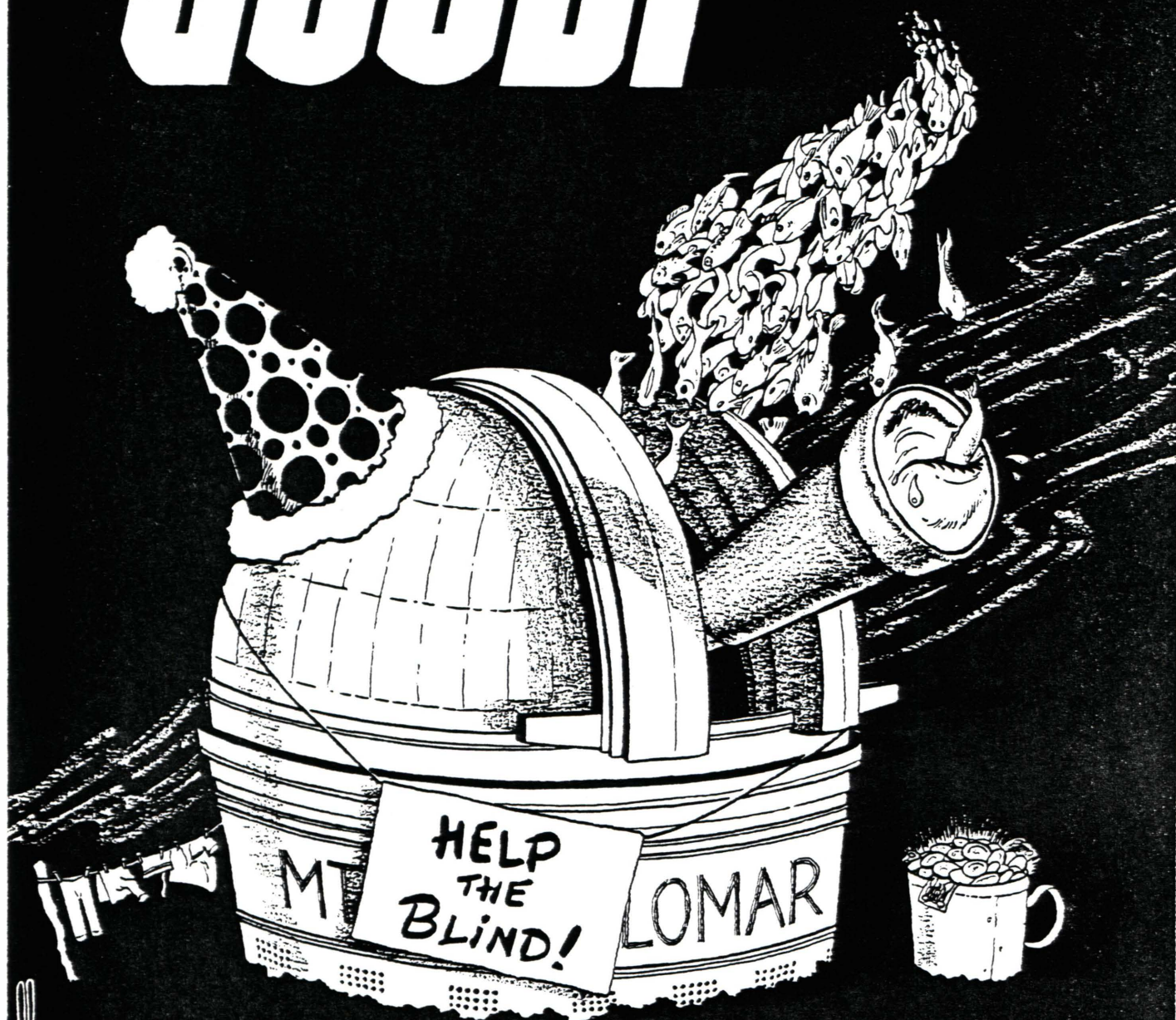


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EDITED BY

TIFFANY THAYER

DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the

FORTEAN SOCIETY

Box 192 Grand Central Annex

New York City

1931 A D = the year 1 F S

We use the Fortean 13-month calendar

Membership available to all

Annual dues \$2.00

In ENGLAND address

Eric Frank Russell

44 Orrell Road, Orrell

Liverpool

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FIRST PRIZE

Cornwall cops the biscuit this trip with half a column from the Los Angeles *Daily News*, Jan. 5, 1949 old style, hanging the city's head in shame for failing by \$1,800,000.00 to meet its Community Chest quota. The mere text of their breast-beating (stay away from that pun!) is funny enough, but one paragraph sings in tune with the infinite:

"Meantime, one organization, the YM-CA, already announced it is withdrawing from the Chest because of inability of the Chest 'to provide sufficient funds to enable the YMCA to serve (the community) adequately' . . ." And Cornwall asks: "Who ever got anything from the YMCA for nothing?"

Second prize to Mary A. Ferguson for her observation upon the news that "Frightened villagers in the path of Muna Loa's lava flow left their homes despite assurances they were in no immediate danger of being engulfed (Jan. 7, 19 FS)." MFS Ferguson writes: "Maybe they remember Profs Doze and Landes and Mt. Pele in 1902!!!!" (Cr Leclède also) See p. 300 THE BOOKS.

Third prize to Hoernlein for this bit of psychic alum: That a professional "glass-eater" named Harry Troudfout was found dead (Oct. 10, 1949 old style) in a junk yard in Philadelphia. The body was in a "litter of broken glass and car parts". Cause of death unknown, autopsy ordered, and the UP writer suggests that the man may have been "practicing".

MFS Leclède, who is right on the ball with many other data, and is one of the moving spirits who haunt each other in Chapter Four at Dallas, was a prominent runner-up with a squib from the Editorial page of the Dallas *Times*. It is the only mention received of the meeting at Ohio State of the top mathematicians (1-9-19 FS). The writer states that Faye Emerson's slashed wrist and other staggering

events of the day crowded the meeting out of the papers. The pundits had met to consider such topics as "R-Dimensional Integration in N-Space" and "Area in Non-Riemannian Spaces". For initiates it may be of interest that the cover of DOUBT #17 is Riemannian Geometry.

Other close ties were:

Kerr — with the account of the wrong lung partly collapsed in Glenn Dale Hospital, Washington, D.C. That tragedy is just too bitter for comment. All names are omitted here, since it is impossible to fix the blame from the freeprez version of the accident, but if the guilty bungler knows himself he would do well to change professions. Let him take up politics and become President where his mistakes won't make any difference.

Russell sends five top items . . . An ad in a pre-\$mas issue of the *Irish Independent*: "For Sale, One Fairy, good condition". Russell's headline is "Yoo-Hoo!" . . . A clip from the Manchester *Guardian* stating that when the River Wyre ran into a rabbit warren at Llanrhystyd, near Aberystwyth, the rabbits climbed into the trees . . . That a Derbyshire housewife was stung twice by wasps, became "depressed and suffered from delusions" and eventually drowned herself "in a milk-cooling tank" . . . That last Nov., in St. Louis, at the assembly of the U.S. Chapter of the International College of Surgeons, Dr. Arnold S. Jackson, president of the American Goitre Association, proposed to have the U.S. Congress enact legislation "requiring that all salt sold for human consumption be iodized in an effort to combat goitre and cancer of the thyroid gland."

Sheeley did well with a single apple, one half Winesap, other half Gravenstein: grown on a ranch near Coos Bay, Oregon. The rest of the apples on that tree were pure Gravensteins.

Goldstein (whose high standard of data is wonderfully consistent, year in, year out), found an editorial in the Buffalo *Courier-Express*, June 4, 48 old style, taking exception to the way the rest of us are kicked around by office-holders and the military. As appears, Congressman Hugh D. Scott, of Pa., "made specific charges that 30 crew members of the U.S. submarine Carp were hospitalized about two months ago when the submarine was depth-bombed and forced to submerge by a U.S. Air Force plane about 200 miles off San Diego, Cal.

"The congressman said the pilot who dropped the charges 'didn't know his recognition,' implying that the pilot mistook an American submarine for one of some other nationality. But he failed to explain why an American pilot should be depth-bombing a submarine of any nation.

"The office of Defense Secretary Forrestal said it had never heard of the incident. Admiral Arthur W. Radford, vice-chief of naval operations, said Rep. Scott's statement was 'absolutely untrue.'

"But these statements leave something to be desired. They indicate the absence of a thorough investigation. One should be made either to provide a categorical denial of Rep. Scott's charges or an ex-

planation if they have any basis whatever."

Frank McMahon presents the N. Y. *Times* story of a memorial cemetery for Pacific (sic) war dead, in Punchbowl Crater, high above Honolulu, the site being that of a supposedly "extinct" volcano. If it shouldn't be as extinct as supposed, MFS McMahon suggests that the headline should read — A NIGHT ON BALD MOUNTAIN.

Non-member Berlin was the only contributor of this little nugget: "Ectoplastic Fire Chooses Chair For Little Spree" — in Murray, Utah, 1-10-19 FS. "What had been an overstuffed chair in the (James E.) Reid front room was a neat stack of ashes when the Reids returned to their home . . . The floor beneath the chair was unscratched and adjacent furniture bore no trace of flames."

Even Anonymous came through with an "expert-baffler", an account of canals and a deserted citadel of masonry on Ponape in the Caroline Islands. The article by George Weller is copyright by the Chicago *Daily News* and the (St. Louis) *Post-Dispatch* . . . "A mystery more baffling than the great stone faces of Easter island."

\$50.00 PRIZE

The Fortean Society will pay \$50.00 to the member who sends in the best essay to fit the title, CHARLES FORT AND THE RELIGION OF SELF-RESPECT, before July 14, 19 FS. Your Secretary and two other Founders will be the judges.

The paper should be suitable for publication in *The Humanist*, a quarterly, published by the American Humanist Association. The editor has applied to us for such a paper, and YS may end up writing it himself, but whether that becomes necessary or not, we should have the benefit of the membership's thought on the subject so that the picture of our unique religion of un-faith may be as accurate as possible.

The prize will be paid for the best paper submitted to us, whether it is considered appropriate for *The Humanist* or not. All entries become the property of the Fortean Society, and probably will appear in DOUBT.

NOT TOO MANY PLEASE

MFS McAtee, who has been battling Darwinian dogma almost single-handed for the past decade or longer, has "excerpted" the high-lights of *Contradictions in Darwinian Source-books* and published them in a pamphlet bearing that title. It runs to eleven pages plus paper cover, and a very few copies are available. Each copy should be preserved in a public library, eventually, so we suggest that interested members buy copies, study them, and then take pains to place them in institutions where they will be appreciated, catalogued, and kept available for future Fortean. While they last — \$1.00 each from the Society.

Apologies: your library may have *The Dogma of Evolution*, by Louis T. More, Princeton U., 1925. It is out of print. We cannot supply.

Pertinent too is the "new theory of

evolution" presented at Berkeley, Nov. 16, by Dr. Richard Goldschmidt, U of Calif. One Milton Silverman writing in the *San Francisco Chronicle* calls it "evolution by cataclysm" . . . "It indicates that some mysterious particles detected 20 years ago in living cells may be the agents responsible for the origin of species." *Cr Sekavec*

SOME SAY "EAST" WIND

MFS Monroe sends an undated clip from *Time*, a magazine: "In Portugal, along the rives Tagus, and about Lisbon, certain it is, that when the west-wind blowes, the mares set up their tails, and turne them full against it, and so conceive that genitall aire in steed of naturall seed: in such sort, as they become great withall, and quicken in their time, and bring forth foies as swift as the wind, but they live not above three yerres." As translated from the Latin of Pliny's *Natural History* by Philemon Holland, 1601.

Another MFS — Dogbolt, by pen-name — is presently engaged in writing a biography of that same Philemon Holland. He was quite a boy.

YOU ASKED FOR IT

A good many members have asked for the saucers back. Here they are. Here are all the sky-lights and other flying objects reported since last issue.

MFS Stevens has twelve unannmed witnesses to one Near Silver Creek, to and beyond Cinebar, Washington, on an unspecified date "last year".

At 2:15 p.m. July 3, 1947 old style, near Boone, Iowa, observed by MFS Otis: a structure described as "a frame", roughly like a hinged and glassless window sash, and in the sky at the same time, much higher — and "to the left" — a round object "three quarters the size of a full moon". (MFS Otis also sends in a spirit message from Charles Fort to Your Secretary, chiding us for our stubbornness. It was received by a trumpet medium in the presence of MFS Otis)

Undated — but probably early in March, 18 FS — "a bright green meteor, at night in mid-Pacific, by Second Officer D. J. Oldow of the American ship *John T. McMillan*. Credit Kerr

An attempt by *Popular Science*, May 18 FS, to make out a case for weather balloons as the true cause of saucer tales. *Cr Lorch*

MFS Spaulding has kindly offered to introduce us to the people who build the "Wingless Circular Planes". He knows where they are based. This rather makes a liar out of Nils Christensen, "a convicted German spy in Brazil" who claims to be the inventor. (INS Nov 5) Spaulding's man is named Hefferlin, and he lives in Montana. *Cr Reagan*

At 1:00 p.m. the Tuesday before Aug. 4, 48 old style, over Portland, Oregon, by George Jensen. "It looked like an ironing board." *Cr Sheeley*

Fresno, Oct. 12, called a small meteor. *Cr Ebaugh, Pollard, Reagan*

Oct. 14, "fireball or meteor" over Southern Calif., Arizona, Nevada and

Colorado, about 7:30 p.m. *Cr Pollard and others*

Nov. 7, Bena, Calif., Russell H. Pig-gott was almost struck by "meteorites" in his own yard, 20 miles East of Bakersfield. First mention in wyppers of Nov. 26, when the fragments were picked up by Assistant Curator Richard Bailey of the Kern County Museum. The same story was sent out again Jan. 8.

Nov. 16, Seattle, in a freakish and violent storm with 90-mile gales, "a ball of fire with flames shooting out the back", from East to West. MFS Jones talked to one observer, a Mrs. Gordon Mitchell, who described the object as about the size of a football—"also looked somewhat like a kite".

Nov. 19, over the Santa Catalina Mountains near Tucson, Arizona, a "night-flying saucer", reported by Hugh Downs, pilot. *Cr Leclde*

Nov. 22, over Skagen, North Jutland, two objects going Northward at 4:00 p.m. *Cr Gee, Russell*

Dec. 3, about 7:00 p.m. in an outlying residential section of Bellefontaine, Ohio, a "wheel of fire" seen to fall into a field. Seen by William H. Reynolds and others. It burned itself out on the ground, leaving what looked "like a tire rim off an airplane or automobile" accto Patrolman Murray Richer. It "crumpled" (? crumbled?) when picked up. Fragments sent to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base 45 miles away. Officials denied any knowledge of the object, said it might have been a "government surplus magnesium flare used by pilots making night photographs", but they had not been making any.

MFS Grant corresponded with relatives "who live near there" and reports, without naming the witness, that the words "MADE IN USA" were found on the remains. That is all. *Cr Hamel, Oltscher, Hoernlein, Goeller, Grant and others*. The story with no new facts was still being printed as late as Dec. 28, accto MFS Stevens.

Dec. 7, just before dark, over Augusta, Maine, and "in widely separated communities", an object which many witnesses thought was an airplane falling in flames. No plane missing. No remains found. *Cr Woodman*

Dec. 13, over Nice, France, "a flying saucer meteor" is the phrase of Reuter, described as "red tinged with blue" . . . "The meteor was later reported over Clermont-Ferrand, Central France." *Cr Gee*

Dec. 18, near Great Falls, Montana, "two balls of fire—like the flying discs everybody's been seeing", reported to the *Great Falls Tribune* by George Doakes "of Washington". *Cr Ferguson*

Jan. 9, off Malibu, near Santa Monica, witnesses reported seeing "a plane explode and fall into the sea". The Navy couldn't find anything.

Jan. 9, off Southport (England), "report that a plane leaving a smoke trail was seen to dive into the sea" — about noon. The Army, Navy, Police and Parliament couldn't find anything — so the Manchester *Guardian* says it was probably "a flock of seabirds skimming over

the waves". *Cr Russell*

Jan. 10, about 5:30 p.m., over many places in Maine, "about the size of the moon", seemed to explode. No two witnesses agree on color, or size. No two explainers agree on possible source, but the writers of the Portland *Press-Herald* stress "saucers", "discs" etc., throughout, and once — "dinner plate". *Cr Woodman*

Jan. 16, about 4:30 p.m. "An unexplained object trailing a bright light" over Paris, Kentucky. Reported by Paul Brannon, the publisher of the Paris newspaper. *Cr Woodman, Sekavec*

Nov. 14, 1948, *N.Y. Times*: "WARDEN SERVICE URGED . . . The National Military Establishment's Civil Defense Planning Office said . . . women should be given a great deal of responsibility in the warden service . . . designed to serve all the people in every block . . . in the warden's hands will be the responsibility for constant contact and guidance in preparing his neighbors for emergency, and for whatever action may be necessary in the case of an enemy attack." *Cr Thayer*

THE CHAPTERS

Chapter Two, San Francisco:

Kirk Drussai (Who calls himself "Bugler" of the Chapter) writes that at the 3th meeting, 1-21-19 FS, "the Quincy incident" was disposed of. Reference is to the finding of fragments of a female corpse . . . "seems the docs and internes were just fed up after a hard day in the dissecting room . . . appeared to be a way of letting off steam . . . said that he's thrown this sort of orgy before."

(The mother of the dead girl filed suit Dec. 16.)

"Still didn't find any connection between the perennially favorite cults of the Mt. Shasta vicinity and the Quincy case. Oliphant repeated the story of the man in Redding in 1917. Found wandering around, delirious, with his pockets stuffed with black diamonds. He was hospitalized and later released to die in his hotel soon afterwards. A three puncture triangle was found on his wrist. The Free White Brotherhood, its branches, and the Rosicrucians were brought in for comparison. But none of us had intercepted any communiques which might have given away a possible deadly plot.

"San Leandro's contribution was voices heard outside second story windows and furniture floating in the air about a foot above the floor.

"The Bring In Dept. totals three items which we're to have for the next meeting: Some embalming reports (official county type); a film called *Fire Walk* by a fellow named Joe Skenk, and the automatic writings of a person called Mr. Bornmann, or if we're lucky — Mr. Bornmann himself."

Chapter Three, Chicago:

No general meeting has been held, principally from lack of a hall, but members Castillo, Bump, Brady, Hurd and others are in organizational conferences pretty much all the time. The explosive potential is enormously greater than anything Lillienthal dreams of — what with provivisectionist "Ajax" Carlson, anti-

vaccinist Hurd, rocketeer Farnsworth and pro-Kantian Brady all wrestling in the same cyclotron.

Chapter Four, Dallas:

Reported by MFS Bennett — of its first meeting 1-13-19 FS — that "the evening proved quite interesting to each of us, and we found that we were in agreement as to our ideas and interest in Fortean things and have decided to meet for the interim at least twice a month.

"We would like to find a few more here locally who are inclined along Fortean lines and may work up a small fishing campaign to see if any one will rise to the bait; of course we don't want the so-called nuts and crack-pots, we want to be those ourselves.

"And we agreed to no formal organization — just the group meeting and tending to the business as we saw fit with no by-laws or other impedimenta.

"What we want to do is to be on the ground floor in case anything develops here that is out of the ordinary and I feel that with Mr. Le-Clede on the staff of the local newspaper that we have *entre* into things that otherwise would be handed over to incompetents and made snafu. For instance about 5 years ago phenomena developed in a residence here that was first brought to the attention of the Sheriff and by the time his deputies and the local papers got thru with it, it looked like a bedraggled duck after the dogs had left town. The phenomena was the levitation of furniture and other articles in this residence and the emission of loud noises sounding like detonations of fire-crackers, etc.

"I discussed it with some of the men on the department and they told me that they witnessed enough to make the hair stand. So now if such should ever get loose here again I think that we are capable of doing the investigation and maybe can get in before the populace gets it balled up."

WILL ANSWER LETTERS

Some members like to swap views by mail. For instance, one writes:

"I guess, maybe, we will be planning to raise Bigger and Better hound dogs—more expensive Hereford Bulls—and less intelligent soldiers—five minutes before—Armageddon.

"Yes, Mr. Thayer, I would like to correspond with other members. I would like to drink with 'em—and talk with 'em—but I can't find 'em. Up to date I've never even seen one. They just don't grow in places like this."

Lee Summers
c/o Buford Skaags
West Plains, Mo.
Route 2

Also, a member, of the female persuasion, a (Mrs.) Judith L. Gee, 27a, Goldburst Terrace, Hampstead, London, N.W. 6., England, writes: "Do you think you could publish an appeal from me in DOUBT asking for the loan of the various books, and I'd send them back when read—say 2 weeks time. I think you do not make enough use of DOUBT as a medium between members. After all such oddities as we are, are of interest to one

another, and I for one would like to write to fellow members all over the world — but how can I, when there is no media of exchange."

Mrs. Gee would also like to meet London members face to face—if not eye to eye. She concludes: "My husband saw Charles Fort in Hyde Park and British Museum when he was in London, and has spoken to another Hyde Parkean, who remembers him well. Why not send an expedition to contact these people while they still live."

A FEW ISSUE No. 7

Russell has sent us a small packet of DOUBT #7, the scarcest of out of print issues. They are clean, new and inspiring. While they last—\$2.50 each.

SATAN FINDS WORK

Members can confer a favor by taking up any one or more of these queries and reporting for publication in DOUBT.

1. Are the Easter Island figures carved of indigenous rock?

2. On p. 88 of a novel by Ben Ames Williams, *House Divided*, we read: "The August sun rose pale green, then turned blue; by dinner time was a disc as white as silver with a hideous dark spot in the middle." The narrator says it was called "the Spotted Sun". Please check the book, the author, and papers of the period.

3. In *Witchcraft*, by William Seabrook, we are told, is a reference to a phenomenon of coincidence reminiscent of (or prophetic of) some of the crap-shooting results reported by J. B. Rhine. Search it out for us, please. Our very vague memorandum on the subject indicates that a "machine" may have been involved.

DRAYSONIANA

The Copenhagen Meteorological Institute reported last March (18 FS) that a survey covering world-wide records since 1881 shows that summers and winters are both getting warmer in the temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere . . . At the same time, NANA is sending out a feature quoting Hugh Auchincloss Brown who says the Antarctic ice cap is getting so heavy it may turn Terra topsy-turvy. A \$10,000,000 engineering project would prevent the catastrophe, he is said to have said.

HUNGRY?

Horizons, a publication from Pittsburgh, last October listed a "chemically treated sawdust as farm feed . . . Successful fattening of hogs, cattle and poultry on chemically treated sawdust has been reported; product becomes a form of molasses containing 50% sugar." Cr Sussman, who queries, "End result, more cancer?"

NO MORE SOPER

Dr. George Albert Soper, the promulgator—if not the inventor—of the "Typhoid Mary" theory, died June, 18 FS. He was responsible for keeping Mary Mallon confined for 34 years. Cr Russell

DELAYED ROCKS

In a copyright article (Chi-Trib), Paul Sjoblom describes rains of rocks from nowhere on a small house in the suburbs of Helsinki, Finland, beginning Oct. 14, 1946

and continuing every night for about two weeks. Other phenomena, of a poltergeist character also reported, as occurring inside the house. One resident is described as "middle aged", said to have "suffered from sleeping sickness since she was 18": not clear if she was bedridden or even purportedly bedridden. She had a son *ae* 14, but phenoms continued while he was being questioned. Buffalo *Courier-Express*, Oct. 29, 1946 old style. Cr Goldstein

One Cal Webb writing in *Fantastic Adventures*, Dec. 1948, has stone-falls "late in the sixteenth century, the home of George Walton," but does not indicate where Walton lived, and one in early September, 1921 AD, "on a French farm". Such vagueness makes mighty poor evidence. Cr Brooks (In his house pictures keep falling.)

END OF WORLD

In your reading, please be alert for old predictions of the "end of the world". Go back as far as you will. Early Christians confidently expected it to occur in 1000 AD. Who before that? And after?

In Oidenburg, Germany, Aug. 18, 48 old style, a group described as a "frenzied religious meeting" were stopped by police from "sacrificing" two children "to prevent the sounding of the last trumpet". Cr Reagan

ESKIMO TECHNIC

MFS Nandor Fodor was reviewed by John J. O'Neill, N.Y. *Hertrib*, Oct. 31, 48 old style. Fodor's paper appeared in the *Psychiatric Quarterly*, April, 1948, THE POLTERGEIST--PSYCHOANALYZED. O'Neill cites Dr. Erwin H. Ackerknecht to the effect that the Eskimos have been driving away evil spirits by this method for several glacial periods. The Fodor treatise has been reprinted, 9 pp., and cover. From the Society, seventy-five cents. Cr Fodor and Bonavia

WHITE ELEPHANT NEWS

What happened to Hubbel—that intrepid, handsome, box-fighting Legionnaire who "discovered" theories and got such DEFINTE publicity in *Time*, a magazine? Now that intrepidity is surely needed to keep the stench of Palomar from nauseating even Waldemar, and somebody named Ira S. Bowen appears to have taken over.

Members will be glad to know that 20-millionths of an inch must be polished off the mirror. That will take six months, but work can't be started until spring. BUT "Dr. Bowen is not worried about correcting the bugs in the mirror . . . the discoveries to be revealed by the huge telescope will make up for the headaches and grief now being experienced . . ."

Probably aspirin comes under the head of Operating Expense and not out of Dr. Bowen's stipend. Cr Leclède, Hoernlein, Russell, and many more.

ATOMIC PROFITS

In a piece of double-talk typical of the hand-outs from the Atomic Energy Commission, a purported AP "news" despatch from Oak Ridge, Oct. 30, 1948 old style, lets one little pussy cat peep out of the bag.

The main story concerns the marvel that the Oak Ridge plant can produce

only one ounce of "radioactive atoms" in a year. You are supposed to be impressed by that. The ounce of atoms is "worth" \$300,000, but that is the selling price. What it costs the taxpayers to make that ounce is not stated, but a guess of ten times that sum is probably very modest. And here is the faint *miaow*. "The atoms are shipped from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, operated for the commission by the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation."

Now, the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation was what might be called the "operator pro tem", if our information is correct. The "operation" at Oak Ridge passes from one private corporation to another like an inexhaustible plum cake. All that you or your Senators have to do to get a cut of this Sweet Thing is find out what chemical corporation is next in line and buy that stock. Simple? O, you're quite welcome. Don't mention it.

DID HE GET IT?

Senator Pepper asked for \$75,000.00 to spend looking into Florida's "red tides." June 5, 1948 old style. *Cr* Reagan

RED UMBRELLA

Warned by radio, Sept. 14, 1948 old style, to get out of the path of a hurricane in the Atlantic, Captain Elisha A. Cooper of the *Marine Swallow*, did so, but put his vessel under a sky which "became a violent red . . . an umbrella of fire . . . a typhoon sky, seen only in the Orient and then rarely . . . weird but very beautiful . . . bright red . . . at the reddest a strange feeling came over us, one of unrest, as if something were about to happen . . . believed it was due to cloud formations and shadows due to hurricane conditions."

SHADE OF VAIL

An astronomy prof at U of Chicago, Gerald P. Kuiper, who is also a director of the McDonald Observatory, Fort Davis, Texas, appears to be coming around to Isaac Newton Vail's way of thinking.

Accto NANA in the Baltimore *Sun*, Kuiper says that Saturn's rings and five inner moons are ice. "The composition of the planet's other five moons has not been definitely established." What Kuiper needs is a transfusion from Definitely Hubble. *Cr* Reagan, Markham (who also cites Hans Hoerbiger).

CANCER IN PITTSBURGH

Last September the freeprez and the local medicine men moved in on the clinic of Drosnes-Lazenby where some people swore they obtained relief from cancer—free. The clinic was closed, the treatment condemned and charges pressed against Drosnes and Lazenby. The fight is not over, but as of 1-4-19 FS, it looked as if the clinic would reopen, with a medical doctor and a priest as "Directors". The Society's observer on the spot is MFS Oltcher, who writes:

"Here is a notation I made back in March 1944. 'Curing cancer via diet, is the method proposed by Doctor John R. Davidson of Winnipeg. "Cancer is a nu-

tritional deficiency disease," says he, and substantiates his statement by showing the results of numerous experiments on mice. Vitamins used in Dr. Davidson's research were mainly those associated with chicken embryos and wheat germ.'"

KORESHANS

MFS Oltcher also supplied the story from *Newsweek*, Dec. 6, 1948 old style, of the litigation between the last of the Koreshans, followers of Dr. Cyrus R. Teed, author of *Celular Cosmogony*. "The death of Dr. Teed in 1906 at the age of 67 hit the Koreshans hard," states *Newsweek*, entirely ignoring the rumor that Teed was murdered in Lee County, Florida.

Members with access to local papers of the period will confer a favor by searching out contemporary accounts. We have some data but it is incomplete.

JAKE BIRD'S HEX

"A year ago"—that would be about Nov. 1, 1947, Jake Bird, a murder suspect in Tacoma, boasted to Detective Lieut. Sherman Lyons that "You policemen and judges will be settin' and waitin' at the pearly gates a long time before I roll up." Two months later he was sentenced to die Jan. 16. On Jan. 1, the Judge, E. D. Hodge, died. Chief Deputy Clerk (of the court) Ray Scott "died suddenly a short time later."

Bird's execution was delayed — and Undersheriff Joe Karpach, who had conducted investigations into Bird's alleged crimes, died suddenly. In the last week of October, Detective Lyons died, and on Nov. 26, Bird's own attorney, J. W. Selden, succumbed. The State Supreme Court is supposed to be preparing an order for Bird's re-sentence, but they appear to be in no hurry. *Cr* Sussman, Oltcher, McMahon and many others.

GARRY DAVIS NAMED

The Fortean Fellow for 18 FS is Garry Davis, Citizen of the World, by the largest, most enthusiastic vote any Fellow to date has received. He's a difficult man to address, however. Do you suppose the UN would forward his mail?

FLAT EARTHERS

One Oswald Blakeston of London is collecting material for a history "of the Flat Earth Movement". Here is our contribution. Anything else you send in will be appreciated.

The Society has been unable to reach any of its former correspondents on this subject for a number of years, and since they were all rather aged at last accounting, a reasonable assumption is that they are dead. Besides C. S. DeFord of Fair-faild, Washington, there was Maxwell Pruitt of Cincinnati, Ohio. In England, one formerly addressed either Z. Archibald Smith, Editor, *the Faith*, Leicester, or Mr. Albert Smith, Norvic, Garrick Road, Abington Park, Northampton. However, the followers of Wilbur Glenn Voliva are still active and will send their literature. Address: Editor, Leaves of Healing, Zion City, Illinois. Ask for data on the "Zetetic Astronomy"—and contribute what you will.

REPLIES TO PLEAS

MFS Evans (Surrey, Eng.) writes:

"In reply to Mr. Horenlein's query regarding the speed of rocket ships, many science-fiction writers are not so well-versed in Astreogation (the mathematics of space-travel) as they might be. The critical velocity of seven miles a second is that necessary — of course assuming for the sake of argument the validity of conventional astronomy—to take a projectile beyond the earth's attraction without a further impulse, the Jules Verne Columbiad idea.

"It is quite inapplicable to a rocket-ship travelling under its own power. This, of course, could travel like a V-2, beginning slowly and working up gradually to whatever speed the power of its engines or considerations of safety allowed.

"A pleasing exercise for Fortean is to read science-fiction critically on the look out for such howlers. They are certainly not very far to seek!"

And—E. W. Brady adds this book to the bibliography of the "Abominable Snowman": *Mount Everest*, By H. W. Tilman, Cambridge U. Press, 1938. "The above work has an appendix, consisting of a report on the evidence for and against the existence of the A.S. whose footprints have been found from time to time at great altitudes in the Himalayas."

Allen Flagg really went to work. The following indicates that a capital "A" in the Notes refers to auroral phenomena.

"In the last issue of *Doubt* you asked that some member inform you what Fort's A means with regard to the American Journal of Science, 2/3/126.

"There is a report on observations of shooting stars, August 10, 1846, from New Haven, Conn. For the morning of the 11th there was 'but a slight recurrence of the exhibition usual at this period.' The results of the evening of the 11th seem however to justify the inference that the display did not fail this year.

"An Aurora Borealis was seen June 14, the night of 11th and 12th of August, and November 11th, all 1846.

"The *News* of Jacksonville, Florida, 11/13/46 is quoted: 'numerous shooting stars were seen and explosions heard' the morning of 10/20/46.

"A second report is entitled *Ancient Returns of Halley's Comet*. A paper read May 8, 1843 to the French Academy of Sciences (*Comptes Rendus*, XVI, 1003) by M. Laugier announced that M. Edouard Biot extracted from Chinese historians the observations in 1456 and 1378—"undoubtedly Halley's comet." The paper gives in a minute detail the elements of the observation of 1378, and also a table of years of the comets revolutions."

RUN OF THE MILL

Sixty children in Kyoto, Japan, had died by Dec. 20, from "diphtheria immunization" injections . . . A three-year-old in Oakland choked to death on a vitamin pill, July 31. *Cr* Hoernlein

A ball of something weighing 31 pounds floated out of the Atlantic into

Freeport, L. I., Jan. 14, 19 FS. "Identified by police" as "only" crude gum... A "wall" of red dust 8000 feet high, 450 miles wide, was reported 600 miles from Australia in the Pacific. Said to have blown from "dry inland" where no rain has fallen for three years. *Cr Russell, Gee*

"For the third time in two weeks" residents of a "large city area" of Salt Lake City, reported their houses shaking to the tune of "rumblings". C. Edward Jacob, director of the seismograph station at Utah U, advanced the theory (sic) that "localized earth tremors" may have occurred. *Cr Barrett, Hoernlein*

CINVENTION

The Seventh World Science Fiction Convention will be held in Cincinnati September 3-4-5. MFS Lavender, a member of the committee has forwarded YS an invitation to address the gathering. Decision is fondly reserved.

BLACK SNOW

From a sunny sky, temperature 75 degrees, "black, carbon-like particles as big as silver dollars dotted an entire block" of Birmingham, Ala., 1-15-19 FS. "James Doubles, an associate professor of botany at Birmingham-Southern College, said . . . distant relative of mushrooms . . . fungal spores produced . . . in oak trees." *Cr Rogers*

COINCIDENCES

Utica, N. Y. July 2. Anesthetic exploded, fatal to patient, injured a surgeon and three nurses . . . Pittsburgh, Oct. 15. As the mask was being removed from the patient's face . . . cyclopropane exploded. Patient "shocked and bruised", not burnt, "recovering satisfactorily" . . . Birmingham, England, 1-3-19 FS. Anaesthetic exploded "inside" John Peter Gibbons. He died. *Cr Castillo, Oltcher, Russell*

While Terminal Island off San Pedro is carrying billions of dollars worth of Navy installations *down* at the rate of almost a foot a year, the farm of Henry Huppenthal, near Cedar Lake, Indiana, is rising and raising 110 bushels of corn to the acre. An area of 25,000 square yards has risen 15 feet above the surrounding land. *Cr Hoernlein, Wyckoff, Oltcher, Gee, Marshall, Bennett*

A woman *ae* 71 was strangled in Chicago Nov. 23, when her scarf caught in a clothes wringer. The same day, in Montebello, Calif., a 2-year-old boy died by the same means. *Cr Oltcher*

Three people have "fallen" to their deaths from the same window on the ninth floor of some flats in Cricklewood, England, as of Dec. 8. *Cr Gee*

Nov. 30, Ottumwa, Iowa, four children burned to death. Dec. 1, Cherokee, Iowa, four children burned to death. Dec. 25, Riverside, Calif., eight persons found unconscious in the Neroni home. Dec. 27, four persons found mysteriously dead in a cottage at Big Bear Lake, Calif. *Cr Milton Smith and others*

Nov. 5, Dr. Herman J. Muller spoke in Chicago, warning that X-rays "endanger life and offspring". Jan. 1, Arthur J. Snider, writing in the *Chicago Daily*

News, hails a "super X-ray machine" at the U of Illinois hospital which is to be used to treat cancer. *Cr Castillo, Brod*

In Belgium, March 25, M. Verhaeghe solved mental arithmetic problems more rapidly than a computing machine could do them. In Sacramento, Calif., Sept. 11, a carrier pigeon beat an airplane delivering a message from Seattle, Wash. *Cr Elsander, Hoernlein*

Washington, D.C. Aug. 20. A Negro, apparently a suicide, was found hanged in the Abraham Lincoln Memorial. "Police said they were unable to establish any motive"! Sept. 16. Same city. The Minister of Abyssinia to the United States, Prince Ras Imru, the Emperor's cousin, was seated with other diplomats to hear President Truman speak. An usher told him he would have to move to a seat in the Jim Crow section. The Minister walked out.

An Australian Indian, Ahmar Gaga Singh, *ae* 114, whose eldest living child is 103, predicts some dire disaster March 20, 1949 old style, or — by another account — that in March "there will be an aurora above the Milky Way which will be invisible to the naked eye" . . . In Baltimore, Md., Dr. Carl A. Zapffe, a metallurgist, predicted that "man will wipe himself out in October 1999". *Cr Reagan, Molesworth*

Shartlesville, Pa. Aug. 23. A woman *ae* 22 had forgotten her keys. She tried to enter her home through a window and strangled to death when the window fell on her. Same date, in National City, Calif. A man *ae* 65, under almost identical circumstances, died of a heart attack when the window hit him.

At low tide on Boulmer Sands, England, May 22, buff colored bubbles arose "like the eruption of mud volcanos". When they burst "the substance ignited like phosphorus as soon as it was exposed to the air". July 8, in Nashville, Tenn., a vacant lot was flaming over an area about 10 feet long by 6 feet wide. A house had burned down on the site 23 years before. *Cr Elsander, Savage*

Nov. 6. *Times-Herald*, Washington, D.C., announces the organization in London of the Society for Prevention of Premature Burial, and tells how jockey Ralph Neves was almost buried alive "eight years ago in San Francisco". Nov. 22. *Pittsburgh Press*, announces that a Paris doctor told the General Council of the Seine Department (sic) of Paris that one out of every five hundred Frenchmen is buried alive. *Cr Reagan, Oltcher*

The Johnstown (Pa.) *Democrat* had two railroad locomotives go berserk in its issue of Aug. 30. One on the Pennsy line and one N.Y. Central. No one was in either of the engines when they started off by themselves. One ran six miles, the other only a few feet — but it plunged into the turn-table pit of the roundhouse. *Cr Toth*

SANDERSON REPORTS

As practically everybody knows, MFS Sanderson went down to Clearwater to look at those tracks reported in DOUBT #21. He is variously quoted by interviewers. The tracks are a hoax — the

tracks could not be a hoax. In fact, he out-Forts Fort in suspending judgment. The mimeographed report runs to 42 pages. *Cr Sanderson, Hurst, Castillo, Gee, Douglas, Goeller, McMahon*

FUHRMANN WRITES

Even the shortest auto-biography would mean enumerating the steps of success, as I understand. Well I was not made to succeed, but to doubt. Constantly to learn while I doubted that even anything was true that I was told to learn. Thus I have looked into everything that was accessible (and before unsuccessful people all things are closed) but I went into business and looked into mines, I have been busy with plant-research as well as linguistics, ethnology and many more things.

Certainly I am not a negativist but quite the contrary. And while there is still enough left to doubt there were numberless amazing facts I discovered. (The last was deciphering the Discos of Phaistos.)

My work is rather a journal of the learning. Thus it is terribly extensive. What ignorance of ages has piled up makes a gigantic jungle in which every path must be tried for the first time. My ideas only are suggestions to follow one and the other trail. Since decades I had prepared a great library of my own to be well equipped. The war-machines preferred to destroy such equipment (probably because mankind feels that it would not be good to know the truth. But maybe a later age may start again from honesty. If I should doll up my biography with "success" it would be altogether dishonest because I would suggest, advise, while I learn but never would dictate in the wonderful courageous way of scientists: This is so. Of course when other people's structures tumble down the next expert starts shaking them a little.

In a monastery of the future I think people would be extremely glad to have my work and follow my trails, still learning, doubting yet accomplishing the Cathedral which one single mind is bound to outline while it is at work.

I do not remember having slaved for others and society resents that. Why should I blame them. What should they pay for. Yet it is some misery also to continue learning, never to be so arrogant as to believe to know and thus boldly start to teach. This age more than any other would poison a seducer of the people who follow the rut.

The last aborigine people of this globe have interested me most. I think I resemble them, and only them. And while I doubt and try to learn I never forget where I got lost. I always return and by and by the trails I went so many times have become quite reliable for others to follow. But—you see: who ever asked a native to give his autobiography? Certainly my little island now since so many years is a tiny room. But the world you find in it I think is greater than any continent thus far discovered.

computation, a plane resembling the 'Speed Gordon Rocket Ship' was reported over Alabama (U.S.A.) two days before. See other reports of new flying saucers having been sighted.

The Alabama object (accto the Sydney press channeled from New York by A. A. P.) had "a long stream of red flame shooting from its rear end."

The Brisbane object, accto commercial pilot E. H. White, Red Hill, "was a bluish steel-coloured ball with a long tail of red flame." It took ten seconds to sweep across his range of vision. "He thought it was a rocket from an aircraft." (We link pilot White with Eric Frank Russell's lecturer Federer, who said the meteor over New York in 1939 looked like "a rocket with a brilliant exhaust").

Despite the aeronautical opinion of pilot White, and the recent reports of new aerial phenomena in America, local newspaper and scientific dogmatists said the Queensland Express was a "meteor".

We turn back to the Sydney Morning Herald, August 5, 3 F.S., idly wondering whether two "meteors" in July-August can make the thing seasonal. "A huge, brilliantly coloured meteor which was seen travelling across the sky in an easterly direction last night, was witnessed by observers as far inland as Coolamon. Many people stated that it was the largest meteor they had seen, and its apparently slow progress across the night sky from west to east gave rise to the impression that it was a large aeroplane on fire. This impression was strengthened by its resemblance in shape to a monoplane. The meteor was observed shortly before seven p.m. It had a short fiery tail, stretching out behind it, and the blazing mass seemed to be moving on a level course through the heavens towards the east." As it moved out to sea, "the original body was seen to split in three fragments of mingled hues, which then continued on an easterly course for some time, before bursting into numerous fiery fragments, which are supposed (sic!) eventually to have disappeared into the ocean."

And now a piece of slinky linking. Four months earlier, on March 31, 1933, "several brilliant meteors were observed, illuminating the countryside for miles. The largest suddenly appeared to split in two pieces. One apparently reached the earth, as a loud explosion was heard in parts of the district, where the ground trembled, and movable objects were shaken." A resident stated that "when one meteor passed over his property, the light was so brilliant it was possible to read a newspaper." Same date: "A Chinese living at Darwin reported having seen a large seaplane fly over the harbor. He said he saw the seaplane approach from the south-westerly direction. He said other Chinese saw the plane. Police have no knowledge of any plane".

August 14—nine days after the "meteor" which travelled out to sea—reports trickled back (Sydney Morning Herald) that Fijian people were puzzled by mysterious vessels seen in the islands.

Again tempting us to get "seasonal"—on August 5, 1931, reports that "a mysterious aeroplane had crashed on the Gardiner Ranges in the north of Tasmania have impressed the Commissioner of Police (Col. E. J. Lord) who has instructed the police to carry out extensive searches for the 'plane.'" (Sydney Morning Herald). Later: "Inquiries reveal that no plane is missing. 'What influences me,' said Col. Lord, 'is that so many reliable people heard the machine. Further, the plane was heard in parts where the noise of a motor car could not be heard. Search parties have traversed the large area of rough country without result.'"

One is tempted to examine further the files around July-August, being certain to find the august visitations of these jet-shooting monoplane-shaped objects interpreted in terms of "brilliant meteors".

Do I matriculate?

Does he? YS

NO FAITH? NO DOUBT?

The index of "great ideas" started by Robert M. Hutchins, U of Chicago, carried on by Dr. Mortimer J. Adler and William Gorman, with a staff — as pictured in *Life* — is limited to 102 topics. They are, admittedly, 102 of the greatest notions man has cooked up, and they are listed here for quick, easy, Fortean reference.

Angel
Animal
Aristocracy
Art
Astronomy
Beauty
Being
Cause
Chance
Change (an oddy!)
Citizen
Constitution
Courage
Custom
Definition
Democracy
Desire
Dialectic
Duty
Education
Element
Emotion
Eternity
Evolution
Experience
Family
Fate
Form
God
Good (probably covers Evil)
Government
Habit
Happiness
History
Honor
Hypothesis
Idea
Immortality
Induction
Infinity
Judgment
Justice
Knowledge

Labor
Language
Law
Liberty
Life
Logic
Love
Man
Mathematics
Matter
Mechanics (? covers Organism?)
Medicine
Memory
Metaphysics
Mind
Monarchy
Nature
Necessity
Oligarchy
One and Many (? Pico?)
Opinion
Opposition
Philosophy
Physics
Pleasure (? covers Pain, etc.)
Poetry
Principle
Progress
Prophecy
Prudence (? better under Judgment?)
Punishment (? includes Guilt?)
Quality
Quantity (? distinction One and Many?)
Reasoning (? distinction Mind, Logic?)
Relation
Religion
Revolution
Rhetoric
Same (? distinction from several others?)
Science
Sense
Sign
Sin
Slavery (? distinction from Labor?)
Soul
Space
State
Temperance (? better under Judgment?)
Theology (? distinction from God, Religion?)
Time (? distinction from Change?)
Truth
Tyranny (? distinction from Government?)
Universal
Virtue
War
Wealth
Will
Wisdom
World

Besides the queries alongside a few topics, one wonders why Faith and/or Doubt are not listed separately. Also missing are Essence and/or Spirit, unless they be comprehended under Soul. Where, too, are Motion and Inertia? Be they under Change? — or under Time, perhaps? Where Power, Force or Energy? — under Physics or Metaphysics? Where — above all — is that arch-fiend Personification? Not under Rhetoric, surely.



Mr. and Mrs. Sam Youd

Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Drussai



FORTEAN MATCHES

Presenting, for the first time, the likenesses of eight members in good standing, four of each of the opposing sexes, who met in Forteanism and were married. In chronological order, the nuptials were: Hilda Downing to George Christian Bump, in Chicago; Garen Lewis to Kirk Drussai, in Hollywood; Joyce Fairbairn to Sam Youd, in London; Margaret Rea to Vincent H. Gaddis, in Clearwater, Fla. Mrs. Bump and Mrs. Gaddis were professional writers and continue as such. Mr. Gaddis is, of course, in many popular magazines every month, so it is not professional jealousy which is causing him to cut off his wife's writing hand. He is performing "the Guillotine Illusion".

The three figures back of the Youds are pure ectoplasm, all thought to be Lord Nelson.

The Drussais have just paid the first year's dues for the only unborn Fortean of record and all concerned are looking forward to April first (FS) as a great day for the religion of self-respect.



Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Bump

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Gaddis



POOR GANDHI

The progress of India under independence is reported in the *Bombay Chronicle*, April 7, 1948 old style:

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

World War May Break Out in March 1949

Govt. House Servant's Answer During Mesmerized State

BOMBAY, Tuesday.

The World War III will break out in March 1949.

This was revealed by Osman—a servant in Government House—who was used as a medium by Prof. Amin, who entertained at the 'At Home' given by the Governor and Lady Maharaj Singh at Government House this evening.

A cosmopolitan gathering numbering nearly 500 guests attended the 'At Home'. After the guests were presented to His Excellency and Rani Maharaj Singh the guests partook of refreshments while their distinguished host and hostess moved among them and had a word or a nod with them.

The guests included quite a number of men from the Defence Services in their smart uniforms and women gaily and colourfully attired. The Hon. Mr. R. G. Soman, President of the Bombay Legislative Council, was one of the distinguished guests present at the function.

St. Mary's High School Band was in attendance and played a variety of light music. Prof. Amin then entertained the audience with the usual magic tricks which he rounded off with the mesmeric performance in the course of which, Osman, a servant in Government House, whom he put in a trance, answering the question as to the month and year of the out-break of the next world war, gave March 1949, as the answer.

The 'At Home' concluded with the National Anthem 'Vande Mataram' played by the band.

WASHINGTON

Washington, D. C., has been well described as the only insane asylum in the world where the inmates are the keepers. One piece of occupational therapy which they set themselves has been observed for five or six years by YS. The activity (or lethargy) appears to center in the Federal Security Agency".

Once a year this agency sends YS a double postcard stating that — "In the interest of economy, the Government is making an earnest effort to reduce mailing lists and retain only names of persons currently interested in receiving publications." The other half of the card bears a replica of the stencil. It is to be returned, corrected, etc.

Every year, YS signs the proper spaces, indicating continued "current interest" and sends the card back. That is all. No other mail of any description whatsoever is received from the Agency — until the next year when an identical pair of cards comes again. Damned nice of them to remember me, eh?

HI-SPOTS IN MAIL

From Russell:

"Suggest the Society awards this year's specially inscribed dog-biscuit to the astronomer who discovered a new star of hitherto unheard-of density—and named it after himself!

"A Fortean yclept Jon Hill, aged 8, bought a kid book about railways, read it from stem to stern, even the printer's by-line, noted the words: 'Uniform with this series' followed by a list of other books. So forthwith he took the publishers up on that, wrote them complaining bitterly that he hadn't got a uniform with it. The publishers couldn't think any plausible way out of it, bought him a railroad uniform complete with all trimmings—since then he wears no other. *Manchester Guardian*, Jan. 12, 1949. I call this a distinctly new Fortean slant, i.e., that of believing what you read.

"Time the F.S. started correlating blood transfusion deaths."

From Vora Sowers:

"I am unable to find a copy of the older booklet describing Crater Lake, and perhaps I should be very glad of that fact, because of all the fantastic stories of its origin anyone could possibly imagine, that contained the limit.

"It set forth that Rogue River drained the Lake. Drained is right — the Lake would have disappeared in a month had Rogue River drained it. The origin of that story was that here was a Lake with no visible outlet; here was a river with no visible beginning. Nuf sed. Explanations. This booklet mentions that the soil is pumice. Well, pumice is not porous; it is a combination of flour and talcum powder, colored light grey; if you never saw any you cannot even begin to know how you look after trying to wade through a few rods of it. It speedily plugs up noses and eyes, and buries its victim.

"The thing that started me thinking of the origin of the Lake is the description of the Arizona landscape in *New Lands*, page 501. If any of your members visit the Lake at any time, please have them see if this description applies.

"As to Rogue River having no beginning: it flows as a tiny mountain stream for a while, in a most leisurely manner, down a mountain crevice. Then it disappears under what is called The Natural Bridge, except that it is not a bridge, but a large flat area of stone, slightly lower than the surrounding mountain area. Some distance farther down, the river bursts from under this bridge as a full grown and dangerous torrent. There is no possible way of finding out what has happened under there, and considering the force of the river as it comes out, no one has any desire to explore.

"My father made many trips to the Lake before there was a highway — or even a road. He always got along with Indians: they would do anything for him; but they just simply did not know that such a lake existed. Nothing would induce them even to go and see; they would pack everywhere else but up that

mountain; they would pick huckleberries anywhere else; and they knew that father knew to the last sentence when to stop asking them to go there. It was sort of a summer ritual, for him to try to hire one, and for them to refuse.

"By all means, go at such a time that you can arrive at the Lake before sun rise, and see it until about 10 p.m. No other experience on earth is quite like that."

From Ed. H. Simpson:

"Here is a matter that I regard of being of first class importance to your English section of our Society, and for that reason, and for others that I will refer to later on, I trust that you will give it the widest possible publicity.

"Very early on in the Phoney War II it seeped out in the press,—if I remember aright,—that reservoirs intended for storing drinking water in England would contain something or other likely to protect it from contamination from enemy action, but no exact details were revealed as to the nature of this substance, chemical or what-have-you. We never did get to know informative details about this preventative until very recently when I spotted an announcement in the English '*News-Chronicle*' daily, stating that experiments were being made by the Ministry of Education, South Shields, to determine what effect the use of Fluorine added to the drinking water during war time emergency had had upon the children's teeth in that area.

"I thereupon wrote a lengthy letter back to the 'N-C' people on this matter wherein I pointed out details of the chemical properties of fluorine, and the filthy and corrupt effects it had, in its gaseous condition (NB:—refer to your own encyclopedia for confirmation!) and I intimated that I blamed the use of this 'poisonous substance' for being the root cause of a very acute and irritating skin eruption that attacked masses of our children at frequent periods, which resulted in the appearance of large red and watery 'blebs' that cause appalling irritation and misery. My own child has suffered agonies through its agency, and still does, but perhaps not quite to the same extent.

"I also told the 'N-C' of an occasion a few years back when at a semi-public meeting where a Doctor was to lecture on some aspect of soil fertility, I posed a question to this Doctor on the matter of adulteration of our drinking water and its effect upon our health, but the knowing one, calmly hedged and dismissed the matter as one quite outside his capacity, and vaguely hinting that the point was being investigated elsewhere.

"Despite my hopes, the N-C have taken no steps to reveal the substance of my letter, which is not surprising in view of the furious outcry that would have arisen had they published. Later, I sent a condensed version of this theme to the weekly periodical '*Illustrated*' but here again, I have received no word of reply nor do I think now that this letter will be permitted to appear, in the interests of our public conscience or to protect more important interests hidden behind the scenes."

From Cass:

"Reports recently in the British Press that a German Physician Dr. Voeller of Kassel (U.S. Zone) had achieved cures in a number of cases of Parkinsons Disease (Paralysis Agitans) thus raising hopes amongst many sufferers were denied in a statement issued by the Ministry of Health as quoted by the British Medical Journal of Jan. 10, 1948.—It is regretfully announced that the claims made in favor of this particular treatment are without foundation!— See however the following.

"—British Medical Journal of Jan. 17, 1948. —Quoting from a statement from the Information Services Directorate of the Foreign Office (German Section) Statement dated Jan. 7th.—Dr. Voeller once owned a private Nursing Home in Kassel, where he specialized in the treatment of this disease and where with close attention to the well being of his patients he appeared to obtain some good results. According to the Public Health Branch of the Control Commission for Germany (B.E.) there is no truth in the report that Dr. Voeller has discovered a specific cure for Parkinsons disease. It is emphasized that periods of apparent improvement are a characteristic of the development of the disease."

"See now — — most standard textbooks on this disease. I quote from *The Etiology and Treatment of Parkinsonism*, by George Hesketh M.D. etc.

"Prognosis

"Parkinsonism is essentially a chronic, intractable and progressive affection. The cause of the disease is always downhill and treatment from a curative point of view is hopeless' etc.

"The B.M.J. for Jan. 17 mentions in its report that Dr. Karl Brandt (executed later for War Crimes) former Reichs Commissioner for Health under Hitler was responsible for the dissemination of reports on Dr. Voellers successes. 'The story emanated from a recommendation alleged to have been made by the notorious Dr. Karl Brandt to a British soldier.'

"Some of your correspondents may have recently reported lights 'distress signals' etc. also 'meteors' observed on the East Yorkshire coast of England, especially around Bridlington and its adjacent Flamborough Head. I am struck by the recurrence of reports of such phenomena from this strip of coast. See pages 514 and 515 in *The Books* also page 26 of my earlier reports — Jan. 6-29 1938. I will watch this in future. Further descriptions of lights in this area to follow."

From Maitland:

"One midnight in June of this year a cowhand named Lamar Underwood was killed when his pickup turned over on a country road near here. Two days later I went to the cemetery with 15 or 20 other men to dig his grave. While we were working, someone stopped to inform John Miller, another of the diggers, that his house had just burned to the ground. None of the Millers had been in or near the house when the fire started.

"In October, an old man named Clyde Young died of a heart attack in one of the local grocery stores. Some time during

the night of the following day, a fire occurred in Portal's other store, owned by my wife and me, starting under a kerosene refrigerator. Nobody was present or knew of the fire until the following morning. The fire scorched the enamel off the refrigerator, burned a hole one foot in diameter in an adjacent partition, blistered the paint on the ceiling, and went out.

"A few days before Christmas, Oley Rieder, the mail carrier for several little settlements in the community, died during or after an operation for cancer of the stomach. On the day of his funeral, two women at the home of Bill Sanders discovered smoke coming from beneath a platform adjoining the house and extinguished a fire which had started in a paper box containing two gallon jugs of gasoline.

"There were explanations of these three fires. In the Miller fire, no single explanation was generally accepted, but it was agreed either that a kerosene refrigerator had exploded or that Butane gas leaking from a kitchen stove had been ignited by the flame of the refrigerator. In the case of the store fire it was quite evident that burning kerosene had leaked from a dirty, clogged burner onto the wood floor. I myself repeated the occurrence two or three times the following morning, shoving the ignited burner into its drawer and watching the burning oil slop out of the tray and set fire to the floor. The theory accepted for the Sanders fire is that the sun shone through a crack in the platform, then through one of the jugs, and concentrated its rays upon paper in the box, causing the paper to start smoldering.

"BUT — no explanations have been offered as to the coincidence of death and conflagration. So far as I know, nobody else here has noticed the coincidence. These are the only deaths which have occurred during the three years I have lived here. The only fires, too.

"And no explanation of why the store fire went out. The floor was extremely dry and drenched with oil. The open burners six inches above the fire contained a quart of kerosene.

"Does this interest you? Most people here are old, many of them over 70. We are certain to have frequent deaths within the next few years. Will we have a fire with each death? Will I discover any common factor in each occurrence? Will anyone else here suspect a connection between the deaths and the fires? Let me know if you want to hear more."

(Ans: We do.)

From Clayton:

"I believe that the Chair of Iktomi, in the Fortean University, should be filled by no other than Edward H. Faulkner, if Iktomi doesn't want the post.

"In his book, *PLOWMAN'S FOLLY*, Faulkner shows true Fortean spirit by condemning the moldboard plow along with other agricultural methods in use today. No doubt his book was not well received by John Deere Co., International Harvester, Minneapolis-Moline, and other plow manufacturers, and that would

make him (or should make him) one of us.

"His book is well-written and he sums up his ideas in a scholarly manner. His ideas will probably never be universally adopted, however, for the very good reason that they are too damned sensible.

Chair #13, might be considered an unlucky Chair, and if you plan to create a Chair by that number, why not call it "The Chair of Oudemans-Sanderson? This Chair would cover Fortean Zoology and treat with sea serpents, sea monsters, land monsters, and Lou, the Louisiana mule who gave birth to a colt. I'd nominate Ivan Sanderson to fill that Chair.

"It was my interest in sea monsters, and the notes I was collecting at the time, which led me to read Charles Fort's interesting books. Therefore I naturally connect the two subjects and it is my interest in outrageous animals which led me to join your group."

(Ans: How was that, again?)

"I wonder if anyone has ever sent in the following excerpt from Mark Twain, which, to my mind, has the ring of true Forteanism.

LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI—

Mark Twain (Chap. 17)

"Since my own day on the Mississippi, cut-offs have been made at Hurricane Island, at Island 100, at Napoleon, Arkansas, at Walnut Bend, and at Council Bend. These shortened the river in the aggregate, sixty-seven miles. In my own time a cut-off was made at American Bend, which shortened the river ten miles or more.

Therefore the Mississippi between Cairo and New Orleans was twelve hundred and fifteen miles long, one hundred and seventy-six years ago. It was eleven hundred and eighty after the cut-off of 1722. It was one thousand and forty after the American Bend cut-off. Consequently, its length is only nine hundred and seventy-three miles at present.

Now, if I wanted to be one of those ponderous scientific people, and "let on" to prove what had occurred in the remote past by what had occurred in a given time in the recent past, or what will occur in the far future by what has occurred in late years, what an opportunity is here! Geology never had a chance, nor such exact data to argue from! Nor "development of the species," either! Glacial epochs are great things but they are vague—vague. Please observe:

In the space of one hundred and seventy-six years the Lower Mississippi has shortened itself two hundred and forty-two miles. That is an average of a trifle over one mile and a third per year. Therefore, any calm person, who is not blind or idiotic, can see that in the Old Oolitic Silurian Period, just a million years ago next November, the Lower Mississippi River was upward of one million three hundred thousand miles long, and stuck out over the Gulf of Mexico like a fishing-rod. And by the same token any person can see that seven hundred and forty-two years from now the Lower Mississippi will be only a mile and three-quarters long, and Cairo and New Orleans will have joined their

streets together, and be plodding along comfortably under one mayor and a mutual board of aldermen. *There is something fascinating about science. One gets such wholesome returns of conjecture out of such a trifling investment of facts.*"

From Kelley:

"What have McCabe or Haldeman-Julius ever done to deserve even to be members of the Fortean Society? It is certainly not unorthodox in this day and age to belabor organized religion and probably the most unorthodox thing any scientist could do would be to affirm a belief in God or deny that evolution was the answer to our presence here. I have seen the *Freeman* but it seems to me that a negative political and religious attitude should not be sufficient to balance such things as their attitude toward Atlantis, for example, where Haldeman-Julius writes strongly against a proposed expedition looking for Atlantis on the grounds that the story is just a fable—this is not a Fortean attitude—I rather incline to believe that there is little or no basis for the Atlantis story myself, but I'm all in favor of looking.

"Again McCabe's pamphlet on Ancient America is more positively orthodox than the most orthodox professor at Harvard, for they will admit they may be wrong—McCabe says they are right and have 'proven' that they are right—for example, the old saw that man can not have originated in America because there are no great apes there—only Stephens shot a 6 foot monkey near Palenque. Also, McC. says that America has been more thoroughly explored than any area on earth and scientists would certainly know if man were present before the last glacial—I have never seen such a foolish and un-Forcean statement made even by the most orthodox Americanist I know.

"That's my two-cents worth—incidentally, I'm not a Catholic, and I couldn't afford to stay at Harvard without the GI Bill, so I'm not a fat Capitalist."

From Niehuis:

"This is to call your attention to a passage in *Six Chapters of a Floating Life*, the autobiography of the Chinese poet, Shen Fu.

"One night I saw miles and miles away a red light, about the size of a big basket, bobbing up and down upon the high sea, and the horizon reddened as if illuminated by a great fire. 'There is a spirit fire,' said Shihchuto me. 'Its appearance is an omen that very soon more land will rise up from the bottom of the river.'"

"The river referred to is the Yangtze and these events supposedly occurred near the mouth of that river in the year 1804. I say 'supposedly' because there is some doubt as to the complete authenticity of the autobiography. I'm just being very careful. The translation from which the above passage was taken is found on p. 1044 of *The Wisdom of India and China*."

From Roueche:

"Herewith some clippings from the local Wypers about the Mystery Fires in Macomb, Ill. Mostly UP and INS. You will probably receive many of these from

members all over the country. The one from our Los Angeles *Daily News* columnist Matt Weinstock, whom I have long suspected of being a Fortean, may be the only one that you do not already have.

"This Mystery Fire thing is a lulu—I had been waiting for the young discontented or unhappy girl in the case to turn up and here she is in this morning's local Wyper, The Long Beach *Independent*—12-year-old niece, Juanett McNeil.

"This Mystery Fire interests me especially, because shortly before I read *Wild Talents* and became a Fortean, I helped a close friend and neighbor try to solve a series of mystery fires in his house. The wall paper caught fire on the ceiling of the bathroom, then the walls, then the towels hanging on the rack. Considerable damage was done. The fire insurance company investigated and found no explanation but paid damages.

"Strangely, at about the same time my door bell began ringing in the night. Looking thru the window I could see there was no one pushing that button, and there was no one in sight, yet it kept ringing intermittently while I was looking. I went out and searched for pranksters but there were none. It must be a beetle or a cockroach I thought making a short circuit, so I took the thing apart. There was nothing. After a little while the bell would ring again. This went on for several nights. I studied doors bells and electric circuits but never solved the mystery.

"My friend across the street was a chemist for a large oil company, a graduate from Stanford, and knew all about spontaneous combustion. Asked about the fires in his house he would shake his head and say it was a complete mystery.

"He had a very unhappy little daughter age 11. The mother had run away with another man, the home was broken up and the little girl was very lonely. She liked to visit with my wife who sympathized with her in her plight.

"So, I saw a mystery fire at first hand. There was no publicity."

From Spingola:

"Regarding the enclosed clipping — if my memory serves me, most of the similar cases noted in *Wild Talents* were connected with girls in puberty, as in this instance.

"I get the impression from the story that this young lady (Wonnet) was blessed with remarkable persistence, an unlimited supply of matches, and some very near-sighted relatives.

"May I take this opportunity to suggest that Cal Tinney be awarded an honorary membership in the Society? His *Thinking Allowed* program (Sundays) reflects a healthy Fortean spirit.

"Mr. Tinney has recently been asking, 'Why are so many B-29's crashing?'"

"On the same day the Boeing Aircraft Company was protesting to the network on which Mr. Tinney broadcasts, another B-29 piled up in South Dakota. 'All aboard killed.'

"Boeing Aircraft is located in Seattle, Washington, in an area that has been very active, in a Fortean sense, recently.

"This may, I think, have something to do with the jinx riding the entire 'Fortress' line of aircraft. In 1934, the first Boeing B-17 (Flying Fortress) was ready to be tested by the Army. Preparations for the flight were very thorough — for two reasons. First, the test plane had been built at great expense, at a time when Douglas Aircraft had captured the airline market with its DC-3, and Boeing was operating on a shoestring; and second, the Army had merely asked for a 'multi-engined bomber' in its specification letter, which meant, at that time, a two-motored plane, and was frankly skeptical towards a four-motored job. (Douglas and the other manufacturers had entered twin-engined planes in the competition.)

"Despite all this, the test pilot climbed into the plane, and took off 'with locked controls.'

"The B-17 climbed to two hundred feet, stalled, and crashed, killing the pilot.

"The Army awarded the contract to Boeing.

"After the B-17 'Flying Fortress' had been hailed 'The Battleship of the Sky,' Boeing decided on a heavier, faster plane. The B-29 'Superfortress' did not crash on its maiden flight, however. Many pilots flew the first three prototypes without harm. The designer of the B-29, Edward Allen, took the fourth prototype up on a test flight.

"It crashed, killing him. The date was, I believe, sometime in 1943."

From McWilliams:

"A couple of years ago I took over a ranch out here in Wyoming, and attempting to build it into a first class dairy hasn't left any too much time for extra-curricular activities. But I still read DOUBT with as much fascinated interest as ever. It's my favorite reading.

"Incidentally, I note the last issue or two doesn't have much of your usual polemics. How come? I enjoyed those blasts of vitriol better than anything else, even the occasional cartoons, in the magazine.

"There doesn't seem to be much in the way of Fortean to report from these parts, or if there is, I have had my nose too close to the grindstone — pardon the cliché — to notice. This business I am in — milking cows — gets discouraging sometimes. I hate to produce good rich milk, as I assure you I do, and then wholesale it to a bottling plant which thins it down to a blue watery substance which they retail to customers as 'whole' milk, and at a thoughtful profit, too. It doesn't make any difference as far as the money I make is concerned, but I do hate to think of children having to forego milk for that stuff. But the dairy regulations are so strict out here, it requires a terrific outlay for automatic equipment such as bottlers, washers, sterilizers, pasteurizers, etc., etc. before anyone is permitted to retail bottled milk. The small producer is just out of the picture."

(Dear John: you should taste what is sold for "milk" in N. Y. C. — only you shouldn't. T.T.)

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.

1850

Box 2 (Continued)

- 1850 early in — the meteor Timbs / Polt & Met / In Times Dec 29, 1863, Mr. M.P.W. Boulton says one evening in (?) fordshire, lady in 1850 he thinks, sounds heard as if in his house, which was searched without avail - then learned that a meteor been seen about this time / Times Dec. 31, Prof. A.S. (?) thinks it was met of Feb 10 (11?) 1850
- Feb 11 Immediately after the meteor a sharp breeze sprang up near Northampton / Northampton Herald Feb 16
- 11 Met England details Timbs 1851-268
- 13 Met / LT p.7
- 18 (or 28) a--- Schmidt / Vulcan / D-193 (XI)-op'49
- 20 Vesuvius LT p.6
- 22 Great Met England / Germany? / BA 60-88
- 26 Meteor Vingosta, India / R-March 19. 1849

Box A (Resumed)

- 26 N / Spon Comb. Times 1850 Feb 26, p.8

Box 2 (Resumed)

- Mar 8 Expected great comet LT, p.3 / also LT April 4 p.5 (reverse) Visible July 5 p.6 / to me in

index 4

Box A (Resumed)

- 1850-51 Polt / Stratford, Conn.
- Mar 10 Phe at Stratford, Conn. began / Spiritualist Aug 16, and 30, 1878
- 10 Stratford, Conn. phe began / to Dec, 1851
- 10 Stratford, Conn. Home of Rev. Eliakin Phelps, DD / I take from A. C. Holms' Facts of Psychic Science, p.261 / There is a detailed account by E.W. Capron in his book "Modern Spiritualism" published in the year 1855 / Family was Mr. & Mrs. Capron, 2 daughters, aged 6 and 6 mo sons aged 12 & 3, and a house maid. The disturbances
- (2) began March 10, 1850, two years after the family moved in and continued more than a year and a half / coming back from church, this day they found the front door open (reverse) Furniture in the nursery was in disorder. Nothing else disturbed / In the afternoon, others went to church but Dr. Phelps remained at home. He saw and heard nothing, but on return of the others, many things were
- (3) found out of place. In a bedroom, a nightgown was laid on a bed, with arms crossed on breast to represent a corpse. There were "cryptic writings" on the walls. Next day articles from a locked trunk were taken out. Small articles were thrown about. Third day increase of throwing about / So each day. On fifth rappings a heavy
- (4) poundings that "terminated in a frightful scream, which was not human in character" / A chair rose and violently beat the floor. The disturbances were usually in the day and ended at sunset / On 6th day the phe centered upon the son Harry, aged about 12. His clothes torn while in the house and again while in a carriage with his father
- (5) Seventh day effigies skillfully made by stuffing clothes appeared in various parts of the house. Found in locked rooms. About 12 of them. Some placed in attitudes of devotion with an open Bible or prayer book before them. Such skill that one of them was recognized as a representation of Mrs. Phelps. Hats of visitors

carried away and hidden

(6) Boy Harry tormented - lifted from floor - once put in the cistern - once suspended from a tree. Several times he was insensible from 10 to 30 minutes. He was sent away. Phe stopped (reverse) He returned. Phe returned / About the 4th week damage began / Panes of glass broken by household articles thrown against them. Spirit angered by something? Water from pitchers poured on beds

(7) Furniture damaged—\$200. April 13th especial violence and poundings so that no sleep in the house / Mrs. Phelps, while in bed, was punched and pricked as if by pins (reverse) A spiritualist is said to have got into communication, with raps, and the spirit rapped out a long story of a transaction by which members of the family were defrauded / This story was not published

(8) Damage increased. Dr. Phelps noticed that presence of strangers affected the phe. with some greater violence, with others phe stopped. Communications continued. According to these more spirits than one (reverse) One spirit would accuse another of lying. One would pound to confuse a message of another. To the question as to why such damage was done, the answer was (9) "For fun." This is a typical boy's answer. I remember that when I was a boy and was questioned as to why I had been mischievous I answered, as a standardized answer - "for fun." The language was often profane, but rarely obscene. Found that diplomacy had effect upon the spirits

(10) During a disturbance, some one commanded them or it to stop. Disturbances went on. Someone else asked them to be so kind as to stop. Phe stopped. Other such instances (reverse) In Nov., 1851, boy Harry was sent to a boarding school in Philadelphia, though the spirits had warned Dr. Phelps not to send him, because harm would befall him (11) Two days later he was sent home. Loud raps had disturbed the school and his clothes had been torn to ribbons / Piano was heard to play. There were mysterious

- fires. Papers on which were direct spirit writings were burned / In July 1851, (Apparently the Nov., 1851 above is an error. Should be 1850. TT) Harry was sent away (12) for two months, and while away was entranced and clairvoyant. Said that his sister too was a medium. All phe ceased Dec 15, 1851
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Mar 21 Meteor LT p. 6
- 25 This day cor in LT Aug 31, 1859, saw sunspot as a notch on edge of sun.
- Apr 10 Bombay meteor R-March 19, 1849
- 13 Waterspout strikes vessel in Bristol Channel - vessel towed N.W. to Bristol LT Apr 16, p.5
- 14 phe / See 1805
- 15-16-17 Meteors / India / R-March 19, 1849
- 17 Pollen / 11 a.m. / at Mumbles, near Swansea yellow rain (reverse) Colored by pollen / Gardener's Chronicle June 1
- 18 At Dublin perhaps most terrific th storm known in Northern latitudes A. Reg. 1850-58
- 19 Quake and hail / others up to 21st / Anatolia / The strongest shocks followed shortly after storms of hail/ (Fort's italics. TT) Timbs 1851-266
- 20 Extraordinary display of meteors various parts of India / Observatory 20/174
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 29 LT p.3 Singular case of an eagle at Crathy
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- May 5 Hailstorm / Phil Mag 1850-420
- 13 Shock California during eruption of Muana Loa / List of recorded earthquakes (reverse) in California, Lower California, Oregon and Washington Territory, by Edward S. Holden
- 21 9:30 p.m. det met Bonn / BA 60-90
- June 4 France / Dry fog and many falling stars strong odor of sulphur / June 5 evenings - great bolide June 6 another (reverse) all these recorded together by M. Doldschmidt / Cosmos 15/36
- 4 France - Dry fog with sulphurous odor / considerable number of falling stars / in the evening 5th a great bolide (reverse) Seen in a great part of France / 6th a daylight meteor at Dijon / Cosmos 15-36
- June Series / 4-d fog & mets
- 5 - 9 p.m. met
- 5 - electric England
- 6 - 11 a.m. det met
- 6 - 9 p.m. again
- June 5 9:23 p.m. great meteor Caen / CR 30/781 / BA 60-90
- 5 evening / at Wingerworth, Derbyshire - lightning flashes terminating in squares and falls of fire BA 50-102
- 5 between 9-10 p.m. Havre & Rouen meteor size of moon BA 50-118 Rouen ab 9:15 detonating.
- 5 About 10 p.m. / an extraordinary meteor at Amiens fell in a northwesterly direction and was visible a minute. Le Moniteur Universel June 8 / p.1972 / June 10 - 2000 at Havre & Rouen - said was 9:15 at Rouen when detonation was heard / Also at Auxerre / Le Mon 16-2070-2. Visible a minute / See 6th / (The 2000 above is probably a page number. TT)
- 5 9:23 p.m. at Caen / the meteors during stormy weather CR 30-781
- 5 Some math. of this bolide in CR 36-1022
- 6 At Tonnerre and at Auxerre / (Cote d'Or) 11 a.m. 2 loud detonations and a trembling of the earth - at Auxerre, several times during the day
- 6 (11 a.m.) Le Moniteur Universel, June 21-2125—2 says / that acto the Courier de Lyon there had been heard in Cote d'Or a great commotion of unknown origin, but that the mystery had been cleared up. A cor. had written telling of having been in his garden at 11:15 had seen in the sky a red globe making a hail of fire. He had heard that a dark object had been seen falling
- 6 11:25 a.m. / France great det met BA 60-90
- 6 Montbard, Chatillon, Dijon, Tonerre, Yonne / loud detonations like discharge of artillery & severe quake of earth CR 30-784
- 6 11:15 a.m. at Bretenieres (Cote d'Or) luminous meteor & 2 detonations CR 31-11 (reverse) luminous meteor seen at Dijon - 31-178 / Purey writes that seems "we" were in a path of remarkable meteors, but not "we", France?
- 6 9:28 p.m. near Orly (Seine) met, also in the Oise where detonations heard and quaking of earth reported. CR 30/782 Verify this
- June News date June 11 - "avant-hier" concussions felt at Hornberg (Saxe-Altenbourg Le Mon Univ June 19-1-2 (reverse) Crater few yards long found on the mt. and a gush of water sprang from it and fell in Ruissseau de Zschapabad / warm water of a "gout douxereux"
- 6 9:35 p.m. After display of the met, a shock felt at Beauvais CR 30-783 Detonations heard meteor at Compiègne at 9:35 p.m. CR 30-832 (reverse) night of 5th three meteors had been seen / On 6th at Tonnerre strong quake & sound / said was heard again several times during the day, but fainter
- 10 Meteor Kishnaghur, India / R - March 19, 1849
- 11 LT p.8 Comets and cometic meteors
- 12 Kesen, R. Kuzen / Japan / met (F)
- 12 10:45 p.m. from Observatory of Paris / whole sky illuminated by met as it from 2 degrees south of Jupiter to about 8 degrees below CR 30/758
- 16 6:25 p.m. sunshining / brilliant met at New Haven, Conn. A.J. Sic. 2/11/131 (reverse) in Northern sky
- 22 London great met BA 60-90
- 22 ab 11 a.m. At Oviedo, Spain, a strange sound and flaming appearance in sky CR 31-74 / said that aerolite had fallen in direction of Proaza near O. Sounds like cannon fire at Sison
- July 22 Oviedo, Spain / metite BA 60
- 4 10p.m. lightning flashes without thunder at Havana CR 41-77
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 4 LT p.6 also, LT Sept. 30, p.6 / Incendiary fires in France
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 5 bolide Grantham, Boston / det met? (Fort's?) BA 60-90
- 6 9:30 p.m. / Toulous met N to S. & cast a vivid light CR 31-73
- 8 Toulouse 9:23 p.m. great met CR 31-74
- 15 11 p.m. fireball size of moon Banif, Scotland BA 67-418
- 15 Quake in Australia BA '11
- 15 Waterspout burst upon Orleans with great damage / Northampton Herald 27th
- 15 heavy th storm at Olney / 17th One of the most violent th storms remembered at O. Northampton Herald July 20
- 15 Hot water / th storm at Bristol / In a panful of the water that fell a thermometer was placed and it registered 74 degrees LT July 17. p.7
- 15 th storm Bristol extreme violence / servant struck by lightning / M. Post 18th
- 15 Severe th storm Chatham / M. Post 18th
- 16 Wingerworth (June 5) Derbyshire. is ab 40 miles from Manchester (reverse) W is between Manchester and Nottingham etc. Standard / Nothing
- 16 Manchester / ab 4 p.m. / peals of thunder in distance / At Bolton. 12 miles away - a heavy th storm until 607 (cut) (Means illustration in the source. TT) (reverse) but at 9. at Manchester frequent flashes of sheet lightning & luminous balls seen moving slowly - repeating frequently / BA 1850 31
- 16 Hail / also 19 / B. rain Rev. Mr. T. Tryon. Rector at Bulwick Rectory writes in Northampton Herald, Aug 3 - on

- 16th fell hail size of walnuts. On 19th afternoon rain "perfectly black" came in one cloud and fell locally. / The year before been a black rain not soot but hard black particles
- 16 Afternoon, "most terrible th storm remembered at Suffron Walden / hail 3 or 4 inches circumference / M.Post 20th
- 16 "terrible storm of thunder, lightning, rain and hail the size of Marbles at Melton / M. Post 20
- 16 tremendous th storm at Maidstone / M. Post 25th
- 16 & 19 / sounds / black / Northampton Eng / D-33
- July B. rain & detonation Feb 7 & 17, 1882
- July Detonations & dry fog May 16 etc. 1883
- July 17 Village of Woodham Walter, Essex, devastated by deluge that fell afternoon (reverse) furniture swept from cottages to places a mile away / M Post 25 / all but buildings of cottages swept away
- 19 Other black rain of Bulwick was March 7, 1849
- 21 Terriñc th storm Bicester & Banbury discussed in Northampton Herald July 27 - considerable damage by lightning
- 22 Northampton Herald July 27 - at Olney cockchafers on several trees in numbers so great as to be mistaken for a swarm of bees
- 22 Northampton Herald July 27 - that "after a violent storm near Clifton, Durham Down was visited by a prodigious swarm of cockchafers
- 25 Fish and water Rajkote, India (All the year round 8/25 D-84
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 29 perforating lightning killing boy / Long Island
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- July last of / While a heavy blight (indecipherable) near Northampton "The atmosphere was charged with a gloomy brood about 3 days" Northampton Herald Aug 24
- Aug 4 7 p.m. lightning flashes without thunder at Havana CR 41-77
- 9 At Collingwood / of 75 meteors in an hour or more all but 4 or 5 from a point (indecipherable) near Beta Camelopardali / BA 51-39
- 9 Stat met / Observatory 2/165
- 11 A flight of about 50 meteors over Kettering / Northampton Herald 24th
- 15 LT p.5 Met / S. Claydon
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 20 Spon comb / LT p.6
- 1850-51 Clergy / Cideville phe / Dale Owen's Footfalls / Home of a clergyman, M. Tinel. Mediums were 2 children who boarded with him. Rappings for 2½ months. Stopped when the children were sent to their homes. Not only rappings but intolerable poundings some times. The sounds
- (2) beat time to music when asked would indicate the number of persons in a room. Strong force moved a table when the mayor of Cideville and another visitor were sitting on it and trying to prevent its movement.
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Aug 30 Tidal phe LT p.7
- Aug last of / deluges Jamaica / N. Y. Herald Sept. 12, p.3
- Aug last of & Sept 1st / Destructive storms U.S. / N.Y. Herald Sept. 8, p.1
- Sept 1st week / floods U.S. / N.Y. Herald, Sept 12, p.3
- Sept th. st / Spain / 3 (indecipherable) 49
- Sept 7 Lit. Gazette of / New star in Little Bear, by M. Calomarde
- 14 Rev. T. Rankin saw part of moon in 8th day blotted out as if by a shadow for more than an hour he examined it & (indecipherable) BA 57-41
- 26 fluctuations in Zeta Lyrae, by Heis like — see March 1856 BA 13-326
- 27 lumps of ice destructive fall at Pittsburg, Pa. / many 9 to 14 inches in circumference weighing from 8 ounces to a pound actio Pittsburg Gazette copied in NY Herald Oct 4, p.6 (reverse) Some were irregular shaped, but most round or oval made up of concentric rings
- 30 Met Train 8:54 p.m. from Perseus / great met New England / the train for more than an hour / A.J.Sci. 2/11/131
- 30 Great met train Mass BA 55/94
- 30 Met rocket / One seen mistaken for an alarm rocket at Aden, by a sentry who discharged his gun & summoned garrison of 3000 men to arms BA 51/43
- Oct 1 from 9:10 to 9:30 p.m. reported from the Observatory of Durham / 3 meteors from an aurora "not passing through it, but emerging from it" BA 1851-23 (cut)
- Oct (after) New Star / An Sci Discov. 1851/374
- Oct (Ch) small body observed 4 nights. / Smithsonian Miscell. Cois. 20/20 / C-30f
- Oct 1 Quake Cleveland, Ohio. Low rumbling sound like distant thunder - then vibrations felt / clear day / An.Sci.D '51-278
- Oct 8 Auroral arch LT p.3 also LT Oct 13, p.3
- 9 large slow met burst BA 1860
- 9 Moon D-shaped / BA 1851/41
- 13 Met Toronto, Canada BA 51/40
- 14 Ship sunk by waterspout near Malta / Timbs '51-271
- 31 (1st) Vessel struck like (indecipherable) petroleum can / (New England) Times - or Trans Bombay Geog Soc 13/155
- Nov 6 Bombay / Met streak 20 min. Rec Sci 1/137
- 8 Light quake Malta BA'11
- 12 E.J.Lowe, (Highfield House ? TT) 5:50 / "a brilliant, vivid flash, could be meteor? / BA 851-26 (cut)
- 14 Morning on a mountain pass between Bombay and Poona 38 mets counted in one hour BA 51-46
- 18 worms in snow / Sangerfield, N. Y. / D-92
- 20 Fr (Lourdes) St.Pe / quake / BA 11
- 23 Woodstock / several meteors BA 51/40
- 29 London / Oxford / met BA 60-90
- 30 Near Bissempore, 3 p.m. metite BA 51-47
- 30 Shalka, Bengal / metite 3 hours before sunset (F) A.J.Sci 2/32/141
- Dec 3 LT p.3 met Devonshire / LT Dec 4, p.3, at Yedding
- 14 Near the Bannmouth / aerial troops etc / (See July 15 in the 90's) BA 1852/30 (C-212 f)
- 16 Venus inf conj sun (Al)
- 1851**
- 1851 Snails near Bristol / Zoologist 1/9/3176 / 3187 (just possibly may be 3087 TT)
- 1851 Quake Vosges Fr / CR 33/69
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 1851 Cideville, France / Polt / Proc.S.P.R., vol 18
- 1851 Sleeper Susan C. Godsey / near Hickman, Ky. See Oct 27, 1873
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Jan 13 Auroral arch LT p.5
- 25 9 p.m. Lightning flashes without thunder at Havana / CR 41-77
- 13) by Schmidt - on southern wall of Copernicus which was in full sunshine (reverse) two black points - 3 more on 15th / on 16 invisible / L'Asto 4/309 (Special attention is called to this datum. Fort and others list many bright spots on the dark moon. This is the first one of this nature I recall so far in the Notes. TT)
- 22 7:45 p.m. Gutenberg & Eifei det met BA 60-102
- 25 by Schmidt - near Copernicus "a bright point surrounded by a dark gray nimbus" Observatory 5/254
- 28 March 7 / ab 5:15 p.m. first shock Rhodes / lighter to March 7 / BA '11 / A. Reg '51-16 (reverse) many springs dried up
- Mar 17 Large sunspot LT p.5
- 24 & Ap. 2 / West Indies great quake BA '11

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