsema AND

WASTING (that is, starvation), in Stourbridge. His physician's application for more food for the patient had been denied, but the coroner returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes" . . . Another set of quints reported from South America, in Cucuta, near the Venezuela border (before 5-27-46 old style). The other set of record is in the suburbs of Buenos Aires, born March, 1944 old style. (MFS Elsander raises the ante, however, with *septuplets* - four girls, three boys - born, 2-20-46 old style, to the wife of a public-house proprietor in the Rue Gallande, Paris. "All are alive." . . . And Kerr goes *him* one better with a rumor of octuplets in China. This last is accompanied by the detail of an eight-year pregnancy, which the mother refused to confirm.) . . . As the Blackpool express left Warrington Station, London, 6-2-46 old style, a "missile" came through the window, leaving a hole, and narrowly missed a passenger. One guess called it a "bullet", but the railway police guessed "a stone". Since identification of the object is so vague, one assumes that it was not found.

BALLISTERICS OR PUNCTOIDS?

Two names have been suggested for people struck by "bullets from nowhere". MFS Bowring wants to call them *ballisterics*, MFS Kerr suggests *punctoids*.

The quarterly take: (2-13-46 old style) George O'Keefe, 12, San Francisco. Cr Stevens . . . Bowie Bell, 31, Washington, D. C., at a *baseball game*, night of 7-21-46 old style. Cr Kerr . . . (8-10-46 old style) Benjamin F. Johnson, 49, Los Angeles. Cr Bowring, Atwater . . . (8-14-46 old style) Harry Tinkham, locomotive engineer, while at the throttle, between Swampscott and Boston. Cr Reagan . . .

A man in a wedding party at Zvezan, Yugoslavia, was killed by a meteor "as the party approached the church": another guest was burned by it. (N.D. - probably 1928 - and probably *Pathfinder*. The writer states that only one other record of death by meteor exists - "a peasant in India many years ago." Cr Bloch

PLENTY PYROTICS

Sixteen fires involving aged people in or out of bed, or involving beds and non-aged people (one in a car), have been recorded this session, twelve of them fatal. The standard explanation prevailed - cigarettes.

POOR NAVY

Five Navy planes and the fourteen men in them flew out of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., just before Christmas, 1945 old style, and vanished. A flying boat with a crew of thirteen went to look for them and never returned. Cr Rayner

August 2, 1946 old style: The Navy confessed that three vessels carrying 115 persons disappeared in the Gulf of Mexico, between Panama City, Panama, and New Orleans, between July 24 and 30. Cr Patterson and Richards.

RAIN OF WORMS

Howard Baer, a "butler in the (Porter S.) Cope family, Philly, for 60 years", took advantage (7-22-46 old style) of a "lull in the torrential rainstorm", in the evening, to empty some trash. He found "thousands upon thousands of tiny worms, none longer than one-third of an inch, blanketing the yard, the fence and the highway". They had "almost microscopic legs and walked like caterpillars". They were of no species known to Baer or Cope. (What the Philadelphia Geological Authority called them is not stated.) *Cr Washbourn*

RAIN OF BEANS

If the "tons of uncleaned beans" found dumped into Newport (Calif.) Bay from "a remote roadside cliff did not rain from the Super Sargasso, whence came they? They were edible. They were in sacks marked "United Nations", and other marks indicated that they were intended for overseas shipment, or, perhaps, that they were marked with the intention of fooling common dogs like us into *thinking* they were going to relieve some starving somewhere. The FBI is working on the case, but Your Secretary offers to eat the datum if they ever pinch anybody for it. *Cr Bowring*

Here are scores more data confirming DOUBT's doubt of any *bona fides* whatever in connection with any governmental institution in any of its branches. We have so many it would make the paperlopsided to print one tenth of them. No is it our function. When gliders which cost us taxpayers \$20,000 each are sold for \$75, as "surplus", is that Fortean? Apparently twenty members thought so. . . . Well, keep them coming, and we'll devote one whole issue of DOUBT to "where the Victory Loans Went!" - as if you didn't know that when you were buying the bonds!

In sending a clip on the British "perpetual motion speed plane", MFS Kerr calls all this governmental exaction for systematic waste "perpetual muction".

DOGS AND WARDENS

Dewey and cohorts defeated the N. Y. Anti-Vivisection bill. No other result was to be expected from a former D. A. Convicting men of "crime" and torturing animals are symptoms of the same mental condition, and that condition cannot be cured by law. When prison wardens and screws voluntarily eat all their meals in company with their prisoners - on the same plates and from the same vats - then will medicos attain to a similarly high level, and foreswear the degrading practice of vivisection; hardly before.

SLIGHT REVISION

Under his own caption, which appears above, MFS McElroy sends a datum purporting to establish that Sol is 4000 centigrade degrees hotter than the poor old balometer made it. The gadget on which the new figures are based, called a radiometer, was put forward by R. H. Dicke, MIT, when the American Physical Society convened there 4-26-46 old style. In an interview with a Boston *Globe* reporter, Swami Dicke added that not

many people "who are not scientists" know that a lighted cigarette gives off radio waves. . . . Not many people who are not scientists know that what Dicke give off is balloon juice.

FOLLOWING PONIES

The geegees have emotional cycles, according to a theory of MFS Ray Jurgen, a conceit not incompatible with MFS Knight's Solunar Theory for fish-feeding, and grist for the mill of the Foundation for the Study of Cycles. MFS Jurgen is not so explicit, but implication appears to be that when a nag is at the top of an emotional cycle, really "feeling his oats", the gentlemen's agreements between owners, their orders to their jockeys - bribes, drugs and gamblers notwithstanding - all go by the boards. The horse starts out to win and there's just no holding him. Details from Ray Jurgen, 32-12 Fifty-fourth Street, Woodside, Long Island, N. Y.

Your Secretary has not risked a dime on it, and won't, but the value of such study is neither more nor less than that of the findings put forward by the academic group named above and headed by - Charles Greeley Abbot (Smithsonian), William Cameron Forbes (Carnegie), Ellsworth Huntington (Yale), Harlow Shapley (guess!), Charles Sutherland Elton (Oxford), AND Julian Huxley! These are the Cycle boys, and they - in association with such persons from the world of commerce as George Bakeland (Bakelite Corporation), and Patrick Ashley Cooper ("The Honorable" Hudson's Bay Company) are spending endowment funds for a variety of purposes. We have not seen the payroll of Foundation for the Study of Cycles, but we have seen their prospectus. They offer, to members, "Cycles: Lynx and Fish, Mice and Men - and Dollars" (*vide* Hudson's Bay); "Emotional Cycles in Man" (then why not in horses?); "The Long Waves in Economic Life" (how long, O, Lord! how long!); and "Periodic Inspiration in Poetry and Music". But so far are we from decrying the use of bequests for such intellectual hoopla, that we advocate setting up branches on the site of every draft board, training 18-year-olds to the purpose and passing out the gravy as generously as the Army did Spam.

We are saving Frank A. Andersen's "Yardstick which Measures Human Behaviour" for next session. No room. *Cr Dal Lee*

HOORAY FOR GOD!

In time of drought, people pray for rain. Fort himself gave us many fatal deluges "in answer" to such prayers. Now we have one instance of the prayer and the answering deluge being printed the same day. *Cr Russell*

Telegraph, 1-9-46 old style: Capetown, South Africa - That "tomorrow" (actually Jan. 9th, old style) the Governor-General of South Africa would lead the entire Union in prayers for rain, attending not only the English Cathedral for the purpose, but the Boer's *Groote Kerk* as well. . . . This drought, "in comparison to the severe drought of 1933 is officially described as "child's play". (Sounds like an S. F. *Chronicle* writer.)

Echo, same date, the 9th: Johannesburg - "About 100 sheep were drowned and 600 killed by hail in terrific cloudbursts over South Africa. . . . In one district 4½ inches of rain fell in three hours."

As if God had said: "Well, you asked for it."

From Founder Sussman: *Her-Trib*, 6-5-35 old style: That 350 to 400 supplicants, praying for rain, were drowned in the church of San Pedro, Actopan, about 20 miles from Mexico City, by a cloudburst. "Only those who managed to stand on the piled-up bodies of the drowned and keep their heads above water were saved." Thanks, God.

EASTER TURNS OVER

A beach, Ankana, on the North side of Easter Island, off Chile, disappeared, the first week in old style April, and a new rocky shoal "of volcanic origin" was raised on the East coast.

Easter gets a general going-over in the Smithsonian Annual Report for last year, by Dr. Alfred Metraux.

GREYLOCK SHRINKS

The highest point in Mass., is Mt. Greylock. It used to be 3505 feet high - in text books. New texts give it only 3491 feet. Whether the mountain shrank or was remeasured, or if the new figure is a guess like the old one, is not clear.

SKINNY WHALES

The first whale seen in San Francisco Bay in eight years appeared 2-15-16 FS. *Cr Hoernlein*.

Twenty-seven "killer" whales were stranded on the Florida Gulf-side beaches South of St. Petersburg, 3-20-16 FS. That was the first time whales had been seen in the vicinity for thirty-five years. Three were captured alive, and another "drowned" by being pulled backwards through the water by a motor boat. *Cr Kerr*

The whaler, *Sir James Clark Ross*, crippled, reached Capetown 4-8-16 FS. "Experts" aboard reported themselves "puzzled" because the whales were so thin. The take in oil was only 119,000 barrels. They expected 140,000. They asked "Science" to find out where the *plankton* had gone, those fish being the chief diet of the whale.

A "footnote" states that more than 100 whales have been washed up on "Ninety Mile Beach", Eastern Victoria, Australia, where whales have never before been ashore. *Cr Elsander*

MORE JERSEY SHOTS

How anybody knows is not stated, but - allegedly - a 22-caliber rifle is being shot at trains near Elizabeth, N. J. "A sniper" let go at two passenger and two freight trains. At 9 p.m. 3-11-16 FS the first shots whistled through the windows of two passenger trains. Less than an hour later, two freights were hit. The *World-Tele* makes no mention of the missiles which have hit several planes on Jersey landing fields through the years, or of the Hindenburg disaster. For the public good, DOUBT calls attention to the fact that this sort of thing has been going on in that State for at least the past nine years.

SURVIVORS SURVIVE

"The thing to do was to accept it in its day, but Darwinism of course was never proved:

"The fittest survive.

"What is meant by the fittest?

"Not the strongest; not the cleverest -

"Weakness and stupidity everywhere survive.

"There is no way of determining fitness except in that a thing does survive.

"Fitness, then, is only another name for survival.

"Darwinism:

"That survivors survive."

Charles Fort, 1919

MR. AND MRS. THEODORE DREISER

All the Fortean in the possession of Theodore Dreiser at the time of his death has now been added to the archives of the Society, by gift of LMFS Helen Dreiser, the novelist's widow. Exception is made of some thirty letters (instead of "two" as announced) in Dreiser's hand or signed by Dreiser, which were given to the University of Pennsylvania Libraries. Of these letters to Fort, the Society has photostatic copies.

Several years ago, Theodore Dreiser presented to the same libraries his own correspondence from various sources, and probably that collection contained Fort's letters to Dreiser, which would interleaf these photostats. These are being searched out, and we hope to report next session that the picture is complete.

Augmenting this collection, and arriving with it, is the Fort-Sussman correspondence. This material was lent to Dreiser by Sussman, after Fort's death, as a contribution toward the proposed biography by Dreiser. It has now been presented to the Society by Sussman, whose energy and activity in Fort's behalf, from 1930 AD, and before, can never be sufficiently lauded.

Unfortunately, the Fort biography appears never to have been started, but publication of this material in some form is assured, in time, but not at all soon. The problems of arrangement, interpretation and presentation are prodigious.

The photograph on this page of Mr. and Mrs. Dreiser was taken only seven days before this Founder's death.

NUNS LOSE WITS

The Boston *American* refers vaguely to "a Bogota daily" which is alleged to have told about a lagoon near "remote Riohacha" in NE Colombia, where three nuns bathed and "lost their wits", where parrots and other animals "fell dead from nearby trees". Anybody going that way? *Cr McElroy*.



LIGHT IN SKY

At Weatherford, Texas, between 1 and 2 a.m., Sunday before 12-18-45 old style. Observed by policemen, George McKinney and Ed Stratton.

SNOWBALLS

Over an area of 150 square miles around Saratoga Springs, N. Y., rolled-up snowballs "as large as washtubs" were to be seen in open spaces on the morning of 1-28-16 FS. *Cr Bloch, Reagan, Hillyer.*

BLACKEST LIST

Once upon a time the lowest type of male human was the fly-cop on the morals detail who joined out a girl of the streets, used her, paid her with marked money and then arrested her. Now the race has sunk one degree below that. It has developed a class of men who sponsor a worthless contraption called a "lie-detector".

To the names of individuals already mentioned as prominent in the exploitation of this fake instrument, add Dr. F. Kenneth Berrien of Colgate. To the list

of police departments which employ it, superstitiously, as the modern inquisition! improvement over the water test, the fire test, the wheel and the rack, add that of Pontiac, Michigan. *Cr* Giles

MORE DETAILS NEEDED

Ted Peters, *ae* 15, says he lassoed a live octopus in Blackwater River, near Morgantown, W. Va. Prof. L. H. Taylor, U of W. Va., says it isn't possible. Other boys claimed to have shot the critters in the same fresh waters. The story as AP tells it, 1-14-46, wants several details to raise it above a space-filler. For Fortean purposes - the allegation is that live Octopi have been found in "turbulent" fresh water. *Cr* Bonavia, Crehore, and others.

METEOR INJURES 28

The fable that nobody has ever been injured by a falling meteor got a kick in the teeth, 5-16-46 old style, when one fell on a farm near General Bravo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. "Several buildings toppled because of earth tremors caused when the meteor struck." *Cr* Giles

Another fell "into a busy street" in Rotterdam, 1-13-16 FS, but injured none. It "split into three pieces, each about eighteen inches long and three-quarters of an inch thick" as it hit the street. *Cr* McMahon

OYSTER'S CAN'T FLY

Two attempts to fly barrelled Whittable oysters from Britain to South Africa for breeding have failed. Every oyster arrived dead. "An official of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' experimental station at Conway, North Wales," considers temperature changes responsible. *Cr* Elsander.

CRIME STILL TO PAY

The fingerprint racket trembled on the brink, for the second time (6-7-46 old style), when twins in Minneapolis thought their fingerprints were identical. The first occurrence of identical prints to reach us was noticed in DOUBT #3. The story was contradicted. In a cop's place, you'd contradict it yourself. Now here's another set: Johanna Mary and Julianna Mary Legierski. After being fingerprinted for the Army, then by the FBI, the girls still had lived to the age of 25 under the impression that their prints were identical. The Minneapolis police department is now trying to deny that they are. Milton Winslow is the spokesman up there. *Cr* Kerr

Miss Esta Barr "of Boston, nationally known scientist and criminologist," stated (7-18-46 old style) that she could diagnose arthritis, cancer, tuberculosis, polio, or good health, from a person's fingerprints. She advocates fingerprinting every baby born. *Cr* Reagan (This alleged "science" is called dermatoglyphics, and it has been the racket of Dr. Harold Cummings, Tulane U. for 24 years.)

BEEES

Those damned Reds are curing ulcers with honey. Dr. I. Revenson, Basmanaya Hospital, Moscow, reported 2-2-46 old style. *Cr* Russell

4-15-46 old style: Horses eat 16 hives of honey - bees and all - Medford, Oregon. *Cr* Hoernlein, Stevens

7-3-46 old style: Mrs. Lilian Mary Pettit, 48, died 15 minutes after a bee stung her on the temple. At an inquest, Dr. Barratt, apparently the coroner, Cambridge, Eng., "stated that some people were hypersensitive to bee stings. Death in this case was due to the allergic effects of the sting." *Cr* Elsander, Russell

7-23-46 old style: Mrs. Mary Hancock, Llanvair Discoed, Monmouthshire, lapsed into a coma and died within half an hour of the sting without ever regaining consciousness. *Cr* Elsander

8-2-46 old style: The Canadian government is experimenting with wasps as counter-irritant to fight sawflies. *Cr* Hoernlein

Three dwellings were taken over by bees which drove the humans out; Orinda, Calif., Vancouver, B. C., and Joliet, Ill. *Cr* Wakefield, Hoernlein, Atwater.

August 10, 1946 old style: In New Philadelphia, Ohio a swarm was stinging a dog (which later died), and Mrs. Etha Finley tried to rescue the dog. The bees turned on her and sent her to bed "nearly unconscious from toxic poisoning". *Cr* Reagan

In England, notably in Yorkshire, bees were starving at an alarming rate, August 16, "millions within 48 hours". Weather conditions had deprived the bees of their normal diet, and "mercy treks" were organized to carry sugar to the moors for the bees to eat. *Cr* Russell

COMETS

December 4, 1945 old style - invisible.
February 6, 1946 old style - invisible.
February 7, 1946 old style - invisible.
May 30, 1946 old style - with small binoculars.

August 22, 1946 old style - invisible.
How much salary does Shapley get?
"Astronomers at Mt. Wilson Observatory succeeded in measuring the distance to a nebula in the constellation of Bootes, and found it to be 1,200,000,000,000,000,000 miles away." Jan. 26, 1942 old style . . . July 16, 1946 old style: "Mt. Wilson, Southern California's famed peak, was up for sale today because its owners, Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Childs want to retire. The purchase price is \$425." *Washington Post* . . . *Cr* Bloch and Reagan

GHOSTS

Fifteen sailors refused to sail on the *Hazelbank*, after a sailor named Finn committed suicide by jumping overboard. They claimed his ghost haunted the ship. Hailed to court 1-15-46 old style, they were freed 1-23. *Cr* Russell, Elsander

When the BBC went to Sussex and broadcast from a house "where bricks were thrown mysteriously", the program director got nine offers of other haunted houses where owners or tenants would welcome similar investigation. *L'pool Echo*, 3-5-46 old style, *cr* Russell

At St. Mary's barracks, Chatham, Kent, a ghost *on crutches*, dressed in a naval uniform of Lord Nelson's day, follows the guards around the ramparts from midnight until 4 a.m. (5-31-46 old style) *Cr* Plewucha

A house in Bootle (Liverpool), "with a short distance of the Town Hall" (6-4-46 old style). *Cr* Russell

The ghost of Ada Abbott, British author of *Mother of Men*, dead three years, may have rocked the table for the actors in her play - Barbara Mullen among 'em. Also - according to the story (8-3-46 old style) - the ghost telephoned Tod Slaughter, actor, telling him to attend the premiere. Gordon Courtney, the press agent denies he thought it up. *Cr* Kerr

Borley Rectory, "the most haunted house in England" is in the news again (8-5-46 old style), reported on by David M. Nichols, foreign correspondent of the *Washington Star* and *Chicago Daily News*. *Cr* Reagan and Kerr. By the oddest coincidence, the story appears at about the time Harry Price's second book on the subject was being published, *The End of Borley Rectory*.

A house at 2320 Bowman Drive, Beverly Hills, about 8-18-46 old style, mirrors floated etc. *Cr* E. S. Anderson

Churches in North Lancing and Coombes report strange inscriptions written in their Bibles and Prayer Books, also books and other objects scattered about the churchyard. *London Times* 7-12-46 old style, *cr* Hopper

An undated Reuter despatch (August), haunts a beach on Tarn Island, off Karlskrona in South Sweden. "Mysterious luminous figure . . . stalking lonelier stretches after nightfall . . . cattle refused to graze there although it best pasture." Had been seen before, "during the war". *Cr* Hopper

IT'S TOBERMORY

Hopper also has kept us posted on a cat in Santander, Spain, which said "Let me alone. Shut up," for ten minutes at a stretch, *actto* Vicente Quintana, a surgeon. He had 29 other witnesses. *London Express* 7-11-46 old style.

By 8-14-46 Royston, England, had come up with another talking dog. Property of Alfred Brissenden. The dog says, "I want one." *Cr* Reagan and Bowring

NOISE AND JAR

"Many residents" of the Niagara Frontier - Buffalo, Erie Beach, Ontario, etc., were wakened 5.45 a.m. 11-9-45 old style, by a "rumbling" or "a crashing thud". No damage, no explanation. *Cr* Giles

ICE IN AUGUST

August 1, 1946 old style, with the temperature at 90 degrees, icicles formed (and were photographed) on the eaves of a building at 21 Moon Street, North End, Boston. *Cr* Brooks

August 19, temperature 63 degrees, "glare ice" formed on the sidewalk leading to the Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, Mass. *Cr* Reagan

LUNACY LESSONS

Send a dollar to the Fellowship of Humanity, 411 Twenty-eighth Street, Oakland, Calif. Ask them to send you "Little Lessons in Lunacy". These are a series of postcards, edited by Hugh Robert Orr. Space limitations forbid quotations. Take our word. They are good.

LINCOLN LETTERS

The material being held by the Library of Congress, by the terms of the will of Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the President, should be made available to the public July 26, 1947 old style (which will be August 14, 17 FS, a Saturday). Just how the public will know what portion of the material is revealed and what part concealed, we shall have to ask Houdini. Pertinent to conjecture on the subject are the data that Robert Todd Lincoln was Secretary of War under two Presidents, as well as president of the Pullman Company (sic), and chairman of the Board of the Commonwealth Edison Co. *Cr* Reagan

FOLLOW UPS

As of 8-17-46 old style, William C. Wel's of Dayton, Ohio, had been hiccupping for 17 months . . . Yet, "Medical science won another round from the home-cure school today. Louis Rodstein stopped hiccupping" after an 11-day siege, in Los Angeles, 7-13-46 old style. "Neither the method nor the physician's name was disclosed." *Cr* Reagan and Hoernlein.

A picture of that Dr. John Wilson of Harrow who invented an atom-run automobile was in the *Buffalo Evening News*, 12-7-45 old style. *Cr* Giles

That hole in Sturgis, S.C., was explained by "two meteorite authorities", 6-3-46 old style. It was caused by a gypsum bed which had dissolved! *Cr* Bowring and Bloch. *Ibid*: In a list of "nine simple rules to help combat" polio, issued by the Los Angeles Health Department, item four is: "Postpone if possible tonsil and adenoid operations."

The mean temperature of Greenland has been rising for thirty years *actto* Dr. Max Dunbar of McGill (8-28-46 old style). He attributes the change to the Gulf Stream, probably never having heard of Drayson. *Cr* Reagan

The second mirage in a year appeared in the sky over Bridlington 7-2-46 old style. It lasted ten minutes, right side up. *Cr* Elsander

Researchers into polio at Johns Hopkins told the American Medical Association, 7-1-46 old style, that 75 percent of polio infections cure themselves "spontaneously", and showed a series of microphotographs to prove it. *Cr* Reagan. But the dimes go marching on!

Snakes still turning on God's friends . . . Two, in serious condition, Jordan Mines, Va., 6-9-46 old style. One dead in Chattanooga, Tenn., 7-15-46 old style. One dead in Abingdon, Va., 7-30-46 old style. One found guilty of involuntary manslaughter (after his bitten wife died) in Wise, Va., 8-14. *Cr* Reagan

Aha! Those flights which moved the North Pole 300 miles NNW of where it used to be, although based upon 30,000 instrument readings, were not only inconclusive, so that many, many more flights will be necessary (SIC), but they "confirmed the calculations of the Astronomer Royal, Sir Harold Spencer Jones!" Beautiful? Inconclusive confirmation! *Cr* Elsander and Sullivan

Those damned Reds report that Earth is elliptical, with three axes and three equators. 7-7-46 old style. *Cr* Hoernlein

. . . That the temperature of Mars ranges between 10 degrees below zero in winter to 10 degrees above zero in summer, but that notwithstanding, the planet supports vegetation which stays green all winter. *Cr* Reagan and Hoernlein . . . One of them, Mikhail Gerasimov, has become so expert at reconstructing the living critter's likeness from bone measurements that he can flesh up a skull so the family will recognize the portrait *Cr* Giles . . . And *Pravda* states that ice in the Polar Seas has been reduced by half between 1920 and 1940. *Cr* Elsander

Penicillin was used by the Mayas. *Cr* Selby
Insurance companies have paid \$20,000 to the "widow" of Judge Crater. *Cr* Kerr
Clouds continue to be observed over Crater Lake, Oregon. Six such instances were listed in the *American Weekly*, 3-31-46 old style. June 24, yellow scum identified as pumice was floating on the water, but a University of Oregon geologist said it fell there from the sides of the crater and that it would sink. *Cr* Giles, Reagan Stevens

A second volcano threat in Oregon comes from Bend, 5-22-46 old style. An old cone on the slope of Bachelor Butte was smoking or steaming in puffs. *Cr* Stevens

ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN

MFS Paul Doerr requests data on this subject. Material which has not been printed in the pulps is assumed.

The Truth About INDIA

by
Kanhayalal Gauba

(continued)

The influence of a dancing girl in another State was recently referred to in the press:

"She decided cases, gave promotions and appointments to her worshippers. The Nawab was only a toy in her hands. She had her own ways in everything. She had even her lovers as the Nawab was unfit for giving her any sexual pleasure."

16

Such conditions are not rare. Equally important is the "instability of the services and prostitution of justice which has become so notorious during recent years as to become one of the most glaring scandals connected with State administration." (*Princely India*, 15th June 1928).

"Officials are engaged by Princes on alluring terms but degenerate tendencies soon come into play and then pretexts are taken up to drive out officers without the slightest compunction or honesty. In a large number of cases it is the upstarts, hirelings and lackeys who hang about a Prince." (*Ibid*.)

The same journal quotes an instance from a Rajput State:

"Panditji had put in a service extending over 15 years working in different departments of the State. He was a

Judicial Minister himself. Later he became the Superintendent of the Jail. But his stars soon waned visibly.

"About the middle of last year when the Superintendent was only two months in his new post a prisoner escaped from the jail. In consequence the Pandit was arrested. The escaped convict was brought back only to be rewarded for his courage by being offered a job. While Panditji was sounding the depth of his misfortunes, under police rule fresh charges were thrown on his head. Bribery which was considered a virtue and the very salt of the profession at one time, turned soon against him. (*Ibid*, 19th June 1926.)

In connection the special correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, who visited India in 1922, reported to his paper:

"But I think you may take it that very curious things do still occur in the less enlightened States. And even in the most enlightened States there is something not quite wholesome about the atmosphere of the palace or, at least of the palace back stairs. Two or three British Indian Government servants who had done good service and received honours in the progressive Native State have told me that they would do their best to discourage their sons from following in their footsteps. 'Too many temptations and too many intrigues,' they said. 'Service in British India, that is the the service for a straight forward steady boy.'"

Apart from insecurity, there is often great difficulty in the realisation of salaries. The Prince may need money - they often need it badly - for a European mistress whose contract is nearing completion or to pay for a new car or to feast the Viceroy or to fit up a home at Delhi or for one of the hundred and one uses for which the pursestrings of the State may be opened. If the treasury is thus empty, employees have to wait. There is no undue anxiety in such cases to pass the establishment bill nor is there any starvation if salaries remain in arrears. The Ruler knows that his staff is dishonest, he knows that there are sources of income not confined to his pay cheques. The staff knows that State service is remunerative even without a formal salary:

"It is no secret in . . . that the judicial posts are the most fertile in the State. And trading justices get on well if only they happen to be in the selected list, while a mechanic might profitably think twice before breaking a spanner belonging to the State if he is out of the list."

In the same State:

"A sum of Rs. 371,188 was spent on His Highness's palace. That was the figure for 1922-23. Rs. 15,000 was expended in 1921 to decorate a palace to receive His Excellency the Viceroy. Such expenses ran all round without a thought of the resources that in the end the hard cash extracted from the ryots in increasing rates was found still inadequate to meet the demand on it. The casual observer sees little of the misery of the situation. The treasury for the major portion of the year is empty. It is a commonplace to see pay clerks of different departments waiting at the door to catch hold of the first bag to reach the treasury. Thanks to

the octroi duty that bring from Rs. 3 to 4 lakhs a year, it sends a daily dole to the treasury. The writer has noticed often that at the closing of the month a circular reaches the departmental heads advising them not to put forward their pay bills before the end of the first or second week of the following month or later as the case may be."

Except in certain States which have something like a public Service, often no principal is followed in the allocation of duties. It is not necessary to know very much law to be appointed the Chief Judge, nor is any special knowledge of revenue essential to be entrusted with this department. The Police sees to it that the revenue is promptly and fully paid. Several cases have come within the writer's personal knowledge where extraordinary duties were allotted to extraordinary men. A Sanitary Inspector in a State in the Punjab recently held at the same time the post of Director of Industries. In another State the Judiciary is utilised during the cotton season for the collection of the land revenue. Such instances could be multiplied.

The Judiciary and the Executive is generally ill paid. A Deputy Commissioner in British India may receive anything from Rs. 800 to 1,200 a month. An official corresponding to the same position in an Indian State may receive a hundred rupees or less. A Minister in a Provincial government in British India receives about Rs. 5,000 monthly. Ministers even in the larger States do not generally receive more than Rs. 1,500 to 2,000 a month. While the Chief or Ruler receives possibly a hundred or two hundred times what a ruler of a State in Europe would receive, the scale of salaries in the administration generally is not more than one-eighth to one-quarter what is paid for similar responsibility elsewhere. The following facts among others reported by one well-acquainted with Indian States merit reiteration:

The Police. — The ordinary constables, the rank and file of the force, are drawn from the very scum of the population, and hardly one in a hundred of these knows how to read or write. In addition to being illiterate they are entirely without the knowledge and training necessary for their work. The average pay of the constable is between Rs. 3 to 10 per month. The Superintendent Police may receive as much as Rs. 35 to 40 a month. The result is - bribery and corruption. In the rank and file this is perpetual and new opportunities are forever being created. Nearly 50 per cent of crimes committed are never detected. Scarcely 30 per cent of stolen property is ever recovered, and in murder cases scarcely one genuine culprit is brought to book. Innocent persons are often convicted on faked evidence, sworn to by false witnesses. Crimes of indescribable cruelty and ferocity are brought to light, but in very rare cases is effective action taken. (Indian Princes under British Protection, p. 81).

If any villager is not amenable to police pressure, what is more easy than to concoct a false case against him and hand the

poor creature over to a magistrate who is himself far too much afraid of the police to be able to acquit the accused, even though convinced of the latter's innocence? (Ibid, p. 62.)

As to witnesses, it is just as easy to procure these as it is to concoct a charge. No one dares to say a word in favour of the accused. Serious trouble might be the result. The accused, often an innocent man, is sent to jail or heavily fined, and the petty police official, having shown his power by one or two such examples in each village, completely establishes himself as a little tyrant and is able to extort as much money as the poor villagers can afford. "In many instances the police themselves are the originators of the crimes. They employ well-known criminals to perpetrate the offences and act as accomplices in exchange for a share in the booty." (Ibid, p. 81.)

In the villages no attractive woman's honour is safe. The atmosphere is charged with intrigue and danger - (Ibid, p. 82). There is keen competition among prospective seducers, as reward and honour follow upon the supply to the royal harems of a peach that really pleases the King.

The Subordinate Judiciary. - And now for the Subordinate courts. Here we are confronted with a still sadder tale. Some of the officials of these courts are qualified no doubt, but they are very badly paid, and since their superiors in the higher Courts are so slack these smaller fry see no reason why they should not be slack too. Besides, in addition to their judicial work they have to attend to a host of miscellaneous duties, such as the attending of marriages and funerals of the Prince's relatives, of his friends, or of the relatives of his friends, the accompanying of the Prince on his tours and of the ladies of the palace on their pilgrimages. (Ibid, p. 79.)

"Sub-judges" and magistrates receive from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 a month, although there are in several of the Kathiawad States several subordinate judges and magistrates who are invested with power to pass sentence of seven years imprisonment at the meagre salary of less than 100 rupees a month. Naturally it is not possible to expect either efficiency or honesty. (Ibid, p. 75).

(To be continued)

GLACIER SMOKES

Under Vatnojoekull, "Europe's largest glacier", "volcanic action develops . . . at intervals of from five to ten years". News that smoke and flame were "seeping" or "spewing" up came from Reykjavik, Iceland, 9-29-45 old style. Cr Giles

D.D.T. DEATH

It was mighty unpatriotic of H.M. Kille to die (8-25-46 old style) after spraying spiders with D.D.T., because Uncle Sam says the stuff is not harmful to humans. Fate of the spiders not recorded. Cr Bonavia and Hoernlein

FIRELESS PARACUTIN

The pavement of a street in Wilmington, California, started rising at 11 a.m. 6-15-16 FS, and one side ascended three feet before it stopped. A few hours later the other side rose too. The material is eight inches thick and has been in place 15 years. Cr Bowring

STATUE DISEASE

Paris reports "stone cancer" eating statues and buildings, 6-16-46 Pathfinder. The Seattle Times ran photographs 6-30. Nobody knows what causes it. Cr Reagan and Hoernlein

COINCIDENCES

Two drownings are to be found under the head, Russell's Best. Besides that:

Three persons over 90 years old (total 283 years) died in a period of 20 hours in Jamestown, N. Y. 10-12-45 old style. Cr Giles

Two men found injured in Washington, D.C., 4-2-46 old style, "within a few hours of each other", and neither could recall any details. Cr Kerr

Colombus McMahon and his sister went to tell his sweetheart that his mother had died, in Denny, Stirlingshire. A train killed the two, 5-28-46 old style. Cr Reagan

A farmer of Limoges, France, and his wife, 28, committed suicide simultaneously, several miles apart, allegedly ignorant of each other's action. He bashed his head with an ax, she threw herself in front of a train. 6-3-46 old style. Cr Kerr

In 1910 twelve men went fishing, and their boat capsized at Huntingdon Mills, Pa. Eight were drowned. "Subsequently, three of the survivors met tragic deaths." On 8-6-46 old style, the last man, James Koons was found drowned at Harveyville, near Wilkes-Barre. Cr Kerr

STONE SHOWER

Stones "too heavy to be thrown except by a catapult", and pieces of metal, including "washers" were breaking windows nightly "for the last week" (7-15-46 old style) in Hagginwood, a suburb of Sacramento. The sheriff's car was hit. Two firemen were hit. Everybody looked for hoodlums. None were found. Cr Bowring, Rayner, Thomas, Wakefield . . . By the way - where did the Fellows family move to when they left Oakland?

LIGHT ON DARK MOON

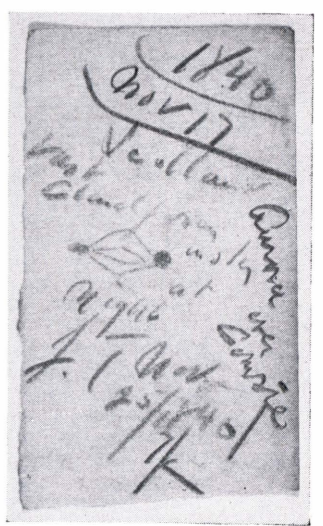
About 7:40 p.m., 6-17-31 old style, N. J. Gidings and his wife, at Riverside, Calif., observed "flashes of light" or "lightning" streak across the dark side of Luna at the time of a new moon. The phenomena occurred six or seven times in 20 to 30 minutes. Mr. Giddings wrote to Mount Wilson Observatory, "and the reply very courteously discounted my observations". Now (August 9, 1946 issue) he has written to Science, and the ed has published the letter. Cr Conly

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

- 1840
- Box 2 (Continued)
- May 25 Ext. tide Lake Erie and meteor on 29th. CR 12-450
- 27 LT p. 7
- 29 U S Large meteor. BA 60
- 31 Parma. STON Fireball. BA 60
- June 12 Uden, Brabant, Holland Meteorite. BA '60 (F)
- June 20-28 } Armenia. Great Quake. '11
- July 2 }
- July 6-8 }
- July 27 }
- June Box A (Resumed)
- June Period of. Philosophy of Mysterious Agents, E. C. Rogers YRD p. 260 Home of Joseph Proctor, a miller, village of Willington near railway running from Newcastle to North Shields. A room - occupants (reverse) see bluish lights and ghostly appearances and swoon. Story here of experience of an investigator. See 1835 etc.
- June 23 LT p. 7. Spon. Comb.
- July 2-6 Quake and water? Quake Mt. Ararat and immense floods of water/ TY Book 41/257 but see 42-248
- July 17 M(eteor) period of quakes. Armenia 6 and 8 and 27. See 2-6 BA '11/
- 17 Casale Piedmont stone fall at Cereseto. Rept BA 1860-78 (reverse) Phil Mag 4-8-460/1868
- 17 7 a.m. '40 / loud detonation at Milan, meteorite fell at Cereseto Athenaeum 1840-1013
- 22 Meteorite About 8 a.m. Great meteor seen in mileta said fallen near Milan CR 11-244/See 17th by HMS Erebus S Lat 47°E Long 97°. Great numbers of meteors in a gale. BA 65-122
- 30 Vienna meteor train 15 minutes. BA 60
- about 1 b's Brighton. D. News. Aug. 17, 1847
- Aug 2 Frankfort Fireball. BA 60
- 3 France Fireball. BA 60
- 3 9:30 p.m. Meteor set fire. Meteor seen at Tamerville, near Valognes, France and said set fire (reverse) on a farm. / The farm buildings on fire one hour later. CR 111-292
- 3 Farmhouse at Tamerville, near Valognes - (La Manche) burned. Six witnesses told of having seen a meteor going in the (reverse) direction of the house and of the fire immedi-

- ately breaking out. Mirror 36-160
- 7 Eng. Whirl. Times Aug. 14
- 7 Naples Fireball. BA 60
- 9 Quake Conn. attrib by some persons to a meteor Am J Sci 33/335
- See Apr. 12 '37 (reverse) See Nov. 9, 1810
- 9-10
- 10-11 At Parma 536 meteors counted only in one quarter of the sky CR 111-406
- Aug About 1840 / Lady birds. Brighton. Times Index
- Aug 13 Afternoon / Woodbridge, Conn. Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 13 Fireball. Peru. -BA '60
- 15 Knightsford Bridge. Aurora 10 p.m. Several brilliant columns shooting up in northern horizon / several meteors. LT Aug. 19 p. 6
- 15 Worcestershire Aurora and at 10 p.m. when most distant several meteors. LT 19, p. 6.
- 16 Toronto Meteor. BA 60-78
- Sept 2 8:15 p.m. / Along Rhone - quake and "abundance of inflamed gases from river marshes" BA 34-298
- Box A (Resumed)
- 4 LT p. 3. Sleeper Ext
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- 9 LT p. 7. Meteors at Paris
- 21-22 Meteors at Geneva. Very numerous and very brilliant. CR-111-1061 (reverse) They came from Northern sky. Aurora at Brussels, Italy, Germany Concord New Hampshire detonating meteor/stone said found. BA '60-78
- Oct Meteorite/ (Scoriaceous)/ Examined at Yale College Laboratory, declared to be a meteorite, no nickel in it (reverse) no metallic points / Said be identical with Bishopville stone / evidence of having been intensely heated/ A. J. Sci. 2/4/356
- Oct 5 9:45 p.m. Dublin. Great meteor. BA 58/156 (reverse) large meteor bright as moon. BA 60
- 17 Red rain (earth) Valence, etc. France / C R 23/832. Date right? (Fort's query. T.T.)
- 18 Meteor Paris. BA 60
- 19 Aurora and quake. Quake in Bavaria and an aurora and quake in Italy and France. BA '54/298
- 20 Severe shock in Connecticut. Had been slighter shock several weeks before. Niles Nat. Reg. 59-144

- 28 Heavy quake. Greece. BA '11
- 29 Meteor. Brussels. BA 60
- 30 Quake in Zante. See Afstead's work on Ionian Isles. pp. 415-19
- 30-Nov 6. 100 shocks at least/ Zante. Athenaeum 1840-1014
- Nov 2 Jozeux / France. Meteor. BA 60
- 11 Quake and water / Severe shock at Phil accompanied by an unusually heavy swell in the Delaware but members of Amer Phil Soc (reverse) could not determine whether caused by quake or a meteor. See Nov. 9, 1810
- 11, 12, 13 Meteors watched for in Washington but none seen. Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 1-301
- 12 &
- Dec 15 Volc. Gedeh, N. M. Java. CR 70-878
- 12-13 Nothing of ext. meteors in Parma. CR 13-1035
- 14 About 9 p.m. Philadelphia? Shock and sound attributed to exploding meteor (reverse) Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 1-301
- 17 Aurora over Comrie. Scotland vast cloud form in sky at night. LT Nov. 25, 1840 p. 7. (see illustration TT)



- Nov before 19 Portstewart and Derry coast of Ireland bet. 3 and 4 a.m. A shock as of earthquake or storm or firing of guns at sea. 20 minutes later a flash of (reverse) lightning and sound of thunder - had been similar phe in Scotland. Portstewart LT Nov 19, 1840

- Dec 4 Zurich Meteor. BA 60
6 9 a.m. / by an astronomer at Reimes (sic) 10 sunspots / Y B 41-262 quoting Times of Dec 12 LT p. 2. Singular phe in Rutland
- 12 Worcester / Aurora / in North horizon / streaks of light darting toward horizon. LT Dec. 25
- 24 LT p. 2. 3 large spots on sun
25 Moravia etc. Meteor. BA 60
26 Insects. Niles National Register - fall of insects (reverse) with snow near Pottsville, Pa.
27 Mitau Meteor. BA 60
- 1841**
- Jan 2 See Jan 1, 1842
24 Quake. Carmarthen. See p. 147. Oct. 30, 1868
- 24 & 26 Fall of manna widely in Asia Minor La Sci Pour Tous 1-128 Gelat-like Wilna / Asia Minor / D-48
- 1841
- Jan 25 8:40 am. Shock and rumbling sound New York and New Jersey. Niles Nat. Reg. 59-352
28 Lat 75° -48 S Long 168° -33E. Mt. Erebus active volc. discovered (reverse) by Sir James. C. Ross A J Sci 2/7/328
31 Quakes at Carmarthen / B Assoc. '54/301
- Feb 9 or 11 Assam quake and meteor. B Assoc '54. See BA '60
- Feb-Mar Black substance found (after quakes at Comrie?) BA '54 p. 289
- Feb 14 Comrie / 247 shocks recorded bet. Oct. 13, 1839, Feb. 14, 1841 Edin. N B J 32/107
- Feb 17 to Apr (indecipherable T.T.) in Sydney Morning Herald
17 Vernet (Pyrenees Orientales) Salmon-colored dust. CR 13/62
17, 18, 19 Oily matter at Genes, Genoa, etc. D-63 (reverse) CR Vol. 12
18 Quake and fall of discolored rain. Edin N Jour 35/148
18 17-18-19. Repeat quake and repeat red rains / Genoa / a quake slight, at 5 p.m. another at 11 p.m. and 3 showers of red rain / BA 1854-302 (reverse) red rain fell evening of 17th at different times and 8 a.m. 18th, 19th/ oily matter/ decomposed seeds and sand/Ec. Mag. 68/438. CR 13-216
19 At Bagnone 8 miles from Pont-Tremoli rain of mud. Genoa and Parma. CR 12/789
21-22 Foggia, Italy. Medium quake. BA '11
23-25 3 days and nights of incessant rain with a violent gale on 26th quake which continued daily. BA '54-302
25 "A stone or some substance but very doubtful." BA '60 Chanteloupe (Fr)
25 Meteor Parma also Cherbourg and Chanteloupe BA 60-78
25 3 p.m. / Meteorite fell on a house in Chanteloupe (Coutances) 12/790 (reverse) CR 12/514. At Boizaux-Roux Com-

muné of Chanteloupe ac to several witnesses fell on roof of a building and set it on fire.

25 }
27 } **Meteors. Parma. BA 60-78**

Mar 8 }
Feb 26 } Violent quake at Zant about 7 p.m. preceded by 3 days and (reverse) nights of incessant rain. BA '54
27 4:40 a.m. Meteor Parma greater than apparent size of moon. See Feb. 25

Box A (Resumed)

27 Rat / LT. Mar 3, p. 6

Box 2 (Resumed)

Mar 1-31 Jour des Debats / nothing
8 (det) 9:30 p.m. Guastalla (Parma) Met 4 times the size of Jupiter / Loud explosion / see Feb. 25

15 Princeton and New Haven meteor. BA 60

20 Quake Italy / Lipari Island. BA 11

21 or 22 Detonating fireball / St. Menehould, France. BA 60-78

21-22 night / Detonating meteor at Commercy and Sainte-Menehould (Meuse). See Feb. 25 and CR. Apr. 12, 1841 p. 662

22 Durham / Aurora Arch 8:45 p.m. passed midway bet. Aldebaran and Alph. Orionis / north of Castor and a little south of (reverse) Ursa Major and ab. 5° north of Arcturus. At 9 - bet. Cast. and Pol. and a little north of Arcturus. 9:15 - south of C. and Pol. / and southern edge just covered Arcturus. Timb's Year Book '42-271

22 Quake Coblenz / "a bluish meteor was observed during the previous night over the volcanic mountains near Brohly. (reverse) And on the same night a ball of fire of unusual size was seen at Troyes, in France. (Timb's) Y. Book '42-247

22-24 Quakes on 22 along Rhine - 23-24 magnetic perturbations / Italy, Belgium, Canada (reverse) "meteors were observed at several places". BA '54 - 302

22 Quake Grunberg, Silesia. BA '60 (F)

24 10: (20?) 5 p.m. Geneva / meteor 8 or 10 times size of Venus. See Feb. 25 ref.

30 9: (20?) 2 p.m. Geneva / meteor as if from Gemini / about 1/4 or 1/5 size of moon / ref. Feb. 25

Apr 18 Venus greatest brilliancy

17 Opposition Mars (A 1)

18 From 8 p.m. at Vidalia, Louisiana (reverse) 60 meteors in 2 1/4 hours from Virgo. Am.J.Sc. 42/397

19-20 Many meteors America. BA 47-15

20 Quake Zante. LT p. 5

21 See Comrie Jan. 8, 1840

Box A (Resumed)

Spring S. S. President vanished N. to Liverpool

Box 2 (Resumed)

Apr 29 No Sydney Morning Herald nearer than May 8

29 20 inches of rain South Head, N. S. Wales. Sydney Morning Herald, Feb. 26, 1873

May 4 Shower fish. Buchen (Baden). Annals and Mag. of Nat. Hist. 10-3-5

13 Brussels meteor. BA 60

14 Venus inferior conjunction Earth (A 1)

16 11 p.m. d'Essone meteor. CR 13/91

16 Montargis and Essonne / E to N / slow meteor. BA 60

18 Great quake Armenia (?BA? TT) '11

About 1841 Fishes - streets of Salisbury / Phil. Jour. 37/382 (7)

May 30 "Waterspout" fell at Orange (Provence) France / Timb's 1842 - 275

June Tutbury Staffordshire frogs NQ 8/6/191

Box A (Resumed)

June Fishes and frogs Boston, England, elsewhere

Box 2 (Resumed)

June 1 Quake at Jamaica preceded by heavy rains. BA 54

8-9 Quakes Abruzzi, Italy

10 Quakes Chieti, Italy (Taranta, etc.)

14-15 Quakes Azores / BA '11

9 8:35 p.m. bolide, reddish white, at Saint Rambert CR 13-903

9 8 p.m. bolides of Angers and Toulouse. CR 13-229

12 and July 4 stones / Repeat in 1842 int Tortona, Spain / but see June 4

12 bet 1 and 2 p.m. meteorites of Chateau Renard, in the Loiret Timb's 1842 - 271

12 (Indecipherable word. TT) Chat-R / Loiret, France / weighed 75 lbs. / at 1:30 p.m. BA 60 (F)

12 See June 12, 1850 Paris / Stone in Japan

12 and July 2. Montargis in depart adjoining Loiret / see Sept. 6

12 See June 12, 1840 / July 17 ? (Fort's query. TT)

12 July 12, CR of / A member of the Acad. says that the fall of (reverse) an aerolite near Beaune was a pure fabrication / Not same as Chat-R - see CR 12-1191

12 1:30 p.m. Aerolite of Chat-Ren / CR 13-38 (reverse) commune of Trigueres / 14-10+8

14-15 Quake Azores. BA 54

14-15 Medium quakes Azores. BA '11

20 Venus greatest brilliancy.

23 and before / notable sunspots. LT July 17 p. 6

29-30 shocks and sounds France. BA 54

29-30 night / in Uckermark / rain of

fishes / Jour Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 21-616

29 10 a.m. first concussion dept. de l'Indre / 30(th) 11:30 a.m. a stronger concussion / July 4-5 / CR 13-232

30 Concussions 11:15 a.m. - sound / La Blanc (sur Indre) CR 13/80

30 Fish in Boston, England?(Fort's query, and it refers only to England. TT) D-175

July 1 Town of Bayazia that disappeared (indecipherable word) "was swallowed up" / a quay / "The account requires confirmation". BA 54/306

2 23, 25, 26, 30, 31 / Shocks Comrie / 23, 5, 6 really severe / 30 violent. BA 54

2-3 Loud detonations heard at Montargis / A 1 / (1) see May 16 (reverse). Considered very mysterious / no known cannon and the sky was clear

3 3 p.m. at Navalcarnero near Madrid an insupportable heat / Jour des Debats 13-3 (reverse) At 4 a tremendous tempest and a rain of stones. Said that the surrounding country was white as snow with the stones. It may be that they were all hail stones.

4-5 Indre / violent detonation and strong concussion / 3 from ab midnight to 4 a.m. CR 13-232

4? (Fort's query) Montargis / See substance July, 1849

4-5 Violent th. storms reported from Tours other places Jours des Debats 8-3-3

4-5 Quake Paris / BA 54 / CR 13/28, 80, 149. 232 (reverse) (London) Times July 12 p. 5

4 Fireball Blois and Brussels BA 60 / Ab. midnight 4-5 the quake in France

4-5 Quakes and stones France / Edin New Phil J. 36/368. At 12:25 3 shocks at Blois - at 1 a.m. a globe of fire/ explosion heard at Montargis and (?) said that half a (p2) league from Montargis a stone fell from the sky / "This stone was round and of a dark color (reverse) burst in the air - great red clouds and 2 explosions at Paris, Tours and Nevers at 12:45 / shock at Orleans at 4 a.m. at Pont (indecipherable) at 12:30 and 3:40 a.m. CR 13/28,80

(2) The next day it was learned that at Chateau Renard, had fallen from the (reverse) sky, a round black stone weighing 45 kilogrammes. J. des Debats 9-2-3

4-5 At Nevers during the quake the clouds on the horizon were (reverse) reddish and charged with electricity. J. des Deb 9-2-3

4 Night and early 5th quakes and storms large part of France

/ Morning Chronicle 12th p. 5

5 7 p.m. violent th. storm in Paris and shock felt. J. des Debat 5-2-4

5 Quakes large part of central France / Orleans the weather lowering and (reverse) the atmosphere seemed charged with electricity. BA 54

7 evening / explosion powder mill near Faversham, Kent / Sheffield Patriot July 13

7 Considerable number of fishes (fell) at the Townhill ab a mile northeast of Dunfermline (Scotland) Tim's 1842 - 204

8 London Times of the 15th, p. 6, quotes the Sheffield Patriot - at Derby - torrents of rain "mixed with half-melted ice" and (reverse) hundreds of small fishes from 1 1/2 to 2 inches long, but one of them weighing 3 ounces - some with spikes on backs commonly called "suttle-backs" - many picked up alive - and frogs from size of a horse bean to that of (reverse) a garden bean - many came down alive but most of them were killed by fall on pavement

8 Frogs at Derby "mostly killed by the fall on the hard pavement" Timb's

8-29 Many meteors at Parma. BA 47-15

30 Strong shocks at Comrie etc. 2 p.m. During week before had been 30 severe shocks. LT Aug. 11 p. 3

30 Quake in Perthshire / Comrie quakes so slight or weak sounds that (reverse) this and Oct. 23 '39 the only ones listed by Milne in Catalogue of Destructive Earthquakes

Aug 7 10:30 p.m. Shocks. Spain, Seville, Cadiz, etc. LT Aug. 19 p. 3

9-10 Many meteors. BA 47-15

10 LT Oct. 27 p. 3. At Iwan, Hungary, in a rainstorm. Millions of little stones size of millet seed to hazelnut, pliable substance fell in a rainstorm. No wind but fell at considerable angle. Blackish outside - inside part gray - brown, (reverse) partly blackish blue, mixed with yellow substance and a reddish substance and shiny metallic substances. They were cold and temperature of the air lowered with them.

10 BA '60. Said not meteoric - "simply pea-iron ore."

11-12 Nothing of ext. mets. in Parma. C.R. 13-1035

11 LT p. 3. Quake Scotland

14 LT p. 5. Singular lightning at Sheffield.

18 Paris and Rheims - large met. BA '60

18 At Bonsall no wind - hay suddenly upward - same phe. this day at Tausley. Sheffield Patriot Aug. 24

20 Meteor Geneva. BA 60

22 Quake at Marseilles and Leg-

horn. LT Aug. 3 p. 5

22 Thunder-stone / LT of Aug. 2, p. 7, cites Chelmsford Chronicle "During the thunderstorm of the 22nd instant, a 'fireball' was seen to fall in a field at Eldo, near Bury, adjoining the gardens of the Mount. It has (reverse) somewhat the appearance of coal, with marks on one of the fractured surfaces, and when entire was nearly the size of a man's head." Said that the track it had burned through leaves of trees was distinctly traceable.

25 Sir George Duncan Gibb, not far from a canal in Montreal, saw a multitude of small frogs (reverse). It was his impression they had fallen in a recent shower although he had crossed a body of water it was "a considerable distance away" but in his book "Odd Showers" written under his pseudonym "Carribber" (or Curribber), he supposes (reverse) that he had fallen into the "popular error" of thinking they had so fallen.

26 2 large clusters of sun spots reach center of sun on 26th. Derby Mercury 14th

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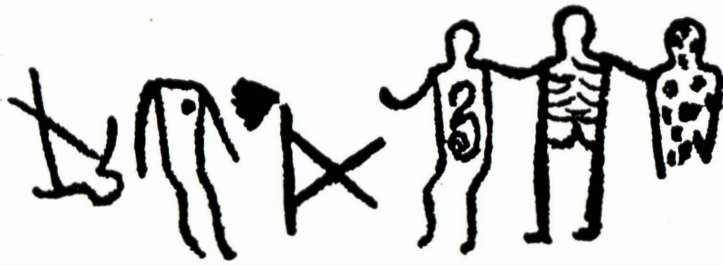
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