THE FORTEAN SOCIETY

MAGAZINE

No. 7 JUNE 1943 25c

Official Organ of
The Fortean Society
Founded 1931

Ben Hecht
Booth Tarkington
Aaron Sussman
Burton Rascoe
John Cowper Powys
Harry Leon Wilson
Secretary
Tiffany Thayer

The Magazine is edited by the Secretary and does not necessarily express the views of the other Founders.

The Fortean Society
Box 192 Grand Central Annex
New York City

THE SOCRATIC METHOD

or

Please Pass the Hemlock

some questions by

Tiffany Thayer

1. How long is an "emergency" and who says so?
2. Can New York City be bombed without the connivance of Washington, D. C.?
3. Does anybody still think the ballots are counted on election day?
4. What makes anybody think this so-called "war" ever will be "over"?
5. Where was James A. Farley from July 27. 1939 until Sept. 2, 1939?
6. Was he Chairman of the Democratic National Committee then?
7. Did the then Chairman of the Republican National Committee (John D. M. Hamilton) visit Europe at the same time?
8. Did they both see Hitler or his agents?
9. What is the difference between a "Republican" and a "Democrat"?
10. What is the difference between cyanide and bichloride?
11. Why did "Doc" Giannini change the name of the Bank of Italy to Bank of America?
12. Did a seagull sent by God tell him war was coming?
13. Who tells Gallup and Roper what their "polls" should indicate?
14. Does Secretary of the Navy Knox still own or publish the Chicago Daily *News?*
15. Is James G. Stahlman (publisher of the Nashville *Banner,* and some-time President of the American Newspaper Publishers Association) an assistant Secretary of the Navy or an understudy—or what?
16. (Deleted on second thought.)
17. Do you consider it a menace for newspapers to own approximately 25% of all the radio stations?
18. Why do radio announcers warn listeners not to repeat anything they don't read in the papers or hear over their radios?
19. Is it coincidence that so much fighting is being done around far-off, savage islands and on deserts?

MORE NOTES OF CHARLES FORT

20. Does it matter to the Lords of Creation how many Solomon Islanders, African blacks, Russian and Chinese "Reds" are killed?

21. Day for day, how do white casualty lists compare in this so-called "war" and the last?

22. Is that lucky for somebody?

23. Can you think of a faster way to demolish "big" steel than by building it into ships and tanks and then sinking them in the sea or blowing them up?

24. When big steel flourisheth what happens to all other "business"?

25. How does organized Charity do in such times? How does Labor do?

26. Does anybody think there ever was the slightest hope or intention of actually enforcing price ceilings on anything?

27. Did you read in the *New Yorker* that oil tankers have difficulty getting complete crews together?

28. (Deleted on second thought)

29. Does any State other than New York pay for advertising space in the Freeprez to sell its citizens milk?

30. Do you suppose the white liquid sold over the counter as "milk" in New York City is any more nourishing than it is palatable?

31. Do you feel like a dog jumping through a hoop when you hear an air raid warden's whistle?

32. Is that the way you are supposed to feel?

33. Do you think the United States is a Fascist country?

34. If the Great White Father tells you to buy a gas mask are you going to do it? And carry it in a sack on your back to your work every day?

35. Is it agreed that Japan shall have the Philippine Islands for keeps?

36. Could existing electricity generating plants make enough juice to keep factories working all night, all radios going full blast and the Great White Way blazing simultaneously?

37. Are new generating plants costly?

38. What would an electric company do with new generating plants if emergency ceased?

39. Why do we have dim-outs?

40. If the Gallupoll man asked you to name the "war aims" of the combatant nations—to which countries would you accredit the following:

(A) To create prosperity for the survivors?

(B) To increase tax rates to the highest point in history?

(C) To break the back of the recently wakened Russian giant and that of his Red Starred Chinese brother?

(D) To disorganize labor unions?

(E) To impose upon the people reforms and restrictions not possible under any other than a "war" economy?

41. Do you think the "shortages" of sugar, coffee, gasoline, meat, etc., etc., etc., are on the level?

42. When similar events occurred in Germany were they intended to test how far a dictator could go before his body politic exploded and blew his head off?

43. Did Webb Miller know too much?

44. When is an "accident" and who says so?

45. Do you think that the officers convicted of negligence for "Pearl Harbor" were made the goats to prevent further investigation?

46. Do you think Dache M. Reeves and Lynn Farnol suffered for the "air-marker hoax" because it was a hoax or because they went a bit too far?

47. Do you think Senator Burton K. Wheeler ever really believed in "isolation"?

48. Did Lindbergh?

49. Did the Associated Press invent the term "Axis"?

50. When did you first read it?

51. Had war been decided upon then?

52. Had "sides" been chosen-up?

53. Did you read on page 8 of the *Journal of Commerce,* July 20, 1942 the statement of Elliot E. Simpson in Washington to the effect that the "rubber shortage" was a myth?

54. Do you think that the "scrap" collection drives are intended to rid our houses and shops of metal gadgets so we will have to buy more when the Great White Father will permit?

55. Do you think that a people has the government it deserves?

56. Do you think the common people of England are being regimented pretty much after the German pattern?

57. Do you think the common people of the United States have already been herded a long way on the same path?

58. If you recognized that you were living in a Fascist state under a dictator what would you do about it?

59. Does George Seldes seriously believe that the Chicago *Tribune* and the New York *Daily News* are "anti-war" papers?

60. Do you remember that we taxpapers coughed up $150,000 for a sort of over-sized bus (Poulter's Folly) for Admiral Byrd to take to the South Pole?

61. Do you remember that it was supposed to navigate glaciers, ice-bergs and what-not—and that it got stuck in a simple road-side ditch somewhere in Ohio or Indiana?

62. Where is the damned thing now?

63. Where is our $150,000?

64. Will the 200-inch mirror which Corning made for Palomar ever be used?

65. Is the pitch to be a split of the Democratic Party, staged by Farley vs. Roosevelt, so the Republican candidate is certain to win?

66. Is that strategy already planned and agreed to by *both* parties?

67. Would they be surprised if Norman Thomas ran off with the election?

68. If he should—could we look forward to a repetition of Spain in the U.S.A.?

69. That is to ask: If the people by some freak of chance used their franchise to elect a man outside the two allegedly antagonistic big parties, who would start the inevitable revolution?

70. Who would be blamed for it?

71. Who has all the guns?

72. Whom do the cops work for?

73. Do you buy War Bonds because you think the United States is at "war", or because your boss would be sore if you didn't?

74. Is "global" Fascism the aim of this so-called "war"?

75. What would that do to the individual?

76. What would it do to your ability to think?

77. What would it do to the arts?

78. Have you hitherto held that the poets are the true prophets?

79. Is it not rather the poets' business to unscramble current history as soon after each event as the politicians will permit?

80. Are the youngest soldiers in the army being taught to shoot their over-38 fathers and brothers if those fathers and brothers go on strike?

81. Are the children in our schools being taught that THIS is "freedom"?

82. What has become of the associations of mothers who opposed this alleged "war"?

83. Does George Seldes think those mothers were "native Fascists"—financed by profits from international cartels?

84. Do the great majorities prefer lies to the truth simply because nobody has taken the time and trouble to think up a system for making the truth profitable?

85. When is "Red Tape" and who s: so?

86. Did you read the AP despatch of 8-9-42 which included this paragraph: "The British Government of India met the outbreaks with tear gas and direct gunfire."?

87. By what token is it possible for Mrs. Edna Ballard and her son Donald to be convicted of fraud for their shenanigans in the "I Am" cult while Catholic Priests continue to take cash for Masses daily, Protestant Divines continue to scare little children with lies about Hell-fire, and Doc "Psychiana" Robinson continues to peddle his brand salvation from Moscow, Idaho—and all go scot-free?

88. Did you read the statement attributed (10-6-38) to Phyllis Bottome, British writer, to the effect that England was "already Fascist—in its sleep"?

89. How many members of the Roosevelt family went to Europe in 1939?

90. Did any of them visit Hitler or talk to his agents?

91. How many "secretaries" or other similar functionaries in those parties?

92. Did any of them visit Hitler or talk to his agents?

93. Did Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, sail to Europe on the Normandy, August 2, 1939?

94. Did he or any of his suite see Hitler or any Hitler agents?

95. Could you in honesty call the African campaign a "second front"?

96. Is there at present and has there been for some time a standing, blanket order to all writers on the New York *Times* forcing them to mention "war" in every news story whether it has even the remotest connection with the alleged "war" or not?

97. Was it no more than coincidence that three submarines of different nations sank by "accident" in the space of less than five months in 1939?

Feb.. 3, the "I—63", Japanese

May 24. the "Squalus", U.S.A.

June 17. the "Phenix", French

98. Or might these sinkings have been heroic token pledges of good faith—and at the same time the signal of readiness for "incidents" to begin?

99. Is Hitler the only politician who knows that the bigger the lie is the more readily the mass swallows it?

100. Was the *Panay* incident an abortive "Pearl Harbor"?

101. Who wasn't ready?

102. Did James A. Farley (then Postmaster General) kiss the Blarney Stone late in August, 1939?

103. Did he kiss the Pope's toe, hand or ring about August 20, 1939?

104. What did he kiss in Berlin, August 5 and 6, 1939?

105. Did he—with some fanfare—"refuse" an appointment with Mussolini in Rome about the same time?

106. Could that have been to allay public suspicion?

107. Might he not have dined with Mussolini any day from August 16 to 20 without fanfare?

108. Did Mr. Farley *deny* that the "New Deal" had "war aims' on April 24, 1939, at a Catholic Communion Breakfast in New York City?

109. What was Mr. Farley's real mission to Warsaw and Cracow, Poland, August 7 to 13, 1939?

110. What became of the the former necessity to match blood "types" for transfusions?

111. Which spelling do you prefer: plasma "bank" or plasma "bunk"?

112. Is "inflation" a bugaboo invented to frighten you into *liking* the highest taxes of all time?

113. To frighten you into accepting "frozen" wages to keep you poor?

114. Is "syphoning off excess purchasing power" merely another term for robbery by the tax-eaters?

115. What will be the difference between you and a slave if "your" Congress legislates to "freeze" you in your job?

116. Who told the grocers to raise all their prices outrageously thirteen months before a single price "ceiling" was fixed as of "the year" before?

117. Was that done so that later inquiries would reveal only fractional percentages of increase in cost of living—although in reality the cost had almost doubled?

ACCIDENT PRONES..

Our valued member, ABRAM BROOKS, has supplied the Society with data on a score of subjects recently, including:

intelligent horses
time lapses
hollow snowballs
rain of birds
mysterious wounds (next issue)

But the most remarkable datum is a quotation from L. Ron Hubbard, writing in the magazine *Unknown,* Feb. 1940, p. 53. Reference is to a class of men, said to be known by "any" insurance company, called "accident prones". These men are said to be innocent of any wrong doing or blame, but "accidents" occur where they are. Mr. Hubbard says: "Not until recently was it completely proved, beyond all shadow of doubt, that the elimination of certain men from industrial plants met with a decrease if not a cessation of accidents in that plant."

Members are urged to write to their insurance companies for more details and to forward replies to the Secretary.

U. S. A. KILLS ITS OWN SOLDIERS

The indefatigable BART REAGAN has enriched the Archives since the last writing with data on practically every subject of Fortean interest:

"dust" storms
possible beatification of Pope Pius XII
sight restored and physician non-plussed
quakes
bureaucracy
jinxes
the Clan-na-Gael
strange shape over Princeton
the Mary Celeste
censorship
the Johnstown flood
true shape of Earth
eclipses
a Roanoke Virginia "dreamer" who "anticipated" Pearl Harbor
lightning (one man struck twice)
fireballs
the N. Y. *Sun's* screams of anguish at the suit against AP.
a tornado accurately predicted 45 minutes before it occurred.
mysterous coughing gas in Philadelphia 4-3-42
Bertrand Russell persecution
sulfa drugs
morphine addiction
"social illness"
bees (the fire department was called out) in Pueblo, Colorado 4-5-40.
sunspots
meteorology
civilian plane crashes
volcanos
syphilis
rabies
the "varmint" on the Eastern Shore of Maryland 7-18-40.
beetle plague
new element ("eka-iodine")
devastating hail
Aurora Borealis
mysterious "critter" loose around Evergreen, Pa., 2-23-40.
"mad" dogs
ten acres disappear—Alabama
bottomless fissure—Kansas
"thought waves"
a man who hasn't slept for 26 years.
signals from ?Mars?
atoms
train wrecks
explosion at Du Pont when "nobody" was near 5-4-40.
teaching Christianity in public schools
"freedom of the press" as understood by editors and publishers of daily propaganda—and a few howlers. . . .

The editor of the Hornell, N. Y.. *Evening Tribune* criticized (2-16-42) former Ambassador Davies for talking about Hitler's "death", over the air. Says the editor: "Newsprint where everything is available at once, is the medium for such tricky matters. No newspaper headline mislead readers into taking frank speculation for established fact."

And the note about a one-legged veteran of the "World War I" who took vocational training at the Government expense, learning to be a printer. "Then he sought a government job as a printer and was told he was not eligible because he had lost a leg."

And the one about the four-engined B-24 bomber autographed (1-23-43) by 225 Oklahoma "newspaper folk", carrying on its side *a message to Adolph & Tojo.* What appears to have escaped the attention of these heroic journalists is that for their jest to have point, the B-24 has to be brought *down* in enemy territory where it might be read if the plane didn't burn: but, read under those circumstances rather turns the tables—

But the high spot in Reagan's contributions comes from the *Daily Oklahoman* (1-24-43) and quotes Lieut. Gen. Leslie J. McNair, "army ground forces commander" on the subject of using "live" ammunition—real bullets in training U. S. soldiers. . . . "He said the tactics (mentioned above) will be introduced to the entire United States Army. *We have lost men in this manner,* he said, *but neither the men nor their families have objected because they know this type of training is the real stuff—they know it's the best way to teach themselves self-reliance and self-confidence"*

Every night when your Secretary goes to bed, and—instead of praying—has a personal interview with the Archangel Michael, he asks Mike to have God send the Society more and more and more members like Bart Reagan.

ALEXANDER WOOLLCOTT
Founder 1931
Resigned February 12, 1942
Died 1943

"LIGHT'S VELOCITY"

A new member, MORRIS RONYON, would like to champion the late Professor A. A. Michelson's figures and experimental methods for finding that old cosmic yardstick "the velocity of light". Does any member have the time to take the young man on? . . . He has no special quirks but sticks by the guns of Orthodoxy, even old fashioned Orthodoxy, lumping the figure at 186,000 miles per second, ignoring Michelson's greater refinements and later experiments.

Your Secretary despairs of convincing a "speed of light" addict that the velocity of any such experiment is not to be measured in miles per second, but in dollars per man.

To quote that Dean of Science Reporters, the learned and jovial Waldemar Kaempffert: "At a cost of $60,000 Michelson laid a tube three feet in diameter and a mile long and installed pumps to suck as much air out of it as possible. It was no mean job to make the tube air tight with canvas, adhesive tape, rubber and paint so that it could withstand an atmospheric pressure of 55,000 tons. Edgar C. Nichols of the Mount Wilson staff, who did the engineering work for Michelson, still perspires when he thinks of it."

And Your Secretary fancies that some sweating was done by others, originally, to amass the $60,000 for Michelson to play with.

The quote from Kaempffert is part of a long article on other attempts to clock "light", sent to us by Fortean N. M. Layne, and it describes a mirror about as big as an egg, "built to resist the terrific rending forces set up when it is spun at 60,000 revolutions a minute." (The spinning engine and its fuel are not named.)

As recently as September 1939, Dr. Wilmer C. Anderson "achieved the 300-year-old dream or science" in a small Harvard laboratory, using a photo-electric cell and causing light rays to streak "back and forth across a room . . . nearly 2,000,000 times a second." The cost of setting up Wilmer's apparatus is not noted by *Popular Science,* nor does the story say who did the sweating, but the figures are not like Michelson's being 20 miles per second slower.

UNCENSORED LETTER FROM ENGLAND

By some mischance, or perhaps not, a letter has arrived from a Fortean in the British Army with its seal unbroken. No censor read it. This is what got by:

> Things worsening this side. The forces of reaction are closing their ranks. Our Home Guard has been warned that after the trouble is all over they may be called upon to defend the sanctity of dividends and the divine right of Big Bankers by administering lead in the belly to any demobilized warrior who dares to get ideas about the things for which he has fought. Of course, the Tory mustang who uttered this grave warning didn't put things either so bluntly or so coarsely. He defined public ambition as 'post-war indiscipline'. Somewhere there's some government servant who earns a good living searching the dictionary for inverted names for things. It does not seem to occur to the Big Boys that, when the time is ripe, they may receive a good stiff taste of discipline themselves—or maybe they've already calculated that a judicious dose of official violence will avert the evil day.
>
> But the whole situation has become retrograde. Our social reform hopes (embodied in the Beveridge Plan), have been kicked hard and well upon the ass. Every speech by anyone who means anything is designed to show that, like our fathers, we're going to continue to shed blood and tears for exactly nothing. All is going to be exactly as it was before (maybe), and heaven help anyone who dares say, "Yah!" Our Gestapo is in full cry—one of my letters, containing an untoward remark not considered seemly by higher circles, was delayed ten days while our non-combatant snoops made a note of it—and of me. But, you know, a gang which has blundered repeatedly is not likely to display astounding shrewdness in the future. I think they're miscalculating the temper of the public, and I think their Gallup polls and Mass Observation reports are worthless, particularly since they don't take into account the opinions of those citizens who are temporarily muzzled by virtue of service in the fighting forces. And it is precisely those, the silenced citizens, who're going to explode one of these fine days. I reckon so. I hate to think otherwise.

For obvious reasons the author's name is suppressed here. But, the tocsin sounded had a familiar ring. We note IN FACT 4-12-43 referring to the St. Paul *Dispatch* which printed photographs of soldiers at Fort Snelling "quelling" a labor riot (practice, of course). "The signs carried by the soldiers playing the part of workers read: *Strike. More pay, less work. Unfair to labor.* Etc."

And in the CALL 4-16-43, an expose of the "Gauleiter School of Military Government" at Charlottesville, Va., where troops are being instructed in similar methods of controlling masses of men—under the pretext of quelling rioting Germans after "invasion"!

WHAT'S A SPELEOL?

Perhaps no other member has laid the Society under greater obligation for his general, informed usefulness, and for data and books contributed, recently, than has DON BLOCH, moving spirit of the National Speleological Society. If you don't know, that means folks who explore caves and other holes in the ground, and for Your Secretary's part, them for it!

From Don Bloch we have books an pamphlets on—his own hobby of cave-crawling, snow and ice algae, Ulugh Beg's Catalogue of Stars, and other astronomical items, spontaneous ignition of hay (and barns)—an especially fine collection of material now out of print; falls of fishes, toads, frogs, etc.. etc., whistling meteors, "Occurrences of Red Water Near San Diego", Mars, Atlantis, thought transference, and the following: That 115 tons of rain fell on 1 acre in 1 minute in the San Gabriel Mountains of Californa (4-5-26) . . . . That two Zagreb, Yugoslavia, professors claim red rains are increasing in the Balkan peninsula. Out of 21 recorded, 10 have occurred since 1900, of which 4 came in one year—either 1934 or 1935. In one red rainstorm 250,000 tons of the stuff were estimated to have fallen . . . Fish fell at Agua Caliente (AP July 14, either 1934 or 1935). "during a heavy rain yesterday" . . . From January 16, to February 10 and perhaps after, 1934, "a ghost Kangaroo" was upsetting South Pittsburgh, Tenn. At about the same time inexplicable sounds were heard on the farm of J. Hibbs Buckman, at Parkland near Langhorne, Pa.

If space permitted the list might be continued almost endlessly, but let us conclude with a fragment Don Bloch has pasted in the front of his first edition of *New Lands.* He did not date it, drat him, but it comes from *Pathfinder, Washington, D. C.,* that stalwart defender of Orthodoxy and misinterpreter of facts for the farmer:

"ICE LAYER IN AIR"

> French scientists who have been conducting experiments in East Greenland say there is a layer of ice in the air over the polar regions. This ice ceiling (congealed atmosphere a million times finer than water) is situated approximately 60 miles above the earth. The discovery was made when electrical impulses from an electrical sounding machine were reflected back. Time of the impulses in transit was recorded and computations made which gave the height of the ice layer. This ice is believed to be the cause of the storms at sea.

On the other hand, the Society Archives contain a slightly different version of the matter under the headline:

EARTH HELD
CIRCLED BY
FIERY BAND

And the AP despatch from London, 8-27-35 credits Professor E. V. Appleton, Chairman of the British National Committee for Radio Telegraphy, with the theory "that in the upper atmosphere encompassing the earth there is a vast layer of intense heat hitherto unknown to science." The layer is called a "celestial inferno" and the temperature is asserted to be 1000 degrees centigrade. Prof. Appleton based his deductions (called "discoveries") on the bouncing back of radio "waves" sent "150 miles from the earth".

At the moment Don Bloch is hampered by the alleged paper "shortage", but as soon as possible he will publish *Sightseeing Underground,* at $1.00 a copy. Order yo

copy through the Society. From the personal experiences while communing with the mole related to Your Secrtary, it is judged this will be a thriller from way down *there!*

HUSH! HUSH! HUSH!

Now you can go back to sleep:

44 inmates of the Oregon State Hospital (for the insane) died (11-19-42) after eating scrambled eggs, which were of the "frozen" variety. Frozen eggs are a great forward stride of Science—like the sulfa drugs.

Later 3 more succumbed.

By the 21st (two days later) the alibi was that one of the nuts had brought the cook roach poison instead of powdered milk.

Rock-a-bye, baby, on the tree top!

WHY CREHORE

Forteans have been asking if the Society has sold out to the physicists' union, because of the big push we've been giving ATOMIC THEORY by Albert Cushing Crehore, Ph.D. . . . . Not so. . . . As a matter of fact, degrees can be deceiving, and Dr. Crehore is not a member of their union. He is, rather, to the physicists, as poison ivy is to a Boy Scout. (That is to say—they won't touch him.)

He gave the world his atom in 1921. The good union members went right on with what they were doing. In 1926, he amplfied his ideas in a larger book which nobody in the Sacred Circle has taken the time to read—nobody, that is, except H. A. Lorentz, who read it and died. Before he died, he wrote Crehore a 28-page letter, which may be the most important unpublished Lorentz document in existence. The letter is said to praise most of Crehore's work, and to reveal basic misunderstanding of the points to which it takes exception.

Crehore answered Lorentz, explaining the misunderstood points—mostly mathematical—but before the letter could be delivered Lorentz was dead. Whereupon Crehore offered the correspondence to publications which should have been interested but they declined to publish it. Since then, Physicist Crehore has been on the union's leper list.

To most Forteans who have examined Dr. Crehore's new, simplified text (which we are pushing) the matter appears to be no more than the same old black magic that keeps Millikan and Einstein in pin money, although the contention is that it links up Newton and Max Planck, and truly explains "gravitation". We wouldn't know. Nevertheless the Society champions the outcast, on the theory that no physicist's preposterousness is any sillier than another's, and that Crehore is entitled to have his name engraved on appeals for funds to save delinquent youth, just like any other "leader of American thought".

To be sure, Crehore himself would prefer "recognition" from his colleagues, but he does not appear to realize that such "recognition" is not based upon the merit of an individual's performance, but comes from political, philanthropic or some other commercial connection. The Society's recommendation to the author is that he either (A) make pals with a Carnegie, Du Pont or some war millionaire who will endow an institution for the prosecution of his researches, thus affording employment for a lot of the boys, or (B) think up some good boob-bumping dodge like Einstein's "only twelve men understand me". We wish Dr. Crehore well, and accordingly warn him that his publicity stunt must be of higher calibre than Sir Hubert Wilkins' submarine to the North Pole, Byrd's "bus" to the South Pole, or Auguste Picard's toy balloons to the "stratosphere". Let him take a tip from the politicians and make his hoax so enormous that everybody will swallow it.

SAID FORT:
"I Think We're Fished For!"

Perhaps somebody is collecting blimp pilots. Anyway, a navy blimp landed, 8-16-42, in Daly City, Calif., from which its crew of two "veterans" had disappeared. None of the life-saving apparatus—parachutes and rafts—was missing. The men were just—gone. They wore life-belts as part of standard equipment on such flights but search of the nearby sea produced no trace of them.

GET OFF THE POT

The physicists' union, like Poe's raven, still is sitting, still is sitting— since May 1940—on a source of atomic energy one pound of which is equal to the "power output of 5,000,000 pounds of coal or 3,000,000 pounds of gasoline". What the coal and oil men—including John L. Lewis—think of this discovery has not come to the Society's attention, but if there is anything more to it than ballyhoo for the cyclotron, which is highly dubious, one ventures that Professor John R. Dunning (Columbia) and his "team" mates will lead sedentary lives thenceforward.

Apropos: who makes cyclotrons? how much do they cost? who pays for them? . . . AND if every public high school had one wouldn't that help to obviate the necessity for building tanks to turn the wheels of commerce?

BEES STILL KILL

Bees killed a female bee-keeper in the N. Y. *Times* 10-4-41. . . . Elsewhere herein, note a fire department called out to stop them. . . . And a team of horses was stung to death on a ranch near Live Oak, Calif., before they could be unhitched, observers attesting that after the animals were dead the bees continued to sting the corpses! (From B. F. Stevens Sr., of whom you will hear more.)

"SCIENTIFICTION" ASCENDING

Before Fort, any fiction making more or less free with "Science" was classified always, as of the Jules Verne school, and there wasn't a great deal of it, but in the past twenty years, what its exponents and admirers call Scientifiction, has grown like something in a dream. Millions of fans prefer these tales to either whodunits or horror, and the number of publications devoted to the imaginative extension of "scientific laws" and the enlargement of human attributes (Wild Talents, so to speak) has become legion.

The band is almost unanimously Fortean and some of our most prized members come from its ranks, all whooping up Charles Fort's fame. To name but a few—we have

James Blish
Robert Spencer Carr
Don Brazier
Claire P. Beck
Jesse Douglass
Paul H. Klingbeil
R. DeWitt Miller
Nelson Bond

Foremost among these is, of course, our esteemed colleague, "The Fortean Society in Great Britain"—ERIC FRANK RUSSELL.

Another leader in the field, Arthur Louis Joquel II, addressed the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, 1-14-43, on The Researches of Charles Fort, "especially mentioning Fort's influence on current literature". Other meetings are scheduled.

3 HUMAN TINDERS

The coincidence in this case is that the Society received the following notices all the same day:

From L. F. BAIN—the account of Allen M. Small *ae* 82, found dead in his home on the Eggemoggin Reach road in Deer Isle (Maine) 1-13-43. Fire "had burned the clothing from the upper part of the body". The carpet beneath the body was charred. Although the room "was in confusion" nothing else was burned. His pipe was on a shelf and the stove had all its lids in place. (Ellsworth, Maine, *American*)

From H. W. GILES—the account of Arthur Baugard *ae* 39, an invalid, found burned beyond recognition in his home in Erie Street, Town of Lancaster (N.Y.) 2-1-43. As in the case above, surprise is expressed by investigators that the house did not catch fire. In this case nothing but the body was burned and the sheriff's office launched an investigation.

From VINCENT FORD—the undated account of Paul V. Weekly of Sioux City, Iowa, "awakened by an itching foot" at 3:30 a.m. He rubbed his feet together, threw back the covers and saw his bed aflame. He put it out, went to sleep, and an hour later the entire routine was repeated. Mr. Weekly said that sheet, quilt and bedspread were all new.

NOT THE STORK?

Maybe it wasn't Adam and Eve after all—nor even a seed from space falling into the ooze on the shore of that first primordial sea. Maybe life originated in volcanos! At least, A. L. Herrera, Mexican biologist rises to make that suggestion. (Washington *Star*)

RUBBING IT IN

The National City Bank of New York ran an advertisement in the New York *Times,* Sunday, 1-3-43. . . . The picture shows two soldiers. ostensibly U. S. soldiers, and a tank, against a war background of fire and smoke, a half demolished building, rubble, and rifles cast aside, palm trees torn down—in short, a battle scene in tropical lands. The headline is: "You can't see the Banker in this picture . . . but he's there" . . . which is either the acme of naive frankness or the grossest braggadocio. In either case, it is certainly "making us like it" with a vengeance.

JACK'S LAST JEST

In common with all other possible means to suppress native intelligence, Religion has been given a shot in the arm by Washington, and in advertising, planned short stories, specially designed movies etc., etc., we are all being led back to the Throne. The trouble is—we don't lead that way with any more docility than the miners were led into slavery: and when we're told that there weren't any Atheists in the fox holes, we reply that—on the other hand—there are no fox-holes in an Atheist's brain.

Whether it was part of that propaganda campaign or simply the recurrence of the Catholic's ancient and oft-repeated lie about death-bed conversion (they told it about Ingersoll, remember?), the N.Y. *Sun* saw fit to print the yarn that "in his last hours" John Barrymore "re-embraced the Catholic faith". . . Well, Your Secretary wasn't there, but he knew Jack Barrymore well enough to put dough on the line that—either he was past knowing what he was doing when the alleged "re-embracing" took place, or—like the King of Comedians he was—he obeyed the first rule of the theatre—"leave them laughing". . . Ring down the curtain.

FIVE PAPERS YOU SHOULD READ

All Forteans will find a great deal of interest in these five periodicals, all published in New York City:

The CALL (weekly)
303 Fourth Avenue
$1.50 a year

IN FACT (weekly)
19 University Place
$1.00 a year

BULLETIN (monthly)
317 East 34th St.
$1.00 a year

TRUTH SEEKER (monthly)
38 Park Row
$1.50 a year

CONSUMERS' COOPERATION
167 West 12th St.
$1.00 a year

Your Secretary regrets that he cannot steer you to an honest daily. He has tried to find one. *How* he has tried! . . . In this connection, if any Fortean knows of a readable daily newspaper being published today, he can do the Society, mankind, the *world* no greater service than to spread its fame far and wide. . . . What a commentary that is upon us as a people and upon this civilization. that *nowhere* is a daily newspaper telling the truth today.

VAIL'S THEORY CONTINUED

Two young men, Donald Lee Cyr and Lawrence W. Smith, descendants, it seems, of Isaac Newton Vail, are carrying his labors forward in a workmanlike manner.

The Society has already acknowledged the gift of several of Vail's books, received from his daughter, Mrs. Alice Vail Holloway. Members are requested to check their local public libraries for Vail titles and report any found. His theories merit study and consideration—and the boys named above mean to see that they get it. The Cyr-Smith team adopt a tone which Your Secretary must decry, but it is certainly well calculated to impress the impressionable and to raise their kinsman to a respectable and didactic status among the pedantic. They attempt to establish that Vail's notions were sound, and it is clearly their aim to have him hailed as a neglected and unsung genius. They dub him "Professor Vail" and refer to him as "this little-known scientist" —which puts them all beyond the Fortean pale even unto the third and fourth generation. Nonetheless, they have the Society's heartiest commendation for striking out for themselves with a rejected theory, and it is no wonder that they feel the need for "acceptance" for their work on the part of the professors who so lately fledged them.

In ten words, Vail's idea was that Saturn with its rings gives you a picture of what Earth once was, and that all planets pass through that "annular" phase in their development.

Wasn't it Courteline who said: "There's nothing impossible about it."?

If you would know more about the "ring-canopy" process a la "Professor" Vail, address Annular World Association, 925 Dalton Avenue, Azusa, California . . . . Tell them the Society sent you.

DRAYSON-FORT LINK

Pursuing the Society's labors in behalf of the Drayson Problem, which inquiry we fell heir to on the untimely death of Alfred Henry Barley, certain members were asked to check learned societies and public libraries for Drayson books. Mr. Barley had sent many copies to such institutions and our effort was to learn if anybody ever looked at them. The returns are not all in. More of that anon. . . Special thanks are due many members for their interest in this search, and acknowledgement will be duly forthcoming.

Our Worshipful Brother ROSS M. COLVIN turned up the two letters from Drayson which appear below:

20, Ashburton Road,
Southsea
9th Nov. '90

Dear Mrs. Moore

I waited till I had read your pamphlet "True Science" before writing to thank you for sending it.

The whole tone of the original is clear and advanced, and presents a pleasing contrast to the dogmatic , presumptious style of those men who call themselves Scientists.

A revolution in thought is rapidly coming about and will displace the present "Cheap Jack" who calls himself "Professor" but whose real business seems to be to obstruct truth.

I have long heard of Keely, and of many experiments he has shown, beyond those mentioned in your extracts. He like others has been obstructed by the self seeking man of the world.

I have been plainly told by more than one man, "I don't care whether the Earth has one, two, or a dozen rotations, but I find it pays best to stick to the astronomical authorities."

I think you would like the little book described herein, it was published in 1888. (He refers to his book, I imagine. "Thirty Thousand Years of the Earth's Past History".) (Aside by Colvin. T. T.)

Do you happen to know Mrs. F. A. Moulton in Paris? She possesses one of the most advanced minds of the day.

I shall read with interest anything you will send me.

Believe me,
Sincerely yours,
A. W. DRAYSON

31st March 1891
20, Ashburton Road
Southsea

Dear Mrs. Moore:

I have to thank you for a copy of your clear logical lecture on Keely's discoveries, which I read with great interest. It must be a great aid to have so able an advocate. I can quite sympathize with him in his struggle against arrogant ignorance and vested interests because such has been my condition during 25 years—and during nearly all this time I have stood almost alone and have out of a small income had to pay for the publication of my books, in which the truth has been made known now however. I have powerful friends at work, and I think it will not be long before my discovery is forced through the opposition of a certain clique. I sent a short notice of a Lecture given here last week on the subject of the 2nd Rotation.

Believe me
Sincerely yours
A. W. Drayson

Then, says Mr. Colvin:

"When I copied the Drayson letters I had no idea who the Keely was that was referred to in them. I didn't know whether he invented the "Keely cure" for unhappy topers or the billiard game. Since reading your letter, though, I have a better idea. The bookplate in the front has on it the name, The Bloomfield Moore library. Does this mean anything to you? It didn't to me until I happened to look up the name in Schlanger's index to Fort's Books. Mrs. Bloomfield Moore was Keely's backer on his mysterious engine. It's the last item in "Wild Talents". Clara J. Moore is quite probably the same person. Thus we have Drayson on Fortean territory, which is very interesting, to me, at least.

JESUITS GIVE UP

(A) "The record is very peculiar," said Rev. Michael J. Ahearn. S. J., of Weston College, (Mass.), after two quakes had wiggled his seismograph for fifteen minutes. (AP, 1-15-43).

(B) "I never saw a seismograph record like it," said Rev. Alphonse Schmitt, S. J., seismologist at Loyola University, after Chicago's lake shore had shimmied four minutes (1-29-43). Four hours later they had a strong one in Peru.

NOW THE TRICK IS TO CURE SULFA

No Fortean can ask a Science reporter to go further with frankness than this:

"A possible long step forward in combatting poisonous effects of sulfa drugs is seen in experiments recently reported by the United States Public Health Service." That's a verbatim quote of Thomas R. Henry, from his column, *Of Stars, Men and Atoms,* 11-21-42, in the Washington *Star.*

And from a UP despatch out of Rochester, Minn. 2-6-43:

"In addition to being more soluble than sulfadiazine," said Dr. Harrison F. Flippen, "sulfamerizine has a less toxic reaction." . . . *Toxic,* if one is not mistaken, means *poisonous.*

In Libya when wounded men look as if they would die under sulfa treatment, proflavin powder is the "dramatic" antidote.

In other words, this murderous invention, which is getting so much publicity that the intention must be to peddle it as the successor to "vitamins" when that dodge wears out, is being forced upon mankind by the medical profession, without scruple as the cure-all for practically every ailment under the sun—and so far they have not even perfected a cure for the sulfa itself.

We are at their mercy. There is no law anywhere in this nation effective in controlling diagnosis or prescription. Only medical testimony is valid against doctors and the clan sticks closer together than the cops in a station where a prisoner has been beaten to death.

SUNSPOTS

Sunspot "cycles" roll around so variously in the heads of the experts that it's no wonder if their pronouncements make you dizzy too. A chart is being prepared by Forteans for Forteans, showing the authoritative hazards about maxima received in the past five years. The latest guess is by Dr. W. Gleissberg, a German refugee who did not come to the U. S., (almost unique!) but went to Turkey instead. From Turkey the Doc announces that hell will pop on the sun (and here too) in 1948. Make a note.

GRAY SNOWFALL

Gray snow fell in Basle, Switzerland, 2-7-42. Orthodox explanation: "caused by an oily substance of the nature of soot produced by combustion at some great distance." . . . As far away as Mars perhaps?

THE FOUNDERS



YOUR SECRETARY, TIFFANY THAYER

CHARGE ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL CONSPIRED

Suit has been filed (4-19-43) in Pueblo, Colorado, federal district court, charging that President Roosevelt "resorted to every available device to involve the United States in the European War". A "private treaty" is alleged between Roosevelt and Churchill. The defendants named are General Lewis B. Hershey and Major Howard E. Reed. The appellant is George J. Knapp of Pueblo.

The Pueblo *Star-Journal* comments editorially that the suit should be "quashed without any consideration". . . . That is to say that the Freeprez advocates abolishing even the little that is left to us of the Constitution. . . . No doubt the *Star-Journal's* suggested disposal of the suit will have been followed before this is in print.

VITAMIN-D KILLS

Mrs. Laura Bartels, 65, of Tenafly, N. J. was said to have arthritis, a doctor prescribed vitamin D capsules. She took them, says the N. Y. *Times* 6-27-42. She experienced "burning sensations". She died.

Less than four months later, William L. Laurence (who works for the *Times* and is only slightly more awed by science than Kaempffert), announced (10-10-42) that discovery of the "chemical architecture of biotin "was expected" to pave the way to the synthesis of this super-vitamin".

If the regular ones kill us, what great step forward may we expect from the "supers"?

SPEAKING OF WALDEMAR

Your Secretary was delighted to see Herr Doktor Kaempffert's column in the *Times* 3-14-43 featuring the Butterfly Map of Fortean B. J. S. Cahill. This projection has been before the learned of three or four continents since 1909, and the Society has been singing its praises since 1934. For the past two or three years it has been available in any respectable map store, enjoying a flourishing trade—and NOW, finally the N. Y. Times, via Kaempffert, confers its accolade.

Although we have thought it was the finest plane picture possible of the surface of a sphere, this latest success of its originator gives us pause. When Kaempffert and the *Times* take it up, there must be something wrong with it after all!

NEXT ISSUE

With the Government's ability to suppress any publication it wishes by denying paper supply, we cannot predict when we will be around again. To the following Forteans, our deep regret that material sent to us has been crowded out of this issue: Scott Nearing, Everett F. Bleiler, Dr. F. S. Hammett. Jesse Douglass, Frederick G. Hehr, Gertrude Hills. We will try to print these contributions next time.

ONE DOCTOR ADMITS HE'S ASLEEP

Edgar Cayce, of Virginia Beach. Va., goes to sleep. In that state he diagnoses cases and prescribes remedies. A stenographic record of over 12,000 cases in which he has helped people, ill or in trouble, attests the efficacy of a prayer sent in his direction. The story of this man and his work is in the book *There Is a River,* by Thomas Sugrue. Order your copy through the Society. The price is $3.00.

FORT ON THE AIR

The amazing and terrifying Arch Oboler put in a good word for Fort on his LIGHTS OUT program, 12-15-42. Says Oboler:

> Charles Hoy Fort was born in 1874 and died in New York in 1932. The unusual, the supernormal, and the supernatural fascinated him—just as one man might collect postage stamps, Charles Fort, for twenty or thirty years, colleced records of phenomena which dogmatic science could not explain. In other words, for years, Mr. Fort recorded unexplainable murders, ghostly happenings, strange movements in the sky—anything which didn't add up to the closed-minded two and two are four. I suggest, therefore, that anyone who thinks that this is the only possible world, spend a pleasant week-end reading these records in Mr. Fort's work THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED. When they're through, I think they'll answer that ghost question with the best possible of all answers—an open-minded—"Who Knows?"

BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE

Our irreplacable Eric Frank Russell, being under arms "in defense of the Empah", delegated a portion of his Fortean duties to TOM ELSONDER of Tyne, who has been doing yeoman service, especially assisting Forteans here with data in particular searches, contributing several bound volumes to the library, and covering the news front. . . . A seal in the Thames. . . In egg with three yolks . . . . A new "planet" discovered by a Finn . . . A "scene" created in Parish Church, Redcar, 4-6-42, when—on Youth Sunday—the headmaster of Coatham School appears to have suffered a wave of uncontrollable honesty. He arose in church, it is alleged, and told the congregation that it had been listening to a lot of hypocritical nonsense. The unfortunate—one W. G. Willis—was reasoned with, and wrote a letter of apology.

Clearly the international situation has vitiated Forteana . . . But the Newcastle Evening *Chronicle* noticed that Dr. Ray F. Dawson (U. of Missouri) had grown nicotineless "tobacco" by grafting it on tomato plants. . . . The London *Times* recorded, 2-2-42, that a "South American beaver" had been shot by a willow worker on Sedgemoor, Somerset. "It will probably be preserved in the Somerset police museum at Taunton". . . A swan (perhaps Dorothy Arnold?) walked into the home of Dorothy (sic!) Baggallay, Romans, East Chiltington, Lewes, Sussex. 1-16-42. "It was starving and frozen."—but recovered and flew off. Forteans named Dorothy are warned to watch for it. . . . Several sea "monsters" variously "identified" . . . . The annual report (1941) of the Committee for Recording Abnormal Happenings, of the Edinburgh Psychic College . . . . Announcement by a conference of Astrologers in session at Harrogate 4-7-42, that "something of great importance happened in Germany on March 26 or 27 which had a very adverse effect on the Nazi war programme." They got their dope from their star charts which were no more explicit than that . . . . And, finally: "After 12 years' intensive study by astronomers of 24 observatories scattered over five continents, Dr. H. Spencer Jones. Astronomer Royal, has decided (get that *decided*) that the sun is 93,005,000 miles from the earth—65,000 miles farther than previously believed. . . . "This is by far the most accurate measure of the sun's distance ever made (said the ASR). The goal for which astronomers have so long been striving has at length been reached. The final word has been said on this historic problem for many years to come, and the fundamental distance in astronomy—the sun's distance enters into any astronomical calculation—has been measured with all the accuracy that is needed.". . . . Thank you, ASR, and thank *you,* Tom Elsonder.

Continue Reading

The following series of letters from Your Secretary to various editors and publishers is almost self-explanatory:

(A) To the Editor of the *World Almanac*:

> May we refer you to page 165, of the *World Almanac* (1941)? There under the heading "Astronomical Time", paragraph eight, the statement is: "The longest apparent solar day occurs about Dec. 23, and it exceeds the average day in length by approximately 30 seconds."
>
> We would have no reason to doubt the accuracy of that statement if it were not contradicted by a popular book on astronomy (Unveiling the Universe, by Norton Wagner, Scranton, Pa., 1936) in these terms: "Technically the solar day is the interval between two consecutive transits; hence technically the longest day occurs around Sept. 18, being 24 hours, 0 minutes, 21 seconds; and the shortest day is about December 23, of 23 hours, 59 minutes, 30 seconds, duration."
>
> Apparently two sets of astronomers using very similar faiths and figures arrive at almost diametrically opposed conclusions. Can you help us understand how that is possible? We are also writing to Mr. Wagner for his version.
>
> Respectfully,

(B) To which the Editor replied—in part:

> ". . . paragraph 8 in the article on Astronomical Time, ascribed to the U. S. Naval Observatory, in the Almanac of 1941. This statement is the correct one.
>
> "The scientific explanation is a little technical; it has to do with the fact that about Dec. 23 the rate of motion of the equation of time (this is the difference between apparent and mean times) is then at a maximum for the excess of the apparent time.
>
> "Perhaps the simplest explanation is that about Dec. 23 the sun is moving toward the east at the fastest rate during the year; hence it comes to the meridian at the longest interval which means that the apparent solar day is then the longest.
>
> "This is easily seen by consulting the calendar pages in The World Almanac. It will be seen that in 'Sun on Meridian at Washington' the sun returns to the meridian 30 seconds longer in the interval about Dec. 23 than at any other time during the year."

(C) Your Secretary's letter to Mr. Norton Wagner follows:

> Your book *Unveiling the Universe* (1936), has been in our library some time and, as a popular presentation of current astronomical faith, has proved very useful. We have recently discovered, however, what may be a misprint but appears rather to be an error. It is on page 43, in the first column under the heading: "Motion 10. The Equation of Time Motion." . . . There your statement is: "Technically the solar day is the interval between two consecutive transits; hence technically the longest day occurs around Sept. 18, being 24 hours. 0 minutes. 21 seconds; and the shortest day is about December 23, of 23 hours, 59 minutes, 30 seconds, duration."
>
> This comes to our attention by comparison with the *World Almanac* (1941), p. 165. under the heading "Astronomical Time" paragraph eight, where we read: "The longest apparent solar day occurs about Dec. 23, and it exceeds the average day in length by approximately 30 seconds." This diametrical opposition of views is rather confusing to a layman. Can you clarify and justify your version of the facts? We are asking the editors of the *World Almanac* to help us in the same way.
>
> Cordially,

The letter above was written and mailed June 20, 1942. We are still waiting for a reply. . . . Piqued by the mystery, we went to the *Encyclopedia Britannica,* only to be further confused. The gist of the matter is in this letter to the Editor of that great reference work:

(D)

> I refer you to the article Astronomy, sub-head: Spherical Astronomy, volume 2 of your 1941 edition page 581. There the sidereal day is given as 24 h 3 m 56.555s.

Yet, in volume 8, on page 664—under Equation of Time, you will find the figures for the same period given as 24 h 3 m 55.91s.

Should not these figures correspond?

Respectfully,

In response, the Editor forwarded to us a copy of a letter *he* solicited in turn from Mr. W. J. Eckert. Director of the *Nautical Almanac,* Part of which reads as follows:

(E)

The adopted length of the mean solar day is 24 h 3m 56.555 seconds of sidereal time. The length of the adopted sidereal day is 23h 56 m 4.091 seconds of mean solar time.

There appears to be no conflict between the articles on Astronomy and on the Equation of Time, in your 14th edition. The quantity mentioned in the latter article (3m 55.91s) should be subtracted from 24 hours, instead of added as in your letter.

In the former article the statement is made that the Earth rotates once in 23h 56m 4.901s of ordinary time. This is evidently a typographical error for 4.091s. With this alteration the statement would not be strictly correct, since the adopted sidereal day is not precisely equal to the period of the Earth's rotation owing to precession. Correcting the length of the adopted sidereal day by 0.009s for precession gives 23h 56m 4.100 seconds for the true period of the Earth's rotation.

Very truly yours.

Thus, faced with error on all sides and agreement between no two "authorities" on any set of figures (although Mr. Eckert frankly calls the figures "adopted" and one would suppose that to mean *generally,* and one would further suppose that children of six could manage to agree if an arbitrarily "adopted" standard was the taking-off place for all), Your Secretary wrote again to the Editor of *Britannica*:

(F)

Thank you for the copy of Director Eckert's letter about the length of the sidereal day. He indicates a correction of Britannica's figures of even greater nicety than the one I thought proper. If you are going to make the alteration to conform with his suggestion, may I suggest that before you do you make identically the same inquiry of the Astronomical Department at Harvard University that you made of the U. S. Naval Observatory, without telling Harvard that you asked the Navy?

Respectfully,

No response has been received as we go to press, and we look forward to the next edition of *Britannica,* the *World Almanac,* and *Unveiling the Universe* with equal curiosity in each case.

STOP THAT LIE DETECTOR

To the citizens of Buffalo, N. Y.. the death (2-7-43) of John Kocemba, 18, in a police cell, means the opportunity to get —at least temporarily—a better police administration . . . . To the local press it affords an opportunity to parade in righteousness borrowed for the occasion, and to set up as the people's White Knight. . . To the band of politicians out of power, it means a grand chance to "drive the (other) rascals out". . . BUT to Forteans it is still another warning to *beware* the New Inquisition which is at hand.

Fifteen members of the Buffalo police force were subjectd to "lie-detector" tests, and four of them were recalled " on the insistance of Chief Meegan" for a second bout with this nefarious gadget . . . We cannot and we must not shrug that off. By placing steadily increased reliance upon this allegedly "scientific" hocus-pocus, and by familiarizing the public with its infallible wonders, the despotism of vested power is building still another engine for the destructon of human reason. In 1443 they threw the accused into water. If he drowned he was innocent. If he floated he was guilty—and executed. Today they strap an electrical appliance on your arm and if you get excited, you're guilty.

The evidence garnered by means of this contraption is not admissable as evidence in any court in the United States but it damned soon will be if accused persons do not stand firmly upon their Constitutional rights and flatly REFUSE to submit to its use. *Innocent* persons are especially warned because, with their clear consciences, they may welcome such a test. DON'T DO IT. If you do, you are implicitly admitting faith in the "lie detector's" efficiency (and it is not efficient): you are helping however inadvertently — to strengthen the foundation under an insensate Moloch which can devour us all.

From the same source comes another datum of death by alleged police brutality, this one in St. Louis.

(From an editorial in the Buffalo Evening *News* 3-31-43:

St. Louis has a case that has several points in common with the case of John Kocemba the youth who died of injuries inflicted while he was a prisoner in the Fillmore Avenue Police Station. A man named Edward Melendes was found dead in a cell last July 27 at the St. Louis police headquarters, and physicians who conducted an autopsy reported that he had been severely beaten. Three detectives were indicted on the Melendes charge, but the indictments were quashed on the contention that improper methods had been employed before the grand jury. Recently a man named Andrew Brinkley, who has been Melendes' cellmate was indicted for the killing. He is said to have had a fight with Melendes and to have kicked him out of a bunk. The police represent that death resulted from the fall.

"Melendes had been cruelly beaten from head to toe and in all parts of his body," says the St. Louis *Post- Dispatch.* "Even the soles of his feet were injured. The evidence of Melendes' body showed that he had been beaten more than once, with a considerable interval between. The details of the injuries found by the physicians are almost too revolting in their brutality to be repeated and they shake the credibility of the charge against Brinkley. It was also found that Melendes had no medical attention, though prompt action might have saved his life. If the authorities intend to make Brinkley the 'fall guy' for other persons, they are going to find serious factual obstacles in their path."

Which (by some odd chance) reminds one of Dr. Allyn King Foster who entered Bellevue (N.Y.) psychiatric ward, January, 1942, without a crushed larynx. Five days later he died in Bellevue "supposedly" of a crushed larynx. *The type of injury usually is caused by "mugging" — when a person is throttled by an arm from behind.* (World -Tel)

The Society has no record of any prosecutions for the man's death . . . . And while we're on the subject, if they ever take Your Secretary into custody—you may as well get used to the idea now—there will be a flight of steep iron or marble stairs for him to conveniently slip on, or his body may be found swinging in a cell indicating suicide. Permit him to assure you now that the fall won't be an accident or the hanging suicide.

PERTINENT

Under this heading, from time to time, Your Secretary will print items of greater than average significance. Only time can reveal this significance. If that sounds somewhat mystical—wait.

N.Y. *Times* (7-19-42):

A few years ago it was discovered that the drug colchichine, derived from the European crocus and long used in treatment of gout, had a remarkable effect when applied to plants. It doubled the chromosomes, or hereditary units, in their cells. When this happened to the reproductive cells contained in the seeds, new species appeared. The line of heredity was broken and a new line started, something entirely novel among living things.

FOUNDER'S SON OBJECTS

HARRY LEON WILSON JR., was reported (3-18-43) to have been arrested for failing to report for army induction. . . . He was a librarian in Monteagle, Tennessee.

According to the UP story he "carried his case as a conscientious objector to President Roosevelt, but his 1-A classification was not changed. . . Faced with the alternative of jail or the army, he chose jail. It takes a lot to convince Our Betters that we are sincere these days.

ASTROLOGY AND THE COMMON COLD

The essence of what follows was written to Mr. DaCosta Williams M.F.S., about a year ago. Mr. Williams was at that time a practicing Astrologer in Titusville, Penna. At last accounts he was in uniform—unhappily.

We wrote, in part:

Astrology has too many faithful adherents, is too old, respectable and firmly entrenched to require any special official defense by the Fortean Society. We try to approach it with a completely open mind. neither condoning nor condemning. Your Secretary, however, suspects that ancient mathematicians (whence sprang both astronomers and astrologers) may have had a purer and more detailed knowledge of star-human relationships than anybody now accredits to them. He thinks this may have been especially true in Babylon, although the reasons for particularizing are not pertinent to this suggestion. How orthodox this view may be, you shall judge from the fact that he holds it possible that the stars and planets themselves may have large or small influence upon individuals but that regardless of that influence or absence of influence, the aspects of the heavens may inform observers of coincident or forthcoming events of certain kinds as concomitant phenomena. That is to say that (assuming that Earth is a spinning planet and that the solar system moves through "space") Earth and its atmosphere may encounter and pass through or pick up "conditions" in space (whether these are thought of as cosmic-dust-clouds or "rays" or whatever) at recurrent intervals, perhaps in a known or learnable rhythm which coincides with zodiacal recurrences.

It is not original in your Secretary to notice the possibility that life itself came to this planet through such an encounter. It seems highly probable that insect life, at least, was thus brought to us, since no insect "evolution" of "geneaology" is known. Such an explanation is easily applicable to "superstitions" about comets bringing calamity, and the same is true of "plagues" of every description.

Now we come to a suggestion which you may wish to investigate or develop: that the so-called "common cold" is not caused by wet feet or draughts, is not a germ or virus disease, but is the result of a *condition in space* into which Earth and its atmosphere intrude in Winter and cause "epidemics" of head colds etc.. . .That we should look for relief *not* to the medical profession which has been unable to prevent or to cure colds through centuries of pretended research BUT TO THE ASTROLOGERS who may be able to chart the space spots by reference to their star charts and so predict such epidemic conditions, warn the people and perhaps prevent all the sniffling and coughing which causes so much misery.

For instance—I suffered great nasal irritation beginning at 10 to 11 a.m., (Eastern so-called "War" time) February 22, 1942. I was in a room in which I work always. I was dressed as usual; the ventilation was normal; I had suffered no exposure or chill; I had not been in the company of any who had "colds". Yet the nasal irritation came and developed into a full-fledged cold in the ensuing 48 hours. By observation from time time for a week or ten days, I discovered countless others who had experienced exactly the same symptoms at almost that identical hour, followed by "colds" which developed in common with mine, day by day. . . . . As a starter—what uncommon condition existed in the sky at (or just before) that hour? When will it recur? What was the state of "sunspots" that morning?

Please let us know if the potentialities of such an inquiry interest you and what you can report in the matter. Wouldn't it be delightful to remove "colds" from the tenacious grip of the medicine men—and prevent them forever BY ASTROLOGY? The prospect thrills me.

The suggestion is not that you go against your own convictions in your thinking, but only that you search them for possible novelty. There is, for instance, nothing startling in finding that an individual's birth date makes him susceptible to colds under certain conditions—or in referring to Mars as hot, dry and irritating—whereas (as a random flier to break down all walls to *full* cordiality of acceptance) the hazard that our "colds" are messages from Mars, or attacks by human enemies in space, or the effort of an hitheto undreamed of form of life to establish itself on Earth—or?—or?—or?—might lead to some hair-raising speculation.

In reply to this appeal, Mr. Williams supplied this *MSS* . . . Other Astrologers are invited to enter the lists with their suggestions.

THE COMMON COLD
by DaCosta Williams

The life force of the universe comes from the sun. The flow of force from the sun is constant or nearly so. It is neither good nor bad but one force. Between the source of force and its various destinations there are many other forces in the form of vibratory disturbances, atmospheric conditions, reflection, absorbtion and other resistance to the sun's force.

Thus the force of the sun to the earth varies with the reason which determines the angle of radiation on the earth's surface according to the location in question.

Everything in the universe is influenced and controlled in varying degrees by the force of the suns rays. The degree of influence depends upon the affinity of the object affected by the sun.

There are times when the affinity is greater, times when it is less and times when it is average. This is due to the conditioning of the body or object to other conditions which may both increase or decrease the affinity of the sun's force.

This brings us to the conditioning of an object at its origin or in the case of man and animals their time of birth and conception. The solar force at that time conditioned the living body to be born. It determined the degree of sensitivity to all forces or conditions which might operate after birth.

When a disturbance arises in the flow of force to an individual or object it at once sets up actions and reactions within the individual or object which may or may not be constructive to the future development. The degree of this disturbance and the length of its operation determines the outcome or the ability to adjust or resist the force.

To simplify matters let us deal solely with the human factor, man himself. Each individual is as a radio receiving set. Birth sets the dial to a certain wave length. This wave length remains constant through the natural life on this earth for the individual. The forces received over this wave length hinder or hasten the individual growth. thought pattern, and flow of vital energies, Thus there will be periods when the reception of forces will be more disturbing, destructive, interfering, and hampering, so that more reserve energies will be utilized even to the point of exhaustion or death.

On the other hand the forces received may be beneficial and reception at its highest peak for that specific individual. If so, more reserve force is stored than is used and body functions operate at their highest efficiency for the individual. During a period such as this the individual advances in many ways even without much effort on the part of the individual, as life for that person is functioning at its maximum degree in harmony with the receiving equipment of the individual.

From this you can readily see that even individuals with apparently the same type of receiving sets but dialed to different wave lengths can receive entirely different programs at one and the same time. Even the same wave length of two individuals may be identical but under different volume controls which influence the degree of sensetivity. Thus our problem becomes more complex and difficult to follow.

With this introduction let us return to our subject, the common cold. This is the simplest illness to which man is subject and thus becomes the forerunner of all illnesses. That does not mean that before each type of illness characteristic to man takes hold of the body that a cold is first manifest and directly followed by other illness, but at some time in the past a cold was the first conditioning for the illness later to follow.

Until one understands cause sympoms and results are deceiving.

In a healthy body a cold or any other type of illness is unknown. This is due to the fact the body is functioning within its limitations, without undue strain or restrictions. The assimulation of energy is at its best and the elimination of waste products is well balanced. Thus the body is healthy because everything is there essential to life and is utilized accordingly.

The force of the sun is stimulating and heat producing through the agency of oxidation. Excessive heat or cold or excesses of any kind over stimulate. If not in itself then in the results produced. Over stimulation means excessive use of energy more than the

body can restore in a given time. When this takes place resistance is lowered due to over stimulation which is enervation.

Over stimulation means that the body is operating at a higher degree of action which adds more heat, resistance and strain to all of the tissues. This in time produces fatigue, and if carried on too long exhaustion.

Fatigue is built up due to the fact that the body is unable to eliminate the toxins resulting from stimulation as fast as they accumulate, while the degree of fatigue is felt according to the increase in body toxins above the normal level for the individual. The ability to restore the normal level of toxins in the body depends upon the reserve energy in the body and the rapidity of elimination of the excess toxins.

Therefore, fatigue is a form of enervation as it reduces the energy supply, thus prolonged fatigue means increased enervation with more retention of body toxins.

Toxemia becomes the one and only disease and the cause of all ill health.

The various types of illness depend upon the strength of certain organs and tissues, as the weaker tissues and organs will be slower to eliminate toxins and therefore favor their collection and retention.

All toxins irritate the body tissues because they are body poisons and unable to support life. To resist the action of toxins the body creates a mucous over the tissues to resist the toxic action and assist the reduction of inflamation which is taking place. The location in the body where this is taking place determines the type of illness, while the length of time this process takes place determines the seriousness of the condition.

Inflamation takes place as an agency to stimulate elimination and throw off the toxins accumulating. The various deficiencies in the body again determine whether the toxins shall be thrown off in a boil, cold, fever, abscess, infection, or pain.

As the toxic level of the system changes, just so does the whole body function including the temperament, desires, appetites and degree of sensitivity. Thus the appetite becomes abnormal before illness, either excessive or negative.

The first warning of on coming danger is discomfort and unless the degree of enervation is checked congestion is to take place in a few hours or days and manifest in some form, generally a cold. A cold takes on the average three days to reach its height of action but may continue indefinitely or until the toxic level is reduced. Yet through the cold body toxins are eliminated and thus a cold may become a house cleaning time for the system.

What is enervation? Enervation is any thing which places added strain on the system and reduces body resistance below normal levels for the individual while at the same time building up higher toxic levels than is normal for the individual body. Therefore, excess in any form becomes a form of enervation.

The nerve energy of the body which might be called the electrical energy determines the rhythm of body functions. Proper nerve supply means proper body functions. Lowered nerve energy means sluggish or slow body functions. Thus enervation means lower nerve supply with less self control. The higher the degree of enervation the greater the degree of nervousness and strain. So that what at one time may produce a cold may at another produce rheumatism or neuralgia, but toxic accumulation is still the cause of the discomfort.

In the late fall of 1941 the Gallup Survey conducted a poll on the common cold to find out how many peple suffered from a cold during the early part of November. The poll showed that one third of the people of the nation were so affected. While this in itself did not prove or disprove anything, except to give one an idea as to how many suffered, but the question naturally follows what about the other two thirds?

It proves that two thirds of the people were not enervated in the same way or to the same degree as the remaining third were. The poll almost reflected the one third our President has been talking about. The point is that two thirds of the people had better body resistance at that particular period.

Those with less reserve energy will be subject to colds easily and quickly whenever they over do. This is due to the fact they are normally carrying a high toxic level in their system but not sufficiently high to climax in any illness until the maximum toxic level is reached and passed for them. In some individuals the step is very short while in the more healthy with low body toxins the step is much greater. Therefore, any agency which tends to check toxic elimination as a sudden change in temperature from warm to cooler, added worries, loss of sleep, emotional upsets or fear may easily turn the scales from health to illness. In any event the agency which determined this is the degree of enervation which takes place.

Many people are surprised at how easily at times they can contract a cold while again the greatest exposures or sidesteps which ought to award a cold quickly pass unnoticed but seldom do they realize the load of toxins they are carrying and thinking they are in excellent health. Everything is blamed for their discomfort from germs to what-nots when the sole cause is based on their toxic level at the time.

The only preventive measure lies in understanding the body requirements according to the type of energy being used and its amount. Again an understanding is required as to how efficiently the system is handling the food supply taken and whether that food supply is building more toxins than energy assimulated or whether toxins are being retained longer than is safe for health.

Every individual has days, weeks, months and years when their health is easily upset by seemingly nothing and again the same individual has periods when almost nothing seems to affect the health level either way. Many individuals pay no heed to body warnings or try to understand them. Far too many eat whatever is at hand and eat it excessively. They rest and sleep when all other interests stop or they are forced to relax. These people are subject to whatever is going around in the way of illness because they are all enervated in much the same way and in the same degree thus like illnesses result.

The wise individual studies his body, takes heed to the warnings of approaching danger and tries to understand its cause and supply logical corrections. These people are more in tune with their own bodies and care for it as they would a machine so that the highest degree of efficiency is possible. The lives of these pople becomes balanced. They have no cravings, no tension, no abnormalities and no complexes. Toxins do not rule their every act and thought because there is peace within and germs find no fertile grounds in which to grow and multiply because toxins are under control.

Each individual is born into this world with a problem to be faced with some it is health, others finances, jobs, education and other adjustments. Each body is equipped when it is born to do a certain task and do it well but when the energy is misapplied or over taxed due to inability to understand this point or lack of interest to seek it out then complications result in the health and all other activities. The moment of birth becomes the only safe factor to guide the individual safely on life's journey.

The NOTES of Charles Fort

Continued from Number 6 of the Fortean Society Magazine.

Students will find the *Index* to THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT of value in connection with these notes, especially in reference to bibliographical sources, Where only abbreviations appear in the notes, the full name of the publication usually appears in the *Index* . . . . . Throughout the notes "BA" refers to reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. The numerals in connection with "BA" sometimes refer to volume numbers and sometimes to the year. This will cause no confusion in consulting the reports since either year or volume number will identify the publication to almost any librarian where the work is on the shelves.

1821 - Box 1 (Continued)

June 21 (See 12) /pyrites / Ireland (94) BA 54 or 60 (reverse) See June 10

25 shocks. Co. Cork, Ireland — fields turned into swamps BA 54

July 10 great quake Peru '11

15 Destructive tornado and hail Counties of Oglethorpe, Wilkes and Lincoln, Georgia. NY Eve Post Aug 14-2-5

Aug 2 Sept 12 (continuous? TT) / medium quake Calabria, Italy

18 Obscuration England/ 19-20 France / La Science Pour Tous 14/57 /Ph. Mag. Oct 1821 (reverse) May 21, 1822

Aug 18 Phil Mag. Oct, 1821 p.234. 314 — account from Essex See Aug 3. 1831 / (reverse) The darkness came on and lasted three hours. Said many persons jumped and ran from their work — gigantic masses of dark clouds piled upon one another with (reverse) gleams of sulphurous light.

18 bet 9 & 10 AM blue sun in Essex and Sussex. Amer. Soc. Met, de France 1903-81 (reverse) In afternoon haze at Paris and the sun was white/ This haze in Dauphine on 19th to 30th.

18 Morning in London. People excited by blue appearance of sun, Changed to silvery. In Bristol (reverse) sun had a purple appearance. Felix Farley's Bristol Journal 25th

20 W. Indies Fireball BA 60

23 Whirlwind at Thrandiston, Suffolk. Objects seized from a stall, Broken crockery (reverse) fell more than a mile from T. Felix Farley's Bristol Journal 25th

1821 Box 1 - (Resumed)

25 Snails See Other Catalog.

25 Felix Farley's Bristol Journal of 25th. People of Bristol much amused with exhibition and sale of snails said to have fallen from (reverse) the sky, at Tockington. They had suddenly appeared on a farm. "Common rumor says that the snails fell like a great shower. which continued upwards of an hour and that the earth's surface was covered, nearly six acres. three inches deep!" (L)

25 heavy fall of snail shells near Tockington Gloucestershire, p. 3 L. T. Aug. 27/Ph. Mag. 58/310, 457.

Friday before Aug 31 Letterkenny/Darkness with color effects on all objects. Phil. Mag 58/314

Aug 30 Dresden Fireball BA 60

31 Friday before/Letterkenny darkness and seeing description (reverse) of volcanic smoke the cauliflower cloud. Phil. Mag. 58/314

1821 Box A - (Resumed)

Sept 2 Shower of stones at home of Thomas Jones (reverse) village of Meifod, Montgomeryshire. Hundreds of persons visited the place. Cardiff Western Mail Sept. 8, 1921.

1821 Box 1 - (Resumed)

Sept 7 At sea Etc. W fireball BA 60

9 Tornado N. Hampshire, Mass/ Finley's Rept.

20 Newspaper clipping: Dreadful Earthquake. On the 21st September, 1821, what is described as a "dreadful earthquake" is recorded as having taken place the previous night. No lives were lost, but a Mr. Ross and a Mr. Thelezau were seriously injured. Much damage to property was reported, including injuries to the Governor's residence and to Trinity Church and the Court House. On the 28th of the same month, the "Gazette" says:—"The reluctance expressed by many proprietors to have the injuries sustained by their properties made public induces us to supress all further details of the damage done by the earthquake of the 20th instant." Trinidad Gazette

24 Fireball Beinuuef on Nile at 8 p.m. Another 3:43 a.m. of 25th BA 1874-290 (Series) (reverse) at 9:23. p.m. of 26th another, this apparently size of full moon.

Oct 7 Vosges. Quake and sounds BA 54 See Sept. 13, (18) 22

7 Saxony Fireball BA 60.

22 Comrie / quake and phenomena called "thunder and lightning" Milne Edinburgh New Phil. Journal 31/118

23 3 p.m. / severest quake then on record at Comrie. See Oct. 23, 1839? Phil. Mag. 58-458

28 at 9:30 p.m./Saxony detonating meteor See 1805.

29 7 a.m. Quake Island of Bute LT 1816 Oct. 31 p. 2

30 Marienweder Fireball BA 60

30 Quake at Comrie / loud sound heard at Blackford 12 miles on Oct. 31, London Times

Oct ("Early in" see The Books of Charles Fort TT) Oct. 15, 1820. Silk/Pernambuco D-58 (26)

Nov 17 Russian Lengia light quake

22 Abruzzi: (It.) detonating meteor See 1805 or Vannales de Chimie 33/405 2 a.m.

22 Medium quake. Italy. Adriatic Coast BA 11.

22 Quake and meteor / Naples/ D-228

28 Naples Fireball BA 60

28 & 29 Night / Cape Town / brilliant spots on moon Philosophical Transactions 112/237

30 Aerolite? See Nov. 29 '09.

Dec 1 or 2 Fireball. Leipsig. BA 60

3 Weimar Fireball. BA 60

4 Gorlitz Fireball. BA 60

11 Fireball England. BA 60

13 Great quake. Japan BA 11

20 to at least Feb. 28, 1822 violent eruption in Iceland, BA 54

24 Bromberg, Wirlenberg. Detonating Meteor. BA 60

24 Switzerland shock preceded by several meteors. BA 54/136

24 7 p.m. Ballenheim and Altendorf, Germany. Detonating meteors. L T Jan. 9, 1822 BA '60. See (reverse) Bromberg, Wirlenberg B.A. (See Nov. 25 '22 May 8 '23 May 13.)

Dec 26 Submarine volc. near Bima, Island of Sumbava. BA 54

28 Augsberg Fireball. BA 60

1822

No Date Quake at Lyons / magnetic storm and quake / violently affects magnetic needle at Paris Mag. Nat. History 6/296

No Date Fragments of calcite that fell on deck of ship near San Domingo. Sc. Amer. XI-343

No Date Gruithuisen discovered his city north of Schroeter—parallel lines branching out from a central line like veins of a leaf.

Jan 11 Cherbourg France Fireball. BA 60

14 Eichenfelt Fireball. BA 60

22 10 p.m. quake Yapshire? Seaton Ross, Everingham, Allathorpe, Beilby, Melbourne. LT Jan. 31 p. 3

29 India Madras. light quake. BA '11

Feb 6 An incredible number of insects fell upon Middlebourg, Belgium. Ciel et Terre. 21-258

7 Heavy quake Tokio Japan.

13-25 Vesuvius. BA '54

18 Opposition Mars. (A1)

18 Quake in Komorn, Hungary, preceded by a very loud sound which seemed to come from the air (reverse) but Danube in a commotion and threw up red sands on shores. BA 54

19 Savoy, Italy light quake.

28 Volcano in Iceland of Dec. 20 at least to this date.

March 1 Brunn Fireball. BA 60

7-16 Mercury Inferior conjunction (A1)

9 Meteor—Troy detonation 7½ minutes later—sometime after 10 p.m. A. J. Sci. 6/319 (reverse) at Canajoharie a strong sulphurous odor. Seen and heard Saratoga, etc/seen in S. W. at Quebec / Boston and in the west at Portland, Me. almost Mag of moon.

9 13h Venus Inferior conjunction (A1)

Mar 16 Richmond, Va. Great detonating meteor. BA '60

20 Sounds of Meleda / Adriatic / begin A. de Chimie 30/432

31 Leipsig Fireball. BA 60

Apr 5-6 Etna starts/quakes around Etna BA '54 — 138

Apr 6-10 Quake Catania. BA 60 (May be 1821 TT)

6-10 Catania, Italy light quakes.

9 Rhodes "long, bright column of meteoric light exploding with many sparks" BA '60-68

9 Rhodes 9 PM Meteor trail and great explosion in air Arago Oeuvres. XI/571

10 Near Bangalon. Trans Bombay. Geog. Soc. Vol. 9 by Dr. Buist. Masses of ice size of pumpkins. Saw bodies of 27 dead bullocks killed by the ice. In one of the bodies of ice found a frozen shape which revived.

10 Volcano and meteor. Towns near Etna "a violent clap of thunder was heard while the sky was quite clear" (reverse) and a violent quake. Had been several shocks on 6th. BA '54/139

13 Comrie shock "accompanied by two loud reports, one apparently above our heads and the other which followed immediately under our feet." Edinburgh New Phil. Journal 31-119

May 7 Costa Rica Heavy quake.

18 Bologna Sudden storm/fall of lumps ice some weighed ½ pound. Annual Register '22-87

20 Ragusa Fireball. BA '60.

21 Dry fog. Paris La Science Pour Tous 14/58. See Aug. 1821 / Aug. 1831.

23 Kiel Denmark Fireball. BA '60

31 Quake France. BA '54-138.

June 3 8 PM / Metite / Argus, France Small stone (30 oz) fell. BA '60

9 (F) ("F" refers to LO! TT) Stone fell Argus, France Phil. Mag. 4/8/459. An de Chimie 2 / 31 / 261

9 Moravia fireball. BA '60

13 Christiana, Norway. Fireball "a bituminous substance fell?" (reverse) BA '60 D-72

June (No date) (F) See May 21. Cape Verde Island. Brownish dust. Writer says thinks came from (reverse) an African desert but says that was described as "like triturated pumice and had a sulphuric smell." Mag. Nat. Hist. 8-18

June 16 (F) 4:15 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. several shocks at Cherbourg "Immediately after (reverse) the shocks a luminous meteor was seen. It seemed to rise from the ocean. It was followed by a loud explosion. Torrents of rain fell the same day. Said that a water spout passed over. BA '54-138

17 Catania, Italy. Undetermined phenomena "detonating meteor? (reverse) Repeats phenomena quake Apr. 10. BA '60-68

June (no date) Shower of brownish dust, smelling of sulphur (reverse) like triturated pumice Tasmanian Journal 1-3 (3?)

17 Leipsig Fireball BA '60

21 China. Heavy quake.

26 Volcano Iceland great violence been quiet ½ year. A. Reg. '22-111.

Summer Italian fireflies near Reading. Nature 2-297.

July 11 At dawn Vesuvius began. BA '54-140.

14 Italy. Light quake.

15 Marienwerder, Germany. After storm little round unknown seeds in great quantity. Inhabitants tried (reverse) to cook them but no effect after boiling an hour. Bull. des Sciences. 1/1/298

17 Silesia. After storm. Great quantity little round seeds (reverse) Then scientists said they were seeds of the Galium spurium. Bull. de Science 1/1/298.

17 Host of butterflies near Boulogne. (See July 26)

19 Hamburgh Fireball. BA '60

21 Great quake. China. BA '11

21 Commune of Clohars-Fouesnon. Meteorite C. R. 124-1543.

23 6 AM. Violent volcanic eruption in Sumatra BA '54-140

26 Vast swarms of flies. Mag. Nat. Hist. 7-611 (See July 17)

28 Brunn, Fireball BA '60

29 Granada, Spain. Light quake.

Aug (no date) Poitiers (?) frogs. L'Institut 2/410 (reverse) B try Country Gentleman.

Aug 6 8:15 PM Paris Great serpentine meteor train more than 5 minutes. Arch. des Dicouv.—1822-199

6 Paris Caen Southampton Detonating meteor BA '60-68

7 Moravia Fireball. BA '60

7 Agra (Kadonah) N.W. Prov. Judia (F)

7 Aerolite also 1823. Eng. Mechanic 79/383.

8 Volc. Vesuvius p. 2 London Times.

10 Sounds of Meleda heard again.

11 Liege and Coblentz "a large mass of fire fell down with a great explosion; (reverse) possibly electrical" BA '60-68.

13 Egypt Asia Minor great quake. BA '54-140.

13-16 10 PM. quake Aleppo An. Reg. '22-151. Said that in same (reverse) latitude as Aleppo 2 rocks had arisen from sea near Cyprus.

16 Rochelle, France and Paris. Meteor with a serpentine course BA '60-68.

22 Bromberg Fireball. BA '60

23 Posin. BA '60

24 Volc. Iceland p. 2 London Times.

Sept 1 Port Royal W to E great detonating meteor and train BA '60

5 Great quake. Asia Minor. '11.

7 8 PM. Fort Royal, Martinique. Great meteor detonating with extreme violence. Arch. des Decouv 1823-183 (reverse) had been slight quake August 8, 8 PM p. 188 BA 60-681

1822 - Box A (Resumed)

Sept 7 Spontaneous combustion, France

1822 - Box 1 (Resumed)

10 Karlstadt. Listed as a strong earthquake from E. to W. Aerolites mentioned. BA '54

10 Carlstadt (Sweden) noise—shocks—aerolites found A. R. 17-622 (reverse) great number of falling stars.

10 11:30 p.m. Strong quake felt throughout province of Wermeland, Sweden—first a noise like cannon (reverse) then meteors / aerolites said to have fallen. B. Ann '54/141. Ph. Mag. 4-8-450.

13 Epinal. Vosges, France. Met. etc. (F) See Oct. 7, '21. BA '77-91.

13 Meteorite of Baffe (Vosges) 7 a.m. in a violent thunder storm

13 Q. I. Roy. Inst. 14-448. (1 h stone) Baffe (Vosges) In a tremendous storm exceptional thunder and lightning, violent rain stone fell. B.b. Univ. 22-68 Canton d'Ehinal.

18 Dunston, near Newcastle, quake between 1 and 2 AM. Quake and loud noise like distant thunder. BA '54/141. London Times. Sept. 24 p. 2.

Oct 8 & 12 Great volc. eruption in Java L. T. Aug. 30, 1883.

13 Orenburg Fireball. BA '60.

16 from Sir John Herschel's MS Journal. Sky in east—great light like moon breaking through (London) no record of meteor at time. Rep. BA 1870-87.

18 Water in wells around Vesuvius disappears. 20th about 2 p.m. violent eruption. An. Reg. '22-213

20-28 Ashes ceased BA '54

22-24 Vesuvius A. Reg. Vesuvius Oct. 23 great explosion Q.J. Roy. Inst. 16-182 (revesre) London Times Nov. 15 p. 3, 18 p. 2, 22 p. 2.

22 (about) Verona, Italy, Sound/Rumblings See 1816.

22 Vesuvius "terrific" Ashes "at first reddish brown then more white. A.J.S. 6/385.

23 two "vulcs" Pastorff. An. Sci. Disc. 1860/411.

27 Berleburg. BA '60.

28 11 h 22nd 7 am Brighton, England Fireball BA '60.

Nov 4 Trans. Merc. S. Op. 1.

4 Copiapo, Chili almost destroyed BA '54-142.

11 Freiberg. BA '60.

12 Potsdam Fireball. BA '60.

Nov 15 Apenrade Fireball. BA '60.

19 Quake and deluge. 10:30. Time of shock the sky was cloudless, moon and stars shining brilliantly. Weather continued clear. Evening of 27th tremendous rainstorm. Quar. Jorn. Roy. Inst. 17-145. Rain had never fallen before in month of November (reverse) shocks continued at least to end of Sept., 1923 (1823 TT)

19 (F) Chili quake writer in Quar.

Jour Roy. Inst. 17-38 says that some persons said that they had seen (reverse) an unusual light in the horizon to the southward. but that he had seen nothing. (2) This writer was at Concon 15 miles NE of Valparaiso. He says that at Valdivia 39° 50′ S (reverse) 2 volcanoes burst out suddenly with great noise, illuminating the heavens and then as suddenly subsidided. (This sky like?) On 27th tremendous fall of rain in a place where rain had never before fallen.

19 Fireball 2/3 moon. BA '60.

19 Quake and phenomena Chile. A. J. Sci. 30-110 10:30 p.m. Dried up wells and brooks several "meteors or blazing stars and flakes of (reverse) fire are said to have been seen in heavens; one very vivid meteor shot from the south west toward the south east." Had been many slight shocks in preceding month (page 2 of note) at Valparaiso. Then quakes every day.

19 Valparaiso, Chili Meteor 2/3 size of moon/ burst/ ball of fire BA '60-68

19 10:15 p.m. Great quake Chili Nov 21-28 BA '54-144

22 Valparaiso 10 A.M. 3 loud explosions (reverse) after each of which the earth trembled. Other quakes BA '54

24 Vesuvius renews with violence BA '54

22 Vesuvius. Eruption began 2 p.m. violent to 25th BA '54

25 3 & 5 A.M. Wurtenburg quake and sounds BA '54/144

26 Valparaiso. Tremendous rainstorm—never before known to occur at this season BA '34-144

28 Aerolite? See Nov 29, 1809

30 (F) Meteorite at Futtehpore shortly before sunset Jour. Asiatic Soc. Bengal 30/130 (reverse) Edin. N.P.J. 53/245

Dec 1 Light quake, Grenada, West Indies

21 Brunn Fireball BA '60

(no date) Eruption of volc Eyafalle Jokel, Iceland Q. J. Roy Inst. 16-396

31 Volc Api, Java, N.M. C.R. 70-878

1823

1823 Quake, Chile, Le Moniteo, p. 411 551 571

Jan 10 Medium quake, Mureia and Alicante, Spain

11 Augsburg Fireball BA '60

24 England Fireball BA '60

26 Gosport Fireball BA '60

Feb-March Light quakes Formosa

Feb 16 First snowstorm recorded in Mobile, Alabama NY Sun, 1892 Jan 21-6-7

Feb 24-25 Night. Quake and storm. Violent storm near Hanover and (reverse) quake and a crevice a foot wide appeared in the ground

Mar 5 Sicily, Italy. Great quake '11

6 Santa Lucia di Milazzo, Sicily. Quake and sounds. Concussion and 4 terrific crashes supposed to be subterranean. See 1816

14-15 Calabria, Abruzzo, Tuscania, at Bologna and through the whole chain of the Appenine-red snow (P) Mag. of Sci. 274/4-274 (reverse) See March 13, 1813

Apr 2 Manheim Fireball BA '60

6 Berlin Fireball BA '60

9 Potsdam Fireball BA '60

May 2 Embleton Fireball BA '60

7 Panama Heavy quake

8 Wurtenberg Yellow dust Archives des Decouvertes 1824/223

13 Yellow dust called "sulphur" Crailsheim Bull. des Sciences 1/1/301

22 In Nature, 14/195 T.W. Webb writes that he saw a small luminous body near Venus.

30 Waters of Lake Erie suddenly rose 9 feet BA '54

June 12 8.p.m. Metite, Angers, France. Taken up immediately—"not particularly warm" (reverse) Quar. Journ Roy. Inst. 14-447

19 9:30 P.M. Tornado Morgan, Finleys Rept.

June 22-July 18 Volc Iceland C. R. 51-68 Loud sounds southern Iceland

June 22 On 26th violent erption of Kotlugian. Ashes covered ships 90 miles at sea (reverse) Quar. Jour. Roy Inst 16-396

June 26-July 23 Eruption of Katle, Iceland. (reverse) Smithsonian Inst. Rept. 1885-510

July 23 Blairgowrie Waterspout London Times Aug 8 p. 2

24 & 25 Two remarkable spots on sun by Pastorff (N.M.) C R 49/811

July (no date) In a heavy thunder storm, a ball of heavy material—about 7 in. in circumference (reverse) and weighing 8 ounces fell at Coddenham, in Suffolk. New Monthly Mag. 9-383

July 30 Leipsig Fireball BA '60

Aug 7 Quake Ragussa See Aug 20

7 Aerolite also 1822 E. Mech 79/383

7 Nobleborough, Maine Meteorite (F) See Sept. 1826 (reverse) Oct 11?

9 Singen N.E. to S.W. Fireball BA '60

12 Tubingen Fireball BA '60

19 Munich Fireball BA '60

20 Ragusa Fireball BA '60

20 Quake and meteor at Ragussa and quake there on 7th BA '54

20 Ragusa and Turkish Bosnia Meteor & quake and sea retired nearly a mile from coast. BA'54

20 At Ragusa Quake, phenomena dark. "On the 20th the air became (reverse) suddenly dark. A fiery meteor appeared over the city, and fell into the sea, followed by an earthquake that overthrew many houses. The sea retired nearly a mile from the shore (reverse) 3 felt sharply in Turkish Bosnia. There it was reported that a volcano had broken loose. London Times Oct. 21- page 2

23 Report 54/153 That Aug 23, 1823 this time a mass of rock was moved from its place and rolled away, but that on all other occasions no such distinct earthquake like (reverse) occurrences of the sound listed for Oct & Nov 1824 "unaccompanied by any shock."

25 Asia Minor. Medium quake

25 (about) Cor. sends stone to editor of A. J. Sci. (7-56) saying that people of Stamford, Conn. (reverse) thought it had fallen from a thunder cloud. It was a composition of sulphur in granite. People named hill on which said fallen "Brimstone Hill."

26 At Dreux, France, whirlwind called waterspout. Blackish vapor and flames in the middle of it (reverse) Hailstones size of fists fell. A. J. Sci. 10/184

1823 - Box 1 (Resumed)

Aug 29 London Times—p. 2 from Nottingham Review, Shook bedpost. For 5 or 6 weeks a house in Warsop (reverse) a sound like quacking of a duck, beginning at 3 p.m. and continuing until morning. When occupants were in bed the sound seemed to come from one of the bed posts.

1823 - Box A (Resumed)

Sept 9 In Silesia 1:30 p.m. Sound like thunder like whirlwind phenomena See Sept. 26 BA 54/153

13-26 Volc on Iceland

16 Genoa Whirl like Aug 26 Same ref

Oct 3 Konigsberg Fireball BA '60

10 (x) Letter from M. Flauguerquesto Baron Zach—that he had not seen any spots on the sun for the preceding 16 months. Edin. J. Sci. 1-371

10 10h. Venus Inferior conjunction A 1

Oct 11 (?) Nobleboro meteorite fell among sheep. A. J. Sci; 7-171 (reverse) analysis 9/400 (f)-Aug 7

19 16 h. Mercury Inferior conjunction (?):(Fort's question mark. TT) A 1

YOU WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOURSELF IF YOU DO NOT READ

THE MACHIAVELLIANS

Defenders of Freedom

By JAMES BURNHAM

AUTHOR OF THE MANAGERIAL REVOLUTION

This book is a study of the laws of politics. The study is carried out, in the first place, through a clear and extended exposition of the leading ideas of the great Machiavellian tradition of political thought. A long section is devoted to Machievelli himself, as the founder of the tradition. Then—for the first time, we believe, in English—there is made available to the general reader an ample account of the remarkable group of modern Machiavellians, who have been so influential in Europe and so little known in America: Gaetano Mosca, Georges Sorel, Robert Michels, and Vilfredo Pareto. In a direct challenge to the accepted judgment on Machiavelli and his followers, James Burnham contends that the writings of these men hold the key to the truth about politics and to the preservation of political liberty.

Throughout the exposition, frequent applications of the Machiavellian principles are made to the problems of our own time. The last part is a direct analysis of the present crisis, the nature of the revolution through which society is moving, and the meaning and prospects of democracy and liberty. Those familiar with *The Managerial Revolution* will find that in this new book the author brings to the surface many of the underlying principles upon which the theory of the managerial revolution was based, and at the same time clarifies and adds to his earlier conclusions.

THE MACHIAVELLIANS will, no doubt, like *The Managerial Revolution*, excite a storm of controversy and disagreement. It could hardly be otherwise when its subject-matter—politics in its broader sense—is the central preoccupation of our day, and when the course it runs is so far from the beaten track.

ORDER FROM THE SOCIETY

Postpaid $2.50 **Satisfaction Guaranteed**

Here is MENTAL ANTITOXIN

for the

POISONED WORLD

POWYS

Fort's books not only liberate the mind from those sublimated herd-dogmas of science along the particular lines he deals with in his enormous pilings-up of evidence to the contrary, but they also liberate the mind from *all sorts* of other prepossessions and idolatries of the market place.

TARKINGTON

I read this vigorous and astonishing book straight through, and then re-read it for the pleasure it gave me in the way of its writing and in the substance of what it told. . . Retort must be left to the outraged astronomer—lay brethren must content themselves with gratitude to a man who writes such books.

HECHT

He has made a terrible onslaught upon the accumulated lunacy of fifty centuries . . . He has delighted me beyond all men who have written books in this world. . . He has shot the scientific basis of modern wisdom full of large, ugly holes.

RASCOE

You can read the Books of Charles Fort in almost any way or in any mood your temperament dictates and whatever way you read it, it is my expression that it is a great book.

THAYER

This is one of the very few books in the world which make their readers think without ever telling them what to think; in fact, I can recall no other. It encourages the curious to question, the prying to pry, the inquisitive to inquire, If there is any higher mission on earth I don't know what it is.

The Book of

Charles Fort

All in One Volume

$4.00

•

1151 PAGES, INDEXED, INCLUDING

THE COMPLETE TEXTS OF:

THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED

WILD TALENTS

NEW LANDS

and LO!

Introduction by *Tiffany Thayer*

Send check or money order to

The Fortean Society

Box 192 Grand Central Annex

New York City

Satisfaction guaranteed

ORDER A COPY NOW!