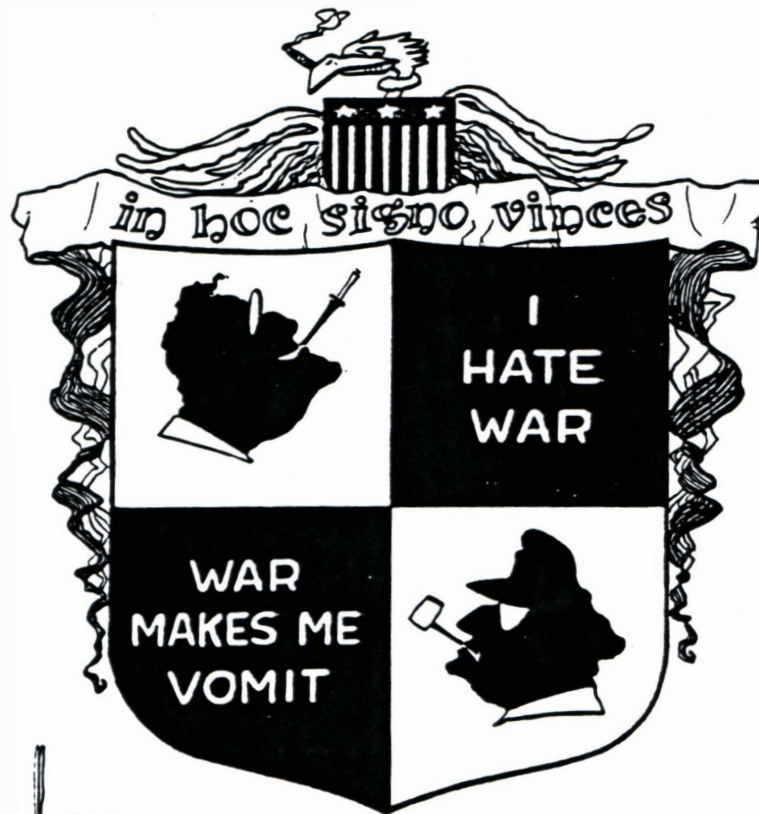


# doubt

THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Vol. II

Whole Number 34



YOUR PACIFIST SHIELD

EDITED BY

**T I F F A N Y      T H A Y E R**

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## DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

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### FIRST PRIZE

"Elaborate calculations by . . . scientists of ancient India . . . make the world 1,972,949,052 years old as of today." Using the lead/uranium and lead/thorium ratios in rocks modern scientists at great expense find the age of the earth close to "two billion years"!!! "What progress!" writes HFFS Hammett. He took the piece from G. Gainow, in *the American Scientist*, July, 1951 old style, organ of Sigma Xi, honorary Science Society.



Second-best: MFS Pascuzzi

In a NANA story about a star that "blew up 25 years ago" (Krueger 60 B in 1949), and has only now made its mark, this paragraph:

"One of the nearest and smallest stars, it is being photographed continuously at the Swarthmore College observatory. Because of the volume of pictures they are examined only periodically and it often is years before any scientific observation is possible."

The same member also sent in the Navy's A.P., apologies for announcing a new planet not long ago . . . "now turns out to be an old timer" . . . known as *Thalia* since the early 1800s.

Third-spot has no master:

"A method of testing soil fertility—so new it has

no name . . . combines the use of radioactivity with radioactivity-treated fertilizers and a new use for a 150-year-old mathematical formula . . . C. O. Stanberry said the formula was not practical until atomic energy came along."

The trio of pieces next most astringent were these:

MFS Milton Smith—with the news from Lodi, Calif., that a local man named E. D. Hawkins, was watching the reception of Mac Arthur on TV . . . He left the room and got a rifle, returned to his chair, put the muzzle in his mouth and pulled the trigger. "Mrs. Hawkins did not say whether her husband made any comment before his act," says U.P., April 19, 51 old style. Smith comments: "A lot of us felt the same way, I guess."

Second—A. Wilson:

That "eleven Japanese journalists selected by publishers of papers in Japan will be in this city for the next three weeks to study methods of improving newspapers." If they had come up with anything we should have heard by this time. That was April 26.

Third—credit withheld by request: Anonymouse gave Yale one half million "to further research in all fields of learning significant to world peace." Yale named the fund — the *Henry L. Stimson Fund for Research in World Affairs*. Stimson was Secy of War under Taft, FDR and Truman. He was Secy of State to Hoover.

Another set of three is cute too . . . MFS Eaton provides that one about Memphis, Tenn., postponing the coronation of its Queen of Health. "The leading candidate came down with chickenpox."

A Catholic priest in Union, N. Y., wants to change the name of the street where he lives. It's Luther Street. *Cr Mitchell*

The third, from Goeller, is an ad for a movie, the MIDWAY Drive-In Theatre, near Blacksburg, Va. The copy reads: "This picture carries no message. It is not *truly great*. It is not beautiful, but it IS darn good entertainment."

### RUSSELL'S BEST

An indignant woman setting out to address a street crowd in London was asked by a policeman what her protest was about. It was about "the Atlantic Admiral Affair".

"Oh, that's all right," the officer acquiesced. "As long as it's not peace."

Iron ore deposits which may prove the biggest in the world were reported May 31, 51 old style, in *the disputed territory* between British Guiana and Venezuela.

Prof. T. H. Davey, speaking to a congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Southport, April 27, raised a delicate question in delicate language: "whether medical measures which increase population in primitive communities should always be adopted."

Catch?

In words of one syllable: whether blacks and aborigines should not be let to die when they get sick.

From the *Liverpool Echo* of May 12:

Charge against the African was illegal possession of liquor.

Exhibit was a bottle said to contain brandy.

Question was whether the bottle did contain brandy.

The magistrate had a sniff and the prisoner said that he would like a smell too.

On being given the bottle, he smelt the contents and rapidly swallowed them.

"Tastes just like black coffee to me," he said.  
Verdict: Acquitted for lack of evidence.



Greenland had a measles epidemic as of May 10. The diseases never had been known there before the outland military arrived.

Youths with a chisel cut away the lead letters giving the names of more than 30 men on a war memorial in Cheshire. Secretary of the British Legion said, "We hope the culprits will be severely punished." To which Russell adds—"By having their own names on the next one."

*Reynold's News* of July 1:

Scientific caution, in the Report of the Committee on Cruelty to Wild Animals:—

"Several of the witnesses who have objected to (coursing) have attached great importance to the fact that hares which are being coursed or hunted scream when the dogs are close behind them, and they claim that this is clear evidence that the hares are terrified. A psychological understanding of this cry has, however, yet to be determined, and until this has been done we think that any views expressed on the degree of pain or terror which the hare may suffer are purely presumptive."

April 25, in Australia and New Zealand, when the Anzac veterans of two World Frauds went to their memorials for an annual celebration, the monuments bore slogans such as "They Were All Fools", "No Conscription", etc.

Potatoes sold, "not for human consumption" are dyed blue. Chemical content of the dye not stated, but one assumes it is at least nauseating. The spuds are fed to pigs — and blue pork chops turn up on the table. The Manchester *Guardian* (6-27-51 old style) thanks "one of the various Ministeries which regulate our lives."

When Hirohito was Crown Prince, touring England, the British Boy Scouts gave him "The Silver Wolf" — their highest honor. The medal was lost "in an air raid fire which destroyed the Imperial Palace" in World Fraud II. Now the Scouts are sending the Emperor a new one — a new Silver Wolf, that is.

## PYROTIC

In St. Petersburg, Fla., the landlady carried a telegram to the door of Mrs. Reeser's apartment, July 2. The door knob was hot. An unalarming smell of smoke had been detected earlier, but no apparatus called, no flames seen.

The apartment was then forced open. An over-stuffed chair had burned down to the springs. On the floor beside the remains of the chair was a charred skull, "shrunken to the size of a cup", a piece of backbone and a suede shoe for a left foot. "The meager remains were not identified positively but were presumed to be those of Mrs. Reeser."

Papers and furniture within five feet of the ashes were not burned.

Plural electric light switches were melted. No other damage. Paint on the wall behind the burned chair was not scorched.

Undertakers state that a constant heat of 2500 degrees is required for three to four hours to consume a body. Mrs. Reeser had weighed 170 pounds. She is survived by a physician son, Dr. Richard Reeser. Burial was in Columbia, Penna.

See THE BOOKS, p. 928 ff.

Cr D. Carlson, Mitchell, Hagglund, Hammett, Haliburton, Pascuzzi, Bonavia, Keating, Giles, and many others.

## EIGHT JETS

"The largest mass jet disaster in aviation history" killed three and destroyed 8 jet planes, June 8, 51 old style, within a 25-mile radius of Richmond, Ind. Four days later the Air Force alibi was "icing".

## THOSE QUESTONS

Flash! . . .

Official Washington will rest easier tonight. The Fortean Society is not going to attack.

Flash! . . .

The State Department may resume its tating.

The FBI may continue to diddle the Constitution.

The Congress may remain at recess.

These were the boons granted to harried Statesmen when YS released the top-drawer secret decision of the Fortean Society not to enter the political cess-pool.

Decision was reached behind locked doors. The question was—Shall Civil Defense be identified as a boondoggle extraordinaire, by advertising it as such in daily papers, or shall the politicians, scientists, bankers and clergy be given rope enough to hang themselves. Fate held the balance three or four months while the Forteans were making up their minds. Now, at last they have spoken.

Flash! . . .

Said one: "If I were going to whip a slimy alligator I certainly would not walk up and kick the bastard in the snoot."

Clearly this man is no alligator hunter, but his advice has prevailed.

61.536% negative

38.464% affirmative

That is the composite voice of articulate Forteans —Corresponding Members plus Founders and Honorary Founders — YS abstaining.

61.536% opposed the suggestion that the Fortean Society make itself spokesman for all the bewildered slaves in the United States of Dreamland.

38.464% said something like this — —

"That's what we're here for."

"Where else could you find an organization whose very functioning is based upon the ability to throw down the mental barriers that are forced on humanity at every turn? I consider this infamous system even more deadly because it is virtually invisible except to the very few who refuse to be fooled."

"Individualism is the backbone of the Society."

"The Fortean Society must take part in every controversy and campaign (within reason) where it feels truth and decency are being perverted."

"Without individual liberty would there be any Fortean Society?"

69.228% of the articulate Forteans said that individual liberty was properly the concern of the

Society, without qualification. An additional 15.384% said that this subject should concern the Society, with qualifications.

7.692% said flatly, NO! Exactly the same small percentage gave qualified negative answers.

One of the qualifications was repeated several times.

"Only the individual liberty of the members of the Fortean Society is properly the Society's concern."

"Only insofar as individual liberty affects the collective liberty of the Society. That means that the liberty of the Society's individuals are the only ones we have a right to be concerned over. As National citizens enjoying individual liberty we are already screwed."

"Unless *us intellectuals* are surely being hurt badly, please don't get worked up over the fate of 99% of the so-called American people. They deserve a lot bigger whipping than they have gotten up to this time."

To the question —

*Do you consider our freedom in jeopardy at this time?*

— only one individual thought that it was not.

3.846% qualified their affirmative answers, and almost all the others said — *not only in jeopardy but already lost.*

One wrote:

"The Inquisition is here in the U. S. A. The Macs and the Vons and the Francos are prepared to torture and kill their dissenting brothers."

A British member wrote: "Never more so, because control is so rigid and efficient it will be very difficult to recover liberty once it is lost. In the past liberty was easily and frequently lost but a bold front and a few snarls could usually win it back."

It was the possibility of arousing a good loud nation-wide snarl that prompted YS to start the present discussion. Nor has the opposition to the act of running the newspaper ad extinguished the possibility of snarling.

Since 84.612% of you are agreed that personal liberty is very nearly at an end, you can accomplish a good deal as individual snarl centers without reference to the Society. You are scattered through every State in the Union and you have the capacity to display your power if you will.

One member objected that: "The ad is not a fair statement of fact because of the headline. YOU DONT HAVE TO TAKE IT. You damned well *do* have to take it."

YS does not agree.

Vashti McCollum did not "take it" in Illinois.

The children of Christian Scientists are NOT vaccinated or inoculated against disease, no matter what the law says.

Nobody has to "take" any dictation from anybody regarding his person, his family or his home, if he has the guts to rar back and say, "No. I won't do it."

You can stand up in Parent-Teacher meetings and refuse to permit the finger-printing and dog-tagging of your children, on the ground that it is a disgraceful infringement of their liberty and yours, a move toward regimentation and the opening wedge to make every person young and old carry an identity card at all times.

Opposition to such encroachments upon human dignity is not Red, but just as Red-White-and-Blue as the Fourth of July.

Further, if you talk this over with your neighbors, and write to your local papers in this vein, you may be astonished to learn that 84% of the population agrees with you.

School *teachers* agree with you. It is only school BOARDS who will call you "Red". School Boards appear to hold the opinion that J. Stalin will get no-end of comfort and merriment out of the fact that you can't identify your baby after he has blasted the local school-house.

The Russian ability to blast school-houses in Atlanta, Ga., Oklahoma City and Denver is perfectly established by the fact that the only Russian flyers who ever tried to fly across the North Pole have never been heard from since taking off.

To be sure, the aviators of IRAN — which is the next bogey coming up — are much better flyers than the Russ, because they have so much more oil. They can bomb the left-eyes out of the girl children in the sixth grade at What Cheer, Iowa, and get away before you can say J. Edgar Hoover. Don't think the Iranians do not have the Atom-bomb, the Hydrogen-Bomb, and the next three bombs coming up — because Aladdin was an Iranian on his mother's side, and he has rubbed his lamp.

Rub your eyes, children, and wake up.

The same member who says we have to take it also writes:

"Unlike yourself, I have little faith in *native American horse sense* . . . but I DO have faith in the gradual, eventual, INEVITABLE infiltration and adaptation of superior living techniques . . . provided they are stimulated by enough discussion on the individual level . . . As it stands today, the concept of individual liberty is actually anathema to the mass. Average Joes would cringe in horror if they were really *free* in the political, economic, theological, intellectual or moral sense of the word . . . right now there are too many who have swallowed the whole line of guff, too many who think they stand to profit by going along with it."

Probably that is true — outside the Society. Within the Society the picture is more cheering.

Only 46.152% considered the bellicose advertisement "political".

61.536% stated that they would NOT condemn it even if it were political.

It was under the question, *Would you condemn the action for other reasons?* that the membership really got eloquent.

Chiefest objections were expediency and fear, and, after that, the doubt that the action would be effective.

Here are a few highlights from that section:

"Hate to see you framed and put in jail."

"The Society would be inviting persecution. In my position of safety, I couldn't conscientiously urge another man to stick his neck out."

"I believe you will be beseeching a deaf public."

"The only reason which would cause me to hesitate is that I know how the gila monsters behind operate and I feel that if they took us seriously there would be great pressure brought to bear to abolish the Society per se and the Red bogey-man would come in for a good work-out. The cattle-like fraidy-cats would be quickly convinced that this is an un-American plot and the Forteans are a bunch of gremlins from the Kremlin."

"I am pessimistic, very much so; about any advertisement to appeal to the American public based on the belief that they have any courage or brains."

"You probably realize much better than I do, that if you can round up several thousand people behind this ad, you will become a source of great annoyance to the powers, both money and political. Now I would hate to see you go to prison or otherwise disposed of . . . I don't want the Society to die or to become just another pressure group for a few individuals to promote their own notions."

"You and I know that wars are an agreement and not a conflict. Therefore we know that actually we are not doing what the general public thinks we are . . . Mr. John Q., does not know that this war game is a huge swindle because of limitations placed on his personal liberties that make him want to and make him willingly subscribe to more swindle. He publicly accepts the edicts of the machine and collectively he has demonstrated that he is of that state of mind. And so conditioned are his objective reflexes that if he were collectively accused of the opposite or told the truth he would be forced, out of false pride, to refute the statements."

"It would probably prove a waste of effort. The majority of the people are always being hoodwinked: and probably always will; but even so, perhaps it would be worth while if only a few were brought to bethink themselves of the value of their personal liberty while yet they retain some measure of it. That is, if you are willing to risk martyrdom."

The concern for YS, his "martyrdom", imprisonment or "disposal", runs through all this correspondence in a most remarkable and flattering manner. Thank you for the flowers. One could not possibly quote those sections, save one, from a lady of the right sex. Saith she: "If we were licked I'd request the same cell or bake you a cake with a creamed sawblade filling."

Only 11.538% contradicted the statement that *Civilian Defense is nothing but the politicians' alibi for wasting billions of the public money.*

23.076% wished to qualify the statement, most of them merely removing the phrase "Everyone knows that—" from before it.

That leaves a creamy 65.386% who shared that dismal view with YS.

One idealist of the Thoreau school wrote:

"No. Civilian Defense has 2 functions.

"(a) To heat up feelings to war pitch.

"(b) To be ready for action when war comes."

Now, that is exactly what the Pentagon wants everybody to think. It is the essence of the Orthodox, Official, Washington story. It is the cocaine injected to make the extraction of taxes less painful. It is a part of the freezefreeze campaign to make John Q., believe that "war" is inevitable. But, by the oddest coincidence, this adherence to the old fable comes from a man whose history and preachment place him in polar juxtaposition to Pentagonal aims, as those aims are officially expressed. Most extraordinary.

Only two respondents said that they would resign if the ad ran. One of these is a contributor of articles on banking to banking journals. About a week after he sent in his answers, he must have thought it over or talked it over, anyway, without waiting for anything more to happen he resigned, without further comment or explanation.

The other man who said he would resign, also wrote:

"I would testify that you were a wonderful guy and meant well—but that sometimes the methods

you used to attain a certain result were not comprehensible to ordinary humans." (How does he mean that?)

"I might put up cash to get you out of hock, not because I agree with you (which I do not in this case) but because I like you, admire you, and respect you." Funny guy.

Only two respondents said they *would* not help financially if the case were carried to high courts. One was the banker—writer who has since resigned. The other is an employee of the Federal Government.

With a very few exceptions, even the negators not only agreed to trail along, to testify, to help in many ways and to contribute to a defense fund, but they went out of their way to say pleasant things about YS even when they called him a damned fool.

"I'd think you were a damned fool to go ahead, but would honor you for your good intentions . . . Be it said, however that I entertain the profoundest respect for you in this matter."

"My vote is in the negative, but whatever course the Secretary decides upon will receive my support."

"Yes (I would help) — In every way possible — (and testify) Right up till they strapped him in the chair — (and give) everything possible."

"Frankly I don't think you have a chance of winning anything by the direct frontal attack . . . You are proposing to fight entrenched wealth, self interest, superstition, and ignorance with their own weapons. Unless you have figured out a new approach, I hope you don't do it. You will get hurt. Being a martyr is probably no fun at all . . . If this letter irritates you just throw it away, but remember, I was convinced of your sincerity long ago and you can count on me to support you personally to the best of my ability, in any way possible."

Before YS tries to get "the sense of the meeting" out of the above, certain possible fallacies want pointing out.

It is by no means a Fortean principle that the majority shall rule. Fort, perhaps more than any other important philosopher, distrusted majority judgments. Accordingly, the cogency of minority opinions will have more weight below than the mere numerosity of those in disagreement.

The statement above, "That's what we're here for," whether true or not, implies two conditions which pertain to its validity, each of which should be examined before we attempt to take the temperature of the statement itself.

The writer writes "we" ('re here) as if the Society were a unit (we) of which one might speak as an undivided whole, and for which one (anyone within that unit) might speak with assurance.

This is a misconception. It is only barely conceivable that all Fortean ever could be united in their opinions upon any subject, even such a basic one as the desirability of personal freedom.

One member writes: "I hope every MFS wants to be free, with individual liberty as well as mass liberty."

That is all very well for him to "hope"—but it is equally possible for the Fortean next to him to "hope" for universal protection from freedom, as from a pest. Freedom imposes obligations which not all are willing to share.

One writes: "Freedom *always* has been in jeopardy and, in some cases, rightly so. I'm wholly in favor of curtailing the personal freedom of Al Capone."

The Fortean who wrote that must realize that whereas he is in favor of curtailing the freedom of Al Capone, some other bloke, such as the King of the United States or the Pope of Rome, may favor curtailing the freedom of Fortean, for exactly the same reasons and with equal validity.

Obviously, then, to the Fortean writing above, the question of who should be in jail and who should be out is the old one of whose ox has been gored. That is the ancient and decayed principle of might making right which is the one that has brought the world to its present pass. If Forteanism has not a better solution to that problem than was advanced by Plato, Julius Caesar, Constantine-cum-Christ, Confucius or Karl Marx, then Forteanism is not the philosophical advance YS thinks it is.

Please do not, at this point, seize your pencils and ask YS what the Fortean solution is. To tell you would be to defeat Fort. You would accept or deny whatever statement was made in reply, and thus be diverted from the real issue of finding your own (the Fortean) solution.

It is even lamentable that we were diverted by the question of who should be in and who should be out, when the same thinking energy and concentration could be applied to the more basic problem of how to be rid of jails entirely.

The second implication to be examined in the statement, *That's what we're here for*, is that WE are, indeed, here FOR something.

The statement has special reference to the Fortean organized into the Society, but it can hardly fail to evoke the larger question, unanswered through the ages, *i.e.*, whether or not WE (humans) are here (on Earth) FOR anything whatever. It seems to YS that the larger, more basic question wants a Fortean answer first. We — as a Society — shall not get very far if our "reason for being" is not based upon or is not in harmony with the "cosmic" or "infinite" pattern.

Fort went a good way toward pointing out the basic natural pattern. It is necessary to mention only a few highlights to set us all looking for more:— infinite flux, the oneness of allness, the fallacies of exclusionism, the values of perpetual dissent, and so on. Likelihood is that no Divine Plan will be found therein, but what will be found is guidance for the adoption of a good reason for living, and, once that is found, WHAT the Society "is here for" should follow as naturally as orange between red and yellow in the spectrum.

It should not be necessary to repeat here the "aims" and purposes for which the Society was founded. They appear *in extenso* in the Introduction to THE BOOKS, and in DOUBT No. 3. Neither should it be necessary to point out that *the search for a reason for living* is implicit in the drafting of any "aims" whatever, and, in this particular case, is even more obvious in the Society's top aim of making Fort's philosophy as well known and as popular as possible.

So, then, YS thinks WE are here FOR as many purposes as there are individual members of the Society, and that those purposes may be as diverse as the interpretations that group puts upon or draws from Fort, individually.

Thus it becomes manifestly impossible for any individual to speak for the Society as a whole.

That position was taken by several acute respondents:—

"Up to now the Society has consisted of individuals not pledged to support a group action."

"It seems to me that the mission of the Fortean Society lies in the dissemination of a point-of-view, an intellectual attitude. From that much good may ensue — including a widespread raucous scorn for air-raid wardens. But I think it would narrow, and perhaps weaken, the impact of Fortean endeavor to identify the Society with any individual cause or crusade."

"I do not read the Fortean literature to be aroused to action. There is little in it, for me, at any rate, that transmits the kinaesthesia that your letter would suggest it should have been transmitting. For that, possibly, I have failed you all these years, and should be cast out. I'd venture, however, that few of your members have been more aware of the Society's extrinsic intents than I have been."

YS never has consciously promulgated any "extrinsic intents", so it is not surprising that the writer of that paragraph has failed to be aware of any.

This brings us to the ringing statement above—"The Fortean Society must take part in every controversy and campaign (within reason) where it feels truth and decency are being perverted."

Now that brave stand is so appealing that the general sense of it sweeps one quite past the joker in it, and YS hastens to assure the writer and the membership that so long as he lives and can keep out of jail the general sense of the paragraph will be adhered to and followed by him in his capacity as Secretary, within the Society, that is, in the pages of DOUBT and in his correspondence with members, and that it will be followed by him outside the Society, as an individual Fortean. Further, YS recommends and urges that principle and that type of action upon the membership, man-to-man and Fortean-to-Fortean. KICK! Kick loud and kick strong! Don't ever stop kicking—whenever and wherever "the slimy alligators" or "gila monsters" pervert truth and decency within your ken.

But there is the joker. You will have to decide for yourselves when "truth and decency" are being perverted, because, as has been explained above, the Fortean Society has no means of determining these outrages "officially". The phrase in the above quotation, *where it feels*, is not admissible. The Society, as such, can *feel nothing*.

Be of good cheer, however. YS will continue to call your attention to the more flagrant abuses as they are sent in by you-all.

One daisy arrived just now. It is page 38 of the magazine, *Tide*, issue of July 6. This is the "Public Relations" department of *Tide*, and on it is a photograph of seven males. They are called *PR-Men*, and six of them wear Air-raid Warden Arm-bands. The man who wears no arm band is Arthur Wallander, Commissioner of Civil Defense. No dog-tag is visible on his wrist either, but perhaps his insignia is tattooed on his belly.

Surrounding the Civil Defender is his "advisory committee"—namely—

Harry Bruno  
I. J. Ross (of Ivy Lee fame)  
Fred A. Eldean  
Ben Wright, formerly USAF-PR chief with Gen. H. S. Vandenberg in Europe.  
Carl Byoir  
Robert C. Durham, supervisor of advertising, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

These big wheels of Public Relations have been called in because recruiting for the Civil Defense nonsense in N.Y.C. has fallen flat on its face. Virtually nobody is showing up even when Grover Whalen invites them.

The cream of the jest is the headline *Tide* gave this photo. It reads: P-R MEN PLOT PROGRAM FOR CIVIL DEFENSE.

That's the word for it, boys, PLOT!

## MORE SIMPSON

"1761"

FORTEANA. Further extracts from 'THE ANNUAL REGISTER'

Nov. 3rd, Page 175:—"A little after 6 in the evening, a meteor, resembling a ball of fire, was seen at Whitby. Its direction was from N.E. to S.W., and in its progression, which was parallel to the horizon, it threw off a vast quantity of fire, that formed a train across the hemisphere, which continued a quarter of an hour after the meteor had itself disappeared."

Dec. 31, Page 189:—"Several shocks of an earthquake were felt at Lima in December 1760: and one, which happened on the 8th of January 1761 was much more violent than that which happened in 1756."

An account of a woman killed by a sudden and imperceptible eruption from the Earth.

"A woman of the village of BonneVallie, nr Ventimillia, age abt 37 yrs. was returning with 4 companions from the Forest of Montenero, each being loaded with a bundle of small sticks and leaves which they had been gathering. As soon as they reached a place called Gargan, this woman, two of her companions being before, and two behind her, suddenly cried out with great vehemence and immediately fell down with her face towards the ground. The person nearest to her observed nothing more than usual, except a little dust that rose round her, and a slight motion in some little stones that lay upon the spot: they all ran immediately to her assistance, but they found her quite dead: her cloaths, and even her shoes, were cut, or rather torn into slips, and scattered at a distance of five or six feet around the body, so that they were obliged to wrap her up in a cloth, in order to carry her to the village."

"Upon inspecting the body, the eyes appeared fixed and livid, there was a wound on the left side of the os frontis; which left the pericranium bare, and there were also many superficial scratches upon the face in strait lines. The region of the loins was livid, and a wound was discovered there which had broken the os sacrum: at some distance there was another wound, and both these wounds were in right lines and very deep. On the left groin there was a wound, which had divided all the teguments, and penetrated into the peritoneum; the epigastric and hypogastric regions were livid; the tegments and muscles of the right side of the abdomen were destroyed, and had given way to the intestines; the os pubic was laid bare, and fractured, and the flesh was stripped off quite to the hip, from whence the head of the os femoris had been broken off, and forced out of the socket in which it is articulated; the muscles of the buttock and thigh were almost carried away, and what is yet more astonishing, notwithstanding this loss of flesh, which could not be less than six pounds, there was not the least drop of

blood to be seen upon the spot where the accident happened, nor the least fragment of the flesh that had been torn away. It was supposed that this poor woman was killed by the eruption of a subterraneous vapour which issued from the ground directly under her: a conjecture which seems the more probable, as, in the summit of the mountain Montenero, there are two chinks from which smoke frequently issues, and at the foot of the mountain there is a sulphureous spring. It may easily be conceived that an exhalation, thrown off from the fire that burns under the mountain with great force, would make its way through the ground, and might produce the death of this unhappy person, with all its extraordinary appearances. Perhaps the eruption of these exhalations are more frequent than is generally imagined, and we have been ignorant of them only because no subject has happened to be present upon which their effects could appear. This most extraordinary relation was communicated by M. Morand to the royal academy of sciences in Paris, by whom it has been made public."

*Ex Annual Register for Year 1819.*

"A volcano has been discovered in Prince George's estate in the region of the Indina River, parish of St. Johns: it was represented as the greatest curiosity nature: its height from base to top was six feet. circum. at base, 49 ft., ditto to the top, 9 ft. 5", ditto at the opening, 2 ft. 2".

*Ex Annual Register for year 1819.*

14 April: "A short time since, a kind of volcanic eruption took place in the Swiss canton of Tessin: a small mountain, nr Monthio, opened and poured forth volumes of smoke, masses of rocks and flames. Considerable blocks of stone were detached from the mountain that rolled into the bed of a nearby river. The air was, even on the following morning, impregnated with sulphur, and fire was seen in the crater which had been formed."

*IBID*

May 26, 1819:—"There was felt this day at Cornetto nr Rome a violent shock of an earthquake which damaged many houses. The famous cupola called Castello, noted for its antiquity and Gothic architecture was completely thrown down. This tremor reported as felt along the whole of the Mediterranean coast."

*IBID. (ex Bombay Gazette, July 7, 1819)*

"An earthquake during evening of June 19 destroyed the entire district and country of Kutch, with great damage done in the areas of Lucknut Bunder to Butchao, most of the towns being laid in ruins. Estimated that fully 2,000 inhabitants of the districts were buried in the ruins."

*IBID* July 13. "On Sunday last the town of Dereham (Norfolk, England) was visited with a very severe storm of hail with thunder and lightning. The worst that has been so far experienced by the inhabitants there. During a visitation lasting two hours the pieces of ice which fell during that time weighed from one to two ounces causing great damage in fields and gardens. At the village of Reppham nearby and the vicinity thereof, immense pieces of ice which fell have done considerable damage to hot-houses and to windows of many houses also. Damage to stems of corn reveals that the stems in many places are completely cut through by the violence of the hail; and the torrents of rain have swept plants, soil and manure entirely off the turnip lands and also carried away fences which have stood beyond the memory of man. Furrows

ploughed in roads in some places to the depth of two feet. Many houses in Reepham flooded by 3 ft. of water causing furniture to float about."

IBID. Reported from Paris July 13 of frightful a/cs of storm disasters. On July 7th a hail storm laid waste Malleroy and on the 9th almost all the arrondissement of Rambouillet was desolated. Hail stones fell as large as five-franc pieces." Ten communes in or nr Montargis.

Montargis were desolated during night of July 7 by a tremendous hail storm accompanied by thunder/lightning. Everything within a space of 20 leagues was destroyed. Sixty hours after this catastrophe hailstones were found of the size of an ordinary egg. In Deux Sevres for a space of 7 leagues was desolated by hail which lay on the ground to a depth of 3 to 4 inches; two of the hailstones weighed 12 ounces. Similar storms reported from Bordeaux and Alecdon districts."

(a) "A certain man of Rheims, who was ever reputed to be a female, to the 14 yr. of her age: at which time it fell out, that wantoning in bed with a maid that lay with her the signs of a man brake out of her which when her parents was informed of, by the interposition of the ecclesiastical authority, her name was changed from Joan to John and from thenceforth she wore the habit of a man."

(b) A learned person of fabulous days of history once propounded the question:—whether a nun on being turned into a man is obliged to become a monk or adopt some religious order which question he resolved in the negative for this reason. A certain woman lived in Saviote who, in the 7th year after she had taken upon her the vows of a nun, was from a woman turned into a man. Being expelled the nunnery she adopted man's clothes and a beard grew upon her chin. This person became my client and I pleaded for him in a cause of rape: for a certain woman accused him that she had known him by violence and begot with child. So that, if the like case fall out, seeing the aforesaid nun (turned into a man) was expelled from the nunnery: such person without scruple may marry or take orders as he please."

Many authentic (sic) narratives have been given concerning the so-called Welsh Lights, but none but the sceptical and incredulous can call their existence in question. These are candles or torches which are supposed to be sometimes seen over the houses of the sick and are always sure prognostics of death.

During the course of last Autumn (1793?) two tacksmen of a freestone quarry belonging to Viscount Stormont, lying at the foot of Kirtle, Scotland, in their progress of working the same, discovered a mass of tar incrustated on all sides with the rock. The hollow in which it was found would have held about one gallon and an half Scot's measure, and the quantity of tar found was about one and a half English pints. When the tar so found was tried, it burnt in fire like common tar extracted from fir, but had not the same smell, but smelled a little of sulphur—when found it was soft, but became fluid in the fire."

"It is recorded by the learned and ingenious Dr. Oldenburg about the following anecdote that he received from a person of great veracity in Germany:—I can tell you that . . . having taken two months ago a nurse for my little girl (since dead) that nurse's boy being just then weaned did, by repeated sucking the breast of his grandmother—a woman of 60 years of age, cause so much a com-

I SAY, HAVE YOU REA  
BOOBER" BY ERIC FRAM  
TELLS ABOUT A MASTE  
BEINGS WHO RULE THE  
A FARMER RULES H



FEDERAL THREADNEEDLE  
RESERVE STREET

motion in her that abundance of milk ran to her breasts for a sufficient nourishment to the said weaned boy."

Near Hartford England there is a mountain called Marsley Hill, where in the month of February 1479, an earthquake shock disturbed a piece of ground of 26 acres in length for 3 days together, with a terrible noise: then rooted it up in a moment, with the neighbouring fields and made it advance slowly, and, as it were, step by step, 3 days and 3 nights, four hundred paces, with all the trees, the huts and the flocks of small cattle that were on it. At last this mountain stood still. This motion threw down a steeple with a great quantity of trees and made two high roads turn so, that that which was before towards the East, is now on the West side: the meadows were changed into tilled fields, and the fields became meadows."

At Arlington in County of Durham, England in the year 1609 Mary Travers wife of a plumber and glazier was delivered of a female child who had three eyes, two of which were in the common part of the face, whilst the third was placed directly above the nose in the middle of the forehead. The right eye was hazel, the left eye blue and the middle eye was grey. The child died two hours after birth."

(NB:—There is in the Brit. Museum, a child with three eyes preserved in spirits, pt of the late Sir Hans Sloan's collection of odd curiosities.)

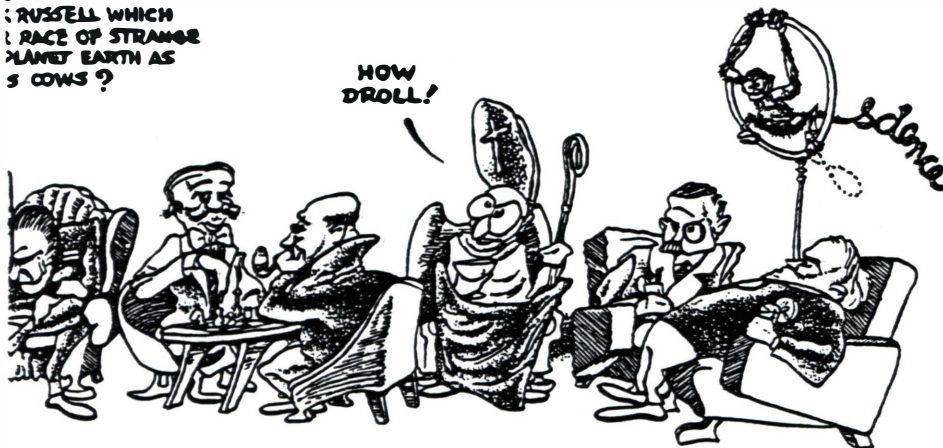
"In the reign of king James in the year 1613 on the 26th of June in the parish of Christchurch Hampshire, one John Hitchel a carpenter, lying in bed with a young child by him was himself and the child burnt to death with a sudden lightning; no fire appeared outwardly upon them, and yet they lay burning for the space of three days almost, till they were quite consumed to ashes."

'A lady in the neighborhood of Fenchurch St. London was on Saturday the 6th instant safely brought to bed of a young Kid, which is likely to live and do well."

Precis of Earthquake phenomena extracted from "The Annual Register for year 1761."



D THIS 'SINISTER'  
: RUSSELL WHICH  
: RACE OF STRANGE  
PLANET EARTH AS  
S COWS ?



BANK OF MOSCOW    BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA    ROTTERDAM BANK-CONSORTIUM    THE VATICAN    DER RIECHBANK    BANK OF FRANCE

**SYRIA:**—"The Spring of this year (1759) was unusually dry, followed by a summer that was temperate altho the Autumn was subject to plenty of rain, yet on the whole, might be esteemed much drier than previous years. The Aleppo river noticeably very low all summer. On the morning of June 10 a slight earthquake shock was felt here but soon forgotten. No reports of shocks having been felt in other districts at least with any degree of severity.

On October 30th at 4 a.m. in the morning a pretty severe shock was felt which lasted something longer than a minute but did no damage in Aleppo. Ten minutes later a second and less severe shock that lasted about 15 seconds. At this time the West wind blew freshly the sky was cloudy and there was some lightning.

This earthquake caused very little alarm amongst the Natives, being soon forgotten. From then onwards came news of earthquake shocks felt at Damascus which had done considerable damage. Reports of tremors felt at Tripoli, Seidon, Acri and along the coast of Syria all about this time.

November 25, 1759. This morning was serene with clouds mounting up after noon. Evening was remarkably hazy with no wind to speak of. At 7:30 p.m. the earthquake came on, the motion at first being gently tremulous increasing by degrees until the tremors became more distinct and so strong as to shake the walls of house with great violence. Eight mins. later another slight shock was felt this time of only a few seconds duration. The thermometer was 50, barometer stood at 28.9. No wind, and clear sky throughout the night. Further shocks occurred at 3:45 a.m. next morning, on the 28th we had a short pulsatory shock followed at 2 p.m. by another lasting 40 seconds. At Antioch the effects of these tremors was more marked, some houses destroyed and people killed.

James Fearn H.M. Consul at Terceira, Azores, sent news of earthquakes that happened during April 1761. "Several earthquakes felt here since last November. On March 31st the sea rose to a great

height and fell again so low that the quays were left dry.

On 14th April four smaller earthquakes took place, and another shock the following day was so severe as to raise us from our beds. From this time until the 17th the earth was continually trembling almost. Then two further shocks were felt attended by noises like the discharge of cannon. Still further shocks happened on the 20th followed by news that fire had burst out of the ground about half a league to the eastward of the dense cloud of smoke.

Later we found three volcanos at a considerable distance from each other surrounded by a large burning lake from which three rivers flowing being in all nearly one mile wide, going towards the town of Biscouto."

Ex The *New Wonderful Magazine* 1794

"We are informed by a person lately come back from Black Point, U.S.A., in the eastern part of this province that abt a fortnight ago a very strange creature was found on the shore, which the tide had left, twice as large as an ox: its head and fore parts resembling a lion, with prodigious large flat feet, and teeth 18 inches long, white as ivory and as thick as a man's wrist. He was very slow and helpless and had no other way to attempt to escape but by sticking his teeth into the ground and dragging his hinder parts after him. The people attacked him with axes and other implements but found great difficulty to kill him, his skin and flesh being so hard and tough."

### FAR-EAST NEWS

For \$1.25, sent directly to them, the Endicotts of Toronto will send you *The Canadian Far Eastern Newsletter* for one year.

A single issue tells you more about what is really going on in China and Japan than the US freepress has printed since Admiral Peary opened the door.

James G. Endicott,  
134 Glenholme Ave.,  
Toronto 10, Ont. Canada.

## SKY-LIGHTS

Through the past semester only 20 pieces have been received relating to objects in the sky or contraptions found, in the category "Saucer". Perhaps we shall be able to make some sense out of this data eventually. *Cr* Mills, Spingola, Gee, Creviston, Mitchell, Bristol, Simpson and others.

## WHOOHOO

Now we have seen everything. The Gravity Research Foundation, of the Babson Institute, has sent out a questionnaire which states: "Our goal is to ascertain why a difference in the gravity pull (that is, individuals' weights) should affect your glands or brains which determine your temperament and personality."

In the questionnaire, this new Science asks the respondents to check such printed details as "I like to eat — Am Tolerant"

"Ladies like me"

"I like to dominate and risk"

"I am gossipy and curious"

"I am small in posture"

## IRISH CHARLESFORTS

Ed Simpson asks if the Society should "adopt" one of the two places described in Jas. Fraser's *Handbook for Travellers in Ireland*, 1859.

"A mile East of the town of Kinusale on the shore of the harbour is CHARLES FORT, formerly commanded by a Governor and fort-major and containing barracks for 16 officers and 332 non-coms and privates."

"About 5 miles North of Navan (Dublin-Enniskillen) we pass Allanstown the seat of Mr. Waller. Near Allanstown (a little North) we find CHARLES-FORT the seat of Mr. Tisdal."

## POLIO

We won't yodel about the Society's part in cutting down tonsilectomies and "immunization" shots, thus reducing the incidence of Polio, but our activities did not do any harm.

Pretty nearly everywhere now, no tonsils are yanked and no shots administered during "the Polio season". In a few years, if that policy is maintained, there won't be any more Polio season, and that will be a great triumph for the advancement of Science!

However, we have a squib here from Russell about a new movement starting in Rhyl, Flintshire. Children are to be "immunized" wholesale against TB. The *Liverpool Echo* states that the stuff has been used in France and Scandinavia and "produced remarkable results — corresponding to those obtained in this country by immunization against diphtheria."

That is putting it right on the line — probably to encourage medical graduates who were thinking they would not get any of the old Polio gravy.

## IS THIS PROGRESS?

This was new to YS, so it may be news to others. In L.A. is "the First Hebrew Christian Synagogue", and the Jews who have hit the sawdust trail publish a magazine, hight, *The Jewish Hope*, Box 707, Los Angeles 53, Calif. The contents are as unedifying as any other Jewish or Christian publication in the field. Just thought you might like to know. The mag was admitted as second-class mail matter in the year 13 F S.

## SOOTY DOWN IN GA.

Savannah was blackened by a "severe soot storm" early July 6. "Oily particles" settled over home furnishings, store stocks, pets and people. No industrial firm would admit responsibility. "The weatherman theorized that a combination of cold air and open windows had created updrafts through uncleaned chimneys and flues." *Cr* Mitchell. Pascuzzi



## HEADS UP

That intrepid reporter of the Scientific Follies for the *Her-Trib*, John J. O'Neill, cites Vannever Bush of Carnegie in Washing, as suggesting that hereafter—"Books (would) be written in two manuscript copies and not otherwise published."

Storage space for knowledge is running out. The "giant electric brain" can put the whole works on codified micropunch cards, and instead of reading, inquirers would merely push a button and learn whatever they wished to know.

Neat?

The screwier part of this is not the suggestion, which seems preposterous enough, but the complete possibility of such a machination being perpetrated.

What's more, YS suggests that something very like this has been done to man by his priests in other eras now lost to history. The reason the records of "prehistoric" civilization have been lost to history is because the Bush system didn't work. Something — like a sunspot — deranged the giant electric brain, and it was all to do over again, including the re-invention of movable types, television and so on.

It becomes increasingly apparent to the Bushes and their employers that it was a mistake to teach the people to read. What more natural than that—in the name of Progress—they now take the books away from us and put them on micropunch cards, with armed guards at the push-buttons to see that only white Protestants ever get within pushing distance? *Cr* Bonavia

## DANISH PROGRESS

The tax-take in Hamlet's country isn't what it is here, but the govt. and the Scientists get together in emulation of U.S. methods, in their modest, square-headed way. Prof Makron Lund got \$250,000 for experimental work on a poison gas, Feb. 26. *Cr* Pascuzzi

## FORT ON THE VIVISECT

MFS Milton Smith sends in this quote from *THE BOOKS*, p. 880.

"There are persons who wonder at the state of mind of the people in general, back in times when the torture of humans was sanctioned. The guts of a

man were dragged out for the glory of God. Abdominal exploration of a dog is for the glory of Science. The state of mind that was, and the state of mind that is, are about the same, and the unpleasant features of anything are glossed over, so long as mainly anything is glorious."

### WARNING

Solemnly we call the attention of members who enter the armed services anyway, that they will be well advised not to air their Fortean views too loudly within the hearing of their mates or officers. In "battle" it is difficult to know which direction a bullet is coming from, and impossible to tell anybody about it if it hits.

### LIE STOPPER

If the police really wished to get the truth out of their victims they would adopt the *Falubud* (Sudan) system instead of wasting the public money on lie-detectors. The *Falubuds* place some grains of salt on their tongues, followed by red pepper, a piece of charcoal and a grain of wheat. This is carefully chewed, then spat out. It is then impossible for them to lie. *Pittsburgh Sun*, 3-31-51

Incidentally, Pittsburgh county police have sunk the necessary funds into a "poliograph", in spite of everything we have said against it. Stubborn chaps, the cops.

### THOSE B-BIRDS

To the Editor of Doubt:

Butcherbirds never stick butcherbirds on thorn-trees. Sparrows never stick sparrows on thorn-trees. But butcherbirds stick sparrows on thorn-trees.

Romans never crucified Romans. Jews never crucified Jews. But Romans crucified Jews.

Jesus, being a Jew, belonged to one of the conquered peoples—the prey. Therefore the Crucifixion was a part of the struggle for existence—"nature red in tooth and claw."

(non-mem) ALLAN CLARK

### WOT HOPPEN?

One has become inured, through the years, to the stodgy, plodding, reactionary dullness of the *New York Times Book Review*. The last hope for brightness therein went down with the battleship Maine. What, then, was our surprise to read the issue of July 15!

Must be the entire regular staff was on vacation and the copy-boys took over. A breeze blew through the columns on almost every page, and made a little dust-spout on p. 5 where James Stern was permitted to insert a book review by his house-maid. "Aw, the World's a Crummy Place" was the headline, and under that we read:—

"I mean"

"these English guys"

"The rest is corny."

"read some damn story"

"didn't give you a lot of horse-manure"

"That damn near killed her."

"cut out a lot about these jerks"

"turned out queer—that's terrific"

Come back! Come back to your desks, grand-fathers! Bring your sleeve-protectors and your eyeshades, and your reminiscences of Ralph Waldo Trine. Maybe it's a sign of decrepitude in YS, but he prefers your odour of sanctimony to that effluvium.

Incidentally, members can have good sport by

subscribing to two weekly literary supplements—the *Times* of N. Y. and the *Times* of London—and comparing the culture of the two nations as represented in their attitudes towards books.

New York Times Book Review

Times Square

N. Y. C.

\$3.00 per year

London Times Literary Supplement

Printing House Square

London E. C. 4, England

\$5.00 per year



### THE DRUG STORY

Don't ask us why the Baptists are the publishers of this one, but that's the way it is. A book in "hard" paper covers, called *THE DRUG STORY*, by Morris A. Bealle, makes these points . . . that two recent train wrecks — Rockville Center, Long Island and Coshocton, Ohio, with 65 dead and 364 "maimed", were caused by dosing of the engineers with "sleeping potions" . . . that some members of "The Drug Trust" make 926% profit on investment annually . . . that a cancer society which collects \$13,000,000 a year is "doing nothing toward the much-heralded discovery of a cancer bug." . . . Much, much more. Send \$3.00 direct to The Baptist Press, 124 West Lake Street, Chicago, Ill.

### DIGEST HAS START

For fifteen years the publishers of *Readers Digest* have given a free subscription to that cooky-cutter for the brain to every high school valedictorian recommended to them by HS principal or super. We are a little late getting started, but DOUBT is now offered gratis to those same people, as an antidote for *Readers Digest*. Just send in the names and addresses of any valedictorians you know and we'll vaccinate them with a little think-serum. No official recommendation is required.

### STANFORD IS HEP

The undergrads of Stanford U. took a fall out of Civil Defense in their mag, *Chapural* this spring. Eight funny photos and satirical captions make the tax-eaters look like monkeys. Sorry space prohibits reproduction. Congratulations, boys! Gr McIntosh

### REICH'S ORGONE

Some few members have asked what YS thinks of the work of Wilhelm Reich, which some of them state has made a tramp out of Freud. Not to prejudice anyone, let us just give the address, so you-all can look into it for yourselves. Ask for a catalog of their publications.

Orgone Institute Press

Box 153

Ranney, Maine

### HYPNOSIS AND LUNA

A striking coincidence, for which we have Fortean precedent, lies in the current spate of moon-rocket plans and the ads of William L. Ousby of London.

Mr. Ousby sells a book containing "12 methods of hypnotising oneself", but he says nothing about how you snap yourself out of it. With the same unconcern for what happens next, the rocketeers apply all their ingenuity to putting men on Luna, but say nothing at all about how they get back. Call me fuddy-duddy if you must, but that would worry me in either experiment. No?

### LAVENGRO!

Cops in New Rochelle took two women and a girl of 14 from a department store to the station, June 14. The phrases "roughly pushed" and "man-handled" occur in the UP story. The women were not in such dresses as New Rochelle wears, and their complexions were not Nordic. As befell the ladies were wives of Pakistan officials in the United Nations mission, and the costumes were Pakistanian. The Pakistan Delegation made an official protest and apologies were tendered.

The police "explained" that the women had been mistaken for "Gypsy shoplifters".

Now, the Gypsies have no delegation to the United Nations, so they could not protest this slander officially, but YS thinks the Romani have an apology coming too.

Why "shoplifters"? Was anything stolen?

Cr Bristol, McMahon

### HUSH!!! HUSH!!!

Afternoon of May 15, two Chatsworth, Calif., school boys were walking home when a "burst of machine gun slugs" began pelting the road and fields all around them. They heard no explosion and saw no plane, but they picked up some of the slugs—such as are used in nose-guns of jet fighters.

"A joint investigation by the police, Air Force and Navy failed today to find the source—etc."

O-oh, say, can you see?

By the dawn's early light!

Cr M. Smith and others.

### RUN ON THE MILL

Brown snow fell March 3, Marquette, Mich. One Gordon Henghens, an insurance salesman who has a Geiger counter said the brown snow was radioactive.

A Portland, Ore., hotel clerk was shot on the stomach, July 15. The bullet bounced off, leaving only a "bluish welt". Cr Sheeley



A pool of cool, clear water appears on the floor of the Snell home in St. Dominick, Cornwall. It comes when the Snells turn their backs, between breakfast and tea time, never on Sunday. Had been going on 9 weeks as of May 28. Cr Fraser

"Several weeks" before May 29, a section, 300 feet long, of Highway 78 near New Castle, Pa., dropped fifty feet. Seven thousand tons of slag were poured into the hole to raise it to the level of the balance of the road. The slag "disappeared with the rest of the highway". That section of the road will be abandoned.

"Ninety Milwaukee tenants, all wearing masks, appeal for rent controls before a State legislature committee" in Madison, May 15. They said their landlords would evict them if they showed their faces. Cr Lasko

In the 24-hours previous to May 23, at least five persons had been killed by "mysterious ocean swells" originating far out in the Pacific and striking the Southern California coast with damaging force. Homes and streets were flooded at high tides in Surtside, 5 miles from Long Beach.

Kelly Chamandy, "naturalist", offered a reward of \$100 for the capture of a giant bird, jet black, with yellow eyes, "the size of silver dollars", huge talons and a hooked beak, "large enough to carry off a small cow". Kelly saw it, he said, and farmers say it has been preying on live-stock. Ramore, Ont. Apr. 17.

All under one eucalyptus tree in L. A. were found 11 small birds, dead. Grey backs, brown heads, yellow stripes across the ends of their tails. Apr. 2.

At Gateshead, Durham, in a clothing factory, one by one, ten girls "collapsed". Then 80 others were sent home "as a precaution". Doctors could find no cause. May 29.

### TWO NOMINATIONS

Sir Ernest Benn, age 75, founder of the Society of Individualists, has been nominated for Fortean Fellowship for refusing to answer the questions of a census taker. June 7.

Harry Willcock, called "a peppery little Yorkshireman", is nominated for refusing to carry or to show to police his "identity card". July 1. Willcock's defiance touched off a newspaper campaign for repeal of the identity card law. Among the supporters of repeal is the Marquess of Reading, who called the cards, "the symbol of regimentation".

### INDIA AFIRE

Gary Davis sends us a book by two exponents of world unity, Clare and Harris Wofford, Jr. These young people have spent some time in India and got right down to the rice roots. INDIA AFIRE tells what is going on there, and points the way to prevent the Indians from hating us as much as the Chinese do. From the Society, \$4.00.

### MFS GRANT SPEAKS

In Philly, MFS Grant has addressed Secularists and others on several occasions, dividing his talks into two main categories, *the Challenge and Lure of the Mysterious*, and *Psychical Research*.

It takes a sturdy self-reliance to challenge Science in the teeth of professing Agnostics and Atheists, but Brother Grant acquires himself with honor, maintaining a Fortean attitude throughout. Certain statements in his speeches are open to challenge, but a question period after each address takes care of that.

Groups who would like to hear MFS Grant will be put in touch with him directly.

### LEGAL THEFT

A pamphleteer you will do well to read is Sam Evans Hayes. He has several hot numbers which he sells at cost or less. Send him at least half a dollar, and more if you can afford it. Ask for LEGAL THEFT. This is a look at the monetary system with some suggested cures. Address Sam Evans Hayes, 8001 Lakemont Drive, Seattle 5, Washington.

# MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

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

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

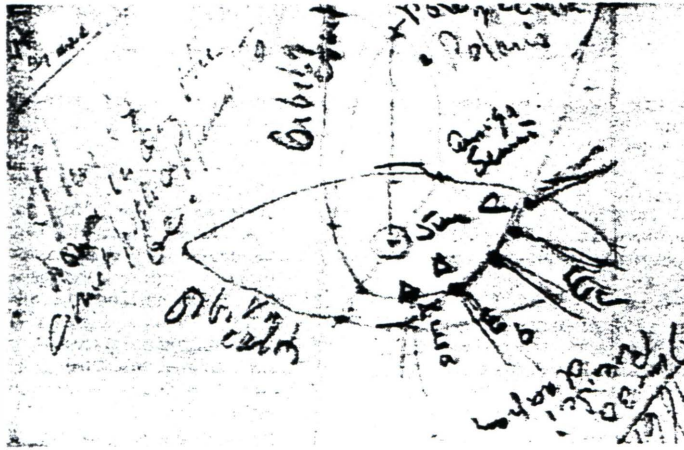
Back numbers of DOUBT contain all the notes to the point where we begin below. Subsequent issues will continue them until the 32 boxes are printed.

1861

(Box 3 — Continued)

- June 30 I don't save much out of this except that Amer Astronomers identifying it as Thatcher Comet.
- 30 Same comet as seen in South. Orbit almost perpendicular to the plane of the ecliptic.
- 30 3 columns N Y Herald, July 4, p. 8.
- 30 Comet no such size in Australia (over) N Y had cabled news from London. (page 1) Sydney Morning Herald, 15-5-6 John Tibbott writes that ac to observations made at the Sydney Observatory, May 24 and later obs. — orbit almost perpendicular — (inclination 86.18.42) perihelion passage June 13, 7253 Heliocentric motion — Direct / That the comet would soon move north and that on the 29th (June) the earth would be at no great (Page 2) distance from the extremity of the tail — and some probability that the comet be visible in daylight then / 19-2-6 comet in eastern sky from 3:30 A.M. to daylight (6:30) travelling N.N.W. tail stretching nearly S. S.W. Cor gives these data—wants to know why the Govt. Astronomer has given out no information — tells readers these data himself.
- (Page 3) 24-8-3 Wescott, Govt. Astro says that in issue of 1st he had pointed out when and where visible in early part of month. On June 1st all that he had written on May 31 was "The result of 5 observations was: May 30, 6 h. 19 m. 14s.; RA 3 h. 57 m. 17.5 s; December, 30 degrees, 31 min. 31 sec. December L suppose misprint for Declination / So he had given position but not a word as to orbit / He says: Comet's tail at 8 degrees in direction opposite that of the sun moving westward at 2 degrees a day and on 29th not be far from the (Page 4) plane of the earth's orbit. Does not appear probable be nearly in line with sun so that the tail would not point to and be very near this earth. However (up to 23rd) he had not yet calculated the orbit. 26-6-5 Some one else — "What are the colonists paying for — tell them what that orbit is — when be back etc. — strange circumstance this." (Page 5) Mr. Scott replied 27-5-4 total ignorance of cors—ignorance and conceit so often found in company—no amount of criticism move him from his rule to advance astronomic science rather than to gratify public curiosity / He gives the elements over — but perihelion distance on June 11—68918 (right) / Nothing said of when comet come back / Says comet would cross the plane of the (Page 6) earth's orbit June 29 at 6:35 A.M. Distance of the tail from the earth, supposing it to extend in a straight line from sun, 3,300,000 miles "The comet will, I fear, be too nearly in the direction of the sun to be visible that day." (Page 7) Sydney Morning Herald Sept. 30 publishes observations from the Times (London) Issue of Oct. 1. All I find is Oct. 7 p. 8, is someone writes that not appear to be known that the sudden comet in Europe near but ac to Tibbott's elements of orbit it was.
- 30 L T July 3, p 4 New comet in the evening midway between North Star and the Dipper — nucleus 3 or 4 times as large as Venus — tail from 15 to 18 degrees toward the zenith looked like reflection of a great fire. At 3 A.M. the comet was about 12 degrees above the horizon and had moved about 8 degrees eastward.
- 30 Reported from the Allegheny Observatory July 3-5-3 "By the appearance of the tail there is reason to infer that it is *approaching* the sun at an inconceivable rate.
- 30 I find nothing on the Comet in the Cape Argus.
- 30 Comet was discovered by Tibbott May 13th.

- 30 This is how in Eng the comet path supposed to be (See illustration for this side of note: on the reverse side the following appears)



- A Comet between earth and sun  
 B Comet cutting ecliptic  
 C Comet July 10  
 Ea Earth June 29  
 Eb Earth June 30  
 Ec Earth July 10
- 30 In N Y Trib and Herald said was Tatcher's comet which had passed perihelion on June 11, discovered by him Apr 4th on its way to perihelion, and doubtless been brilliant in south. So said in Sci Amer 2/5/42. So see the plus-minus note
- 30 Sci Amer 2/5/27 Comet moving N. West.
- 30 Athenaeum July 6 that the comet crossed the ecliptic in Longitude 279°.
- 30 Comet made no impression upon the photographic plate. Athenaeum July 6.
- July 3 Midnight met from a few degrees under head of comet BA 61-8 See July 8
- 6 Solar halo at Igeure (Allier) C. R. 52/1275
- 7 10:30 PM from near Bel to Ursae Majoris seen near Warrington brilliant meteor "distant thunder heard". BA 61/10
- 7 10:30 P.M. Thelwall, near Warrington large meteor "Distant thunder heard" BA 61.
- 7 Thelwall, near Warrington / Met seen "distant thunder heard". ab 16 miles E of Liverpool. BA 61 See Nov. 9 and Dec. 8.
- 7 Waiting to hear. Astronomer in N Y interviewed Trib 7-5-2. Had he determined the orbit yet? "No. These determinations require nicety of calculation and are often tedious.
- 8 Trib of. P J Bond says the comet's perihelion was June 11. That comet had been in the south, and had crossed from the southern side of the plane of the earth's orbit about the 28th of June. Distance from earth about 25,000,000 miles on 5th of July. plus — minus.
- 8 LT 11, p 7 (Clifton) — met that became visible a little above tail of a comet See July 3.
- 11 9 P. M. / Shock Syracuse, N. Y. A J Sci 2/32/297
- 11 etc to 22 Meteor L.T.
- 12 Ottawa, Canada, Light quake. BA '11.
- 12 Montreal, Ottawa, Canada. Quake. BA '11 Canadian Naturalist 6/329.
- 16 Ab 10:50 P.M. et Greenwich Park meteor N E from Alpha Lyrae BA 61/10.
- 16 England Large meteors from 9:30 P.M. to 11:45 P.M. BA 62-6
- 16 11:33 P.M. from near Alpha Lyrae in a S. W. direction Isle of Wight. See Aug. 6 BA 61-10
- 16 Pages in BA 62-3 etc. upon Met.
- 16 England Great met 11:30 P.M. / It same from 9:30 to 11:30 P.M. Rept BA 1860 (D)
- 16 11:30 P.M. Met train M W R 07/391.
- 31 India Benaris / Med Quake BA '11
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 31 LT p 7 Devil at Cortu.
- Box 3 (Resumed)**
- Aug 1 Meteorite. Near Chorley Rectory, near Lancaster, according to Rev A H Denham. stone weighing 86 pounds. Says saw it fall LT Aug 3, p. 5.
- 1 Critic, Aug. 10, that no Chorley within 25 miles of Lancaster — that a dealer in minerals had telegraphed to Chorley, receiving reply "all bosh — no such person known — no aerolite."
- 3 LT p 5
- 5 LT p 10 Aerolites
- 7 L Tp 10
- 6 Meteor. 9:50 PM from the zenith to the E of Alpha Lyrae (reverse) At 11:42 one appeared bet d Cygni and A Lyrae at Greenwich — BA 61/10.

- 8 At Aylesbury / A flash — no met / was recorded — "like a gas flame suddenly lighted and then put out". *Intell Ob* 1/220.
- 10 New Haven, Conn. 95 mets. / Burlington N. J. 289 BA 1863. Radiant of 80% of N.H. = 47-56 RA and 47-56 N Dec. / At Burl. 88% from 48-6 and 50-57.
- 10 Perseids more numerous than usual ac to E J Low of Nottingham. BA 61-42.
- 10 Great meteor N. J. & Conn. / 11:23 P. M. A J Sci. 2/32/448
- 12 At E. Fairfield, Ohio 6.29 inches of rain in 4½ hours. A. J. Sci. 2/32/296.
- 13 LT p 9
- 17 LT p 6 Meteors.
- 21 From moon (could be "morn" T. T.) Venus Maters (could be "Yaters") 28/54.
- 21 Philippines
- 23 Guatemala
- 26 Benares, India  
Quakes BA '11 See q's. Feb 18, 1889.
- 27 Guatemala
- 29 Argentina
- 22 LT p 10 Brilliant meteor Spain.
- 31 Washington 5:22 A.M. Quake A. J. Sci. 2/32/453.
- Sept 5 Met U.S. BA 77-150.
- 7 Zaillon (Eure) Bolides C.R. 53-482  
**Box A (Resumed)**
- 7 Nervous disorders 3 sudden deaths in a town where been meteors. C.R. 53/482  
**Box 3 (Resumed)**
- 12 Dunkirk / Meteor and sandstorm soon after. *London Review* 3/2/366
- 26 LT p 8 Birmingham Th storm.
- 30 Chili (det met) Quake and flashes and luminous cloud / See months before Mundos in Chili, too. See 1805.
- 30 No q in Chili in L T Index.
- Oct 1 Meno, Mackenbug, noon, meteorite almost identical with one in Vernon Co. W.S. March 25, 1865 77-148.
- 2 Ohio / Fireball / BA 67-418
- 3 North Northampton / Aurora / 7:30 P.M. — broad band of light from about N.W. to N.E. At nine changed to between N.W. and threw rays toward zenith till 10:30. LT Oct. 7.
- 4 Conn. / 7:20 P.M. / Met brilliant N to E from Cygnus to Casiopeia. A. J. Sci. 2/32/443.
- 4
- 9
- 10
- 11
- Many mets England BA 62-18
- 25 Conj Saturn Jupiter Observatory 24/158.
- 29 Wat spout fell on Rome and did great damage. *The Geologist* 5-110.
- Nov 11 Trans Mercury Obs 30/383.
- Nov Luminous spot on Mercury in transit M. Notices 38/338.
- 12 Manchester, Bristol, etc. 5:50 PM Great meteor BA 62-24.
- 15 About 10:30 PM great meteor in Iowa, somewhat larger than apparent size of full moon. BA 1877-102
- 15 10:30 P.M. 7 stones and great explosion Iowa. BA 77-102 (reverse) 1860? See
- 19-28 Potenza, Italy BA '11 Similar See Dec 16-17 1857
- 19 Met that blazed forth suddenly near the moon and disappeared / seen a Woodford / B Assoc. 1862-26-28.  
(reverse) Noise of it heard by several obs. / Ab 2 minutes after explosi / If moon far away should been great parallax / seen near moon Surry, Kent, Exeter, Essex, etc.
- 19 Kent etc. / 9:40 P.M. / great det met / 3 dets. / BA 61/26 See '62/79 See July 7.
- 19 Standard, Nov. 26. Cor writes he saw the met passing over head at Margate and saw it explode and a minute later heard a booming sound. In 28th cor who (note cut off here.)
- 19 At Portsea. Ab 9:40 Cor saw it "not far from the moon." *Standard* Nov 22.
- 19 Ipswich / 9:35 P.M. / Met "extraordinary detonation" A. S. Herschel *Times* 1864 Nov. 26 p. 11. See *Intel Obs.* 9/101
- 19-25 Basilicata, Italy Quake. BA '11
- Dec 2 Magdeburg / 7—Westphalia fireballs See March 62 11 — See p 319/14 — E. Germany.
- 3 7 P.M. — Det met as if from Poland / Germany / 67-420
- 3 7 P.M. Loud det met near Haile A J Sci 2/34/431
- 7 New eruption Vesuvius *La Sci Pour Tous* 7-23 Description See under Vesuvius.
- 8 All Dec Vesuvius / C.R. 13/1090 *Ann Reg* '61/240
- 8 rom Hull toward Isle of Man. Meteor LT 1863 p 19.
- 8 Sound / met / successive / 8:15 P.M. / Liverpool, Manchester like a gun at Southport BA 61/35 BA 1862
- Dec Exquisite sunsets at Naples. Vesuvius in eruption. *An Reg* 1861-244.
- 8 Lancaster. 8:40 Met and sound like gun / and Cartmel, Lancaster nature girls. Seen Manchester BA 61/37 See 62-A
- 8 Great met about 8:15 P.M. 3 pages to it in BA '62.
- 8 More mets at Birkenhead (Seacombe) than at most abundance in preceding Nov or August BA 62-39
- 8 Many mets at Newcastle BA 62-38
- 9 Vesuvius 2 A.M. Started indications on 8th. *An. Reg.*
- 9 Fireballs Maine 6 A.M.
- 17 Buffalo 4:45 P.M.
- 25 Conn. at sunset
- 30 One from Cygnus — in Conn. 7 P.M.  
A. J. Sci. 2/33/291
- 11 (cut) Reported from Roy Observatory. Greenwich, another met disappeared near the Moon. B. A. 62-40.
- 12 bet 4:30 A.M. and daylight—Philadelphia —about 25 meteors chiefly in the N. West. A. J. Sci. 2/33/149
- 17 LT p 8
- 21 LT p 10
- 25 LT p 10 Vesuvius
- 27 LT p 8
- 31 LT p 8

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