

Challenger

Volume 1, Number 3

A Harper College Honor Society Newsletter

April/May



Book of Interest Summary
Page 2

Wellness Week News:
Susan Landolphi
Page 3

Student Recognition
Page 4

Scholarship Information
Page 5

Harper Sports Scene
Page 6

Calendar and More Mind
Games
Page 7

Totally Irrelevant Graphic
Part II
Page 8



Insights of a traveler



couple of issues ago I promised to write about my visit to the Seychelles over winter break, but meanwhile I've spent my spring break in France and there are a few comments I want to make about this trip while the impressions are still fresh in my mind.

One of the best reasons for visiting another country (or studying a language other than your native tongue) is to get a fresh perspective and possibly see your own world in a different light. I certainly did that at the conference on "Science et Science Fiction," 1-6 April 1991, sponsored by the Universite de Nice Centre d'Etude de la Metaphore at the city of Valbonne Sophia-Antipolis.

My paper was titled, "Change: Progress or Regress?" and it dealt with seven novels I often have taught in my science fiction class plus one I am considering adding to the reading list. I delivered it in English with simultaneous translation into French, done by three able bilinguals. The majority of speakers spoke French and we anglophones had the translation simultaneously in English. (One of my translators had a little trouble with some of my use of the terms but she asked me in advance and without a dictionary we came up with "headlong" for "willy-nilly" and for "gosh-wow"—you guessed it—"gosh-wow." Some concepts just don't seem

to have an equivalent in other languages).

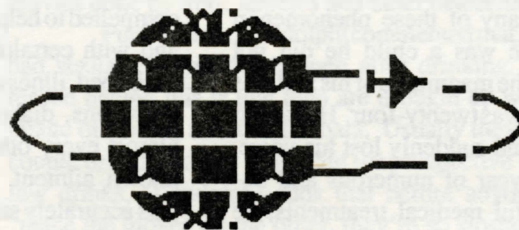
About half of the program participants were scientists, not literary people, so we were bridging the gap between the "two cultures" throughout the conference. The concept of bringing together scientists with academic critics of science fiction is not unique; the "worldcons" usually have both an "Atrack" and a "Scitrack"—the fans just love those portmanteau words and acronyms! What was unusual was the fact that we were on a single

track with no place else to go conveniently (or tactfully) and thus we had little choice but to listen and learn from each other. We didn't all necessarily agree with the others' ways of looking at the

world, but I came away feeling that I'd both learned and taught a lot.

After a technical explanation of the distinction between the virtual and the real, I attended a screening of Tron, and saw it with new appreciation. A philosophy professor from Montreal discussed the Star Trek fan phenomenon, giving me an outsider's view from someone who nevertheless knows our country's culture from life-long and intimate association. Inevitably, some of what I learned will be a part of what I teach in my science fiction course next fall.

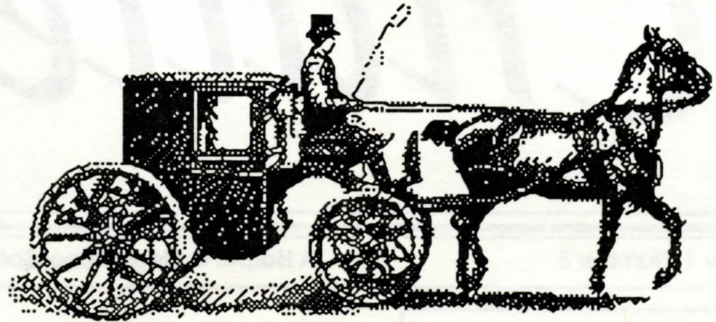
Outside the formal sessions, most of



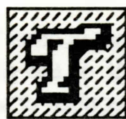
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Turn of the century tricks or truths?



Summary of the story about psychic Edgar Cayce and his remarkable readings about life by Lisa Smith



he phenomenon of Edgar Cayce's life is only slightly less phenomenal than his readings. As a youth he had some mystifying experiences: sleeping on a spelling book and memorizing every word of it including the copyright date; telling his mother what to do for injuries and sickness; and conversing with angelic "presences" that were not physically there.

Although Cayce encountered many of these phenomenon when he was a child he did not realize the magnitude of his abilities until he was twenty-four. He caught a cold and suddenly lost his voice. after a year of numerous and unsuccessful medical treatments, he resigned himself to a life of rasping whispers.

At this time, hypnotism was all the rage, and a friend suggested that he try it as a means of curing his condition. Cayce was willing to try anything at this point, so a hypnotist put him to sleep.

The experiment proved to be more than successful. While Cayce was in a trance, he described the condition, and advised on how to cure it. The hypnotist followed the advice (increasing blood circulation to the affected area (similar to modern day chiropractic)) and when Cayce awakened he regained his

normal speaking voice. Cayce and his family and friends were astounded. When word got around, he was besieged with requests by the sick to be cured.

Cayce was very reluctant at first because he was not educated in these matters. Born in 1877 on a farm near Hopkinsville, Kentucky, Edgar Cayce was a poor student and never received more than a grammar school education.

But nonetheless, he felt compelled to help out his fellow man and with certainty he successfully described illnesses such as ulcers, pinworms, diabetes, epilepsy, and almost every other known and unknown ailment. The information was accurately stated in medical terminology, and the suggested treatments got results. Amazingly, in most of his cases he never met the people making the requests.

On another occasion, Cayce once greeted a complete stranger by name. Curious, the man, a local bank officer, questioned him, and intrigued, invited him to lunch. During the meal, Cayce proved his clairvoyance by correctly writing down the combination to the bank safe. The banker was speechless when he read it.

Then, in 1923, a man by the name of Arthur Lammers asked Cayce, "What is the meaning of life?"

What is the origin of talents, abilities, faults and virtues? How can the inequality of men be explained?"

Cayce was puzzled. He had never pondered such questions before.

"You ought to find out about these things," Lammers said. "What is the meaning of birth and death? Why are we here? Haven't you ever asked these questions before?"

"No," Cayce replied.

Before a stroke confined him to bed in 1944, he gave hundreds of readings that answered these and many other questions. His last reading was for himself, but the doctors in charge of him did not follow his instructions. On January 3rd, 1945, Edgar Cayce passed over to the other side. No man has left a stranger legacy.

In fact, scientists today are still trying to decipher some of his readings. The following are parts of some of his stranger readings that may leave you pondering also: Don't put cream in your coffee, mixed together they are harmful to the body; One leaf of lettuce will kill a thousand pinworms; when the devil can't get a man any other way he sends a woman after him.

The information in this article is based upon the book Edgar Cayce's Story of the Origin and Destiny of Man, by Lytle Robinson.

"...he successfully described illnesses such as ulcers, diabetes, epilepsy, and almost every other known and unknown ailment."



Landolphi brash & earnest

Susan Landolphi came and went on April 15th, but she left behind a piece of herself through the advice she gave between jokes.

Landolphi is more than just a speaker/comedian. She is a dedicated lady that hopes that something she may do or say will make this generation stop and think about drugs and sexual relationships in a way they would not have done on their own.

She speaks more than just candidly about using drugs, having sex and dealing with communication on these topics. For example, when people go out to get drugs such as cocaine, they do not think much about how the drug got to them or exactly what may be in the drug. "It's not exactly like you can check out consumer reports to see if you have a good brand of cocaine," Landolphi commented.

By the time you buy cocaine, it's been stepped on one hundred times (cut). And Mannitol is the substance they use to cut the drug. For those of you who do not know what mannitol is, according to Landolphi, it's "Baby laxative." She went on to say that the first time you use cocaine you get a fantastic high but anytime thereafter for the rest of the night, it actually works in reverse.


She continued by talking about other types of substance abuse and stressed that stress, tobacco, and drugs including alcohol lower your immune system. She then spoke about alcohol consumption. "Men have more

pressure to drink, and are pressured to drink before they have sex." She blames this on the macho advertising/movies done by male athletes and other celebrities.

Furthermore, Landolphi commented that, "Most bad sexual experiences happen after drinking." The reason behind this is that men are brought up with the image of finding a date at the bars. Usually they have a couple drinks and buy their date (or prospective date) a few drinks. Landolphi adds that before anyone can "place the moves on the other, they're so sloshed they don't know what the heck they're doing. Have you ever seen two drunks trying to communicate? It just doesn't work and a relationship won't work without communication."

Then she spoke about AIDS and the male stud machine. He wears a jersey or sweatshirt, because for the amount of time it spends on bedroom floors it wrinkles the least; he wears jeans because they are the most comfortable and quickest to get on and off in a rush; and he must be wearing sneakers so that after having had sexual intercourse he can sneak off without her knowing "God forbid she should wake-up and he would need to talk to her." He has slept with the entire female student population (well so he would like to think), he is not a H.I.V. drug user, has not had sexual relations with

"Have you ever seen two drunks trying to communicate? It just doesn't work..."

Continued on page 5 

Insights of a Traveler

Continued from page 1

the attendees spoke some English and/or were willing to put up with my halting French. I had the distinct feeling that inside a month I could probably manage pretty well in French, but ten days is not enough. Like most Americans, I'm embarrassed and shy about my pronunciation, but I noticed that the German and Spanish delegates plunged ahead in broken French with little self-consciousness. However, after several kind people praised my English pronunciation for its clarity, I felt somewhat less reluctant to make a fool of myself in French.

The town itself was fascinating. Valbonne dates to a 12th century monastery, but a little over twenty years ago its leaders decided to develop a large tract of their land as a mini "silicon valley." Sophia-Antopolis became that planned development, with the first high-tech research facilities opening there about a decade ago. Many American companies, like Dow-Corning Chemical Company, Apple Computers, and IBM, have research operations there, as do some Japanese companies, like Toshiba. Sophia-Antipolis is physically separated from the rest of the town by dense woods, even though they are both under the jurisdiction of the city government of Valbonne. The split between the two cultures within this small town reminded me of the Chicago-downstate dichotomy within Illinois.

All this is nestled below the Alpes-Maritime where locals can ski by traveling a half hour in one direction, and/or bathe in the Mediterranean Riviera the same day by traveling a half hour toward the sea. Although the weather wasn't very warm, the scenery was nothing short of inspirational, and the food was all French cuisine is reputed to be. I regained five of the ten pounds I've just lost and will be doing penance for the next six weeks.

The thing about travel is that what you will learn is limitless and hard to predict. Those who saw the film Taking Care of Business will remember how devastated Charles Grodin was when he lost his Filofax. Although I've never had an actual Filofax, I have for many years kept a "weekly minder" in which I write all appointments—with students, fellow teachers, doctors, and dentists, as well as social engagements, dates for play tickets, recep-

tions, writing deadline commitments, committee meetings, airline reservations, bills to be paid, personal letters to be answered, phone numbers and addresses of friends (lots of them unlisted), and such. I write everything in this book so I won't have to clutter up my memory, and now I can't even remember all that I put into it recently. Moreover, it's the diary I use for the IRS to record travel expenses that might be claimed as business deductions. In short, it is an outline of my life and it's precious to me. What it doesn't contain is any credit cards or anything of value to anyone else.

Yes—you guessed again!—I arrived in Paris having left this unique treasure in my seat pocket on the plane. I didn't discover my loss for four and a half hours. By then the plane had been cleaned, all "trash" burned, and it was sent on its way to Washington, DC. Air France was of little comfort, explaining that the people who clean their planes usually don't speak either French or English, and many of them are even illiterate in their own languages. I couldn't imagine any American on a cleaning crew that wouldn't recognize the value of my book and turn it in to the Lost and Found. Air France had paperback novels worth less than \$5 in their bin, but no little leather book wrapped with a gold elastic band.

You can imagine I started my tour with a pretty depressed feeling, still hoping for several days that it would eventually turn up. Then I actually mourned for a week before I resigned myself to never seeing my treasure again. But one day I realized that what was lost was only "stuff"—not a tragedy, not a human life. It will be inconvenient for a while, but life goes on, and my life will go on too. As I say, travel can bring surprising insights, very often nothing like anything you might expect.

But if I had an appointment with you in the next few weeks, better give me a call and remind me, okay?

And if you want to get three out of three, try guessing what the in-flight movie was on my return Air France flight. Hint: it wasn't Tron or Star Trek!

—Elizabeth Anne Hull

"The split between the two cultures... reminded me of the Chicago-downstate dichotomy within Illinois."

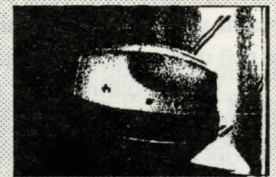
Hats



Congratulations to Tiffany James for being the recipient of the Drake University Presidential Community College Scholarship. The Honors Society wishes you much luck with your future endeavors.

We would also like to thank Hank Dennis for his continuing efforts with the plant sale.

Off!



Scholarships

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY: Generally, there are two scholarships offered in the amount of \$500 each. Applicant must be a two-year college graduate in the Honors Program. Applicants must be admitted to Georgia State University and must be eligible to participate in the Honors Program (3.5 overall GPA). The deadline is May 15, 1991. To request applications and additional information, contact: Honors Program, Georgia State University, University Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30303-3083 (Phone: 404-658-2924 or 404-658-2925).

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY: Number of awards varies. Most awards are in the amount of \$1,000; amount varies depending on students' financial status. This scholarship is available to Honors Program students in the COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS who have been members of the Honors Program in good standing for at least one year. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA while enrolled in 15 units per semester. Admission to LMU Honors Program is based on a score of 1200 on SAT, a 3.5 GPA, and an interview. The application deadline in June 1, 1991, or after Spring term grades have been calculated. Applications and information may be obtained from: Financial Aid Office, LMU, Loyola Boulevard at West 80 Street, Los Angeles, CA 90045 (Phone: 213-642-2753).

NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE: Unlimited amount of awards ranging from \$100 to \$2,500. Applicant must have 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours if transferring from a four-year

institution; 64 semester hours or 93 quarter hours if transferring from a community or junior college. The applicant must apply and be accepted for admission; be a degree-seeking student; attending classes on a full-time basis; have a minimum transferable GPA of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale; and have an interview with the Director of Admission or the Transfer Student Advisor. There is no set deadline date, however, applications must be submitted prior to the first term of attendance. Students must be evaluated and accepted prior to award notification. To obtain applications and additional information, contact: Director of Admissions and/or Director of Financial Aid, North Central College, Naperville, IL 60566 (312-429-3415).

ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY: Full and partial awards are available to qualified transferring and continuing Roosevelt University students. Applicants must have completed at least 30 semester hours, or the equivalent, with a minimum GPA of 3.25 or better, and will be required to take the RU entrance examinations. Other information including test scores, previous academic record, extra-curricular activities, and faculty recommendations, is considered by the Scholarship Committee in selecting scholar awardees. The application deadline is May 1, 1991 (for Fall term), and November 1, 1991 (for Winter Term). For application forms and information, contact: Ms. Barbara H. Gianneschi, Undergraduate Admissions, 430 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605 (Phone: 312-341-3524).

Landolphi

 Continued from page 3

another male, and has not had a blood transfusion before the year 1985 (blood before this year was not checked for the AIDS virus). Because of this he believes he is not at risk, but he has just as much a chance of being infected as a homosexual male who does not engage in risky homosexual behavior, who is not a H.I.V. drug user, and has not had a blood transfusion before 1985.

Landolphi could not emphasize enough how important communication is in a relationship. Almost everything she had to say stressed the importance of respecting others feelings, whether it was your sexual partner, someone with AIDS, or a homosexual. If you want to have safe sex you need the following:

1. Communication
2. Honesty
3. Trust

One of Landolphi's major points was that if you can not tell the person you are with what you want, or how you want it, then you are not ready to do it. Both partners should be able to feel comfortable enough with the other person that they can confide and be respected no matter what is brought up.

Unfortunately, Landolphi ended on a sad note. Just recently she found out her brother was diagnosed as having the H.I.V. virus. She is glad though that she has learned to deal with people that have AIDS before finding this out, because now she is more sensitive and mature with dealing with the issue. She stressed that as her most important point. "It's how you deal with the person that matters. You have to be optimistic, and you have to continue being strong and loving even more than you were before."

Harper Tracksters will run better with your support

Harper athletics could really use your support. This May 3 & 4, is the regional meet for track and field. The events start at Harper at 4 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. on Saturday. This is the meet where many of our athletes will be trying to qualify for the national meet held in Texas. The feature running event on Friday will be the 10,000 meter race (six miles), Harper's Lisa Smith will be running that event. It's a long twenty-four laps around the track, and she would really appreciate all the support.

"We would like to see a lot of people out there cheering us (track team) on," Lisa Smith said. "It makes an incredible difference when the crowd is there cheering you on.

"There used to be a track race sponsored by the Chicago Sun paper, and I remember my dad telling me the story about a college student who was the anchor on the 400 relay. He was 150 meters behind when he got the baton. He took off flying, trying to make up the distance. The lead runner was so confident because he was so far ahead that he wasn't running all-out. Well, the runner that was behind started out so quickly he was exhausted by the time he had finished running about 100 meters, but he had made up so much distance the crowd (about 10,000 people) was cheering him on like crazy. This inspired the runner so much, he felt he could not give-up even though he wanted to.

"He kept on pushing continuing to close in, and the closer he got to the other runner, the louder the crowd cheered and this pushed the runner even further. In the last

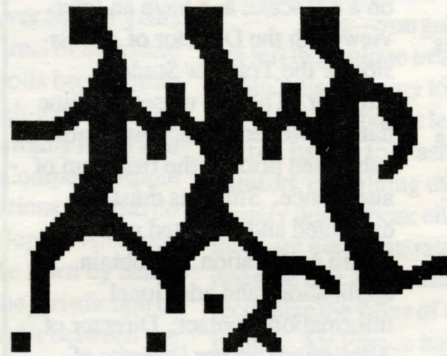
100 meter stretch he was within 15-20 meters of the lead runner, but it felt like he was an ocean apart because he was so exhausted.

"Needless to say, the crowd would not let him down and the more they cheered the more the runner was pushed forward. Now the lead runner was unaware of the distance the other runner had made up, and he did not realize the reason the crowd was cheering so loud. Even though the lead runner was not as exhausted as the runner catching up to him, by the time the two were neck in neck, there was nothing the lead runner could do. It was as if the roaring wind behind the voices of the crowd had blown the second runner right past him and over the finish line."

For those of you who do not know what an incredible feat this is, let's put it this way. The 400 relay is only one lap around the track, and the lead runner was more than a third of the way around the track when the second runner was just getting the hand-off (starting).

Unfortunately, Lisa Smith added that "Even though he had won the race his relay team was disqualified because another member of the team did not exchange the baton in the proper zone."

Nevertheless, the point is that the crowd can make a difference and the track team would really like to see you there cheering them on.



Wake the kids, call the neighbors, bring in the dog, the Challenger mind game answers are here!!!



The answer to the nursery rhyme in our last issue of mind games is one. While the man and his wives and their sacks, cats, and kits were going from St. Ives, only the speaker- the "I" in the rhyme- was going to St. Ives.

The answer to Challenger's Challenges question about

how many mice can one hundred cats catch is sixty.

The answer to the boy who ate the baker's doughnuts is: he wrote an S in front of IX, changing it from reading IX to SIX.

In next month's issue of Challenger we will give you the answers to this month's questions. In the meantime, ponder a few of the following

expressions, all are words or phrases:

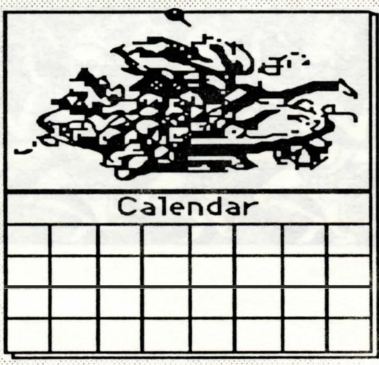
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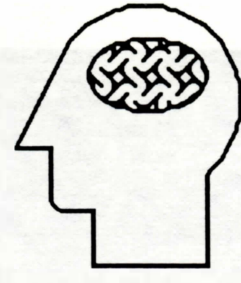
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Calendar

- April 24** — Discussion meeting: Time Management, F351 conference room at 4 p.m.
- April 26** — Motorola trip, those interested should contact Mid Hoppenrath at 593-8572 as soon as possible. We will be meeting at 10 a.m. at the fireplace area in A-bldg. Please be prompt as the tour will start at 10:30 a.m. We will all be driving over, and advance notice of those attending needs to be given to Motorola for security clearance.
- May 1** — Business meeting: F351 conference room at 4 p.m.
- May 3** — Awards Banquet.
- May 3/4** — Track and field regional meet at home, 4 p.m. on Friday, and 10 a.m. on Saturday.
- May 8** — Discussion meeting: Fund raiser on C.E.F.
- May 9** — **FUND RAISER!** The plant sale will be taking place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or whenever all material is sold in the green house located in V-bldg by the tennis courts. Floral design demonstrations will also take place in V-bldg in room V-108. Lectures will also be given in A-bldg in the fireplace area. Topics discussed will range from endangered forests to natural wildlife in our area. In addition, the drawing will be held in A-bldg by the south bay windows at 2 p.m. Volunteers are needed to man the table, contact Marilyn Ontiveros for more information.
- May 17** — Honor Society reception in faculty dining room, A-bldg., at 5:30. This will be to personally thank everyone for their contributions to the program and wish the best of luck and congratulations to those who are moving on next year.



Mind Games



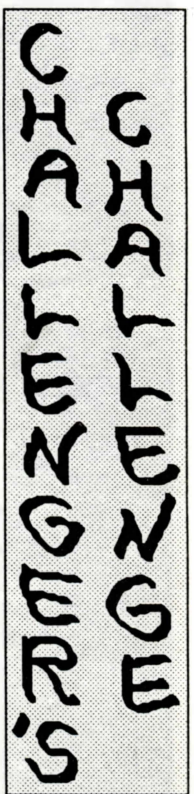
An etymologist has been defined as someone who knows the difference between etymology and entomology.

The Greek root etymon means "true, original," and the Greek ending -logia means "Science or study." Thus, etymology is the science or study of true and original word meanings. And when you know that entomon is Greek for "insect," you can easily deduce that an entomologist studies the physical makeup and behavior of insects.

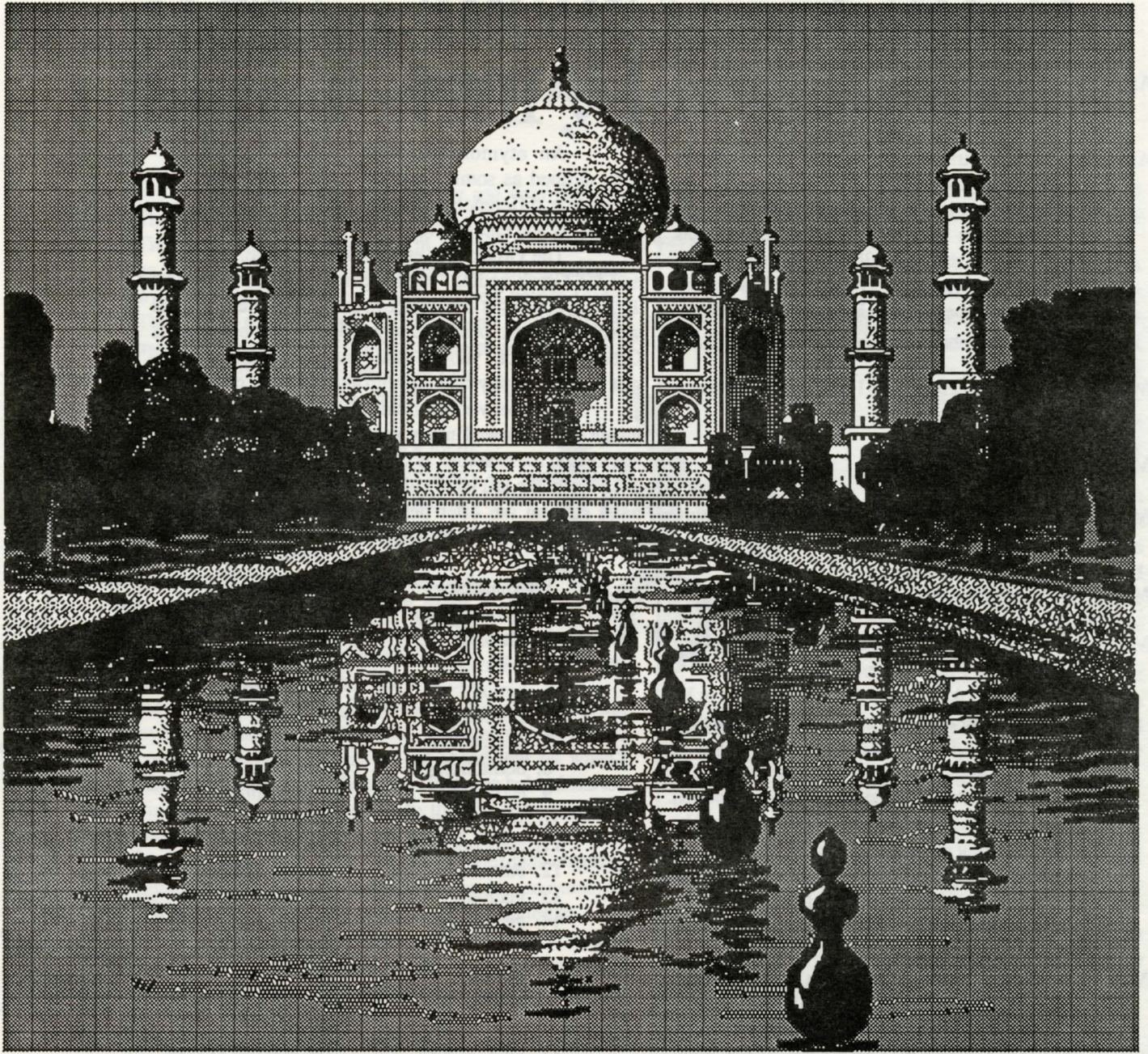
To label various fields of study, the English language has borrowed many roots from Greek and Latin. Sociology, for example, is the study of human societies.

In the left hand column are -ologies. In the right hand column are brief definitions of these disciplines. Match each label with its definition:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. archaeology | birds |
| 2. anthropology | contagious diseases |
| 3. astrology | drugs |
| 4. audiology | the earth's crust |
| 5. biology | earthquakes |
| 6. cardiology | embryos |
| 7. demonology | weather |
| 8. dermonology | God |
| 9. ecology | handwriting |
| 10. embryology | hearing |
| 11. epidemiology | the heart |
| 12. ethnology | human customs |
| 13. gemology | human races |
| 14. genealogy | the influences of planets on life |
| 15. geology | life |
| 16. graphology | mind, emotions, behavior |
| 17. meteorology | the nervous system |
| 18. neurology | one's ancestors |
| 19. ornithology | organisms and environments |
| 20. penology | the past through its artifacts |
| 21. pharmacology | poisons |
| 22. psychology | precious stones |
| 23. seismology | prisons |
| 24. theology | skin |
| 25. toxicology | evil spirits |



Only use your dictionary when you have given up hope. Many of the words give good clues as to their definitions. Good luck and have fun!!



TRICI
VENOLA

From Mac the Knife, Vol. 5: "People, Places & Things."
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Art by Trici Venola (213) 395-5475