FATE

May 1964
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TRUE STORIES OF THE STRANGE AND THE UNKNOWN

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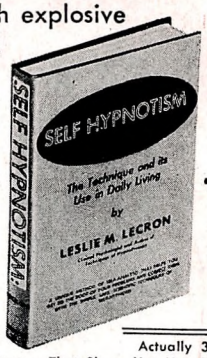
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Vol. 17—No. 5

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Editor: **MARY MARGARET FULLER**
Managing Editor: **CHESTER S. GEIER**
Science Editor: **HENRY A. BOTT**
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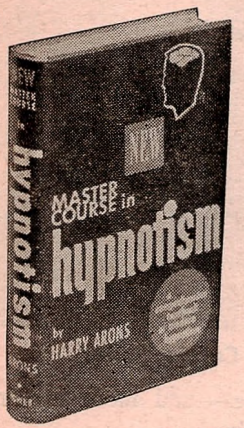
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I See by the Papers...



By Curtis Fuller

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

There's queer things goes on here. I can't say no more, and I can't say no less.

— The Butler in William Archer's *"The Green Goddess"*, quoted in Journal of Parapsychology

THESE QUEER THINGS

FROM TIME to time serious critics accuse FATE of being no more than a collection of oddities. They object because we don't offer more theories and tell reader how things are.

The fact is, we don't know how they are and we don't believe anyone else does, either. Even a man like Prof. Leonid Vasiliev, the Soviet physiologist, after a lifetime of research into telepathy, admits there is no acceptable theory of how it works.

From the monolithic mass of our ignorance, nevertheless, bits and pieces erode away and what was unknown yesterday may be known and accepted today. But it is a slow process and we suspect that the total mass of our ignorance increases. Every answer seems to bring two new questions.

We don't consider this discouraging; on the contrary the world gets more complex—and more exciting —all the time.

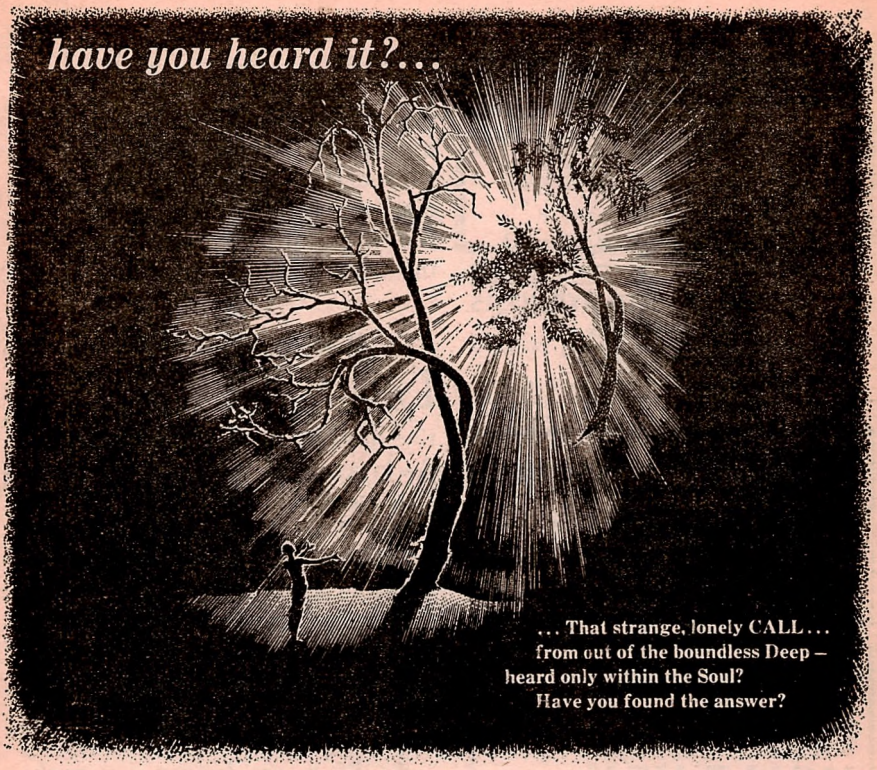
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THE SHREDDING CLOTHES

IN WILMINGTON, Del., as we write, state officials are investigating reports of mysteriously disintegrating clothing. For several weeks in January clothes and furnishings in a number of homes had been disintegrating.

Joe Kilby, a sanitarian with the State Board of Health, investigated three cases and expressed his bewilderment. The people he investigated bought their clothes at different stores, the clothes were of different materials, and different methods were used by their own-

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ers in washing and drying them.

"It's a mystery to me," Kilby said. Meanwhile, Mrs. Jean Smith, a senior majoring in textiles at the University of Delaware, was planning a scientific study of one of the homes to try to come up with the answer.

∞

MONEY EVERYWHERE

LITTLE MYSTERIES spring up all the time. Like the lucrative problem confronting the James Buck family of Lincoln, Nebr., late last summer. They kept finding money around the place and no one, as far as we know, has learned where it came from.

One day Mr. Buck found $40 in the corner of the garage. A few days later $10 showed up on the floor of the car. Then $18 was found under the family bathtub.

As Buck was leaving for work one day his wife found a $50 bill just inside the front screen door.

∞

CURSE AT WORK

WE THOUGHT we had heard the last of King Tut's curse but it keeps bobbing up. Most recently it was mentioned in Charlie Rice's Punchbowl in the January 5 issue of *This Week*.

Charlie Rice talked with Tom Terriss, who he believes to be the only surviving witness to the opening of King Tut's tomb. Terris is

a veteran English actor-director who was making a film in Egypt at the time of the expedition.

Terriss told Rice that after the tomb was opened Lord Carnarvon presented him with a small statuette of Tutankhamen. Almost immediately he developed a strange case of leg paralysis which doctors in Egypt and London could not help.

New York physicians did help him and he went on to Hollywood where he almost went broke. One night his wife cried out that the statue was at fault and the next day he donated it to a museum.

"And do you know, not two hours after I got rid of it, I was offered a $35,000 contract from RKO."

Terriss says that he believed in the curse then but today he thinks it's "a lot of hooey."

He isn't really troubled with curses now, he says. He's 91.

∞

PROBABLE POLTERGEIST

LAST SPRING we investigated an alleged poltergeist in Edmonton, Alberta. We did not report the matter because, since this was an extremely noisy type of manifestation, we have been trying unsuccessfully to obtain a tape that was made of the weird sounds.

The phenomenon began in January, 1963, in the home of Harry Sydora, 50, an unemployed janitor with nine children. At first the

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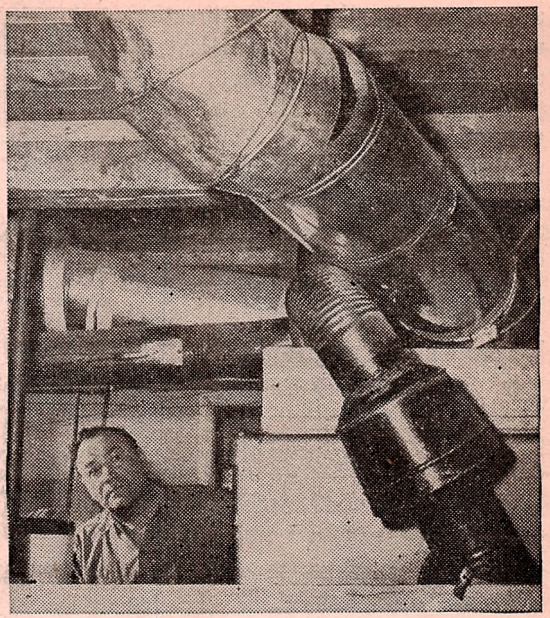
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Harry Sydora examines pipes in his home in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, as possible source of loud knockings he and his family, as well as neighbors, reportedly have heard. A tape recording is said to have been made of the noises. Other mysterious happenings described by Sydora indicate poltergeist activity.
UPI photo

Sydora heard an almost human knocking but concluded it was water pipes or air vents acting up.

When the contents of shelves began to rattle for no apparent reason, and a wooden block flew off a ledge to strike the opposing wall the Sydora began to worry. One night Mr. Sydora woke to find a blanket moving over his head—but nobody was around.

He called police and they had an interesting suggestion. "Knock out the wall," they said. Harry did and the noises reappeared a night or so later in another wall.

The noises were heard by neighbors and a clergymen, but not by newspapermen. A tape recording was made of one entire performance.

The usual theories were advanced,—pipes, mice, faulty walls, "resonant" wood, spirits, overworked imaginations. As usual nothing was proved.

∞

VOICES?

NOW HERE is a strange story and we are quite skeptical about portions of it.

Mrs. Annie Atkins, 76, and Carl Plebank, 64, had lived in squalor for four years in a tiny one-room

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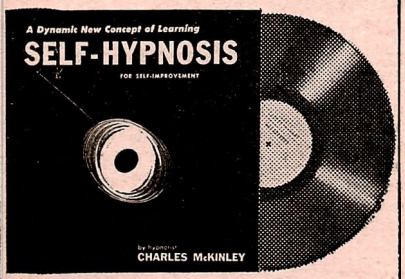
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cabin at Coulterville, Mariposa County, Calif. They both used the title of reverend, as ministers of the Universal Church of the Master, which the Fresno *Bee* describes as a "spiritualist group."

Mrs. Atkins died Wednesday, January 22, of a heart ailment according to the autopsy surgeon. Her death was investigated by Undersheriff Norman Garrett.

Mr. Plebank told Garrett that two days before Mrs. Atkins died she had given him $7,100 in Canadian money and he had exchanged it for American money. Because Plebank had no proof of the gift, Garrett advised him to turn the money over to the public administrator and put in a claim for it. This he did on Thursday.

On Friday, Plebank called the public administrator, District Attorney Dean Lauritzen, and said that mysterious voices had informed him that a fortune was hidden in a chair cushion in the one-room cabin.

Before the voices spoke, he said, bright green lights had danced and played on the wall of his bedroom. Sheriff O. M. Whitley went to the shack and ripped open the cushion at the insistence of Mr. Plebank. $73,464 in Canadian money spilled out of the cushion, most of it in $1,000 bills.

Officials were investigating the strange case, as puzzled as Coulter-

ville residents who had thought Mrs. Atkins was dependent on Mr. Plebank's social security check of $64 monthly.

Mr. Plebank, meanwhile, was listening for more mysterious voices in the hope that they would lead to still another treasure cache.

∞

IMAGINATION

GUY TROSPER who had been in motion pictures for years, became a screen writer in 1941. Among other accomplishments he was script-writer and producer for *Birdman of Alcatraz,* one of the 10 best films of 1962.

One night late last December Trosper woke from a terrifying dream—so terrifying that it took him several minutes to realize that it was only a dream. He dreamed he had suffered a heart attack.

The nightmare was so vivid Trosper got out of bed and called his physician to discuss it. After a brief conversation he returned to bed.

In the morning his wife Betty went to wake him. She found him dead of a heart attack—a real heart attack this time. Was Trosper's dream an unconscious realization that he was ill? Or was it precognitive?

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WILD GEESE CALLING

JOE F. COMBS tells this story in the Beaumont Tex., *Enterprise*. Near Paris, Tex., is the Gambill Wild Goose Reservation, named after a Mr. Gambill who many years ago found a wounded Canadian honker on his farm and nursed it back to health.

The gander stayed on the Gambill farm all through summer, fall and the following winter. When the next spring came, Gambill's pet joined a flock of wild geese and flew north.

The next fall the gander returned, bringing with him 12 more geese. Gambill fed them and they became as tame as barnyard fowl. By the following autumn they returned 100 strong. Each year the flock increased and Gambill gave his ranch to the state. It became a wild goose refuge and each year more than 3,000 wild geese winter there.

In the winter of 1961-62, Mr. Gambill died in a Paris, Tex., hospital. The geese took to the air the night he died and circled the hospital, round and round, honking and calling.

∞

HEAT AT YOUR FEET

NOW HERE is something that can be measured and verified, so belief need not enter in. It is either true or not true.

It seems that George Bozeman opened a restaurant in Chattanooga, Tenn., last September 24. On opening day he thought the place must be on fire. Fire engines came rushing to the scene but there were no flames, no smoke, no steam—yet the building's concrete foundation was burning hot.

"I've been on the job 41 years and I've never seen anything like this," said Fire Chief W. T. Burns. "There are no electrical or plumbing connections in the foundation —we just can't find anything wrong."

As he was speaking the floor got so hot the mastic under the floor tile melted and the tiles came loose.

Days later the foundation still was hot and Fire Chief Burnes proposed they drill through the floor to try to find out what was wrong.

But Mr. Bozeman had had second thoughts. "Oh no," he said. "The heat warms my customers' feet and I won't have to pay any oil bills."

∞

MULTIPLYING MYSTERIES

BY WAY OF demonstrating the thesis that mysteries develop faster than they can be solved, we report on three new astronomical observations which pose great new problems.

1. A mysterious star-like object pinpointed by the Parkes radio-telescope at Sydney, Australia, is un-

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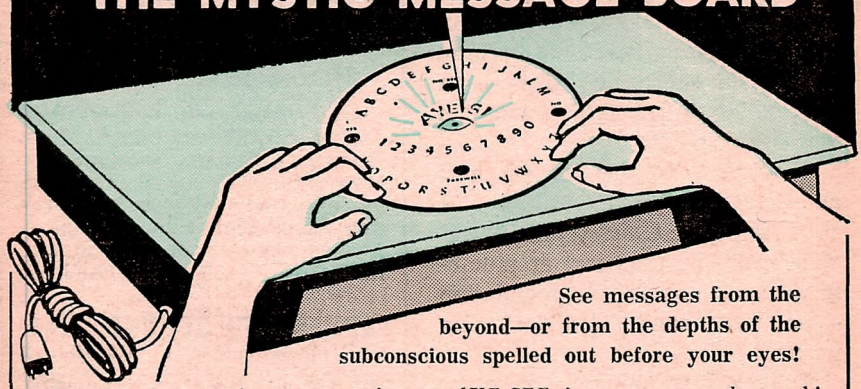
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As you touch your fingertips to the Planchette, mysterious forces may move it about over the Table. When it stops moving, the Light Beam will point to one letter or symbol to indicate that it belongs in the message. The indication is very positive —there is no question as to what *AYE-SEE* wants to tell you.

The entire Table is built of wood because psychics have advised that wood produces the strongest vibrations. Since the entire Planchette is in contact with the Table, it may be that most of the energy from these vibrations is absorbed by the Planchette and transformed into the movements that spell out your messages. This may account for the high-speed reception *AYE-SEE* gives some experimenters.

DEVELOPED BY SENSITIVES The superior features of *AYE-SEE* are the

product of careful experimentation by sensitives adept in using message boards. From coast to coast, accomplished psychics have contributed suggestions which now emerge as *AYE-SEE*.

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like anything else previously seen in the skies. It is either (a) a galaxy 100 times bigger than any other known galaxy and millions of light years away from earth, or (b) it is a smaller star quite close to earth but so dense that a cubic inch would weigh tens of millions of tons or (c) it is matter being explosively ejected from some star in the Milky Way.

2. A new method of rocket astronomy has revealed what seems to be a "neutron" star. So far neutron stars have only been postulated—Dr. Hong-Yee Chiu of NASA estimates there are 100 million such objects in our galaxy. However, they are so small as to be all but impossible to see since they would be only five or 10 miles in diameter. Such a neutron star, however, would weigh as much as our entire sun. This densely packed material would have the unimaginable weight of 10 to 100 billion tons per cubic inch. Confirmation that neutron stars really exist would confirm the abilities of rockets to observe strange things in space.

3. More speculation now has been printed on the nine recently discovered enormous but unidentified objects mentioned here recently which seem to be billions of times brighter than average stars. Old photographs have been studied and it now appears that one such object, 3C-273, may be as much as 3,000 light years wide, yet it seems to pulse on a 13-year cycle. Question: how can anything so big pulse in intervals shorter than the time for light to cross it?

In our own galaxy no stars appear to be more than 65 times as heavy as our sun and it has been suggested that anything larger would break up. Another proposal is that such a star might collapse in upon itself, producing a mass so small and condensed that its gravity might not permit anything to escape from it—not even rays of light or radio waves. Then the object could be detected only by its gravitation effect on other bodies.

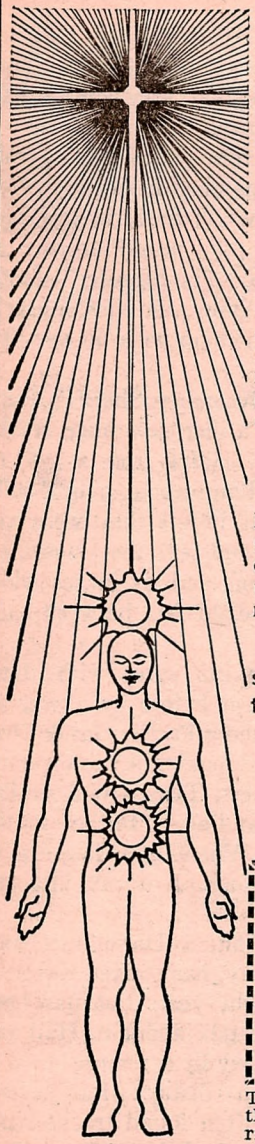
The distances from earth of many of these huge bodies in space that seem to be speeding away at enormous velocities—as much as 55 per cent of the speed of light—are estimated by the red shift—that is, the shift of their light toward the red end of the spectrum. It has been suggested however, that the red shift may be due to an extremely powerful effect of gravity rather than to speed. If that should be true, the objects thought to be billions of light years distant really may not be far away at all.

All this is speculation only.

∞

"THE MONSTER"

FOLKS IN TUOLUMNE County, Calif., have heard so many



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stories of a 10-foot hairy creature with enormous feet taking enormous strides that they simply call it "The Monster."

Reports from people seeing this creature come most frequently after a heavy snowfall. Early in January, a low-flying pilot near Pinecrest reported seeing "The Monster" standing in the snow and described it as a "10-foot man with an ape-like face."

Late in December, Sheriff's Deputy Albert Miller saw huge tracks in the snow leading from a road to a garbage dump about a half mile away. Miller insists they were not bear tracks and says they measured 16 inches long and six inches wide, with six to eight feet between each print.

These reports agree with those made the year before by a veteran bush pilot and a Pacific Gas & Electric employe making a snow survey near Pinecrest. They saw a similar creature standing in bushes in the wilderness. When they flew low to take a photograph it ran into the woods.

Gilroy Hall, a Diesel mechanic of Union City, has stalked the creature for eight years but has been reluctant to talk about it. Hall and his wife lived in a remote area in the Auburn district for several years and often found tracks within 75 feet of their cabin. "They were 12 to 16 inches from toe to

heel and about 5½ to 6 inches wide —the print of a man, not a bear," Hall declares. "He had a stride of about 12 to 14 feet and probably weighed 800 to 1,000 pounds."

In all his years of hunting it, Hall never has caught a glimpse of The Monster. "He would take a 1,000-pound beef, eat it from the inside out, and leave the rib cage and the hide. A cougar will strip the whole carcass, hide and all . . . It had only three toes on the right foot, like it had lost them in a trap."

All the reports do not jibe. In December, John Whitt, a 21-year-old Sonora logger, says he saw tracks 22 inches wide and 40 inches long spaced every five or six feet on a trail leading up a hillside. Whitt was sure they "couldn't be anything ordinary." Each track had sunk about two inches into the snow and each had three toe-like imprints that broke through the five or six inches of snow to the ground.

Erwin Ward, assistant ranger at Sierra Village, attributes the size of the tracks to distortion caused by melting snow.

Most people still think The Monster is a mountain lion or a bear.

∞

THE UFO AND ITS FUEL

THE REV. GUY J. CYR, S. M., of Lawrence, Mass., a long-time UFO investigator, recently has

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expanded on his theory of UFO propulsion.

"Imbued with the noble idea of bilateral symmetry, many scientists have made stupendous discoveries," writes Reverend Cyr. "They had in hand a *part,* for example, a substance or a principle; they presupposed the existence of its *counterpart,* looking for it, they found it.

"In view of this, the search for antigravity ceases to be preposterous, for gravity itself is *real.* It is often referred to as an attraction between pieces of matter. Symmetrically speaking, there should be a counterpart, named a de*traction.*

"The writer has good reasons to believe that this detraction is antigravity; that this force too is real and objective, with a value of its own, and not just the absence of gravity. He dares go a step further and affirm that this reality is more fundamental than gravity: That it is the impetus given to primordial matter causing the universe to expand, at first as to its subatomic particles and today as to its gigantic units, the galaxies, which generally are hurtling away from us at fantastic speeds."

Reverend Cyr believes that other cultures may have found a way to make devices that will cancel the force of gravity by breaking up its transmission—gravitational waves —and that man may learn to do the same.

GREEN THUMB

ADELA ROGERS St. Johns has offered her testimony to the efficacy of mental influence on plants in an article in the now defunct *American Weekly.* She was living in Carmel, Calif., in a house loaned her by friends Harlan and Ruth Ware. Under the eaves of the house were 20 square cedar boxes filled with dirt in which the Wares had planted begonias before they left for the East.

The Wares had charged her with taking care of the begonias and she concluded she was doing a poor job.

"There was nothing to be seen but a few brown sticks in each box," she wrote. "Yet I had watered them, climbed on a ladder and dug around them, fed them out of bottles and with all kinds of patent foods out of a spoon."

She decided she simply did not have a green thumb. She remembered regretfully that her dead mother had had a green thumb.

"So in one of those throwaway lines I said, 'Mama, if you do understand and forgive me, give me a thumb with these damn begonias, will you please?' "

From that moment on, the famous author wrote, the begonias began to grow. They grew unbelievably. People came from miles around to marvel at them. Friends coming through the gate stopped to gasp.

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Adela Rogers St. Johns says that naturally she doesn't know, for sure but she took the growing of the begonias as a sign of forgiveness from her mother for some harsh things she had written about her in the biography of her father, last year's best seller *Final Verdict.*

∞

THE CURSE

"I PRONOUNCE a curse on those who touched God's acre, and on their sacrilege and the terrible thoughts in their minds. May their days be of anguish and sorrow and may God have mercy on their souls."

The man pronouncing this curse stood dressed in the vestments of the Church of England, his arms outstretched before the altar of his 900-year-old St. Nicholas Church at Bramber, England.

Outside, the churchyard had been vandalized. Stones had been ripped off graves; figures of angels had been uprooted, their heads broken off. Black magic symbols were chalked on the church walls.

It was the second time within the month that black magic rites had been performed in a church of the Sussex area. At Westham, 40 miles from Bramber, a vicar found four men making incantations before his altar.

The Rev. Ernest Streete, 76, had pronounced his curse on Sunday, January 5. When he and his flock surveyed their churchyard the following morning they found the damage had been repaired mysteriously during the night. Crosses and angels heads had been replaced, gravestones were back in position.

Whereupon the Reverend Streete withdrew his curse.

∞

RINGS ON HER FINGERS

ONE OF THE continuing mysteries of archeology is the extent of Phoenician explorations of the world's seas. What we know about them comes mostly from other sources because the Phoenicians kept their great voyages as trade secrets. They did not want their rivals to know where they went or how, or what they traded at different far ports. Their stories often were designed deliberately to mislead Greek and Roman traders. The myths of unknown monsters and mysterious dangers in the far seas which delayed ocean explorations for centuries probably were invented by them.

Their silence is all the more strange because the Phoenicians are believed to have invented alphabetical writing. However, they wrote on perishable materials rather than on stone and their own writings were mostly destroyed. Most of what we know about them has come to us from their mortal enemies.

Recently at Sidon, Lebanon, however, a tomb containing the skeleton of a crowned Phoenician woman was discovered in a cave 60 feet below ground. It is believed to be part of a royal Phoenician cemetery and lies beneath a more modern cemetery from Roman and Byzantine times.

More information on Phoenician times is expected to come from this discovery. The skeleton was wearing a gold crown encrusted with precious stones. A neck pendant bore the image of a crowned woman. There were four rings on each of the 10 fingers, gold bracelets about the ankles, a bronze mirror and 10-inch clay statue of a woman.

∞

● Three scientists of Western Reserve University have detached a live brain from a rhesus monkey and kept it functioning. "What does this mean?" asked Dr. Robert J. White, one of the experimenters. "We have a brain totally disconnected from its body, still alive. Is it thinking?"

∞

SPECIAL NOTE

JANUARY, 1964, is the first month in 16 years, that FATE readers failed to send us a single UFO clipping, although we did receive news of apparent meteors.

What does this mean?—*Curtis Fuller.*

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Beanfall IN SAN FERNANDO

The small white beans were found in streets and yards after the rain. Had they fallen from the sky?

By Raymond Bayless

ON JANUARY 23, 1964, Station KGIL, 13325 Van Nuys Blvd., San Fernando, Calif., reported, during a news broadcast, that numerous small, white beans had mysteriously appeared the day before, on January 22, in the town of San Fernando. I immediately drove to Station KGIL and interviewed the announcer of the news item. He gave me the original slip from which he had read the story:

"San Fernando—City officials today are unable to determine the source of thousands of small, white beans which appeared after yesterday's rainfall on Hagar, Maclay and Library St. One source feels the beans fell from a passing cloud."

I was told at the station that this information was given to them by a policeman of the San Fernando police force—the officer was not named. I also was told that a particularly noticeable fall had occurred at the intersection of Maclay and Library Streets.

Mr. Dudley Williams, 6816 Valmont Ave., Tujunga, Calif., was introduced to me by the station manager and he told us that he had found many of the white beans in his yard after the rainfall. Mr. Williams, after discussing the oddity of the occurrence, telephoned home in our presence to ask if the beans were still there. He was told that they were and said he would send specimens to me as quickly as possible.

At about 4:45 P.M. that same day, January 23, I visited the intersection of Maclay and Library and inquired about the reported fall at two stores on either side of the street. In each case the clerks denied having seen any beans.

On the morning of January 24 I called Mr. Wallace, Superintendent of Public Works, San Fernando,

and he questioned his force of street sweepers regarding the beans. All reported that they had not seen any on the city streets.

These negative reports possibly can be explained if we assume that the beans fell comparatively lightly in the city and if so I doubt very much that a man guiding a street-sweeping machine would have noticed the beans on the pavement. Also, both January 22 and 23 were windy days.

Further, this fall is representative of an enormous number of falls of strange objects. For example, another case which I investigated through correspondence took place near Blackstone, Va., August 2, 1962. Here, too, there was a heavy fall of small, white beans, or peas, during an unusual downpour. They fell on the farm of Mrs. H. G. Gamble and were reported to fairly cover the ground.

I telephoned Mr. Williams' home two days later, January 25, and discussed the happening with Mrs. Williams. She stated that the beans had appeared in the yard after the rainfall, but she did not know at what time they first had appeared. She said they had picked up about 30 of the beans and described them as "little navy beans—little white beans."

On January 27 I received a package of beans which the Williamses had mailed to me. They sent 26 beans as representative specimens, with the following statement:

"These beans found on January 22, 1964, in an area approximately 10 feet by 10 feet. This was following a good, general rain the preceeding night.

Dudley Williams
6816 Valmont Ave.
Tujunga, Calif."

Mr. Williams said he first had seen the beans in his back yard at 8:00 A.M. on January 23. I found this yard completely enclosed by a fence and separated entirely from the front of his home. We located more beans directly under the edge of the roof and nearby. This roof edge is lower than all other sections and consequently the rain drains onto the grass from it. Unfortunately, we were unable to climb onto the roof to see what beans remained up there.

Mr. Williams later questioned his neighbors to discover if the beans had been placed, or fired, into the yard. His interrogations proved negative.

After leaving the Williams' home I stopped at a gas station and was told that more beans had appeared in an area close to the Tujunga wash. Arriving there I questioned several people who directed me to an area—quite barren and arid—where I found more beans scattered on the ground. I also discovered approximately 10 beans on the roof

of a nearby ramshackle wooden shed. There was no further information except that persons living in the vicinity told me that the beans had appeared immediately after the rainfall.

On February 1 I met Mr. Paul Bjorkman of San Fernando and together we toured the area where the beans reportedly appeared, but we were unable to discover any verifiable incident to prove that they had indeed fallen from the skies.

* * *

IN REVIEWING the entire case I feel quite sure that a fall of beans did occur, despite the fact that the street-sweeping force did not see them. It is hard to imagine that a member of the police force would take the trouble to invent a tale of this particular nature.

The statements of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Williams further verify the policeman's account and the actuality of the fall. The reality of the beans is beyond dispute (some were sent in to the FATE office) but, of course, their origin is the real matter of interest.

The Los Angeles *Times* plans further publication of reports on the case, but at this writing the additional evidence is not available to me.

CLAIRVOYANT SOLVES A CRIME

THE ATTACKER of a girl recently was apprehended in the Netherlands as the result of a description given Dutch police by Gerard Croiset, 54, a clairvoyant noted for his successes in locating missing persons. The case was reported in the London *Sunday Express* by its Amsterdam correspondent, David Eliades.

The police were without clues as to the identity or appearance of the girl's attacker until Croiset furnished a word picture which he said he had obtained through his clairvoyant ability. Among details of the attack given the police by Croiset were that the man involved was about 30 and had a deformed left ear.

For four months police searched without result for a person of that description. Then they noticed it fitted a man who had been arrested on another charge. He was 29 and had a puffy and scarred left ear.

Under intensive grilling, the suspect broke down. He admitted the assault and gave details about the crime which police said agreed with statements made earlier by Croiset.

PREMONITIONS OF KENNEDY'S DEATH



Apparently even the President had forebodings of disaster. "I wonder if they'll shoot me in church," he said to a newspaperman last summer.

By John C. Ross

TWENTY MINUTES before President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas last November 22, operators in the Oxnard, Calif., division of the General Telephone Company heard a strange woman's voice whispering:

"The President is going to be killed."

The voice was eerie and difficult to understand. It came from a person who seemed emotionally disturbed. Several other statements were incoherent and not understandable to the operators.

This is but one of a number of astounding premonitions of the President's assassination gathered from various sources by FATE's readers and staff. Curtis Fuller's column, "I See By the Papers", in the March issue of FATE listed several of these—by Jeane Dixon, the Capital Seer; by John Pendragon, the British astrologer; and even by Billy Graham. FATE's letters col-

umns also have carried personal communications from readers with similar premonitions. This article represents the first general report from published sources, however.

The report on the Oxnard, Calif., case came from Ray Sheehan, manager of the Oxnard division of the General Telephone Co. He concluded that the woman who muttered the prediction had "stumbled into our operator's circuits" possibly by misdialing.

After the President was shot the call was reported to the FBI but there was no way to trace it. All that is known is that it originated in the Oxnard-Camarillo area, 50 miles north of Los Angeles.

When the call was received at 10:10 A. M. PST, one telephone supervisor called another onto her line and both heard the woman say the President would be killed. The President was shot 20 minutes later.

In Glendive, Mont., Donna Radin, a freshman in Dawson County Junior College, was leaving her class on the day of the assassination as the 12 noon bell rang. Suddenly she stopped and cried out at the top of her voice:

"The President is dead."

Donna did not have a radio and had no way of knowing the President had been shot. It was 10 to 15 minutes later that the shooting was confirmed on the campus.



Moments before he was shot, President Kennedy, with Mrs. Kennedy beside him in open car, waves to Dallas crowds. Only seconds after this photograph, shots rang out and the President fell back, clutching at his torn throat.
UPI photo

All she could say later was: "A queer feeling went through me. Before I realized what I was saying it just came out."

* * *

ONE OF THE saddest of the premonitions of President Kennedy's death came from Ricky E. McDowell, 8, who lay in Doctor's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, dying of leukemia. Ricky had been in a semi-coma for 48 hours prior to the assassination.

He woke about 7:00 A. M. on November 22 to find his mother Betty by his side. He told her a strange story. He dreamed, he said, that President Kennedy had died.

Mrs. McDowell assured Ricky that the President was well and alive—and so he was for a few more hours. Ricky himself died December 28 without ever being told how accurate his dream had been.

Because of the 20-year intervals of the conjunctions of Jupiter and Saturn, and because every president since William Henry Harrison who was elected in the 20-year intervals since 1840 has died in office, astrologers have regarded the President's term as an ominous one.

Huter's Astrological Calendar, published in Germany 18 months before the assassination stated: "The horoscope of U.S. President Kennedy shows health defects and at one time the danger that a fanatic is preparing his assassination."

Astrologer Dal Lee, in the *Astrological Guide* on sale at newstands during October, wrote: "At this time we prefer to confine ourselves to a word of caution to the President. He should guard his health and safety . . . We wish we could tell the President that November will be an easy-going month for him, but the aspects forbid it."

David Williams of Bayside, N.Y., was for 42 years manager of cable purchases for Con Edison of New York, until he retired last May. Williams had studied many different kinds of cycles, including astrological cycles. Based on astrology he predicted Kennedy's death in a written statement signed by T.F. Harrigan, Con Ed's assistant manager of stock control; by Ed Hess, manager of equipment purchases, and by four other men.

The November issue of *American Astrology* had indicated that the month would be a dangerous one for the President. An article by Leslie McIntyre described the relation of Mars to Uranus and stated:

"In the past such configuration has coincided with personal danger to the head of state. All the more so in this case in view of the attack by Saturn on the President's natal trio of Mars, Mercury and Jupiter . . . November is obviously fraught with perils of several varieties . . ."

A Dallas resident wrote a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lee of San Francisco, her relatives. The letter was postmarked at 11:30 A. M. November 22, and was reprinted in the San Francisco *Chronicle* of November 27.

"We are worried for President Kennedy when he arrives here tomorrow," said the writer in a message dashed off the night before the assassination.

"There are placards all over town calling him a traitor . . . They are brainwashed by our newspapers, who are daily hammering about Washington as if it was some sinister foreign power.

"I think Kennedy is in greater danger here than when he was traveling all over Europe."

The San Francisco Lees declined to identify the letter writer, fearing reprisals against her.

A rather strange coincidence occurred in Nampa, Calif., where a one-act play festival was underway in the Nampa High School's Little Theater. On the morning of November 22, drama students from [illegible]bridge High School were pre[illegible]g the play *The Last Curtain,* [illegible] is based on the assassination [illegible]resident Lincoln.

When the play was in its final moments word came of the latest assassination.

Was this a coincidence? One of the great problems, of course, is what is a coincidence and what a premonition?

A strange thing occurred in the printing of 1963 calendars with one of the big companies, for example. In this calendar, the dates of the national holidays were printed in special colors. For some strange reason, the date November 22 was also printed in a special color, although that date is not a holiday and was the only date in the calendar with this error.

The problem of coincidence in individual predictions must probably be weighed by the detail surrounding the prediction. The following prediction seems too accurate to ascribe to coincidence.

"Fletcher", the control of Arthur Ford, America's most famous living medium, predicted President Kennedy's death nearly a year beforehand, according to Ruth Montgomery, the syndicated columnist from Washington, D.C.

Ruth Montgomery reported in January that she had joined eight Protestant ministers and a medical doctor at a seance conducted by Ford in the pastor's study of a Washington church. During the seance, at which several veridical messages were given, "Fletcher" reminded those present that a year before he had told Miss Montgomery that the President would die.

Miss Montgomery had taped the

sitting and she checked the tape. The voice of "Fletcher" on the tape predicted that President Kennedy would lose his life and he saw him *"falling in a moving vehicle."*

"I had forgotten this," Miss Montgomery wrote, "because I interpreted that to mean an airplane crash."

During the January seance, "Fletcher" introduced a "discarnate" entity whom Miss Montgomery recognized as purportedly the late Dr. Floyd McCaffree, director of research for the Republican National Committee during the Nixon campaign.

"He's here," 'Fletcher' said, "because he said he is interested in the probability, which is more than a probability, that Nixon will be the Republican nominee this year."

FATE readers might take note of this prediction.

* * *

CERTAINLY the most ominously correct prediction of the assassination of President Kennedy was that of Mrs. Jeane Dixon of Washington, D. C. Her prediction was reprinted in the October issue of FATE in the excerpt from Jess Stearn's book *The Door to the Future,* and was discussed in March FATE. Since then, more information on Mrs. Dixon and the circumstances of her predictions have become known.

In Washington, Jack Anderson, of *Parade* recalled that he had interviewed Mrs. Dixon eight years before and had published a prediction by her in the May 13, 1956 issue. "As for the 1960 election," he wrote, "Mrs. Dixon thinks it will be won by a Democrat. But he will be assassinated in office."

Three weeks before the assassination, according to Anderson, Mrs. Dixon was lunching with a Washington society woman, Mrs. Harley Cope. Mrs. Cope told Anderson that Mrs. Dixon's face suddenly clouded and she blurted out, "He's going to be shot." When the startled Mrs. Cope asked who was going to be shot, Mrs. Dixon replied "Why, the President, of course."

John Gold, Washington correspondent for the London *Evening News,* wrote that he had talked with a dozen reputable men and women who reported that in the two or three weeks before the assassination Mrs. Dixon had repeatedly referred to an impending tragedy in the White House.

One was Charles Benter, a former U. S. Naval officer and retired White House bandmaster. Be[illegible] told Gold that on the Tuesday [illegible] fore the assassination Mrs. D[illegible] suddenly startled friends [illegible] whom she was dining by sayin[illegible] "The President is going to be shot." Two women lunching with Benter and Mrs. Dixon verified the statement.

Mrs. Dixon said that she had seen a "dark cloud" hanging over the White House and was heard to say on one occasion, "The veil is drawing nearer."

The witnesses who reported Mrs. Dixon's predictions usually stated they did not believe in psychic phenomena. One of them is John Teeter, executive director of the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund. He stated: "All we can do is to say exactly what occurred."

Mrs. Dixon was so sure the President would be shot that she contacted a personal friend close to the family and asked her to warn him.

She told the London *Evening News'* Gold: "It was during the final days that I got most worried about Kennedy. Over the weekend I drove past the White House and I had a vision of the building draped all in black. It got worse over the next few days. On Tuesday, while having dinner, I saw the President shot before my eyes. He was struck in the head. That was when I called out, 'The President has been shot.'

"On the day of his death I was having breakfast with an old friend and by this time the White House was completely veiled in black.

"I said, 'Charles, this is the day —this is the day it has to happen.' "

Mrs. Dixon is not a professional fortune teller. On the contrary, she is a well-to-do business woman who with her husband, James, runs a real estate firm specializing in expensive Georgetown property. She believes that her talent is a gift and must not be commercialized upon.

She dislikes to make unhappy predictions and will not warn persons of impending tragedy unless she believes it can be averted. She was saddened by the fact that her warning of the attack on President Kennedy was not taken seriously. "Oh, how I wish I had been wrong," she told *Parade's* Jack Anderson.

* * *

IS IT POSSIBLE that President Kennedy himself had premonitions of his death?

Drew Pearson wrote that a little over a year before the assassination the President had a "soul-searching" conversation with Secretary of Labor Arthur Goldberg at the time that Justice Felix Frankfurter retired from the Supreme Court.

Kennedy had offered Goldberg the Supreme Court appointment and "obviously hated to lose him as Secretary of Labor," Pearson reported.

"It's like cutting off my right arm to have you go," the President told Goldberg.

Goldberg replied that he was perfectly willing to stay on as Secretary of Labor until there was another court opening. "You'll probably appoint a majority of the court before you're finished," Gold-

berg is supposed to have said.

Then Pearson concluded:

"But the President demurred. Looking out the window and away from Goldberg, he said. 'I don't know that another opportunity will present itself.'

"Then after a pause he added: 'And you'll be here a long time after I'm gone.'"

In a similar vein the Hearst Headline Service reported from Hyannis Port, Mass., the belief that the president had a premonition of being shot.

It was the practice of newspapermen covering the summer White House at Hyannis Port to attend mass at the same time the President did. They usually occupied the pew behind his at the church.

During the summer of 1963 the late President was leaving the church where he had heard mass with a newspaperman friend when he remarked.

"I wonder if they'll shoot me in church."

While his friend was still gasping at the thought, the President added: "Well, if they do they'll probably get one of you fellows first."

The President's words last March 3, when he visited Arlington National Cemetery, may have been unintentionally prophetic. Paul Fuqua, 23, a guide at the Curtis-Lee mansion which sits on high ground surrounded by the sprawling cemetery, described Mr. Kennedy's visit to the Associated Press.

It was a beautiful day, and Mr. Fuqua was showing the president around. "I told him if I lived in the White House I'd move the White House out here, the view is so beautiful. The president said yes and added:

"I could stay up here forever."

Reports of these premonitions by the President himself mount until they are almost reminiscent of the sadness felt by Abraham Lincoln—and for the same bitter reason.

James Reston, political commentator of the New York *Times*, says that last June, when the Civil Rights riots were at their height, with tempers and passions flaring, Mr. Kennedy addressed representatives of a number of national organizations.

After discussing the problems that confronted him on every side, the President astonished his listeners by ending his talk suddenly and taking from his pocket a piece of paper containing the famous speech of Blanch of Spain in Shakespeare's *King John*. The President read this poem to the audience:

The sun's o'er cast with blood:
fair day, adieu!
Which is the side that I must
go withal?
I am with both; each army
hath a hand;

And in their rage, I having hold of both,

They whirl asunder and dismember me.

JAPAN'S WORLD-CONQUERING NEW RELIGION

ONE OF THE strangest products of the post-war religious world is the Soka Gakkai Society of Japan, an organization of fanatic Japanese Buddhists who have announced their intention of conquering Japan, America and the entire world with their unusual mixture of religion and politics.

Soka Gakkai, written with four Chinese characters which mean create-value-learning-society, has become a source of concern both to political leaders and officials of older religions. Its main goal is said to be to establish a "third civilization" free of capitalism and communism.

In a newspaper called *Seikyo News*, its official organ, Soka Gakkai publishes cartoons and articles which seek to combat the influence of American Christianity. The Roman Catholic Weekly, *America*, reportedly has branded Soka Gakkai as a movement of "present power and potential danger." Other Buddhist sects in Japan are said to be organizing to fight it.

In 1945 Soka Gakkai had only a handful of followers. Today it claims a membership of 10-million throughout the world. In America, its representatives state, it has 4,000 followers in Los Angeles alone.

According to Dai Saku Ikeda, its president, Soka Gakkai has a membership of one million youths. The movement has gained its largest following among the poor and friendless of Japanese society. It has made little headway among prosperous and successful people in Japan, although it has won converts among American service men, through their Japanese wives.

AND NOW RAISING DICKENS?

AT DICKINSON, N. Dak., Callie Dickson of Dickson, Ky., recently married William Dickinson, of Dickinson.

Testing the Fingertip Vision of PAT STANLEY

A Michigan housewife also displays the ability to identify colors with her fingertips — but with differences.

By Pauline Saltzman

MRS. PATRICIA Stanley, of Flint, Mich., can see with her fingers, too.

The July, 1963, issue of FATE presented the report of a 22-year-old Russian woman, Rosa Kuleshova, who can read with her fingertips — and it was received very critically by parapsychologists and other scientists.

But now a Michigan housewife has been found who can identify colors in the dark with her fingertips, according to Dr. Richard P. Youtz, a psychology professor at Barnard College who is listed in *Who's Who In America* and who has spent some 60 hours testing the fingertip "sight" of this woman.

Mrs. Stanley first discovered her unusual ability when she was a senior at the Owensboro, Ky., high school in 1939.

Miss Mary Barrett, the science instructor, had given a blindfold test to her class, asking them to identify common objects by feeling them. One girl, Patricia Ainsworth, was particularly good. In fact, she not only identified the shapes but also the colors of the objects she handled. Miss Barrett, and her friend Dr. Marion Gillim, who taught psychology in Owensboro at that time, repeated the test. This time they not only blindfolded Miss Ainsworth but also tied a bag over her head. She still identified the colors. However, Patricia Ainsworth soon was graduated and no-



UPI Photo

Tests of ability of Mrs. Patricia Stanley to identify colors with her fingertips show 10,000 to one odds against chance.

body followed up on her strange ability, although at the time the whole high school had been much impressed.

Then in January, 1963, the story of Rosa Kuleshova broke upon a disbelieving world. The case had been confirmed by the Soviet Academy of Sciences. Further Russian work even had suggested that about one person in six had this ability to "see" with the fingertips. But these reports were from Russia and American experts were highly skeptical — most of them still are.

Among the skeptics was Dr. Youtz. One day he was discussing the Soviet report with his colleagues in the faculty lunchroom. It was then that Dr. Marion Gillim, now professor of economics at Barnard, recalled an incident that had occurred while she taught in Owensboro, Ky., in 1939.

Dr. Youtz says he thought about this for at least two weeks before he decided to do something about it. He states that it was the nagging question of "Are you open minded or not?" that finally made him ask Professor Gillim to write Miss Barrett to try to locate Patricia Ainsworth.

Evidently Pat Ainsworth was the only person in that 1939 test session who remained unimpressed. She hadn't, up to that day, dreamed that she possessed the rare ability of being able to "read" colors with her fingertips, and apparently she couldn't have cared less.

In 1945 she had married Ferrell Stanley, a young serviceman stationed in Mississippi. At the end of World War Two the young couple had been graduated from the Roanoke Business College of Roanoke, Va. Then they moved to Michigan, living in Lincoln Park and in Detroit for the next 10 years. Ferrell Stanley was employed at the Ternstedt Plant of General Motors Corp. in Livonia during this time. In 1956 he was made an inspector at the

Flint branch of the Ternstedt plant and they moved to Flint.

During all this time Pat Stanley had given no thought to the odd science experiment and her husband and their four growing sons had no idea that she possessed this unusual ability. She had never even mentioned it.

At Dr. Youtz's request Professor Gillim immediately set about tracing Patricia. She contacted Miss Barrett, now retired, and she in turn got Pat's Flint address from her mother who still lives in the vicinity of Owensboro.

Dr. Youtz went to Flint in April, 1963.

At first Mrs. Stanley was reticent about exploring with him the fantastic mystery of her tactile color sense. She felt she might not be able to duplicate her unlikely feat. But finally she gave in to Dr. Youtz's urging.

"I didn't want to do anything noteworthy just for myself," she told John David, reporter for the Flint *Journal,* whose story appeared December 5, 1963. "I really didn't want to go through all this. But Dr. Youtz convinced me that we were working in the sincere interest of science and education."

Another thought influenced Patricia Stanley. If the causes of her remarkable ability were determined it might eventually be used to help the blind to "see".

Dr. Youtz has made a number of visits to Flint, staying variously for a few days to two or three weeks. The experiments have been conducted at the Stanley home, some of them in the presence of Dr. Donald DeGraaf, professor of physics at Flint College, of the University of Michigan. Dr. Youtz brought special equipment with him. He used a light-tight plywood box painted black inside and out. Leading out of the front panel of the box are two black velveteen armholes, of double thickness, with elastic at the wrists. Mrs. Stanley's arms fit into these sleeves during the tests.

Three specially designed cards were inserted into the box through a door in the back for one test. A red square was pictured on one of the cards, while the other two had blue squares. Transparent plastic covered the cards to keep their texture uniform and the edges were securely bound with heavy black tape. Dr. Youtz instructed Mrs. Stanley to select two cards of identical color and name that color. She picked the cards, fingered the surfaces, and said that the two she indicated were blue. This was by no means happenstance, for Mrs. Stanley accomplished this feat five consecutive times. At no time did she see the cards and she was not informed as to the correctness of her identifications.

To pick the colors accurately once is a chance of one in three. To do this five times in a row denotes a chance of one in 243. Patricia Stanley has done the series of five over and over again, with many different colors. *The odds for this are less than one in 10,000.*

Dr. Youtz has described the experiment which he considers most impressive. He states that he does not believe in extrasensory perception or telepathy or clairvoyance. Nevertheless, he has taken great care to be sure that he is not unconsciously telling Mrs. Stanley how to identify colors by any of these means.

Two specimens each of red, yellow, green, blue, purple, black and white cloth, 14 pieces in all, were jumbled together on the floor of the light-proof box. Mrs. Stanley put her arms through the black sleeves, mixed the cloth squares again and went on to identify them. Dr. Youtz, said that this test, which was run three times, was conducted in a double-blind manner so that neither Dr. Youtz nor Mrs. Stanley could see the squares before the identification was made. She was not told the results of her identifications. However, in the first test she called correctly 11 out of 14 of the cloth squares, in the second run she got 13 of 14 correct, and in the third try she identified 12 out of 14 correctly.

Dr. Youtz calculates the odds against such a score to be several million to one. Mrs. Stanley's mistakes were made in distinguishing between yellow and white.

Although these tests were designed to shed some light upon the physical or physiological nature of Mrs. Stanley's ability, so far Dr. Youtz has no explanation to offer. He considers that it may be some chemical or electrostatic or photoelectric phenomenon but so far the evidence suggests that it is not chemical and there is nothing to support the other two theories either. He believes that her mysterious ability has not yet been explained by any known physical or physiological mechanism.

Mrs. Stanley says she has to rub the colors with her fingertips for 30 seconds or more to identify them. In some tests she handles the colored cloths directly, at other times she rubs her fingers over plastic or glass coverings placed over colored paper. This rules out any identification to be made from differences in texture. She herself does not know how she makes the identifications.

She further reports, "The light colors are smoother or thinner or lighter in weight. The dark colors are thicker or rougher or heavier. Red, blue and green just feel like red, blue and green."

Mrs. Stanley's ability diminishes

if the glass covering the colors is too thick. When the glass is three thousandths of an inch thick she can call the color correctly, but she cannot do this when the glass is as much as a 16th of an inch thick.

Temperature apparently plays an important part in Mrs. Stanley's ability. When it falls below 75 degrees Fahrenheit her ability to identify colors drops to no better than chance. Likewise, when her fingers and the color samples were put into warm water (91 degrees F.) her ability disappears.

Dr. Youtz and his colleagues are fascinated by the possibility that Pat's ability may exist in, or be taught to, others. Dr. Youtz has now extended his research to testing 125 Barnard psychology students to see if they can distinguish colors to any degree with their fingertips. Preliminary tests suggest that some five to 15 per cent of these students can do so. In these tests, being done in January, 1964, the girls are given three plastic-covered color samples. Their hands are inside the light-proof experimental box. Two of the cards are the same color and the third is different. They are asked to pick the different color. Some girls have demonstrated some ability during the preliminary tests, Dr. Youtz said. Girls with ability are encouraged to practice. This further work is being sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, Md., in an effort to find whether devices can be developed to help the blind. It is essential to learn if this mysterious ability is common throughout the population.

The Russians also are conducting tests with students to determine what percentage have some ability to see with their fingertips. Their ratios as known to date are about the same as those given by Dr. Youtz. They have stated that they feel that anyone with any small ability in this direction can be taught to "see" better.

There are some striking differences in the abilities of the two women, Flint's Patricia Stanley and Russia's Rosa Kuleshova. Pat distinguishes colors in the dark and cannot read printed words at all. Rosa reads printed texts, art work, photographs and music but must have light even to distinguish colors. Rosa has some "sight" in other parts of her body but Dr. Youtz has not yet tested Mrs. Stanley's skin, other than the skin of her hands for the ability. She does touch the color samples with her fingers, thumb and both hands.

* * *

THINGS DID NOT go so well when Dr. Youtz, and John Lentz of Columbia University, again tested Mrs. Stanley in January, 1964, when she performed only occasionally better than chance allows.

"I just don't feel right. I'm not doing it right and I know it," Mrs. Stanley said after a two-hour session at the testing box. She volunteered this opinion before her failures were reported to her.

Dr. Youtz confirmed her fears, but had no explanation for her inability to repeat her successes of last summer. He did say that psychological tests often encounter unforeseen difficulties.

At one point during the tests in January Mrs. Stanley discriminated among colors in a way that made the odds as high as one to 243 again, but Dr. Youtz described her over-all performance as inconsistent.

One theory advanced by Dr. Youtz to explain this ability to "see" with the fingertips is that heat waves from the fingers might be reflected by different colors in different ways. Perhaps those who detect colors in this manner do so by sensing this difference. This idea was considered, tested and then rejected by the Russian scientists.

It was warm in Flint last summer and, of course, it was warm in June in Owensboro, Ky., in 1939, when Mrs. Stanley first exhibited her strange ability. It was cold in Flint in January during the unsatisfactory tests. Although Dr. Youtz warmed the experimental box and even warmed Mrs. Stanley's hands in warm water, since he had found earlier that temperature does have an effect, Mrs. Stanley still could not perform above chance consistently.

The Russians also report that temperature has a marked effect upon the ability to "see" with the fingers. And, further, they report that the fingertips must be absolutely dry.

At the end of a long unsuccessful session Dr. Youtz said, "Well, we have an idea that it might be the cold and an idea that she might have stage fright — attempting to do this in front of strangers. It is only by eliminating the things that have a negative effect on her ability that we can come around to finding out how it happens."

Dr. Youtz had hoped to use color samples that had been kept in the dark for a month or more before Mrs. Stanley touched them during the January, 1964, experiments. It is not known whether he did this. This experiment was designed to explore the possibility of a photoelectric effect.

Dr. DeGraaf was not present at the tests in January because of a death in his family. But on the telephone he expressed surprise that Mrs. Stanley did not perform as well as she had last summer. "Her performance certainly seemed convincing at that time," Dr. DeGraaf said.

And so it is hoped that the tests

will go on. Cooperation with the Russian scientists could be most helpful it would seem.

* * *

PATRICIA AINSWORTH Stanley is friendly and eager to help humanity with her gift. She does not take her responsibilities lightly. As well as being public spirited she is a dedicated homemaker, doing a great deal of sewing and gardening. One source of great pride to her is the Stanley garden which supplies the family with a great many fresh vegetables. Last year it also yielded a cash crop of three and one-half acres of corn. Mrs. Stanley drives a school bus for the Kearsley system.

When I talked with Pat Stanley, at FATE's suggestion, I found her to be charming and outgoing, a woman I felt I had known a long time. Her voice is warm and friendly, with a rich Southern accent. She is modest and not eager for publicity. She told me she does not enjoy this sudden national recognition. It struck me that she is a little bewildered at being plummeted into the world limelight. Most of all, she doesn't wish to be thought of as a curiosity.

I asked Mrs. Stanley if, in her opinion, some facet of extrasensory perception could have some bearing on her ability. She did not seem to understand my meaning and I had to rephrase my question. While she has no idea as to *how* she "reads" with her fingertips, she told me that Dr. Youtz believes that there is a genuinely scientific basis for it all. At any rate, Mrs. Stanley is anything but a mystic or visionary.

Pat, who was born in Lindsay, Okla., is 42 years old and the mother of four lively sons, Jerry, 17; Ralph, 15; David, 14; and Charles, nine. The Stanleys live on a 10-acre homesite.

* * *

THE ABILITIES of Mrs. Stanley are similar to, though not as developed as, those of Rosa Kuleshova, the young Russian woman whose abilities were described in detail in the July, 1963, issue of FATE.

Rosa Kuleshova not only can detect colors with her finger tips but actually can read ordinary type and view photographs. In addition, Soviet researchers have found that other areas of her skin are light sensitive and that she can "see" even with a portion of her tongue.

For skeptical American researchers the significance of the research on Rosa Kuleshova is that several scientific disciplines collaborated on it. These included psychologists, neurologists, cyberneticists, physiologists, biophysicists and oculists.

Their research involved theories the she had an extraordinarily developed and refined touch, that

she might be differentiating the colors by their heat (infra-red) radiations, and even that telepathy was involved.

The conclusion of the USSR Academy of Sciences is that Rosa has genuine light receptors—organs of vision—in her skin. It has been established that she has about 10 light sensory elements in each square millimeter of her fingertips.

It has been established further that she has in the light sensitive areas of her skin receptors similar to the cones of the human retina that differentiate colors. Man's color vision is three-dimensional. Each cone has three light receptors, one of which reacts to blue, one to red and one to green.

Rosa Kuleshova's fingers have the three types of light receptors for red, blue and green. Studies show that their sensitivity corresponds exactly to the cones of the human eye. Experiments with Rosa showed they work in the same way.

If the eye shifts rapidly from red to gray, for example, it sees blue. Rosa perceives the same color changes with her fingers.

The phenomenon called light inertia, which explains why we do not notice the fluctuations on a movie or TV screen, also operates with Rosa. The eye, although we are not aware of it, is in constant motion—if the motion stops we stop seeing. Similarly, Rosa Kuleshova must keep her fingers moving for them to see.

Also, when Kuleshova's fingers were flooded with an excess of light, it took some time for them to readjust so they could "see" again.

Meanwhile the Russians are going ahead with this research and conclude that many persons have similar abilities, some of it latent. It is virtually certain, moreover, that persons with the ability can learn to improve it.

Russian scientists now are convinced that all this points to a "tactile-optical" sense that we did not know man possessed. This sense is similar to vision and is connected with the visual centers of the brain. It differs, however, in that it is more tactile than visual. Eye vision takes in the whole object at once, but the fingers unfold the image. The scientists believe this new "sixth" sense is certain to enrich optics, physiology of the sense organs, psychology, teaching methods and the theory of cognition.

Russians Investigate *Fingertip* Vision

New Russian tests show subjects can learn to identify colors and even simple figures with their fingertips

Reprinted from USSR, *Soviet Life Today*, February 1964
Originally appeared in Soviet magazine *Science and Life*.

DOCENT ABRAM Novomeisky, head of the psychology laboratory of the Nizhni Tagil Teachers Training School, visited our editorial offices to tell us about the conclusions reached by the Ural scientists who studied "the Tagil phenomenon."

When he concluded his story, he suggested to those assembled that they try to see whether they too could learn to differentiate color with their fingers. Boris Malyshev, an artist, volunteered for the test. Docent Novomeisky blindfolded him with a dark cloth which let no light through. "I do this not so much to prevent you from taking a peek," the scientist explained, "as to switch off your instrument of sight and force you to concentrate on tactile sensation."

A carefully wiped glass was placed on the desk, and on it two sheets of colored paper: yellow and red. "At first the colors have to be pure, not mixed, and the surface of the paper must be uniform," Novomeisky explained. "It is important that the fingers of the subject be dry."

Novomeisky first tried to get his subject to relate the tactile sensation to the color. He put Malyshev's hand on the yellow sheet and told him to rub the surface lightly with

three fingers—the index, third and fourth—while Novomeisky said several times in succession, "This is yellow." The procedure was repeated with the second color.

Then Novomeisky fixed in the subject's mind the difference in the sensations that the yellow and red colors gave him. He suggested that Boris touch the sheets alternately and try to determine the difference in his perceptions. While Malyshev did this, Novomeisky told him the color of the sheet he was touching.

In about five minutes Malyshev had begun to feel something of the difference between the colors. He said: "The yellow paper seems to be more porous and smooth, and the red sticky."

"All right," Novomeisky said. "What we have done is establish a reflex action in a rough way. Now let us get on to the tests." He changed the places of the two sheets on the glass and asked the artist to say which color was which. In seconds Malyshev accurately called the colors.

Then the scientist made the test more difficult. He slipped a third sheet on the glass, mixed them all up and asked Boris what the colors were. Malyshev rubbed the sheets alternately and then said: "This one is yellow, this one is red, and this is also red." All correct.

"Now try to determine the color of the paper without the help of comparisons," the docent suggested.

He placed a single sheet on the glass. Boris rubbed it, thought for a second, rubbed it again and called the right color.

"Very good," the scientist said, obviously pleased. "Your passing this test means that you are beginning to fix the colors in your mind not by the difference in sensations but by associating a definite sensation with a definite color. Now I'll give you a more complicated task."

He covered the colored sheets lying on the glass with transparent tracing paper, rough side up. "The tracing paper will make it a bit more difficult to perceive the colors," he explained, "but we want to make the test more rigorous by excluding any influence the structure of the colored surfaces themselves might have on your perception."

And this time Malyshev did have to take a much longer time figuring out the difference in his sensations before he called, correctly again, the colors of the sheets under the tracing paper.

Then another artist sat down to do the tests. He passed all of them and did better than his predecessor by this additional test.

"If we place two sheets of colored paper on top of each other,"

the docent told his audience, "for some strange reason the dominant sensation will be produced by the color on the bottom sheet."

He placed two sheets, yellow and red, in front of the subject and asked him to identify the colors. The answers were correct. Then Novomeisky mixed the sheets, slipped a red sheet under the yellow, and under the red another yellow sheet. The subject felt the top sheets and without hesitation named the colors of the two lower sheets.

"So you see," Novomeisky summed up, "the fingers of your artist are not inferior to Kuleshova's."

"Can Rosa distinguish the form of the image in addition to the colors?" someone asked him.

"That can be learned too," the docent replied. "I did some experimenting with my students. After some training they were able to determine the limits of two colors and then the shape of the image.

"Here is how it was done. We placed sheets of black and white paper on a glass. The subject tested learned how to differentiate one color from another. After he had mastered that, he was asked to determine the limits of the image of a simple black figure (but one he did not know) on a white background. After repeating experiments with various simple figures, we went on to large black letters on a white background."

THE GHOST OF SANDRINGHAM

THE SERVANT'S quarters at Sandringham, the great country house of England's royal family, reportedly is haunted by a prank-playing ghost. Some of the alarming happenings described by staff members are hollow footsteps along corridors when no walker is visible, doors opening to reveal nothing or no one entering or leaving, and lights turning on and off without human hands touching the switches.

The mysterious disturbances at Sandringham appear to begin on Christmas Eve and to continue for six to eight weeks. The most frequently haunted area appears to be the sergeant footman's corridor on the second floor. Housemaids, the reports state, refuse to go there alone to clean and dust.

One footman refused to sleep in the room assigned to him, explaining that he had seen as well as heard a large paper sack "breathe in and out" like a grotesque lung. Other servants have reported such manifestations as Christmas cards being moved from one wall to another and freshly made beds being stripped. In each case, it is said, the occupant of the room had locked the door and taken the key.

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.

THE WEIRD COFFIN

By Clarence E. Drumheller

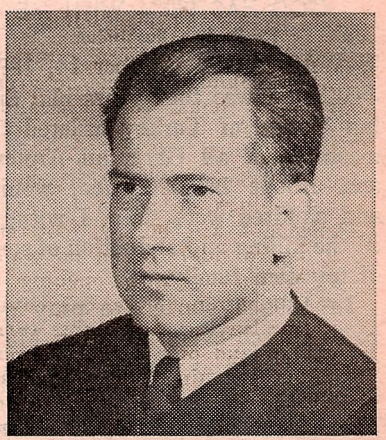
DURING THE early years of our marriage, my wife sometimes alluded to a mystical experience which happened from time to time to her mother, Mrs. Martin Weiss. The circumstances were always the same. Mrs. Weiss would see a coffin rise up from the floor and immediately she would know that someone in the family had died. It was several years after our marriage, while we lived in Denver, that the following incident took place.

In March, 1948, my wife and I were living in a house on Tejon Street with her father and mother. All of us had just moved there from El Paso, Tex. My father-in-law is by nature slow to let people know when he changes his address, and he had not done so this time. After we had been in Denver about one month his wife announced tearfully at breakfast that some member of the family had died "last night." She didn't know who it was that died, but she was sure it was someone in the family.

Looking as though she had seen a ghost, she told of seeing the coffin rise up out of the floor that morning about 6:00 A. M. when she had begun to fix breakfast.

"It came up right over there," she said, pointing to a rather large spot at the far side of the kitchen.

All members of "the family" lived across the country in Ohio. As



CLARENCE E. DRUMHELLER

I was more concerned about my mother-in-law's frightful condition, I took the report she gave rather casually and with much skepticism.

Not so, my father-in-law! He wrote immediately to the family giving them his address. He received in return a telegram reporting the death of his sister's husband. He had died only an hour or so before my mother-in-law saw the rising coffin.

Since that time I have been a confirmed believer. I was there and I know this happened.

My mother-in-law always has seen the coffin when a close relative in either her family or her husband's has died. She never has seen it when no one has died. — *Westhampton Beach, L. I., N. Y.*

GOD HAS BEEN WITH ME

By Reuben Kashishian

I WAS BORN October 14, 1892. When I was four years old, Sultan Hamid of Turkey ordered the massacre of all Christian Armenians. About 200,000 men, women and children were slain. I witnessed the killing and abduction of some of my own family.

In 1899 I started to pray and go to church every morning. Many times I fasted as penance for God's favors.

In August, 1906, while I was praying the Holy Ghost appeared to me and the whole world became heavenly. This was in the daytime. The next night an angel appeared to me in my dream, took me to our farm 20 miles away, and said, "Son, go out and hide under the weeds. Seven storms are coming." While I was under the weeds seven storms passed and destroyed everything in sight.

When I awoke in the morning I told my mother of my dream. She said we would have seven years of war and the entire family would be killed, except me.

I came to the United States in 1908. In the fall of 1911 the Balkan War against Turkey began. Following this came World War I. It took exactly seven years for the fighting to end. All my people were killed except my twin brother.

In 1912 a medical examiner for an insurance company refused to issue a policy because I had a bad heart. I prayed to God that night. Suddenly I had a severe pain around my heart, and the Holy Ghost appeared and passed through my body. The next day I was in perfect health. The same doctor examined me for army service and said so.

In 1913 I had pain near my appendix. The doctor advised me to undergo an immediate operation. I prayed to God, and the pain stopped right away. I never was operated on.

On Memorial Day in 1921 my

brother was married and in July of that year an angel appeared to me in my sleep. He asked if I had any money for the poor. I said I had only two pennies in my pocket, an old one and a new one. I gave them to him but as he was leaving asked for one back. He returned the old penny. I asked, what does this mean? He said my brother's wife was going to have a baby and the baby was going to die. The mother will be very sick but will live, he said.

I called by brother and told him about my dream. He did not believe it. He said there was not going to be a baby. A week later he came to me and told me his wife was going to have a baby. I told him to get a doctor to care for her, as she was going to have trouble and lose her baby. The doctor did not believe it, said it was humbug.

On March 29, 1922, the doctor predicted the baby would be born about noon that day. It was not. The next day a specialist from Jefferson Hospital performed a Caesarean operation on her, but the baby died. The mother was very ill. The doctor looked at me peculiarly, thinking of my prediction. For four months the mother was ill and could not walk. Then her fever hit 104 degrees. The doctor said he was going to stay around, as the girl was very sick. I told him she would be better the next day, but he gave me a sly look. That day the fever left her, and the next day she started to walk. The doctor and my brother were surprised.

In 1918, I saw in *True Story Magazine* a picture of a beautiful girl named Mary. I prayed to God and said, "Heavenly Father, if you are going to give me a wife, give me one just like that."

The day after her recovery, my brother's wife said to me, "How about marrying my sister? She is pretty and educated." I told her I would ask my guardian angel. That night I dreamt I was locked in a basement, but my angel came and put me on a road and said, "The road is clear for you."

On August 7, 1922, this girl came to America. Her name is Mary and she is beautiful and prayed every night. We were married.

In 1928 my daughter was very sick with measles. One night I saw an angel praying for her. I asked my wife if she had seen the angel, but she had not. The next day my daughter was better and out of bed.

All through my life God has been with me, and he has shown me the most important thing in the world is to love one another.—*Philadelphia, Pa.*

GOOSE WITH ESP

By Lew R. Merrell

LAST WEEK while visiting my grandchildren, I was quite sur-

prised to find that they have a duck as a pet. They let him out of his pen and he follows them around like a dog. By now he is large and well filled-out, and I inquired as to what they eventually will do with him. I soon learned that he has become such a pet that no-one in the family relished the thought of eating him.

During our discussion of the duck someone brought up the question of whether a pet bird or animal has an extra-sensory perception when and if the moment comes to prepare it for the table.

This reminded me of the time I won a live goose at the Elk's Club raffle on November 15, 1922. I was living in Evanston, Ill., then, in a 10-room house. My parents already had a turkey for Thanksgiving, so we put this large goose in a wire pen in the yard to keep him for the next holiday dinner which would be Christmas.

He readily became a neighborhood pet and the children for blocks around took delight in bringing him all kinds of food. Whenever anyone came out of the back door to feed him, the goose would race around the pen and flap his wings in anticipation.

Christmas time came, and I thought it would be easy to shoot him with a .22 rifle, which I kept in the house. As I approached his pen on this occasion the gander took one look at me and quickly thrust his head underneath his wing. What a shocking change! Whereas he had always welcomed my visits, he now tried to hide in the corner. I immediately knew in my heart that I could not shoot him.

We finally gave him to a local janitor, who took care of several apartments, and who no doubt took care of the goose, too.—*Chicago, Ill.*

SWEET BABY OF BREAD

By Vera Parsons

WHILE VACATIONING in Ecuador in 1962 I purchased a *guagua de pan* from a jungle Indian. In *Quechua,* an Indian language, *guagua* means "baby" and *de pan,* "of bread."

Someone later told me it was a talisman with great power, that it was employed daily by most Indians, and that it was used in secret witchcraft rites and religious festivities. Only if I bought one at Easter would it not be ill-omened.

My *guagua de pan* looked like a painted red devil with no tail. It was approximately 12 inches long and five inches wide, with white flowers painted on its body and two wavy yellow and light blue lines down each side. A small nude white bread baby sat on its left shoulder. Horns about two inches high projected from its skull. It

cost me about $3.00 and I treasured it.

The day after I purchased it I broke my expensive camera. The next day I was bitten in the thigh by two wild Indian dogs.

When I reached my home in Miami, Fla., I carefully hung the *guagua de pan* on the wall for everyone to see. When I explained its use to a friend with spiritualist learnings, she cautioned, "Get rid of that jinx now."

I did not. The following week I was rushed to the hospital with pneumonia, and when I returned to my law office I found that I had been replaced. Thus, when the "baby" dropped to the floor breaking all its "bones," I was not averse to getting rid of it.

Mrs. Colten, my dentist's wife and assistant, offered to take it as a conversation piece for her office. "I've got a good feeling about it," she said. "I'm also a registered nurse, and we're not a superstitous lot."

It was my roommate who had to turn the "baby" over to Mrs. Colton the next day, for I was in the hospital again, having broken some ribs, teeth and my left wrist after slipping on the bedroom rug.

Thirteen days after she received the "baby" Mrs. Colton phoned me overnight she had developed a cyst on her left wrist.

She called later that same month to inform me that all her affairs were topsy-turvy and that the dentist was in the hospital with a nervous breakdown. I swallowed hard.

A few days later she contacted me again. Her assistant had been raped.

She was sure the "baby" had nothing to do with any of these happenings, but she decided she no longer needed such a "conversation piece," and so she threw it in the trash can.

I cannot help but wonder what happened to the trash collector.—*Brooklyn, N.Y.*

PROPHETIC DREAM

By Brenda Kelley

ONE NIGHT in the spring of 1951 I was dreaming in the



BRENDA KELLEY

somewhat jumbled, apparently meaningless ordinary way of dreams, when suddenly this haphazard dream was overlaid by another, entirely different theme: the log I had painted for decoration and had placed in the wood-burning fireplace was exploding with a loud crack, and hundreds of dangerously burning sparks were flying about the living room!

This second dream, so detailed as to seem real, terrified me so much that I awoke and sat up in bed, relieved to discover it was only a dream.

The next morning I was so busy dressing and feeding the family, I forgot the dream. I did not recall it later even when I lighted the gas jet behind the decorated log. I often did this on cool spring mornings, as we were past the winter time need to burn wood in the fireplace, and the small flame warmed the room sufficiently. There was a distance of many safe inches between the flame and the painted log. After an hour, when the room was comfortable, I turned off the flame.

Hours later, about 11:00 A. M., I was ready to leave my Fort Worth, Tex., home for a trip to Dallas. After putting my baby in the car I made a final check of the house. Everything was fine; no fires or lights had been left burning. As I pulled the door closed behind me, in the moment before the automatic lock clicked, I suddenly was unnerved by the recall of my brief, vivid nightmare.

I re-entered the house, feeling very foolish, for I already had double-checked the fireplace. But as I approached it, there was a loud cracking sound—a small explosion! In some inexplicable way the log had been smoldering in its dry resinous crevices, and pressure had built up until the log actually exploded.

The explosion threw sparks and smoldering bits of wood out onto many vulnerable places. But, because I was right there, the damage was very slight. The miraculous thing about this incident was that my being there was the direct result of a dream that was an *exact* replica of an event yet to come! — *Fort Worth, Tex.*

FINDING BY FORGETTING

UNHAPPY after her car was stolen in Kerrville, Tex., Mrs. Joel Ayala took a trip to Boerne, Tex., to visit her sister-in-law in order to "forget" about her loss. While walking in Boerne, she discovered her car, which was in fine shape except for an empty gas tank.

Fingers of FATE

By Harold Helfer

Two old friends who had not seen each other in 30 years met with a thud at Fairfield, Iowa. Carl Martin's car rammed into the rear of one driven by his old acquaintance, Rudolph Parker, of Grinnell, Iowa.

●

As editor of the town newspaper, Richard Shelton launched a physical fitness campaign in Shelby, N. C. After participating in a one-mile run down the main street he dropped dead.

●

As therapy for a broken right leg, Peter Jantzen, of Vancouver, Canada, pedaled the equivalent of five miles a day on a stationary bicycle. The other day he finally got back on the real thing, collided with another bicycle ridden by a nephew, and broke his leg again.

●

For three consecutive nights Mrs. Berdis Cook dreamed that the safe in the Hattiesburg, Miss., drug store where she works had been robbed. The morning after the third night, when she arrived at the store, she discovered that the safe had been ripped open and $1000 in cash had been stolen.

●

Max and Rex DeShon of St. Joseph, Mo., are identical twins. They hold identical jobs; both men are county judges in adjoining Missouri counties.

●

Vernon Mitchel of Barlboro, England, lost his speech 16 years ago when he fractured his skull in a fall from a tree while playing Tarzan as a boy. The other day he was knocked unconscious by a speeding car — and regained his speech.

●

A year after losing her wedding band while baiting a fish-hook, Mrs. Carl Costello of Plaquemine, La., caught a fish in that stream. When her husband cleaned it, he found the ring inside.

●

Shortly after lecturing fellow workers on safety rules, Ross Garland, foreman of a Falls Church, Va., construction project was struck by a steel beam and killed.

Whistling SPIRITS OF ARORAE

The villagers said Tabanea had died on his distant island — for ghosts had whistled this news to them.

By Sir Arthur Grimble

THE WORK OF THE council of advice was hardly well finished when a ship of the Japanese trading company in the Marshall Islands brought unexpected news to Tarawa. The company had decided to send no more of its vessels to pick up copra in the Gilbert group south of Butaritari. What worried me about this ultimatum was that a number of the longshore traders down south were in the habit of holding their copra for the Japanese concern, which paid better prices than others. They had to be warned at once that their only buyers from that time on would be the rare British ships that came their way, and I was the only person there to do it. It was lucky, in the circumstances, that the 35-ton ketch *Choiseul* had come up from Abemama on her own business some days before and was waiting to take me back to the Central Gilberts. I chartered her that day for a quick run to the Southern Gilberts instead and went on board the same evening so as to be sure of an early start next morning. Thus it was that I fared forth to meet the whistling ghosts.

Our first landfall was Onotoa Island, 270 miles from Tarawa. There was no ship's passage into the lagoon in those days, and only one canoe—the native magistrate's —was waiting for us outside the reef. A steep westerly swell was running; the reef was a-lee; it was



Sir Arthur Grimble has been Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands and Governor of the Windward group.

tricky work maneuvering my transfer with a suitcase and a steel despatch box from the ketch to the canoe. I mention these points to leave it clear that no conversation passed between the ship and the canoe except the exchange of curt orders and responses about my transshipment. Certainly nobody in the ship's crew shouted anything by way of gossip from the northern islands. I could not possibly have missed hearing it if they had.

There was no talk in the canoe until we had shot the big surf in the boat passage, but when we had made the water the native magistrate said suddenly, apropos of nothing, "We hear Tabanea is dead."

The Tabanea he meant was my old friend the professional sorcerer of Tarawa. The death of a man like that could not fail to set the whole group talking, for there was not an island where he had not a crowd of customers for his peerless love potions and amulets. But he wasn't dead, I told the native magistrate; I had seen him only the week before, heartily enjoying the great song and dance at Tarawa.

It did not seem to impress him, though; he chatted on as if I had not spoken. "They say he died the day before yesterday, in the evening, of *te bo maiaona* (a blow from above him)."

"What's a blow from above him? Who says? What ship brought the news? Certainly not ours," I countered irritably.

It appeared that "a blow from above him" meant what we might call a seizure or stroke. He did not state who had spread the rumor, but said no ship had brought it. He was bound to say that; ours was, in fact, the only deep-sea craft in the Gilberts at the moment; the other was down in the Ellice group.

"So there you are," I wound up rather pompously, "it's just another silly bit of village tittle-tattle."

"Tao eng (perhaps yes)," he murmured, *"tao eng"*—meaning roughly, "Oh, well, let it go at that," and changed the subject.

The whole thing had slipped out of my mind by the time we landed. I was so used to village rumors

of that sort. Nobody else mentioned Tabanea to me for the 48 hours I stayed on Onotoa; probably the magistrate had warned everybody that the subject irritated me; in any case, it was not until I got to Arorae, the last island of the Southern Gilberts, that the next thing happened. It never would have happened if I had spent only a day or two there, as elsewhere. But I found trouble in the place—the nature of it does not matter here; the point is, it forced me to stay. The ketch left with a promise to be back in a month or so.

Arorae lies out in the blue, 100 miles from Onotoa. It is a lagoonless wisp of coral sand and coconuts, open on every side to the towering Pacific swells. When Westerly gales sweep up at it, the huge surf bellows week-long on the weather reef like a million driven bulls raging at the thresholds of the villages. The westerlies blew hard for most of my stay. I couldn't get away from that tortured roar, or the yelling of the coconut crests in the wind. The ceaseless, smothering din did something to my relations with the people; somehow, it seemed to be always between us. I felt very lonely among them. Perhaps that made me a good subject for a game of brown man's bluff.

Bluff or not, it began when I had endured nearly a week of the place. My one familiar friend on Arorae, a retired Tarawa policeman, married to a local woman and on a visit to his in-laws, came to look me up. Tarawa men adore a comfortable chin-wag, especially in their own dialect when they are among strangers. I fancy that was what tempted him to be so extra-communicative that evening. As soon as he was well seated on the guest mat, he began newsily, "So Tabanea is dead."

I smiled. "Now, now . . . you got that bit of gossip from Onotoa—by our ship.

He denied this blankly. He said he had heard it the Sunday before last. I pointed out that his timing made nonsense for me: our ship had not even arrived at Onotoa by his date. But he persisted that our ship had nothing to do with the case. He had heard about Tabanea's death the Sunday before last from his wife's very aged and absolutely infallible kinswoman, Nei Watia.

"Nei Watia has another name as a baptized Christian, but, for this kind of thing, one must always call her Watia," he explained.

"What kind of thing?" I naturally asked.

He was too wrapped up in his main theme to answer that at once. The old woman, he drove on, had mentioned two important details: Tabanea had died just before sunset, of a blow from above him.

I rubbed it in that the phrase was precisely the one that the native magistrate of Onotoa had used, but he overrode the irony. "Naturally the words are the same," he said; "the newsbearers do not speak with two voices. What they reported in Onotoa they reported to Nei Watia also, here in Arorae."

This was at least good entertainment, so I asked for more about Nei Watai's exceedingly single-voiced newsbearers.

It appeared they were alternatively called *Taani-kani-momoi*—the Whistlers. He said the Whistlers were the ghosts of dead relations—not the very long-dead ones — the more recently dead. These made a constant habit of returning to the Gilberts. Their domain was the air (he called it "the layer of wind"—as it were, the invisible plane) just above the level of the coconut crests. At that height, they flew up and down the islands seeing and hearing everything that happened. They came lower from time to time and passed the news on to anyone alive who understood their speech. Not many people did understand it, because they spoke in whistles; but Watia was an adept; she had power; she could actually order her particular ghost to come along and answer questions whenever she wanted.

I took his talk for a big boast. It was only by way of calling his bluff that I asked whether his infallible relation-in-law would undertake to ask her ghost a question for me. But, far from piping down, he put me on the spot instead.

"*Aongkoa* (of course)!" he replied at once. "Is it indeed your wish that I should ask her?"

I found it was not particularly my wish, but I could not withdraw. The upshot was that he came back the next night with an invitation for me to go with him at once to Nei Watia.

I followed him through the bush to a stony, treeless space above the weather beach. It was a wild night; the place was shuddering and thundering with the fury of the surf; but the moonlight flooded it starkly between racing cloud shadows. A solitary screened shack stood out in the open, 50 paces away. I saw the glimmer of a faint light through the plaited screens. He pointed:

"There is Nei Watia," he said. "I cannot go in with you," and left me standing there. I watched him plunge back into the blackness of the bush.

The thatch was so low that I could not stand upright inside. A hurricane lamp was burning on the floor. An incredibly aged face was glaring up at me around the light, almost from floor level. It had a cutty pipe in its mouth; its lips were moving, but I heard no words. I stood there mute until a

skeleton hand flailing above the face ordered me to be seated. I squatted, cross-legged as she was, on my side of the lamp, fascinated by this ruinous, wild-haired mask. The lips moved again, but the roaring of the night drowned her voice. I craned an ear forward. Then with atrocious suddenness the mask was convulsed and lunged up at me. She tore the pipe from her gums and shrieked into my face, *"Tabanea is dead!"* Nothing but that. I had not recovered from the shock of it when the whistling began.

A single note, strident, like a cricket's, sounded from behind my left ear. I whipped my head around. Nobody was there. A second chirrup fell from the roof. I sprang to my feet; my head struck the ridge pole; the witch screamed with laughter; but I hardly noticed it, for the whistling was at once all around me. It wasn't harsh now, but multitudinous. It crowded in on my ears wherever I turned, as if a host of tiny invisible birds were twittering up there in the shadows of the roof.

I dived out into the moonlight and pelted around the shed. In that white glare everything was visible. There was nobody on the roof, no tree, no sizable rock within 50 yards where anyone could be hiding. Back under the thatch, I fell on hands and knees to stare into the crone's face. Her gums were clenched, but still the twittering went on over head. There was no break in it even when she shouted at me, "The Ancestor waits. What is your question?"

The Ancestor might have been her father, for all I knew. I did not ask, but shouted back at once, sprawling there on my knees, "When will the Japanese ship be returning to Arorae?"

She stared at me for a long moment. "You have told us the ship will not return," she said at last.

"Yes, yes, Grandmother," I replied, "but perhaps I was wrong. What does the Ancestor say?"

Her answer was to twist her face over her huddled shoulder and howl at the roof, "The Man of Matang asks when the ship of the Japan men will return."

The twittering ceased. For half a minute I heard nothing but the noises of the night. Then there came a Morse-like succession of strident chirrups, followed by a dozen phrases of something like bird song that faded gradually back into the clamor of wind and sea.

"The Ancestor has spoken," muttered the witch. "Count 23 days from tonight, and the ship will arrive." That ended the session.

"Well—so much for the whistling ghosts and their news!" I said to myself outside. "A mere trick of ventriloquism." Just how she could have whistled and talked at

the same time, or thrown a chirrup with her mouth shut, I couldn't imagine; and I was puzzled to think why she should have said the ship would come when I had said it wouldn't. "What an old hoax—she and her precious Ancestor!" I thought, clinging to the hoax idea rather desperately as I groped my way home through the screaming darkness of the bush.

But the fact is, Tabanea was dead, and he had died in the evening, and the cause of his death was a blow from above him — an embolism, the doctor called it. He was found lying in his dwelling house at just about the time I went on board the ketch at Tarawa. The ketch lay anchored 11 miles down-lagoon from his village. Obviously, the crew *could* have heard the news before we left next morning. But, knowing how fond I was of him they wouldn't—they couldn't conceivably—have kept the thing to themselves on our southward run, had they heard it. It was the very first news they rushed to tell me when they came back to pick me up.

Also, the Japanese ship did return. The prediction was a little out in point of time—she arrived on the 22nd day, not the 23rd. She came to pick up two copra lighters which she had left at Arorae.

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WEATHERMAN'S WOE

FORECASTERS at the Muskegon, Mich., Weather Bureau consulted their instruments and charts one Monday and confidently predicted a mild day with sunny skies. The prediction was somewhat short of being 100% correct. A sudden, small storm drenched the weather bureau and little else in Muskegon with a half-inch of rain.

IN DEATH'S DIRECTION

THE INGERSOLL School in Washburn, N. Dak., named for Robert Ingersoll, the well-known American lecturer, was built so that it faced north. On March 21, 1899, the day on which Ingersoll died, a sudden windstorm shifted the building around on its foundation so that it now faced east — the direction of Dobb's Ferry, N.Y., where Ingersoll's death occurred.

Diving for lost

UFO

Efforts are being made to salvage a disc which seemed in mechanical trouble when it sank in a river in Brazil.

By Coral Lorenzen

FOR ALMOST 18 years serious UFO researchers have looked forward to the day when a UFO or flying saucer would crash or land in a non-military area so that it could be examined by civilians. It appears that this has happened. However, the big problem now is the method by which the crashed object can be retrieved—for it fell into the Rio Peropava, near Iguape, in Brazil.

On December 12, 1963, Mr. Lorenzen and I met Dr. Olavo Fontes, APRO's Brazilian representative, and his wife and two of their children at Tucson's International Airport. After the usual words of greeting the doctor said to me, "How would you like to see and touch a flying saucer?"

Although Dr. Fontes has a sense of humor, never in the seven years of our association and friendship have I known him to joke about UFOs. To him as to me, they are a serious subject to study.

Nevertheless, I said, "Now you're teasing me, Olavo."

He replied, "If you come to Brazil you may have the opportunity to examine a UFO," and he pulled a sheaf of clippings from his pocket and handed them to me.

They were from Brazilian newspapers and therefore in Portuguese. But I was able to make out the headlines and subheads with my limited knowledge of the language. They read: *Flying Disc Disappears in Water of Peropava, in Sao Paulo, Mystery Continues, Mine Detector Used in Search for Flying Disc, Mud Impedes Search for Flying Disc, etc.* These stories had appeared in the following newspapers: *Di-*

ario da Noite, Sao Paulo, *A Nacao,* Sao Paula, *Diario Parana,* Curitaba, and *Noticias Populares,* Sao Paulo.

The details given in the news items left little to be asked and the treatment by all the papers was entirely serious. I was and am curious, however, as to why this information was not sent out of Brazil by the world news agencies.

On October 31, 1963, at 2:30 P. M. several people on the banks of the Peropava River, in Sao Paulo Province, Brazil, heard a loud roar. Looking up they were startled to see a shiny disc-shaped object. It was coming in at a very low altitude, just above the house of Mrs. Elidia Alves de Souza. At the side of this house, near the river, stands a palm tree. As the object passed the tree it gouged the side of it near the top. Then the disc began some erratic maneuvers which suggested that it was having difficulty regaining its flight attitude after the collision. Suddenly, it plunged into the river near the shore, opposite the de Souza house.

Witnesses said later that when the object came into contact with the water it was as if a hot iron had fallen into cold water. The water began to bubble and surged up at that spot. Then the water became exceedingly muddy and continued to "boil." The Peropava River at that point is about 12 feet deep with about 15 feet of clay and mud at the bottom.

The witness closest to the object was nine-year-old Rute (Ruth) de Souza, daughter of Elidia. The object flew directly over her head. She looked up when she first heard the loud roar and thus witnessed the collision of the object with the palm tree and its subsequent submersion. Frightened, she started toward the house to get her mother who, in the meantime, also had heard the roar and left her work to come outside.

At the same time Raul Alves de Souza, Rute's uncle, who was working about 100 yards away, heard the roar and came toward the house at a dead run. He and Mrs. de Souza were in time to witness the bubbling of the river in the spot where the disc had submerged.

On the opposite bank fishermen, including Japanese Tetsuo Ioshigawa, also heard the roar and witnessed the whole episode.

Questioning of the witnesses by police from Iguape later yielded the following information: The disc was small, about one meter (40 inches) in thickness, five meters (16 feet) in diameter, and resembled an "aluminum basin". It was very bright, almost luminous. It was travelling at a slow speed even when first sighted.

Police investigating at the scene found where something had scraped

a notch out of the palm tree near its top. It was estimated that the UFO was at about 15 feet altitude when it struck the tree; thereafter it began its thrashing and writhing maneuvers. All witnesses agreed that it seemed to be having trouble just before it dropped into the river.

In the days that followed, reporters and photographers from Iguape and Sao Paulo came to interview and photograph the witnesses and the scene of the crash. With them came professional divers who attempted to find the disc on the river bottom.

Diario da Noite for November 7, Sao Paulo, carried an article summing up the high points of the sighting and subsequent crash of the disc and describing the efforts of diving instructor Caetano Germano Iovanne and his companions, Peter Runger and Manoel Batista Andrade. After several attempts and four hours of unsuccessful labor they said they were hampered by thick mud at the bottom of the Peropava River.

On December 3 *Dairio da Noite* carried another article about attempts to recover the disc. They stated that another team of divers, directed by Gigi del Maschio, had spent two weeks probing for the disc. Special diving equipment and an air compressor to provide air for the breathing apparatuses was brought in by Maschio and he said he intended to probe and slowly search the bottom for any sign of the object.

Jose Carlos Ariovaldo de Carvalho, of the Iguape Police, told reporters he did not believe the object was a part of a meteorological probe or balloon as had been suggested by some persons. The shape, size, and sound of the object suggested a self-propelled, possibly remote-controlled aircraft of unknown nature.

Mine detectors, probes, and divers were used in the search for the disc as early as November 7, and attempts to locate the object were still being made as late as December 3. Most persons involved in the search, however, felt that the 15 feet of mud at the bottom of the river might be an insurmountable obstacle even for the use of metal detectors.

It is necessary, also, to consider the possibility that the disc may have washed downstream, or been retrieved some way during the nights before the search started. Inasmuch as the area is populated, however, the latter is doubtful for any unusual activity at night probably would have been noticed.

It is apparent that the disc was heavy for it apparently sank immediately to a depth which produced a muddy upheaval within seconds after its submersion. Thus it seems possible that the object re-

mains imbedded in the deep, thick mud of the river bottom. In this case it may be only a matter of time until it is salvaged.

It obviously was experiencing some kind of mechanical failure when it first flew into the clearing by the river. It is the experience of investigators that UFO's, even at close range, characteristically make little noise and certainly do not roar. Further, the collision with the tree suggests that something was wrong with the guidance mechanism. Also, the discs are seldom observed at low altitude in populated areas.

Two other witnesses, Antonio de Sousa, 26, and Justine Nunes Veiga, 40, expressed what seems to be the opinion of all who saw the UFO when, on November 7, they told the Iguape newspaper that the object they had seen was so strange they were inclined to think it was "from another world."

GROWING GERANIUMS WITH MUSIC

AN EXPERIMENT in connection with the effect of music on plants produced remarkable results for Mrs. Chester A. Clements of Houston, Tex. Mrs. Clements told Pat Hyatt, who reported on it in the *Houston Chronicle*, that she decided to experiment after reading that an Illinois farmer had harvested a fantastically large crop as a result of playing music over loudspeakers to his growing corn.

Mrs. Clements said she used geraniums in her experiment as she had just joined the Houston Geranium Society. A close friend helped her to select two closely similar, peach-colored plants. Mrs. Clements placed them in pots of the same size, and gave them the same amount of fertilizer and water. She placed one geranium on a sun porch and the other inside the house under approximately equal conditions of temperature and light. The plant inside the house, however, was kept cuddled up to a small FM radio, which Mrs. Clements left turned on day and night.

Both plants soon blossomed, Mrs. Clements said, but the serenaded plant began leading with another bloom. After 30 days its stalks were straighter and its leaves were crisper and greener. In the same period the geranium which had been confined to silence looked wilted. Its bloom had withered and its stalks drooped. A *Chronicle* photo of the two plants, side by side, showed a distinct and noticeable difference in their appearance.

My Father's Promise

He warned me of bad news and he showed me what was going to happen. But why believe a dead man — seen in a dream?

By Ted Serios

IN 1947 I WAS living on the first floor of a building run by a lady named Mrs. McArdo in Chicago.

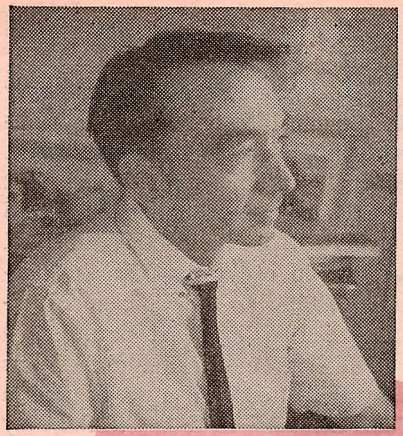
My father had died in 1939 and one night I dreamed that he came to me and sat at the foot of my bed and talked with me. He looked exactly as he had looked in life and was of the same age as when I had last seen him — in his early fifties. He was dressed as he used to dress and I can shut my eyes and see him today, looking exactly as he used to look.

He was wearing a big white panama hat with a black band, the wide brim turned down. He had on dark brown trousers, white and brown sport shoes, a light tan jacket, white shirt and I believe, although I am not sure of this, that he was wearing a green necktie.

I suppose it is a common enough thing to dream of one's dead father but this dream was something special. My father sat on the bed and talked with me. He told me many things that since have come true. I believe that the things my father told me that night saved my life.

The dream is still as vivid as if it had happened yesterday. I dreamed that I waked up and was surprised to see my father there. I said, "What are you doing here, Dad? You're dead?" Those are the exact words I said to him.

He replied, "Son, I have come to tell you something. You are going to have very bad news but everything is going to work out all right. I would like to show you



THE AUTHOR

Ted Serios, who is in his early 40's, is a resident of Chicago. An article dealing with the remarkable psychic photographs produced by him with a Polaroid camera appeared in the December, 1962, issue of FATE. He states he discovered this ability about 1953, when he allowed himself to be hypnotized by a friend.

with wrapped pipes. I can shut my eyes today and see those beds, and count them one by one up to 12, and see the pipes as well.

I had no sensation of traveling during the dream. Suddenly we were just there. I looked about the ward and then I woke up. That's all there was to the dream.

I told my mother about the dream where you're going to go and what is going to happen."

I told him "okay." It was as simple as that, except that throughout the dream I also realized that this wasn't really happening. I was dreaming and I knew it was just a dream.

The next thing that happened was that my father and I were standing in what I felt was a hospital ward. I knew it was a ward because of the rows of empty beds. But the thing that stood out most, even in the dream, was that the ceiling of the room was covered and she said that she often dreamed of Dad. This surprised me because it was the first time I could remember dreaming of him. I told my brother about it too, and I told the girl I was engaged to, Mary Landers. My family did not think it was anything more than a kind of nightmare and we all forgot about it.

Meanwhile my health had been fairly good. About two months before I had had a few heart palpitations but the doctor told me it was just due to nervousness because of getting out of the service. I had a

pretty complete physical examination at the time, and even had an x-ray, which showed negative.

A month after the dream, which would be about three months after my physical exam, I got very sick. I thought I had a cold. I coughed and coughed, and coughed up a nasty looking slug. My mother began to get worried about me and called in a doctor.

He came over and examined me, listening carefully to my chest. He just shook his head and said, "I'm writing a special notice to have you admitted to a hospital immediately. I believe you have tuberculosis."

He arranged for me to have an immediate X-ray, and I went to the lab with my mother. The doctor looked at the film and he said "Where did you get this, Son?"

"Get what?" I asked him.

"You've got a very bad case of TB," he said.

I told him I had no idea where I had got TB, but I said: "If it's that bad just level with me. How bad is it?"

He looked at my mother and me and hesitated. Finally he told me, "You seem like a person who can take this so I will tell you the truth. You can't expect more than two weeks."

The doctor was right to this extent. This news didn't bother me. I could only think of one thing and that was "God forgive me for all sins I ever committed."

The doctor told me he would try to get me into a hospital immediately because it was an emergency. Since I was a veteran I would get emergency attention, he said, and it was a question whether he could get me in at Walter Hines Veterans hospital or the Chicago Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium.

MTS came up first and I was admitted there in a week and a half, although in theory I had only a half week to live. I have since seen my X-ray and I had a lung cavity as big as a grapefruit and the reason the medics thought I would die so soon was because they had checked it against the negative X-ray taken only three months before. It had developed with unbelievable rapidity.

Meanwhile, during all this time, even when the doctor had told me I was dying I hadn't remembered a thing about my dream. I hadn't remembered my father's warning about bad news, or about his telling me that things would turn out all right.

When I was taken to the administration building at MTS I was terribly depressed, as you can imagine, and I could only think "Well, I'm dying." You can imagine how you'd feel if someone told you you were going to die.

I was in the admitting or receiving section for about two weeks

and I had a second X-ray. Then the doctor came to me and said, "Despite the fact that you're in critical condition, the X-ray looks like it's standing still. You're not getting worse and we have decided to put you in the Men's Sun Ward."

This was the first encouraging word I'd had from anyone in nearly a month and unless you've been in a TB sanitarium you can't know what his words, and being moved to the Men's Sun Ward, meant to me. Most important it meant that I wasn't going to a private room, because when they put you in a private room it usually means you're gone.

So they moved me into the Men's Sun Ward even though I was the only man in Ward 5 that was running a high temperature. As they wheeled me down there I passed through two wards, then passed by the office, then passed by two more wards. Still nothing dawned on me. Then the nurse opened the swinging doors and there was a small hallway on the right, and she opened the last door and said, "This is your ward."

The minute she wheeled me into that ward I knew. I knew it was the place I had visited with my dad in my dream. There were the beds — 12 of them. And there was the ceiling laced with covered pipes — because this was a basement ward. I knew every inch of that ward. Instantly, there was no doubt about it. The memory of that whole dream came flooding back.

And I knew something else, too. I knew that I was going to get well. I knew that everything was going to be all right and that I was going to beat this rap.

The only thing different between my dream and what I saw as I entered the Men's Sun Ward was that the beds were occupied when I was wheeled into it, whereas they had been empty in my dream.

I was in Municipal Sanitarium for 18 months. My treatment consisted of bedrest, pneumothorax and streptomycin. My sputum was negative when I left and I never have had a recurrence.

All these facts can be checked. I was admitted to the hospital under my mother's maiden name of McNeil. All the records and the X-rays are still there under the name of Ted McNeil. Anyone who wants to check them probably wouldn't have to do what I did one day when I staggered out of bed, sneaked into the office when the nurse was out and used a knife to unlatch the file cabinet lock. I looked at my chart under McNeil and have never forgotten what I read there: "Prognosis — doubtful."

I did not believe that then because I had already found my father's room — the Men's Sun Ward.

er I became interested in psy- natters, however, I was struck by one thing — how easy it is to forget even when you "dream true." In this case, I did not remember the dream even though I now realize that my life depended on it. If this was the case with me, how much more often this must happen when lives are not at stake!

ARE EARTH'S CONTINENTS FROM THE MOON?

THE STARTLING theory that the earth's continents fell from the moon was advanced recently by Dr. Hannes Alfven of the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden. Dr. Alfven believes that the moon once was a planet of the sun. Captured by the earth and subjected to tremendous gravitational stresses, it broke up, spilling much of its matter on the earth to form the continents. Prior to its disintegration, the moon may have been twice as large as it is now, filling more of the sky.

Dr. Alfven estimates that this cataclysmic event occurred about three and a half billion years ago. This date fits that for the formation of the earliest layers of the earth as determined by geology and radioactivity.

Dr. Alfven asserts that the crust of the earth, less dense than its core, is similar in density to the moon. This, he feels, supports his speculation that earth's continents have a lunar origin.

Whether a considerable difference in density exists between the exterior and the interior of the earth may be determined by the Moho Project, which is being conducted by the United States to bore into the interior of the earth through the crust. If the interior is found to be more solid than the crust, indicating we now live on the same type of matter as will be found on the moon, Alfven's hypothesis will have further support.

In the violent disintegration of the moon, not all the material released fell to earth. Much of it returned to the moon, forming the present craters. Other fragments, hurled out into space, are arriving on earth as meteors now.



The gentleman in England visited his brother in Boston. He had urgent news — about having been murdered.

By Robert E. Pike

COTTON MATHER, New England's most famous Divine, and son of the President of Harvard College, wrote the following interesting account of an apparition on p. 468, Vol. 2 of his *Magnalia Christi (1702)*:

"It was on the second of May, in the year 1687, that a most ingenious, accomplish'd, and well-dispos'd young gentleman, Mr. Joseph Beacon by name, about 5 a'clock in the morning as he lay, whether sleeping or waking he could not say (but he judg'd the latter of them), had a view of his brother, then at London, although he was now himself at our Boston, distanc'd from him a thousand leagues. This his brother appear'd to him in the morning (I say) about 5 a'clock, at Boston, having on him a Bengale gown which he usually wore, with a napkin ty'd about his head: his *countenance* was very pale, ghastly, deadly, and he had a bloody wound on one side of his forehead.

"'Brother!' says the affrighted Joseph.

"'Brother!' said the apparition.

"Said Joseph, 'What's the matter, brother? how came you here?'

"The apparition reply'd, 'Brother! I have been most barbarously

and inhumanely murder'd by a debauch'd fellow, to whom I never did any wrong in my life.' Whereupon he gave a particular description of the murderer; adding, 'Brother, this fellow, changing his name, is attempting to come over unto New-England, in *Foy* or *Wild*: I would pray you, on the first arrival of either of these, to get an order from the governour to seize the person whom I have now describ'd; and then do you indict him for the murder of me your brother. I'll stand by you, and prove the indictment.' And so he vanish'd.

"Mr. Beacon was extreamly astonished at what he had seen and heard: and the people of the family not only observ'd an *extraordinary alteration* upon him for the week following, but have also given me under their hands a full testimony that he then gave them an account of this apparition. All this while, Mr. Beacon had no advice of any thing amiss attending his brother then in England: but about the latter end of June following, he understood, by the common ways of communication, that the April before, his brother, going in haste by night to call a coach for a lady, met a fellow then in drink with his doxy in his hand.

"Some way or other the fellow thought himself affronted in the hasty passage of this Beacon, and immediately ran in to the fire side of a neighbouring tavern, from whence he fetch'd out a fire-fork, wherewith he grievously wounded Beacon on the skull, even in that very part where the apparition shew'd his wound. Of this wound he languish'd until he dy'd, on the 2d of May, about 5 of the clock in the morning, at London.

"The murderer, it seems, was endeavoring to escape, as the apparition affirm'd; but the friends of the deceas'd Beacon seiz'd him; and, prosecuting him at law, he found the help of such friends as brought him off without the loss of his life: since which, there has no more been heard of the business.

"This history I receiv'd of Mr. Joseph Beacon himself, who, a little before his own pious and hopeful death, which follow'd not long after, gave me the story, written and sign'd with his *own* hand, and attested with the circumstances I have already mention'd."

BLACK SNOW

ACCORDING to the London *Daily Mail* of December 15, 1962, a heavy fall of black snow occured in Juga, Finland. It brought crowds of curiosity-seekers to the village, and those who sampled the weird "negative snow" said it tasted very much like smog.

how to Laugh last

What people are laughing at today could make you rich tomorrow. Here are new ideas people laughed at — to find later the joke was on them.

By Robert E. O'Brian

MARK TWAIN laughed millions of dollars right out of his life while standing on a railroad platform of a small upstate New York town. He had lectured the night before and now was surrounded by prominent citizens as he waited for the train.

A tall man in a Prince Albert coat came up. The stranger took off his hat and said, "Mr. Clemens, I presume."

Mark Twain acknowledged the greeting. The tall man continued, "Mr. Clemens I would like to speak a few words with you in private."

Mark Twain said he was among friends and anything the stranger had to say could be said there. The man held out a small black box he had carried under his arm, saying, "Mr. Clemens, I have here in this box an instrument which will revolutionize human communication. I have been granted a patent on this device. It enables people to talk with each other over a wire, although they are several miles apart. I have called it the telephone."

Mark Twain said this was very interesting.

The stranger continued, "Now, Mr. Clemens, I need a small amount of capital to develop my invention and I will sell you a quarter interest for 1000 dollars."

Clemens said he was not interested.

The man said, "I confess I need money; I will sell you a quarter interest for 500 dollars."

Mark Twain refused, saying he was beseiged by every inventor and crackpot in the country.

The man then offered a half interest for 1000 dollars. When this was refused he offered a half interest for 500 dollars.

Mark Twain refused this, so the man said, "I will admit that I am desperate for money; I will sell you a three-quarter interest in my invention for 500 dollars."

Mark Twain refused again. The tall stranger thanked him for his time, apologized to the local citizens for intruding, put on his hat and turned away.

As he left Mark Twain called to him, "Say, what's your name?"

The man paused and said, "Alexander Graham Bell. Why do you ask?"

"So I can use this story to get laughs. It's the damnedest joke I've met in 10 years."

And the crowd of local citizens, as reported by the banker's son in later years, doubled up with roars of laughter at Mark Twain's newest joke.

There is nothing new in the story except the incident itself. Every new idea, every invention, every social and scientific change and discovery has had to run the gamut of ridicule and laughter. Poking fun at any departure from the conventional ideas and customary methods of doing things is standard entertainment.

If you wish to know the direction humanity will take in the next generation, just find out what the people of this generation are laughing at. The butt of their humor will constitute the great discoveries and inventions of tomorrow. Any fact that is strange and unusual almost invariably causes the average human to announce loudly that it is not true, and to ridicule and denounce those who support it. There is nothing mankind hates as much as to have its accepted theories, either social or scientific, altered.

Nor is the social, political, financial, or scientific position of those holding the new theory a barrier to ridicule. Men laugh at high and low alike if they hold to any belief that is considered "queer".

Napoleon I, commonly call The Great, left as his greatest contribution to civilization the sugar beet industry. Actually, Napoleon was the father of this agricultural and scientific development. The British fleet, during his wars with England, had cut off all importation of sugar from the West Indies where sugar cane furnished the sole known source of sugar. This blockade was so effective that people in France and other countries conquered by Napoleon grew restless and demanded sugar. Honey and other substitutes did not meet their demand.

In this emergency Napoleon became interested in the sugar that

a German chemist had extracted from beets. The trouble was that the sugar was black and bitter, but chemically it was sugar. Napoleon was so convinced of the possibilities of extracting sugar from sugar beets that he offered 25,000 francs as a prize for a method that would yield white, sweet sugar from sugar beets; and he offered another 25,000 francs for the development of a beet that would give the highest yield in sugar. Eventually these two prizes resulted in the development of the sugar beet industry as it exists today.

But at the time Napoleon was ridiculed and laughed at. Even his Imperial office did not exempt him from the jibes, many of them published in the current newspapers. An example is the cartoon now preserved in Paris. This shows the nurse of Napoleon's baby boy, the young King of Naples, sticking the root of a beet into the child's mouth, saying, "Suck, Baby, suck! Your daddy says it's sugar."

Faraday had finished a lecture in which he demonstrated his new invention, the electric dynamo and motor, when one member of parliament came up to him and said with a sneer, "What good is it?"

Faraday laughed and replied, "Maybe some day you fellows will find a way to tax it."

It would be interesting to find the total taxes paid into the treasuries of the world today by the electrical industries and utilities companies.

It seems that any fact or theory that conflicts with the humdrum existence of conventional people is an invitation to sneer, to hurl insults, or worse. Jeers and laughter are the barricades that petty people raise to prevent social or scientific changes that will force them to think, force them to learn their lessons all over again.

During the last century and for the first 10 years of this one a standard comic strip showed a funny clown trying to use, in every weekly edition, a prop which was supposed to be a replica of Langley's aeroplane. No school or church social was complete without the recitation of Holmes' *Darius Green And His Flying Machine.* This bit of poetry which ridiculed the notion that man could fly in a heavier-than-air machine always brought down the house. Even after the Wright brothers had flown at Kitty Hawk and had demonstrated their aeroplane for more than three years just outside of Dayton, Ohio, the local newspaper carried only a brief paragraph stating that it was rumored that such flights were being made. Anyone could have gone out and watched them fly! But the facts were too hard to accept, they clashed with conventional beliefs. One elderly loafer in Dayton spoke

for the multitude when he said, "There ain't ever be anyone going to fly, and leastwise if there is, it ain't going to be anybody from Dayton."

This ridicule of the new, the strange, and the unusual has led to tragedy for many of those who see the possibilities, who try to develop new inventions, new methods, and to present new scientific knowledge. Some of these practical visionaries simply have not had the stamina to endure the ridicule and the jibes.

Diesel leaped from an airplane into the English Channel. His last note stated that he did not mind the impending bankruptcy that he faced but he could not endure the taunts and laughter any longer. Yet the Diesel engine is probably the only invention that ever went directly from the drawing board into production.

Langley's aeroplane actually was taken from the Smithsonian Institute and flown with a gasoline engine years after Langley's death. Possibly Langley did not take his own life but every biographer agrees that ridicule killed him.

Few have the stamina to endure the persecution that Robert H. Goddard received from his fellow faculty members who accused him of bringing the name of their university into disrepute by his experiments with the liquid-fueled rocket. He was arrested and threatened with jail in his native state for disturbing the peace by setting off his rockets. Finally he fled with his drawings to the Southwest where in that sparcely settled part of the United States he found people who, if they did not agree with him, did not laugh.

The sheer persistence of men like Gail Borden, father of the evaporated milk industry is amazing. When he tried to find a method of preserving meat the United States Government threatened prosecution, claiming some soldiers had been made ill by the concoction. His "preserved soup" was alleged to have killed two babies enroute on a ship from Europe. He was hooted out of Texas as a common nuisance. In Upper New York state he experimented with evaporated milk, using a canning device borrowed from a Shaker colony. When no one would buy canned milk he was reduced to peddling the evaporated milk in pails from door to door. Housewives finally bought when they found it would not sour as quickly as fresh milk. When the Civil War broke out the Quartermaster General sent a representative to call on Gail Borden. One can of the condensed milk was still on the shelves. It was more than a year old but it was all right, it had kept. Borden was in business!

Some innovators are just lucky.

Pfizer had to borrow money to finance his crop of hybrid corn. When his banker saw the small size of the corn stalks and the tiny nubbins of corn he assembled the Pfizer family. Only Pfizer's pleas prevented his being sent to an institution for the mentally disordered. And, of course, the next year's crop proved his views correct.

It is not hard to understand why people felt that Goodyear was insane. He tore up the boards in the kitchen floor of his rented house, broke up his furniture to get fuel to fire his furnace for his retort. He sold his children's shoes and school books to buy rubber. Yet he persisted to success in spite of the ridicule and mutterings of his neighbors.

Social changes, such as the demand of women for the right to vote, always are greeted with ribald jokes.

New ideas are strictly for laughs. When Von Braun was asked if he resented the treatment he and his fellow German rocketeers had received when the Allies attempted to "de-Nazify" them he answered he did not. Actually, he said, it was about what they expected for in Germany he and his fellow rocket pioneers had received the same sort of treatment. When priorities were announced for the first time under Hitler rockets were given a priority just above bathtubs for private homes.

If the history of ridicule is any criterion for success, and it would seem to be, investors would do well to abandon financial advisors and find out what people are laughing at today and put their money in that. For what men sneer at today, they buy, manufacture, and use tomorrow.

The raucous cries of "Get a horse" that greeted the early motorists amused the simple, and they announced the coming of the automobile industry.



BOUNTY OF BEANS

DISGUSTED by frequent meals of beans, soldiers at an army barracks near Nice, France, employed their commando raiding skill to steal dozens of cans of food from the barracks store. Because they operated in darkness, however, their loot proved to be the very food that had driven them to theft—beans.



The black car hurtled at us out of the darkness. A fatal crash would occur in instants — unless I could cause —

A CONTROLLED BRUSH WITH DEATH

By Rex Eidson

THROUGH THE operation of a certain immutable but paradoxically elastic universal law, one may *control* the spectre of death.

On Easter-eve, 1961, my wife Ella and I were on our way to a birthday party. It was dark and some rain was falling. We drove our yellow hardtop across town uneventfully. But as we neared the long, dangerous hill Ella said, "I wish you would get on the outside lane. I can't see how close you're driving to the cement divider and it makes me nervous."

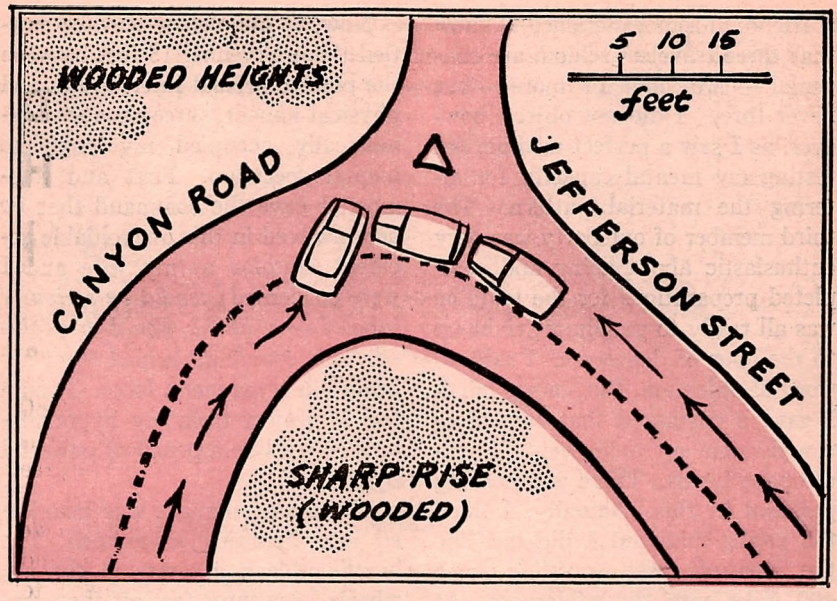
I said, "Just as soon as it's clear, I'll swing over."

My own persistent unease had something to do with the dream our daughter Bettyjane had had a week ago. She had dreamt of an automobile accident. But her dream was not one of those frightening, nightmarish affairs. This was odd because car accidents nearly always are shocking, one way or another.

The posted speed limit at this particular point in the four-lane highway (two lanes going in opposite directions and separated by a two-foot wide, foot-high concrete divider) called "Canyon Road" is 35 miles an hour. As the road starts to climb there is a sharp, blind curve. It is a flat curve, and the posted speed, downhill, is 30 miles per hour. This is just about the maximum speed for any degree of safety.

We had just swept under *Suicide Bridge,* approaching this curve, and I automatically reduced speed to 30. I recall glancing in the rear-view mirror and seeing no one close behind. There were still several cars close in the outside lane. I started into the turn with my usual caution, resolved to swing to the outer lane of traffic at the first opportunity.

As we swung into the curve, a sight met my eyes which I shall never forget. It was death in the form of a car which hurtled out of the darkness of the far side of the blind curve, broadside in our path —not 15 feet away. As it leaped the concrete barrier, it was a stark, materialized ghost—the Grim Reaper, personified!



Sketch shows how author's car (center) was demolished in three-car accident.

In our closed hardtop there was a split second of grave-silence. During this interval I was dimly aware of my wife's cry: "My God! We're going to hit!"

But in that second (or less) time telescoped and vision sharpened to a remarkable degree. For years I have been a student of the time-space principle, but only on a theoretical basis. But here was an actual test! And I suddenly found that time is a relative thing, that it can be wrenched free of physical space, at least momentarily.

* * *

For many months I had been experimenting, with some success, on altering certain physical actions (changing the expected results) through mental control. One instance (actually a repeat performance, which makes the odds in favor of coincidence practically non-existent), of this experimentation is outstanding. In September, 1960, I went on a trip into the wilds of the Olympic Peninsula in search of prehistoric rock carvings. As I never travel alone, I found a serious young college student to accompany me. The boy wanted to bring along

a friend. From experience I know that three travelers seldom are congenial — two, four or more — but never three. I did not object, however, as I saw a perfect medium for testing my mental capacity for altering the material pattern. The third member of our party was very enthusiastic about going and completed preparations for the trip; he was all ready to go, almost right up to the hour of departure. I said no word of objection. But, in my mind, I gave a command that *something* would come up to prevent his accompanying us. There was nothing personal in this. Actually, I liked the young man but I did not like the idea of three traveling some 400 miles into the wilderness. At the very last minute, I received a telephone call from the young man. He was unhappy and apologetic: he said he could not go; his parents did not approve.

This lone instance would not prove anything. However, the same sort of thing was repeated less than six months' later. The first Olympic Peninsula petroglyph hunt had been so successful that a second was undertaken. For this second trip, another young, studious college student would go with me. He, likewise, desired to take along a friend. Again, by force of thought on my part, the proposed third member of our little expedition was caused to back out at the zero hour!

Now, as our yellow hardtop hurtled the intervening 15 feet between the point of visual interception and physical impact, three thoughts dynamically occupied my complete mental spectrum. First and foremost, I gave the command that *no one* involved in this unavoidable accident (insofar as my wife and I were concerned) *would be seriously injured—no blood would be spilled*. This command leaped from my brain like a magnetic force. I could feel it project from my hypothalamus cortex like a pencil of powerful light.

My second thought was translated into lightning kinesthesis. The hurtling black car was in the air, wheels some three feet off the pavement. In my imagination, I saw our collision: the black car literally rolling over us, crushing my wife and me in our seats. The idea that I must *spear* this death vehicle flashed through my mind, spear it as one would spear a salmon darting through the turbulent stream. In the split-second time allotted, I pulled right on the wheel, just a fraction. But it was sufficient for the right headlight of my yellow hardtop to impale the black car so thoroughly that, later, mechanics called to the scene of the accident had to use considerable force in order to seperate the two locked vehicles.

My third thought, galvanized into

instantaneous (seemingly involuntary) action, prevented my wife from being pitched through the windshield. My right hand, like a vise, grasped a handful of her coat and held rigid. My wife escaped with two bruised knees and a nasty bump on the head where she connected with the rearview mirror. But she suffered, otherwise, not so much as a scratch. In fact, even her nylon hose were unrun!

When I glanced back, after the sound of the terrific impact had died away and I had seen that my wife did not appear to be seriously injured, I was amazed to see a third car rammed right into the back of our yellow hardtop. There had not been any sensation of a second impact. This third car, as if answering my mental command, had swept up, at the last instant, and had absorbed much of the impact, had prevented us from bouncing, an often-fatal result of two-car crashes.

Police on the scene of the accident were positively amazed to find no one badly hurt. They found not one drop of blood. Officer Robertson, of the Portland City Police Department, commented, "This is a miracle." Later, insurance adjusters scarcely could reconcile the wrecked condition of the cars with the lack of personal injury to those involved.

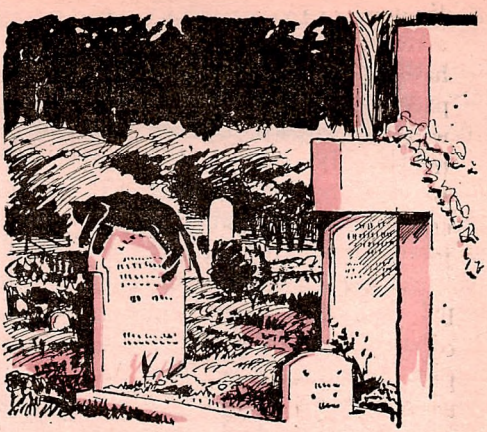
Seventeen-year-old Jim Timblin, alone in the spectral black car, was knocked unconscious. But he suffered no other injury. He was released from the hospital within an hour after emergency admittance. At midnight his mother told me over the telephone, with great thankfulness, "Oh, the boy's all right. He's out in the kitchen getting something to eat, I think . . ."

The young man, Jerry Lee Lewis, alone in the car behind us, calmly climbed out of his badly damaged 1952 Ford sedan and helped direct traffic.

Nearly everyone who has a knowledge of the physical features of this accident considers it miraculous. By the law of averages, there should have been at least one seriously injured person, perhaps a death; there should have been cuts and bleeding. But, except for the headlights, there was no broken glass at all! Not even the side windows of the black car were shattered and it was rammed broadside.

Miracle? Not when one understands the laws of the universe—and uses them.

From WHERE WITCHCRAFT LIVES, by Doreen Valiente, published by the Aquarian Press, London.



MODERN BLACK MAGIC

Cats are important elements in secret occult ceremonies. Is that why their mutilated bodies are being found today?

By Doreen Valiente

I HAVE REMARKED previously that anyone who denies the present-day existence of black magic is either simply ignorant of the facts, or is trying to conceal the truth for his own ends. Some significant stories from the national Press may give the reader food for thought.

Not long ago three young businessmen took a flat together in Nottingham. The house in which the flat was situated had previously been empty for some time. The new tenants of the flat happened to go exploring in the basement. To their surprise, beneath the cellar they found another cellar.

Here, carefully painted upon the walls, were weird and fantastic figures. One was of a blood-stained hand. Others were of devil's heads. An upturned box, stained red, seemed to have been used as a kind of altar. It was caked with the drippings of candles.

Rather shaken, one of them told the story to a reporter for a Not-

tingham newspaper. The reporter asked him if he thought it could have been done as a joke. He replied that he thought the drawings were too well done, and too much trouble had been taken with them. Besides, surely a cellar beneath a cellar was an odd place to play jokes?

The paintings appeared to have been done recently. Had the arrival of the new tenants disturbed some person or persons who had been using the empty house for strange rituals?

I mention this story because, unknown to him, it bears a remarkable similarity to one told me by a Brighton man. He and another man once stayed overnight in a rented room in a tumbledown old house in Brighton. They were rather hard-up at the time, and glad to get a cheap lodging. However, one night in this particular place was enough for them.

They had to share the squalid room. They tried to sleep; but as the night wore on an increasing sense of fear and strangeness came over them. The room was invaded by a chilliness which seemed something other than mere cold. Finally, the atmosphere of unearthly evil became so intense that they could stand it no longer. They got up and dressed, and resolved quietly to explore. Anything was better than remaining still in that weird place.

They crept downstairs to the kitchen. All was normal; there seemed no visible reason for their fears. Then, greatly daring, they decided to venture farther, to a cellar-like room below.

They looked in and upon the bare floor they found the obvious remains of some occult ritual. There were "queer chalked signs" drawn on the floor and the burned-down remains of black candles.

They returned to their room and sat up with the light on to wait the dawn. In the morning they left as soon as they could.

The house in question had a disreputable clientele, mostly from the fringe of the underworld. I had an opportunity, when it became vacant, of entering it. Apart from its dinginess and squalor it certainly had a most unpleasant atmosphere. I can only describe it as a feeling that one was being watched by something vicious.

My informant, who had some knowledge of the occult, firmly believed that a ritual must have been performed there shortly before he and his friend had their uncanny experience; and that some evil entity attracted by this ritual was the cause of their terror.

The *Sunday Empire News*, on November 1, 1959, the day after Hallowe'en, reported that the mutilated bodies of two cats had been found at Newcastle upon Tyne.

The area where they were found is one of derelict buildings, near a railway station.

An R.S.P.C.A. inspector is quoted as saying, "Whoever killed those poor cats must have had warped minds. The manner of the deaths suggested that whoever did it was carrying out a ritual of being daubed with blood, such as would happen, I suppose, if a person was being initiated into a secret society."

I have heard a first-hand account, from a young man in Brighton, of a black magic ceremony which involved the ritual use of the blood of a cat. This young man, incidentally, is a different person from my informant of the previous story.

He told me how, a few years before, he had been doing his National Service. He became friendly with another young National Serviceman whose people kept a large public-house in the country. His new friend asked him if he would like to spend their next short leave with him there.

A country pub sounded attractive, so he agreed. Everything seemed perfectly normal. The premises were large and well appointed. One large upstairs room, he was told, was reserved for private parties.

During the night he got up and went down a few stairs to the toilet. He noticed that a party seemed to be in progress in the large room. Being on leave he was not averse to a bit of fun so, instead of returning to his bedroom, he decided to peep around the door where the party was taking place, to see if it looked lively. Frankly, he said, he was hoping they'd invite him in for a drink. If, however, it seemed a formal affair, he intended to slip off again without them seeing him.

Being in slippers and dressing-gown, he moved quietly. He opened the door of the room without being noticed, and looked around. He found that he had gate-crashed a very odd "party" indeed.

All the lights were turned out and the room was lit only by candles. Standing round in the gloom were men and women wearing dark robes and masks. In the center of the room was a kind of altar, with incense burning upon it. Through the incense smoke he could make out a weird figure standing behind the altar. It was that of a tall man, dressed in a black robe embroidered on the breast with cabalistic signs. The man's face and head were covered by a horned, goat-like mask.

Completely astonished the young man just stood and stared. Someone spotted him. Quickly he was grabbed, pinioned, and pulled inside the room. There was a mo-

ment of confusion as the participants realized they had a spy among them. Then the goat-masked leader told him that, as he had come so far, there was nothing for it but for him to join the black coven and take the oath.

Although he was in the Forces he was just a teenager and by now thoroughly scared. He realized that to make an outcry was useless. In spite of the robe and mask, he had recognized his friend's mother, the proprietress, among those present. So, with his arms firmly pinioned by two men, he submitted to the grotesque ritual.

He was brought to the altar and made to take a frightening oath of loyalty and silence. A black cat was killed upon the altar as a ritual sacrifice, and his face and wrists were daubed with its blood. They gave him a cup of some dark wine to drink. It was strong and evidently laced with a drug, as he says that after taking it his recollection of what followed is hazy and confused.

He awoke the next morning back in his bed. He could have believed the whole occurrence a fantastic dream except that upon his face and wrists were traces of dried blood.

He did not know if his friend knew about it or not. If not, he had no wish to tell him. Anyway, who would believe him? In the end, he decided to say nothing. His leave was up and he had to return to his unit that morning. So he just packed his bag, and left as soon as he could. All he wanted was to get away. He had put the experience out of his mind, and never spoken of it to anyone.

There was a time when I dismissed stories of black magic, involving blood sacrifices and even whispers of human sacrifice, as nonsense dreamed up by journalists in the silly season, to sell their papers. I no longer do so.

An indisputable instance of black magic ritual involving human sacrifice occurred recently in America. A man from Puerto Rico, Juan Aponte, 46 years old, worked on a chicken farm near Vineland, N.J. One day he was arrested on a minor charge, and confessed to a murder.

His victim was a 13-year-old boy, Roger Carlotto, who had then been missing for some time. Roger had been in the habit of visiting Aponte, who gave him cigarettes. Outwardly, Aponte was a normal, respectable citizen. Secretly, he was a student of black magic and voodoo, who performed regular rituals.

Some details of the magic circle he used, painted on a piece of canvas, are given in the account of his preliminary trial. It is recognizable as the one depicted by Eliphas Levi as the "Goetic Circle of Black Evocations and Pacts".

The police found a quantity of literature upon black magic in his possession.

Aponte desired to regain the love of a former woman friend, who had left him. For this purpose he wanted a human victim as the supreme sacrifice to evil spirits.

Aponte confessed that he killed his victim by striking him a blow upon the back of the head and then strangling him with a cord. He buried the body under the dirt floor in his home. Seven months later he dug up the body, cut off the head, and carefully dried it in a stove. Then he performed a hideous ritual with a lock of hair from the head of the woman he desired, placing it within the skull of the sacrifice.

Six psychiatrists gave evidence at the preliminary hearing in the Aponte case. Aponte was found to be sane and sent for trial, charged with murder. The Press cutting I have of the case is from the *Sunday Pictorial,* dated October 5, 1958.

Black magic sometimes involves the desecration of churches and cemeteries. I have been told of two alleged instances in which churches in Sussex were desecrated by having black magic rituals performed in them by intruders in the night. Another allegation I have heard involved the use of a Sussex graveyard for a black magic ritual. The body of a cockerel was said to have been found lying in a pool of blood on an old flat tombstone, which had been used as an improvised altar.

I could get no proof of these allegations; but they are in keeping with black magic beliefs. The idea involved is that more power is given to a ritual if it is performed on consecrated ground.

A horrible scandal of graveyards desecrated for black magic broke out in Finland in the autumn of 1931. Portions of a number of human bodies were found in a well near Helsingfors. The police at first feared that they had a case of mass-murder. However, their investigations and the medical evidence soon led them to abandon this theory. Instead, they began to suspect they were dealing with black magic.

Their suspicions led them to the caretaker of a municipal mortuary, a man named Saarenheimo. They began exhumations in the cemetery where bodies which had passed through Saarenheimo's mortuary had been interred. They found that over 40 of the bodies they exhumed had been mutilated in various ways.

Saarenheimo was arrested. The police searched his lodgings and found literature on necromancy and black magic, together with some incriminating letters. One of the treatises on black magic was in English. Another book was described as "an old Swedish 'Black

Bible' ". This sounds like a Grimoire.

His neighbors told police that mysterious meetings had been taking place at night at the mortuary for nearly two years past. It was believed that a black magic fraternity of considerable size was involved, possibly even on an international scale.

Saarenheimo, in custody, frequently spent his time chanting cabalistic words. Meanwhile, the police continued their grim investigation. Great public concern had been aroused, especially in those families who feared that their dead had been outraged. Many persons were interrogated but no further arrests were made; though it seemed evident that Saarenheimo was not alone in this horrible affair.

As a result of this case the Church authorities made careful investigations at all parish mortuaries throughout Finland, to prevent any possibility of a recurrence of Saarenheimo's crimes.

The facts from which the above account is taken were published in *The Times* on October 7, 9 and 14, 1931.

As to the purpose of these desecrations, there are many recorded black magic rituals which require human blood, candles of human fat, or lamps fed with oil made from human fat. Human bones, human skin, and parts of bodies have been used in black magic spells. The Act of Parliament passed by James I against witchcraft in 1603 also included a special provision against those who robbed graveyards for the horrid needs of black magic.

Another horrible story came from Spain in 1920, and was reported in *The Times* on September 27 of that year, under the heading: "Human Vampires". A young girl who was minding sheep in the province of Estremadura had been found murdered. Her body had been drained of blood and mutilated of several organs. At the time when this occurred the Madrid police were already investigating the similar death of a little boy. Both deaths were attributed to practicers of black magic.

The Times correspondent commented that in spite of several severe penalties recently imposed upon what he called "witch doctors", fanaticism and superstition still preyed upon the people of remote villages, and human blood had still its price.

So much for the glib dismissals of those who try to persuade us that black magic does not exist!

That well-known writer on black magic, the late Montague Summers, always insisted that there was a secret black magic center in Brighton. Brighton was a favorite resort for Regency 'bucks', who could indulge themselves there even more

freely than in London. A peculiar feature of its architecture is that it possesses a great many underground tunnels and passages in the older parts of the town. Some of these were possibly natural caves, improved upon by the fanastic taste of Georgian and Regency builders. A persistent local tradition states that some of these tunnels have at times been used for secret meetings.

Some time ago a secret room was found in a village not far from Brighton. Some workmen were doing alterations to an old house there and had occasion to dig in the grounds. They found a circular underground room, exactly nine feet in diameter. This is the traditional dimension of a magic circle. I believe a tunnel connected it to the house.

In times past many people of all ranks in society practiced the occult arts. This secret cell may well have been used for some such end by a previous occupant of the house. A candle to provide light, a brazier of hot coals to provide heat and to burn incense, and a ventilation shaft, would have been all that was necessary to make it ideal for the purpose.

Alternatively, of course, it may have been a "priest's hole", a relic of the days of religious persecution. But why go to the trouble of making it a nine-foot circle?

That famous and controversial figure, Aleister Crowley, who gloried in the title of "The Beast 666" (he even had it printed on his visiting-cards!), spent the last two years of his life at Hastings. He died there on December 1, 1947, aged 72. His remains were cremated at Brighton on December 5, and the ashes sent to his disciples in America.

The ritual which took place at his cremation caused protests to Brighton Town Council. It consisted of his *Hymn to Pan,* and some extracts from *The Book of the Law* and his *Gnostic Mass*. These were read from the rostrum of the crematorium chapel, while a congregation, mainly of his followers and friends, gathered about his flower-covered coffin.

Present also, but in his official capacity, was Superintendent Robert Fabian, of Scotland Yard. He tells of this occasion in an article he wrote after his retirement, in the *Sunday Graphic,* June 10, 1956. He states that, observing the congregation, he was able to identify leading members of known black magic circles in London, and also in the neighboring towns of Lewes and Shoreham. He also mentions this in his book *London After Dark.*

There was a rumor in Brighton that some difficulty had been experienced in carrying out the cremation. It was alleged that certain

members of the staff at the crematorium had been so affected by the pagan ritual in the chapel that they refused to touch the coffin. Whether true or not, this is a story which would have delighted Crowley himself.

Like most subjects, witchcraft and magic have their bright and their dark sides. I have tried to write fairly and factually. The distinction between white and black witchcraft should not be lost sight of.

It is the distinction of methods and of motives. White magic and white witchcraft seek to serve some good purpose. Black magic and black witchcraft seek to corrupt and degrade, to grab, dominate and exploit.

Apart from the question of white or black the distinctions between the different streams of occult tradition in Europe need to be understood.

While there is much common ground, witchcraft is basically the pre-Christian "Old Religion", the worship of the forces of life and fertility, and the knowledge and use of the secret powers of nature. Ceremonial magic, on the other hand, especially the magic of the books called Grimoires, is within either a Jewish or Christian cabalistic framework.

An exception to this latter rule, however is the system used by the magical order known as the Golden Dawn. This association was founded by S. L. MacGregor Mathers, Dr. Williams Woodman, Dr. Wynn Westcott, in 1887, from Rosicrucian sources. It has been the parent body of most serious magical orders of modern times.

Its system seeks to harmonize the cabalistic magic with the invocation of the ancient gods. It owes much to the poetic vision of W. B. Yeats who was a member of the Order. Incidentally, he too once resided in Steyning in Sussex.



DREAM OF DEATH

A DREAM that her four-month-old daughter was dying woke Mrs. Norman Cain of Lebanon, Ind., one morning recently. She rushed to her daughter's crib and found that the baby was not breathing. When mouth-to-mouth resuscitation efforts failed, the baby was taken to the hospital, where doctors gave the cause of her death as pneumonia.



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GHOST WITH A PURPOSE

By William Grasiuk

IN THE FALL OF 1923, when I was 12 years old, Aunt Nancy Knatt died. All our family attended the funeral in the Lanuke district of Albert, Canada. Her son, Frank, had a baseball glove which I coveted. At the time of the funeral I found it hanging in the shed and I took it. No one saw me.

Several days later while I was doing chores at home in the evening I was scared stiff to see Auntie standing in her funeral clothes beside the haystack. While I stood gaping, unable to scream, she said slowly, "Return the glove to Frank." Then she vanished.

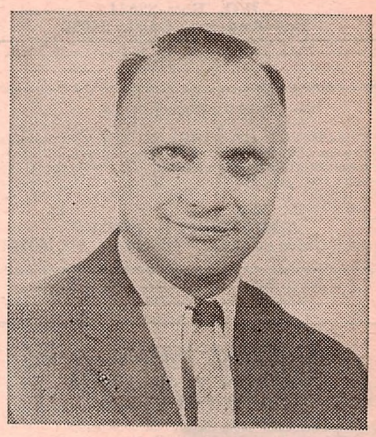
About a week later my mother came in from milking looking as white as a sheet. It was some time before she stammered out that she had seen Aunt Nancy by the haystack and that she had told her to make me return the baseball glove to her son. My mother, of course, had known nothing about the glove.

She turned to me.

I confessed.

The glove was returned the next day.

Auntie Nancy never appeared again.—*Thorsby, Alberta, Canada.*



WILLIAM GRASIUK

GRANDMOTHER WAITED

By Evelyn Mesger

I KNOW OF MY own knowledge that our loved ones don't die and get buried down in the cold, dark ground, in rotting bodies.

No matter what the preachers always said about the soul being resurrected from that dead body at some later date I always had the feeling that there must be a place where the soul goes and lives after it leaves its dead body.

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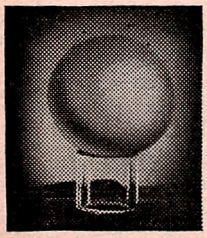
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For more than two years after my grandmother, Malinda Wilson, died in 1943 I felt her presence near me many times. She came even at times when I wasn't thinking of her and she came when I was especially lonely or troubled. Suddenly she would be there, and after she left I would feel a deep sense of peace.

Then she stopped coming. For almost 20 years I did not feel her presence again.

Recently Grandmother began to appear in a strange dream, one I dreamed over and over. I became very troubled about the dream and almost dreaded going to sleep. In this dream I would see Grandmother walking up and down, back and forth, behind a high garden wall. She seemed everlastingly to be looking for someone. I began to think she was waiting for me. Was she calling me over? ,

About this same time I got word that my dad, Everett Wilson, had had a slight heart attack but that he was getting along well. After I heard this news I became more nervous! I had an urgent desire to go to Marceline, Mo., to see him. I felt that if I didn't go now I never would see him alive again. But I kept putting it off, week after week, while I tried to find the time and money to make the trip.

I waited too long. I got word on May 14, 1963, my daddy was dead. Oh, how I wished I had taken time to see him alive, instead of taking time to see him dead.

However, I was comforted in my belief that Grandmother evidently had been waiting and looking for her son . . . for my dream has stopped.

I wonder if Grandmother and

Daddy someday will watch and wait for me and be there to guide me when I cross over.—*Sullivan, Mo.*

RETURN TO LIFE

By Lucien Wallace Armour
As Told To Harry Beckelman

ON A FARM near Arcade, N. Y., in 1911, it was a quiet and peaceful day, but the persons were not gathered to enjoy it. Grandfather Volney Armour, age 82, was suffering a severe heart seizure. The doctor had given up hope of saving his life. Members of his family stood around the bed while the doctor ministered to him in vain. Finally his heart failed completely and, after the customary pinch and mirror tests, the doctor pronounced Grandfather Volney Armour dead.

Grandfather was a highly educated man and lived a full and successful life. He spoke Latin and Greek and had majored in law. In his younger days he had been State's Attorney for Illinois. And he had been a kind and generous man, dearly beloved by relatives and friends alike.

The emotion and grief displayed over his passing was tremendous. My mother, Emma L. Armour, his daughter-in-law, in particular was hysterical. Her grief was so great and she was so determined that Grandfather Armour should not die that, 15 minutes after the doctor pronounced him dead, his spirit returned to his body. He came back to life.

On returning to life Grandfather Armour was completely relieved from his heart condition and when he was able to talk again he told an amazing story of his 15 minute experience in death. He explained he had felt care-free. There were no

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pains, no tensions, no pressures and he went wherever he willed himself to be. He said he was on the outside of the house but could see the bedside scene as well as the whole area surrounding the house. He could see his lifeless body where it lay on the bed; he could see my father, Richard W. Armour, my mother and all the others gathered there by the bedside. The details of what he reported seeing on the outside proved to be true beyond any reasonable doubt.

Grandfather Armour explained further that the pain of returning to his body was greater than any he ever had experienced in life. He said it was not a physical pain but the mental pain of regret for returning from his new-found, complete tranquility and peace.

The actions and reaction at the bedside indicated that Grandfather's spirit returned as the result of some mind-over-spirit power within my mother, Emma. However, Grandfather Armour stated that his mind was crystal clear during the short, 15 minute period of his demise and that, in fact, he did return out of compassion, and not from any sense of compulsion.

Two years later, in 1913, when he was 84, Grandfather Armour suffered another heart seizure and passed quietly away. Now he rests in peace. —*Mountain Center, Calif.*

ROOM TO PASS

By Bonnie E. Harding

ONE NIGHT IN the year 1880 my grandfather, then a young man, was out driving near Council Bluffs, Iowa, in a buggy with the young woman who later became his wife and my grandmother. As they

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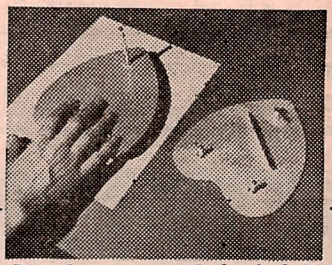
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drove along they heard a carriage and horses coming toward them at full speed. Grandpa said he pulled the team and buggy far to the side of the road to allow them room to pass. Around the bend toward them came a white, closed carriage, a hearse, pulled by four white horses. This seemed strange as normally both hearse and horses were black. As the hearse drew abreast of Grandpa's buggy his team became frightened and shied partly out into the road. The hearse and horses galloped right through Grandpa's team. Both Grandma and Grandpa saw and heard this apparition.

Grandpa was very sad after it had passed and told Grandma that someone in his family had died.

A few days later they received news that his mother's sister had died on the very night they had seen the hearse.

My grandfather had many such experiences even during the years I knew him. As far as I know he always received a warning before the death of a member of his family. At one time it was a black coffin floating just outside the window. He also received warnings not connected with death. At one time he was warned of a fire which destroyed his home and, due to his foreknowledge, he was able to save the lives of four of his children in this fire.—*Placerville, Calif.*

Shock suffered when a fire broke out in her home caused Giulia Pischetola of Naples, Italy, to lose her sight. Three days later she was involved in a car accident and her sight was suddenly restored.



NEW BOOKS

INTERSTELLAR COMMUNICATION, by A. G. W. Cameron. W. A. Benjamin, Inc., New York, 1963. 320 pages, no price stated.

A book with a title like the above is bound to be captivating. But it is not for the faint-hearted. Richly filled with descriptive passages on its subject, it is also well-laced with mathematical notions and physical concepts that require more than a glance to understand. With an eye capable of selective skipping, an interested reader will find the imaginative idea "is there other life in the Universe?" discussed as prosaically as hardware for the next missile shoot. So fast has technology taken us!

While the author has contributed several papers to the book as well as an introduction, this is really an anthology of scientific papers taken from scientific journals such as *Science, Nature, Proceedings of the Institute of Radio Engineers*, and even the Russian *Priroda*. A few titles will suggest the depth and catholicity of the treatment. "Search for Artificial Stellar Sources of Infra-Red Radiation" by Dyson: note that word "artificial." Or "Detection of Intelligent Signals from Space," by Webb. Or, "Some Potentialities of Optical Masers (lasers)," by Oliver.

This is not science-fiction nor is it the imaginative filler so frequently used by the "gee-whiz, ain't science wonderful" type of magazine.

Starting with a dispassionate study of the probability of finding life in our vast galactic system, these papers proceed in an orderly fashion to consider the variety of intelligence levels possible (probable, is the better word) and then go on to consider the nature of communication with this conceivable life.

Radio or visual communication between Earth and other life in the Solar System has been possible for the past 100 years. Regrettably, the writers conclude that if there is extra-terrestrial life, it is not likely to be found in the Solar System save in a very low form—in short without intelligence.

Until the last 20 years, the papers continue, the hope of interstellar communication, that is the reception of signals from the inhabitants of the nearer stars, was hopeless. But the rapid advances in radio-astronomy, along with the development of super-sensitive receivers and amplifiers, have changed all this.

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ing our own, substantial resources are devoted to the detection of interstellar radio transmissions, presumably sent by intelligent life—our "Project Ozma" is one example. Hour after hour, gigantic paraboloidal radio telescopes probe the heavens, seeking for the faint whisper of a radio signal in which order can be detected, a signal probably buried in the eternal rustling and noise of the endless energy of 21 centimeter waves.

The idea of communication across interstellar distances was far-fetched as recently as a few years ago. Transmitters could not hurl a tight enough beam of radiation—light or any other electromagnetic wave—into space without it vanishing in its own spreading. With the invention of the "maser" and the "laser" (light amplification by the stimulation of electromagnetic radiation) the "beaming barrier" was broken. It is now possible to visualize our lancing into space with such a tight beam of radiation that enough would remain to be detectible, even after a journey of light-years.

In a fascinating manner the book discusses the coding one might expect to receive or transmit, coding that could readily be differentiated from the random noise that permeates all signaling.

The writers of these papers are not particularly optimistic. The probability of the Earth being struck by an alien signal is remote. But to a man, these physicists insist that the hope is worth the effort no matter how little promising. And all those of us who are fascinated by the concept of extra-terrestrial life will agree—and for that reason will find the book enjoyable and rewarding

reading despite its difficulties.—*Henry A. Bott.*

FUNK & WAGNALLS STANDARD COLLEGE DICTIONARY. Funk & Wagnalls Company, Inc., New York, N. Y., 1963. 1606 pages, $6.50, plain; $7.50 with thumb index.

Reviewing a general dictionary in FATE may seem off-track but this one merits mention in that it includes words—new as well as old—often used in the subjects covered by FATE and thus offers a deeper understanding of them.

The Standard College Dictionary appears to be as described: "The most comprehensive desk-size dictionary available, containing 150,000 entries — thousands more than any comparable dictionary." We found it contained some terms in the FATE field of interest not included in another dictionary of approximately the same size and price. Not even a specialized "occult" dictionary contains some of the words in this one.

For example, in the new Funk & Wagnalls volume are such recently minted words as flying saucer, UFO, hallucinogen, lysergic acid, laser, thalidomide and Van Allen radiation. Even slang terms like beatnik and square are present.

The reader who likes to have clear meanings will find concise definitions of such familiar, yet often "hazy", words as extrasensory perception, parapsychology, precognition, psychic, clairvoyance, dowsing, ectoplasm, telepathy and telekinesis.

Incidently, one word *not* included is radiesthesia—but neither is it included in a much larger "international" dictionary.

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volume are carefully discriminated synonyms and antonyms, a simple and reliable pronunciation system, special listings of collateral adjectives, hundreds of special charts and tables, and numerous up-to-date maps.—*Chester S Geier.*

FROM MESMER TO CHRISTIAN SCIENCE, by Frank Podmore. University Books, New Hyde Park, N.Y., 1963. 306 pages, $10.00.

Frank Podmore, a member of the Society for Psychical Research from its earliest days, has long been known as the devil's advocate of this field. Therefore, in *From Mesmer to Christian Science,* originally published in 1909, it is rather surprising to see him take a firm stand in favor of something so elusive as mental healing. But he reserves the right to his own interpretation of how it works.

After a penetrating analysis of the life and techniques of Anton Mesmer and some of his lesser-known followers—Deslon, de Puysegur, Deleuze, Alexander Bertrand and others — Podmore says, "But the question which will most interest the practical man is, 'Do the mental healers heal?' Unquestionably they do."

Yet he rejects the idea that the actual causes of the cures are rays, conduction by iron, streams of light, magnetic crises, or any of the whole machinery on which earlier writers relied as demonstrating the existence of a healing fluid—celestial, magnetic or electric. He agrees instead with Bertrand's conclusions that the "results were due to the imagination of the subject, preter-normally alive to the least suggestion, by word, look, gesture,

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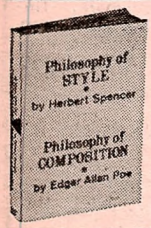
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or even unexpressed thought, from the operator."

Podmore regretted that so few statistics were available, but admitted that those which were showed conclusively that faith-healing and mental science were effective in cases where hypnotism would be effective, and failed where hypnotism also failed. "In others words," he says, "in all alike the effect would appear to be due to suggestion; and it has not yet been proved that any one of the recognized modes of imparting the suggestion is conspicuously more effective than another."

Yet, as Eric J. Dingwall says in his Introduction to this book, "When all is said and done, the diverse explanations suggest that an accurate description of what is actually occurring still eludes us. Within ourselves there seems to be a power, which can, given the necessary conditions, heal those maladies responsive to that influence while at the same time the limits of that power are, in the present state of our knowledge, impossible to define."

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of this unknown power by analyzing carefully much of the written material about the earlier mesmerists, not only of their healings but of their interesting experiences with clairvoyants and sensitives. Then he discusses the period in which the techniques were taken up and modified by doctors such as Elliotson and Esdaile, and later Braid, who coined the name hynotism.

The discovery of ether and chloroform led to the rejection of hynotism in medicine for many decades, and during this period Spiritualism took a firm hold on the minds of the time. It was discovered, according to Podmore, that clairvoyants could put themselves into receptive states with the aid of magnetism or hypnotism. They even found themselves able to impart healing on occasion. Andrew Jackson Davis and Thomas Lake Harris carried this a step forward, and then came what F. W. H. Myers calls "the other schemes of self-suggestion" such as New Thought and Christian Science. Phineas T. Quimby originated the latter name and many of its tenets. These were later adopted, amplified and promoted by Mary Baker Eddy, whom Podmore does not treat very kindly.

Certainly, for the person who wishes to go into the history of faith healing, this is an excellent textbook. And, due to the author's early prescience, in our present era of psychosomatic medicine the book is not in the least dated.—*Susy Smith.*

KURT SINGER'S GHOST BOOK, edited by Kurt & Jane Singer. W. H. Allen, London, 1963. 208 pages, $4.25.

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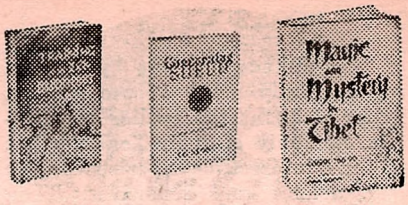
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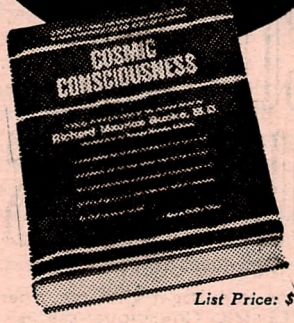
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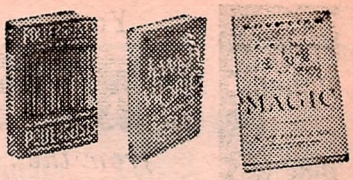
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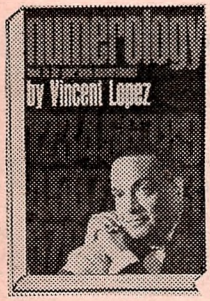
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is a more accurate designation for this anthology, for the 26 chapters deal with such assorted matters as witchcraft, dreams, zombies, and werewolves, in addition to hauntings and apparitions. Although it is alleged that all accounts are true, documentation varies from excellent (notably the sections by R. S. Lambert) to non-existent; and some of the stories in the latter category sound like fiction. Be that as it may, none of the chapters are dull, and some are quite stimulating. FATE readers will have encountered several of these stories previously while others will be new.

The two most interesting sections, both by R. S. Lambert, are the opening account of American Indian shamanism and the extended story of the Amherst poltergeist case. Both, incidently, illustrate the way in which documentation can make the recounting of paranormal phenomena more convincing and more interesting. If one regrets that all the sections were not equally documented, it still remains that the Singers have gone much further in this direction than the overwhelming majority of similar compilations. This might be an ideal volume for the person who is making the transition from "ghost stories" as pure entertainment to a more serious interest in psychic phenomena.—*David Techter.*

In Melbourne, Australia, Mrs. Joan Daly gave birth to her third child. All three children have been born on June 18.

REPORT FROM THE READERS

AFRICAN THUNDERBIRD

Every time I read about "Thunderbirds," or big birds in general, I am reminded of an experience I had in 1903. I have delayed reporting it until now for fear of being considered a spinner of tall tales. But the account of Thunderbird sightings in the September issue of FATE encouraged me.

As a young man of 23 I started from Salisbury, Rhodesia, on a bicycle trip with Charlie Day, his son Edwin, Percy Howe and my brother Arthur. We were thrilled with the idea of going into the interior, in big game country, to hunt, fish and explore. Our destination was Rocky Spruit, a crossing place 60 miles away in the lower Mozoe River Valley. We had a good guide in Charlie Day, a prospector who had been out that way before.

We traveled 40 miles the first day and slept the night in our blankets near the river where there were many large, wild lemon trees and also numerous monkeys, judging by the noise that woke us very early the next morning.

We got started on the second lap, traveling through an area that was beautiful and unspoiled by civilization. About 10:30, after we had covered some 10 miles, one of the fellows found he had a puncture. We stopped under a shady

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tree to repair the tire and rest a while out of the hot sun.

I strolled a short distance along the road to look at the scenery. There were not too many trees and most of them were small. I had turned and was walking back when I was startled by something that passed swiftly and soundlessly between me and the sun, casting a shadow on the ground in front of me.

Looking up quickly, I saw, about 130 feet in the air, a bird that was a whopper. It had a head as large as a Rugby football. In motion its powerful wings looked like waves following one another. I think it must have spotted us from far off and had flown over to get a closer look, just as do all birds of prey when hungry.

I was so amazed at what I was seeing that I did not at once call out to the others. When they finally became aware of the bird, it had flown to a big tree about 500 yards up on the crest of a hill. The thick bottom branch on which it perched bent far down under its weight.

From this viewpoint, it studied the situation, and evidently it did not like a crowd. Before any of the fellows could get a shot at it with a rifle, it flew away, leaving its perch bouncing up and down like a springboard. At the distance from which they viewed it, the others thought that what they saw was just a very big eagle.—*George H. France, Windsor, Ont., Can.*

GHOST ON THE PORCH

An unusual circumstance occurred when I moved into this vicinity almost six years ago.

Several times while driving past an old house with no close neighbors, I distinctly saw an old man with a long beard sitting on a settee on the porch. As he looked quite lonely, I decided to stop the next time I saw him and inquire if I could be of any help.

But I never saw him again. I inquired who he was from an "old-timer" up here. This person told me the old man I saw on the porch had lived there—but that he had been dead for several years. This surprised me greatly, to say the least.—*Dorothy L. Pierce, Douglas Hill, Me.*

DIRIGIBLE DISASTER

In 1921, while living in Brooklyn, N.Y., I had an unusual psychic experience. At this time lighter-than-air dirigibles were being built by several nations, prompted by the use of such aircraft during World War I.

America had ordered the construction of a huge dirigible in England and it was given a trial run on August 24, 1921. It carried the identifying symbol "U.S. ZR2." The place was Hull, England.

These details then were unknown to me, a young man who held an interesting advertising position in Manhattan.

I went to bed on the night of August 23, without a thought in my mind to explain what followed. At about 5:00 A.M. I awoke, covered with sweat from an unusually disturbing nightmare.

It began when I found myself walking idly in a rather small park. The limits of the park, or square, were lined with two and three-story houses. Many people were walking

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in the park and, from their dress, speech and mannerisms, I judged them to be English. They were looking up into the sky. I did likewise and saw a large cigar-shaped object floating there. It had a sort of cabin slung beneath the bag.

As I watched, I saw a spiral of something resembling smoke issue from amidships of the gondola. The smoked increased rapidly in volume. The roar of the ship's engines seemed suddenly to cease, and then the dirigible veered from its forward course. I seemed to hear a wail coming from the passengers in the gondola and cries of horror from watchers on the ground. Then the gondola disintegrated, pieces of it falling earthward. Some of the passengers or crew scrambled up on the inflated bag, but the dirigible broke in two, with men hanging on the two sections of the bag. Then what was left of the gondola fell to the ground.

The images of this spectacular disaster were clearly etched on my brain, and I still can picture the scene I saw at that time.

I dismissed the experience as a dream and plunged into my daily duties. Great was my astonishment late the same day, to see in large headlines news of the disaster I had seen eight hours before it happened. Details reported in the newspaper coincided with those I had witnessed. Files of New York and other newspapers will confirm my story.

I was so impressed and amazed by the happening that I wrote a detailed report of it and mailed it to the Society for Psychical Research, New York, within a day or two of the event. Undoubtedly it is includ-

ed in the records of this society. I received a reply which no longer is in my files.

Heading the list of "Notable Aircraft Disasters." in the *World Almanac*, will be found the following:

"Year, 1921, Aug. 24, Br. Dirigible R-38 (U.S. ZR2), broke in half. Hull, England. Deaths, 62."

I have since had other psychic experiences, but this was the most astonishing and detailed.—*Wm. W. Ayre, Eureka, Calif.*

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I am preparing a book on phantom animals and those which appear to have registered psychic or supernatural experiences.

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Examples exist, too, of domesticated animals suddenly becoming petrified with fear, their hair raised on end, while human beings nearby have sensed nothing unusual or disquieting.

Stories or legends no doubt exist in many parts of America of phantom horses, dogs or other animals which appear on anniversary dates, frequenting sites where some tragedy or disaster occurred.

In Britain, I have in the course of my researches found a number of families which have their own private phantoms. These are in the main messengers of death. In one family, the messenger takes the form of a headless Scotch Terrier, in another a phantom coach and horses, which rumble up the drive

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or seem to cross the lawn in front of the family's home. It is possible that some American families also have phantom animals of this kind which are seen shortly before the loss of some much-loved or intimate member of their circle.

To make my study as comprehensive and authentic as possible, I should be glad to hear from any readers of FATE with personal experience of animal telepathy, clairvoyance, premonitions, or of animal hauntings.

Any help thus received will be gratefully acknowledged.—*Alec J. Forrest, 38 Bury Road, Brandom, Suffolk, England.*

FROGS WITH RAIN

Regarding the article by Raymond Bayless in the February issue—I believe the shrimp did fall from the sky! I say this because I saw frogs that came with the rains!

One minute the ground was dry, with nothing stirring. Then came a torrent of rain and these minute hopping things were everywhere. We mistook them for hailstones from the way they bounced, but when the rain stopped and the things kept bouncing, we went outside to look. They were frogs, tiny, emaciated and almost transparent.

When we attempted to pick them up, their thin, little bodies clung like jelly to our skin. The meadow near our house soon was a lake and full of frogs, all about the size of my thumbnail. The ground was so thickly covered with them that we could not walk without crushing them, although they tried to jump away.

The frogs in the meadow-lake survived and grew into normal

frogs. You can be sure we had a "bumper crop" that year. Their chorus filled the air every night for weeks.

This all happened in the hills east of Kenwood, Sonoma County, Calif., in the winter of 1939-40. I was 18 years old and living with my parents in an isolated cabin for that one year of ranch-life. The one road to town was washed out by the heavy rain, and so we were unable to communicate with any authorities to have our frog-story verified. By the time we were able to come down the hill, the frogs looked fairly normal, although still very tiny, so no one would believe us. After that experience, I will believe anyone who says "it rained frogs—or shrimp." I saw it happen!—*Virginia Vanderford, San Jose, Calif.*

STRAIGHTENING THE RECORD

In past issues, reading Mr. Fuller's column "I See By The Papers," I have noticed the following contradictions and inaccuracies:

(1) In the November, 1961, issue, page 23 ff., an item ran un-

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der the heading "Here We Go Again," dealing with an alleged phenomenon which occurred on the previous July 25. The identical item, minus the last paragraph, appeared on page 22 of the February, 1963, issue. Obviously, the incident could not have occurred both on July 25, 1961, and July 25, 1962.

(2) On the same page of the February, 1963, issue, a UFO sighting, which allegedly occurred "last October 2" is described. Yet, as any UFO buff knows, this sighting occurred on October 2, 1961—not 1962.

(3) In the September, 1963, issue, page 9 ff., there is a report of an incident which allegedly occurred on March 18, 1963. Yet, except for the date and the name of the girl involved, this happening is identical to that described by Frank Edwards in *Strangest of All* (Ace, 1962) page 83 ff. Even the names and locations of the schools are identical.

I always have admired the high standard of accuracy in "I See By the Papers," but I believe I am entitled to an explanation of the above points.—*David Halperin, Levittown, Pa.*

* * *

We appreciate having inaccuracies called to our attention and are glad to explain how the foregoing occurred.

(1) What happened here is that we have three sets of proofs of each article. One is pasted on "dummy" pages, one is marked with corrections, and the third is placed in an "overset type" file until the article appears. Somehow the third galley for "Here We Go Again" was not pulled when the original

article appeared and remained in "overset" for over a year, when it was used again.

(2) The statement referring to 1961 was correct when the article was set in type. However, many months passed before it could be squeezed into the column. By that time, the phrase seemingly referred to 1962.

(3) All material used in "I See By the Papers" comes from newspaper clippings kindly sent to us by interested readers. This particular incident was reported by a Canadian newspaper, which apparently redated an old story. By the time we realized we had seen this story before, it was too late to take it out of the issue.—*The Editors.*

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"MOST ASTOUNDING ARTICLE"

The article *Friedrich Jurgensen and the Voices of the Dead*, in the December issue, is to my mind the most astounding article ever published—"if true as reported."

The problem is that everyone I have asked to read the article seems to feel it is just so much nonsense. If, as reported, voices of the dead actually have been taped, then man surely must be on the verge of a tremendous breakthrough in regard to the survival after death question.

What bothers me is that in this article are claims of a world-shaking order, and the publishers of FATE just report them and let them hang with no conclusions as to whether they are true or false. I wish to have a great deal more information about these claims, and I am sure FATE has the resources to make a searching investigation. Can, in fact, the tapes not be faked, as claimed by sound expert Kjell Stensson?

True or false, here is an opportunity for a deep and wide investigation that will create as much interest as did the search for Bridey Murphy several years ago.—*R. W. Steinke, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.*

LOTTE VON STRAHL UNLABELED

In the December issue of FATE you mention, rather disparagingly, on page 21, a well-known local sensitive, Mrs. Lotte von Strahl. She does not call herself the "Baroness von Strahl," and she stresses that the newspapers persist in labeling her with this title, which she says she abhors.

As a result of the publicity given her by newspapers, I interviewed

her and was impressed with her as an unusual human being one would be delighted to know even if she did not have the gift of psychic powers. During the interview she told me that during World War II Allied Intelligence made use of her psychic powers and knowledge of graphology to decode messages.— *S. N. Jason, Woodland Hills, Calif.*

CONSTANT READER

I have been a constant reader of FATE since 1954. In the January, 1964, issue I particularly enjoyed *Another Look At Werewolves, Audrey Meadows and the Ghost,* and *The Priest and the Flying Saucer* —one of the best UFO articles I ever have read.

Mind-healing is my great interest and I wish to learn more about it. I also am interested in UFOs, having had the thrill of seeing one a few years ago. Other interests are metaphysics and old coin collecting, both American and foreign.

I welcome letters from the readers of FATE and request that you publish my address so that I may hear from them. — *Clementine V. Wixom,* 384 - 25 *Avenue, San Francisco, Calif.* 94121.

SAUCER OVERHEAD

On a Sunday afternoon in early September, 1955, my sister and I observed a flying saucer at close range. At the time we lived in Tracy, Calif., a small farm town, through the center of which passed a highway. That particular Sunday afternoon the highway was busy as people were taking their last opportunity to enjoy the weather and a trip to the Sierras.

My sister and I were walking

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along the sidewalk, on our way home from the town's only theatre. The sun had set just five minutes before and the sky was still very bright.

We happened to glance up to our right and saw a glowing object approaching us at great speed out of the northeastern sky. It was a fluorescent orange in color and had a smooth, metallic appearance. I definitely would say that the object was a vehicle driven or controlled by an unknown and superior power.

As it approached, we noticed a tail of fire at the rear, tapering to a point and trailing off. The fire left no smoke, and continued until the object came even with us, when suddenly it stopped in mid-air about 25 feet overhead.

It appeared to be about 25 feet in diameter. While in flight it made the sound of falling water, but as it hovered above us we heard no sound at all. We stared, transfixed, at the awesome and frightening thing. It remained motionless for about a minute. Then, as we resumed walking along the sidewalk, it followed us, directly overhead, for almost a full block. Again it stopped in mid-air, and then, with stunning speed, it shot straight up at a 90-degree angle, still in a horizontal position. It went out of sight into a clear sky so quickly that we were able to follow it with our eyes for only a split-second, just long enough to see the direction in which it disappeared. Although the highway was jammed with cars, it appears that we were the only persons who saw the object. — *Wanda Lockwood, Stockton, Calif.*

ACID FOR WARTS

I noted the statements of Dr. T. R. Van Dellen on page six of the March, 1963, issue about soaking warts in hot water, which does not always work.

When working as an apprentice boy in a machine shop many years ago, I was troubled by numerous warts on my fingers. We had in the shop a five-gallon stone crock filled with a mixture of hydrochloric and sulphuric acid, used for cleaning brass castings.

One day I took a long wooden match and dipped the end of it about one-sixteenth of an inch into the mixture, and then carefully touched the top (only the top) of a wart with the end of the matchstick. I was careful that the matchstick was only moistened and that there was not a *drop* of acid hanging on the end.

In a few days the wart was gone, and all the rest went the same way. Only one wart should be treated at a time.

I did not bury the matchstick with the head toward the moon—I just threw it down the drain.—*Carl Sonman, Swan Lake, N. Y.*

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Not one to be discouraged, he cashed in a few thousand dollars' worth of Savings Bonds and built one. He has it well-stocked with crappies, catfish, bass and other fish. And an attractive 4-room cottage sitting beside it (also built with Savings Bonds).

In case you're wondering, Mr. Ray possesses neither great wealth nor superhuman powers as a saver. He accumulated the money for the lake, fish and cottage by joining the Payroll Savings Plan.

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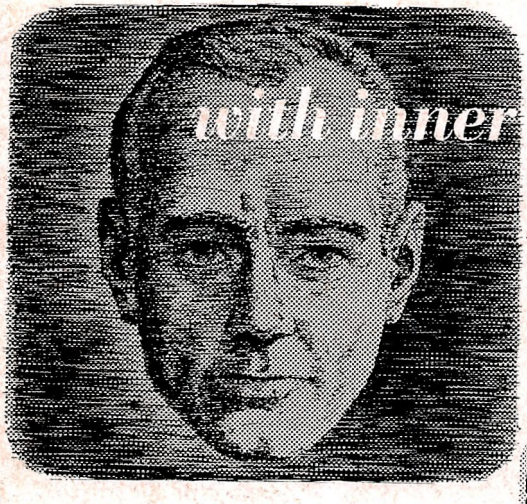
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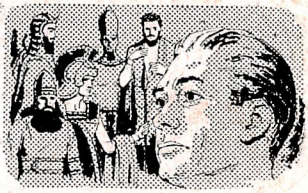
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