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TRUE STORIES OF THE STRANGE AND THE UNKNOWN

PDC

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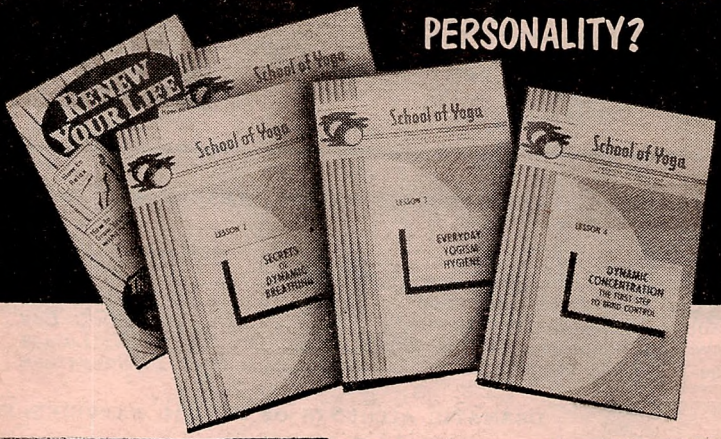
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Assistant Publisher: PAUL FOGHT
Editor: MARY MARGARET FULLER
Managing Editor: CHESTER S. GEIER
Assistant Editor: JEFFREY LISS
Science Editor: HENRY A. BOTT
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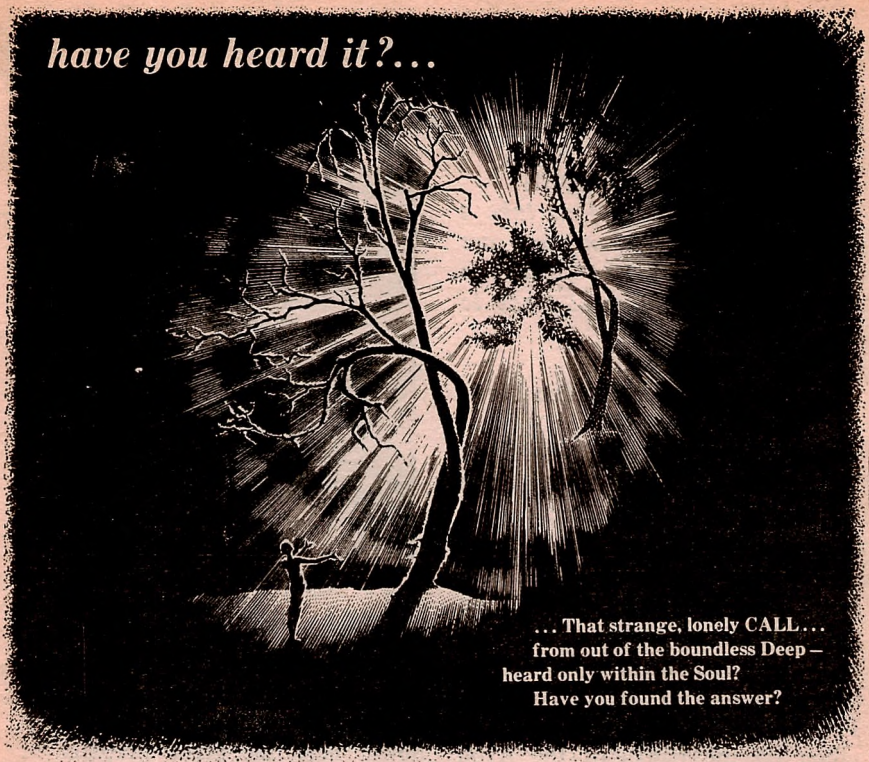
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Published every month by CLARK PUBLISHING COMPANY, 845 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Illinois. Second class postage paid at Evanston, Illinois, and at additional mailing offices. We do not accept responsibility for the return of unsolicited manuscripts, photographs or artwork. Subscribers should notify us of address changes 30 days in advance, giving both old and new address.

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I See by the Papers

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

I think that most of us take a wicked pleasure—when we are not ourselves of the Elect—in seeing The Establishment made to look foolish.

—Frank Davis
The Illustrated London News



By Curtis Fuller

DISTURBING SHAKESPEARE

RESIDENTS OF many other countries, particularly the British, are more receptive to paranormal events than are Americans. It is particularly fitting that on the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth there are strange doings at the Shakespeare Festival Exhibition set up in a pavilion on the banks of the Avon in good old Stratford.

Around the middle of July Albert Mobley, maintenance carpenter of the exhibition, was working on his night shift. "About 1:30 P.M. of this night I am speaking of," said Mobley, "I thought I'd take a coffee break. So I walked to the long gallery and got about six yards inside when I saw this object. It looked like a person, but it was rather filmy, and disappeared before I got a really good view. My imagination, I thought, and went on and got the coffee.

"Two nights later, about the same time, I came through the long gallery again. I was almost half way down, near the great fireplace in the center wall, when I saw a figure step out from the portrait of Queen Elizabeth I on the wall at the far end and walk in a kind of floating way toward me. The figure was light, almost whitey gray, and seemed transparent."

Mobley couldn't describe the apparition's clothes; he wasn't sure if it was man or woman. It moved toward him and to the portrait of the Earl of Essex (reputedly the queen's lover) on the opposite wall. Then it crossed the gallery and

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Dr. Parker, a professor at California's University of Redlands, found himself on the verge of a mysterious nervous breakdown. When all help failed, he began to pray, and in a few months he was entirely well again.

An Amazing Experiment

Dr. Parker prayed. But he prayed IN A CERTAIN WAY. At first, he could hardly believe that what he had discovered was true. He could hardly believe that there was, apparently, a scientific law behind the answers to prayers, a technique that decided which prayers were answered, and which were not. Could it really be true? Dr. Parker decided to find out by applying the methods of modern psychology to the study of prayer.

Forty-five men and women from every walk of life — including agnostics, a minister, and an atheist — participated in a scientifically controlled experiment to determine how best to reap the benefits of prayer.

From this amazing experiment emerged one of the great revelations of this century: "PRAYER THERAPY" — applied in a practical way to meet and overcome modern problems — problems of money, sex, love, fear, hate, ambition, illness, and self-advancement.

Now, in black and white in his book, Dr. Parker puts down the proof . . . the facts and miracles he observed with his OWN EYES. How Prayer Therapy brought renewal, rebirth, release from fears, depression, discouragement, solved marital difficulties. How near-miraculous physical healings resulted when stuttering, arthritis, migraine headache, high blood pressure responded to these astonishing new techniques of prayer. How a professor, forced into early retirement due to illness, was enabled to return to teaching full-time — through the power of Prayer Therapy. How a woman suffering from epilepsy found complete freedom from epileptic seizures during the entire course of Dr. Parker's astounding experiment!

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disappeared into a model of the River Thames.

Mobley refused to work alone at night in the gallery after that. A few days later one of the guards was passing through with his dog on a leash. Suddenly the dog sprang forward and barked furiously in the vicinity of the queen's portrait, but there was nothing to be seen. Since that time a second guard has reported seeing a moving figure at the same spot.

Paintings and jewelry at the gallery are insured for two million pounds and it is an easy conclusion that prowlers may have been at work. However, Mobley is locked in the building with a security guard and his dog each night. An infra-red camera has been set up to record what happens. So far it has taken no pictures.

∞

WITCHES' GUIDEBOOK

MOST EVERYONE tours France with "The Michelin Guide", a volume that rates every hotel and restaurant in the country—a sort of super-super Duncan Hines, regarded everywhere with respect.

But you can also, if you wish, tour France with another kind of guide—the recently published "Guide to the Mysteries of France", which lists and rates every haunted building, creepy

legend, hidden treasure and center of witchcraft.

Cecile Sandoz, writing for the San Francisco *Sunday Chronicle,* describes this new guidebook, published by Chinese-born Claude Tchou. Where Michelin uses the design of a dog's head to annotate hotels that don't admit dogs, Tchou adopts a spitting cat with arched back to warn visitors off areas where demons and witches are active.

∞

END THIS CURSE

NO LESS A personage than Tengku Abdul Rahman, Prime Minister of Malaysia, joined religious leaders early in June in an attempt to end a curse.

Four hundred years ago, a Malay princess cursed remote Longkawai Island before her execution. Princess Mahsuri declared the island would not prosper for seven generations.

Tengku Abdul Rahman, religious leaders, and the Sultan of Kedah (his presence was necessary because a royal blessing was planned) journeyed to Longkawai and prayed to appease the spirit of the vengeful princess. Part of the ceremony was the dedication of a fence around her royal tomb.

And why did the Tengku decide to make this trip?

Because of a dream involving

Suddenly My Memory Failed Me!

A noted publisher in Chicago reports there is a simple technique for acquiring a powerful memory which can pay you real dividends in both business and social advancement and works like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence and popularity.



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(Advertisement)

the princess which he did not describe. After the religious ceremony the Tengku said: "I hope the curse is now over."

∞

MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE STATES

PRIME MINISTERS, Shakespeare Festivallians and French Guidebooks may take such matters seriously but not many in these materialistic United States do, that's for sure.

How many of you, for example, have heard of the "haunted house" of Sacramento, Calif? This description comes from Lee Fremstad of the Sacramento *Bee*.

This newest haunted house is occupied by Mrs. Dorothy Lunsford and her son, Jerry Loftin, 17, and is located at 5848 14th Ave., in Sacramento.

Late in June, these things were going on there:

- Fires started on the furniture.
- A purse was seen dancing through the air.
- A telephone floated aloft.
- Light bulbs burst in their sockets.
- Bottles exploded.
- The cats were terrified.
- The lights kept going out.
- The house was a shambles.

Hector J. Perrault, the owner, kept a vigil with a dozen friends. Nothing happened until his stepson, Tracy Verelli, left the house to go outside about 2:30 A.M. Then the lights went out. Several of the watchers reported seeing a man flee the back door but somehow the vigilantes failed to catch anyone. Then, with all house entrances covered, the lights went out twice more.

Fifty or 60 blown fuses are getting to be too much for Mr. Perrault.

∞

TELEPATHY & RATTLESNAKES

GUS "BEARCAT" Malaska is a forester for a real estate firm owning large tracts of land in northwestern Pennsylvania. For a hobby he hunts rattlesnakes.

Gus lives in New Columbus, near Hazleton, Pa., and tramps the slopes of Broad Mountain in Carbon County, which is alleged to have more rattlesnakes per square mile than any other area in the United States.

Malaska believes he finds his rattlers by "snake telepathy." Those who have gone out into the woods with him vouch for his strange ability. He will be walking along through the woods, then he will stop suddenly. He will point to a clump of grass, a laurel bush, or a rock heap and say: "There's a rattler in there!" He's seldom wrong.

Gus doesn't know how he does it. "Call it snake telepathy or what-

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ever you want," he says. "Something tells me to look in that certain spot. I do, and I've made the connection!"

Malaska has captured thousands of rattlers. He sells the skins, the oil, and the meat. He's never been bitten—something few dedicated rattlesnake hunters can say.

∞

THE WILL OF JAMES KIDD

JAMES KIDD disappeared from the streets of Phoenix, Ariz., in 1950. Since then no living man who knew him ever has seen James Kidd again. Seven years later his will was found in a safety deposit box.

Those who had known Kidd didn't think this would be an important document. He was a friendless and frugal man who "would buy a five-cent cigar and make it last most of the day."

It appeared that Kidd had been a pump operator for the Miami Copper Company. For a time he had lived at the Phoenix YMCA. After that, "wherever he lived it was a very, very cheap place."

These last were the words of Fred Nathan, Kidd's former stock broker.

Stock broker?

It soon became apparent that this friendless and lonely man, who would be 86 if he were alive today but is now presumed dead, was of great interest to a number of persons.

For Fred Kidd's will contains a bequest of $117,000 (some estimate it at $174,000) for research to prove the existence of the human soul. The will asks that the bequest go for "research or some scientific proof of a soul of the human body which leaves at death."

The will added: "I think in time there can be a photograph of the soul leaving the human at death." The handwritten document was dated January 2, 1946.

Claimants have appeared for this money. There are John and Hermann Kidd of Carlton, Ont., Canada, claiming that James Kidd was really their brother Enos. There is the State of Arizona which sought to appropriate the funds for itself on the grounds that Kidd did not name a specific heir and the money, therefore, can be considered abandoned. This claim was rejected by Superior Court Probate Judge Robert L. Myers.

Rejection of the state's claim opened the legal doors to at least three private groups who filed claims to the estate. These are:

- The Neurological Sciences Foundation which finances the Barrows Neurological Institute in Phoenix, a part of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Hospital.
- The University of Life Church,

SUGGESTED READING

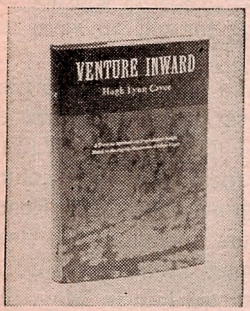


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The truly amazing life of Edgar Cayce, whose healing powers and sleep-revealed discoveries are still being investigated by scientists and psychologists.

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HEALING STONES

by Doris M. Hodges

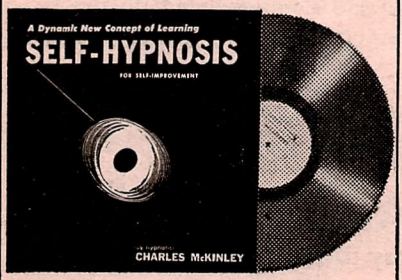
In the past very few writers have attempted to present an intelligent discussion on this subject. The author, Doris Hodges, has spent much time and study on it and in "Healing Stones" gives the reader an intelligent presentation of these aids. The thirteen chapters cover Amber, Emerald, Amethyst, Ruby, Turquoise, Moonstone, Opal, Jade, Pearl, Diamond, Jet, Topaz, Lazurite, Malachite and Chrysocolla.

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Inc., of Phoenix, apparently a Spiritualistic organization under Rev. Richard T. Ireland.

● The Parapsychological Foundation of New York, which claims to be an organization researching extrasensory perception.

∞

THEY WITCHED AN OIL WELL

APPARENTLY ERNEST Black of Mansfield, Ohio, Rural Route 6, was pretty sure when he went witching for oil. So were his friends.

Black used a divining rod to pinpoint the location on the farm of Richard and Carl Beer, Walker Lake Road near the intersection with Lexington-Spring Mill Road. Local investors, including the Beer brothers, formed Mohican Oil Co.

Drilling started late in May. Oil was found at 5:00 A.M. on July 3, at 4,108 feet, with enough pressure to bring to the surface an excellent show of natural gas, and an estimated production of 1,000 barrels a day.

Seismorgraphic soundings were not used. It is the first big oil discovery of the Mansfield area, according to the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*.

∞

THE GREAT PROBLEM

WAS THE "WITCHING" of this oil well an accident or is the art of divining as established as, say, telepathy?

Dowsers make many claims but our observation is that there are fewer scientific experiments to support these claims than with most other alleged Psi abilities.

Dowsers tend to believe that their dowsing rods—willow sticks, aluminum or metal rods, whatever they may be—are responding to certain radiations from the earth. Some, however, take the view that dowsing represents a kind of clairvoyant ability in which the dowser senses action at a distance by ESP rather than by physical signals.

Is there any real difference, for instance, between a dowser working over a map and a clairvoyant holding an object in his hand and attempting to get a reading?

And what about the claimed abilities of clairvoyants to identify criminals and to solve crimes?

Too often, in our observation, such claims are only partially true. This is one of the great and frustrating difficulties in the field of Psi, and if we are honest we must face up to it—the information that comes through is often wrong, even though it is also often correct.

This is not a faucet you can turn on and off and always get water for, as Dr. Rhine recently said, one of the great problems is to *control* psychic phenomena.

The best-kept secret of all time

THE LOST YEARS OF JESUS

By Charles Francis Potter

The story the Bible does not tell. Did the early church bowdlerize the Scriptures (and have modern churchmen "censored" the Dead Sea Scrolls) to blot out the "eighteen silent years" between the ages of 12 and 30 when the Gospel tells nothing about Jesus?



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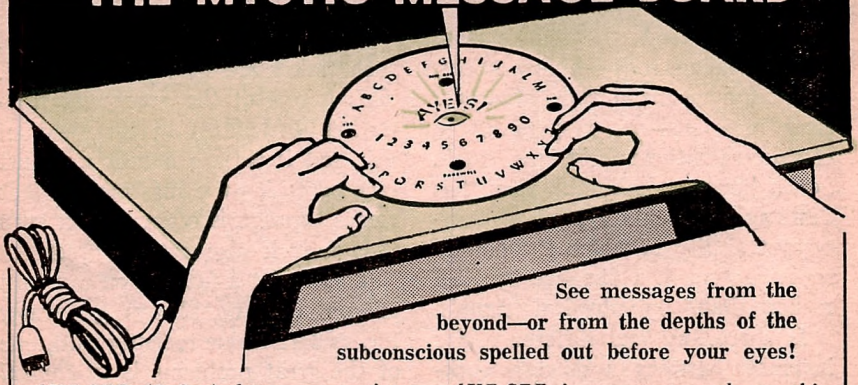
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THE TRY THAT FAILED

IT SEEMS TO US, from studying the records, that even such a great clairvoyant as the Dutch paragnost, Gerard Croiset, seldom has solved a crime. He gets correct clues, he comes up with amazing facts and information but, somehow, he does not come up with the final, clinching evidence.

Recently Croiset was in this country and undertook to locate the body of Judge Joseph F. Crater, whose mysterious disappearance in 1930 has entered the annals of American folklore.

Judge Crater's disappearance obviously has fascinated Croiset for a long time. In 1956 he looked at the back of a photograph of Judge Crater and described in detail an eight-room Dutch Colonial house in Yonkers where he said Justice Crater had been murdered. The judge's body was buried in the yard of this home, Croiset said. At this time Croiset was in Holland and never had visited the United States.

Murray Teigh Bloom, an American magazine writer, who had showed Croiset the Crater photograph, returned to the United States with detailed sketches and went to Capt. John J. Cronin, then head of the Missing Persons Bureau of the New York Police Department.

In the frustrating manner of such cases, Cronin had received confidential information only two weeks before about the same house in Yonkers. The police (and later, *Life* reporters) dug there but did not find Judge Crater.

And now, on his recent visit to the United States, Croiset continued his search. He told police that the judge's body probably would be found in an area in northeastern Yonkers. Croiset said that a road was buried in the same spot. Workers dug up an area of about 10,000 square feet. They found the road that Croiset predicted but, again, they did not find Judge Crater.

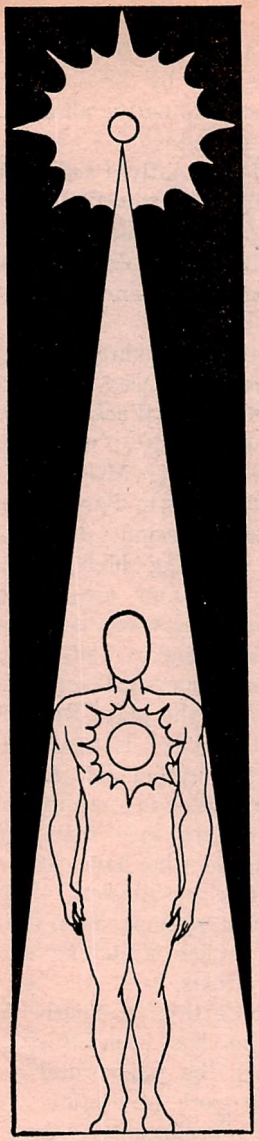
Before he indicated the spot, Croiset declared he was not sure searchers would find the judge's body but he was sure it once had been transported there for reburial on a sand truck which used the new abandoned and buried road.

Perhaps this is true, but where is the proof? If it is not true, then how did the clairvoyant correctly predict the existence of the buried road? This is typical of the frustrations in our field.

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ed people to live in Australia before its discovery by the Portuguese in 1601 were the native aborigines, primitives indeed.

Some of the natives tell a different story. Recently the Australian *Weekend News* discussed "The Ruined City of Arnhmen Land", in the remote hinterlands of Northern Australia.

No more than three or four whites ever have seen the secret city, according to *Weekend News*. They locate it about 30 miles north of the Roper River Mission.

Here, according to Barry Thornton, are tall limestone pillars 200 feet high, forming high columns and walls over an area of two square miles. The whole is enclosed by a 500-foot rampart wall, through which is only one small entrance.

Natives call the place Burrungu. To them the "city" is taboo.

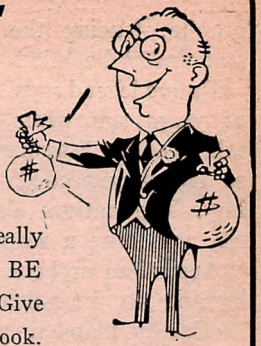
The big question is: Are the walls and pillars a natural phenomenon or are they man-made? Some of those who have seen the place describe an "illusion" of ruined walls, houses, courtyards, statues and high arches stretching across tree-lined streets.

Colin McCarthy, a South Australian who has seen Burrungu, doubts that the pillars and walls can be the work of erosion. "The pillars are soft limestone—the base and surrounding rock is hard granite. How could nature erode the

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granite, leaving the softer pillars standing?" he asks.

Native legend says that thousands of years ago white men 20 feet tall lived in Burrungu. They were so tall they needed the big buildings. The natives also believe the city was once a seaport.

Australian archeologists seem reluctant to investigate Burrungu. McCarthy plans to go to England to try to arouse enough interest for fullscale scientific research.

∞

PUSHING BACKWARD

AS ARCHEOLOGY progresses from art to science it keeps finding earlier and earlier dates for civilization. The latest research out of the Near East has set the dates back another 1,000 or so years.

At Catal Huyuk, a 32-acre site on a river 150 miles inland from the south coast of Turkey, diggers under the direction of British archeologist James Mellaart have penetrated through 12 distinct cities, one built atop the other.

At the lowest level so far excavated the cities were of mud brick surfaced with a fine white plaster. Their structures had no windows or doors and were entered by climbing a retractable ladder to the roof and descending through a hole in the ceiling.

The importance of Catal Huyuk is that it is 9,000 years old but had a fullblown civilization with an advanced technology and the leisure to produce excellent art.

What will Mellaart find below the 12th layer?

∞

MYSTERY HEAD

NOW HERE'S A strange thing if it's no hoax. Frank McNamara, Jr., was digging in his cellar at 149 M Street, South Boston, one day last March in an effort to plug a leak. He uncovered a sculptured head that has baffled some of the best archeologists at Harvard.

The 10-pound stone head has made the rounds of a number of museums and schools and no one is quite sure what culture it represents. Everyone agrees, however, that it is not native to America.

It is a rather primitive carving, showing the hair in small curls, the eyes slanting downward and fairly long, and a somewhat primitive treatment of the ears. It has been variously ascribed to the Near East, Africa, Western Asia, or "showing Egyptian influence." It also has been suggested it belongs to the Near East of the Sixth or Seventh Century B.C., (though it might turn out to be European of the Romanesque period about Sixth or Seventh Century A.D.).

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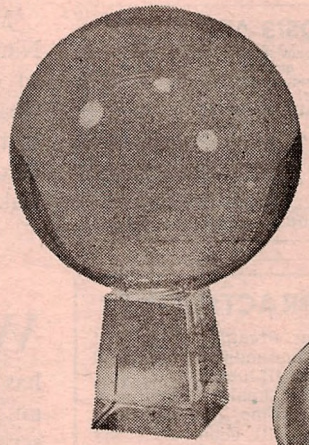
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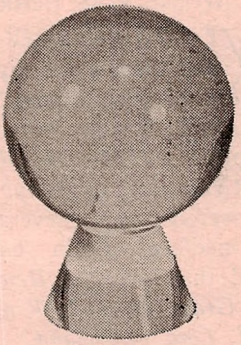
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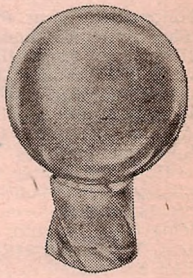
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judgment, a panel of geologists and archeologists at the University of Pennsylvania may be asked to examine the head.

How did it turn up in Boston? That's a tough one. One suggestion is that it arrived some time ago with a load of cobblestones brought in as ship's ballast. Those rocks could have come from anywhere.

Meanwhile, in Frank McNamara's basement he's excavated so much rubble he doesn't know what to do with it but he's afraid to throw it out for fear he will discard precious clues. He's got the leak repeared, though.

∞

WHERE WAS HENRY III?

WE MIGHT as well go all out and discuss the mystery that has excited folks around New Canaan, Conn. A stone bearing the inscription *"1272 HENRICUS D. G. ANGI RE . . . D. hyb"* has been uncovered there. Several scholars of medieval Latin have translated this is *"1272 Henry III By the Grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland."*

This inscription is said to have been used commonly during the reign of Henry III of England to denote land grants.

There have been persistent legends that Henry III sailed with an expedition to America during a

period when he was not on the English throne. He ruled from 1216 to 1258, when he had to give up the throne, it is reported by William J. Prendergast of the Boston *Sunday Globe*. He came back into power in 1265 and ruled until his death in 1272. Was he in America between 1258 and 1265?

∞

MUD DAUBERS OF OAK RIDGE

CONSIDER THE STRANGE affair of the mud daubing wasps of Oak Ridge, Tenn. Health physicists became alarmed when radioactive materials began to show up where none should be. The materials were traced to mud dauber wasps that had carried mud from the laboratory's radioactive liquid waste pits into areas previously free of radioactivity.

So complicated are the intermeshing relationships of life forms on earth that a mud-daubing wasp might be responsible for bringing lethal radioactivity into your back yard!

One of the strange findings of the investigation is that the black and yellow mud dauber carries radioactive mud while another wasp, the pipe-organ mud dauber which builds its nests in the same area and *uses the same type of mud* never has radioactive nests.

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for some reason, to detect and avoid radioactivity. Does it have a built-in radiation detector? Or is some other process at work such as its ability to detect the minute amounts of gas generated at the surface of the radioactive mud?

Maybe some day we'll be able to use pipe-organ mud daubers instead of geiger counters. Maybe some day we'll need to.

∞

SYNTHETIC HUMANS

IT IS A COMMON science fiction concept that medicine will progress to the point where we can be fitted with prosthetic organs, limbs—maybe even brains. We hear of cavity proof ceramic teeth and nylon hair you need to comb once in a life-time. Timers already are being implanted in some human hearts and artificial hearts sustain us during critical operations.

Most of this is a lot of nonsense, according to Dr. Toby Freedman, director of the life sciences department of North American Aviation's space and information division, which is manufacturing the Apollo spacecraft.

"I have yet to see a machine like the human heart that can pump for 75 years without a breakdown while its container is running to catch a bus, skin diving, or climbing the Matterhorn," Dr. Freedman told Joseph L. Myler of UPI.

Man may be made to perform better, Dr. Freedman believes, but not by being fitted with a lot of internal gadgets. Tibetan Lamas are said to maintain high bodily temperatures while naked in sub zero weather, and Yogis bury themselves and live. In the high Andes and Himalayas people work and flourish with 60 per cent of the oxygen that lowlanders require.

A real break-through, believes Freedman, will come when we find out how they do this. "Man can be improved," he says, "not by making him more of a machine, but more of a man."

∞

HAVE A BITE

ONE OF THE rarest of feasts, surely, must be that recently reported by N. Pugachuk, a biology student of Moscow University. He ate a chunk of 5,000-year-old mammoth. He didn't say how it tasted, but it was tough.

Pugachuk's story is that he was exploring in the Yamal Peninsula in the extreme north end of the Ural mountains when a trapper brought him a chunk of meat he had taken from a frozen mammoth.

The five-pound piece still had the hide on it and was covered with brown wool about 12 inches long. Pugachuk cooked some of it for a while but it seemed to get tougher. Finally he ate some raw

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and found it quite palatable.

In this area, according to *Komsomalskaya Pravda* six mammoths have been found buried in permanently frozen earth.

∞

FOOTNOTE TO SPOOK LIGHT

DON'T GO AROUND impersonating spook lights. As a footnote to the article in September FATE on the Ozark Spook Light, we wish to warn you that Sam Edwards, 19, of Joplin, Mo., was shot (not seriously) when he and two friends tried to scare their wives in the spook light area near Hornet, Mo. The three left their wives in a parked car, walked into the underbrush and hid. When the women drove the car down the road trying to find them, the men made weird noises to frighten them.

Another car, behind the one with their wives, contained Halbert D. Shelton, also of Joplin. Shelton thought everybody needed protection and fired a .22-caliber pistol in the direction of the noises. Edwards was struck on head, shoulder and both arms by the pellets but was not seriously injured.

Shelton was charged with reckless handling of a fire arm. Meanwhile, the spook light got away. Again.

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NEWS & NOTES FROM ALL OVER

● A sudden gust of wind picked up a 5,000-pound revivalist tent in North Carolina and not one of the more than 100 persons inside was injured. Evangelist Everette Anderson said he received a spiritual warning that the tent was going just before the incident and told the congregation to get up and move to the north side of the tent.

● Archeologists are investigating the possibility that at least 100 of the 4,000-year-old stone age "temples" scattered throughout Britain were originally designed as lunary observatories.

● A boxer dog stolen from Mrs. Florence Bradshaw of Tyler, Tex., three years ago, apparently was on its way home. Lady, the dog, was struck and killed by a motorist recently only a block away from her goal.

● Officials at St. Mary's Anglican Church of Warwick, England, are complaining about the behavior of their church organ—"really a very fine instrument." It has taken to playing low, loud notes all by itself during services. Occasionally it emits sparks and puffs of smoke.

● A toy horse standing only 20 inches has been bred in Argentina by Julio Falabella. The breeder calls his creation "Tapemi", an aboriginal Indian word meaning "little countryfolk." Falabella has more than 400 of the toy horses on his ranch.

● Soviet archeologists digging

near Samarkand in Central Asia have uncovered the homes of primitive men, built about 40,000 years ago. The homes seem to have been dugouts or semi-dugouts of a tree called karagach.

● Russian scientists, who already have invented an artificial arm powered by bio-currents from the brain, are working on an artificial eye which can see.

● South Africans near Kruger National Park are having trouble with alcoholic elephants. When the marula trees bear their fruit, the elephants cram huge quantities of the cloyingly sweet food into their stomachs. It ferments there, produces alcohol, and the beasts stay drunk for days, wandering about hunting for more marula trees to find more fruit to produce more alcohol to . . .

∞

DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?

WE ALL HAVE a tendency to believe the sacred voice of authority without question. Here is the kind of story that we believe needs questioning:

The body of Eugene T. Meadows, Arcadia, Calif., was found in his locked apartment one day in January with a hole in the back of the head. He was believed to be the victim of a shooting.

Homicide Lieut. George Welch, however, explained that Meadows suffered from a congenital condition in which a calcium deposit formed a ridge on the back of his skull.

It was decided, therefore, that Meadows was a victim of carbon monoxide poisoning because his gas heater was still on when deputies arrived at his apartment.

Pressure built up by the carbon monoxide inside the skull, Welch explains, could have caused the head to break open from the inside at the calcium ridge.

Do you believe this?

∞

MONSTER HUNTING

Recently, Soviet scientists were reported organizing an expedition to Lake Labynkyr on the Sordongnokh Plateau where a geologist reported seeing a strange creature 10 years ago. "Its body resembled an oversized, glistening tin barrel with a slanted horn rudder set upon its back."

* * *

In Vanderbijl Park, South Africa, the hunt was on for a "monster" described as a huge reptile with staring eyes, reportedly living in the River Vaal. For 72 hours veteran monster hunters armed with flares, cameras and skin-diving equipment organized a concerted hunt for the creature, reported for the past year in the lake behind the Vaaldam. No luck.

—Curtis Fuller

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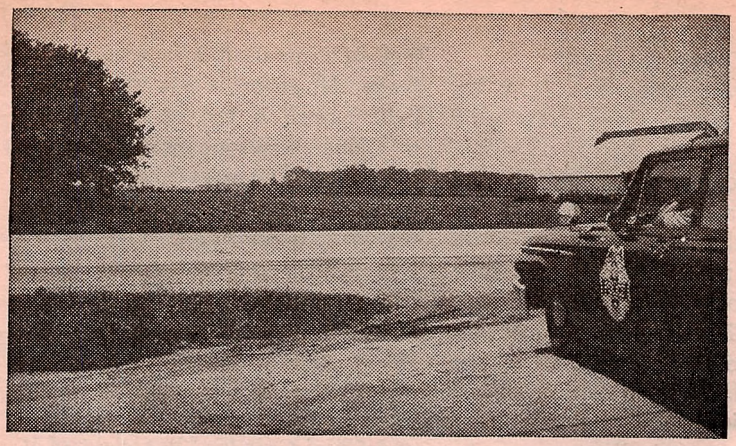
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THE INDIVIDUALIST SOCIETY

P.O. Box 156, Tahlequah, Oklahoma



Patrol car shows where Police Chief Richard Crawford was parked as he watched UFO, which hovered in the air beyond the field in the background.

By Richard D. Osborn

UFO OVER TOLEDO

The police chief and his deputy watched as the aerial object changed from a globe to a wedge and passed some 500 feet from them.

ON THE NIGHT of June 12, 1964, between 10:15 P.M. and 12:05 A.M., Richard Crawford, Chief of Police, Elmore, Ohio, saw the "strangest sight of my life."

In the period of an hour and 50 minutes Chief Crawford saw, at three different times, a strange, blinking object hovering over or near the village of Elmore. Elmore, a community of about 1300 people, is 20 miles southeast of Toledo. The object, which was globe shaped at first, variously blinked, glowed, and blacked out. Crawford estimates that at one point the object approached to within 500 feet of him and that it had a diameter of

between 70 and 90 feet.

The object also was seen by Carl Soenichsoen, Chief Crawford's deputy.

Crawford saw the object for the first time about a mile outside Elmore, at the intersection of State Route 51 and Nissen Road, while he was making his regular nightly rounds. The Chief had just finished a routine inspection of the Super Dollar, a food market, closed for the night, and was about to drive back to the village when he noticed an unusually bright object suspended over a nearby wood. The object appeared to be about the size of a bushel basket and was surrounded by an aura about half a mile in diameter.

Curious, and thinking it was a helicopter or possibly a blimp, Chief Crawford moved off the highway and switched off his lights for a better view. All the while the object blinked steadily and remained stationary. The object was at an estimated height of about 2000 feet and about a mile away. Crawford watched the object for 10 minutes, puzzled because it made no perceptible noise and presented no discernible silhouette. Because the air was nearly still and the sky bright with stars, the Chief reasoned he should be able to hear a motor and see an outline.

Chief Crawford switched on his spotlight and aimed it at the object but apparently it was out of range. However, when the Chief's light came on the object seemed to change position, moving slightly to the left. It stopped blinking and began to glow steadily. Wondering whether the object's change in position was in response to his light, Chief Crawford aimed his spotlight at the new location and blinked it twice; as if in answer the object also blinked twice. A few moments later, however, the object went dark and Chief Crawford lost sight of it. He continued to watch the area for an additional five minutes but the object did not reappear. The Chief had observed the object for a total of about 20 minutes.

The object made a second appearance at 11:30 P.M. Chief Crawford had just completed a check of Harris-Elmore School and was about to get into his patrol car, when he saw the object again, directly overhead. His view was partially obscured by trees but he had no doubt that it was the same thing he had seen earlier. The object was considerably larger and brighter than when he had seen it first and he estimated its height to be approximately 1000 feet. Chief Crawford again shined his spotlight on the object and it disappeared behind surrounding trees, moving rapidly toward the northwest, in the direction of Genoa, a neighboring town. As it glided off

it made a noise similar to the sound a baseball makes when it passes swiftly by one's ear.

Satisfied, now, that what he had seen was not an orthodox craft, Chief Crawford flipped the switch of his radio transmitter to "on" and began calling his deputy, Carl Soenichsoen. He had considered calling Soenichsoen earlier but had hesitated to discuss the object over the air for fear of creating unnecessary alarm. Soenichsoen would hear him but so would officers in surrounding areas. Chief Crawford reached Soenichsoen as the latter was driving out highway 51:

Chief Crawford: "Carl, where are you?"

Soenichsoen: "I'm just outside of town, headed northwest on 51. What have you got?"

Chief Crawford: "I've got something I want you to see; pull in at the Super Dollar and wait for me. I'll be with you in a minute."

Soenichsoen: "Right."

A few minutes later Crawford wheeled into the Super Dollar's parking lot and ground to a halt. Soenichsoen, who had arrived moments earlier, rushed up. He had seen the object.

"Is that what you're talking about?" he asked, pointing toward the wood.

The object was some distance off and appeared to be about the size of a bushel basket viewed at close range. When Soenichsoen first saw it, it was glowing steadily; now it was blinking at intervals of about one second. As the two men watched, the object began moving toward them, picking up speed.

Crawford said, "I'm going to notify the Highway Patrol. They have a plane; maybe they can figure it out."



Richard Crawford, Chief of Police of Elmore, O., observed strange object for almost an hour and a half, as it blinked, glowed and changed shape.

While the Chief radioed the State Highway Patrol, Soenichsoen continued to watch. The object appeared to be just beyond the Ohio Turnpike, a distance of about a mile, and growing in brightness and size. Suddenly, without warning, it

gained speed rapidly and changed from a globe to a wedge or a horizontal "V." "Look at that," cried Soenichsoen.

The object changed course abruptly and headed southwest, passing about 500 feet in front of the men. Both men saw clearly what now appeared to be a flying wedge. The upper part of the craft was about a third longer than the lower part; the lower part consisted of a series of closely placed lights. No other lights were visible; neither man could see anything indicating additional structure. Whether the object actually had changed shape the men did not know. It traveled at a "fantastic rate of speed" and was out of sight within moments. Chief Crawford and Deputy Soenichsoen estimated that the upper part of the object was between 70 and 90 feet long, that the lower part was about two-thirds that. As the object went by it made a loud roaring noise, similar to the sound made by a jet.

Within minutes two more officers were on the scene: one from Genoa and one from the State Highway Patrol. The officer from Genoa had heard Chief Crawford's call. Both men, however, were too late; the object had disappeared over the horizon. The State Highway patrolman immediately put in a call to the Toledo Express Airport, 10 miles west of Toledo, explaining what Chief Crawford and Officer Soenichsoen had seen and asking for a radar check of the vicinity.

But the operator on duty reported the sky clear. "There's nothing in your area within a radius of 45 miles," he said. Either the object was too low, or it was miles away.

While they continued to stand in the parking lot of the Super Dollar all four men saw a prop-driven plane approach from the northwest. The plane, properly lighted, was traveling fairly slow and circling. Its motor was clearly audible and Chief Crawford estimated its altitude at about 2000 feet. None of the men had any trouble recognizing the plane as it continued to circle, following a line running from northwest to southeast. And at no time, they declared later, did it use its landing lights.

"If I didn't know better," said Chief Crawford, "I'd say that plane is looking for the same thing we are. Either that or it's making some kind of check of the area. Let's get the airport again."

The Highway patrolman put in the call. "We have a plane in the area," he said, "and would appreciate another radar search. The plane is circling, and is roughly between Genoa and Elmore."

"I'm sorry," the reply came after a pause, "a check of your area shows nothing within a radius of 45 miles."

Perplexed, the officer persisted. "Are you sure? There are four of us here and we have the craft in plain sight. It's about 2000 to 2500 feet up, traveling at a slow-to-moderate rate of speed. Would you check again, please?"

"Hold on," said the voice from the Airport.

After a pause, came the following: "We have contacted a private plane in your area who says he has been practicing night landings and has been using his landing lights. Undoubtedly, that's what the Chief saw."

"Ok," said the Highway patrolman, "thanks for your trouble."

In amazed silence Chief Crawford looked at the officer, pressed his lips together, and slowly shook his head.

"Well, Chief," said the patrolman, "I'm sorry but I guess that wraps it up. There's nothing in sight now, and you heard the report from the airport. For the record, at least, you saw the landing lights of a private plane making practice landings."

According to the results of the Air Force study of UFO's running from 1947 through 1961, covering 7369 incidents, all but two percent or three percent of unidentified flying objects can be explained in terms of "known aircraft, birds, celestial objects, balloons, etc." But Chief Crawford, who saw the object for a total of more than 30 minutes, rules out the conventional-craft theory for six reasons:

1. For the most part the object was strangely silent.

2. The object hovered for long periods.

3. The object was inordinately bright, creating a large aura.

4. The object appeared to change shape.

5. The object, when it left the area, traveled at a terrific rate of speed, faster than anything he had ever seen.

6. The object did not carry the identifying lights all aircraft are required to use when they fly at night.

Helicopters hover, of course, but not silently. If the object had been a helicopter, Chief Crawford certainly would have recognized it as such the first time he sighted it.

* * *

IF WHAT CHIEF Crawford saw was not an airplane, what was it?

"On the basis of what I saw and heard," said Chief Crawford, "I am satisfied that the object was either a highly sophisticated military craft, belonging if not to our government then to Russia's, or a craft from outer space. In view of the present state of air technology, I tend to lean toward the latter view.

"As for what the object was do-

ing in the Elmore area, one can only guess. We have a beryllium plant here. But whether the object's presence had anything to do with that, I can't say. There didn't seem to be any connection—the plant is located about four miles out, on the other side of town—but then maybe the object was after air samples. If that was the case, it was in the proper position and atmospheric conditions were near perfect. What breeze there was, was very light, and came from the direction of the plant."

Beryllium is a most unusual metal with a number of atomic-age applications. For one thing, beryllium is the only stable light metal with a relatively high melting point. Needless to say, its use in rocketry and space travel is vital. In addition, the metal is an excellent conductor of electricity, is capable of high heat absorption, has good mechanical properties at high temperature, and unusual structural applications.

Beryllium can be machined to extremely close tolerances and is used extensively in gyroscopes, accelerometers, computer parts for inertial guidance instruments, and numerous types of missile hardware. Beryllium is used also in nuclear reactors as moderators and reflectors. When mixed with radium it is used as a source of neutrons. Without beryllium modern nuclear technology would be virtually impossible.

Beryllium dust, which occurs in the manufacturing process, is extremely light and floats readily in the atmosphere. There are beryllium plants in the United States, in France, and in England. Presumably, at least one beryllium plant exists in the U. S. S. R. Visitors from outer space making an industrial survey of the earth would consider information about the manufacture of beryllium essential—an important yardstick for evaluating earth technology. Air samples containing beryllium could provide data on quality and method of manufacture. It's possible that the object Chief Crawford and Officer Soenichsoen saw was in the area for the purpose of getting such samples.

Whether the plane the four men saw was aware of the object and had been sent out to investigate, is something about which one can only speculate. It appeared in the area too soon to have been dispatched because of the call from the highway patrolman to the airport.

Then there is the matter of the airport's failure to pick up the plane on its radar. Was the plane too low, or did the radar operator have instructions to deny its existence? If the plane was practicing landings, why was it doing so miles

from any airport and without landing lights? And if the plane had been in the area for nearly two hours, why had Chief Crawford failed to see it earlier?

This represents still another UFO sighting, by reputable witnesses, to be added to the growing, perplexing file of strange celestial phenomena.

NORTH CAROLINA'S "HEALING STREAM"

IN NORTH Carolina, according to an article by Joseph F. Hufham in the Atlanta *Journal and Constitution* for March 29, 1964, is a stream which many testify has a wonder-working power to heal. Called the Shalotte Inlet, the stream is located 16 miles from Shalotte in Brunswick County, in southeastern North Carolina.

Some years previously Hufham related, while he was on a fishing trip at the stream, bright sunlight aggravated a long-standing eye ailment. After a dip in the stream, he wrote, his vision improved. He reported this in an article and as a result received numerous testimonials to the curative power of the stream from other persons who had visited it.

One man reported that his arms were covered with mysterious pea-sized swellings, which split and oozed watery blood. The day after he moistened his arms with a cupful of water from the Shalotte's Inlet, the swellings ceased to bleed and in four days they were gone.

A testimonial from a farmer told how one wading in the stream cured him after a wound on the calf of one leg had refused to heal for months despite various attempts at treatment. A 12-year-old boy reported that he applied boiled water from the stream after his left forearm became swollen with infection from his little finger to halfway up to his elbow. In four days, he said, his arm was well.

A clue to the curative properties of the stream, Hufham stated, appears to be a unique, tall grass with a bread-like core. When the grass ripens, the heat of the sun causes the core to swell, ooze out and molder. High tide brings salt water that washes off the mold, filling the stream with a substance which appears to be similar to penicillin in its ability to fight infection.



John Orfanides, member of office staff, examines the broken objects which flew mysteriously from the cupboard in which he stands. A police officer had pushed these objects far back on a shelf some 15 minutes before to keep them from being dislodged by chance vibration. (Photos by James Edelen.)

POLTERGEIST

Wrecks Business Office

THE LAST PLACE one would expect to find a poltergeist is in a busy office building in a large industrial city like Oakland, Calif.

But on June 15, 1964, at about 2:15 P. M., I walked into the office of court reporter George Wheeler at 1904 Franklin St., Oakland, and saw a poltergeist at work. During the next three days I was present while literally dozens of inexplicable phenomena occurred.

George Wheeler's normally quiet office had become the scene of a parade of policemen, reporters, photographers, television cameramen, and poltergeist experts, real and phoney. For a time Wheeler's work, taking down by stenotype and transcribing the testimony of the Alameda courts, came to an absolute standstill.

Business may be mixed with pleasure — but not with a poltergeist that hurls objects and twists typewriter springs.

The story began for me shortly after 2:00 P. M., on June 15. Roy Grimm, city editor of *The Oakland Tribune,* gave me the Franklin Street address. "We had a police call that things are jumping around over there," he said.

"What do you mean?" I asked.

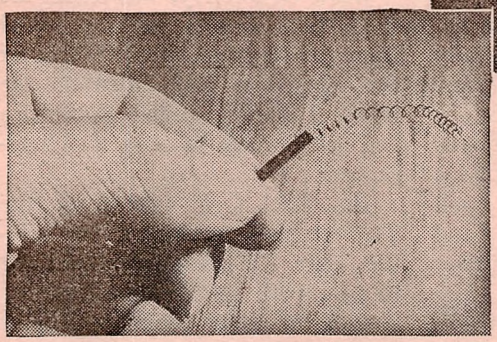
"Poltergeist," he said and winked.

It didn't even sound like a story. Nevertheless, I hopped into a cab and rode about seven blocks to the Medical Building, in Oakland's downtown business district.

I took the elevator to the third floor and joined several persons milling around outside Wheeler's office. Almost immediately we heard a loud crash from an empty room adjoining Wheeler's suite of three offices. The door was open and I looked in to see a metal cabinet lying on its back.

By Jim Hazelwood





Minutes after photo on opposite page was taken, a jar of powdered coffee cream hurtled from cupboard and smashed on floor. (above). Electric typewriters in office were rendered useless by twisted springs, of which the one shown (left) is a less severely damaged example.

Feeling a little unnerved, I walked into Wheeler's office and introduced myself. I found that the normal occupants of the office were Wheeler himself, his wife Zolo who is also a court reporter, court reporters Robert Caya and Calvert Bowles, and two transcribers, Helen Rosenberg and John Orfanides.

George Wheeler was not present when I arrived but Oakland Police Officer Charles Nye was there, having come to the office about 15 minutes earlier in response to a call.

Wheeler's office is a suite of three rooms, side by side and connected by doors which usually stand open. Wheeler occupies the room on the far right which also contains a small cupboard in which the staff keeps coffee-making equipment, wax for polishing desks and floors, and other miscellanea. I shall refer to this as the coffee cupboard

The center room is the main entrance to the offices and is usually occupied by the transcribers, Mrs. Rosenberg and John Orfanides.

The room on the left contains several telephones, dictaphone equipment, a water cooler, wall cabinets for storing papers and equipment, and a movable counter filled with office supplies.

Mrs. Wheeler took me immediately to her husband's room, which was a mess. An ashtray lay on the floor, broken. Outside the door of the coffee cupboard was a pile of smashed crockery lying in a pool of water.

Officer Nye told me that he had inspected the premises as soon as he arrived. He said he entered the coffee cupboard and observed an empty blue flower vase and a large glass water pitcher of the type commonly used in hotels, sitting near the edge of a shelf.

"I thought these objects might be dislodged if there was any vibration in the building, so I pushed them right back against the wall," he said. The shelf is about 18 inches deep.

A few minutes later, while Officer Nye was in another room, and Wheeler's room was apparently vacant, the pitcher and vase flew through the air, made a right turn, and shattered on the floor of the office, beside Wheeler's desk.

While Officer Nye was telling me this, there was a banging sound from the room on the left. One of the telephones had fallen to the floor. I hastily called the office and asked them to send a photographer.

Jim Edelen, a veteran of the *Tribune* staff, arrived a few minutes later. He asked John Orfanides to pose with the shattered objects outside the coffee cupboard. Edelen took his picture and the two turned to leave the room. As they went

out the door, there was a crash behind them. They turned to find the debris on the floor now covered with white powder. A large jar of Coffeemate powdered cream substitute had flown out of the coffee cupboard and smashed on the floor.

Mrs. Rosenberg, who does most of her work in the office, was present during more of the manifestations than anyone else. She told me the first unusual occurrence had taken place about two weeks previously. At that time, the telephones began acting up. The row of lights along each telephone would light up in quick succession, but there would be nobody on the line.

The telephone company could find nothing wrong with the instruments but when the trouble persisted they changed the phones.

The electric typewriters were next to go. The keys of electric typewriters all have small coil springs underneath them which return them to position after they have been depressed. It is necessary to take the top off the machine to get at them.

Inexplicably, the electric typewriters in Wheeler's office began going haywire. The springs went limp, twisted together and balled up. Repairmen came and took them away, leaving loan machines in their place. The springs on the loan machines promptly did the same thing, leaving the recorders helpless to do any typing. When the original machines were returned, their springs began acting up again.

"Those springs normally last for the life of the machine," Bob Goosey, a sales representative for the typewriter company, told me.

"We haven't replaced three of those springs in the past 10 years. But during the last few days we've replaced about 100 in Wheeler's machine. We've practically exhausted our stock of springs."

While I was in Wheeler's office on June 15, all eight of the phones kept sliding off the desks and falling to the floor with monotonous regularity. We got tired just picking them up. The metal top of a typewriter flew across the room and struck a wall, leaving a dent. A metal postal scale sailed across the room. A porcelain cup sitting on Mrs. Wheeler's desk jumped 12 feet into the air and shattered against the ceiling, leaving a brown stain.

Abruptly, about 4:00 P. M., the phenomena stopped.

During the night Wheeler moved a desk and some of his equipment into an empty office downstairs, in an attempt to get away from the rampaging poltergeist. The desk was taken from the left office and the phones from it were placed on the floor.

When I arrived the next morning Bob Caya was in the abandoned room talking on the telephone and looking out the window. I heard a thud and entered the room instantly. Caya's back was to the door and he was still talking. On the floor was a dictaphone pedal which apparently had flown out of a cabinet and struck the counter. There was a mark on the counter.

I began to keep a log of the poltergeist phenomena. Every time something happened I made a notation describing it and the time it occurred. I did this for only one hour, between 10:30 and 11:30 A. M., June 16, but there were no fewer than 12 entries in it. An interesting thing this log reveals is that the entries are all exactly five minutes apart. In other words, something happened every five minutes.

One of the first things I noticed on entering Wheeler's room on this second day was a metal box full of papers which was on the floor. It apparently had fallen there soon after the office opened. I picked it up, examined it, and placed it on a metal filing cabinet. Later, while I stood in the doorway of the room with my back to it, the box flew about eight feet and hit the floor with a frightening crash. I whirled around. There was no one in the room.

A door which had been taken off the entrance to the adjoining vacant office, had been left standing against the wall at about a 30 degree angle. It pitched forward with a bang which caused everybody to jump.

Also, it soon became evident that the poltergeist had followed the hapless staff to the office downstairs on the second floor. From there a typewriter top flew off and sailed out a window, striking the roof of a parked car on the street.

By this time the eerie happenings had been well publicized and all kinds of people kept popping in either to watch for poltergeists or to take some part in the proceedings. One of the strangest of these was an occultist from San Francisco who began burning incense in little brass jars and staring soulfully at the ceiling.

The most important visitor was Dr. Arthur Hastings, of Stanford University. Dr. Hastings teaches speech and drama but he long has been a devout student of abnormal occurrences and has worked with Duke University's famed Institute of Parapsychology.

After carefully weighing the evidence and talking to all the witnesses, including myself, Dr. Hastings ventured the opinion that this was "a genuine poltergeist phenomenon."

Since he is an accomplished

magician himself, Dr. Hastings was able to discount the use of magic in many of the phenomena observed. One of the things which helped convince him was my obliging metal box. He telephoned Duke that night and was asked to continue his investigations on their behalf.

The poltergeist continued to be active sporadically during the afternoon of my second day. A typewriter was tossed from a table in an empty room on the second floor. A large electric coffee percolator fell to the floor, cups exploded, telephones crashed and a filing cabinet toppled over.

The filing cabinet, which was made of wood, was one of the few things which any of us actually saw moving. Usually the objects would fly while the room was empty or while its occupants were looking the other way. But Bob Goosey, the typewriter man, was standing in a doorway when the cabinet suddenly turned sideways and fell over right before his eyes.

On Wednesday morning, June 17, the phenomenon reached a thunderous climax. Early in the morning, Cal Bowles and John Orfanides opened the office. In quick succession the water cooler toppled over, soaking the left office and covering the floor with broken glass, an eight-foot high wooden cabinet containing office supplies came crashing down in the center room, scattering papers in every direction, and the movable counter in the left room toppled over onto its back.

I arrived after all this took place and discovered that the police had taken John Orfanides down to headquarters for questioning. The poltergeist activity, meanwhile, had stopped.

Orfanides later was released and he went home. The Wheeler office, now a shambles, was quiet.

This lasted for several more days, and I began to feel confident that the poltergeist had given up. Dr. Hastings told me this is frequently the case. The phenomenon will reach a climax and seemingly burn itself out.

Then, 12 days later, on June 29, there was a stunning development! I had spent the afternoon on an assignment in San Francisco. When I returned to the office, I was told that John Orfanides again had been taken down to police headquarters and had confessed to throwing the objects around. He held them behind his back, he said, and flipped them when no one was looking. He bent the typewriter springs by inserting a bent paper clip and raking them.

This hardly explained the other occurrences, but the police were satisfied. They asked John if he would talk to the press. John asked

first if he could talk only to me. But the officers told him they thought it would be better if he saw all of the reporters and television men at once. They scheduled a full-blown press conference and since I was on the other side of San Francisco Bay, another reporter attended as representative from our newspaper.

At the conference, the police outlined John's admissions. John glumly agreed and the story went out on television and in the San Francisco newspapers that John had confessed all and the case was now closed. This was picked up by the wire services in San Francisco and the story was flashed across the nation within hours that the Oakland poltergeist was just an admitted prankster.

John's confession shocked me. In fact, I didn't believe a word of it. This was not because I had become particularly friendly with John or because I was unwilling to believe that he was a prankster. It was for the sole reason that John had been at my side or directly within my line of vision when poltergeist activity was taking place two rooms away or on another floor. It was because on innumerable occasions I had been the first person into the room when objects flew, within a second or two of hearing a sound, and had found the rooms empty. I simply did not believe that John could have fooled me so completely.

Although I was too late for the press conference, I started immediately for the apartment where John lives, taking a photographer as a witness. John had not arrived home, but his sporty red Thunderbird rolled up just as we were about to give up.

I slid into the front seat beside John and Leo Cohen, the photographer, got into the back.

"Why did you make this confession John?" I asked.

"Because, as far as the police are concerned, it's all over," he said.

"John, I know and you know that you couldn't have thrown those things around," I said. "Isn't that true?"

"Of course, it's true," he said.

John readily repudiated his confession, leaving us with the question as to why he had made it in the first place. It certainly wasn't for publicity or any hope of personal gain. In fact, he now might expect that Wheeler would fire him for wrecking the office.

John Orfanides is an intelligent, hard-working young man. He is only 20 years old; he is newly married and responsible. He has had little or no experience with the police and he is emotionally high-strung. He was born in Pennsylvania but spent several years in

high school in California's Napa County.

He was extremely upset when the police talked to him. He wanted to get off the interrogation griddle as quickly and painlessly as he could. He told me that the police kept suggesting ways he could have made the objects move, reminding him at the same time that he probably would not be prosecuted.

"Finally I began to agree with the methods they suggested," he said. "I told them I threw everything because that was the only way I thought it could have been done.

"But these things are just as much a mystery to me as to everybody else."

This is the way matters stand now. John is doing his work at home and the poltergeist activity has stopped.

But even though John Orfanides is innocent of any wrongdoing, there is still a possibility that he might be the agent which caused the strange manifestations.

Dr. Hastings already had explained that, in the classic poltergeist formula, there is usually a young person, often just passing the age of puberty, who is always present when the events take place. They are not aware of it and are just as startled and frightened as everyone else. They don't do anything physically. The phenomena just occur in their presence. John is a little old to fall into this category, but he was the youngest person in the office and when he wasn't there the phenomena had stopped.

John has agreed to cooperate fully with Dr. Hastings and any other experts Dr. Hastings may wish to consult. Perhaps they may come up with some answers to a phenomenon which is really not so rare, but which is contrary to the known laws of physics. Most persons just won't believe it can happen. I didn't until I walked into George Wheeler's office and saw it for myself.

EDITOR'S NOTE

It has seemed to me, after studying many current cases of poltergeist activity, that the supposed agent for the phenomena, although not consciously responsible for the destructive, mischievous poltergeist antics, seems often to feel guilty about it—apparently because of some uneasy, subconscious awareness of responsibility—and therefore easily can be pressured into confessing to overt participation, of which he is not, in fact, guilty and when he could not have accomplished the phenomena by normal means.—MMF, Ed.

THE CASE OF THE ACQUITTED HEALER

The jury heard witnesses testify for this Washington man—and agreed that he possessed mysterious powers to heal which could not be licensed or restricted.

By Paul Foght

THE CARPENTER from Galilee, Jesus Christ, gave his 12 disciples—who were peasants and fishermen and a tax collector—the power to "heal all manner of disease."

No science guided these rustic men, but they had faith in a power beyond the visible universe and they truly became able to heal the sick and remedy the suffering of men.

Today, almost 2000 years since Christ and his disciples first introduced the healing ministry, a new healer has been revealed by a dramatic jury trial in a courtroom in Seattle, Wash. Throughout the pine-filled valleys of western Washington loggers, farmers, and their wives are talking about Nye Berkebile—another humble man who works cures through faith alone.

Henry Nye Berkebile has hardly more command of modern science than did the ancient disciples, but for 33 years this now 61-year-old man has worked in quiet dedication to alleviate the pains of his neighbors. They think he is successful and they bring their children and their relatives to him to be cured. They love Nye and have been willing to stand in open court and swear to their faith in his ability.

Of course, not everyone understands and appreciates Nye's efforts. Especially the State of Washington has not appreciated them. The State, possibly confusing the ancient technique of healing by laying on the hands and modern chiropractic manipulation, brought charges against Mr. Berkebile. Specifically, he was charged with "unlawfully practicing chiropractic without having a valid license to do so."

For this offense the State sought

IN DISTRICT COURT BEFORE THE HONORABLE EVANS D. MANOLIDES, DISTRICT JUDGE IN AND FOR KING COUNTY, RESIDING AND SITTING IN SEATTLE DISTRICT

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Plaintiff) No. 12413

vs.

H.N. BERKEBILE,

Defendant)

The State accused Henry Nye Berkebile of "unlawfully practicing chiropractic." He argued that his cures involved the supernatural, which was not subject to state control.

in a jury trial at Seattle on February 4, 1963, to penalize Nye Berkebile to the extent of three months in the King County jail or a fine of $250.

Nye, through his attorney, R. Wayne Cyphers, replied that he, like Christ's disciples, possesses supernatural powers. These powers and the absolute faith of his patients, are responsible for the cures, they argued, and the State cannot license or restrict either faith or the supernatural. Counselor Cyphers characterized the cures as miracles and described Mr. Berkebile as a man with abilities similar to those of Edgar Cayce.

The trial established that Nye Berkebile has registered with state officials to conduct a business as a vitamin therapist and masseur, but Nye told the court that the true purpose of his long career has been to "relieve anything that anyone is suffering from regardless of what it might be . . ."

No illness, Berkebile believes, can defy his ability to diagnose and cure, if the faith is strong enough.

Treatment begins with a diagnosis which Berkebile obtains through what he defines as ESP abilities. He told the court that when sufferers first visit him he talks with them ". . . in order to get the vibration of their voices."

As the patient describes the type

and location of his pain Berkebile makes notations on a chart. He may then massage the painful areas, or warm them with a heat lamp. But these actions, he testified, are not treatment; they only afford a calm interlude during which he seeks to establish rapport with the patient. The vital function of the diagnostic interview, he stated, is to allow the patient to ". . . give out the vibration that is necessary and beneficial for their good."

After this interview, Nye lays his hands on the patient. His hands, he testified, immediately sense another vibration that helps him to understand the pain that is bothering the victim.

When his diagnosis is complete, Nye Berkebile begins a treatment based on his belief in the existence of a series of "focal points" located alongside the spine and in other parts of the body. The focal points, he believes, control the organs, appendages and major portions of the human body. In Berkebile's system of healing the cure of any ailment is initiated by proper massage of the focal points.

But the massage does not work the cure. The cure, Nye told the court, comes from the power that flows from his hands into the patient's body.

When an organ or portion of the body is diseased or disabled Berkebile massages the focal points that control the diseased area to "re-establish a universal flow to that part in order to get at the function." For example, Berkebile believes that the focal points for curing gallstones are located in the back under the shoulder blades and in the soles of the feet.

Nye believes the healing power in his hands originates not in his personality, but in a universal, cosmic intelligence. He further believes that in an earlier life he earned the right to act as agent for this power, but he does not know how he earned this right.

The Washington healer is confident that he can cure any disease in the world if his patient has faith. He testified to his belief that such dangerous conditions as stomach ulcers, cancer, and kidney and liver ailments have all given way before the power of his healing hands.

During his trial Nye also testified that he diagnoses and treats patients he never has seen. Everything a person touches vibrates, he stated, and the hand-writing of a letter, and the manner in which it has been handled and folded reveal the patient's problem to Nye.

All of these techniques were taught to Nye by a Hindu "master" who has been revealed to him and who helps him to make decisions and carry out treatments. In his sworn testimony, Nye described his master as a dark man with a

small mustache who was formerly a physician in this life. Nye also told the court that the very first people who sought him out for healing claimed to have been sent by a man answering the same description.

Even before these first health-seekers came to him Nye Berkebile had been told it was his destiny to heal. Twice the word had come from gypsy fortune tellers and once through a spiritualistic circle.

In spite of these early advices that a career of healing was to be his Nye made no effort to obtain a medical or scientific education in preparation for his future role. Indeed, he left high school after only two years.

However, he testified that he had studied the book *Grey's Anatomy,* and also had worked for a time as a hog-butcher. He told the court that ". . . if you actually want to know where I got my entire working knowledge of the whole thing, it has been from butchering hogs and bisecting them and finding out they are about the same as a human."

To demonstrate the power that flows through his healing hands Nye brought a maple dowsing rod into the courtroom and obtained permission to give a demonstration. He told the court that his master told him to bring the rod into court because there was an abundance of water under the courtroom and the action of the rod would prove to the court what power actually emanates from Nye's hands.

As Berkebile gave his explanation the maple branch did twist in his hands. As long as he held it the rod bent sharply towards the floor as if pulled down by unseen hands.

At Nye's invitation the deputy prosecuting attorney attempted to use the same rod, but it would not function for him.

As further proof of Nye Berkebile's powers five witnesses—three men and two women—took the stand to describe lasting cures worked for them by Nye's healing hands.

Blaine Berosek, a man who grew up in the same neighborhood as Nye and who has known him for 36 years, testified that Nye removed, without surgery, 144 pieces of shrapnel from his back. The wounds from which the shrapnel fragments were removed were among the injuries that caused Mr. Berosek to receive a 30 per cent disability pension from the Veterans Administration.

Mr. Berosek stated that in February, 1946, at a social occasion he complained about pain from wounds he received in 1944. Nye Berkebile heard his complaint and volunteered to help, which he did by pulling on Mr. Berosek's shoulders.

That night Mr. Berosek's back hurt him badly and the next day the shrapnel fragments started to fester. In about four and a half weeks, Berosek testified, 144 fragments had festered and come out of his body. The largest of these metal particles were the size of match heads.

According to Mr. Berosek's testimony, Veterans Administration physicians previously had X-rayed the shrapnel and had advised that an operation to remove the particles would cause Mr. Berosek more pain than if they were left embedded in his flesh.

Juanita Manning Conley told the court that she credits Nye Berkebile with saving her right arm from surgeons who planned to amputate the limb following an automobile accident. Mrs. Conley testified that her arm had become paralyzed, had lost all feeling, and that an amputation operation already had been scheduled when she made her first visit to Nye's simple home and office.

After just one treatment she regained some feeling in the limb, Mrs. Conley testified. At the time of her appearance in court she was able to demonstrate limited functioning of the limb.

The other witnesses who testified in behalf of Nye Berkebile told of having been cured of a disabling foot condition, of back trouble and of eczema.

The court hearing Mr. Berkebile's case limited his attorney to the presentation of five witnesses who believe they have been cured by the power of Nye Berkebile's hands. However, Attorney R. W. Cyphers permitted FATE to examine a file of testimonial letters volunteered by former patients of Mr. Berkebile.

This file includes testimonials from 10 men and 13 women. The illnesses healed range from colds to alcoholism and old football injuries. Unfortunately the descriptions of the ailments tend to be written in generalized, non-specific language such as "dizzy spells," "headaches," "sinus" and "bloat."

Among these testimonials is the statement of C. H. Rodgers who wrote that Nye Berkebile ". . . is helping correct a chronic back condition for me, (a condition) that has defied the help of chiropractors and medical doctors."

Mr. Rodgers' statement, like most of those in the file, states that he learned about Nye Berkebile from personal friends who have ". . . great confidence in his ability and who have received great satisfaction from his treatments."

Two of the letters in the file refer to a singular instance of absent healing. In this case a patient visiting Nye for treatment told of a sister-in-law who had suffered a

"spell." Physicians were alleged to be puzzled by the disability which was characterized by continued dizzy spells.

On hearing this, Nye asked his patient if she would take something to her sister-in-law. He then touched her hands and told her to go home and put the tips of her fingers on her sister-in-law's neck. He said that he had put something into the patient's hand, but she could not see anything.

By the time the patient reached her sister-in-law's home her hands felt "real hot." She then touched her sister-in-law as Nye had told her to do and the sister-in-law "was better in about 15 minutes."

Several letters in the file echoed the sentiments of one of Nye's female patients who wrote, "The medical doctors go to school to learn their profession and it is for certain that we couldn't get along without them. But they can never learn from books what Mr. Berkebile has been gifted with. And they can never help anyone in the way that he can."

Another patient—who travels 230 miles for a treatment—writes of "how grand it is to come in contact with such a wonderful person who helps all human beings."

Unfortunately the file includes no evidence that any of the diagnoses or cures described in these letters have been verified by conventional medical scientists. In fact, during the trial Nye testified that, to the best of his knowledge, none of his healing ever has been documented by laboratory tests or other medical sources.

But the mere absence of such testimony did not prevent Mr. Berkebile's attorney—a man long skilled in the scientific approach to evidence—from becoming convinced of Nye's ability to heal. In his closing argument, Attorney Cyphers told the jury that he personally had interviewed dozens of Berkebile's patients and he assured the jury that he had acquired "the faith as a result of what I have heard from witnesses."

Attorney Cyphers, who ranks Berkebile's skill as a psychic healer with that of the late Edgar Cayce, considers that the evidence establishes that Nye Berkebile performs miracles. And as a miracle-worker Nye does not practice chiropractic, but acts to relieve suffering through powers received from a divine being.

After only 90 minutes of deliberation, the jury of six women agreed with Attorney Cyphers. In effect they found that Henry Nye Berkebile works his cures through some mysterious power, that he is not guilty of practicing chiropractic healing without a license, and that the doors of the King County jail shall not separate him from those who need his hands to allay their

ills and their suffering.

* * *

A NOTE OF CAUTION

Henry Nye Berkebile desires to help all who feel the need for the ministrations of his healing hands. But, to protect Mr. Berkebile from further prosecution by any agency or authority, his attorney will not allow him to answer any correspondence or to accept any monies through the mail. To help protect Mr. Berkebile FATE warns that it will not forward any correspondence or communications to him or to his attorney.

THE "GHOST" OF ST. COLUMBKILLE'S CHURCH

THRILL-SEEKERS recently were reported to be flocking at night to St. Columbkille's Roman Catholic Church in Uptergrove, Ontario, Canada, to catch a glimpse of a "ghost" which is said to have been seen on occasions in the 60-year-old building.

The latest sighting of the St. Columbkille's phantom was reported shortly before Easter in 1964. Parishioners and a caretaker were cleaning the church for the holiday services when one of them called attention to a shadowy figure floating across the gallery at the back. It sat down at the organ and began to play.

Several girls among the church workers screamed and backed up the church aisle. When a carpenter and one of the woman parishioners raced up the gallery stairs, the figure slowly stood up and went to the door leading to the belfry. It was described as wearing a black choir gown and black hat and having a white face in which only the eyes were visible.

The carpenter reportedly made a grab for the figure, "but his hands seemed to come together in thin air." When he and the lady who accompanied him opened the door to the room leading to the belfry, they found it empty.

Wayne Birch of Orillia, which is near Uptergrove, said he was in the church with six other persons one evening a short time later when they saw the mysterious figure appear on the balcony. One man yelled at it, Birch said, "and it just disappeared. It looked like it went through the wall."

Father Frank Voorwerk, priest of St. Columbkille's, stated from the pulpit that the ghost reports were silly. He expressed his belief they are based on nothing more than a prank committed by some organ-playing youngster.

Their lives followed a single path into an unreal world of the mind—where, it seemed, they found a strange power over matter.

the TWINS who willed their DEATH

By Tom Allen

BOBBY JEAN and Betty Jo Eller, identical in life, were identical in death. They died at the same midnight moment, and their death certificates identically listed no cause of death. No known physical ailment struck down the twins. Death seemed to have come from within them. Did they summon up death with their own wills? Or did *one* twin will death for both?

Judge for yourself, from the same evidence that has baffled medical and law-enforcement investigators alike, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Let us begin the story with the birth of Bobby Jean and Betty Jo. Even at their birth we find them stalked by death. Bobbie and Betty were born on August 19, 1930, in Purlear, N. C. On that day, a third child, Billie, also was born. But only two of the triplets lived . . . Later, Bobbie and Betty would be buried, in twin graves, next to Billie in the graveyard 200 yards from their home.

Purlear is nestled in the piney mountains of North Carolina, where farmers scrabble for crops in red clay soil and where superstitions are frequently as unquestioningly believed as the Bible. Old-timers look upon twins as strangely dual people who somehow share only a single life between them.

Bobbie and Betty went to school in identical dresses. They had the same childhood diseases at the same time. They even bought the same kind of penny candy at A. S. Clark's general store, down the

road from their home. They had their tonsils out at the same time. When one of them had a toothache, the other had a toothache. When one of them had to have an abscessed tooth extracted, the other developed an abscess in an identical tooth and had to have it extracted.

When they were 11 years old, they were given fifth-grade achievement tests which showed their physical identity went far deeper than teeth and tonsils. The intertwining of their lives was reflected in an intellectual sameness. They received identical marks in some subjects, near-identical marks in others.

Around this time, however, a new kind of pattern seemed to be developing. Although they still appeared identical to casual observers, their parents and some of their teachers noticed that Bobbie was beginning to pull slightly ahead of Betty; Bobbie, both physically and mentally, was gaining a slight edge on Betty.

Possibly, the girls reached a fateful crossroads in their twinned lives at this point. Bobbie's differences could have drawn her away from Betty. Each of the girls could have begun to live more in her own ways. They could have become more truly individuals. But this did not happen. Rather, the twinness continued—with Bobbie emerging as the dominant twin.

They still were close and still together in high school. They were both members of the glee club, for they had an uncanny musical ability. When one started humming a tune, the other would pick it up, in an identical voice, even if they were apparently out of earshot from each other.

Investigators who later had grim cause to probe deeply into the girls' lives found a pattern of growing dominance on the part of Bobbie. In their junior year in high school, they were both home-room class officers; Betty was treasurer and Bobbie was president. Bobbie's grades were nearly all A's; Betty's were nearly all B's.

In the teachers' confidential grading of personality traits, Bobbie was judged more dependable and more industrious than Betty, though both were considered likeable and were admired by their teachers. They both took piano lessons. Bobbie played better than Betty did. Bobbie grew an inch taller and put on a little more weight than Betty did. Bobbie dated occasionally in high school; Betty stayed home. Bobbie's handwriting became more mature than Betty's.

Only one person can be judged a class's "most likely to succeed." The Class of 1949 at the girls' high school gave Bobbie the distinction.

In looking over the school records and in talking to people who knew both girls, I began to get a picture of Bobbie as more and more the leader and Betty more and more the follower. For instance, Bobbie's eyes were weaker than Betty's, and Bobbie started wearing glasses. Betty took to wearing glasses, too, though she did not need them. And, when Bobbie stopped wearing glasses, Betty abruptly stopped, too. Betty even went through a stage where she was writing her name with an "ie," to look more like Bobbie's.

I was told that there was no noticeable tension between Bobbie and Betty, on the surface at least. But, after they were graduated, Bobbie apparently tried to go off on her own. She got a job in a variety store 10 miles away. It was the first time either twin ever had left Purlear, and it was the first time either ever had been separated from the other.

A year or so later Bobbie quit her job and the two girls became inseparable again. They were reunited briefly in Purlear, then struck out for Winston-Salem, where they resumed their identical living pattern. They got jobs in the same tobacco plant, lived in the same boarding house, and came home to Purlear (65 miles from Winston-Salem) every weekend, together.

Unknown to them, their family, or their friends, psychiatric time bombs had begun ticking deep within their twin minds. The same genetic mirroring that had given them identical toothaches and identical hazel gray eyes had begun producing in them an identical kind of madness.

It seems to have struck Bobbie first. After two years in Winston-Salem she came home and, as people in Purlear put it, she began "not acting like herself." Betty stuck it out in Winston-Salem a little longer, apparently struggling to achieve her own independent identity. But, as if tugged by an invisible chain, she also returned to Purlear.

Once home, the twins began to live in a strange, unreal world of their own. They fled the room when company came. They were withdrawn, unnaturally shy, suspicious, fearful. "They just couldn't cope with themselves," their father told me. And, with the wisdom of a mountain preacher (he ministers to two small churches) the Rev. Eller diagnosed his daughters' illness. The medical name for it is schizophrenia.

Dr. Franz J. Kallmann of the New York Psychiatric Institute, in a monumental report on schizophrenia in identical twins, said his study "abounds in cases in which both partners developed similar

types of schizophrenia at practically the same age and with the same outcome of the disease."

Bobbie and Betty slowly, steadily, and identically succumbed to worsening schizophrenia. They withdrew further and further from reality and deeper and deeper into their twinned selves. Finally, the family admitted the twins to the Broughton State Mental Hospital in Morganton, N. C., about 45 miles from Purlear. That was in January, 1961.

About three months later, they left the hospital, somewhat better. But again, in eerie twin ways, both suffered relapses. To those who knew and loved them, it was as if the twins had some kind of singular world where both could dwell as one. No one could know this fantasy world but they.

They shuttled between the hospital and home, sometimes staying in the institution for long periods. Finally, in January, 1962, they were discharged and put on special drugs to be administered at home. In their own world of fantasy, however, the drugs represented chains that would drag them into reality. They would not take the drugs. Ultimately, they would not eat unless they were practically forced to do so.

On April 1, 1962, terribly thin and barely aware of the real world, they were readmitted to Broughton. The mental disease had ravaged their minds with a terrible sameness. But the pattern of Bobbie-domination still persisted, for Bobbie was eating more than Betty and Bobbie was thus not as thin as Betty.

Psychiatrists at Broughton saw the pattern and came to the conclusion that Bobbie's domination of Betty was, in some unknown way, aggravating their twin illnesses. If Bobbie and Betty could be separated, the psychiatrists believed, the snapping of the link that bound them perhaps could aid in curing them.

A church group in Morganton regularly sponsors ward parties in the mental hospital. Punch and cookies are served, and the patients get a chance to mingle with friendly people from the outside world. On Wednesday, April 11, the party happened to be held in the twins' ward. They seemed to have a good time . . . together.

After the party, Bobbie and Betty suddenly were separated. Bobbie was placed in Ward 8, Betty in Ward 12. It was their first physical separation since mental illness had welded them together several years before.

During the night each of the twins had a catatonic seizure. Each girl's limbs froze. Each turned rigid. Each stared straight ahead. Each bit down hard on her lower

lip. They could not see each other —they were widely separated by the move to different wards. But the seemingly identical seizures were revealed when attendants compared notes later.

Both twins were given tranquilizers. For once, they were not treated as twins. Each was given a different drug, Bobbie by injection, Betty orally. The twins calmed down and went to bed. Bobbie was in a room alone in Ward 8, where a nurse watched her carefully in case she had another seizure. Betty was in a room with another patient in Ward 12.

At about 11 o'clock Wednesday night, Betty got out of bed. She said she wanted a drink of water. An attendant came in, soothed her, and put her back to bed. Shortly afterward, the attendant checked Betty, flashing a light on her face to see if she were asleep. She looked up sleepily, then fell back asleep again.

At 12:55 A.M. Thursday morning, the attendant in Bobbie's ward felt something was wrong. She could not explain the feeling, but she was drawn to Bobbie's bed. She found Bobbie dead.

Immediately—because she knew the strange affinity the girls had for each other—the attendant called Ward 12 and asked someone there to check Betty. Betty was found lying on the floor, dead.

Investigators later established that both twins had been found lying in the same positions, on the same side, their legs drawn up in the same way.

Suicide was ruled out for many reasons. Mental hospitals take extraordinary precautions to prevent it. This hospital had a fine record for thwarting suicides. And suicide was not part of the pattern for twin schizophrenics. "Suicide," Dr. Kallmann had found in his study, "is one of the few phenomena unlikely to occur in both twins."

But a cause of death needed to be established and Dr. John C. Reece, the local coroner, was given the assignment. Dr. Reece, a trained pathologist, was no ordinary country doctor. He was former president of the North Carolina Pathological Society and former President of the State Medical Society. He was a respected and careful man, a scientist who put no stock in mountain country superstitions.

He performed thorough autopsies and found a twinness that extended into the twins' bodies. Their brains, for instance, were nearly identically shaped. In describing his search for a cause of death Dr. Reece recounted the systematic methods used by pathologists, the sleuths of death. But, one by one, he was forced to discount every conceivable cause.

"I found no demonstrable evi-

dence of injury or disease that could cause death," he told me.

He left the cause-of-death line blank on both death certificates.

The next step was to send the twins' vital organs to the North Carolina Bureau of Investigation for a more thorough analysis. There laboratory technicians looked for subtle signs of drug poisoning. There was a possibility, for instance, that they had had a fatal reaction to the tranquilizers. But the drugs were well known, well tested pharmaceuticals, and even if there had been some farfetched possibility of *both* twins succumbing to two *different* drugs at the same instant, the fatal reactions would show vastly different signs in the vital organs.

Like Dr. Reece, the lab could not find a cause of death. The vital organs next were sent to the world's finest detective laboratory, the FBI's. The FBI scientists were baffled by the problem also.

All that was left is a theory no scientist is capable of proving. It may have been that, in the world of fantasy where Bobbie and Betty spent their last years, in that realm of unreality, they may somehow have found a strange power—the power to will their death.

But, even in their twinness, how could they have managed to evoke that power so suddenly and simultaneously?

The answer may lie in Bobbie's dominance of her twin. That dominance may have become overpowering, so overpowering that it was fatal. Dr. Reece, searching for answers beyond the autopsy table, consulted with the twins' family physician.

The old country doctor said of his twins-in-torment patients: "They were like two people with one brain. And that brain was in Bobbie."

AT MILLION-TO-ONE ODDS

TONY GARCIA and Edward Bradley both were residents of Miami, Fla., and both drove white Chevrolet Impalas. After both attended the same Jai Alai game one night, they found that their keys fitted each other's cars. The discovery was made when Garcia drove home in Bradley's Impala, under the impression that the car was his. Key experts said the odds were a million to one against the cars, keys and persons all being in the same place at the same time.

True Mystic Experiences

FATE will pay $5 for each True Experience published. Stories should be less than 300 words and typed (double-spaced) on one side of the paper. They should be sent to the TME Editor, FATE Magazine, 845 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Ill. They must be signed by author and the author's address must be given. Manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed return envelope.

JAWS OF DEATH

By Henry Burdick

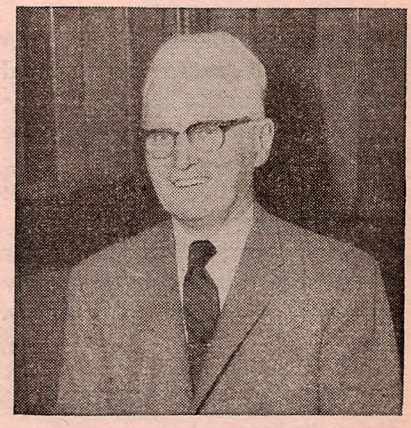
THE NARROW, hilly and crooked roads that I had been following most of the forenoon in September, 1955, were becoming a matter of anxiety, especially in the muddy areas. Searching for an unknown individual in that rugged, barren wilderness of Nebraska was indeed a problem.

I finally reached the yard of a considerably neglected ranch. There was no sign of life; however, the double doors of a long, rambling, unpainted machine shed were open. After driving past the old, two-story, apparently deserted house, to within a short distance of the shed, I stopped the car. Approaching the entrance, I called "Hello," thinking someone might be inside.

Instantly, from the darkness within, came a violent, growling scream from a dog. Like a streak straight toward me came the biggest, most vicious, meanest looking German shepherd dog I ever had seen. My first impression was that of a satanic entity tearing out from the depths of Hades.

Black hair bristling the full length of his back, eyes glaring like those of an enraged wolf, saliva drooling from his wide open mouth, lips savagely drawn back showing long glistening white fangs, he came straight toward me.

Men's voices from within yelled in frantic desperation, "Look out! The dog will kill you!"



HENRY BURDICK

I never will forget the terrifying scream of that animal as he lunged.

But suddenly I felt enfolded in a warm, wonderful, courageous peace. Although fully aware that I was about to be attacked and killed by this huge dog, I somehow was unafraid.

In mid-air, as he leaped toward me, the dogs jaw suddenly snapped shut. His body struck my shoulder, sending me reeling backward, but otherwise I was unharmed. The dog then turned and, with muffled, whimpering sounds, came slowly back to me. He licked my hands. Finally he stretched out on the ground, as if completely exhausted.

The two men who had come running were terribly shaken. After gaining composure, one asked, "What did you do to that dog?"

I said, "I did nothing to him."

Looking at the penitent dog on the ground, he said, "We expected to see you torn to pieces."

The second man, not disguising his bewilderment, said, "I never have seen anything like it. You must have done something."

Did that enraged dog encounter a protecting spirit? Did he see my my guardian angel?—*Des Moines, Iowa.*

TWO MEN I WAITED FOR

By Norma Rohr Muirhead

NOW THAT THE things I feared actually have happened, I am afraid no more. I am sure they never will happen again.

My aunt called me a morbid child, but Mother said that I was a harum-scarum girl and that a girl who had a label like that and who was giggling and silly most of the time could not be called morbid. Yet, I was full of apprehension at certain times — when I heard the doves coo or the telephone wires hum or the wind blowing through the pines.

All through my childhood, whenever we went on a picnic near a lake or pine trees, I would get the feeling I was going to find a dead man. If I looked in the water I imagined I saw a hand moving slowly with the current. When the wind blew through the pines I would look into the forest and think, "I bet there's a dead man in there." The wind always made a sighing sound, like the doves and the telephone wires, and all seemed to be telling me something. I would run like mad to get away from the trees and the water.

When I rode with my grandfather across the long wooden bridge over the Platte River, I always hid in the bottom of the wagon and covered my eyes, until long after we were across. When my cousins and I walked along the railroad tracks, I always was afraid to look down at the culverts under the tracks. My cousins laughed,

but such was my fear of seeing a dead man in the water.

In 1909 my uncle ran what was called The Plunge, where people swam in mineral water all year around, and it was here that my first chilling experience with death occurred.

One warm Saturday, when my father went into town across the Big Horn River, I was left in charge of the office. It was my job to give the customers bathing suits and towels, check their valuables, and direct them to the dressing rooms. While I was listening to the phonograph, I heard the heavy steps of high heeled boots and the tinkling of spurs. Wearing the Western togs of the time, a red-faced, clean-shaven man came up to the counter and asked to rent a suit and check his money and papers. He had a very broad Scotch accent and a pleasant smile; I saw nothing unusual about him.

I asked if he could swim, and he answered yes. I heard him walk down to the dressing rooms. Later I heard him dive in the water and then splash, as if he were swimming.

Soon the boys in the three-foot water began hollering excitedly that he had not come up. I thought nothing of it, because very often men swam the full length of the pool before coming up in the shallow end. Then I realized he was taking too long. I hurried to the diving board and looked in the water. There he was, on his back at the bottom of the pool, looking so peaceful, his eyes wide open, staring at us through the turquoise water. Among his papers was a farewell note to his parents in Scotland.

Seven years later I met the second man. With some friends my husband and I were driving over a tortuous road up Look Out Mountain. From near the top when we stopped, the city of Golden, Colo., bathed in the red light of the setting sun, seemed as golden as its name. The wind sighed through the pines. Everyone decided to walk up higher for still a better view but, as usual, I was afraid and stayed behind.

In those days Look Out Mountain was a rugged place; there was no Buffalo Bill monument and no refreshment stand. The cars were few and you could be really alone. I sat on the running board, waiting, listening to the wind in the pines. The sun went behind clouds and my heart beat faster; my hands were icy.

Then I saw the hat.

It was a soft Panama hat, weighted with stones on its brim so it could not blow away. I could think of just one thing — there is a dead man in the pines.

Slowly, I walked over to the hat and gently removed the stones. Underneath was a *Saturday Evening Post* tightly rolled with a rubber band holding a letter around it. I opened the note and read with no surprise at all, "You will find my body in the direction this magazine is pointing."

I followed the direction and over a small rise lay the body of a man dressed in black. A gun was on the ground by his side. I touched him and his body was still warm. He lay on his side. I did not look at his face. A note in his pocket said he had come for a last look at the most beautiful spot in the world.

Here was the man I had been expecting to find in the pines ever since I was a little girl.

The two men for whom I had waited so long now have come and gone and I am no longer afraid. — *Seattle, Wash.*

STUDY IN TELEPORTATION

By Margaret Richter

IN DECEMBER of 1959, Leslie E. Carrier, the father of my closest friend passed away in his bedroom, in the home we all shared in Ottawa, Ill. I was a lifelong friend of his daughter, LaVonne Carrier, and "Pa" spoke of me as his *other* daughter.

Two years later found LaVonne and me living in a mobile home we had purchased and moved out to a lot in Dayton, Ill., four miles from Ottawa, where we are employed.

One day in May, 1962, my friend was going through some old jewel cases and found her dad's tiny, gold lapel cross. Knowing how fond I had been of Les, she asked if I would like to have it. Pleased, I decided to pin it to my white uniform, hanging in the closet, at once. Only, it never reached my uniform. I dropped it on the floor of the closet! We searched, we swept, we checked pockets of coats and jackets. It simply wasn't there.

Two days later a mutual friend said, "Sometimes a third pair of eyes can find what two pair couldn't see."

Our friend, Patricial Bucknall, *also* tore the closet apart. The cross just wasn't there.

As I was preparing for bed one night five months later, in November of that same year, I heard a sudden call from LaVonne, who had just turned down my bed which, incidently, had been changed that very morning with clean linen from a closet two rooms away. She shouted, "Peg, come here, right away!"

I entered the bedroom. My eyes followed LaVonne's pointing finger to the turned down bed. There, in the center of the clean sheet, lay the gold cross!

This should have been the end of my experience with teleportation, but it wasn't.

Afraid of losing the cross a second time I decided not to wear it but to keep it with me always. I then did a silly but, at the time, seemingly practical thing. I placed the cross in the very bottom of the bottle of pills I carry in my handbag at all times. Upon replenishing my pill supply a few weeks later I saw that the cross was gone—again! This time, however, LaVonne and I were quite philosophical about the loss. We felt the cross would reappear—someday—somewhere.

One Sunday in May, 1963, a year after I had lost the cross the first time, LaVonne decided to give a pair of her late father's cuff links to Pat Bucknall's husband, a man who would appreciate the warm friendship behind such a gift. She brought Leslie's jewel case into the living room, opened it, and—you guessed it—shining up from the red velvet lining was the tiny gold cross.

Need I add that it is still there on its' bed of red velvet? I have given up trying to have it for my own.—*Ottawa, Ill.*

ANGEL IN WEST BEND

By Evelynee Heimerl



EVELYNEE HEIMERL

ONE VERY WARM evening in August, 1933, when we were living in West Bend, Wis., I retired early. The warm breeze was blowing across the bed on which I lay. I had said my prayer asking God to protect us. My husband, Edward, a route man for the Jewel Tea Company, was seated at the kitchen table, counting the money he had taken in that day.

When I retired for the night I asked him to close and lock the front and rear doors before he came to bed. While listening to the change tinkle as he counted it, I fell soundly asleep.

During the night I was awakened by the touch of a hand on my shoulder, shaking me lightly. I opened my eyes. The moon was shining in through the window. I turned to see whether my husband was in bed. He was there beside me, sound asleep. I looked around

the room. It was all lit up by moonlight, and I could see our baby daughter in her crib, also sleeping peacefully.

Wondering about being awakened, I again fell soundly asleep. But again I was awakened. Someone's hand was resting on my shoulder. I opened my eyes but saw no one. Then I raised myself on my elbow and looked toward the doorway which opened to the hall.

This doorway was filled with a mellow light, and in this glow stood a beautiful angel draped in white cloth. His silky, feathery white wings were beautiful. Held close to the angel's sides, they extended from about six inches above the shoulder to about 10 inches below the hip. The angel's left arm was at his side. He raised his right arm, beckoning me to follow him.

As I stared with amazement at the angel he again beckoned me. Slowly I got out of bed and the bright mellow light that surrounded the angel lit up the rooms as we proceeded through the kitchen, through the dining room and on into the front room, right up to the front door. Then the angel and the light vanished, leaving me in darkness.

I quickly snapped on the light and I saw that my husband had left the door open and the outside screen unhooked. I locked the door and went to see whether the rear door was locked. This door also stood open. I locked it and then looked through the house to see whether anyone had entered. No one had. The money still lay on the table. I covered it with newspaper and went back to bed.

When I prayed I had asked God to protect us and He sent his angel. I was very thankful.

As John (15:7) says, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." — *Union Grove, Wis.*

DEATH AT THE DEBUT

ANN, a 12-year-old gray mare belonging to Fred Davis, of London, England, was taking part in a show produced by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Washed, brushed and hitched to a highly polished brougham, Ann stepped out to parade before the cameras. In her moment of glory she died of a heart attack.

Fingers of Fate

By Harold Helfer

At Corbin Ky., Mrs. Magdalene Vanover spoke with a grocer, Herbert Eaton. He was reminded, by her accent, of his days as a soldier during World War II in her native Germany. He pulled out a photograph album of pictures he had taken at random while he was stationed in German. One of them was a photograph of Mrs. Vanover, taken when she was a young girl in Germany.

●

On the morning of August 6, 1945, Atsuko Oda, six, was on her way to school in Hiroshima. She was a short distance from the school door when she remembered she had forgotten her handkerchief. She hurried home to get it. As she stepped inside her own home a blinding brightness and a great explosion filled the city. Atsuko was the only child in her class to survive the first U.S. atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima.

Some years later she came to the United States and married Kazuo Hayash. Their son, James, was born on the morning of August 6, 1963, 18 years to the day after his mother's life was saved by a forgotten handkerchief.

●

While giving artificial respiration to a man dying of a heart attack, Police Chief Les Peterman of Bentleyville, Ohio, suddenly had a heart attack, too. Both men died.

●

At Marathon, Tex., Domingo Hernandez was struck by a train and killed. A few hours later the truck that Daniel Hernandez was driving turned over and he was killed. They were father and son.

●

For the second time in 16 years Christopher Simcox of Stafford, England, was condemned to death for killing a woman named Hilda. In 1948 he was convicted of stabbing his wife Hilda and sentenced to hang. He was reprieved and given a jail term instead. Released in 1958, he married again. The other day, in the same courtroom, he was sentenced to death for killing a woman named Hilda Payton.

They travelled into the southeastern states; they burned witnesses; they emitted bad smells; and they all were described as

UFO's

THAT LOOK LIKE TOPS

By Jeffery Liss

REPORTS OF Unidentified Flying Objects reached a low point last January. That month, except for a single sighting in Kankakee, Ill., not a single UFO report came in to the FATE offices.

Since that time, however, sightings have been increasingly frequent. One UFO research group, the New Jersey Association on Aerial Phenomena (NJAAP), recorded more than 90 sightings in only 46 days between April 24 and June 8.

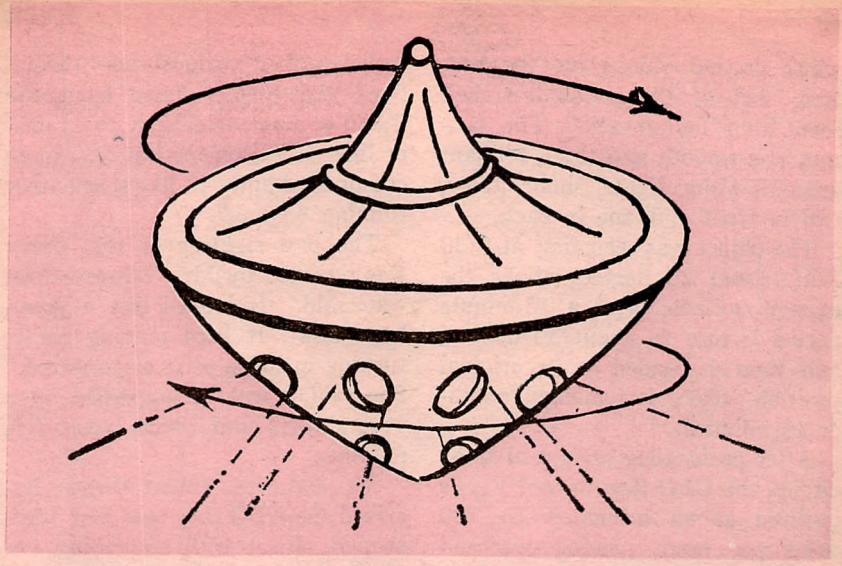
Strangely, perhaps significantly, several distinct patterns can be discerned in these mid-year sightings. The most descriptive reports generally concerned two types of UFOs: egg-shaped objects, especially in the Southwest, and top-or bowl-shaped objects, especially in the East and Southeast.

There were a number of reported UFO landings, in many ways resembling the April 24 landing in Socorro, N.M. Small burned patches of vegetation were found at the sites along with several shallow holes which looked as if they could have been made by some sort of landing support apparatus. In a few cases police geiger counters registered radioactivity.

In addition, a number of these sightings were accompanied by an odor, and a couple of times by heat intense enough to burn witnesses, according to our reports.

As usual, though, the bulk of the reported UFO sightings referred to mysterious lights and/or fireballs. There seems not to have been a pattern to these sightings, although some were particularly detailed.

Most impressive about the mid-year flap is the similarity in the descriptions of the solid-appearing UFOs. There is the exciting possibility that the various UFOs seen in widely scattered locations actually may be the same UFO or belong to the same class of UFOs. The difference in the reports could stem from the fact that people tend to describe things in the terms



Artist's rendering shows "flying top" encountered by Beauford E. Parham on highway near Lavonia, Ga. Upper and lower portions spun in opposite directions. Its terrific heat, Parham said, burned his arm and blistered the paint on his car.

that are most familiar to them, and, natually, this would vary in the different parts of the country.

The earlier sightings were in the Southwest, but the UFO reports gradually moved eastward —through Ohio and Michigan, then to South Carolina and New York. And as they did, the descriptions changed, from eggs to flying bowls, to upside down turtle shells, to flying tops, to rocket nose cones. All these objects have basically similar rounded shapes.

As FATE reported last August, the UFOs in the Southwest generally were egg-shaped and metallic-appearing, and in several cases were associated with intense heat. One report described spurting jets on the underside. These sightings came from such places as La Madera and Albuquerque, N.M., Cheyenne, Wyo., and Alamosa, Colo.

* * *

WHILE EGG-SHAPED UFOs paraded across the southwestern skies, flying tops, solid bowls and similar objects cavorted out East.

The first of these sightings came on May 17 along Route 5, between Wooster and Smithville, Ohio. Don Frye described it as a greenish-

white "round oblong on the bottom, sort of like a turtle's shell seen from underneath." The bottom was smooth and three brilliant greenish-white lights shone there, two in front and one in back.

The object was seen first at 9:30 P.M. about 20 degrees above the eastern horizon. Over a 15-minute period it rose to about 30 degrees and then descended to its original position, where it remained another 10 minutes.

After performing several of these circles, the UFO flew toward Frye's position at an estimated 150-200 miles per hour, passing overhead at about 15,000 feet. He heard a faint whirring noise. As it moved away, Frye noticed that the top part was obscured by a greenish cloud-like vapor that seemed to go along with the object. The UFO disappeared in the distance in the west-northwest.

Over Lansing, Mich., there was a virtual traffic jam in the sky during the night of May 21-22. At least five different UFOs were seen during a four-hour period beginning shortly before midnight. Police received hundreds of calls from excited citizens.

Accompanying the earlier of the UFOs over Lansing—which generally were described as resembling falling stars except that they moved horizontally and were bluish—was a loud, strange noise. This noise was described variously as "shrill," like "the theme music from the *Twilight Zone* television program," or like "a helicopter but . . . more compressed and . . . like a smoother running engine."

The best sighting of this flurry was reported by Mrs. Edward Cole, who said, "It looked like a great, huge bowl. It kept moving away, turning in loops as it disappeared." She said it was accompanied by a very shrill sound which lasted five minutes.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nourse described the UFO they saw as a "flat-shaped object with something underneath that looked 'like a red dome'."

On the night of May 25 over Morgantown, W. Va., there were three UFO sightings which coincided in time and place. Two of the witnesses saw only a burst of fire, like a blazing airplane, but subsequent investigation revealed no signs of a crash.

Mrs. Rik Harkness, however, described the UFO as "top-shaped and glowing like an overheated stove." She said it moved through the air slowly for a few minutes at an estimated altitude of 10,000 feet. After hovering it shot upward, leaving a vapor trail similar to that of a jet. The object was in view for a little more than 10 minutes.

Charles Derry of the FAA told the Morgantown *Post* that "he had

contacted the control center in Cleveland, Ohio, and reports had been received there of an unidentified flying object being spotted in Pittsburgh and DuBois, Pa., and in Youngstown, Ohio. Three airline pilots also spotted the object."

Derry said the control center officials were assuming the object was a meteorite.

* * *

WHAT MAY have been the best sighting of the period occurred along Georgia Highway 59 between Gainesville and Lavonia, shortly before midnight on the evening of June 29-30. There, Beauford E. Parham of Wellford, S.C., encountered a "flying top."

When he first spotted the object, "it was spinning, amber-colored at the top, and coming toward the headlights of my car. It looked like a meteor, and I thought, 'Well, I'm gone.'

"Suddenly, it went up, above the car, then came straight down two more times as though it were investigating the headlights. It sounded like a million snakes hissing. It left a strong odor—something like embalming fluid. It was so bad I raised my car windows.

"I had been traveling about 65 or 70 miles an hour, but when the object approached, the car's engine began to slow down."

Parham said the object was about the size of his car roof and about six feet high. "The bottom portion was whirring in one direction and the upper part in the opposite direction. It resembled a giant top." He noted fin-like attachments around the outer edges.

The object gave off terrific heat and through numerous holes or openings in the bottom half Parham could see yellow flames.

Parham's arm was burned and the object, according to one newspaper report, "left a substance on the chromed portion of the car and marks on the roof." Other reports described oily spots on the car.

After its second pass, the UFO followed Parham's car for about two miles. On the third pass Parham pulled off the road and turned off his lights. Then he watched the object spin crazily upward and "burn itself out." It did not reappear.

The Air Force labeled this "ball lightning," and suggested the accompanying odor may have been ozone, a residue of ball lightning.

(Ozone is a faintly blue, gaseous form of oxygen, present in small amounts in the atmosphere, especially in the upper regions, and obtained by the silent discharge of electricity in oxygen or in air. It gives off an odor like that of weak chlorine, and is a more powerful oxidizer than ordinary oxygen. Oxidation's slow form is exemplified by rust.)

Parham, who is district manager in Spartanburg, S.C., for Family Record Plan, Inc., refuses to accept the Air Force explanation.

"There was not a cloud in the sky," he said. "Lightning would not rotate at the top and bottom as this object did. Lightning would not stand still. I saw it with my own eyes." He reported a month later that parts of his car were beginning to deteriorate from contact with the object, especially the radiator.

And he added that only two days after his own experience a woman sustained third degree burns from a similar object near the same location. A sack of groceries inside her car also was burned.

United Press International reported that on the night of June 30, "D.E. Welford of Spartanburg, S.C., saw what he described as a huge, spinning top about the size of an automobile. It had a brilliant glow and an offensive smell. Welford was traveling U.S. 29 in Georgia near the South Carolina border when he sighted the weird contraption. A geiger counter test showed signs of radioactivity on his car."

Note the curious similarities in names and places, even in highway numbers. The two sites are only a few miles apart and, although it is possible there were two separate sightings that night, this may be only a garbled version of Parham's experience.

* * *

ONE WEEK LATER, however, that UFO or a similar one definitely was back in the area. As the Atlanta *Constitution* pieced together the story, the object was sighted about 9:00 P.M. Tuesday night by nine persons from three different houses in the same neighborhood near Tallulah Falls, Ga.

Jimmy Ivester was visiting his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ivester. A disturbance in the television set they were watching got so bad they turned it off and went out to sit on the porch.

Right away one of them saw something moving along at tree-top level. The object came within 300 feet of the Ivester home and hovered, across the highway, over Mrs. Russell Hickman's garden. It made no noise.

Only the bottom was visible and it was a fiery red. From the dark top a row of three lights was visible—red, clear, and red. The red lights were blinking.

The witnesses described the object as bowl-shaped and said it hovered only feet above the garden. The red and clear lights went out and the object began to rise. When it rose a brilliant green light shone from the bottom, illuminating the landscape.

Whatever it was, it left a terri-

ble odor "something like embalming or brake fluid." No one could identify it exactly.

Habersham County Sheriff A.J. Chapman was called. He arrived only moments after the object disappeared and corroborated the presence of the odor.

Mrs. Hickman complained she felt a stinging, burning sensation on her arms and face after the object left. Her daughter Diane, 16, also complained the next morning that her face was red and drawn, her eyelids swollen almost shut.

The following Tuesday, July 14, Tom Winfield, a reporter for the Atlanta *Constitution,* was summoned to a Gainesville motel. Arriving at about 11:00 P.M. he was met by a shouting agitated motel employee. "Hurry up! It's coming back!"

He pointed towards the southeast, and there it was—moving in a slow arc in the night sky about 500 feet above Gainesville, perhaps three-quarters of a mile away. It stopped, hovered briefly, then moved off in the direction from which it had come. Suddenly it shot up into the cloudless sky and out of sight.

This object also was described as bowl-shaped and resembling a top. An upper section was not visible. The UFO appeared orange in color and seemed either to glow or reflect lights from the ground.

The sky was clear and there was no fog; stars were brightly visible. Winfield tried to photograph the object before it moved out of sight, but the developed film showed nothing.

That same night in Tallulah Falls little Patty Upton came running into the house in what her father later described as near hysterics. She and a friend had been riding bicycles under the star-studded sky when a UFO came into sight, flying low and smelling bad.

* * *

TAKEN TOGETHER these sightings reveal a remarkable similarity in detail, a similarity rare in UFO annals. UFOs are characterized by their diversity; no two sightings are exactly the same, and thus it is difficult to catalog the phenomena.

The term "unidentified flying object" is applied to dozens of diverse celestial phenomena, of which some undoubtedly are as natural as "ball lightning." Other UFOs are more difficult to categorize.

However, when certain details occur over and over in successive UFO sightings there can be a reasonably accurate evaluation. This is why the flap of late spring and early summer 1964 may have special significance.

Over these several months, in widespread locations, UFOs with apparently the same basic configu-

ration were observed. In general they had a rounded, tapering shape, with some sort of flange or belt around the widest part; the top was obscured and there were openings in the underside; there were small distinct lights in both halves, but these were not necessarily shining at any given time.

There were enough sufficiently descriptive sightings to suggest that this is one basic UFO configuration.

Some other details of these sightings also coincided, although not so uniformly: similar sounds were heard and similar odors detected; colors varied, possibly due only to the fact that the UFOs traveled at different speeds.

And so the UFO evidence is accumulated, sifted, collated and compared. From all this data the solution to the UFO mystery eventually will come.

LUCKY "SPIRIT HOUSE" IN BANGKOK

IN BANGKOK, Thailand, a gaily painted miniature house, like a birdhouse, stands on a pole in front of most native dwellings and business establishments. Called a "spirit house," it is believed to ward off evil entities and to keep customers from overlooking a place of business. The objects are installed by Thai spirit house experts after careful consideration of a variety of factors.

Even the Bangkok branch of Merck, Sharp and Dohme, an American pharmaceutical firm, had a spirit house in front of its plant. But the Thai staff felt it was in the wrong location because the plant had expanded since its erection, altering the position of the spirit house with respect to its surroundings.

For reasons of morale, business manager Ted Sienicki agreed to having an old spirit house expert brought in from up-country to correct the location of the firm's spirit house. After several days of taking careful measurements, consulting astrological charts and holding animated conferences, the old expert decided that a particular spot in the back yard of the plant would be most propitious. In an elaborate ceremony the spirit house was moved to the new site and a higher pole.

Since then, according to Selden and Audrey Menefee, who reported the incident in the San Francisco *Sunday Chronicle*, the Bangkok branch of Merck, Sharp and Dohme has enjoyed unparalleled prosperity.



the CANARY that SAVED THREE LIVES

The bird fought to escape its cage — the only warning that some 2,500 persons were threatened with imminent doom.

By Margaret LoMonaco Giacalone

A FRENZIED little canary, sensing impending disaster, alerted his owners to their danger while another estimated 2500 persons perished without any presentiment of approaching death. This was on the night of October 9, 1963, when most of the people of the little towns nestled below the Valjon Dam in northern Italy were asleep.

Shortly before portions of Mount Toc crashed into the artificial lake created by the Dam and spewed an avalanche of water, rocks and mud into the valley below, Giovanni Pradella, a chauffeur, of Codisacco, his wife and child were watching a football game on TV. The canary started fluttering and chirping so wildly in its cage of wood and wire that it actually drowned out the voice of the announcer.

"I don't like it," Giovanni said, removing the cage to the other end of the room. "Something is going to happen."

His wife remarked that a coming thunderstorm often sets birds fluttering. They both returned to

watching the football game.

Suddenly Giovanni cried, "Come! Let's get out of here! The canary is dead!"

The bird, in its desperate struggle to break out, had strangled itself between the wires of the swinging cage.

The Pradellas grabbed their child and ran up the road leading to the top of their village. The time was 11:40 P.M. They barely made it to safe ground before the big 300-foot high wave came crashing down.

From their perch in the semi-darkness they saw the wall of water plunge through the valley grinding everything to pulp including their home and the dead canary *who knew.*

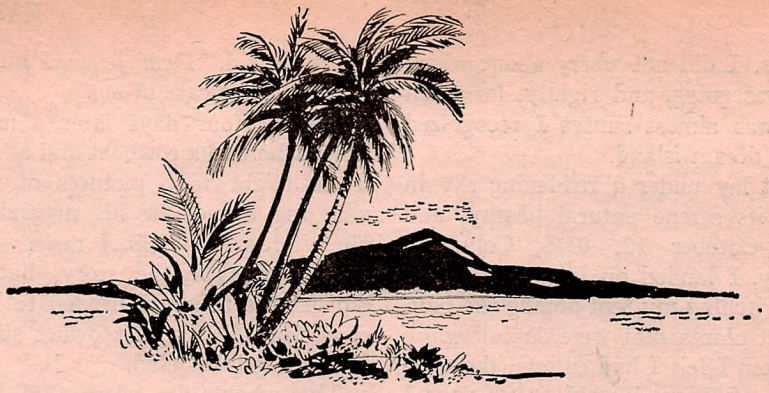
JEANE DIXON'S FOREWARNING ON TED KENNEDY

THE RECENT private plane crash, in which Senator Edward 'Ted" Kennedy, brother of the late President Kennedy, was seriously injured, reportedly was forecast by Jeane Dixon, famed as the "Capital Seeress." The young Senator suffered a broken back and other injuries which surgeons said will incapacitate him for six months or more.

Ruth Montgomery, Hearst Newspapers columnist, wrote that she had interviewed several Washington women to whom Mrs. Dixon is said to have expressed her premonition that the tragedies of the Kennedy family were not over. "Soon," she was quoted by Ruth Montgomery as saying, "one of the President's brothers will suffer a tragedy, too."

On the morning of June 19, during a telephone conversation with Jeane Dixon, Mrs. Walter Stork, whose husband had served in the Presidential executive offices ever since the term of Calvin Coolidge, expressed her regret over the great loss suffered by the Kennedy family the previous November. Mrs. Dixon said she foresaw another tragedy for the Kennedy's, this time involving Senator Ted Kennedy. He must be warned to avoid private plane flights for the next two weeks, she told Mrs. Stork on the telephone "otherwise something very serious will happen."

The next morning, according to Ruth Montgomery, Mrs. Stork read newspaper headlines that Ted Kennedy had been critically hurt in the crash of a private plane, in which he had been flying with his assistant and Senator and Mrs. Bayh.



I FOUND GOD'S ISLAND

Food, furniture, paint, wood — whatever is needed on this tiny isle appears to be miraculously supplied.

By Barbara J. W. Falk

SIXTEEN YEARS AGO while I was ill with the flu I dreamed a beautiful dream. This dream —which literally changed everything about my life—showed me an island, an emerald green dot in a blue sapphire sea, with sparkling waves washing onto a white shore.

For a few months I continued to live haunted by that dream; it became absolutely overpowering. I resigned my office position, sold my home in Maryland, and bought a ticket to Florida.

I had no idea where I was going. I was following a dream, and I had faith. Somehow I wound up in Gulfport. Reaching the shore I gazed across the choppy water of Boco Ceiga Bay toward the Gulf of Mexico, silently seeing for the first time the tiny green islands dotting the horizon.

As I turned to leave the shore I saw a 16-foot boat for sale. Although not fancy, it looked sturdy enough and the price was about what I could pay.

I loaded my boat with provisions and headed out toward the green

dots. I did not worry about where I was going, and rightly, for when it was almost sunset I recognized my dream island.

It lay under a reddening sky in all its serene natural beauty, and on October 12, 1948, Columbus Day, I landed on it.

Pitching my tent among the bayonet plants that were in full white bloom I felt I had entered the Garden of Eden. Within a few days I had built a cozy little house out of driftwood and thick thatch made from palm fronds.

Never had I felt so close to God. I spoke aloud to Him, thanking Him for leading me to this precious paradise. It did not occur to me the island might be owned by someone else; I took it for granted it belonged to me and to God.

With some concern I eventually left my island to see the State authorities, and it was with awe at the wondrous ways of God that I learned my island somehow had escaped the State survey and did not show on official maps. If I would have the island surveyed, I was free to claim it.

I am told the island is about 250 years old, which means it was being created for me long before I was born. I sent in all the money I had to pay expenses, but I still was $200 short. I promised to send the remainder in a few days, and I did not worry about how I would get it. I said, "Dear Jesus, I know You will take care of me."

Exactly four days later a man came ashore in a rowboat and asked if he might take pictures of me and the island for his magazine. He offered me $200. I never saw the pictures or the story, but I did get the money I needed to become the island's first owner since its creation by God.

Throughout the years God has remained with me on our island, watching over me and ministering to my needs. One time when my provisions almost were depleted, a squall lasting several days prevented me from either going to the mainland or from going fishing.

Looking up at the heavens, where low, dark clouds drifted by, I said aloud, "Dear God, I wish I had fish for supper."

At that instant there was a splash. I looked toward the sound in time to see something dive into my boat. It was a large mullet.

One day I laughed at myself when I realized I had two bunks but no chair. The next morning a big garden chair floated in to the island from the Gulf.

Another time I wished for a bamboo fishing pole, and the next morning I found it in my boat.

A few months later I returned from Pass-a-grille Beach on the mainland with my mail just before sundown, when the tide was al-

most out. As I sat in my house reading my letter and munching a snack, I heard something hit the window screen across the room, and I caught a glimpse of a falling bird. My glance fell to the floor. Less than a foot and a half away a rattlesnake was crawling toward me. Quickly I got on my bunk, reached for my rifle and killed it.

Who but God could have sent that bird at the exact instant I needed to be warned of the menace on the floor? One more second and I would have finished my letter and surely stepped on the snake.

I was reared a Christian, but not until I came to this island had I believed God was so close and so miraculous. I tacked to my wall a piece of paper with the words, "It's so nice living alone with God."

Hal Boyle of *International Press* visited me and God's Island several years ago. He quoted those words at the end of his column.

Ten years ago I married retired Col. Donald Falk, and then there were two of us on the island. I told him of all the miracles God had worked. He thought it was wonderful, but his faith truly deepened when these awesome coincidences began happening to him.

One day last year I was making a jetty to catch sand, but I needed a few more driftwood boards. My husband had two, but he needed them for something he was making. Since I lacked the materials, I went inside to do some housework.

About an hour later my husband called me outside. He pointed toward the Gulf and asked, "What is that large thing floating here fast?" It landed in the cove and wedged itself in among the weeds.

The object was a 15-foot square 3-ply raft-like structure. Heaped in the center like a tepee were all types and sizes of lumber. There also was a can of copper screws.

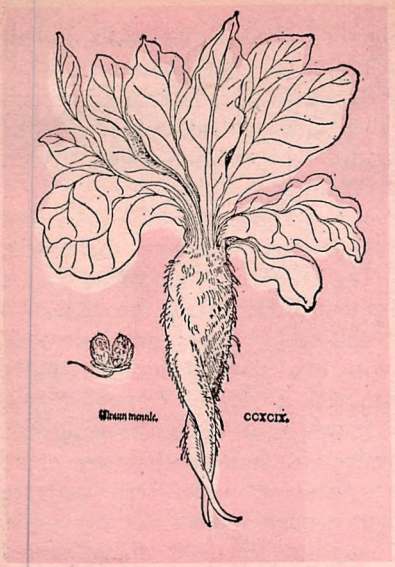
It was as if an unseen hand had pushed it, because that day there was hardly a breeze. Here was more than enough lumber for my jetty.

Another time, as they walked along the shore, my husband described to a Christian friend some of the wonderful things that had happened. The friend was skeptical and changed the subject, "Don, when are you going to finish painting your boat?"

"After payday," my husband answered. "I have to go to town to get more paint."

They walked on further, until our friend pointed to a gallon can on the shore and remarked, "Wonder what's in it?" He kicked it and it was heavy. The two men picked it up and brought it back to my husband's workshop.

The can contained paint—gray paint, the exact shade of gray with which the boat had been partially painted. Our friend was convinced.



Picture of Mandragora root appeared in the *New Kreuterbuck* by Leonhart Fuchs, published in Basle in 1543. Small Gothic letters read "Alraun mennle" (Mandrake, male). Roman numerals are chapter number of book.

Fable of the LUCKY MANDRAKE

By Willy Ley

This man-shaped root, it was believed, would double money and reveal the future. The problem was to obtain one.

ONCE UPON a time — say in 1550—there lived in Austria a young man of limited means whose name might have been Leopold Thurneysser. He spent his days daydreaming about the two things he wanted most, namely to be loved and to be rich. But his daydream had the unreasonable appendix that he did not wish to work for his goals. So naturally there had to be still another appendix to his daydream, dealing with ways and means of becoming rich without work.

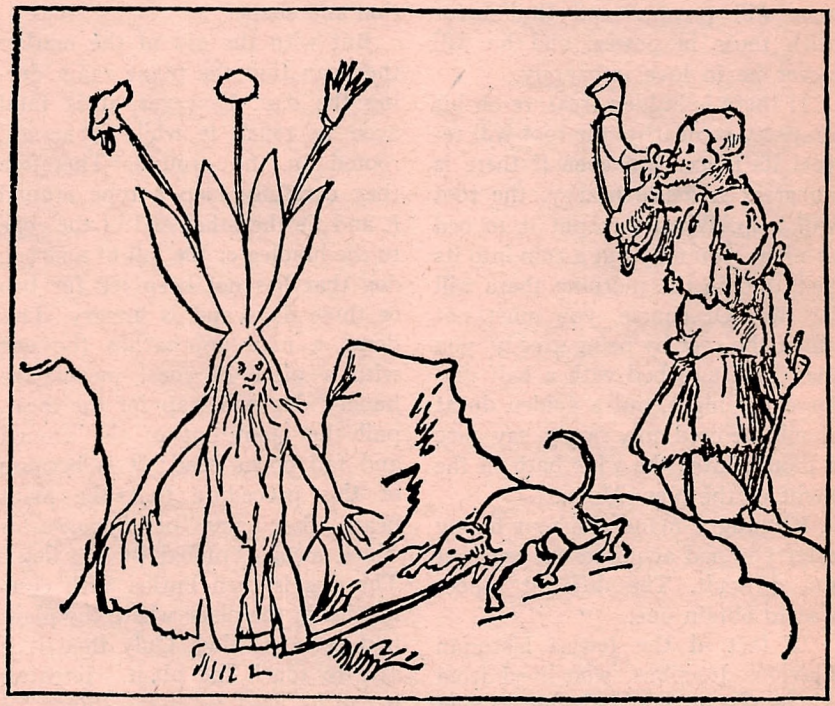
If he were living now, he'd probably dream of making some fabulous invention. If he had lived during the 19th Century he would have dreamed about a colonial venture of some kind, or about finding pirate treasure. If he had lived in the 18th Century he might have dreamed of saving the king's life by some combination of circumstances. But in 1550 two other opportunities seemed to exist. He

might try making the Philosopher's Stone which would change base metals into gold, or he might at least succeed in producing the fabulous *aurum potabile* ("drinkable gold") which cured all ills of the body and, indirectly, the "great illness of poverty."

But making the Philosopher's Stone implied hard work and he might not succeed even then. It was less difficult to go out and to look for an *Alraun*, the plant the Greeks had called *Mandragora*. Books he had read, had told him just how he had to proceed with the plant after it had been pulled from the ground.

The root, which looked like a small man with legs and arms had first to be washed with red wine and it was important to have the very best red wine which had not been watered by some avaricious innkeeper. After the bath in wine

Uprooting mandrake was considered fatal to humans. Task was assigned to a dog, trained to pull rope in response to horn, as pictured in early 14th Century manuscript.



the root had to be dressed in a white undergarment and a red outer garment, the white undergarment could be linen, but the red outer garment had to be silk. Every Friday the white garment had to be changed, and at every New Moon the root had to be bathed in wine. If the wine is bad, the root will cry loudly in a manner frightful to hear. But if the wine is good, the root will be pleased and can be questioned at midnight and will reveal the future. The owner of a happy mandrake root will prosper and find favor with those in power, and he will never be in love unhappily.

If there is hidden treasure on his property or nearby, the root will reveal its place. But even if there is no great treasure nearby, the root will help. When you put it to bed at night, you may put a coin into its bed, and in the morning there will be two. Of course, you must not anger the root by being greedy, you may put it to bed with a half dollar every night, but a golden ducat should be used only rarely, say once a month after the wine bath in the night of the New Moon.

Keeping a mandrake root happy after you had acquired one was not too difficult. The difficult aspect was to obtain one.

In fact, if the Jewish historian Flavious Josephus, who lived from 37 to 93 A. D., and the Roman rhetorician Claudius Aelianus of the 3rd Century after Christ can be trusted it was difficult even to find one. Aelianus reported that the plant *kynospastos* could be recognized only at night when it was luminous like a star. During the day the plant looked like other plants and could not be found. Hence, people wishing to obtain one went around at night, carrying something like a small stake with which to mark the location of the luminous plant. Relying on memory is useless for the plant makes the searcher forget its location and shape.

But with the aid of the marker they can find the plant again during the day. However, it is fatal even to touch it while it is still rooted in the ground. Therefore they carefully loop a rope around it and tie the other end of the rope to the hindleg or the tail of a strong dog that has not been fed for two or three days and is hungry. This done, a man approaches the dog with a piece of roast meat. The hungry dog will leap for the meat, pull the plant out of the ground and fall down dead. It is because of this procedure that the plant bears the name of *kynospastos* which means "pulled by the dog." The dog is then buried with ceremonies in the place where the plant had been growing. Only then it is safe to touch the plant. Hereafter it can be used for many things for it will cure impending blindness and

expel demons possessing people and making them sick because of the possession.

About a century after Claudius Aelianus wrote about the plant a book known to historians as the *Pseudo-Apuleius* was compiled by an unknown author. It dealt with plants and their medicinal and magical properties and was copied countless times, presumably by students of medicine. Slowly, as copies of copies were written, more touches were added. The magical luminescence of the plant at nighttimes was no longer mentioned, probably because one could not find anybody who said he had seen the plant's radiance in the dark. Just how many Mandrake roots were in existence could not be told, because a man who owned a mandrake would not boast about his possession in the justified fear of being murdered for it.

And since the root looked like a man and probably was something between man and plant it was logical that there should be male and female mandrake roots, though it was stressed that the medicinal properties were the same.

Flavius Josephus and Claudius Aelianus had spoken only of a strong and hungry dog. The copies of the *Pseudo-Apuleius* began to specify that it must be a black dog. They also added the reason why the dog died: the mandrake root, when torn from the ground, shrieked so loudly that it killed the dog. Prudent diggers, for this reason, also carried a horn. The dog had been trained to come to his master when the master blew the horn, and the sound of the horn also drowned out the shriek of the outraged plant.

As the *Pseudo-Apuleius* was copied by students living north of the Alps several new names crept in. German students called it *Wurzelmannchen,* little root man. Or else they used the still current name of *Allraun* or *Alraune;* a term coming from the old German word *runa,* meaning "mystery" or "secret" and therefore signifying something that knows and may reveal all the mysteries or secrets about which it is asked.

While the men who prepared to have a black dog pull a mandrake from the soil were after its coin-doubling and love bringing qualities, the Church at least admitted its medicinal value. The famous Ste. Hildegard of Bingen, abbess of the convent on the Ruprechtsberg, wrote the following about 1150 A. D.:

"The mandragora root, soon after it has been pulled from the ground, should be immersed in *queckborn* (water from a forest spring) for one day and one night. If this is not done, the root can be used for black magic, but the purified root has beneficial uses. If a

man, for example, is melancholy and downhearted, he should take the freshly washed root to bed with him and when it has been warmed by his body heat he should pray: 'Lord, thou hast created Man from soil without pain, now I put this which is from the soil that has never sinned, next to me, so that my mortal body feel the peace, as thou hast created it.' If no mandrake is available, fresh shoots of the beech tree may do the same service."

Soon after Ste. Hildegard wrote her advice, another thought entered the picture. The origin of this new idea is best explained if we first discuss the mandrake in modern botanical terms.

The plant often called mandrake in the United States is the May Apple which has the botanical name of *Podophyllum* and belongs to the barberry family. It is not related to the mandrake of Josephus and other classical writers which is a member of the nightshades. The botanical name of the true mandrake is *Mandragora officinarum*. It has rather large leaves and pretty, pale violet flowers in season. The fruits which form later are the size of small plums and are said to resemble apples in texture. But the feature which called attention to the plant is its large root which is almost always split, seemingly forming two legs. And since the root has the tendency to split it is not too difficult to find one which also has at least one arm.

Being a member of the nightshade family the mandrake is poisonous. The Greek physicians of antiquity thought it to be an aphrodisiac and also used it to put patients to sleep. The home of the mandrake plant is the eastern portion of the Mediterranean Sea, hence it is logical that the first sources speaking about it are the Jewish and the Greek.

The location of the mandrake's homeland offered both an explanation and a puzzle to the people living north of the Alps. The explanation which the mandrake's homeland offered was concerned with its shape. It was manlike in shape because it had grown in the same soil from which Adam had been made. But if this was the case, how about the mandrake roots that were rumored to have been dug up by the aid of black dogs along the Danube, the upper Rhine valley and in south-eastern France? Did the soil from which Adam was made occur in Europe too? Or could a mandrake originate in some other way?

Somebody in the 13th Century provided an explanation.

A man descended from thieves, or a man whose mother, while she was pregnant with him, stole something or intended to do so, might be hanged before he had any relation with women. While hanging

from the gallows he will, as a polite mistranslation has it, discharge his urine (but the original says quite clearly *aut sperma in terram effundit*) and then a mandrake will spring up in that spot. Others enlarged on this thought, stating that any man being hanged has a last ejaculation. At any event, the place to look for a mandrake was under the gallows and the mysterious plant was called by still another name: *Galgenmannchen,* the little man from the gallows.

But regardless of its origin an *allraun,* if you had one, brought money and good luck. And if the owner died it would continue to bring money and good luck if the inheritor was the *youngest* son. It would do nothing for the first born. Of course one could also buy one —there is a record of a mandrake root having been bought by a citizen of Nurenberg in 1675 for 75 good heavy silver *Thalers*—but sometimes the root resented being bought.

Rudolph II of Habsburg, Holy Roman Emperor, whose treasury was chronically short of money, bought two mandrakes, one male and one female. But they never doubled money for him. In fact, the Imperial librarian complained because the two kept him awake with their howling and crying at night. (One of the two survived into modern times and was examined by a botanist late in the 19th Century. It was a fake.)

It is this ownership of mandrakes by Rudolph II which is responsible for four lines in Goethe's *Faust, Part II.* The emperor of the play is forever short of money, hence Mephistopheles devises a scheme for him to create new money on a new basis. But the citizens fail to understand the devil's scheme and he complains:

They all stand there around and gape
Not trusting the new Wealth is sound,
The one is ranting of the mandrake,
The other of the coal-black hound.

William Shakespeare, too, made reference to the miraculous plant in his *Romeo and Juliet*:

And shrieks like mandrakes torn out of the earth,
That living mortals, hearing them, run mad.

That many persons were willing and able to hand over heavy bags of silver coins for a mandrake root had an obvious result: other persons were willing to supply the roots. Very often they were not really mandrakes, but the supplier could always find reasons why the root

would not perform, the wine with which it had been washed had been watered, or the buyer was too greedy, or most simply, the root resented having been sold for money.

But the law did not always listen to excuses. In December 1570 the judges of Schaffhausen ordered three travelling peddlers hanged because they had sold common dry roots under the pretense that they were mandrakes. Another death sentence, for the same offense, was carried out in Styria in 1584 and the local authorities recorded with evident pleasure that "the large sum of money which the culprit, Christopher Soll, had earned with his lies had been confiscated."

Since many plant roots will branch on occasion and produce arms and legs anybody who was willing to risk imprisonment and possible hanging only had to look around for something which, after drying, could be claimed to be a mandrake. Quite a number of mandrakes that once changed hands for money were preserved and subsequently examined by modern botanists. Some were genuine, that is they actually were *Mandragora officinarum*. Those that were not were found to be the roots of yellow gentian, or of Iris lilies, or (most frequently) the common yellow beet *Bryonia alba*.

It is the *Bryonia* beet which furnishes a curious follow up on the mandrake. In 1897 a folklorist by the name of Juljan Jaworskij, who lived in Czernowicz, published a long article on *The Mandragora in South-Russian Folklore* in the journal of the Austrian Folklore Society. According to him the peasants in southern Russia, where the true mandragora does not grow, have accepted the Bryonia beet as *the* mandrake—or did so during the 19th Century and earlier. They called it *perestup* and considered it a stroke of good luck if the beet grew naturally on their property.

The beliefs of the peasants obviously had filtered down from more sophisticated sources to the west of them and had been curiously softened by them. If you accidentally find a *perestup* you may dig it up, but it must not be touched by the spade in the process. Then you bury three copper coins and a piece of bread in the place where the plant had grown. You take it home with you, carrying it in a white linen cloth and then you bathe it in milk. Then you let it dry out and keep it in the house and your cows will give plenty of milk.

Jaworskij also found a manuscript copy of a Russian book on herbs dating from the 16th Century. In that work the plant appeared under the name of *perenos* and its main virtue was to keep a house free of snakes, for if a snake approaches a house and sees a *pere-*

nos over the doorway or in a window it will immediately fall asleep.

If this sounds like a rather weak ending of the belief in the magical mandrake, a still weaker ending unfortunately must be reported.

Less than 10 years ago, in 1955, a gypsy woman was arrested and brought to court in Holzkirchen (Bavaria) because she had sold "genuine mandrake roots" to peasand women in the area, charging between eight and 12 dollars for each root. The mandrakes were to be kept in the bedrooms as a protection against evil spirits. Presumably the gypsy woman had meant that they should just be kept, but the peasant women planted them in flower pots and kept them well watered. Soon something green began to show and very soon after the women recognized the leaves as something they used in making a mixed salad.

And once more a faker of mandrakes was treated to the sound of a jail door clanking shut.

DEAD FOR 30 MINUTES

AN AMAZING experience while "dead" for half an hour was described in April, 1964, by Mrs. Ethel Willis, 38, of Tampa, Fla. Mrs. Willis credits her still being alive to having been "surrounded by doctors at the time and fast action on their part."

As reported by Polly Henry in the Tampa *Times*, Mrs. Willis, in preparation for heart surgery, was undergoing heart catheterization for evaluation of damage to the aorta and mitro valves caused by rheumatic fever. Dye that was being used perforated a wall of the ventricle with bullet-like suddenness and she was rushed to surgery to mend the tear.

A team of doctors at Ohio State University used a pacemaker to stimulate the heart. They massaged the heart, maintained blood pressure and gave the patient oxygen. They said that although she stopped breathing for 30 minutes, there was no brain damage.

Mrs. Willis described the sensation of dying as a "thud in the heart—my head hurting." Then, she said, "I know I walked with Him. Certain questions often in my mind were explained to me. I was led by the hand through a valley that was bright with light and had no end—its beauty was indescribable."

The experience, she said, was one for which she was unable to find words to relate in detail. Although thankful to be alive, she stated, "I've often wondered why I left such beauty."



OUR *Friendly* NEIGHBORHOOD WITCH

When the boiling grease seared my feet, Father took me to Miss Addie — who, he believed, could do the impossible.

By Sarah Tyler

WHEN I WAS a child in 1909, we generally believed what we could see with our own eyes. Of course, this was a long time ago. Now, whether you choose to believe it or not, it happened that in the small North Carolina mountain community of Balsam Grove where I was raised, there was a witch. She was an honest-to-goodness witch who could do all sorts of impossible things which were witnessed time and again. I cannot recall ever hearing a doubt expressed that she was a real witch.

Miss Addie Welch did not become a witch through book-learning; it was always my understanding that she learned to do what she did from other witches before her, and that she could pass on her gifts, but only to one other person. I personally never coveted this frightening legacy but I remember that there were several women who spent a great deal of time at her

house. Perhaps they were vying for position as heiress to the dark powers.

She was a gaunt, sallow woman, sparing with words and smiles. The only beauty she could claim were her eyes—strange, tawny eyes, with flecks of light in them. Even in movement she seemed always so still, with all the life about her in her eyes. I cannot remember what her voice was like; she must have spoken seldom in my presence.

You may think from this description that people were afraid of Miss Addie. Not so. She was called upon in practically every situation where people were in fear and anxiety. We believed then in fate as a regulator of human lives and Miss Addie stood like a buttress between us and the world of darkness which she, and not we, understood.

She could stop an issue of blood, take the milk thrash out of a baby's mouth, and prevent a bad burn from paining or blistering. Sometimes scars would appear later, and often they were in a different place than the spot that had been burned. When Sarah Mayfield's little boy fell into the fire Miss Addie came to him, and the bad burns on his little face never scarred. Instead, several months later a scar began to form at the base of his spine and spread the size of a hand before it stopped.

She kept an enormous blue glass bottle and the water poured from this bottle took the itch out of poison ivy or poison oak, and would stop the pain and redness of sunburn within an hour. An excellent and much relied-upon midwife, as I have heard from my own mother, the witchwoman was able to slow or speed labor by the laying on of her hands.

Miss Addie also could perform a miracle that psychiatrists, medical doctors, ministers and social organizations in concert cannot do today. She could separate an alcoholic from his affliction permanently. The case which comes to mind at once is that of Ira Blanton, long dead now, but once a neighbor and well-known. Ira had been an alcoholic for 25 years, but Miss Addie banished his trouble in some way known only to herself. Here is the story as told to me by a daughter of the family.

Ira's wife and children feared, quite rightly, that he was destroying himself with liquor and appealed to Miss Addie to make a spell to stop him from drinking. One day, shortly after the plea was made, this daughter looked up from the sweet potato vines she was turning before the plow, and saw the witchwoman approaching slowly up the path from the woods. She passed directly beside the house

itself, where the mother was churning on the porch, speaking not a word of greeting nor giving any sign that she saw persons well known to her about the house and nearby fields.

Walking slowly and with head down, she went across the fields into a thicket where the unhappy man was, out of sight, cutting beanpoles for use in a kitchen garden. Not a sound was heard from the patch of woods, and darkness fell before anyone issued out of it.

No one ever did see Miss Addie leave the thicket, but the father stumbled into the kitchen just before the supper hour, white as a sheet, dripping wet with perspiration. He told them that Miss Addie had come to him in the woods and offered him a bottle of some homemade whiskey, which she said she had found beside the footpath. Thinking it strange she should give it to him, he took it anyway, and quickly dispatched the contents. Then, tired and full of whiskey, he lay down on the ground and went to sleep.

While he slept, a terrible dream came to him, in which he saw his whole life, from childhood to death, played out before a background of flames and cackling demons; finally he saw himself consumed in the fire. When he wakened, he declared, a voice spoke to him clearly, from somewhere above him, saying over and over, "There is fire in the glass." Ira interpreted this to be a divine warning that he must stop drinking, and though he lived for 38 more years, he never touched liquor again.

When I was about 10 years old, Miss Addie "took the fire out" of me after I had been badly burned by grease. My folks were butchering hogs that day and I got around the large iron pots where the fat was being rendered into lard. One of the vats, which was propped above the fire on bricks, collapsed as a brick under one of the legs crumbled. The red-hot lard spilled onto the ground.

I happened to be standing close by and got the full wash of fiery liquid over both feet. I vaguely remember the searing pain and my screaming, and the jouncing movement as I was carried in my father's arms at a dead run for Miss Addie's house. My father told the family later that she met him at the door, as calm as you please, and seemed to know what had happened before she was told. She made him wait in the front yard after he had placed me on the sofa in her parlor.

I still can feel the hot pain swelling in my feet and my sudden, unfamiliar fear of the tall, spare woman who looked so formidable from my prone position. Only her eyes were clearly visible in the dimness, and they came close to mine as she

placed her hands over my ears. I could see her lips moving but could not hear what she said, if indeed she spoke aloud.

She spoke briefly, then took her hands away from my ears and touched my feet. The pain rose horribly to meet her fingers, and then subsided once and for all. I must have been exhausted and very much relieved, for I forgot my fear and slept then and there for several hours.

My father returned home to tell Mama that I was all right and when he came for me at twilight I was able to walk home through the grass on my own feet. Miss Addie was in the kitchen when we left, making biscuits. I had the strangest impression that the woman I saw in the yellow lamplight of the kitchen was not the same as the one who had bent over me in the dim parlor.

Many times since those days I have wished for the presence, both fearful and soothing, of a really competent witch like Miss Addie Welch. She died in 1924 and if anyone came forward to take her place and inherit her powers, it was not known to us. I moved away after marrying, and lost contact with my old home. From the looks of the place now, with all the new cotton mills and drive-in heartburn stands, I doubt I'd find any self-respecting witch there anyway.

Sometimes I tell my children about the old ways and the things that took place years ago and, while they profess to believe me, I can see their eyes sliding away from mine. My mother is long since dead, too, and I have nobody who can witness for me the huge burn scars on my left hip, away from the public gaze, in a spot where I never was burned.

GRAVE FOR TWO

DURING burial services in Ragusa, Sicily, Maria Agosta, 78, fell into an open grave that had been dug for her deceased husband. She was dead when other mourners lifted her out.

AN APPOINTMENT KEPT

AS HE drove down a street in Superior, Neb., Kenneth Erickson, 18, collided at an intersection with a car drive by Dr. Richard J. Nelson, a dentist. Erickson told police officers who investigated the accident that he had been on his way to a dental appointment with Dr. Nelson.

PSYCHIC PHENOMENA in the BIBLE

By Dr. George M. Lamsa

Why are Christians exhorted to shun psychic matters — when these form the very basis of their faith?

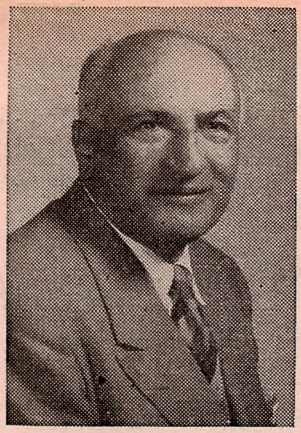
FROM TIME TO time I read in newspapers and some religious journals that Christians should avoid psychic matters as things of the Devil. These injunctions sometimes range against beliefs as broadly different as Spiritualism, Healing, and even Extrasensory Perception.

My lifetime of Biblical study leaves me bewildered by warnings of this type. It seems to me that Biblical teachers and ministers who condemn psychic events and beliefs misunderstand the very documents they claim to believe.

The Bible itself is a psychic document. Most of the meaning of the Bible arises because of this fact. Eliminate the psychic from the Bible and you have left only an historical account without religious significance.

Some teachers of religion assure us that the power to heal is nonexistent today. In the Holy Bible we see lepers cleansed, the request of a childless woman granted, the blind given sight, the dead raised, and rain brought down.

In our materialistic society, we should not be surprised to hear ordinary men and women doubt modern claims for psychically healing the sick, predicting periods of drought or prosperity, delivering oracles of warning and admonitions. But we should be surprised to hear



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. George M. Lamsa, F.R.S.A., is a noted Bible authority, author and lecturer. A native Assyrian, he was born into a civilization with customs and language which have remained virtually unchanged since the time of Jesus. He studied at the Anglican College and Seminary in Iran and Turkey, the Episcopal Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Va., the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School and Dropsie College, Philadelphia, Pa. His most recent book is "Old Testament Light," published by Prentice-Hall.

men of the cloth voice warnings against psychic claims simply because they *prefer* not to believe them. One may properly ask: *what do they believe?*

Oother ministers say that prophescies today, though presumably not in Biblical times, only can be made by the Devil. Still others say that the ability of good men to prophesy did exist in Biblical times but no longer exists.

And yet Jesus said, "Greater things than these shall ye do." He also commissioned His disciples to heal and they received revelations from God directing them in their work. Did God's power diminish or did He grow old and lose this power like pagan gods? Certainly not!

Both the Old and New Testaments are filled with many instances of men and women receiving divine messages and admonitions. Peter is told that Cornelius is coming to see him. Cornelius is informed that Peter is in Joppa in the house of a tanner. Paul is told by a prophet that he will be arrested and prosecuted. Are all these oracles works of the devil? Wasn't Paul told by the spirit to go to the house of Ananias and wasn't Ananias told to receive Paul who hitherto had ben a persecutor of the to had been a persecutor of the

Throughout the Bible we see that kings, princes, priests and laymen sought the aid of the men of God when in despair. Now is it contended that all the prophets consulted were not men of God but were possessed of an evil spirit?

In Biblical terms it must be admitted that some of them were.

The Bible speaks of false prophets and true prophets. The true prophets saw visions and were able to commune with God and deliver oracles of warning and their predictions came true. In a like manner, the false prophets pretended to receive revelations and oracles from God. They generally predicted prosperity, peace and victory, but their predictions did not come true.

Mosaic law warned the people against false prophets, seers, men and women with familiar spirits. Moses said that if any man should predict an event and that event should not come true, that man should surely be put to death. Thus the true and false prophets were known by the accuracy of their oracles or prophecies. Jesus said, "By their fruits you shall know them."

When Ahaziah, the King of Israel, fell down from the balcony of his upper chamber and was injured, he sent messengers and told them to go and inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, whether he would recover from his injury. But the angel of the Lord (the counsel of the Lord) said to the prophet Elijah to go up and meet the messengers of the King and ask them, "Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?" Then the prophet told the messengers to tell that king that he would die of the injury. And he did die (II Kings 1:2). Indeed, this divine message which the prophet of God gave could not have come from the devil or an evil spirit but only from God, in whose hands is life and death.

Moreover, when the three allied armies of the Kings of Israel, Edom and Judah went to fight against the King of Moab and were facing a disaster because of the lack of water, Jehoshophet, the King of Judah, sought after the Prophet Elisha. Elisha asked for a minstrel and when the minstrel played on his instrument the hand of the Lord came upon him and he said: "The Lord let this valley be made full of cisterns. For thus says the Lord: You shall not see wind, neither shall you see rain; yet this valley shall be filled with water that you may drink, both you and your cattle and your beasts.

"And it came to pass in the morning, behold the valley was filled with water."

A false prophet could not have supplied these large armies with water by means of an evil spirit which is devoid of wisdom and power over God's creation.

The Holy Bible is full of references to prophets of God who predicted periods of drought and periods of rain. We are told that Samuel told Saul that his father's asses

were found and that on his way home he would meet certain prophets. He also was told that he would become the King of Israel (I Sam. 9:20-21). Micah (I Kings 22) told Ahab that Israel would be defeated and that he himself would be slain in battle and Micah was right. But the 300 court prophets who unanimously had predicted victory over Syria were wrong because they had been deceived by an "evil spirit." (The false court prophets lied to Ahab because they knew they were receiving generous gifts from him before he went into battle, and if he were killed he could not punish them while if he returned in victory they would surely receive more gifts. They took no risks.)

Today, as in Biblical times, there are many men and women who have the gift of prophecy; there are some who have the gift of healing. And there are many who are just as deceptive as the false prophets and false seers of the olden days.

The world will continue to have true and false prophets as long as it exists. Jesus said the wheat and the tares will continue to grow together until the day of the harvest when they are separated and the tares are burned only at the end. This is to say that the evil and good will exist until time ends.

The ministers and teachers of religion who deny the power of God and His manifestations in the Holy Book, the Bible, are destroying it and their own religion and weakening the faith of their own people.

ARLENE DAHL AND THE TEA LEAVES

MOVIE ACTRESS Arlene Dahl, according to Charlie Rice, feature writer for *This Week* Magazine, is "champion tea-leaf reader of Hollywood." In the March 29, 1964 issue he reported how in one instance her ability had amazed him.

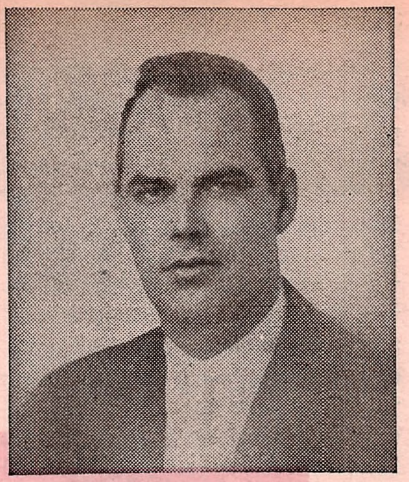
Miss Dahl, Rice wrote, read his leaves at lunch while making a brief visit to New York. Most of the future events she "saw" in his cup fell into the familiar pattern of such readings and Rice had not substantiated them at the time his article appeared. But he was able to verify the accuracy of one statement by Miss Dahl.

He related that she told him he was planning a major project — one that might involve a new house — and that it would be completed in June. Rice admitted that he was planning to build at the time — and moreover that his contractor had promised to complete the job by June 15.

Nobody but his own wife, Rice stated, could have known that much about the matter.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gerald Gibson lives in California, where he is employed as an accountant. Writing has been his hobby for many years, but the accompanying story, he states, gives him his first opportunity to record his true psychic experiences. Born in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Canada, on October 24, 1926, he is married and has a son, Bruce Gerald, now 12.



"a time to die..."

The covers will be folded neatly at the foot of the bed — an omen that a life is about to end.

By Gerald Gibson

IN OUR FAMILY Christmas can be another word for death. It is a time of year when Carol singers have passed our house in silence out of respect for the black wreath hanging on our front door.

"There is a time to live and a time to die" and for over 100 years in our family Christmas has been "a time to die." My grandparents' and my great grandparents' and my parents' lives all have ended between the dates of December 1 and January 1.

But it wasn't until the tragic death of my father on January 1, 1932, due to an automobile accident which occurred on Christmas night, that we discovered death is not absolute.

I was five when the lid of my father's coffin was closed for eter-

nity. Yet his spirit remained with us for nearly 16 years. We first realized we were not alone two weeks after the funeral. It was a little past 2:00 A. M. when the quiet of a cold January night was broken by the piercing screams of our mother. Then we heard the sound of footsteps running down the staircase, followed by the loud slam of the back door. Fred, my older brother, rushed to Mother's side. Ruth, eight years older than I, followed him, holding tight to my hand. There, we found all the blankets folded neatly at the bottom of the bed.

Trembling, Mother sobbed out her story, "I was wide awake," she said, "thinking of your father. Suddenly I heard a noise, like a chair being moved. I couldn't see anything but I felt as if someone was there. I heard a soft movement approaching my bed. Still, I couldn't see anything. Then the bed covers were jerked away . . . you see the rest."

Thinking it must have been a prowler, Fred checked the doors. They were locked! Turning on the outside light he saw there were no footprints in the fresh snow. Confused and frightened, our little family huddled together around the kitchen table, every light in the house burning brightly until dawn.

The events that followed, night after night, were not as dramatic but served as reminders that "something" shared our home with us. Regularly we were awakened at 2:00 A. M. to hear the footsteps, the rattling of dishes on the kitchen shelves, or unidentified pounding noises. Once Father's desk was moved mysteriously about three feet from its proper place. Another night the front and back doors opened and closed simultaneously, although both had been securely locked before we retired.

Neighbors became afraid to enter the house. They, too, sensed a strange atmosphere and commented variously: "I felt like I was being watched." "The temperature is 80 degrees but it's cold in here." "The house looks so dark."

They were right. The house felt clammy even on the hottest summer day. When we had painted the rooms in bright colors it did not prevail against this "spectre of darkness."

As months passed we came to accept these strange phenomena. We concluded "It" did not mean to harm us and often we heard Mother say, into the stillness of the night, "Is that you, dear?"

We all come to feel "It" was Dad. And at the time of my 14th birthday this was proven to me.

I came down with pneumonia and the doctor gave me seven hours to live. During that memorable night a cold hand touched my fe-

vered brow. I felt the presence of my father but when I turned my head I saw nothing. Yet, he stood beside me like an aurora borealis . . . his smile flooded the room. In my heart I heard his voice saying, "It is not time . . . It is not time . . . You have a long road to go."

I tried to rise and go to him but he shook his head. Then a veil of darkness dropped over me and I fell into unconsciousness.

When I awoke my mother stood by the open door of my room; her tears reflected the rays of the sun that filtered through the bedroom window. Extending my hand to her, I cried, "I'm going to live; Mom, I'm going to live!"

In 1943 Mother remarried. Our home now no longer gave shelter to our dear phantom. At first it was difficult to sleep for the silence was deafening. At night, in the darkness of my room, I felt alone. I listened for his welcome footsteps, but they never came. Then my sister Ruth married; my brother Fred was sent overseas, and I was indeed left to my solitude. "Oney", Onesime Doruse, my stepfather, was good to Mother and she was happy. I respected him for that.

In July, 1944, at the age of 17, I enlisted in the Navy. But my career was short-lived for death came again that Christmas. My stepfather died suddenly on December 27, 1945. I was given a Compassionate Discharge and returned home.

After the funeral Mother told me she knew of Oney's death three weeks before it actually occurred. "He had just turned off the light," Mother said, "when the room became very cold. Before Oney could comment the covers literally "flew" off the bed. Gerald, your stepfather never did believe the stories about this house, but nevertheless, the incident was a warning."

Dad was quiet after the death of our stepfather but I felt he was there again.

On May 1, 1948, I was married. Mother made the upstairs into a lovely apartment for my bride and me. My wife was like a daughter to her and our little family was happy once again.

Then on December 10, 1948, just seven months after my wedding day, the doctor informed Mom she needed a gall bladder operation. It was too close to Christmas and we were afraid to accept his advice, but he said it was imperative. On December 12, at 2:00 A.M., Mother called me. Slipping on a robe, I went downstairs to find her sitting on the side of her bed . . . the covers were folded neatly at the foot of the bed.

Pointing to this grim symbol of

death, she said calmly, "I'm not going to make it. I *know* I'm not going to make it."

On December 14 Mother had her operation. Although the surgery was successful Mom died of an embolism at 8:23 A. M. December 15, 1948.

My wife's parents understood our grief and suggested we stay with them until we were over the initial shock. So, except for stoking the furnace during the day, we stayed away from the memory-haunted house.

But after a week my wife and I returned to our little apartment. What followed was a nightmare.

A permanent mist hovered through the rooms. A damp cold impregnated our flesh. Death was everywhere. We tried to sleep but the constant motion of Mother's favorite rocking chair disturbed us. Once we heard the painful cry of a woman's voice. Heavy footsteps pounded around us. My wife, panic stricken, seized her Rosary and prayed to the Blessed Virgin for Divine help.

In despair I ran to the top of the stairs and shouted, "Mother, for the love of God, leave us alone!"

Then, like a miracle, there was peace. But the aftermath of this ordeal was just as frightening, for we waited in anguish for another attack—which never came.

A few days later the odor of ether flooded the house. It wasn't our imaginations for our friends also smelled it and remarked, "It smells like a hospital in here!"

We left the doors and windows open but this didn't help. Deodorants proved useless, too. At first we thought it might have come off the clothes Mother had worn to the hospital but this couldn't be true, for nothing was returned. All her things were taken to my sister's place. There was no rational explanation! We thought it must be the signal for another attack and quietly knelt in prayer.

Then early Sunday morning the telephone rang. It was Mary Estelle, the sister of a dear friend of mine.

"I'm sorry if I disturbed you," she said, "but last night I had the most vivid dream. I was talking to your mother. She gave me a message."

" 'I tried to talk to Gerald,' your mom said, 'but he kept running away from me. He knew I wouldn't harm him. Why was he so frightened? I have to leave now but I'm worried . . . worried about my son. Please tell him to watch what he does and not to be so impulsive. Life can be very hard. How I wish I could have spoken to him!' "

Returning the phone to its cradle I sensed something was missing. The ether odor was gone!

I believe that Mary Estelle did

not dream . . . she experienced an actual visitation from someone I loved—my mother.

Silently I walked downstairs and stood in front of her rocking chair. With tears rolling down my cheeks I said, "Goodbye, Mom. I'm sorry I was so afraid of you."

We sold the house shortly after that, in 1949. The new owners smiled when I asked them, a year later, if anything "odd" had happened since they moved in. Obviously nothing had.

I am now 37 years old and live a long way from Sault Ste. Marie, Canada, where no doubt this house still stands. Through the years I experience the unchanging regret that I did not have the courage, on that fateful night, to answer Mother without fear.

I do have one compensation. Some cold December night when I am warm and comfortable in my bed the covers suddenly will roll back and fold up neatly at my feet. "The time to die" will be near and that Christmas truly will mean a family reunion for me.

WOMAN WITH THE "RADIO MIND"

CARRIE MAY KING, who died in February, 1964, in a Baton, La., rest home at the age of 81, was a clairvoyant widely known as "The Woman with the Radio Mind." Her unusual gift reportedly first became noticed at the age of five, when she began predicting the deaths of family members.

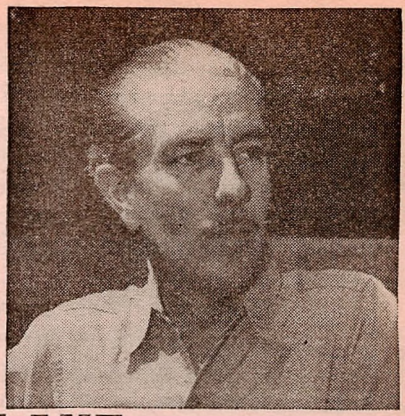
By the time she married, Mrs. King's fame had spread to such an extent that people began coming to her from everywhere. Among those who sought her help was Huey P. Long, then a senator. Mrs. King told him that he would become governor of Louisiana and that he would be killed. Long, who did become governor as predicted, later was shot to death by an assassin in the state capitol.

Mrs. King's speciality as a clairvoyant was predicting the location of drowned bodies. She once estimated that she had given information which had resulted in the recovery of over 2,300 drowning victims.

One of her outstanding cases in this field involved recovery of the body of Etta D. Bercegeay, a Baton Rouge girl who committed suicide by plunging into University Lake after a shattered romance. Mrs. King was called into the case after searchers had dragged the lake for over five days. The drowned girl was found at the exact spot Mrs. King had marked.

Mrs. King also helped locate stolen or misplaced valuables, runaway girls, missing relatives and lost dogs. Her successes were documented by newspaper reports and testimonials from those she helped. One mother wrote to express her gratitude after Mrs. King located a son missing for 13 years.

Scientific evaluation of sonar tracings in Loch Ness and of other evidence reveals amazing things about the "Longnecks."



The author is an internationally known zoologist whose studies of animal life have taken him all over the world.

THE BIG LAKE MONSTER HUNT

By Ivan T. Sanderson

DURING THE PAST two years teams of topnotch scientists from leading universities, professional cameramen, and even parties equipped with underwater radar have converged upon the poor Loch Ness monsters (there appear to be dozens of them), and photographs, movies, and sonar pictures of them have been obtained. These have been examined by experts in various disciplines.

But the battle rages on: most of those who have not visited the Loch and seen the beasts, and a few of those who have, still insist that the whole thing is a hoax, or at best, a mass of weeds, a log, an overturned boat, small winds, large waves, an escaped seal or my old favorite, a deflated Navy blimp. Those who live by the lake, hundreds of visitors, and a few trained zoologists who have been there insist they are large animals of some kind as yet uncaught and unidentified.

Among the freshwater "Unknowns"—meaning those as yet unexamined and unidentified by zoologists—there is a creature that has come to be known among zool-

ogists who take this busines seriously as the *Freshwater Longneck.* The best known examples of this type are the famous *an Niseag,* "Water Kelpies", or "Water-Horses" of the highland lakes of Scotland, and particularly those of Loch Ness.

Similar forms if not examples of the same species are reported from several other lakes in Scotland, from Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, northern Ireland, Iceland, all across Canada from Quebec to British Columbia, and south into the Idaho and Montana Rockies. They are also reported from similar-type lakes in the southern Argentine in South America, in Tasmania and southern Australia, and in New Zealand. Longnecks have been reported from lakes in Africa and Malaya, but these do not seem to be the same kind of creatures that inhabit the cold lakes of the far north and far south. I shall concentrate on the coldwater ones.

Recognition of the existence of Longnecks by the indigenous populations of the shores of these lakes invariably stems from prehistoric times—since before history was written in the area. As early as 565 A.D. the presence of monsters was recorded in Loch Ness by a visiting missionary named Saint Colomba, whose chronicler remarks that their existence was fully accepted by the local people there. Even the mysterious *Bunyip,* the Longneck of the lakes of Tasmania and previously of the waters of the extreme southern part of mainland Australia, were taken for granted by the indigenous Blackfellows and the little, extremely primitive people of Tasmania, long before the Europeans arrived there.

The local indigenous populations invariably have regarded the animals with awe and superstition and in recent times their reluctance to talk has been greatly augmented by the fear of ridicule.

However, newcomers to the shores become greatly excited if they see something like a vast animal in their lake and knowing nothing of the horrors of ridicule they start yelling. Then we get reports like the following:

McCall, Idaho. A.P. "It's yellow, about 35 feet long, and has humps on its back; it looks like a whale; it looks like nothing I have ever seen before. Those were descriptions today of Payette Lake's 'monster', the strange creature that has been reported periodically for 10 years and which reappeared yesterday . . . Payette Lake is a popular vacation spot with many resorts and privately-owned cabins along its shores. Mountain-rimmed, it is more than 3900 feet deep." (Payette Lake is about 110 miles north of Boise.)

In a country such as Sweden,

where the present population is truly indigenous and Longnecks have been known for generations we get quite another reaction, one that is almost blase. A clipping from the newspaper *Arbetet* of Ostersund dated September 24, 1947, started off:

"The lake monster is stubborn this summer. It is now five times that the beast has shown up. Last week farmer Per Jonsson from Anderson saw the beast at the pier and Sunday it was Corporal A.G. Bystrom's turn. Jonsson was about to row to Fanbylandet but because of the strong gusts he stopped at a cliff outside of the pier at Anderson and here he suddenly saw a dark object with a blob of a head swimming through the water with the speed of a motorboat. The object came so close that Jonsson could clearly see its green shimmering skin. At least 10 feet of the body was visible at the surface and the animal was moving ahead with a wavy movement."

Descriptions of Freshwater Longnecks throughout the ages and from all over the north and south temperate regions of the world are basically identical though no single report has as yet been sufficiently detailed to include all reported features of the beasts. From time to time additional features are described, but the fundamental structure remains the same.

Since this whole business is so "far out," I feel that a sort of composite description is called for. But before we attempt this, we must understand that the Freshwater Longnecks are very like, if not identical to, one of the commonest types of so-called sea monster. These latter, moreover, have been much more extensively reported, over a much longer period, and have given rise to a far greater literature, including a vast tome by one Professor A. C. Oudemans of the Netherlands.

Furthermore, some features of the Marine Longnecks have been observed at closer range than have the freshwater or lake ones. Some of these features of the marine examples will therefore be taken into account in constructing this composite.

Everybody agrees that the bodies of these creatures are spindle-shaped but thick and often referred to as "barrelshaped". Forward they taper rather abruptly like the upper half of a standard quart bottle and merge into the base of a long neck. This neck itself tapers rapidly at first but then continues for a considerable distance (apparently equivalent in length to about a third of the whole, exclusive of any tail) at the same diameter.

The head is small and somewhat flattened without visible ears or other permanent protuberances, but

its size seems to vary. In smaller specimens it is not much larger than the front end of the neck, but with an increase in overall size its width in comparison to the neck appears to grow markedly. Eyes are sometimes described as large and staring, at other times as not having been observed at all; in some marine examples they were said to have heavy lids, *and long eyelashes.*

This last is of the utmost significance as we shall see. In larger specimens, more often in the Marine Longnecks, a sort of crest or mane is described, arising from the back of the head and continuing down the back of the neck. It is very prominent in the freshwater *Bunyip* of Tasmania.

The mouth appears to be slit-like but wide, and the animal sometimes is described as gaping as turtles do, opening and shutting its mouth in the air. At such times the interior has been said to be bright pink. Several observers have noted on the top of the head, a pair of apparently soft and extrusible "horns" with slight knobs on their ends, which some people say they have seen slowly rising from or sinking into the head. All describe these structures as being like the tentacular eye-stalks of snails.

Just behind the base of the neck or on either side of the shoulders, if such they can be called, are two large paddles or tapering flippers, and there are several reports of a second pair aft; this is confirmed, in most cases, by those who say they have seen one of the animals out of the water. The question of the form of the tail is even more controversial.

Almost everybody who did *not* see this appendage and almost all those who only *think* they saw it, *in the water,* invariably seem to assume that it is long and tapering, forming about one third of the total length of the animal.

However, there are a few who say they have seen specimens in clear water and they assert that it had no tail at all, or at most a little stump between and at the junction of the two hind flippers. Those seeing specimens on land vary their descriptions from no tail to a short one, usually with a somewhat clubbed end, but none speak of a long, tapering one.

The oddest and almost the most common feature of all are the so-called "humps" on the back. These vary in number from one to over 40 and, most amazingly, these structures are constantly reported as changing their individual shape and also their number, by merging and dividing, sometimes while the observer watches! These strange structures are common to both the Marine and Freshwater Longnecks and they have been remarked since earliest times, giving rise to the

old belief that these creatures were "serpents" and these humps were coils.

However, no reptile progresses nor, due to the structure of its backbone, *can* progress by an up-and-down motion. These humps are invariably oval in shape as seen from above, but in section they are peaked like a pent-roof and they sometimes are described as rising to a rather sharp median ridge. Seen side-on they may be gently domed, somewhat angular, or form sharp triangles.

The skin of the animals is variously described as smooth and glistening, rough or warty, but never scaly or hairy. In color it ranges from dirty yellow through various ochers and light browns, to rich brown, steel gray, black, and even bottle green. There appears, however, to be considerable difference between the color when wet, half dry, and fully dried out. It is dark and glistening when wet, dull, rough and lighter when dry.

After some time on the surface, the animals have been said to display a distinct "waterline"—dark below and light above; and, after splashing water over their partially dried-off upper bodies with their flippers, to have a mottled or blotched appearance. This is significant since the close, short fur of seals is light and rough-looking when dry, while wetting renders it dark and shiny in an instant so that it looks like skin.

The behavior of the Longnecks is in general both distinct and distinctive. They can rise almost imperceptibly to the surface, appearing mysteriously without so much as causing a ripple, and they can sink in the same way. They may lie at the surface with just one or more humps showing for long periods, and then stick their small heads out some distance ahead of the first hump.

They can raise their necks clear out of the water to their full length and vertically, and then bend them around and about; or they may dip them regularly underwater like ducks feeding. They can cruise along at slow speeds, creating a little bow-wave and a "V" like a water bird and without apparently otherwise disturbing the water or they may suddenly dash off in a straight line or a great curve, often with their long necks held straight ahead at an angle of about 45 degrees and their heads out of water, or with the head and whole neck below.

Travelling thus, they can come to abrupt stops, make sudden angular turns, or dive precipitately. When getting into high gear they "galumph" just as a sea lion does when accelerating—the whole body going up and down with a flexing and undulatory motion, the flippers

flailing on either side so that they leave a double line of intermittent turbulences. When they are going flat-out—and almost everybody seems to agree that this reaches a speed of at least 30 m.p.h.—these dual paddle "marks" die away and the whole beast rushes forward, throwing up a large bow-wave that creates a wide-spreading "V" wake.

It would seem that, when in high gear, the fore-flippers must be held rigidly to their side as aqua-planes, while the terrific drive is imparted to the animal by an up-and-down flexing of the whole spine just as in whales, and is put to work against the water by the back flippers held fanwise and horizontally together.

The Freshwater Longnecks have been alleged to do even stranger things. Several people have said that they have seen them on the shores of the lakes or, on one occasion, trying laboriously to climb up a steep rocky short, using four flippers *alternately,* as a sea-lion does when it misses its initial rush out of the water at a steep rock. Seen racing back *to* the water on the other hand, the Longnecks have been reported to "galumph;" humping their midbacks and using both fore and hind flippers together, necks arched. This method of progression on land, and seemingly in water, at least when going at speed, is the most significant clue to the true nature of these beasts.

On the night of July 22, 1933, a Mr. and Mrs. George Spicer were driving south towards their home in London from a vacation in northern Scotland and happened along the road by Loch Ness. Approaching a slight rise in the road, they saw ahead at a distance of about 200 yards a very large animal with a long, thin neck that undulated, and what they called a ponderous body. No limbs were seen since they were below the rise in the road. No tail was seen either, but the couple later conjectured that it was turned to the other side of the body as they saw something sticking up from the mid-back that they thought might be its tip.

The body, exclusive of the neck, was about four feet high and just the length of the road's width—some 12 feet. Speeding up the car, they were at the point where the creature had left the road in a few seconds; there was a large channel broken through the bushes leading down to the lake, which was here only about 20 feet from the road, but the monster had vanished and there was no splashing. The Spicers said, "It was nothing like anything (they) had read about or seen; it was terrible—dark elephant grey of a loathesome texture, reminiscent of a snail." But most significant, they said that the "ponderous body" crossed the road "in a

series of uneven jerks."

The following year, on January 5, 1934, a young electrical engineer, Mr. T. P. Grant, was returning home from Inverness at the northeast end of the Loch along the same road on a motorcycle. It was night but there was an exceptionally bright moon. Suddenly, Mr. Grant noticed a large, dark object on the right-hand side of the road. As he drew up to it, to his amazement a small head on a long thin neck was turned towards him and then instantly the animal took fright and made off diagonally across the road, crashed through the undergrowth, and splashed into Loch Ness.

Mr. Grant, who almost ran into it, said, "It had a long neck and large, oval-shaped eyes on the top of a small head. The tail would be from five to six feet long and very powerful; the curious thing about it was that its end was rounded off; it did not come to a point. The total length of the animal would be 15 to 20 feet." He added that the forelimbs were flipper-like but comparatively small. He did not get a clear view of the back pair though he said that they must have been very powerful because the animal moved in a manner which reminded him of a kangaroo!

The point I wish to make is that the only animals which progress with such an up-and-down motion are mammals, and the only ones that do so on their bellies are the walruses, seals, and sea lions. This composite picture of the Longnecks absolutely precludes them from being reptiles especially if the reports of *hair* of any kind are true and, above all, if they hair eyelashes.

I may as well say that, as a trained zoologist, I am in agreement with Professor Oudemans in believing that the Longnecks are mammals and that they are specifically a kind or kinds of long-necked seals, or at least members of that group of mammals called the Pinnipedes.

It is significant that these animals can live in very cold water. Statistically both the marine and freshwater ones are most often reported as living in cold water; something that no reptile or amphibian, both being coldblooded, can do. Actually the freshwater forms are known only from certain kinds of cold water lakes, or rivers running into these lakes.

The sightings of the cold-freshwater Longnecks in the Southern Hemisphere are south of 30 degrees S.; those in the Northern Hemisphere are north of 45 degrees N.; but all fall within one particular kind of climatic belt. This belt or zone with its typical coniferous forests, ancient rocks, and deep cold water lakes left by the geological changes made by the last "ice age,"

form very definite belts running around the earth along two fairly narrow strips in the two hemispheres.

In the southern, where there is very little land, it passes through southern South America, southeast Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand. In the northern it cuts a great swathe from British Columbia and Idaho in our west, to the Great Lakes and the Adirondacks in the east; then picks up again in the northern tips of Ireland and Scotland; embraces Scandinavia and Finland; stretches across northern Russia, Siberia to the peninsula facing Alaska, and reaches south to include Kamchatka. This belt containing the two greatest continuous forests in the world, ends all along its northern edge on the Arctic tundras.

I do not know of one single Longneck report from north or south of this belt—the alleged "lake monsters" of the tropics being, as I said at the outset, something quite different.

It seems reasonable to suppose that Longnecks must have both parents and babies to maintain their populations, and that the latter, even if *not* born from eggs, should be of modest dimensions.

There is a classic report from Loch Ness as of June, 1937. Two young boys, A. Smith and A. Considine, while out in a rowboat on the lake, observed three little Longnecks swimming in the clear water of their gentle wake. The creatures were about three feet long and not unlike attenuated lizards, but they had four flippers, the front pair paddling with a wavy motion, the hind pair held against their bodies but used for "pushing." They were dark gray, had small heads and long, slightly narrower necks!

Eastern Canada is splendid lake monster country. It is pockmarked with deep, cold water lakes, apparently infested with Longnecks. One report from there entails an "expedition" led by Dr. Vadim Vladikov, Director of the Game and Fisheries Laboratory of the Province of Quebec. This effort was directed at Mocking Lake, otherwise known as Lake Pohenegamook, 187 miles east of the city of Quebec. The report states: "Dr. Vladikov is sure the villagers are telling the truth. He has questioned a great many people in St. Eleuthere and they all describe the same thing — an animal between 12 and 18 feet long, dark brown or black, with a rounded back two or three feet wide. Every time anyone approaches closely the animal slithers away and sinks below the lake's surface. Lake Pohenegamook has banks that rise to 2000 feet and its bottom in places has never been found, although probed to 1,100 feet."

Donat Lavasseur, a butcher of St. Eleuthere, who saw the creature, said it "had a head the size of a deer and a greyish body 35 feet long." A lumber mill employee, Philip Forest, said that when he was 15 — 42 years before — his future father-in-law had shot at the creature with a 30-30 rifle, but the bullets had ricocheted from its back!

The other case I obtained first-hand and have the signed affidavits in my files. It came to me in 1948 from a prominent American businessman. This man loaned an island in the Lake of Bays to an intervarsity Christian Fellowship for a summer campus. College people from all over the United States and Canada visited and studied there each July and August. This project, I am told, had to be abandoned principally because of the "attentions" of Longnecks. The businessman had seen the creatures twice himself — once by day and once by night — and could name 20 local people of good character willing to sign affidavits concerning their personal experiences.

Here is one signed report:

"While paddling slowly southward around Fairview Island about 30 feet from shore we both suddenly heard a churning of the water about 100 yards ahead. Pausing to look more closely we could see this 'something' heading out into the lake. At our first sight we judged it to have been about 50 yards out from the shoreline. It headed in a straight line out toward the middle of the lake with a speed approximating that of a motor boat slowly idling along, never pausing for a moment.

"Our view of it was . . . for a total of at least two minutes. During this time we sat still in our canoe gazing dumbfounded at this unusual spectacle. Neither of us had ever heard of any 'monster' tales in this or any other lake.

"All we saw — distinctly in the clear afternoon sunshine — was what appeared to be the back of something black. As it moved ahead, leaving a considerable wake behind, it turned its body around and over at times so fins appeared and disappeared alternately leaving only the black sheen of the body to our view. It was submerged about 33 per cent of the time — rising and falling submarine fashion every five to 10 seconds. But even when submerged completely its wake betrayed its presence — apparently it went under only a foot or so when submerged.

"Relating to the tail, we surmise its presence by the size of the wake churned up. It was too big to have been caused only by a large body (20 feet) moving at that speed without some strong propelling force. So, although we saw neither

a head nor a tail it seemed natural to imagine a strong tail whipping just beneath the surface. The impression given was of a powerful swimmer with strong legs swimming — his flailing legs churning up a considerable and noticeable wake.

"The end of our first view came after about one and one-half minutes when it suddenly disappeared . . . in the middle of the lake. About a minute later it reappeared to our left and at a perpendicular angle from its previous course moving straight down the lake, north toward Bigwin Island . . . It disappeared into the distance within a minute.

"What we saw was not a school of fish — the solidity of the 'hulk' we saw was distinct. Nor was it the wake of a boat. No boats were anywhere near at the time and its left angle turn further disproves this possibility—September 10, 1946, Campus in the Woods, Fairview Island, Glenmount, Ont., Canada."

We may assume that Longnecks are vertebrated animals — and we can conjecture that the omnipresent humps are inflatable air sacs. Some fish have swimbladders, reptiles do not. Some amphibians have sacs they inflate with air; some birds have similar structures. But only mammals have inflatable air sacs under the skin known to raise the skin in localized areas. I suggest then that the Longnecks are mammals that have developed a series of inflatable air sacs or bladders along either side of their spinal ridges, which they can fill at will, and so rise to the surface. Such sacs may be connected in series, and thus arise singly, in groups, or all together to form one great dome. Also, these could be deflated one at a time, or any two or more could coalesce while the animal lazes at the surface.

The Rocky Mountains of the Canadian west are really the headquarters of the freshwater Longnecks. They have them in Lake Cowichan, where they are called *Tsinquaws*, and in Lake Waterton, where they are known by the delightful name of *Oogle-Boogle! Oogle-Boogle* had not put in an appearance for 12 years prior to August 5, 1956, when it scared the living daylights out of several hard-boiled skippers of commercial fishing boats. Mr. Ron Boyce later spotted an *Oogle-Boogle* at about 500 feet range near the head of Upper Lake when on his regular run. He moved in closer and said the creature had a neck about four inches in diameter and three eight-inch, thumb-like prongs sticking up from the ridge of its back. Another captain, Slim Udahl, confirmed this description and said that he estimated the whole beast to be between 30 and 40 feet long.

I could go on and on, citing seemingly endless cases from other lakes both in Canada and in all those countries I listed but it would not add to your knowledge.

What everybody wants to know is why anybody thinks such creatures exist and what they can be.

The first question is difficult since I cannot show you one. However, quite a large number of photographs of at least *something* in many of these lakes are in existence. There are two films of *somethings* rushing about Loch Ness at a speed beyond the capacity of anything except a speedboat. I have a copy of the latest of these films, taken by my friend, Tim Dinsdale. In this, even a dimwitted child can see plainly that the thing moves at great speed in regular, intermittent pushes, boosts, or shoves, without leaving any propeller or other central wash. Tim Dinsdale, who is an engineer, very sensibly hired a motorboat the same day he filmed the monster and had it perform exactly the same movements while he filmed it from the same spot high on a cliff. In comparing the two there is *no* question that the first shot is *not* a boat.

Nonetheless, some "experts" still insist that all these things are either inanimate objects or *known* animals. But any real study of the reports must lead one to conclude that unless the hundreds of thousands of people who say they have seen these things are all straight liars, these things are animals.

And this brings up the question: why haven't we caught one?

Actually there have been quite a number of corpses *said* to have been found, but the number of persons with adequate zoological knowledge who happened to be wandering near the spot at the time was so negligible as to be more or less nonexistant.

The animals themselves seem to be nocturnal, at least in their jaunts ashore and probably in their surfacing, for the most part. They are large and live in deep water and, like most aquatic animals, they sink when they die — especially if they have hydrostatic organs necessary to keep them on the surface when they are alive. They are shy and they are not common — they couldn't be, for there isn't room for too many of them.

Then, just let me ask you — how many of you have seen a False Killer Whale? Yet, there are tens of thousands of them all over the world!

Now that some scientists are preparing to be truly scientific about this business, and now that some engineers are studying the matter and even underwater sonar is being directed at the creatures we may look forward with some

confidence to fresh discoveries in the next few years. We have one "tracing" made with sonar already, which shows a long, thin neck and tail, three humps and four flippers. It came from a depth of 80 fathoms in Loch Ness.

Maybe we'll capture a monster!

THE GHOST OF WHITE ROCK LAKE

IN HIS Dallas *Morning News* column, "Tolbert's Texas," Frank X. Tolbert recently discussed the legend of the so-called "Girl Ghost of White Rock Lake," who, according to stories told by persons who claim to have seen her, appears at night in a dripping wet evening dress along the shores of the Dallas lake.

After his first article appeared, Tolbert reported later, hundreds of persons wrote or phoned him about the ghost. Among the more remarkable reports was a letter from Dale Berry, a Dallas resident.

Berry related that he bought his home near White Rock Lake in September, 1962. He had hesitated to buy into that neighborhood, he said, because he had heard stories of people there being frightened by a wet ghost.

On his first night in the new house Berry opened the door in response to the ringing of the bell and found nobody there. When the bell rang a second time, he opened the door quickly and again saw nobody. The next time the bell rang, his daughter went to the door — and screamed when she opened it.

Once again nobody was to be seen, but on the porch were puddles of water as if someone dripping wet had stood there. The water trailed up the steps and ended in front of the door.

The front yard and the street were deserted, Berry continued. The sprinkler system was not operating and the yard was dry. His neighbors, Berry said he has determined since, were not given to playing practical jokes of that type.

REUNION OF BROTHERS

WHEN their French teacher at the University of Houston asked if they were brothers, because they resembled each other, David Scott, 21, and Dwight Scott, 19, said no. But after they thought about the question and compared notes, they found that they were brothers after all—separated most of their lives after their parents were divorced.

My Proof of Survival

FATE will pay $5 for each story published in this department. Stories should deal with an actual experience proving spirit survival. They should be less than 300 words and typed (double-spaced) on one side of the paper. They should be sent to "Survival" Editor, FATE Magazine, 845 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Ill. Manuscripts must give author's name and address and include a stamped, self-addressed return envelope.

THEY CAME BACK

By Francis J. Sibolski

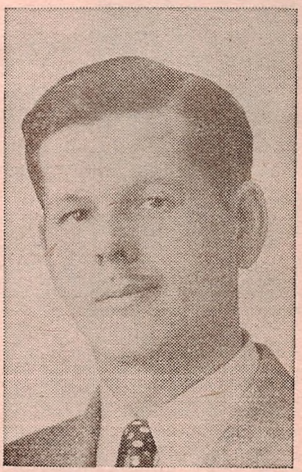
SINCE CHILDHOOD I have seen the specter of dead persons, both those I have loved and those I have barely known. Two incidents are especially striking.

When I was six we lived in West Pittsfield, Mass., near an icehouse where boxcars of ice were loaded for the railroad and packing houses. I loved to sit around the platform and watch the icemen slide and guide the heavy cakes of ice into the train cars. One of these men was Big John Rinko, a dark Ukrainian who lived nearby with his childless wife.

He took a liking to me, and many times I shared his noon lunch. Even though I did not like the heavy bread and spiced meat, I pretended for the sake of friendship, to enjoy the food from his lunch pail. After eating, he would roll a cigarette and, letting me draw a few choking puffs, would laugh, calling me "the little onion that would grow stronger."

Early in 1932, when the ice harvest was over, after a year or two of our association, John Rinko died at age 45. I remember crying bitterly over his death and over death itself. I think this was my first realization of the inevitability of death, and for several days I was feverish from the idea of my mother, father, sister and brother, not to mention myself, coming to the final conclusion of our lives.

In April, I was playing with my brother behind the empty bunkhouse where the icemen kept a fire and lunch tables for their off-hours



FRANCIS SIBOLSKI

comfort. The work of the season was over, and except for our family (my father was caretaker of the plant) no one was about. My brother and I banged away with empty cap pistols, orally creating the gunfire. I faced the window at the rear of the bunkhouse, my mind concerned only with Tom Mix, Buck Jones and Buffalo Bill.

Suddenly I saw Big John Rinko in the window, smiling at me as he always had. He wore his usual heavy wool shirt and flat greasy cap. His dark face was beard-stubbled; his smile was broad and broken-toothed. His hand lifted, and he beckoned me. I shouted his name excitedly. I had forgotten he was dead. "Big John!" I yelled, running around to the bunkhouse door. I heard my brother saying, "What the heck are you talking about? He's dead."

I opened the door and saw John Rinko across the room, moving towards me as big and natural as life itself, but then my brother's words seemed to slap me across the face. "He's dead." It was the realization that he was dead, I think, that broke the vision, for even as my friend called "Little Onion," he faded into nothingness before me.

My brother came up to me, saying, "There's nothing, nobody here." And there wasn't — any more. But there was a strong smell of tobacco, spiced sandwiches and sweaty wool. However, I suppose, that was to be expected from a building that had housed a generation of hundreds of relaxing workmen. Later, when I returned to the scene with my dog, Prince, he howled and moaned pitifully with a fear I never had known him to show.



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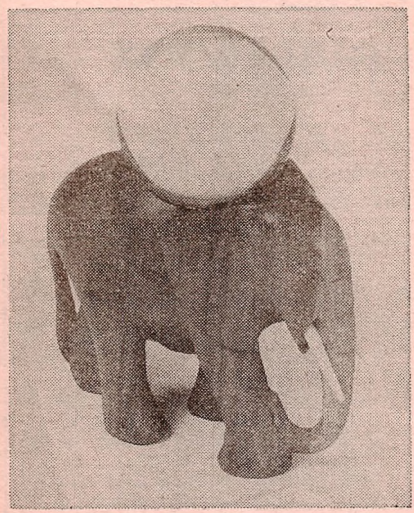
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Years later I knew an elderly Greek gentleman, at whom I used to nod and say, "Good morning." I saw him at least once a week in the First National supermarket, laboriously pushing his cart about, nodding to those he knew, and forever asking stockboys where such-and-such an item was located. "I'm 92," he would apologize.

For a long time he was part of the Pittsfield scene, neatly dressed, wearing nose-pressure glasses attached by a black ribbon to his lapel. Then he dropped out of sight.

Two or three years later, in 1963, I saw him again doing a little morning shopping. I nodded and he said, "Good morning."

"Haven't seen you lately," I ventured, not ever having spoken much to the old gentleman before.

"I'ma 92 years old a' can't be 'round forever." He smiled, parting the lined, clean-shaven skin of his face. He touched his velour hat with his odd salute and moved his cart away. I saw him stop and speak with an assistant manager.

Then, as I shopped, I commenced thinking. He had claimed two or three years ago that he was 92, so how could he be 92 now? Later I spoke to the assistant manager.

"I see the Old Greek back this morning, Joe. Ain't been around lately. How come he's still 92?"

"You mean old Gus Dionyios who used to run "The Big Apple" fruit place? Guy with the black-ribboned eye-piece?"

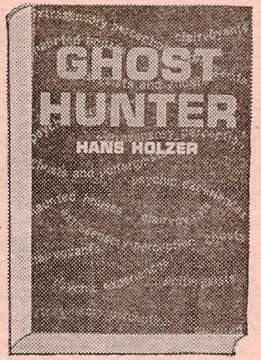
"Yeah, the guy you were talking to a while back."

"Haven't talked to anyone this morning but the wife and the frozen food manager. You sure?" He looked at me disbelievingly. "That

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Greek's been dead for three years." —*Pittsfield, Mass.*

GRANDMAMA'S CLOCK

By Sybil Leek

ABOUT 11 YEARS AGO my grandmother died on the Christmas Eve that was also her 90th birthday. All her life she had lived in North Staffordshire where she was known to members of her family as a meticulous, tidy and thrifty woman, both in her household and in her person. Life had not been easy for my grandmother and I well remember that she often talked about the hard times during the General Strike and when my grandfather had long periods of unemployment.

However, no matter how little money came into the house Grandmama had made a point of saving a few coppers each week. She used an old china teapot as her bank; most of the savings were taken out at holiday times to give small treats to me, her only grandchild.

When my grandfather died after a brief illness Grandmama was persuaded to go live with her younger daughter, my aunt. She took along her favorite bits of furniture, bric-a-brac and a rather ghastly clock which had been a wedding present.

Pension days became the joy of her life, a social occasion to walk through the village to the post office in her best dress and coat, to linger and talk and then to return with her precious pension safe in her old purse. It was the first money she ever had in her life for which she did not have to make out a careful budget, and presents to the family were made nearly every week.

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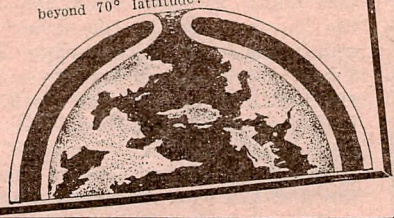
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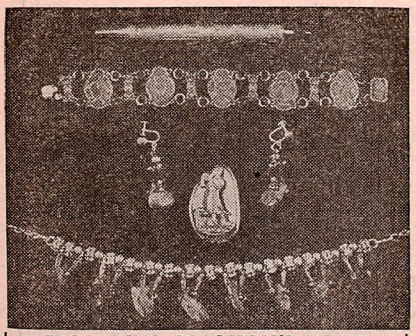
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Then she died, quite peacefully and I am sure happily, a tiny Dresden-like figure still with a 22-inch waist that had been her pride all her life. We never quite felt that she had left us, although we missed her very much. The affinity between my grandmother and me had been strong while she was alive and I remember feeling quite strange after her death, wondering why I could not grieve for her.

A few years after Grandmama's death my aunt wrote to say that she would come down to New Forest to make her home with me. She asked if she should bring several small items which had belonged to Grandmama, but she supposed that I would not want the Victorian clock which I never had liked.

Late one night I started to reply to my aunt's letter and reached the point where I had to mention the clock. I cannot remember what I wrote but I do know that I felt the need to take the letter to the post at once, even though it was a dark night and I had a long way to go to the post box.

Two days later I received a phone call from my aunt. She was excited and I had some difficulty in understanding what she was saying. She said she would return my last letter to me and then I would understand. Apparently, at the point where I was going to write about the clock the handwriting in the letter had undergone a complete change. Also, I had instructed my aunt to remove the platform base of the clock and said that she would find 47 British pounds (about $132) there. She had followed the instructions in the letter and the sum of money was exactly as I had written.

I could say little on the phone but subconsciously I had a great feeling of relief. I awaited her next letter with great interest. When it came, half the letter was as I remembered writing it and in my normal writing; then, beginning rather laboriously, was a whole page in the neat copperplate hand in which my grandmother always wrote and which I could not possibly copy.

Obviously my grandmother had remained very close to her family and had maintained her interest in our welfare. She would have hated to have the clock leave us, not because she expected us to have a sentimental attachment for it but because it contained the last of her little nest egg. In the years that she had collected her pension she had saved as she had done all her life. Her affection and my own occult instinct enabled her to communicate with me in this unusual manner. Although the incident of the clock was the first time I was able to be of use to my grandmama, it was the beginning of a long series of similar episodes and I know now why I did not grieve when she passed over.

When my aunt came to live with me the bill from the movers was for exactly 47 British pounds.—*Bashley, Nr. New Milton, Hampshire, England.*

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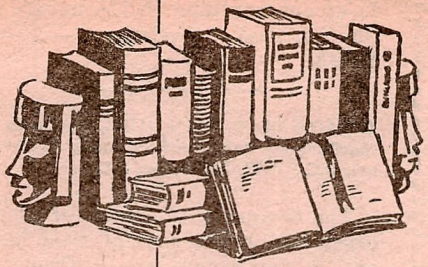
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New Books

FOREVER IS NOW, by Wilda Lowell Conger and Elizabeth Cushman. The Christopher Publishing House, Boston, 1964. 205 pages, $3.75.

Forever is Now is a book that fools you. After scanning the jacket blurbs, one fully expects it to be yet another of those vague expositions of life in "Summerland" as expounded by wordy spirit entities through gullible automatists. And, I suppose, in a way it is.

But somehow, perhaps because of the character and integrity of the persons involved, and their sophisticated background, this book is more readily acceptable. Wilda Lowell Conger's husband was a Navy career man and they had lived exclusively in Navy circles until after the death of their 15-year-old son Lowell. They hardly are the type of persons one would expect to publish something which sounds so artless. It obviously was done because, with the help of counsel received in Mrs. Conger's spirit communications which purported to come from Lowell, they have so learned to love their fellow men that they are willing to face possible ridicule and scorn in order to share with others their revelations.

But somehow I doubt that those who read this book will have anything but kind thoughts for Mrs. Conger and her husband; because they so obviously have only compassion for us. The message of love, of how to develop wisdom and of how to heal is important no matter from where it comes. If Mrs. Conger believes her son Lowell actually wrote those lessons through his mother's hand after his death, who are we to insist she is wrong?

A matter of interest to this reviewer, one about which I have remarked previously, is the similarity of alleged spirit communications. Mrs. Conger obviously had no previous knowledge of automatic writing, until it happened to her. She even did not note the similarity of her book to *Raymond* by Sir Oliver Lodge, as she surely would have had she read it. And yet she has received material almost identical to that in other spirit communications. Why does this always happen, if there isn't *something* behind it all?

Forever Is Now is greatly inspirational and certainly worth reading by anyone not with such a rigid scientific viewpoint that he is unable

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to accept anything in the nature of philosophical revelation. — *Susy Smith.*

GREATER DEAD THAN ALIVE, by Curtis D. MacDougall. Public Affairs Press, Washington, D.C., 1963. 263 pages, $4.50.

The frequent tardiness of fame, especially in the case of trail blazers, or innovators is the theme of this book. Ranging wide, the author, a journalist and author of other books, cites some 200 persons who received belated recognition in the fields of science, invention, religion, philosophy, public affairs, prose literature, poetry, music and art. As indicated by the title, most of them had indeed departed this life before their apogee of fame was attained, *in absentia* as it were.

However, the author also has included some others who did have it made before the bell tolled, but who found the going rought at the start. A few hardly made it at all, the real accolade going to someone who carried matters a bit further, or was a good promoter. Many lived in penury, with their livelihood dependent upon the outcome of their endeavor. Some others, better heeled, seemed not to care whether or not they received due recognition; having confidence, quiet or otherwise, in their powers, they needed no cheering gallery.

The multiplicity of persons cited made it impossible for the author to give many details about each. From the standpoint of maintaining connected interest this must have been a challenge, but MacDougall has succeeded remarkably well. His book is entertaining as well as educational and thought provoking. A

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good index lists the persons presented.

It is interesting that in the chapter on public affairs MacDougall cites a number of Supreme Court reversals, and regards the original dissenters as proper subjects for acclaim. Whether they all got it is not quite so evident. Later, in the final chapter called "How To Be Great," he says that the overwhelming majority of those whom he has passed in review were dissenters in the broad sense of the term. At least they were not satisfied to stick to the ordinary routines of life but were, in some sense, original in thought or action.

Although the new and different is sometimes of great value, often it is not; so perhaps it is only natural that greatness should frequently fail to be recognized until some decades have passed. This is doubly unfortunate since it is through creative originality that a culture advances. Like some others the author sees a current trend toward conformity, or a "stay in line" attitude, and warns of serious consequences if it is overdone. He gives a list of *must* reading on the subject, beginning with "The Organization Man."

Do not look for famous psychics in this book—only the mystic, William Blake is there because of his poetry. Early in the book, MacDougall makes it clear that he takes no stock in "ghosts, apparitions, premonitions, miracles and other supernatural phenomena." Probably he didn't expect to be reviewed in FATE; yet as a champion of the "dissenter" or independent thinker, he is not out of place here.—*Harold Steinour.*

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TOWARDS A UNIFIED FAITH, by Arnulf K. Esterer. Philosophical Library, New York, N.Y., 1963. 102 pages, $3.75.

Towards A Unified Faith seeks to provide every human being with an acceptable belief or faith in God, in the world and in himself, by bridging the gap between religions and science. Arnulf K. Esterer's bridge is the concept that, time-wise, the physical world we see is but a glimpse, or slice, of a greater, spiritual world. He believes we are all part of an infinite spiritual entity and our lives are laid out according to a great and very wise plan.

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Life and death, Mr. Esterer points out, always have been a mystery to us. What is the purpose of life? and whither do we go after death—if anywhere at all? Does death simply mean complete extinction?

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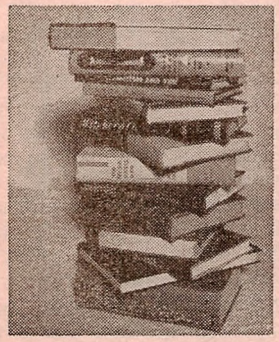
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and exist in four is the foundation for Mr. Esterer's own and radically different concept. He now visualizes the "time-worm" not as material but as a "force-field," resembling a gravitational or electrical field, with the power to arrange matter, or atoms. The atoms are pictured as "sprinkled" on the analogous plane surface of the moving present —or "matter-comb", in the author's terminology—somewhat as iron filings are sprinkled on a sheet of paper. And as a magnetic field arranges the filings into a pattern, the force-field does the same with atoms. The force-field, in other words, is a four-dimensional blueprint, giving shape to matter in three dimensions.

The force-field is invisible—hence may be considered spiritual and has finite boundaries. Mr. Esterer admits that the concept of a finite field is unusual. He points out, however, that abstract algebra has shown finite fields do exist.

The view that human beings fundamentally may be force fields, has a certain kinship to the ideas of Spiritualism, or of metaphysics generally, which hold that human beings are spirit bodies inhabiting material shells.

It also must be mentioned that a concept of space-time permanence previously has been advanced in FATE by Nat Rapport (*The Reality of Mental Images*, March, 1960, issue).

Mr. Esterer believes his theory explains why some individuals have more drive and energy than others —because some fields may be stronger, that is, have a greater force-density. On the other hand, a crowding of space or energy on the



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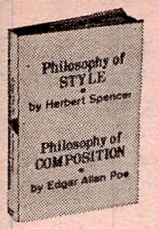


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matter-comb may restrict or handicap some fields, which appears to us as suffering.

This need not be considered inconsistent with the "great and wise plan" Mr. Esteror postulates. Experience, he states, has shown that hardships are required to bring out the best in ourselves. What appears to us as cruelty and wanton killing in the moving world of the matter-comb may be, in the static world of the space-eternity continuum, simply the result of fields so constricted that they cannot develop full size and shape. Thus the passage of the matter-comb, creating what appears to us as a series of bodies in time, may have as its object to relieve our minds of the tensions and fears caused by crowded force-fields and leave us as serene minds in the static spirit universe.

One controversial implication of Mr. Esterer's theory is that human life is predetermined. He insists, however, that this need not lead to a fatalistic attitude, which fails to see the whole situation. Although we lead programmed lives and free-will is an illusion, we do follow a road of progress, which is the direction traveled by the matter-comb in the spirit universe. By cultivating a positive and creative attitude, we may hope to gain a finer, smoother and more harmonious spirit structure.

Mr. Esterer pursues the implications of his theory into physical laws, evolution, human problems and religious questions. If some may feel that he does not always produce satisfactory answers to all these, at least they may agree that he has produced a significant and

challenging book—a book for advanced thinkers with an understanding of the space-time concept of physics and a willingness to consider new ideas in the sphere of religion. — *Chester S. Geier.*

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MIND, by W. Clement Stone & Norma Lee Browning. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, N. J., 1964. $5.95.

This volume was, according to the introduction, the inspiration of one of the executives of the publishers. A moment's reflection should have enlightened said executive of what the particular combination of Stone and Browning would likely produce: a rambling, disorganized verbal schizophrenia. Unfortunately for Prentice-Hall the results were just that.

Although the two writers are listed as co-authors, in practice each has contributed separate chapters (so indicated) with the prior agreement that neither would censor what the other had written. The combined effort is thus two disparate books bound in a common volume, each of them only too characteristic of the respective creator. The far more modest is by W. Clement Stone. It will come as no surprise that his share is strongly marked by an apologia for "success through a positive mental attitude", the subject of Stone's two previous books. Then there are general remarks about keeping an open mind to the possibility of unknown mental powers. Perhaps the most rewarding chapter in the entire volume is Stone's very sympathetic account of his visit to Lourdes.

Miss Browning's share is quite

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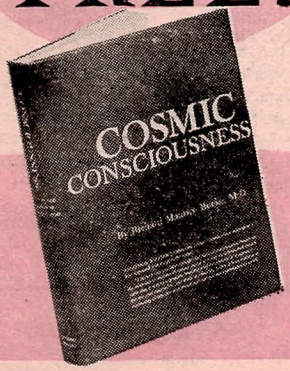
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another matter. It suffers not only from the disjointed, episodic format common to some news reporters but more fatally from the acid-tongued skepticism of Miss Browning. Whereas her accounts of the Australian aborigines and the Fiji fire-walkers are marred only by her breezy journalistic style, the remainder may serve as a model of prejudice. Typical is her comment about the phenomena of spiritualism: "But all of this — literally *all* — has been shown at one time or another to be the result of trickery." This remark well covers her attitude towards every other psychic phenomenon. Might as well face the truth (Norma Lee Browning variety), it's all the result of illusion, delusion, credulity, unconscious suggestion, fraud, poor observation, unconscious sensory cues, and the will-to-believe.

This approach, of course, is far from new. We've heard it all before from Rawcliffe, Hansel, Trevor Hall and Dingwall. The latter two, at any rate, I will credit with scholarship and knowledge of their material, however much I may disagree with their interpretations. Miss Browning apparently was prejudiced against paranormal events from the beginning and looked for nothing that would change her mind.—*David Techter.*

UNRELATED TWINS

Two women named Mrs. William Boomgarden live in Hawarden, Ia., and, though not related, each have the same wedding anniversary and the same birthday.

Report FROM THE Readers

MENZEL REFUTED

I would like to comment about Dr. Menzel's new book, which was reviewed by Coral Lorenzen in the June issue.

When Dr. Menzel examined the Chiles-Whitted case, he stated that only Chiles had seen the two rows of windows described in the sighting. Evidently he has not paid much attention to the late Captain Ruppelt's book. In his book, Captain Ruppelt stated that both pilots had seen all the details of the rocket-shaped UFO.

Second, when he examines the Nash-Fortenberry incident, he suggests that the objects could have been searchlight reflections. An acquaintance of mine, a physics course graduate, pointed out, however, that a searchlight probably would not result in such bright objects. He also demolished Menzel's theory by a geometrical study.

Third, when Menzel makes the statement that the Air Force accepted his explanation of the Chiles-Whitted incident in 1959, he is in error. In December, 1963, the Air Force sent me their official conclusion: object unknown.

Fourth, his explanation of the

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Chiles-Whitted incident is faulty. He believes that it was a meteor. But how did the meteor veer and pull up as was reported? And how come two experienced pilots were deceived by a meteor at such close range?

Menzel's attacks on Major Donald Keyhoe are totally unjustified. I could cite quite a few mistakes, but I wish this letter to be brief. I would like, however, to quote partially a short mention of Dr. Menzel's book which appeared in the UFO Investigator, Vol. 11, No. 9. It said this; "We can only regret that Dr. Menzel's criticisms of NICAP and its director have led him into this attack on all UFO witnesses and those who believe the evidence."

At another point it was noted: "In his book, Dr. Menzel belittles ALL witnesses who believe what they saw — veteran pilots, rocket trackers, even other astronomers. Starting with a determination to debunk UFOs, he omits, evades or distorts all factual evidence he cannot explain away." Thus is NICAP's stand spelled out.—*Richard Hack, Bristol, Conn.*

MORE ABOUT MENZEL

There is no need to reply to Donald H. Menzel, not just because his views differ from those of many UFO students throughout the world, but because his book misinforms the public, who should get the truth instead of a lot of scientific jargon and nonsense.

In particular, his description of the Lubbock lights as birds and the Chiles-Whitted sighting as a meteor defies sense and logic. While Menzel and some other astronomers

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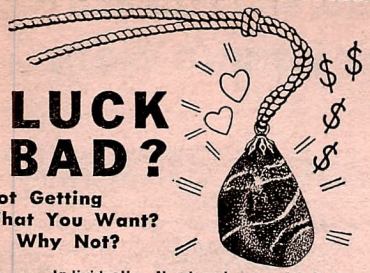
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consider themselves the only qualified observers, fortunately many others do not. Other astronomers as well-known and competent have seen the space craft.

Menzel ignores competent observers in aerial matters such as airline pilots and radar technicians, and denies that these witnesses ever saw anything.

I know from experience that some astronomers will not even look at the evidence in support of flying saucers. One astronomer put it this way, "What do you know about the stars?" Then he walked away, ignoring the material I had with me. They have a complete fear of the unknown; they are afraid to face something outside their own limited knowledge.—*Ronald W. J. Anstee, Montreal, Que., Canada.*

THOSE UFO's

I refer to the coverage which your August issue gave to the rash of flying-saucer reports in New Mexico.

If it is true, as some "ufologists" believe, that (1) our planet is undergoing extensive reconnaissance by alien spaceships; that (2) this fact is being withheld from the American public by some of our elected and appointed officials in local, state, and federal levels; and that (3), as General Douglas MacArthur once said, the next world war will see the Earth's nations united against a common foe from outer space — I join the ranks of those citizens who now demand an open Congressional hearing on the USAF's flying-saucer dealings.

No doubt our Defense Department has been trying to duplicate not only the configuration of the clas-

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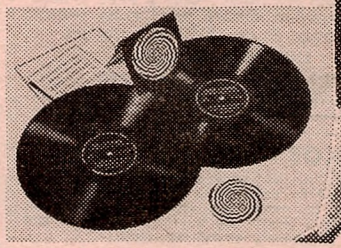
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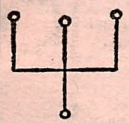
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sic "saucer," but also its astounding performance: noiseless take-offs and landings along with mid-air maneuvers that defy gravity and inertia. Significantly, the current Air Force UFO research program is headquartered at the "Foreign Technology Division," Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

But no amount of experimentation with circular platforms like Canada's AVROCAR (a $20 million lemon) or the various U.S. "ground-effect machines" has achieved the power and maneuverability of the "true" saucers.

And no amount of official ridicule of UFO witnesses seems to have dissuaded these objects from occasionally buzzing our aircraft and automobiles, disrupting our TV and radio transmissons, exploding in our skies, and landing upon our soil.

The best development of the New Mexico saucer flap was not the definitive nature of the sightings themselves, but the refusal of our general press to participate in the "news management" which has plagued the 17-year history of official UFO investigation.—*Larry W. Bryant, Newport News, Va.*

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For the last seven years I have traveled all over the world trying to heal my wife from spinal meningitis. I ran out of money and doctors and almost all hope; my wife is dying.

I say almost all hope, because I still have one last appeal — your readers. As they read this if they would be so kind as to direct a few moments of prayer on her behalf, I would be eternally grateful to them. May God bless them all and



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God bless you, if you would be so kind as to print this appeal.—*Albert A. Novelli, Miami, Fla.*

SUICIDE ON KLEE

This letter is in reference to "KLEE-TV, Still Calling," in the April FATE. The article attempts to give a physical explanation of these signals. Has it occurred to anyone that these signals may be spiritual, coming from the other side?

If I recall the event correctly, KLEE-TV was the first television station to televise a suicide attempt. During a 1950 game of the Houston Buffalos, a man took a seat beside the announcer and then shot himself! The game was being played in Busch Stadium and the announcer was Dick Ogly.

I do recall that the man did not die instantly, but was taken to the hospital in critical condition. After this I lost track of the incident, and do not know if the man lived or died. The scene described in the article reminds me of this incident. —*Gene Buckley, Hemphill, Tex.*

ROPE TRICKERY

I read with interest the explanation of the Indian Rope Trick in the July issue. As a student of the occult, I am sure that my own version is correct.

When the trick is performed, the audience is firmly convinced of what they have seen, because they have conditioned themselves into the expectancy of seeing something. This helps the performer, who is able to use this psychic emanation to supplement his own powers.

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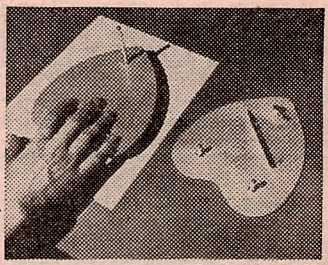
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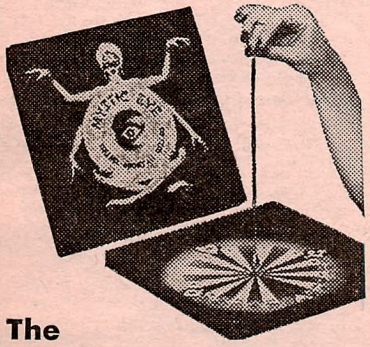
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that can be seen by others — an apparent reality that does not exist. From the moment the fakir ceases his preliminary conjuring tricks, and after the rope has been examined, the fantasy begins.

The fakir just stands still with the boy at his side; then, after a while he covers up the boy. Next, he coils up the rope. Then he uncovers the boy.

And that is all that happens! Everything else is a figment of his imagination projected into the minds of the audience section by section. It is a curious fact that any person outside the "magic circle" sees nothing. The area of hallucination is limited.

Hidden cameras recorded only the actions described above.

When in Egypt I was befriended by one of these performers, who explained the whole procedure. Except where the magician has produced a temporary phantom, he himself sees nothing. It is simply an intense mental image.

The whole secret is concentration with a will and a determination that it *shall be*, and a 100 per cent faith that it can and will be done. The concentration is not just a matter of gritting your teeth and pressing your fingernails into the palm of your hand; it is a steady WILL to the exclusion of all else. Surroundings, people, sights, and noises cease to exist.

How many people can concentrate for half an hour on, say, a flower with such intensity that they actually *see* it? With more practice and greater concentration others will see it as well.

To secure these powers the conscious mind must be the master of

the unconscious, habit-forming mind. This cannot be achieved by force; there must be steady, gentle practice over the years. Apart from this, there must be a natural flair for the occult, with complete understanding that there are things not recognized or believed in by the general populace, coupled with complete disregard of public opinion.—*J.P.J. Chapman, Ferndown, Dorset, England.*

INDIAN ROPE TRICK

I have just read the most interesting article, "Indian Rope Trick," in the July issue.

About seven or eight years ago I saw a picture of this famous trick in *Time* Magazine. The rope was straight up, and you could see a lot of sky above the top of the rope and to the sides. A boy clung to the rope halfway up, and no other person was in view. A most astounding picture!—*Nancy J. Wright, Lynchburg, Va.*

20-YEAR DEATH CYCLE

May I add a few lines in an effort to clarify the problem if the 20-year Jupiter-Saturn cycle? As we know, since 1840 every president elected in this cycle has died in office.

Jupiter and Saturn are huge stellar bodies, known as "world planets." And through the centuries, whenever conjunct in space, they unerringly have indicated the overthrow of governments or the deaths of heads of state. However, these disasters occur only when a nation's birth horoscope accommodates the 20-year cycle.

In the United States chart the presidency is ruled by the 10th

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house, with Aquarius on the cusp. Saturn, traditional ruler of the sign, is in the 5th house with Neptune, the latter squared by Mars, the God of War. Jupiter also squares Saturn, with Saturn ruling the 8th house of Death. This establishes a sensitivity in the national horoscope to the Jupiter-Saturn cycle.

Ancient astrologers (whose competence is equalled by very few moderns) in studying major planetary aspects, cast charts, not for the days the configurations themselves were exact, but for the New and Full Moons preceding them.

Using their method, let us consider the New Moon (a Solar Eclipse, by the way) on January 10, 1842, for Washington, D. C. Jupiter and Saturn occupy the 8th house of Death, while Mars approaches a conjunction with explosive Uranus, ruler of the 10th house (the Presidency) to complete the ominous picture.

The following Full Moon on January 26, 1842 fell in the United States horoscope at 8.45 Capricorn, square to Saturn and opposite Jupiter, thus establishing a pattern of tragedy which has continued unbroken until the present time. It will not break up until 1981 when the two "world planets" meet no more in Earth signs — at least in this century.

William Henry Harrison, first victim of the 20-year cycle, died while the conjunction was forming, but Saturn stood at 2 Capricorn on the 8th house cusp of the United States chart, with the Progressed Moon (always a good timer) in close opposition.

The New Full Moons preceding the Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions, in-

volving the deaths in office of Presidents Lincoln, Garfield, McKinley, Harding, Roosevelt and Kennedy, without exception made violent impacts on the national horoscope. The ancient astrologers knew their business.

The Kennedy assassination, by the way, receives detailed treatment in my article, "Uranian Astrology — the Big Break-through," which appears in FATE's World Astrology Guidebook for 1965.—*George Cardinal LeGros, Editor, Chicago, Ill.*

BIRTH DATE FILE SUMMARY

The birth dates of ver 700 persons have been recorded, along with over 300 important event dates in the lives of over 50 persons. Much work has been done in carefully comparing these, and while many interesting facts have been found, it is possible to give only a brief summary of the more important of them in the space available here.

The final provisional conclusions derived from this research may be outlined as follows:

1. People born within a few days of each other are very likely to have at least two or three important events in their lives occurring on approximately the same dates.

2. Many of the other important life events of such people will not coincide, even approximately.

3. Paragraphs 1 and 2 apply equally well to people born several days apart as to those born on the same day.

4. The kinds of events for which the dates closely coincide may be similar or they may be very different.

5. General circumstances of such "birth-date twins" are found to be

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mixtures of close similarity and great diversity.

6. These conclusions do not necessarily apply to people born at the same *time*, as well as on the same day, for the simple reason that no such exact coincidence yet has been found in this research.

A new and interesting case to be added to those published in previous reports is that of two ladies born seven days apart. They have five pairs of closely coincidental event dates, including their weddings and the discovery that their husbands were born only one day apart!

This work concerning events, and people born a few days part, has been thorough, and the research and correspondence involved has been time-consuming for both event-date contributors and myself (and somewhat expensive!), but it has been very rewarding, both in the provisional conclusions made possible, and in the much enjoyed correspondence with friendly and most cooperative people.

Because of the time and labor involved, and other circumstances, I regret that I am compelled to discontinue the operation of this Birth Date File for the time being, but hope that it may be resumed at some future date. All correspondence and card files of birth dates so far contributed will be carefully retained until that time..

Thanks again to all contributors of data (wish I could reply to you all), to FATE Magazine for forwarding letters and publishing these reports, and to Mrs. Mildred Wilson whose letter in the April, 1963, issue led to my starting this birthdate file project. —*Ben Geddes, Cambridge, Mass.*

(*Continued on page* 161)

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(*Continued from page* 150)

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