<u>18 Un-Natural Laws</u>

- **Murphy's Law**: If anything can go wrong, it will.
- **O'Tool's Commentary on Murphy's Law**: Murphy was an optimist.
- **Non-reciprocal Laws of Expectations**: Negative expectations yield negative results. Positive expectations yield negative results.
- **Howe's Law**: Every man/woman has a scheme that will not work.
- **Zymurgy's First Law of Evolving Systems Dynamics**: Once you open a can of worms, the only way to re-can them is to use a larger can.
- **Etorre's Observation**: The other line moves faster.
- **Skinner's Constant (Flannagan's Finagling Factor)**: That quantity which , when multiplied by, divided by, added to, or subtracted from the answer you get, gives you the answer you should have gotten.
- **Law of Selective Gravity**: An object will fall so as to do the most damage.
- **Jenning's Corollary**: The chance of the bread falling with the buttered side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet.
- **Gordon's First Law**: If a research project is not worth doing, it's not worth doing well.
- **Maier's Law**: If the facts do not conform to the theory, they must be disposed of.
- **Hoare's Law of Large Problems**: Inside every large problem is a small problem struggling to get out.
- **Boren's First Law**: When in doubt, mumble.
- **The Golden Rule of Arts and Sciences**: Whoever has the gold makes the rules.
- **Barth's Distinction**: There are two types of people: those who divide people into two types, and those who don't.

- **Ninety-Ninety Rule of Project Schedules**: The first 90% of the task takes 90% of the time, and the last 10% takes the other 90%.
- **Farber's Fourth Law**: Necessity is the mother of strange bed-fellows.
- **Segal's Law**: A man/woman with one watch knows what time it is. A man/woman with two watches is never sure.