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TOPSIDE

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SOME THOUGHTS ON SPRINGTIME AND YOUTH

Throughout the ages, Man has always turned to the Spring of the year with renewed hope for the future. With Spring comes the early promise of summer days ahead and the final rich harvest of God's bounty. It is the youthful, tender season of the year which, if carefully nurtured, brings forth a garnering of great goodness. Let us then apply the simile of the seasons of the year to Man's own life-span on Earth and focus on its springtime, i.e., our present young generation.

From time immemorial, it has been the unfailing custom of the older generations to throw up their hands in horror at the behaviour of the youthful generation and predict a gloomy future for them, but is this really fair and do the facts of history bear out its truth? Hardly so, for each generation of youth on reaching maturity, has produced a plentiful crop of fine men and women, many of whom have become world leaders and first-class citizens. Nowadays, it is all too easy to dismiss the younger set as a bunch of shaggy-maned, guitar-twanging, hip-gyrating morons, but are they so very different from their Charleston-kicking, ukulele-strumming parents in their youth? And what have we, the older generations, given Youth as its inheritance on this planet? A world torn with strife and with the ever-present shadow of a nuclear holocaust on the horizon. Is it any wonder then that many of our younger people are restless and rebellious? But let us take a closer look at the young generation. We certainly don't see a bunch of weaklings, but rather some strong-minded, reasonably intelligent, independent individuals who want to find out the facts of life their own way, and even if, like most of us in our youth, they make a few mistakes along the line, they are only treading the same pathway of evolution and experience that all previous generations have trod.

According to messages purporting to come from the Space Brothers, there is a further message of hope concerning Earth's young people, for they say that it is the young generation who in time, may save the world from colossal disaster. There are some interesting facets to the situation for the Space Brothers claim that over the past two decades a new breed of homo sapiens whose original forebears lived on another planet (whose evolution has been very similar to ours but a little more advanced in some respects), have been and are now being born on Planet Earth and whose eventual mission will be to divert their elders and world leaders from the pathway to cataclysmic disaster on which they are now travelling. As proof of this, the Space Brothers point to certain physical differences which may be seen, by the observant, in the faces of the younger people. This new breed evolved previously from a planet on which there was little of the mixed religious creed and dogma that we know, but a greater understanding of the practical humanities of life. Their future role on Earth will be one of strong but non-violent revolt against the injustices, the war-mongering and the exploitation of the masses. Already, the Space Brothers point out, we can see the beginnings of this passive revolt which, they predict, will stem mainly from the universities of the world. They claim further that there is already born on this Earth a male child with an unusually evolved mind and a great flair for leadership whose destiny it will be in later years to attend an English-speaking university at which he will gather around him a small group of followers whose joint ideas and concepts for a better world will gradually extend to universities all over the world and that this collective force will effectively demand a New Way of Life for Planet Earth. The Space Brothers stress that this will not be a religious revival or reformation, as we know these terms, but a practical, humanitarian step towards a strengthened Brotherhood of Man which in turn will lead to the complete acceptance

of the Fatherhood of God throughout the entire Universe. They do not promise that this will be achieved quickly or easily - it will be a long and bitter fight, but it is our only hope for survival. Rather than condemn and criticise our youth, they think we should be grateful to a God of Mercy who has seen fit to send us a source of help in our hour of need and that we should pray fervently that when their Hour of Destiny arrives, our younger people will be given sufficient strength to fulfil their special mission on Planet Earth.

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NEW ZEALAND'S SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO COSMIC UNDERSTANDING

One of New Zealand's most active UFO groups is that known as "The New Zealand Scientific Approach to Cosmic Understanding" or NZSATCU, with headquarters in Timaru, N.Z. This group holds regular monthly meetings in Christchurch, N.Z., with bi-monthly meetings in Timaru, and it publishes an excellent bi-monthly Newsletter which is packed with well-documented scientific articles on the UFO mystery and other related subjects gathered from many parts of the world.

NZSATCU, which is a non-profitting, non-political and non-sectarian organization, states that their publication is "issued for the purpose of a scientific approach to and an understanding of spacecraft and their significance in our world" and while it is interested in Cosmic Philosophy and messages purporting to come from the Space Brothers, it emphasizes that it is not a spiritualistic group. The bi-monthly Newsletter is very ably edited by the leaders of the group, Fred and Phyllis Dickeson and contains a wealth of interesting and informative data. It may be obtained on a subscription basis for the nominal sum of seven shillings and sixpence (NZ funds) per year, payable in advance, and readers interested in receiving copies of this bulletin should send their subscriptions to:- New Zealand Scientific Approach to Cosmic Understanding, 33 Dee Street, Timaru, New Zealand. Anyone subscribing to this publication automatically becomes a member of the NZSATCU and receipt of the Newsletter is in fact a stipulation for membership. We in Ottawa receive this Newsletter on an exchange basis for Topside and can highly recommend it as an excellent source of up-to-date news on UFOs and related subjects.

Apart from their Newsletter, the NZSATCU also publish from time to time what they describe as "Inspirational Writings by Mr. X" copies of which may be obtained for 1/6d each. These inspirational writings are relayed through the anonymous Mr. X and purport to come from a couple of space people who call themselves "The Two Friends" and who make contact with Mr. X by a number of mysterious means when they are ready to inspire him with further thoughts. At these times, Mr. X sits at his typewriter and "amazingly enough he just begins typing with no thought whatever of what is coming next." He claims he does not have to think at all - he just types what comes through to him inspirationally. Mr. X's inspirational writings are direct and forthright, making bold statements, some of which may be contradictory to a number of the religious and spiritual beliefs held by many on this planet, but to anyone who is making a diligent search for the truth and who is prepared to read them with an open mind, they make extremely interesting and thought-provoking reading.

THE MYSTERIOUS CHUNK OF HARDWARE AT OTTAWA.

On the outside property of the Headquarters of the Ottawa New Sciences Club there lies a large piece of metal - an unidentified object which has so far baffled all attempts at positive identification and over which an aura of mystery hangs as to its exact composition, purpose, origin and most of all, the unusual circumstances surrounding the finding of this large chunk of hardware in the St. Lawrence River of Quebec. This piece of metal measures about 4 ft. by 6 ft. and is roughly oval in shape, somewhat like an inverted mushroom, i.e., flat on top and roughly hemispherical on the underside. A plug or post about 9" in diameter, at 90° to the flat surface, penetrates the centre of the mass and extends through top and bottom surfaces. A smaller protuberance, which may be the remains of a 2½" pipe, appears out of the flat surface near the plug. The weight is estimated at about 3,000 pounds. The whole is made up of layers of material which evidently have been subjected to very high temperatures and pressure. The material is ferrous, extremely hard, and resistant to all attempts to cut or dismantle it. It is faintly magnetic until melted when it seems to acquire approximately the magnetic permeability of mild steel.

As a couple of articles on this mystery metal have recently appeared in French language newspapers containing a number of inaccuracies with regard to the facts of the case as we know them in Ottawa, we propose to give our readers a brief account of the history of the metal as far as we know it.

According to an early account which appeared in a French language newspaper in Quebec - on June 12, 1960, between 3 and 4 a.m., EDT, a sonic boom rocked the area around Quebec City. At about the same time, a fiery object fell out of the sky splitting at about one to two thousand feet altitude, into two pieces, one somewhat larger than the other. Both fell into the St. Lawrence River, near Les Ecureils, about 20 miles up river from Quebec City. The smaller piece was quite close to the shore and visible at low tide; the other lay close to the shipping lane and was completely submerged.

It should, however, be pointed out that when, shortly afterwards, a group of Club members carried out an investigation at the actual location, they were unable to find anyone in the Les Ecureils area who had actually heard or seen the metal fall - strange, in such a small town. So the manner in which the metal arrived at the scene still remains a mystery.

The Area. At Les Ecureils, the river bank drops sharply to a relatively flat shale bed which extends out for nearly a quarter of a mile to the deep water shipping channel. The channel is separated from the shale area by a jumble of large boulders. The river is tidal so that the area of the find varies from dry to a maximum depth of water of about 1½ feet.

The Find. A local resident, who supplements his income by beachcombing, covered the area pretty thoroughly the first day or two of June. Then came three days of rain during which he did not work the area. When the weather cleared, he found the two pieces of metal on the shale bed.

Disposition of the Metal. The finder, unable to handle the larger chunk, loaded the small 800-lb. piece and sold it for one cent a pound to a scrap metal dealer in Quebec City where it was erroneously classified as non-ferrous metal. The large magnetic crane used for handling the scrap, would not lift the metal due to its low magnetic permeability, so it was pushed into a pile of non-ferrous scrap and eventually

shipped to Japan. As for the larger piece of metal, rumour of the find reached the Canadian Arsenal's Research and Development Establishment (CARDE) in the area, who, thinking it might have been part of a space capsule, picked it up for investigation. On completion of their investigations, CARDE eventually handed the metal over to a Club member who, at great difficulty, trailered the heavy object to Ottawa where it is now in the custody of the Club.

The Findings. After analysis, CARDE reached the following conclusions: "The X-ray diffraction analysis indicated that the unidentified object consisted of a metallic face-centred cubic compound, with a unit-cell dimension agreeing with those of 1) austenitic steel, and 2) meteoric iron. The semi-quantitative spectro-graphic analysis showed, however, that there was insufficient nickel present for the material to be of meteoric origin. The amount of manganese detected in the spectrographic analysis suggests that the metallic material is best described as high-manganese austenitic steel. This is consistent with the very weak ferro-magnetic nature of the metal. The iron oxide and the hydrated iron oxides on the surface are normal results of the exposure of steel to the atmosphere. The amounts of quartz and calcite detected by X-ray diffraction are very small, and are common extraneous materials. The low nickel and high manganese content are not consistent with a meteoric origin, whereas they are consistent with common high-tensile steels. The object is therefore considered to be of terrestrial origin."

Another report states in part: "The metal object proved to be a mass of high strength metal which had fallen, or had been dropped, while in a plastic state, and had splattered like a ball of mud. It was 6 ft. in diameter and 2 ft. thick at the centre. At the centre of the body, there was an outline of a tube about 10 inches in diameter which protruded from the mass about 6 inches. A small electronic potting can was imbedded near one of the outer edges. By scratching away the potting plastic, it was possible to identify an electronic component which appeared to be a transistor. There was also the imprint of another electronic can which appeared to have been removed by curio seekers. It is not considered that the object fell in the location where it was found, because there was no crater or splattered material in the vicinity. The tidal flats at this point are solid rock. An analysis by CARDE revealed that the metal is an alloy with high manganese content. CARDE personnel who are familiar with foundry operations, consider it to be a normal product of a foundry consisting of slag with semi-molten scrap imbedded. Their investigation did not reveal any electronic components."

Despite the findings of CARDE, an element of doubt exists as to whether these are completely accurate. Although they considered the object to be of terrestrial origin, laboratory experiments on the metal carried out by the late Wilbert B. Smith and co-workers, resulted in a number of unusual reactions not consistent with the normal behaviour of terrestrial metal. This was most evident when a small piece of the metal was heated with an acetylene torch which caused it to blossom into a miniature white cloud with extremely bright sparks in it - a sort of A-bomb in miniature. WBS concluded that the magnesium went exothermic, reduced the ferrite in the spinel crystal structure formed the cloud and left the iron free to burn with O₂ in the air. He warned that any one attempting to heat a larger chunk of the metal might very well fry himself! He also considered that the intense heating should have burned the object worse than it did and he therefore reached the conclusion that it could not have been a blast furnace product. Further experiments revealed that some parts of the metal could not stand too much heat, thus limiting the possibilities as to why such a manufactured item came to grief. In testing the metal with the acetylene torch, it was noted that the resulting sphere, with

its intensely brilliant shower of sparks, burned until nothing remained - no residue or slag, as is common with earth metals.

CARDE suggested that the metal may have been slag from a foundry brought to the area via an ice floe. The facts of the case, however, do not bear this out. The nearest mills are many miles from Les Ecureils - and it was the month of June! The material is not a common foundry product, and even if it had been, one wonders why the foundry would waste 3,000 pounds of metal!

More Mysteries. How the metal arrived at Les Ecureils remains the biggest mystery of all. The maximum depth of water at high tide and the closely-spaced boulders along the shipping channel would seem to rule out any possibility of arrival by boat or raft. Had it fallen from the sky, the noise would have been earth-shaking. Even a small meteorite sounds like a rushing freight train.

A further mystery, indicating the possibility of exposure of the metal in outer space, is that the outer surface, under powerful magnification, shows minute inclusions which well may be micro-meteorites picked up during a long sojourn in space. The Club has in its possession a series of photographs of the outer surface of the metal, taken with the aid of micro-photography, in which these inclusions can be observed quite clearly. The density of these particles is about 30 per square centimeter. Dr. Peter Millman of the Canada National Research Council, estimated that micro-meteorites of this size would occur through a sq. cm. section at about 10^{-6} second, so it would take about a year to accumulate such a density.

Analyses. Several chemical analyses of the metal have been made by the Club. These vary, indicating that the mass is not homogeneous. To date, the Club has been unable to find any organization with the proper facilities, willing to carry out a mass spectographic analysis to determine the number of isotopes in the various elements contained in the metal. If this could be done, it would establish whether or not the material is of terrestrial origin, although, of course, there is always the possibility that other planets may have the same minerals as Planet Earth. And even if it were proved to be of terrestrial origin, there still remains the intriguing mystery of how it arrived on the beach!

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INCREASED UFO ACTIVITY IN CANADA!

As predicted in an earlier issue of Topside, our space friends have been making their presence felt by increased sightings across the world. In Canada, there have been numerous reports of UFO sightings and landings in recent weeks and more and more people are getting interested and asking questions. A young boy in Hamilton, Ontario, reported seeing 2 UFOs land in a field behind the police station. He approached one, touched its antenna and received a curved, yellow burn on his arm, witnessed by a police officer, and was taken to hospital. As a result of this incident and requests from his constituents, the Member of Parliament for Hamilton rose in the House of Commons and asked for a special investigation to be made into Canadian UFO sightings and a report made available to the public. In view of this increased UFO activity, we take this opportunity to remind readers and UFO groups that International Flying Saucer Day, June 24, falls on a Friday this year - an ideal night for a long sky watch!
