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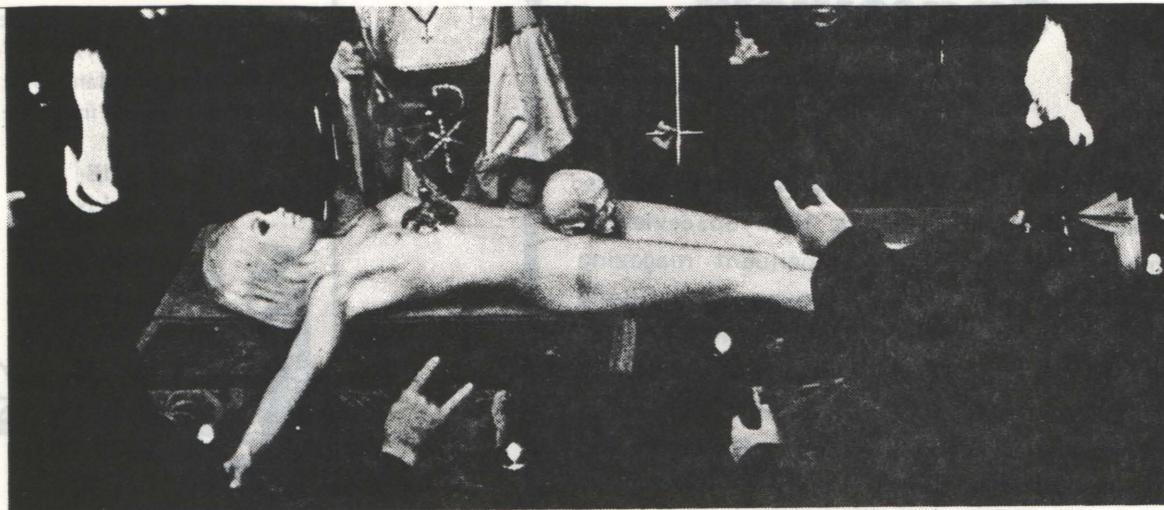
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WITCHCRAFT '72 By Kurt Glemser

Witchcraft is obviously on the increase if we are to use as measuring sticks the number of self-proclaimed witches and the vast numbers of books and articles written on the subject.

The self-proclaimed witches are very vocal and often in the habit of billing themselves "Queen of the Witches" or something similar. One such witch, Edward Turner estimated there are 20,000 witches in the USA when speaking at the Philadelphia YMCA. The Philadelphia Inquirer took a poke at Turner for claiming he graduated from the University of Kansas School of Medicine and the Menninger Clinic School of Psychiatry. Says the paper: "All of which is an act of wizardry indeed, since the doc managed to accomplish this without leaving a mark at either place. The registrar's offices at both institutions fail to find a trace of an Edward F. Turner in their records."

Louise Huebner of New York City claims to be the "official witch" of 78 cities in America, among them Los Angeles, Atlanta and Great Neck.

Much writing has been done on satanic worship and its spread among young people. In the Sunday Mirror (December 12, 1971) article "This Growing Cult of Evil" Anne Allen writes:

"It can happen so easily. Mary is asked to a party. She goes expecting much the same as usual - including some drug taking.

"She finds herself in a room magnificent in its blackness - black walls, black candles, a robed priest. It is all a bit of a joke. A great laugh.

"She does not believe any of it but, under the influence of drugs, the peculiar chanting of the Lord's Prayer backwards grips her mind.

"There is a crucifix upside down, a carved cat twined in obscenity with Christ. The ritual includes bones or parts of a body desecrated from a grave.

"A live cat is torn limb from limb. Mary is utterly repulsed, but held in an awful sort of fascination.

"Beyond all believing she finds she has submitted to initiation rites, naked on the altar, satanic signs dripped in bird's blood on her. And that she has drunk blood from a skull.

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"Some people escape unharmed by the experience. Some are there only because they are perverted. But many are spiritually and emotionally destroyed.

"This sort of party puts vulnerable and sensitive young people into the power of others. The immense telepathic power of the coven can control and use them. They may become, literally, instruments of evil."

An article titled "Psychedelic Fascism" by Lucian Truscott tells of one American cult which uses the methods described above. The cult is known in southern California as the Solar Lodge of the OTO. The group uses LSD, demerol, jimson weed, datura root, ether and belladonna to brainwash young people, according to the article.

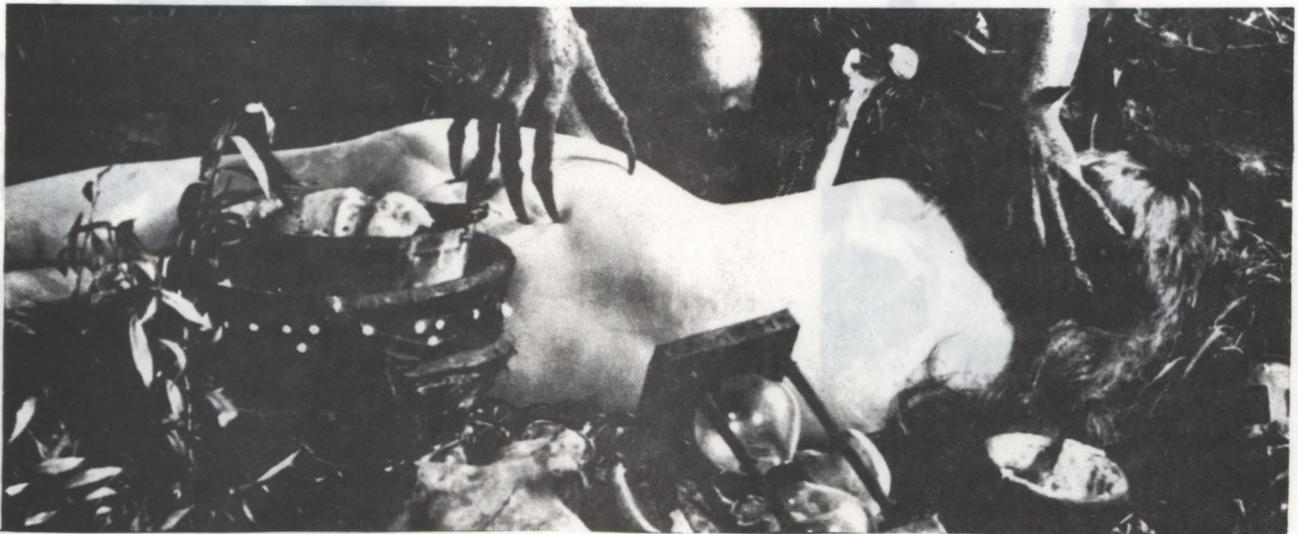
The Solar Lodge is known for its blood drinking, animal

sacrifice, death worship and sado-masochistic sex.

Some have likened the spread of satanism among the young to the popularity of drug use among this age group. I feel this is a gross exaggeration of the facts.

Satanism is practised more openly by older persons. Anton Szandor LaVey, founder of the Church of Satan, claims several thousand followers.

Another aspect of witchcraft that receives much copy is the nudism and sex practised by some witches. Apparently, there is more talk than action. A coven led by satanist Ray Bogart (see QUEST #20) has the new member have sexual relations with the high priest or priestess as part of the initiation. Most white witch covens, however, have few meetings in the nude.





The 2 above photographs are from the Swedish documentary "Witchcraft Through the Ages". Although it was banned in many countries it was recently shown on Canadian TV. The film is far superior to the US exploitation film "Witchcraft '70".

Voodoo is free of publicity-seekers and seems to have better results than the witchcraft practised by the whites. Strange Altars by Marcus Bach has good background information on voodoo as practised in Haiti. Voodoo differs in its rites and beliefs from area to area. The voodoo practised in Jamaica (Obeah), Cuba (Santeria) and Brazil (Candomble, Umbanda and Quimbanda) is more benevolent than the Haitian versions.

A Times-Post News Service dispatch from Sao Paulo, Brazil (Jan. 22, 1972) states: "Catholic church officials estimate that some 10 million of Brazil's 93 million people practice one of the six vaguely distinguished sects of voodoo, and there is evidence that the estimate may be much too low."

In Brazil, forbidden voodoo orgies are attracting many whites, authorities say.



In the hills of Haiti, voodoo princess leads her cultists in primitive rites.



Witchcraft developed from ancient pagan religions. There is much confusion and misinformation about the subject. As science continues to advance witchcraft becomes less and less mysterious.

Witches in the Middle Ages were known to cover their nude bodies in "witches ointment". This ointment contained the hallucinogenic drug belladonna. This explains some of the more amazing testimonies of early day witches. Other drugs which were used in concoctions were bufotenine, a hallucinogenic, which in its natural state is contained in the skins of certain toads and "wolfsbane" which contains poison.

British accounts from the Middle Ages state that broomsticks were only used symbolically not to fly with. They possibly were used in erotic rituals.

Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain by Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder states Soviet scientists have experimented with sending negative emotions mentally to persons quite a distance away. They were successful in making the receiver sick for hours. Does this not explain results obtained by witchcraft methods?

The same source tells another story: "Drs. S. Serov and A. Troskin of Sverdlovsk demonstrated that the number of white blood cells rose by 1500 after they suggested positive emotion to patients. After impressing negative emotion, the white cells decreased by sixteen hundred. White blood cells, or leucocytes, are one of the body's main defenses against disease."

This is also enlightening in view of some of the results obtained by witchcraft. The book tells of many other experiments including mind control of groups of people by one "sender".

James Blish in "Let Joy Be Unconfined" (The Pursuit of Pleasure; Playboy Press 1972) deals partly with the effect of music on the body. For instance persistent pounding accelerates the pulse which suggests a reason for excitement to the body. States Blish: "the body promptly responds with a pattern of responses called the general adaptation syndrome, which makes us ready for any sort of strenuous action, whether it be fight, flight or fornication."

Does this tie in with the frenzy of voodoo worship?

Perhaps most mysterious is how a witch doctor can kill an enemy. James Neal's Jungle Magic may shed some light on this. The author states that crocodile bile is used for poisoning enemies. "This bile disappears in some way in the body without trace," states Neal, "and does not show if a post-mortem is carried out."

THE STRANGE WATERS By Dennis Stamey

Near the Cape of Good Hope there is an apparition of a ship doomed to forever sail the oceans. According to legend, at one time a vessel, loaded with valuable cargo, had a murder on board. Then a plague broke out, with every port refusing to give the ship a refuge. To this day the vessel and its blasphemous captain, one Vanderdecken, is condemned to struggle vainly to round the Cape of Good Hope.

In 1843, Richard Wagner wrote a play around the story called "Der Fliegende Hollander". It is obvious to this writer that the "Flying Dutchman" probably has some basis in fact.

There are many ships across the expanse of the seven seas cursed

to forever sail on and on. There is the notorious Baychimo, a 13,000 ton freighter, at one time bound for Canada's Northwest Territories until an icefield caught her near Alaska's tip. Some time after being stranded, the ship broke free and remained lost and crewless. In 1932, one year after its disappearance, it was written off as a total loss. Months later the Baychimo was sighted by Eskimos fishing off Wainwright, near Alaska's northern tip. Her appearance was reported in 1934 off Cape Bathurst and various spots in the north Atlantic in 1939, 1947, 1948 and 1962.

An American steamer, the Humboldt, ordered to be broken up in a San Francisco dockyard in 1934, broke free after being towed away. She has been sighted countless times in the Pacific.

The British merchantman Marlborough disappeared on a voyage from New Zealand to England and has been spotted off and on. She carried 23 crewmen, a skipper and several passengers. When the British steamer Johnson came across her drifting off Chile's coast the Marlborough was boarded and was found to be carrying a crew of skeletons.

Phantom ships were common to settlers of the New World. A ship once vanished near New Haven, Conn., but shortly afterwards appeared in the air there sailing against a stout wind. "Her maintop seemed to blow off, but left hanging in the shrouds; then her mitten top; and then all her masting seemed blown away" states the report. The hull capsized and then the whole apparition was enveloped in a smoky cloud. Before that time, private and public prayers had been said for a sign as to the ship's fate.

Blackbeard's treasure sites have been located in Pamlico Co., N.C., near Hobucken. At Big Pond Woods two men digging reportedly saw a pirate phantom rig. An immense treasure chest buried at the bottom of the Chowan River off the tip of Holliday's Island is said to be protected by "hostile forces". On one occasion the chest was raised to the surface but the chain suddenly broke. Another party almost secured the chest but a violent wind and electrical storm bore down on them. The men hurried to the shore to save their lives.

There have been stories of cities beneath the sea peopled by an unknown race. Atlantis supposedly lies at the bottom of the sea and perhaps some of the descendants still exist today.

Residents of the Isle of Man off England's west coast have claimed to seeing mermaids sunning themselves on its rocky shores. One member of the House of Keys, the island's parliament, is reported to have offered 20,000 pounds to the first person who can land one of the mermaids.

Wing Commander Roy MacDonald says he once saw two red-haired mermaids swimming some five miles offshore "at about 12 knots. No human being could swim at such speed. I was out fishing, but before I could get the anchor up, they vanished."

The mayoress of Peel, an island town, said she once saw a mermaid basking on the rocks off Peel Castle. This mermaid also was red-haired. Helen Cowell, a secretary, said she spotted a brunette mermaid sitting on a rock. "She was about three feet, six inches long, but I could not see her tail," said Miss Cowell. "She had a lovely figure, any man could have fallen in love with her."

Mermaids are of course a marine tradition, though sightings of these so-called mythical creatures have apparently dwindled. There

was probably a time when the oceans abounded with mermaids and mermen.

On Feb. 25, 1957, a frogman searching for the body of a student drowned in Devil's Lake in Czechoslovakia came across something which terrified him. Instead of finding the corpse the diver encounter 30 German soldiers and 10 horses which were harnessed to gun carriages, standing in upright fashion. He claimed that the phantom array appeared to move towards him. Note the name of the lake.

BOOK REVIEW: THE STRANGER AT THE PENTAGON

This book, now in its third printing, authored by Frank E. Stranges, is an odd volume. The cover proclaims the excellent saucer photo collection is from the "secret" files of August C. Roberts. This play-up is undeserving of the photos as most have been previously published.

The book begins with the story of Valiant Thor and his visits to Earth. We are told the atmosphere on Venus is "basically the same as on the Earth". Space probes tell us this is bunk.

Valiant, who has no fingerprints, is pictured several times in the book. From 1957 to 1960 he met with the President and Vice-President of the USA. The story is also told of the alleged landing of three scout ships at Edwards Air Force Base which Eisenhower was to have examined.

The book is saved by the UFO photo section, the informative biographies of UFO researchers and the most interesting chapter dealing with the USAF Academy's Introductory Space Systems course on UFOs.

BEHIND THE NEWS

QUEST has been presented information in the past few issues on drugs due to the vast amounts of misinformation about a subject that has its effect on all of us. In Susy Smith's Today's Witches (Award Books) writes: "When they (young people - Ed.) are in the drugged state, as they so frequently are, they just roll over on the floor and start making love to whatever is nearest them. With its long hair and pants and beads they can't always tell which sex it is until they get started, and by then it doesn't matter."

This is an utterly stupid and untrue statement which shows Miss Smith's lack of knowledge on the subject of drugs. It is unfortunate that such misinformation can be found in print. The rest of the book, incidentally, is quite excellent as it deals with witchcraft, a subject which Miss Smith fortunately knows more about than drugs.

A tale which could be included in Dennis Stamey's article above was published in the April 1, 1972, issue of the Kitchener-Waterloo Record:

"Along the coast of Notre Dame Bay (Newfoundland - Ed.) it seems that some pirates from the past are still jealously guarding their stolen wealth. Natives tell a tale of a fisherman who set out to dig for stolen treasure and was interrupted when his dog started barking at an ancient rigged ship shrouded by evening mist offshore.

"A dinghy rowed by very unfriendly looking sailors came floating from the ship. As the horrified fisherman looked on, the boat rowed

(continued on pg.16)

Northerners tell chilling tales

SPENCE BAY, N.W.T. (CP) — When the long winter night falls and a moaning wind blows blinding snow through this settlement, you could scarcely find a more eerie place for a ghost story.

Spence Bay, an Eskimo community in the remote Eastern Arctic, has a reputation as a place where magic and witchcraft are still practised and stories about the supernatural abound.

Members of a federal and territorial government group heard more than one such strange tale during a tour early this winter.

The party had been weathered-in by a fast-breaking Arctic storm.

Members of the 12-man group found different ways of amusing themselves. Some settled in for a night of bridge; others were the guests of various residents.

Several ended up listening to the stories of long-time northerner Ernie Lyall. Sitting in the living room of the Hudson's Bay Co. residence, drinking home-brewed beer (commercial beer can cost more than \$9 per dozen bottles in the North) and store-bought rum, the oldtimer casually mentioned that the building had a ghost of its own.

Mr. Lyall, who first came north in 1927 and spent more than 30 years with the Bay before joining the government, told how the house had become haunted by the ghost of a murdered woman.

She had been killed, he said, somewhere in the Barrens between old Fort Ross and Spence Bay. He and another man packed the body back into the settlement in the middle of winter.

It would have been difficult to bury the woman at that time of year with the rocky ground frozen solid so it was decided to find a safe, cold place to leave the frozen body until spring.

Mr. Lyall said the best place available was the unfinished living room of the Bay's residence. That's where the corpse stayed until it could be buried.

It was after the funeral that the strange happenings started.

The living room was completed and Mr. Lyall moved into the residence.

"We were just starting to sit down to dinner one evening when the outer door opened and we heard footsteps coming into the room, then a person cleared her throat. We went to see who it was, but there was nobody there."

The same procedure continued for several more nights and finally Mr. Lyall hid under his desk to wait for the mysterious intruder.

Nobody came. After 25 minutes he went back to supper. Just as he was sitting down, he heard the door open again.

"That went on every night for the rest of the winter and the ghost is still said to haunt the people."

Less ghostly, but stranger is Mr. Lyall's story of how an Eskimo medicine man, called a shaman, saved the life of a dying child.

Mr. Lyall said he and another man were travelling by dog team in the open tundra when they decided to camp overnight at a cluster of snow houses.

In one of the houses they found a young girl who appeared to be dying and her parents called in the shaman in an attempt to cure her with magic.

"The kid was lying on the one sleeping bench used by the whole family, and there was a pane of clear ice in the side of the snowhouse to let in the moonlight.

"When the shaman came in, the moon was shining right through this window and he called down his spirits. They were little dogs. I saw them clear as anything and they came in through the window,

ran down his arm and jumped to the floor.

"There were about six or seven of them and they circled around the sleeping bench where the child lay. Little dogs, and I did see them. Then they ran back up his arm and out the window.

"The shaman left and the kid got well a few days later."

Staying with some friends once, I woke up in the middle of the night with the strong feeling of a presence in my room. Yet I could see nobody.

I remember clearly that I was not afraid. I was simply annoyed at being woken.

So much so that I said loudly: "Go away. Get out of this room."

It worked. The feeling of somebody being present disappeared.

My hosts maintained next morning that I had been foolish to dismiss my "ghostly visitor" in such a way. They are convinced that it is a friendly spirit there to protect them.

You rarely hear of ghostly animals, but my grandfather told me a tale of one that he encountered as a young man.

He did a bit of poaching. Walking home one night with a brace of pheasants, he heard a horse cantering along the road behind him. He quickly dived into the cover of a hedge.

Louder and louder came the sound of the horse's hooves . . . yet there was no horse to go with them. The road was empty.

When the ghostly hoofbeats passed and died away, he ran all the way home.

It was a long time before he went poaching again. Except during the daytime.



THE most intriguing true ghost story I know concerns a ghostly SMELL.

A couple who moved into an old Kent cottage not long ago tell me that from time to time they detect the smell of freshly baked bread.

They have discovered that their cottage was once part of a monastery building where monks regularly baked bread to distribute to the poor. They are convinced that their freshly baked bread smell is a ghostly relic of those days.

If you believe in ghosts you will probably agree with them. If, like me, you are a sceptic, you may think of a possible explanation.

I have suggested that perhaps it is only a smell similar to that of bread. Perhaps there is some type of fungus growing under their floor which emits such a smell.

They will not accept this.

Mind you, I have had a "ghostly" experience that I cannot explain.

I've had 11 lives says girl

The Sun February 21, 1972

SCHOOLGIRL Joey Verwey claims she has been chased into a cave by a dinosaur. Then there was the time she was a slave girl to an Egyptian king.

"I was buried alive in his tomb when he died," said 17-year-old Joey, who lives on a farm at Pretoria, South Africa.

For dark-haired Joey claims she has lived ten different lives before this one. And she can recall every one. Historians are amazed at the accuracy of her experiences.

Joey says she was married twice during her lives and had 10 children.

A top psychiatrist is flying to see her.

Jack Pleasant

Wounds like Christ's are seen as a Gift from God

By WAYNE EDMONSTONE
Star staff writer

Are people who inexplicably begin exhibiting stigmata—bleeding from areas of the body thought to correspond with the wounds suffered by Christ on the cross—receiving a supernatural gift of God?

There are 330 acknowledged cases of the "Easter Bleeding Syndrome" (as some doctors have dubbed it) and many more—including the case of a woman still living in seclusion 86 miles north of Toronto—that have never been either officially confirmed or denied by the church.

In the religious sense, stigmata consist of the appearance on the body of a living person of wounds on the hands and feet (nail marks), in the side (spear thrust), and sometimes on the forehead (crown of thorns), or shoulders and back (scourging; carrying the cross).

Of the recorded cases, all but 40 have been women, and, although cases involving Protestants and unbelievers are known, the great majority of stigmatics have been Roman Catholics.

About one-fifth have been beatified (a step preceding, but not necessarily leading to sainthood) and a few have actually been declared saints.

The most recent incident involves 10-year-old Cloretta Robertson, a "deeply religious" child who is a member of the New Light Baptist Church in Oakland, Calif., and who purportedly began to bleed from the hands, feet and side shortly before Good Friday.

Hospital tests

Physicians, nurses, teachers and the girl's minister claim to have witnessed the phenomenon, but hospital blood tests failed to show any blood disease or abnormality.

Cloretta's condition and its causes remains open to question—although right up to the surprisingly recent past such a manifestation during the Easter season would have been almost automatically accepted as a miracle by large numbers of believers.

One of the most celebrated stigmatics of modern times was Padre Pio (Pio de Pietrelcina), a Capuchin monk of San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy, who was regarded as a living



THE LATE FATHER PIO
Celebrated stigmatic was kept quiet

saint by many Catholics and became the centre of a fanatical following.

The controversial 81-year-old friar died in 1968, only a few days after celebrating the 50th anniversary of the day he first received the stigmata. For many years he had lived as a virtual prisoner in his monastery, prevented by the Vatican from exercising priestly duties for the public.

The Vatican's Holy Office issued three decrees between 1923 and 1931 urging the faithful to avoid visiting him. The believers continued to come, however, and swindles began to flourish in the shadow of the monastery.

Another famous stigmatic, Therese Neumann, a tailor's daughter from Konnersreuth, Bavaria, bore the marks of the stigmata from Good Friday, 1926, until her death of a heart ailment in 1962 at the age of 64.

She bled from the hands, feet, side and forehead, and experienced trances in which she "relived" the agonies of Christ on the cross and spoke in languages experts claimed were Latin and Aramaic.

For some unaccountable reason the "miracle" failed to happen on Good Friday of 1951, but continued thereafter until her death.

The most incredible aspect of Therese Neumann's stigmatic experience is that she was said to have eaten nothing except the communion host after 1923 when she suddenly recovered from paralysis and blindness suffered in a fall during a fire in 1917.

In the 1930s a team of physicians mounted a round-the-clock watch on Therese for 15 consecutive days, during which she neither ate nor slept, but they were unable to explain either phenomenon.

Late in 1950, the story of Mrs. Donald McIsaac of Uptergrove, a hamlet 86 miles north of Toronto, near Lake Couchiching, was made public, prompting Maclean's magazine to declare that she "may soon become a focus of world attention," like Padre Pio and Therese Neumann.

Born Eva Baye, this stout, cheerful woman worked on the family farm, did her own housework and looked after her husband and six children, living the life of the average country matron.

The first of Mrs. McIsaac's stigmata appeared in 1937—a small, painful sore on the back of her right hand. Other wounds developed over the following three years.

James Cardinal McGuigan of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, took personal supervision of the case in 1942 and enforced a rigid "no publicity" ban, which still seems to exist today.

'Most peculiar'

The archdiocese arranged two examinations of Mrs. McIsaac (lasting three weeks in 1945 and two in 1946) at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto and Bresica Hall in London, Ont. She was examined by Catholic, Protestant and Jewish doctors who signed statements and reports of the examinations for the church's files.

Maclean's writer, Frank Hamilton, who interviewed doctors who had examined Mrs. McIsaac—although he was not allowed to see the woman herself—quotes a Protestant physician as describing Mrs. McIsaac's stigmata in the following manner:

"The wounds are most peculiar. Those on the hands and feet are square. On the backs of the hands and on the insteps they are dark and slightly hard.

"On the palms and the soles they are somewhat smaller and rather reddish in color and are covered with a sort of transparent tissue. The wound on the left side is deep and shaped like a long, narrow diamond. On the head under the hairline there are numerous small wounds, mostly circular in shape.

"On the back there are several crosswise reddish marks, rather like lash marks."

Like Therese Neumann, Eva McIsaac is said to have had ecstatic visions in which she spoke Aramaic. As in the cases of Padre Pio and Therese Neumann, the Catholic Church refused to make any claim regarding Mrs. McIsaac's alleged stigmata. At the height of the publicity that threatened to make her an international figure, Cardinal McGuigan—himself a frequent visitor to the home—issued a statement saying "The church takes no official notice of any happenings such as those attributed to the McIsaac home in Uptergrove. The church always treats such matters with great reserve. It is well known that many such manifestations may be explained by natural causes. . . ."

A diocesan spokesman with a long record of administration in the Toronto diocese told The Star he had "never personally heard of any cases of stigmata in the area."

According to a Mrs. Donald McIsaac of Uptergrove (who describes herself as a relative) Mrs. Eva McIsaac, now in her 70s, is still living in seclusion in the hamlet.

She told The Star Eva McIsaac "feels that she is a private citizen and she doesn't want any publicity connected with this. . . . She says if God wanted any of this news to get out he would arrange it."

The woman refused to comment on whether or not Mrs. McIsaac still exhibits signs of the stigmata this Easter.

"She's an old woman now and all the commotion about this upsets her."

Catholic Church reacts with caution

Although some people who are believed to have been stigmatics—St. Francis of Assisi and St. Paul, for example—have been canonized saints, the Roman Catholic Church has reflected caution, and indeed scepticism, in dealing with stigmatics.

It's a scepticism generally shared by science and other denominations.

The church, in canonizing a person, demands proof of heroic virtue or sanctity during the person's lifetime and miracles after their death.

Pope Benedict XIV, in a classical treatise on canonization, went so far as to assert that it is theoretically possible for God to accord stigmata to sinners and pagans as "a freely bestowed gift."

Medical and psychological investigators, however, argue that stigmata may be the consequences of a strongly emotional state which can create bodily changes or disturbances.

A German physician, Alfred Lechler, and a French psychiatrist, Pierre Janet, have produced medi-

cal evidence indicating that such strong emotional states, triggered by suggestion, can result in such phenomena as bloody tears and stigmata.

The Star asked a Roman Catholic bishop, a Presbyterian physician, a psychiatrist who belongs to the Church of the New Jerusalem, and a Baptist minister and educator to comment on stigmata.

Here are their replies:

Most Rev. Thomas B. Fulton auxiliary bishop of the Toronto archdiocese: "I personally do not know of any cases of stigmata that have been authenticated in the past 20 years. It is a very rare thing and, of course, it could be a holy manifestation. The church is very careful about these things. There is greater medical and psychiatric knowledge today and for that reason it's easier to be careful. In times when people were, let us say, 'closer to nature' than modern man, it would be easier to believe such manifestations were miracles."

Dr. Nelles Silverthorne, consulting physician, Hospital for Sick Chil-

dren: "I'm afraid my answer is a big question mark. There is no reference in holy scripture. Of course, it says when Christ prayed in the garden he sweated drops of blood and water. The Bible says so and it's likely physiologically so, too.

"Of course, in the case of stigmata it may be a form of hemophilia or some kind of blood disease that we don't know about. I can't see where it has any specific religious significance from my knowledge of the Bible—but I don't know. . . ."

Dr. Basil Orchard, psychiatrist, Clarke Institute of Psychiatry: "It's a tough question because through all ages people have been able to inflict wounds on themselves without knowing it. There is a closer connection between mental functioning and physical functioning than most people realize. For example, in hypnotic suggestion you can convince a patient that they have touched a heated object and a burn blister will rise on their skin. It's also quite possible that stigmata could occur on the basis of the person's suggestibility and the strength of their belief.

"On a psychiatric basis, it's interesting that most of the 'wounds' appear where people have been led to expect them to appear—on the palms of the hands, for example, when it's really likely that Christ was nailed through the wrists.

"I would have to be sceptical about stigmata, but in a sense I can see some significance in the immense power of a personal faith which can cause such phenomena. Properly understood it could be a remarkable and awe-inspiring thing."

Rev. Leslie Tarr, administrator, Central Baptist Seminary: "I don't feel that it has any spiritual or supernatural force whatsoever. I suppose though, that subjectively it could indicate some piety on the part of the person. I think it's probably due to some sort of psychosomatic source which affects the body.

"I can't help thinking of them as 'self-inflicted wounds'—and they always seem to be happening in some exotic place where I can't get to examine them."

Saturday Titbits March 4, 1972

Slain actor stages a comeback

TRAFFIC records kept by London Transport contain one unique dossier: details of a ghostly passenger who walks around the passages and platforms of Covent Garden tube station and boards a train before fading away.

In the winter of 1956-7 a special watch was kept for this spectral man in late Victorian dress. One station employee, Victor Locker, when observing the ghost along with other night workers, also heard it speak. But only one word: "Terriss."

□ □ □

The story begins in the early hours of December 15, 1898, when Charles Lane awoke shouting for help. He was understudy for the most famous actor of the day, William Terriss, then playing the lead at the Strand Adelphi in a thriller, *Secret Service*.

Lane told of a nightmare in which he was bending over

Terriss as he lay beside the Adelphi stage door, blood spurting from a stab wound in his chest. Friends laughed at his dream.

But that evening, as Terriss paused to put his key in a private door to his theatre dressing room, a man rushed at him and stabbed him.

Passers-by grabbed the attacker—Richard Prince, an extra in the play who believed Terriss was hindering his career.

Charles Lane, numb with shock and the realisation that his nightmare was being re-enacted, bent over Terriss, trying to comfort him. He was just able to hear his weak, dying whisper: "I will come back."

TENTATIVELY DIAGNOSED by doctors as 'Easter bleeding syndrome,' Claretta Robertson, 9, of Oakland, Calif., holds up her hand to show blood oozing from the palm. She is the latest of 330 recorded cases of 'stigmata'—wounds corresponding with those suffered by Jesus at his trial and crucifixion.



NOISY, MISCHIEVOUS 'GHOSTS' HAVE BEEN AROUND FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.

ARE POLTERGEISTS ALL

FIFTEEN-year-old Shirley Hitchings shrieked with fright as she was flung out of bed by invisible hands . . . for the second time within minutes.

The first time she thought she'd had a nightmare. Sleepily, she had picked herself up and clambered back into bed.

The second time she was wide awake. She felt something stealthily dragging the bedclothes off her, then she was whisked through the air and on to the floor.

The girl's terrified shrieks brought her parents running into the small, back bedroom of their home in Wycliffe Road, Battersea, London.

That was the beginning of an ordeal which, in February, 1956, was to reduce a London family to a state of terror.

Looking back, the Hitchings family remembered that, shortly before the

By **RICHARD EGAN**

"bumps in the night" incident they had all heard a tiny tapping noise. It was a frosty February, and they had thought it was ice thawing in the pipes.

But after the midnight "attack" on Shirley, the noises grew louder, more insistent. And they started to follow her wherever she went—even to work.

At home, Mr. and Mrs. Hitchings

THE UNEXPLAINED

would find vases smashed, furniture displaced and various articles missing when they got up in the morning.

Then, one day, as mysteriously as they started, the disturbances suddenly ceased.

THUNDEROUS

Things seem to go bump in the daytime, too.

Dancing tables, the clatter of smashed crockery, thunderous knocks on walls and furniture, objects that float mysteriously

through the air, showers of hot stones that blow up from nowhere and pelt down on the living-room floor . . .

The only explanation psychical researchers can offer for most of these phenomena is poltergeists—the knockabout ghosts, the hooligans of the spirit world.

The Second World War was on. The air-raid sirens had wailed out a warning, and 11-year-old Alan Rhodes and his grandmother crawled under the Morrison air-raid shelter at their bungalow near Crawley, Sussex.

The anti-aircraft guns opened up but, distinctly, above the rumbling of the gunfire, Alan and his grandmother heard a sharp tapping on the table-top of the shelter.

Within a couple of days, tappings were sounding on walls and bed-frames. Soon the "poltergeist" was creating havoc.

In this case, the "visitation" lasted for more than a year.

The word poltergeist is German. It means "a noisy ghost."

Reports of the ghosts' uncanny activities have come from every part of the world.

PUZZLE

And not only the modern world. They plagued the ancient Greeks and Romans and puzzled Chinese philosophers thousands of years ago. And they still seem to plague and puzzle people today.

● November 1969. The Adams family, of Gillingham, Kent, told of strange happenings in their home. Doors flew open, ash-trays fell off tables, light switches clicked on and off and furniture moved without being touched.

● August 1970. At the Petersham, Surrey,

NOTICE TO THE READERS: Since the change in format beginning with issue #15, there has been little correspondence from you, the reader, as to how you like QUEST. We've experimented with articles on different subjects from the occult and UFOs. This has drawn little reaction. I'd appreciate receiving your views on the new QUEST or any criticism, suggestions, etc. you may have.

Kurt Glemser, Editor

Weekend February 23-29, 1972

BUT NOW, SCIENTISTS ARE ASKING . . .

IN THE MIND?

home of the Clifton family, glasses were reportedly pushed off tables, books were thrown about and freshly cooked meals disappeared.

● April 1971. The Upshall family of Bournemouth endured two weeks of terror during which light bulbs, a radio, a TV set and wardrobes were smashed and the house caught fire.

One of the world's leading authorities on poltergeists is 50-year-old Cambridge don Dr. A. R. G. Owen.

Dr. Owen has raked over the evidence of a couple of hundred cases, but the one that stands out as the most convincing is the haunting of Virginia Campbell.

BOUNCING

Virginia was 11 when, in October, 1960, she left Ireland to live with her brother and his wife and daughter in the village of Sauchie, Clackmannanshire.

One night soon after her arrival, she went up to the double bed she shared with her nine-year-old niece, Margaret. Suddenly they heard what sounded like the noise of a bouncing ball from under the bed.

The girls went downstairs. The "bouncing ball" followed them. And it went on bouncing around Virginia until, exhausted, she fell asleep.

In front of level-headed witnesses, all sorts of fantastic things happened over the next six months . . .

A clergyman saw a pillow rotate under the girl's head and a large linen chest lift itself up, travel 18ins. along the floor, then back. A doctor heard weird knockings, a sawing noise inside a linen basket and saw inexplicable ripples passing over Virginia's pillow.

A teacher at Virginia's school saw a

heavy desk rise slowly off the ground, hover like a helicopter and land in a spin.

After a careful investigation, Dr. Owen's verdict was: "The happenings seem to be more consistent with a force originating in Virginia's body, rather than an entity outside her.

"All the available evidence seems to suggest that certain unidentified physical forces operated in the vicinity.

"We cannot even begin to understand its potential . . . the hidden force is wild and uncontrollable at the moment."

While scientists in the Western world remain either baffled by, or sceptical of, the existence of that unidentified physical force,



research workers behind the Iron Curtain have been taking a close look at the power of the poltergeist.

One of the chief subjects of their scrutiny has been a plump, Leningrad housewife in her early forties, Ninel Sergeevna Kulagina.

Russian scientists report that Ninel — under strict test conditions, including observation on closed-circuit TV—was able to "command" objects such as pieces of bread, apples, matches and cigarettes, to move and jump off a table.

DISTANCE

Two experiments amazed observers, including Nobel prize-winning scientists.

Experiment 1: a glass bowl was filled with cigarette smoke and turned upside down. Ninel, standing some distance from it, could, by concentrating, cut the curling mass of smoke clean in half—as if it were a solid substance.

Experiment 2: a raw egg was broken into a saline solution and placed inside a glass aquarium. Ninel stood 6ft. away—and separated the white from the yolk. The

Virginia Campbell was 'haunted' by a mysterious psychic force

Furniture moves, doors open, lights go on and off . . . all without being touched. But although these phenomena may be 'verified' by several witnesses, they could have a down-to-earth cause

observers left convinced that Ninel Kulagina exercised mind-over-matter.

This ability to "will" objects to move is called psychokinesis (PK for short). And Soviet investigators explain that when a person thinks, he radiates energy, and the energy generated by some people is far stronger than that of others.

Ninel told them that until a few years ago she did not know she had this power.

One day she was walking towards a cupboard in her Leningrad flat when, suddenly, a pitcher moved to the edge of one of the shelves, fell and smashed.

After that, all sorts of odd things started to happen.

She said: "It was almost like having a poltergeist in my home."

Soviet scientists claim that physical researches on Ninel have revealed an increased magnetic field around her body.

They point out that just as men flew a kite to catch a spark—and discovered the mysterious force of electricity—so they may be able to capture the "bio-energy" radiating from human beings and use it.

Such research may prove eventually that poltergeists exist only in the mind. Or it may leave scientists as baffled as ever . . .

over the beach and disappeared into a black cliff.

"The fisherman and his dog never went treasure hunting again."

Another interesting account is related in the same issue of the Record:

"There's many a mystery at Mahone Bay on the east coast of Nova Scotia. During the War of 1812 an English sailor deserted to an American warship, which was later chased into Mahone Bay by a British man-of-war.

"The deserter, realizing his ship could not escape and knowing he would be hanged if captured, set his ship's powder magazine on fire. It is legend that a flaming ship can be seen to this day, drifting on the bay on the anniversary of this event."

Canadians believing in the pureness of their police forces were shocked twice this year. In February, an RCMP corporal formerly on the Montreal police morality squad testified at a Quebec Police Commission inquiry that some squad members were in the habit of "adding" evidence in cases where there was not enough proof to convict a suspect.

The July issue of "Macleans" carried an article by a former corporal of the RCMP (a veteran of 14 years). He claims RCMP officers perjure themselves in court, build up arrest statistics and falsify reports.

The Age of Paranoia, a collection of articles from "Rolling Stone", tells of a surprising believer in the inner earth theory. According to Lance Fairweather, an acquaintance of Charles Manson, "He used to say he needed money to go to the desert, he needed supplies, he wanted ropes to go down into these holes in the desert. He really believed there was an underground people living out there."

Gypsy, one of the girls in the Manson "family" told reporters, "The lowest part of the earth is Death Valley. There have been gigantic explosions there. A whole mountain will fly off and leave this giant hole.

"There is this pool in Death Valley which goes down to the center of the earth, where the aware live forever. They sent divers down this pool and they never came back. Now the government has put a fence around it.



CHARLES MANSON

A believer of
the inner earth

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