

By SARAH AND PAT K.

In the beginning the earth was flat. Man did not dispute this, because, after all, it was 'plane' to see that it was true. All they needed to do was to look out the cave and see for themselves. Life was simple and uncomplicated and flat.

And it came to pass, in ancient Greece, that a man called Pythagoras suggested that the earth was not flat but spherical. The man was obviously suffering from illusions. But lo and behold, some people began to go along with this lunatic's ravings. These people, the Pythagoreans, "performed savage spinning dances of a ritualistic nature which often resulted in blood-letting sacrifices. These dances led to the idea of a spinning earth, around a central immovable fire. This then was gyroglobularism."

But since Man knew the earth to be flat, this theory was generally ignored until later centuries.

And it came to pass . . . again, in the 16th Century Copernicus "informed the then-skeptical world that, quite in contradiction of long-standing belief (not to mention the incontrovertible evidence of everyone's eyes); the sun did not revolve daily around the central and immobile earth. According to Copernicus, rather did the reverse apply, so that it was the earth itself (together with the planets) which rotated around the central and immovable sun."

Isaac Newton went even further to explain the movements of Heavenly bodies with his law of universal gravitation. People chose to believe his theories, "not because they were true, but because they simplified the mystery."

From this point on, Man "fell prey" to the scientific theories and globularism. They began to turn away from the one thing that was universally obvious -- common sense. It was no longer "seeing is believing". Rather it became "if something appears to be so, it can't be so."

And it came to pass a third time, on November 8, 1970 there were two men with an unlimited amount of common sense. One was Dr. Leo Ferrari, professor of philosophy at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, N.B. and Residence Fellow at Harrison House UNB and the other was Dr. Alden Nowlan, famed columnist and writer in residence at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton.

The conversation that took place on that memorable evening, "after a heavy night of drink. . . I mean, thinking" is now considered one of the most sensible exchange of words on record.

The dialogue was as follows:

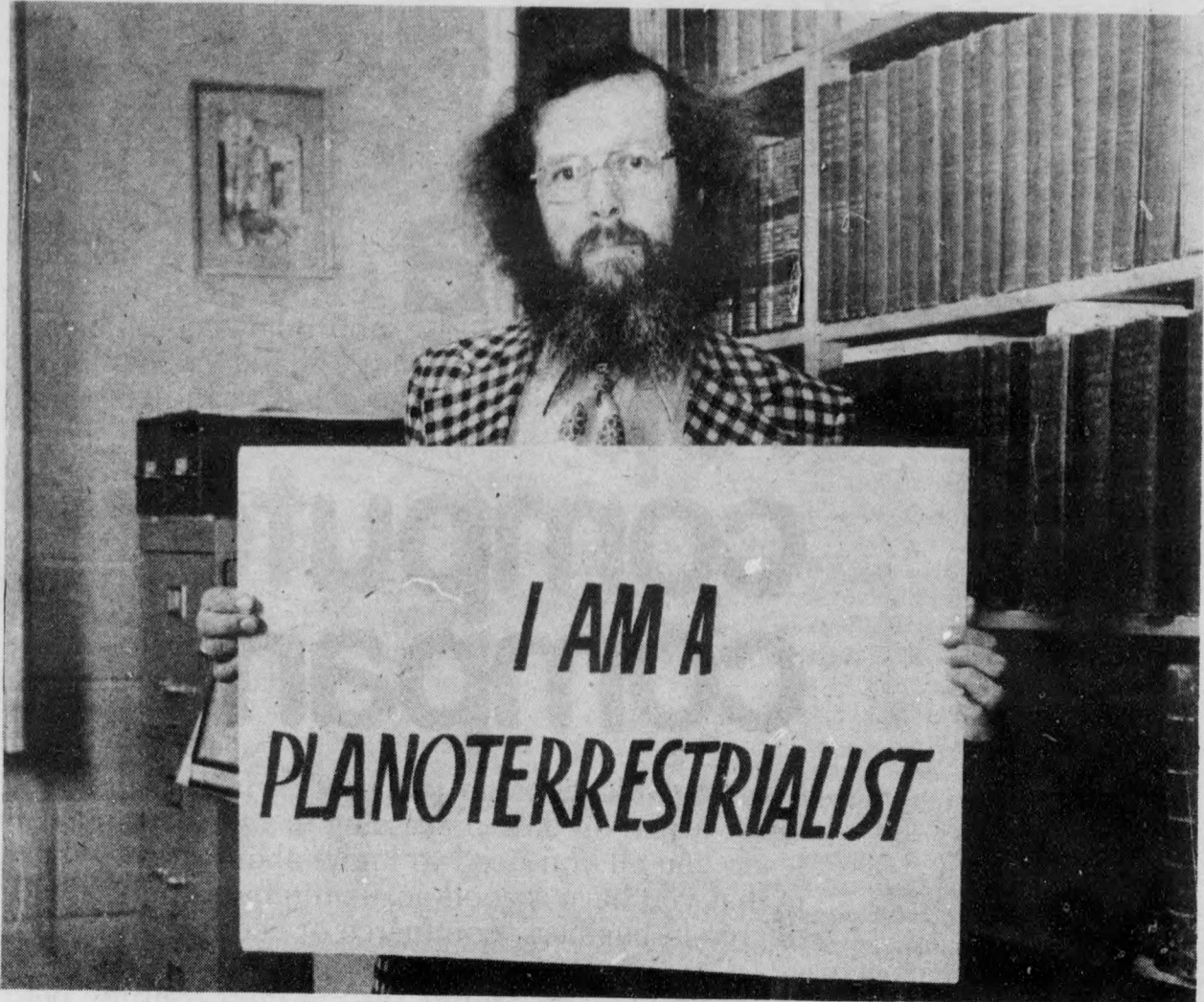
"Leo, do you think the earth is flat?"
"Of course the earth is flat, anyone can see that!"

A moments silence.

"Leo, do you realize that history has just been made. We have just founded the Flat Earth Society!"

Since this most historical moment, the Flat Earth Society has expanded to the present 100 members, from many countries of the world.

Leo Ferrari has written a book which he



calls "the Earth is Flat, An Expose of the Globularist Hoax."

Dr. Ferrari has lectured widely on "planoterrestrialism" (the study of the flat earth). He has made several appearances on national television, on such programs as W-5 and Front Page Challenge. He also has been the subject of articles in various magazines across the country.

Dr. Ferrari said that the world is now experiencing a "crisis of common sense" and that we discount our own experiences for theories.

He said of the Flat Earth Society, "We are very down to Earth people. We are great believers in Terra Firma and the more Firma the less Terra." For the skeptics amongst you he offers this question, "Is the earth flat -- well take a look." Dr. Ferrari commented that more and more, people do not believe their own eyes, but believe in what they are told is so.

Dr. Ferrari and the Flat Earth Society wants to work toward "a human earth in a human universe in which we can once more live as human beings."

One of the main concerns of the planoterrestrialists, is that the globularists (from here-on-in to be known as "globs") are and have been for many years, suffering from "terrophobia" or fear of Mother Earth, fear of dirt.

Beginning with the theory that the earth is an insignificant speck of cosmos in the universe, Man has attempted to get away from the protection of Mother Earth. Pavements that covered the earth were built for us to walk on; highrise apartments were built for us to live in; airplanes were built for us to fly in -- everyday something

new is being built that takes us further away from contact with Mother Earth, the earth that is our foundation, our nourishment and the earth that receives us when we die.

This terraphobia developed to even greater "heights" when rockets were built to go to the Moon. Why, research is being done now to find ways for us to live on the Moon in the future!

Man has bastardized the word "dirt". Dirt is associated with the Devil in that God is in the Heavens and the Devil is considered to be in the bowels of the Earth.

Country people are looked down upon by some people because they live off the land; they are "dirty". The word "dirt" took on new meanings besides "soil"; it began to mean "shameful" and "disgusting". When one speaks of pornographic movies and books, they call them "dirty" movies and "dirty" books, cleaning solutions are "stronger than dirt". Dirt is Man's enemy.

The crusade against dirt is constantly accelerating. When one speaks of some place being very dirty, one visualizes an army of housewives armed to the teeth with mops, brooms, cans upon cans of cleaning fluids and aerosols to fight this dreaded enemy.

As is admitted on television advertisements, the best times a family has, seems to be "getting-dirty times", and yet they go against this by saying that such-and-such detergent will get clothes cleaner than any other. Everyone is always concerned with removing Mother Earth from their clothes, as if it is something evil and will harm us.

Planoterrestrialists want us to get back to living off the land; they are "down to earth" people.

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