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AN UNPREPOSSESSING CREATURE SEEN IN CANADA

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AS I have often said, I yield place to nobody in my enthusiasm for benevolent tall beings of Nordic type with long hair and no dental caries, provided that due account is also taken of the clear evidence that there are certain other creatures around whose physical proportions and appearance scarcely accord with the classical Greek ideal of human beauty and whose motives may be anything but nice.

I give below a translation of a recent report about this sort of creature from French Canada. The case was investigated by M. Henri Bordeleau, who visited the site, interviewed all the witnesses, and concluded that they certainly were not hoaxing or lying. The story was first printed under the name of M. Jacques Hébert in the Montreal paper *La Presse* for August 7, 1968, and was subsequently reprinted in the G.E.P.A. Bulletin *Phénomènes Spatiaux* (Paris) for December 1968. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is indebted to M. René Fouéré, Editor of *Phénomènes Spatiaux*, for permission to reproduce it here.

At 9.00 p.m. on the evening of Sunday, July 28, 1968, at Saint-Stanislas de Kostka, a small place located in Beauharnois County and about 45 miles (72 km.) to the south-west of Montreal, five teenagers or children were together, in the house of a family named Sauvé. They were three boys, Paul Sauvé (20), Régent Léger (15), Denis Léger (12) and two girls, Nicole Sauvé (14) and Joanne Sauvé (9).

Paul Sauvé and Denis Léger were upstairs. It was almost completely dark outside. Denis Léger happened to glance out through the window, towards the extensive fields of wheat and oats, and glimpsed what he afterwards described to the investigators as "a sort of circle surrounded by a bright red halo", by which he is assumed to have meant "a globe with a halo around it." He called Paul and the others, and all came rushing to the window in time to observe the arrival of a second object of similar appearance. This one came to a halt in the sky, while the first one was settling down gently in one of the fields of oats, at a point about 300 metres from the house.

At no time did any of the party think that what they were seeing were not "flying saucers", particularly as Denis Léger at once began to remind them of an experience that he himself had had one afternoon in the summer of 1967 and that was known to them. It had been at just about the same time of the year. He had been riding his bicycle, and a silent shining saucer had followed him for about five minutes, flying at a height of some 6 or 7 metres from the ground and at a distance of about 150 metres from him. The upper part of the craft, transparent, appeared to be made of a sort of thick glass, and inside it he could see three small dark beings, two sitting on one side and one sitting on the

other side. The boy had been extremely frightened, as his father subsequently confirmed to M. Henri Bordeleau. As far as the father was concerned, there was no possibility that the boy had invented the story.

By now one of the two machines outside had vanished from sight, while the other one still stood there in the field. The young people trooped off down into the yard, led by Denis, the boldest, flashlight in hand.

Suddenly the beam of his torch caught the silhouette of a creature, at a distance of less than 15 metres from them, behind a wooden fence. The creature raised its right hand to the level of its face and opened and closed the hand, "like a baby trying to salute", as Denis put it.

Instant panic ensued, the whole party fleeing back into the house, while the creature, moving with short strides, withdrew towards one of the barns.

All the young people seem to have had a very good view of the creature, except for its lower extremities, and describe it as follows:

- Height: about 1 metre 20 cms.
- Shoulders: broad.
- Head: black or brown, somewhat bigger than a human head, and, as it were "imbedded in the shoulders", there seeming to be no neck.
- Eyes: round, with wrinkled skin around them.
- Ears: surrounded by fuzzy black hair.
- Mouth and chin: "seemed normal".

The skin of the creature's face was "furrowed, rough, with knobs on it." The hands (with five fingers) were "very wide, black, knobby and rough like the skin of a toad."

Once back in the house, Paul Sauvé and Denis Léger ran upstairs again to keep watch. The luminous saucer was still standing there in the field.

Nicole Sauvé dashed to the telephone to call her parents, who were absent from the house, while the youngest, 9-year-old Joanne Sauvé, fled to the bathroom and locked herself in there.

The 15-year-old boy Régent Léger had remained downstairs, at one of the windows, and now suddenly he found "the same ugly black face peering at him and the knobby hand knocking on the glass." Emanating from the creature was a sound which he described as "like the mooing of a cow." Paralysed with terror, the boy stood there, quite unable to shout or move, until, a few moments later, the creature withdrew from the window and disappeared from his view.

Shortly afterwards, watching from upstairs, the whole party saw the UFO, still surrounded by its "red halo", rise slowly and vertically into the air and vanish in the night sky. It made no sound so far as they could tell.

Henri Bordeleau and a number of his fellow-investigators questioned the witnesses exhaustively and were unable to find any grounds for rejecting their story.

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