

P.20 Recommendation of
FSR

"Science is the pursuit of the unknown"

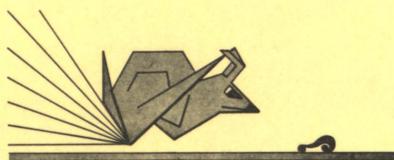
PURSUIT

JOURNAL

of

**The Society For The Investigation
Of The Unexplained**

... For the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of
information on new discoveries in the natural sciences



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SEE INSIDE BACK COVER FOR
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OF THE UNEXPLAINED

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There are other top-ranking experts who, while unable to join us officially due to pressure of other duties and/or commitments, have kindly offered to review specific cases in their highly technical fields that we might deem worthy of consideration. The list of names in this category is extremely gratifying to us in view of the standing of these scientists and the onerous nature of their work. They include many who are currently employed in 'sensitive' positions, both in this country and abroad.

Note: The abbreviation "S.I.T.U." has now been formally adopted as the designation of our Society.

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EDITORIAL

There are those, and among them some of our oldest friends both institutional and personal, who have accused us, and not altogether unforcibly, of going stuffy. By this they mean, we are assuming, that we have appeared to be progressively abandoning the way-out for the formal, or the established, or the so-called orthodox. This is not the case, but the impression must be there; so we would like to try once again to explain.

There are today, and there seem always to have been, three major and basic types of thinking people, with almost innumerable intermediates and crossovers of all manner of combinations. At one extreme are those who prefer to stay with beliefs of all kinds provided they have been assured to their own satisfaction that said beliefs are founded on facts. At the opposite extreme, there are those who prefer beliefs that are not founded on facts but upon further beliefs or dogmas. These poles may be called by all manner of dichotomous titles – like the orthodox and the unorthodox; the scientists and the mystics; the stuffed-shirts and the cranks; the established and the disestablished; and so on. It's an oversimplification but it works.

So what of the Third Estate?

This is where we come in. We stand bang-smack in the middle, and we call ourselves forteans, in recognition of that great wit, Charles Hoy Fort (1874-1932) who devoted his life to poking fun at all of us and with particular emphasis on the two above designated extremes. The first thing that Fort spotted was the imbecility of all Beliefs. As we have said before, he was a sort of prototype of the TV man Jack Webb, with the persistent slogan: "All I want are the facts, Ma'm; the facts". His second great discovery seems to have been that you can't prove anything, however many facts you get! This philosophy may sound nihilistic but when you clear away the beliefs of both the believers and of the non-believers, it proves to be really astonishing what you are left with – or come up with. Our old friends who are worrying about our going "stuffed", and probably just because they have seen the list of distinguished names on our Advisory Board, should indulge a second think.

We are still only too happy to hear of any new theory of the sinking of Atlantis or the incidence of two-headed cows but, lacking any concrete facts to support said theories, we reserve the right to be nothing more than polite. Given a minimum of even alleged supporting "facts" that can be checked from references supplied, we are only too happy to further pursue the matter. If then, said facts or reports actually prove to be in existence; and they do, logically at least, appear to support the initial contention, we will seek further advice from those aiding us who know more of the details of the subject than we (corporately) do. And this goes for the wildest notions and from both ends of the spectrum. We are not going to laugh at a polka-dotted central Asian for suggesting that Llamaism originally came from heaven and was grafted onto the philosophy of the Gautama Buddha. Nor will we go into guffaws when some senior technologist employed by one of the largest commercial corporations in the world tries to persuade us that the polyethylenes are nothing but crud. All peoples' opinions should, in the estimation of forteans, be respected. But.....The facts, Man; the facts.

The greatest bone of contention – and this has sprung even from our founding members and current officers – seems to be that we have stated that we do not handle or attempt to assess those matters that fall into the VIIIth segment of our famous 'Wheel of Knowledge' (see Newsletter No. 2). This does need explanation.

The realm or realms of the mental, at least such as we know it from a human point of view and of what we call humanbeings, in many ways falls into a category quite distinct from all other knowledge. Everything from mensuration (i.e. Segment I, or mathematics) round to the end of Segment VII (i.e. the measurable results of human enterprise) are concerned with the examination and classification of facts about our environment. Mentology looks inward, as it were, and purports to investigate us – and other mentalities, greater or lesser. That we did not initially offer to tackle any of this, and the reason why we still offer to attempt to analyze only part of it, is simply that we did not initially have, and still don't have, enough true experts in the field. Further, we are still asking ourselves: are there any real experts? This is a most pertinent question.

Segment VIII, or Mentology, covers a positively enormous range of thought. That there is a non-material as well as a material existence has been as nearly proved as anything – and we are not talking of peoples' beliefs, theories, or feelings about this. We are talking of controllable experiments that demonstrate, and as many times as you or anybody else wants, that certain animals can what we call "die" (and in every way) and then be brought back to what we call "life"; and, at your whim; and time and time again. There is a "something" here that makes the difference between these two estates, or states; and, so far, this has not been captured, measured, or weighed, so that it gives every evidence of being non-material.

CURRENT EVENTS

(Members' numbers are given in parentheses.)

Editorial Note:

The editorial committee of S.I.T.U. supervises all its publications as well as PURSUIT. It consists of the undersigned, Peter G. Kamitchis, Ivan T. Sanderson, and Marion L. Fawcett. As Managing Editor, I must inform you that our Director (ITS) has recently assumed the position of Science Editor of ARGOSY Magazine, for which publication he will contribute a monthly column entitled "The Unexplained"; will write several full-length articles per year; and assess correspondence and articles submitted to the magazine on all scientific matters. This will be done under the auspices of our Society, making use of its facilities and the guidance of its Scientific Advisory Board when necessary. The editors of ARGOSY have given us permission to expose in PURSUIT any material that we may have published with them or which we propose to submit to them in the future. Such material will be so identified in reports from now on.

Hans Stefan Santesson
Managing Editor.

ENDS GLYPTODONT

Funny story, this; but not in the way that we had expected. We hardly had hoped for a living glyptodont though it would have been a nice thing to have had; and one never knows. However, pursuit is our motto; so pursue we did. Results....

After screaming on the telephone, as reported in our last issue, to and at sundry ladies and gentlemen in Argentina, we bunged off the following letter to three scientific bodies there: -

Gentlemen:

About October of last year, 1967, it was reported that a large male "Giant Armadillo" was captured in Cordoba Province, and that it measured six feet long and stood three feet tall, but weighed over a ton. This information was briefly noted in the North American publication SCIENCE NEWS - (formerly Science News Letter). In this brief notice it was stated that "the Giant Armadillo was thought to have been extinct for 25 years".

Could you tell us if anything more sensible and factual has been published on this in your country; and, if so, by whom and where we might obtain copies? If not, could you give us some proper information on the incident?

Any information you could give us would be most greatly appreciated.

We are, Yours respectfully, etc. ...

In surprisingly short order we received the following somewhat equivocal reply from one of these institutions; namely, the Universidad Nacional de La Plata: -

Sr. Ivan T. Sanderson
Society for the Investigation
of the Unexplained
325 West 45th Street, New York

En respuesta a su atenta carta del 26 de Abril de 1968, nos es grato comunicarle que despues de una revision de diversos periodicos de 1967 no hemos hallade ninguna mencion en la prensa argentina respecto de un "armadillo gigante". No es extrana la aparicion de informaciones infundadas sobre animales mas o menos legendarias, a las cuales no les damos ninguna importancia.

Ninguna Institucion o Asociacion cientifica de la Argentina, segun nuestro conocimiento, has recibide informaciones de esta naturaleza; por tal motivo las menciones del SCIENCE NEWS a que usted se refiere, cercen, a nuestre entender de fundamento cientifico.

Sin otro particular lo saluda muy atentamente

/Signed/ Andreina B de Ringuelet
Jefe de Laboratorio

The catch-phrase herein is: "Por tal motivo las menciones del SCIENCE NEWS a que usted se refiere, carecen, a nuestro entender de fundamento científico." So we rang up SCIENCE NEWS.

With really extraordinary promptitude we were switched through to Mr. Christopher Weathersbee, who only recently assumed the position of "Life Sciences Editor" of that publication, which is officially backed by, among others, the Triple-AS, namely the American Association for the Advancement of Science. We put our problem to him and quoted from his publication and from our correspondence with the Argentinos. Mr. Weathersbee obtained a copy of the issue concerned, then and there, and expressed himself as being mildly shocked to say the least. He offered to check back on the origin of the story and let us know. He was as good as his word, and the following astonishing tale came to light.

It turned out that said story had been supplied to SCIENCE NEWS by a Sr. Emil Zubrin, of Apartado 540, Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico. Mr. Weathersbee checked back on this, only to be told that Sr. Zubrin had got it about "ninth hand" (as he put it) from somebody in the Argentinian Embassy in Mexico, D. F. Further, he was unable to get any satisfactory answer from said Sr. Zubrin on his actual sources. We are indeed grateful to Mr. Weathersbee for going to all this effort. Would that more science editors should take such trouble.

However, we are left with a distinctly nervous twitch. Just how much else that is published in journals of this augustness, or even in the fully technical periodicals of organizations like the AAAS who back them, is founded on such flimsy evidence and is so utterly unchecked? This is indeed an alarming consideration, and more especially when such types of journal make a point of deriding anything unexplained on the grounds that it was dredged up by what they so scathingly call "an amateur", and therefore cannot possibly be "scientific", have been properly checked, or even be true. Not only was this story manifestly rubbish, as we pointed out in our last issue; it now turns out to be a complete fabrication. One begins to wonder just how much else dished up for the layman is founded on nothing. And another thing.

In the July 1st, 1950 issue of SCIENCE NEWS LETTER (the precursor of this SCIENCE NEWS), pages 12 and 13 were devoted to an article entitled "Hints for Writing Science". (Incidentally, you can't "write science", though you may be able to "write about it".) This led off with a column entitled "Don'ts for Would-Be Writers of Science" by "The Late Edwin E. Slosson, First Director of SCIENCE SERVICE". Good advice here, but this was followed by a piece entitled "Stories That Should Be Handled With Care" by Watson Davis, Director of SCIENCE SERVICE. This is a most fascinating document, listing no less than 89 subjects that ought to be avoided, with the implication that they are (were) phony. We've sat on this article for 18 years now and, sure enough, an ever-growing percentage of these "damned things" (as Charles Fort would say) have popped into respectability by the very simple process of having been proved to the satisfaction of orthodoxy. Only the science-fiction boys have a worse batting average.

THE OBVIOUS

Many ideas, and perhaps especially great ideas, seem, once they have been ideated, to be painfully obvious. There is a suspicion also that a rather high percentage of them dawn suddenly (and often after a good night's sleep to boot), but as a result of prolonged cogitation and a sort of mental nibbling around the business. One such idea floated in recently from Frank B. Shields (155). It's so bloody obvious, it hurts. But, first, Frank Shields.

Frank Shields, now resident in Florida, is a consummate animal artist and sculptor, currently carving a series of North American birds, and coloring them. This is a sort of throwback to classical statuary, since the Greeks, for instance, coloured their sculpts; but, in this case it has even greater significance. Frank Shields used to be an illustrator of such definitive works as Dr. H. E. Anthony's FIELD BOOK OF NORTH AMERICAN MAMMALS, first published in 1928. For three decades he has been studying the colours and colour-patterns of animals relative not only to camouflage but also to their visual impact on other members of the same species, on other species, and on predators. One day he will write up his findings, and the ethologists are going to get a great shock.

That which Frank Shields now has suggested — and rather casually, we might add — is a 'new' but appallingly obvious procedure, or technique, for animal-spotting and watching. This would seem to have particular applicational possibilities for continuing surveys of and for items like ABSMs and Lake Monsters that are partially pinned down, such as the California Bigfeet and the Loch Ness Monsters. As Frank Shields says "The idea will probably at first sound quite whacky" but we admonish you to take his further advice and "think about it for a time". So what is it? Simply, captive balloons.

Think....just think for a moment....From a balloon, observers could observe a really very large area

without any noise; could photograph by day and night (infrared), employ sensitive sonar detection devices, and keep various other kinds of watches. So darned obvious is this suggestion that we have transferred it to David James (203), the moving spirit in the seven-year-old annual day and night watch on Loch Ness.* If you could anchor a raft on a lake, which would not of course be easy, a balloon could be elevated from it to cover a very much greater area of the water than any land-based photo-station. In our Northwest, even one balloon could cover a hundred, a thousand, or ten thousand times the area, and on a twenty-four-hour basis, than any team of surface-pounding searchers could. No noise, no unwarranted stinks, no disturbance. Need we say more? Yes.

Of course, there is the little matter of money but, if you knew what terrestrial equipment has cost already in both the cases cited, you would take a different view of this suggestion to that which will obviously be your obvious first reaction. Once over that hurdle, let the technologists and technicians loose. The things they have begun to think up already make our — and doubtless will that of ABSMs — hair stand on end. Why; you don't even have to man the bloody balloon platforms; and don't forget that front-page headlines on a newspaper have now been read from photographs taken from 40,000 feet up. That's some eight miles for up!

Incidentally, the balloons could be anchored on shore and still cover a vast area of water.

ANIMAL ITF

For just a century now, scientific literature has from time to time noted reports of a more than puzzling (alleged) phenomenon, though since the turn of the century almost all such mentions have been of a highly sceptical and even derogatory nature. One wonders therefore why they were ever mentioned at all! The matter to which we refer used to be called teleportation, meaning "instant transference" of solid objects from one place to another and even through solids. The (alleged) process is now referred to as ITF.

There has recently been an upsurge in such reports, culminating in a letter we received from a member of the upcoming generation which read as follows: —

The "discoveries" I am about to tell you about were products of working in a pet shop whose name is of no consequence, though you might know it. The "rats" are tame, domesticated animals whom you might think nothing about. But these rats, and maybe others, possess an unexplainable, and almost fantastic power. As for my main case and point:

A small cage 9"x5"x4" contained a white rat 9 inches long and 3½ inches at the highest point, and a small Hooded Rat. (Incidentally, Hooded Rats have a tendency to escape whenever possible.) These rats had been put in the small cage so I could clean their large cage. I secured the top on the small cage. The cage cannot be opened from the inside, and only can be opened by simultaneously pulling up two small metal tabs. I left to fill up a water bottle. When I returned, the large white rat had disappeared, and only the Hooded Rat remained. Somewhat bewildered, I returned to the back room to look for the rat. I had re-secured the cage cover. When I returned, there was the white rat, in the cage with the cover closed! Explain please! According to this and other things, such as a rat getting out of a cage with a rock on top of it, "running" through a locked door and carrying eight baby rats back to her cage, rock unmoved, I believe rats have ITF.

/Signed/ Alan Lucas

This brings up a number of questions, and points to the necessity for the enumeration of some sources of information on this subject. These are many and varied.

They may be divided into the recorded and the non-recorded. Among the first, we have to go back to the earliest Sumerian, Egyptian, Assyrian, Vedic Indian, Chinese, and Persian literature, and move through Greek, Roman, Middle Islamic, and Mediaeval European records to Renaissance times. There is then a considerable break of about 500 years during which, in the West, the matter dropped into the purlieu of mysticism and the occult. With the revival of pragmatism under the guise of science at the end of the 18th Century, straight reports and flat statements on them began tentatively to appear in what was then called philosophical literature. (And, incidentally, any fortune looking for a long-term research project who is unable to travel but has ready access to a large library might well start compiling items of ITF from the literature of all those mentioned above.)

It must not be overlooked that ITF in the record covers not only animals, but human beings, and all

*A reply recently received from David James says that they had considered this idea but rules & regulations more even than the cost had nixed it.

manner of inanimate objects. But there is a catch here. The majority of the last will be found in the writings of the mystics, occultists, spiritualists, and spiritists, wherein they will be called "apports". These might well be listed — like the vast "collection" presented to Stanford University some years ago — see FATE, June, 1962, p.115 — which has caused such an uproar — but there is plenty to be done without them.

Once again, good old Charles Fort picks up the threads in the year 1800 AD; and somebody ought also to comb his works for this matter specifically. It was he, moreover, who coined the word teleportation for this phenomenon. After Fort's death, the Fortean Society carried on until 1960. Since that time there has been no single-minded recorder of this matter until Gladys Fusaro of Long Island started supplying James Moseley with fortean items for his FLYING SAUCER NEWS. Later still, Paul and Ron Willis picked up the slender thread again for their current INFO BULLETIN. However, not even Fort completely combed the field; and small wonder, since thirty years of probing has brought to light a seemingly endless string of items almost everywhere one looks. In other words, the reports are so massive in number and so singularly similar in content that one can but at least suspect what is customarily called a "law" here.

Turning to the unrecorded information, we have once again to go back way beyond the dark ages to the dimmest recesses of what is commonly called primitive society. Here, we can only infer, and from what has been learned of the beliefs of living relic peoples, what their ancestors believed. And, wherever you turn in the literature of ethnology and cultural anthropology, you will encounter "tales" of ITF; and just about every searcher and researcher in those fields has sometime slipped into recording the same sort of thing still occurring today among all primitive peoples. Here is another fruitful field for fortean research. All you've got to do is start reading the technical literature, and keep reading; and then proceed to the travelogues, starting circa 700 AD with the great Arab explorers like Ibn Battuta; not forgetting the Portuguese and Spaniards; and ending with the British Indian Army Colonels with the rods and guns. In this literature many items are not true reports, but merely hints as to what the benighted "natives" are alleged to have said happened.

The modern equivalent of this sort of stuff is the verbal reports and mere gossip and table-talk that you will hear whenever and wherever professional animal people get together — collectors, exporters, importers, handlers, trainers, circus and zoo men, and the other hardboiled cookies who keep our arenas filled. These people lead a very precarious life. I have yet to meet one who started out with any capital; and the only capital they ever accumulate is their individual reputation to deliver. They usually have to pay cash for the animals, and they usually have to wait for months to get paid, even if they do deliver. Insurance is normally unobtainable and if it is, it is so exorbitant that no animal man can afford it. Therefore, animal people are not going to let animals out of cages even for publicity purposes; and, what is more, they know better than anybody how to construct unopenable cages and how to keep an eye on them. Yet, we can guarantee that at any get-together of working animal people an account of some inexplicable escape will come up.

Our young friend Alan Lucas is to be congratulated on bringing all this out into the open and we hope that it may prompt others to overcome their fear of ridicule and give us some facts. We have almost an over-abundance of cases of alleged ITF of inanimate objects*, and those concerning human-beings almost constitute another subject as it gets us involved in history, the police, bureaux of missing persons and suchlike. Let us stick with other animals for now; and all the way from Fort's series of fresh dead Lynxes on one stretch of rail line in England when no such animal had been lost by a zoo and all had been extinct for centuries in that country, to the horse that turned up in a third floor apartment bathroom — address not given, as the landlords have already threatened suit against anybody else who mentions the matter, and our legal advisers say that they will get away with it next time. Just keep an eye on horses, cats, and rats (not mice) that you may have around; and if you own exotic pets, keep a particularly wary eye on Putty-nosed Guenon, Giant Rhesus, and Douroucouli monkeys; the Ring-tailed 'Cats' or Cacomixtles; and, among birds, any member of the crow family.

ITS AND THE ATTA ANTS (An editorial aside — H.S.S.)

In the May, 1963 issue of FATE, Ivan Sanderson published an account of apparent ITF among the Atta or Leaf-Cutter Ants of Suriname (then Dutch Guiana). The author had both conducted his own experiments on these insects in that country and assisted at some stages of a most massive investi-

*Except that one of our members makes a speciality of recording the activities of wedding-rings which, for some reasons other than the obvious, would seem to possess the most extraordinary proclivities!

gation of these pests by Dr. Gerold Stahel, Dr. D. C. Geijskes, and others of the Landsbouproefstation, at Paramaribo, in 1938. The article itemized above had, however, to be written from memory as both original notes, photographs, copies of Professor Stahel's reports, and published papers on the subject were lost during the war. We were asked to publish on this in a scientific journal but declined because of this lack of documentation.

Then, by a most extraordinary string of chance events at the end of last year, the following took place. We received a letter from Madame Stahel, now residing in the Netherlands. One of our members, himself a Hollander, had drawn her attention to a passage in a booklet, written by Sanderson for Doubleday's "Around the World" Series, on Suriname, several years before, which had mentioned her ethnological study of an Amerindian girl of a then completely unknown tribe who had wandered out of the hinterland and been put in her charge. Prompted by this, Madame Stahel addressed us through that publisher and, as a result, in reply to a plea from us, managed to spare copies of some of her late husband's publications on the Atta, together with a list of all others not on hand. These are in four languages, and published in six countries, and we are still engaged in tracking them down and translating them. In them we have already found some, and fully expect to find the rest of the most properly scientific and convincing account of natural ITF that we know of. We would then hope to publish and would present a republication summary in this journal.

DR. CONDON, ON AGAIN

We're not sure but that we aren't getting a bit bored with this subject but we will stick with it to the bitter end as it is manifestly not only creating such a popular rumpus but is also showing signs of production.

In our last issue we pointed out at the end of a report on this matter that it was our feeling that just about everybody has been (cliche) barking up the wrong tree. Our feeling then was — and this has now been immeasurably enhanced — that neither Dr. Condon nor our Air Force, nor even the ultimate powers that be, are much interested in UFOs per se, but are most deeply concerned with any life-forms that might have built some, run them, and/or come out of them. We don't know if it was this published speculation that ignited the rocket but the same notion has now popped out all over. For instance, take the following Release by SAUCER NEWS, the oldest reporting publication in the field of ufology:

"From: SAUCER NEWS
303 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

MU 6-3743

Editor: James W. Moseley
Managing Editor: Timothy Green Beckley

DR. CONDON PRAISED BY SERIOUS UFOLOGISTS

In an attempt to offset a vicious attack by John G. Fuller and the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in the May 14th issue of LOOK MAGAZINE, on the famed University of Colorado UFO Project headed by Dr. Edward U. Condon, 35 Flying Saucer Organizations from all over the United States and Canada — representing the Congress of Scientific UFOlogists — gathered in Cleveland this past week-end and unanimously adopted the following resolution:

- (1) That Dr. Edward U. Condon is a distinguished scholar and distinguished American.
- (2) That Dr. Condon has, by his unfailing good cheer and uniformly courteous consideration of those around him, made a valuable contribution to the progress of UFOlogy.
- (3) That it is the sense of this Congress that Dr. Condon has been subjected to the unnecessary and unmerited burden of irresponsible personal vilification, which has needlessly complicated the already impressive challenge of his office.
- (4) That the leaders of the Congress appreciate Dr. Condon's apparent intention of full public disclosure in the conduct of his present investigation."

We do not wholly agree with the preamble to the contained Resolution since John Fuller, unless he made the whole thing up, was doing no more than reporting. We don't know whether NICAP's actions and reactions were occasioned by pique as this release went on to imply, but we must state that we doubt it. Dr. Condon's Committee has, let's face it, behaved in a most amateurish manner on the political front. Right or wrong, the quotes attributed to this Dr. Low were not just stupid but outrageous — if truly quoted. Fortean's know only too well that this is the sort of thinking indulged in by certain groups but it is most impolitic to permit them to leak to the press. Either this whole bit is a colossal joke or it is deadly serious. We can hardly believe that it is the former since a modest half-

million dollars is still rather a lot to spend just for fun — even by a government! If, on the other hand, it is a serious matter, and particularly to our national security as has now been so clearly stated in a long list of pronouncements of an official and semi-official nature, it ought to have been handled in a more competent manner.

This is not to be construed as a criticism of Dr. Condon. The goofs have been attributed to others and not, it seems, to scientists. Amateurs should stay out of, or be kept out of, the security field. In basic scientific fields, moreover, technologists may be seen but should definitely not be heard from.

JESSUP AND THE ALLENDE CASE

One Carlos Allende (pronounced Aye-ender), alias, it is believed, Carl Allen, is alleged to be a Gypsy of Spanish origin, for long a citizen of the United States, and now to be lodged in a mental institution in Mexico. The final fact is on the say-so of a correspondent of long standing (not a member), whom we respect and whose opinions are accepted by a number of scientists and others in the Chicago area. The gentleman is currently in the Navy. We have more recently been informed that Dr. Condon has interviewed Allende but we have no official confirmation of this.

There are now no less than three books out that cover this case, the most recent by member Brad Steiger (90), entitled NEW UFO BREAKTHROUGH (Award Books, 1968). Yet, the story goes on and on without ever getting at the pith of the matter. We happen to have firsthand knowledge of this central theme, core, or pith, and we feel that it ought to be expressed to, if nothing else, cut off the endless stream of drivel that descends upon us regarding it.

The matter goes back to the early 1950s when one Morris K. Jessup received three letters from a small town in Pennsylvania, signed by a man as Carl Allen. These at first sight looked like typical crank letters; in fact, the average person would have taken them as jibberish. But then, Morris Jessup was one of the first real "thinkers" on the subject of what were then commonly called flying saucers, or to us, UFOs. He had already published three books on the subject.

Then, one day about two years later, he received — or at least he told a group of us that he had received — a request from the Office of Naval Research to call upon them. This he stated that he did, and he went on to tell us that persons in higher authority had handed him a copy of one of his books, THE CASE FOR THE UFO, that had been heavily marked up in three different colored inks. They asked him to take this back to quarters and go through it. This book had been received in a plain manila envelope by Admiral N. Furth, then Chief, O.N.R., Washington 25, D.C. This was postmarked Seminole, Texas.

As Morris Jessup went through this annotated copy he became increasingly alarmed because ever more of the comments appeared to concern matters of which he had heard but which were not mentioned in this book. Further, the person, or persons, who had penned these marginal notes and comments obviously knew a great deal about the then current "folklore" of UFOs, extraterrestrials, and many other related matters otherwise only mooted by assorted kooks, mystics, and suchlike. That these were true or not was not the point. The fact that they should be so precisely known to an unknown, was. Morris Jessup re-annotated the book, inserting and sticking typed slips of comment on about every tenth page. Then he reported in to the ONR.

Subsequent events then went as follows, according to him. The Navy people first asked if he had any idea as to who the annotaters of the book might be. Jessup did not know but he had an idea, and so left for home to go through his files. From these he extracted the three letters from this Carl Allen which seemed to him to refer to the same matters, in the same terms, and in the same strange phraseology. On submission of these, the Navy is said to have stated that they thought they had a common origin and, further, that the writer or writers were most likely Spanish Gypsies. They then sent the original copy of the book to the Varo Mfg. Corporation in Garland, Texas, where twelve copies were made by a girl specially employed to do the job (according to that corporation, in 1967) using black type for the text and red for the underlinings and annotations. This edition contained the Allende letters and an Introduction that is not signed or credited to anybody. (See next report.) The original and three copies were delivered to the ONR, Morris Jessup being handed the first copy. At least two copies were retained by the Varo Corp.,; one of which was loaned to one of our members in 1966 for a month. One landed in an outfit called B.S.R.A. in California. Either this or another was circulated among some "saucer" buffs and ended up with Gray Barker in West Virginia, who published a sort of dehydrated version.

This accounts for six or seven of the copies. To whom the rest were distributed, and how or why, is not on the record. In fact, it is not clear why this so-called Varo Edition was made in the first place. One turned up in a most unexpected quarter in western Europe. However, the most important

one was that given to Jessup. On receipt of this, Morris Jessup entered his re-annotations in it and added several more.

Then, in 1958 a whole series of most mysterious events took place. Morris Jessup was then resident in Indiana where he was an editor of an astrological publication. He owned a large house in Florida which was closed as his children had married and moved out of state and his wife had moved to another house nearer her place of business. Morris came to New York on a business trip to contact astrological outfits and publishers; the trip happened to coincide with a number of somewhat 'wild' flying saucer meetings and two serious-minded ufological ones. The most outlandish things then began to happen, which provide ample material for a full-length book in themselves. They ended in a really ghastly tragedy.

On a certain day — the date of which I will not specify here for reasons given below — Morris Jessup was a guest in my (ITS) home in New York. There were about a dozen people present, off and on, before, during, and after dinner. At one point Morris asked three of us if we could have a chat in my private office. To this we repaired; and he then handed us the original re-annotated copy, and asked us in great sincerity to read it, then lock it up in safe keeping "in case anything should happen to me". This appeared all very dramatic at the time but, after we had read this material, we must admit to having developed a collective feeling of a most unpleasant nature; and this was somewhat horribly confirmed when Jessup was found dead in his car in Florida six months later.

We have repeatedly been asked to disclose the name of the confidant who received this material of Jessup's for safe keeping, and we have just as repeatedly refused to do so — and we will continue to do so. The reason for this is nothing mysterious or actually anything much to do with the actual contents of that material. It is a purely personal matter. Morris was a devoted family man and especially solicitous of the future welfare of his grandchildren. At this our last meeting he was extremely distraught and admitted that, due to an originally pure intellectual interest in natural phenomena, he found that he had been sucked into a completely insane world of unreality. He expressed outright terror at the endless stream of 'coincidences' that had occurred in his work and in his private life; but, beyond this, he was distressed that he might be accused of outright insanity should he mention these aggravations and related matters.

What he actually said to us was in substance: I don't think I'm going balmy but I do believe all this nonsense is actually happening and is not a figment of my imagination. If you read this book you will see why I have been forced to this conclusion. Now, if I am right, I have a feeling that this just can't go on any longer without something unpleasant happening; and, if something does and anybody reads this material, they will immediately say that I obviously went around the bend; and once that has been even suggested, you know quite well that the average uninvolved citizen will immediately jump to the conclusion that there is insanity in my family.

This was a pretty tragic situation on the face of it even then. Naturally, we gave our solemn promise that Morris' request would be scrupulously observed; while he for his part, added the rider that only if certain persons he named requested in writing (and legally affidavited) that we do so, should the material be published.

Jessup was scheduled to drive back to Indiana two days later. However, after two weeks a business associate of his received a letter from his publisher asking where he might be as he had not returned. After a further interval of about a month another of his friends in New York learned that he was in Florida, had gone there directly from New York, had opened his house, and a few days later had been involved in a very serious car accident from which he was still recovering. Four months later still, his principal confidant in New York received a very depressed and depressing letter from Morris. This was in mid-April, 1959. In this he said that he had been unable to do any work since the accident and he made the remark that he was "a complete vegetable". In fact, this letter is a straight suicide note and asked outright that certain things be done as he was going to take the risk on "another existence or universe being better than this miserable world". There was a great deal more on this score. A week later Jessup was dead.

As soon as news got around among the saucerians and mystics with whom Jessup had associated, rumours began to fly, and the usual false tales began to appear. This was greatly enhanced by the false report that Jessup had been found dead in his car in a park. He was not; he was found in his car in a locked garage in his house. Most unfortunately, no precise statement has ever been issued as to whether a pipe had been led to the closed car from the exhaust or not; nor was it stated whether the garage was locked from the inside or the outside, or the car locked at all. These latter points may just never have been published, as his death did not receive more than perfunctory notice.

There is no known reason to suppose that his death was other than suicide, and a carefully planned suicide at that. He had been distraught and depressed for over a year due mostly to his publishers having turned down his manuscripts, though on the perfectly legitimate grounds that they were un-

organized and not up to his previous standard. Actually, he was pushing too hard when he wrote them, thus bringing on a vicious circle. Road traffic experts might well say that his accident was another link in this chain, as people should not drive if they are overly distraught, and the physical results of this accident certainly were very grave.

A group of us recently discussed the matter and all agreed that it was the Allende case that started this chain of events. Jessup had been an ebullient enthusiast prior to this, almost too enthusiastic and confident of his theories; but, after this, he seemed suddenly to doubt everything. He told us in his last meeting that he frankly just could not "think cosmically", explaining that the concepts put forward by Allende in his letters and the annotations in the book were beyond his comprehension but set at nought all he thought he had gained in knowledge of what he had always considered was a fairly straightforward and more or less 'insulated' business — namely, the UFOs. Morris K. Jessup was in our opinion a victim of the most deadly disease of the specialist.

THE VARO INTRODUCTION

For the benefit of our members — and they are a majority — who are not primarily interested in ufology and such, we reproduce herewith the pertinent paragraphs from the introduction to the Varo Edition of the annotated copy of Morris K. Jessup's book THE CASE FOR THE UFO, mentioned in the preceding report. This business, like so many others that only a few months ago were not for a moment suspected of being related, has recently fallen into line with a lot else. In fact, it is today hard to get through any popular article, or report, or even scientific paper without stumbling upon some link with one or more apparently (up till now) quite other matters. Bear in mind that, while this Introduction was not signed, it has all the hallmarks of an official statement; and well it should, since it preceded what is an official document. Herewith pertinent extracts from the text: —

"Notations that imply intimate knowledge of UFO's, their means of motion, their origin, background, history, and habits of beings occupying UFO's provide an interesting subject for investigation. Such notations were found in a copy of the paperback edition of M. K. Jessup's "Case for the UFO". Because of the importance which we attach to the possibility of discovering clues to the nature of gravity, no possible item, however disreputable from the point of view of classical science, should be overlooked.

It might be helpful for you to know a little about the nature of the notes before you begin reading this book. The notes refer to two types of people living in space. Specifically the "stasis neutral" and undersea are mentioned as habitats. They seem to live in both interchangeably. The building of undersea cities is mentioned. Many different kinds of ships are used as transportation. These two peoples, races or whatever they may be called, are referred to over and over again. They are called L-M's and S-M's.* The L-M's seem to be peaceful; the S-M's are not. It seems that the annotations are inclined toward the L-M's as they speak more kindly of them than the S-M's.

Terms such as: mothership, home-ship, dead-ship, Great ark, great bombardment, great return, great war, little-men, force-fields, deep freezes, undersea building, measure markers, scout ships, magnetic and gravity fields, sheets of diamond, cosmic rays, force cutters, undersea explorers, inlay work, clear-talk, telepathing, burning "coat", nodes, vortices, magnetic "net", and many others are used quite naturally by these men. They explain how, why, and what happens to people, ships, and planes that have disappeared. They explain the origin of odd storms and clouds, objects falling from the sky, strange marks and footprints, and other things which we have not solved.

These men seem to feel that it is too late for man to obtain space flight. They feel that mankind could not cope with "those mind wrecking conditions that space and sea contain" for mankind is too egotistical, values too much the material, wars over mere parcels of this planet, is too filled with jealousy, and lacks true brotherhood.

How much truth is there in this? That cannot be answered. It is evident that these men provide some very intriguing explanations; explanations that may be worth consideration."

We think that, however sceptical you may be of this whole business, you will admit that this is a pretty bald statement to be issued in, or even to be permitted to be issued in a publication that states

*It is interesting to note that, by pure coincidence, these are the abbreviations used by fortean biologists for "Land Monsters" and "Sea Monsters".

categorically that it was prepared on behalf of the Navy. It shows very considerable commonsense and a truly scientific attitude towards the unexplained, and it is a sad commentary that the general public either has not the time or the inclination, or probably the gumption to recognize this fact. The public had better wake up and start at least trying to understand such matters rather than wasting what spare time it does still have on escape literature.

ROGUE MISSILES

We have received a model report of a forfean happening from Member No. 213, Mrs. Charles A. Green of Trenton, N.J., which we publish herewith in toto but not only for this reason. The subject, although a very old one, happens to be very much alive currently. Also, it forms but one of a group of related subjects, an overall analysis of which is in process of final compilation and of which a capsulated version will form the substance of a forthcoming article in ARGOSY. Mrs. Green's report reads as follows:—

"At about noon on a cool, clear day in the fall of 1966, I had just come home from town. I had gone directly to my bedroom, and had just placed a parcel post package — which I had picked up on my way into the house — on my bed when there was an explosion in my room. At first I thought the parcel had exploded. I then saw a large hole in the glass of an upper window pane and a corresponding hole in the storm sash outside this pane, about four or five feet to my left.

Although my head had been in a direct line from the hole nothing had struck me, and there was not the slightest damage to sheer curtains covering the window.* However, pulverized glass completely covered the room, including my bed beside which I was standing. Some of this pulverized glass had even gone out into the hallway leading from the far end of my room and into the living room which opened off the hall.

A man was cutting the grass at the lower end of the yard at the time. I went out to ask him if the mower had thrown a stone. He said it had not. Furthermore, he said no one else was anywhere around.

The location of the hole in the two panes was about nine feet from the ground outside the window. The ground slopes downward from the house to the end of the yard. The holes were in exact alignment, which they would not have been if any missile had been thrown from the ground level.

A thorough examination of the environs by me, a neighbor, and two policemen revealed no source of the explosion.

1. There had been no sonic boom.
2. Nothing had struck the wall opposite the window (it would certainly have struck me first!).
3. There was no stone or any other missile to be seen anywhere in my room; nor between the window and the screen below the broken window and storm glass; nor on the grass beneath the window.
4. Clearly a bird had not flown through the glass.
5. Besides the fact that there was no missile, or evidence of any, no one could have thrown or shot anything through the window, unless he was in the tree outside and this was obviously not the case.
 - a. The holes were directly opposite each other, 9 feet above the ground.
 - b. Two trees in the yard near the house were in direct line from the window, one quite close to it. Even if someone were on the roof of the house on the next street, it would have been impossible for him to break the window at that exact point, because of these two trees and intervening trees between the yards; and the fact that my house stands higher than the neighboring house.

Glass is not by any means the only substance that shatters spontaneously but we are not actually concerned with "shattering" at the moment. Many cases of complete pulverization have well-known physichemical explanations — such as recrystallization, which causes car windshields suddenly to explode into a myriad little angular nubbins. Mrs. Green's case falls into a separate class of phenomena which appear to be caused by missiles. These, in turn, may be clearly divided into two types — material and found; and apparently non-material or at least evanescent and not found. The first lot

*Shortly before going to press we requested some further clarification on this key statement as underlined but will have to give the answer in our next issue.

can be stray bullets, the origin of which is not known or heard, or stones, or other items, including such bizarre things as statuettes and half a brassiere filled with small lead shot! All these rogue missiles are distinguished by making holes in things.

Another related matter is one that we have never found mentioned even in fortean literature and which has always intrigued us. This absence of reference is the more extraordinary in that it is not just a common but an almost universal phenomenon. Basically, it is simply broken windows. We all realize that windows break, and often spontaneously, for all manner of reasons — high winds, birds, a settling house, excessive heat on one side, and so on — but the fortean aspect enters the picture (or window) when another factor, and the one that has been overlooked, is taken into account. This is a real enigma: to wit, why is it that tens of thousands of summer homes, for instance, are closed-up for several months but that, unless vandalized, they lose only an occasional window pane from readily explicable natural causes; while, let a building be abandoned, and within weeks or even days a varying percentage up 100% of its windows may be broken? Furthermore, actual surveys have shown that this goes for isolated buildings in the depth of the country to crowded industrial city areas, and from bungalows to multistoreyed warehouses. (The tallest of which we have record was 14 storeys, in Brooklyn, N.Y.). The explanations put forward in no case hold water, especially the old saw about the heat having been turned off. Moreover, who last saw a “naughty little boy with a sling-shot”, and what embryo David could systematically knock in over a hundred windows at the top of a fourteen-storey building, fronting on two busy streets, without being heard? Then again, how do you slingshot windows outwards?

But to return to our main theme, rogue missiles, we must just put on record here that the percentage of cases wherein a person was injured or even hit is so incredibly low that it must constitute a feature of the phenomenon, and a truly fortean one at that. We urge members to contemplate these and related matters and to send us their findings. If any of you are police officers or have friends who are, try above all to make a survey of their blotters for cases; you will be very surprised at the number and the odd rhythms of these incidents both in time and in any one area. Like so many other fortean phenomena, they appear to display a marked regionality.

RINGING ROCKS AGAIN

We started a really monumental uproar (and this is a deliberate pun) earlier this year by giving as our prime example of an unexplained in our area the Ringing Rocks of Bucks County, Pa. This caught the fancy of the local press who ran about a dozen stories on these, while the NATIONAL OBSERVER mentioned them in a front-page column on S.I.T.U. which was picked up in Europe. This is somewhat amazing even to us since these extraordinary natural phenomena have been known since earliest colonial times and the best of them, at a place with the delightful name of Upper Black Eddy on the Delaware, is now a county park.

This location presents not just the oddity of tens of thousands of rocks that “ring” but at least a dozen other enigmas and paradoxes, too numerous and complicated even to outline here. (For full details, up to this year, we must therefore refer you to a pocket book entitled “THINGS”, by Ivan T. Sanderson, Pyramid Books, N.Y., 1967, 75¢ — H.S.S.) This is to report on what we are trying to do about one of these enigmas, namely the reason why nothing grows, and hardly any animal life lives on the ten acres of these rocks which are wholly surrounded by beautiful tall woods absolutely teeming with life.

Two years ago we set up an experiment in the shade of a large apple tree and in full sunlight at HQ, consisting of rocks that rang, and ordinary ones that did not, in glass fish tanks, both open and covered with sheets of glass, and the whole surrounded by a wire fence to keep out animals. All tanks were filled with water from the same source, a deep well giving water tested to show a pH of 7, and a nil bacterial count of a contaminatory nature — in other words as pure natural water as we had available short of distilled which was avoided for specific reasons. The intention was to ascertain whether the ringing rocks inhibited algal and other growth. Unfortunately half the apple tree was split off in a violent thunderstorm after only two weeks and demolished all but two of both sets of tanks.

This is merely to report that we have now set up the same experiment in the laboratory at HQ but on a limited control basis. To date, there is no sign of inhibition of growth in the ringing-rock tank, though it took twice as long for visible signs of life to get going therein. As of date it is, in fact, apparently rapidly overtaking the other tanks. We are next going to try pulverized rock on fungoid growths on agar under covered petri dishes in light and in total darkness. The next set of experiments will then be with higher plants and invertebrate animals. Later the effect, if any, on vertebrates will be tested.

Meantime, Richard Palladino (200) of the Forrestal Research Center of Princeton, has taken on

supervision of the overall investigation and of all chemophysical aspects of the research, thus leaving the rest of us to carry on its biological and geological aspects. Any members wishing and able to participate, even at long distance, are asked to get in touch with us, and any suggestions that any of you may have are more than welcome. But please first read the account in "THINGS" as we have no full report ready as yet, even of a purely informational nature.

STONES SPHERES – PART 2.

Another old enigma has cropped up again and from a most unexpected quarter. This is the matter of stone spheres, reported casually from time to time from all over the world but usually attributed to the demolition of some baronial mansion, princely palace, or latterday middle class municipal pretention. In one case, however, no such origin could be suggested due to the enormous number, great range of size – up to 16 feet in diameter – and location of said stones. This was in a very limited area in southeastern Costa Rica of Centroamerica. This phenomenon was first publicized by Dr. Samuel and Mrs. Lothrop, anthropologists ex Chicago, in 1955. Their account appeared in NATURAL HISTORY for September of that year, and in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of 17th December of the same year. Several feature articles have appeared on this location since, but all founded on the Lothrops' report, except for one by Danny and Arlene Liska in the Magazine of the Midlands of July, 1964, which gave some new firsthand information. The business was summarized and then analyzed in the pocket book "THINGS", mentioned above.

That which now exercises our contemplation is the appearance of some more, similar, perfectly spherical, stone balls in North America. This was brought to our attention recently, and quite separately by two of our most respected members, Barney Nashold (87) and Howard Peddle (172), the former currently "of no fixed abode" as he is travelling on a research project in Centroamerica; the latter of South Range, Wisconsin. Before telling their stories, which we had held up pending receipt of photographs, we must however interject some neglected items of a similar nature from the past. All of these were dredged up by good old FATE Magazine. These go as follows: –

First, a letter on p.122 of the April-May issue of 1952, which reads as follows:

"I wish to call to your attention some very peculiar spherical balls of sandstone perfectly round and about 10 to 12 inches in diameter which I observed several years ago while visiting at Mandan, N.D. Upon inquiry I was told that these also could be found at Cannonball, N.D. – in fact the town was so named because of them. Some said they were the work of giants, some of the glaciers. Now it seems to me that they were the work of human beings because of their round form and uniform size. Would it be possible that you have a correspondent who could send in an article on them?" /Signed/ A. C. Nelson, Palisade, Minn.

This resulted in: –

"In regards to the article by A. G. Nelson, Palisade, Minn., I can't tell him how or why the stone balls are found, but I can tell him they are not man made. My answer is just a guess but I believe they are the result of water rolling them round. I know where there are enough to pave a road from Miami, Fla., to the farthest corner of North Dakota. All of them are not round but I did at one time help dig a well 23 feet deep and we never did get through the round stones. Some of them are as much as six feet through and some the size of marbles. This place is about 38 miles north of Chattanooga, Tenn., on the Southern Railway. The town of Graysville is about the center of the most rocks. They are between Lone Mountain on the east and the Cumberland on the west and have caused much speculation as to how they got there." /Signed/ J.S. Russell, Orlando, Fla. (FATE, September 1952, pp. 116, 118)

And this in turn prompted: –

"We lived in eastern Montana for a good many years, and these 'marbles' are scattered all through this dry country. Noticed myself these balls never seemed to be on the lower ground, but found plenty of them on the little rounded hilltops all through this sandy, desert-like region. My children used the little ones for marbles. A great many of them explode with a gun-like report if put in a hot fire. (Italics ours) When my Dad was herding sheep in that country, he found an extra large one, some three or four inches in diameter. As he had always been curious about them exploding in the heat, he whittled through the ball deep enough so he could break it open. He swears that there was an object in the center, round and black, which glowed dully in the sunlight. He eventually lost it, but was certain it was a black pearl. If so, which is very logi-

cal, it would indicate that all this dry country was an ocean bed at one time. Dad ruined many a knife trying to find another 'pearl'. I for one believed his idea, though we never were successful in making another strike." /Signed/ K. Bodenhamer, Portland, Oregon. (FATE, October 1952, pp. 128-129)

Finally, we have a brief caption under a photograph of nine such stone balls which goes as follows:—

"MYSTERIOUS MONOLITHS. There could be a geological explanation for the sandstone balls pictured here (averaging about 16" in diameter — Editor), which were discovered by a highway crew near Hornbrook, California, but it is not immediately evident (sic). Joseph Wales, President of the Siskiyou County Historical Society (above) and Eugene Dowling, of Yreka (Eureka — Editor) study the Unusual phenomena. (Note: there is only one gentleman shown in the picture which is credited to ACME — Editor). The mysterious monoliths were blasted out of solid rock (italics ours), and apparently are incredibly ancient."

That these were blasted out of solid rock is most impressive, but if they are natural inclusions in some form of conglomerate, and were originally themselves of natural "geological" origin, we are constrained to ask a number of pertinent questions. First, what rock? Second, what sandstone were they composed of, and were they all of the same stone? Third, by what geological process could they have been made? Fourth, how did anybody know they were "incredibly ancient", and by what dating method? By the same token, we would like to know what happened to them; and this we are now pursuing through another of our most 'revered' members, Basil Hritsco (165) who just happens to reside in Hornbrook!

Now, there is a well-known 'geological' — but better called petrological and/or mineralogical — structure known as a geode. Many of these are perfectly spherical; they run up to many inches in diameter; they are found all over the world and in a very wide range of formations and strata of many ages; they have been known for centuries, and are so common that there are even stores catering to rock-hounds which specialize in them; and just about nothing can be found out about them in any encyclopedia or even standard geological, petrological, or mineralogical texts. For a couple of bucks you can get any that you buy in said stores cut in half, taking pot-luck on what you find inside. They may be solid or hollow, or have a fossil rolling about in them, or more often be lined with beautiful crystals, notably of quartz tending to the amethysts. Nobody has come up with a satisfactory suggestion as to just how they were formed except that they are 'petrified' concretions (speaking technically) and were originally formed of clay or mud that was rolled about on beaches composed of other material, by waves and tides. It is true that such spherical mud or clay balls may be found in limited localities all over the world today, and especially where there are strata of clay in cliffs above sand beaches. They also appear on mudflats at low tide off mangrove swamps. But, these things are never homogeneous but are true concretions constructed in layers one within the other like old-fashioned golf balls.

The only suggestion for the natural production of homogeneous rock balls that we have heard of and that makes any sense is that they are boulders which got lodged in what are called potholes on the rock bottoms of backwaters of streams with strong main currents or in the floors of caves into which torrents periodically flowed. These potholes are themselves very mysterious as they may indeed be perfectly spherical and yet have only comparatively small entrances on top center. It is a very rare event to find a single stone in one, and it has always been assumed that they are scoured out by fine gravel, coarse sand, and/or silt, and in times of flood. (Incidentally, they are also very common, upside down, on the roofs of caves, but that is another enigma.) Could there have been vast potholes in large caves into which enormous subangular boulders dropped and which were then ground round and round for centuries, in a manner similar to the manufacture of ball-bearings, until they were perfectly spherical? Water has terrific dynamic power. But how do they get out of their dungeons and onto the surface?

Anyhow, homogeneous stone spheres have now turned up in Cedar Point, near Mendota, Illinois. The first was found by one Mr. Ted Braun while hunting mushrooms. It was half sunk into a stream bank and on being dug out led to the discovery of some Amerindian artefacts. It "appears to be of granite", weighs 70 lbs., and has a circumference of 34 inches. It is perfectly spherical. Actually, it is of "finegrained brown stone". Photographs were submitted to (rather delightfully) Dr. Von Stone of the department of anthropology at the Field Museum in Chicago who stated that judging from these photos alone, the stone was not of Indian origin and must therefore have been an ornament of pioneer make. Barney Nashold adds to this: "I took this to be an admission that the stone was worked by man".

Despite the further facts that a large tile was found in the bank nearby and that there was also a

concrete slab that appeared to be a footing for a bridge not remembered by anybody in the area, the notion of "pioneers" having the time or inclination to peck out 70-pound spheres and then adorn a tiny bridge with them a century ago, seems to us to be somewhat exaggerated. Barney Nashold is looking into this further.

Another spherical stone, but with evidence of having had a pedestal or stem only recently broken off, turned up on a beach on the southern shore of Lake Superior near the mouth of the Brule River. It is said to have first been spotted by a Miss Sandra Koskie and a Mr. Dick Sydle who drew the attention of Mr. Roy A. Johnson of nearby Maple to it. He took it back to his house where he has carefully preserved it. It is 50 inches in circumference but extremely heavy and estimated to weigh about 200 pounds. It has an off-equatorial belt of squarish holes lined with some black deposit, separated by light ridges. Above and below this are said to be pittings such as are seen on some stony meteorites. The fractured "stem" is a circular depression with a sharp raised edge on one side, and about four inches in diameter. Howard Peddle knows Mr. Johnson and has examined the stone several times and obtained some excellent photographs of it which we have forwarded to Andrew Rothovius (100) and Bob Stone (no less!) of NEARA — see Cumulative Bibliography, below.

Two theories as to the origin of this object seem to prevail. One is that it is man-made, the other that it is of meteoric origin; the latter due mostly to its excessive weight for its size. Howard Peddle currently leans to the opinion that it is manmade and he suggests that it might have come to the locality among stone ballast in a ship from England as there was once a settlement there from which lumber was exported. Somewhat similar stone balls are occasionally found on the south coast of England where they have been tentatively explained as Roman ballista shot, some of which are known to have weighed up to 300 lbs. and to have been hurled by the mighty Onager up to 500 yards.

MECHANICAL DOWSING

Another set of experiments that were prosecuted some years ago at HQ (but before the establishment of S.I.T.U.) were devised to prove that dowsing does not need a human operative. This is not to say that the mechanics may not be reproduced using a human being — or even an animal, or a plant, which is also under experimentation as a separate project — rather than a machine. These experiments seemed to have been conclusive but we hesitated to publish in the absence of carefully controlled replication, duplication, or reduplication at other locations at the time, and also due to the number of technical refinements that were suggested by the engineers who participated. We are now moving towards such replication at HQ. The initial experiments were set up as follows (in brief): —

The essence of these was simply that a taut wire was stretched, from exactly north to south and precisely horizontal to the center of the earth, over 150 feet, five feet off the ground, between two 4"x4" posts sunk four feet into the ground and braced with pegged wires with turnbuckles behind. On this was suspended a small clockwork 'motor' with simple apparatus beneath it to carry two "L" rods*, sufficiently 'seized' as not to be blown about, but be free enough to move on other outside impulse.

This wire was erected over a front lawn under which three pipes ran almost at right angles from the house to wells or drains below at about a 20-ft. drop. These were: —

- (a) an iron pipe carrying water from a kitchen sink that could be empty, or have running water in it.
- (b) an iron pipe from a dug well that was perpetually filled with standing water when the pump in the house was not running.
- (c) a ceramic drain pipe (4" in diameter) normally dry but into which water could be poured by hand or hose.

When the clockwork machine was wound up and set on the wire, all personnel was removed to either one side or other, some 250 feet (this was in a small valley), and observed the action with binoculars from both sides.

Results: In every run, the "L"s moved exactly as predicted. There were numerous permutations — viz: standing water, water being pumped uphill, water running downhill, empty iron pipes, empty

* "L" rods are just that, and may be made of almost any substance — glass, plastic, copper, brass, and so forth, though welding rod seems to be the most sensitive. In human manipulation, they are held upright by the shorter tynes and with the long ones pointing forward, parallel to each other and as horizontally as possible. They have been used in arsenals for years to locate pipes and cables laid below thick concrete floors that have been lost on building blueprints. They work with anybody, and unfaillingly.

ceramic pipes, et alia. This was accomplished completely without human touch or interference.

This is an appeal to any members who might be able to duplicate these experiments, not only to do so but to keep the most careful records with photographic and cinematographic coverage. The experimenters and invited observers should be asked to sign their reports and have them affidavited. We will supply a mimeographed set of instructions for setting up the experiment. This may be of a great deal more importance than you think, since the military have been using the crude human method in Viet Nam to detect ammunitions caches, tunnels, and mines, etc; and a demonstration that more precise, safe, and reliable results can be obtained with a simple mechanical device would not only save lives but provide a very potent defensive mechanism.

We might point out here that the existence of dowsing in nature has been right under our noses since ever, but the matter has always been pushed into the realm of the mystical and kooky. The chemiphysicists have merely sneered at it and nobody seems to have even asked the biologists to take a hand. So how, may we ask, do plant roots unerringly find water and sometimes up to hundreds of feet distant; and how do desert animals, all the way from insects to human beings — the Bushmen and the Australoids — do likewise? Further, it does not matter what any physicist may say, a linear stretch of water — and possibly other substances — is surrounded by a cylindrical force-field of some kind that diminishes in intensity at right angles by the square of the distance. Whether non-linear bodies of water are similarly surrounded is another matter. Further, there is a recordable difference between standing and running water. So let us get human beings, and especially the kooks, psychologists, and even the ESP boys, out of it, and get on with the job.

MORE GLOBSTERS

In February of 1962 a most colossal uproar broke out in the press initially in Tasmania but which then spread all over the world via the wire services. The most incredible rubbish was published about this business by just about everybody, ranging from absolutely topnotch professional zoologists and government scientists and technologists, to the most ragged little newspapers. It finally ended up in FATE Magazine, for August of 1962. The item in question was a vast glob of allegedly hair-covered flesh. Now another such object has turned up on a beach on the East Cape of North Island, New Zealand. This was described by the AUCKLAND STAR as follows: —

WHAT IS IT? Theories on this object slowly sinking into soft sand on Muriwai Beach varied today from "a sea monster" through to it being an unusual elephant which had died at sea. The monster is 15 miles up the beach. It is 20 feet long and has a tough $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick hide. Under this is a thin layer of what appears to be fat, then solid meat. Protruding about three feet above the sand, which is slowly engulfing it, it is covered with sand-matted grey hair four to six inches long. Cut from the hide and washed clean, the hair has a soft woolly texture. Shown photographs today, Auckland University's zoology department head, Professor J. E. Morton, said: "You can rule out whales because of the hair, and you can rule out sea elephants and sea cows because of its size. I can't think of anything it resembles." Marine and Forestry Department officials are also mystified by it. Other zoo, museum and university experts were unable to get to the beach to examine it today. A Marine Department officer, who first saw the hairy shapeless mass more than a week ago, says it then measured 30ft. by about 8ft. A senior forestry officer who saw it yesterday said he at first thought the monster might be a whale. "But where have you ever seen a whale in a fur coat?" he asked.

This is perfectly splendid as monster stories go, since it actually gives some facts and some technically trained persons (in at least some expertise) actually went and looked at it. However, it contains the usual quota of drivel, when it comes to theorizing. In fact one statement constitutes a new classic of the very highest order; to wit, the statement underlined above. From this, one engages the delightful vision of a hairy elephant (of which there aren't any) paddling furiously across the Indian, South Atlantic, and South Pacific Oceans intent upon beaching on the shores of sunny but cool New Zealand. We are surprised that some buffoon did not this time suggest that it was the remains of "a hairy mammoth melted out of an Arctic glacier" as was opined by a doctor of zoology in the last Tasmanian case. The other fine innuendo is contained in Professor Morton's observation, though this doubtless went over the heads of all but vertebrate zoologists. We refer to the near-classic: "You can rule out whales because of the hair, and you can rule out sea-elephants and sea-cows because of its size." It's the second phrase that contains the nonsense.

First, Sea-Elephants can grow to about 20-ft but they have no more hair than the whales. Second, Sea-Cows (i.e. Sirenians) are also hairless but for bristly whiskers. Thus the statement is a non sequitor. What the man means is simply that we don't as yet know of any marine animal of that size that has a full hair covering. A much more pertinent question is, was it real and true hair or was it the shredded fibers of blubber leached of all fatty tissue, which looks so like hair and is common to long-dead beached whales? Was any preserved, and if so where is it? In accordance with our motto, we are pursuing this matter furiously and will report.

In the meantime, a splendid little publication named THE LOG published by the Explorers Trademart, Ltd., in Silver Springs, Md. dredged up a couple more hairy Globster cases which were reported by Michael Harvey briefly in their April, 1968 issue, Vol. II, No. 4 as follows: —

“A Mr. Paul Terry, of Marrickville, wrote to the Sydney Sun saying that he discovered a similar monster on Dunk Island in 1948. “It was like a huge jellyfish, with several slits and no eyes, and had tough skin, covered with fur. A Government scientist looked at it and said he was sure it was a malformed embryo whale. It took four of us ten days to get rid of it. We tried to burn it with petrol, but it wouldn't burn. It was a huge carcass and must have weighed tons. Finally, we broke it up by using explosives and axes. Most of it we dumped three miles out to sea well away from the sharks.”

Two Melbourne men, Neil Rogers and Hilton Nicholas, also netted something akin to “The Thing” in 1958. Mr. Rogers described it as shaped like a bowler hat with a tail on it. It was about 6-feet high and weighed about half to three-quarters of a ton. It had a thick, smooth, un-hairy leathery hide, grey-white on the underside, and a dirty grey brown on the top. The “monster” showed no signs of life when they dragged it ashore. They could not see any mouth or eyes, nor did it have flippers or fins. They were so intrigued with their catch they took color pictures of it. When they returned to Hobart, they reported it to the marine authorities, who could not identify it.

The remains of yet another mysterious “creature” have been found on a lonely beach 23-miles east of Hopetoun, 362-miles southeast of Perth, Australia. So far there has been no rush by scientists to view this “Hopetoun monster” but a party of farmers made a rough trip by jeep to take pictures of it. It is described as about 8-feet, by 4-feet, by 4-feet deep, covered with long, coarse brown hair, seven inches long. It has what appears to be part of a neck three feet long, and a whitened skull about 12-inches wide, by 4-inches thick. The original find was made in January.”

It is manifest that something has to be done about these Globsters and the man to do it is Dr. Bernard Heuvelmans, our Adviser (58) who, we are happy to announce, will be paying his first visit to the United States this coming October for the publication of his new and monumental tome on Sea Monsters.

A S.I.T.U. EXPEDITION

We have just concluded detailed plans and budget for a SITU expedition to Centromerica. Should this be activated as currently promised, we will of course be reporting fully. There is one of the twenty principal locations to be investigated that is, however, of particular interest and should be mentioned now in case members particularly interested in archaeology might wish to obtain prior information. This is an area of several square miles — the exact limits not known, as nobody has ever taken the trouble to survey them — of flint axe-, spear-, and arrow-heads, scrapers, burins, flakes and so forth, covering the surface of a level, loam-covered terrain without any natural local stones, and overlying friable limestone-marl. No flint (or chert or obsidian) is to be found within 300 miles of this location, yet so massive is this ‘deposit’ of hand-worked stones that they may be shovelled up by the bucketfull and were used as road-bedding over several miles in the mid-1930s.



SOCIETY NEWS

Second Quarterly Board Meeting, 1968

This was held at the Society Research Center, Columbia, New Jersey, on the 1st and 2nd of June. Once again, the planned schedule for the quarterly meetings could not be strictly adhered to, due to various causes that prevented the majority of the members attending the 30th April meeting. Since all members of the Board are otherwise employed, and so many of them in the news business which is completely unpredictable, it is extremely difficult to gather even a quorum on any specified date. Such dates are: the nearest Saturday to the 30th of January, April, July, and October. However, the next meeting is scheduled for the 24th and 25th of August, and we hope to hold the fourth in New York about the end of November.

Present at the last meeting were: — President, Oliver G. Swan; Director, Ivan T. Sanderson; Deputy Director, Edgar O. Schoenenberger; Treasurer, Alma V. Sanderson; Secretary, Edna L. Currie; Editor, Hans Stefan Santesson; and Promotion Manager, Jack A. Ullrich. Walter J. McGraw could not attend due to very serious illness in his family, and Peter Kamitchis was rushed to a clinic the night before with an aggravated dental abscess. At the last minute, John Keel “got the call” and, being in the news business, had to answer it.

The Board, as legally constituted, has eleven members, the Chairman of the day having a decisive vote in case of a tie. As of this meeting we were short one member, due to the resignation of Mr. Desmond Slattery. The names of three members who had offered to serve were put before the board and by unanimous vote Mr. William F. Peck, Jr., was elected. Bill Peck is in the optical business, and has greatly aided our efforts in the past in various ways, both technically and from a business point of view. A number of resolutions were passed.

In view of the very generous donation of stock by one of our original sponsors, the treasurer was instructed to set up new books and have a complete audit done before the next meeting. This stock, of a leading publishing house, is being held in trust. In view of this, the creation of a separate Trust to handle bequests and investments which was in the process of being set up, is being held in abeyance. Under the laws of New Jersey, the Board is termed, and actually is, a Board of Trustees. Thus, it is empowered to handle finance, as well as policy and other routine matters.

Membership: This has been transferred to headquarters — now to be called the Research Center — in New Jersey, and put under the joint auspices of the Treasurer and the Assistant to the Director since our Secretary is resident in New York and holds a very responsible position in one of the leading hospitals which, combined, made it impossible for her to maintain the day to day routine. Not only new membership but services to members, correspondence with the Scientific Advisory Board, and other matters have to pass through headquarters in any case. Membership has made an unexpected leap forward, which has necessitated some very urgent and solid planning. The law of diminishing returns applies very forcibly to the activities of an organization such as ours and unless such is properly set up to handle the volume, and well in advance, the whole effort can either become reduced to complete chaos or forced to an untimely end.

A strong plea was made to the Board to search out new potential members, bearing in mind that ours is not the sort of organization that can put on the standard type of promotional drive. The classic “Send One Dollar” (but not saying for what) is not for us; and all joining us should do so through personal initiative and desire and only after they have apprised themselves of our intent, appraised our performance, and satisfied themselves of our potential value to their special interests.

Personnel: During 1967, Miss Susan Brown was employed by the director as a personal assistant in his own work. She volunteered to devote her overtime to the Society and, at the end of the summer season stayed on at the Research Center as official Assistant to the Director to handle society affairs. Sue left us on the 12th April, and the same day Miss Marion Fawcett joined us. Susan Brown left to take advanced computer programming courses and then to go to Europe. Marion Fawcett, an oldtime correspondent and member, has worked in hospital administration, as a technical editor of medical texts, and was, until she joined us, Secretarial Assistant to the Librarian of the American Philosophical Society. Marion has taken charge of all executive aspects of the Society’s work, thus freeing the director for other duties. She is thus handling all data reception, its preliminary processing — analysis being handled by Peter Kamitchis, and special items then forwarded to the appropriate members of the Scientific Advisory Board — and outgoing replies. Material for dissemination via publication is also preliminarily prepared at HQ and then channeled to Editor, Hans Stefan Santesson.

Establishment: Edgar Schoenenberger reported on the current status of our properties and, despite a rather furious letter — from a non-member we may say — this should be reported. Said letter stated bluntly that the correspondent could not care less how many dog-pens we had, and so forth. It should

therefore be stated quite clearly that we consider such items of just as much importance as the acquisition of new books and reports. The founding members, and a very high percentage of those who have joined subsequently, have contributed endless hours of manual labor to our effort. In fact, we have literally built all that we have with our own hands, and this goes for things like dog-pens as well as office furniture, laboratories, and book-binding machinery. We are proud of this fact, and it appears there are still a lot of people who respect what used to be called "the dignity of labor". Furthermore, dog-pens are essential to our efforts in breeding pedigreed Retrievers for the SEEING-EYE, which is our principal charitable enterprise.

The current situation regarding our properties was simply summed up by Eddie Schoenenberger in the age-old howl...MONEY. The specific reason on this occasion is equally simple; namely that we are literally bursting at the seams! The old house is now lined from floor to ceiling in every room — and there are eight — with bookshelves, wherever there is a fragment of space between essential furnishings.

We have seven possible outlets for immediate expansion, and apart from the large projected Research Center Building that was described in the last issue. The status of these is as follows: —

(1) The Annex. This is a 60 x 20 ft, concrete, one-story building 200 feet behind the old house. It is divided into 20' x 20', and 20' x 40' rooms, the latter with a garage door. A concrete floor has now been laid in this by Eddie and his father, a master stone mason, and other voluntary labor. A larger room is for storage; the smaller is to be lined-out and set up as a bed-sitting room with office facilities and bookshelves as a library extension. Non-reference works have already been moved there. The larger room is already almost filled with items taken from (2), (3), and (4) below, which includes animal handling equipment, cages, and so forth.

(2) The Attic. There is a 35 x 20 ft attic in the old house that has a six foot high peaked roof. This is dry and well ventilated, and is to be floored, lined, and ceilinged for storage of periodicals in bulk.

(3) The Cellar. This is also 35 x 20 feet, with a concrete floor. It has just been cleared, and now houses a workshop with wood and metal working tools; electrical supplies; and storage space for excess stationery and other stock which has overflowed from the Stockroom upstairs.

(4) The Tool-Shed. This was constructed two years ago to house a new large lawn mower. It had to be reconstructed to make room for an extraordinary amount of other garden and farm tools and machinery. All such has now been moved from all other places through which it was (illogically) scattered.

(5) The Potting-Shed. This is actually a sprung-steel, city bus body, stripped inside, painted, and set up as a laboratory — and a better bargain the Society never got! As of now, one end is set up as a general biological lab; the rest, on the one side as a potting-shed, and on the other for our work with "Natural Treasures" — an enterprise that will be reported on at another time.

(6) The Field Lab. This is another, identical, city bus, still on its wheels, and with a functional steering wheel. It was once fitted out as the ticket-booth, reception room, and office for our private zoo. It is being refitted as a mobile laboratory as it already has toilet, shower, a heating unit, air-conditioning, a refrigerator, cooking stove, a small bedroom and closets and all other facilities for one or two people. The intention is that this can be moved around our land, or towed elsewhere by a tractor for the convenience of students undertaking field work.

(7) An Office Extension. This is the most urgently needed item of all. While there must presumably be an end to juggling needed material and machinery, we still have some space to fill in existing buildings, as outlined above. But, one thing that we cannot achieve with any amount of ingenuity is enhanced working and library space for reference material. And this we have just got to have. There is only one possibility, and this is to build a 20' x 20' extension to the present office (going south) which is the only direction in which we can do so without blocking out light, and where heat and other service facilities can be hooked to the existing outlets without undue expense. Plans for this are drawn, but when we came to compute the cost, even EOS who is in the construction business, was truly horrified. In view of these hard facts, we decided to go out deliberately and seek special funds for this item.

Library: Marion Fawcett reported to the Board on recent additions to the library and files. Fifty-two books had been added and three collections of periodicals. Members are urged to donate, or obtain from others, any works they do not need, have no room for, or wish to be housed. The most important item in MLF's report was, however, the status of the filing. There are now 84 ring-binders in which about three-quarters of the fortean material has been arranged. There are still four 4-drawer filing cabinets to come, containing the rest of the fortean, a mass of semi-forteon, and straight scientific material. After that there are three files of cut-pictures and photographs; the map collection; and the 'separates' which are being catalogued and then boxed according to subjects. The periodicals have

been completed. The four correspondence files have finally been gleaned, sorted, dated, and stapled.

Publication: As is explained under the title "Publishing Schedule" on the inside of the back cover, the Newsletter, per se, has now been discontinued. Society news will be confined to this column in each quarterly issue of PURSUIT. This periodical has been, and will continue to be enlarged, and its numbering brought into line with a quarterly – so that numbers 5, 6, 7, and 8 will represent 1969. The new heavier-stock cover contains only permanent material and so can be detached before filing or binding the main body of the text. The pagination as of next year will be continuous.



CUMULATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

This column was initiated in a very haphazard manner but, as reported in our last issue, the response was so overwhelmingly acceptable that we decided to make it a regular feature. However, sooner or later – and probably by the next 30th January, 1969 issue, which will be No. 5 – all items listed to that date will have to be reissued, as a supplement, in some semblance of order. We believe that this may be accomplished in the form of the standard two listings – by subject, and by author. From then on, new titles would automatically find their place in a cumulative catalogue. Periodicals will from now on be treated as single items.

We have accumulated a very long list of "preferred reading" while cataloguing our own library and going through our files. However, this is being reserved for the next issue, which will probably be a supplementary one, numbered 4-A, and will be devoted, to a considerable extent, to bibliographic matters and to publishing. Therefore, we herewith list Periodicals of special interest to fortians.

(1) Scientific Journals. An increasing number of such periodicals are quietly publishing papers having wildly fortian content, and/or findings and hypotheses of a very advanced nature. Among these are SCIENCE of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the British NATURE; but most outstanding is probably ENDEAVOUR, issued free to registered scientists only, by Imperial Chemical Industries of the U.K. For more specialized interests, it is most desirable that members subscribe to or peruse regularly any and all journals dealing with their subjects, as incredible information is now turning up in the most prosaic quarters, and notably among the engineering fraternity.

(2) Popular Science. Highly recommended are the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, SCIENCE NEWS, and SCIENCE DIGEST. These are essential as ready, up-to-date reference as to what is going on, though the first is somewhat pompous, the second somewhat erratic, and the third somewhat corny while it leans over backwards to debunk anything and everything that does not fit into established acceptance during the previous decade.

(3) Popular Publications. Those that cover fortian items from time to time in this country are, ARGOSY, FATE, SAGA, TRUE, and, curiously, the NATIONAL ENQUIRER. All are primarily geared to other interests, notably FATE which emphasizes and is almost wholly devoted to mysticism, the occult, and other matters falling in Segment No. VIII of the classification which we use, named Mentality. The weekly newspaper, the NATIONAL ENQUIRER, presents a curious case. It has been steadily drawing away from sex and mayhem over the years and now publishes articles of some considerable depth and intelligence and often under established names in science and technology. They do a very good reporting job, and a two-year check has shown that most of their references now hold up, so that they are a valuable source for further enquiry.

(4) Society Journals. Of the now enormous and positively seething mass of periodicals and newsletters, a few stand out as being eminently sane and worthwhile. Among these, we recommend for those interested in the UFO phenomenon the A.P.R.O. BULLETIN, issued by the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, of 3910 East Kleindale Road, Tucson, Arizona; the U.F.O. INVESTIGATOR, issued by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.; but above all, FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, of 21 Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London W.C.2, England. For the historical and archaeological buffs, the excellent small publication entitled NEARA NEWSLETTER, published quarterly by the New England Antiquities Research Association, of 4 Smith Street, Milford, New Hampshire, is thoroughly recommended. Finally, the only wholly and completely fortian publication that we know of is entitled THE INFO JOURNAL, published by the International Fortean Organization, 801 North Daniel Street, Arlington, Virginia.



PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

For the information of librarians in particular, we would like to put on record an explanation of the sequence and numbering of our publications. When an organization is starting out, there is almost invariably some unavoidable confusion due to the necessity for changes brought about by the growth of the organization and the evolution of its intent. We had always envisaged, from the outset, the publication of a journal but, due to the prolonged vicissitudes of organization, we deemed it advisable to issue Newsletters in the meantime to keep members apprised of what was going on. We did not expect this phase to be so prolonged — August, 1965 to April, 1967 — but today many extraneous matters have to be attended to if any organization is to be properly established and all rules and regulations complied with. Thus, we issued two Newsletters — numbered 1 and 2 — on the 30th May, 1967; and the 30th March, 1968. The third, appropriately numbered 3, was issued on the 1st of June, 1968. This was named "PURSUIT".

The current issue is the second issue of this Quarterly Journal, under the name of "PURSUIT" but is numbered No. 4 for convenience. It incorporates what would otherwise have been the contents of a fourth newsletter, in pages 18 and 19 of this issue. From now on the newsletter, per se, will be discontinued.

The new format of PURSUIT is designed for easy separation and filing or binding. The new heavier-stock cover records nothing but that which is normally called the "masthead" on a magazine, at the front; and working information, such as this, on the inside of the back-flap. The contained material is paginated separately, from 1 to 20 in this issue; but, starting with the first issue in 1969 — No. 5 — will be continuously paginated throughout the year.

The Society has reached a number of agreements for reciprocity in exchange of periodical publications with organizations of like size and standing. For larger organizations and for libraries, PURSUIT is available at a standard rate of \$1.50 per issue, including postage, or the annual rate of \$5.00 for four issues and any subsidiary or intermediate issues or incidental papers.