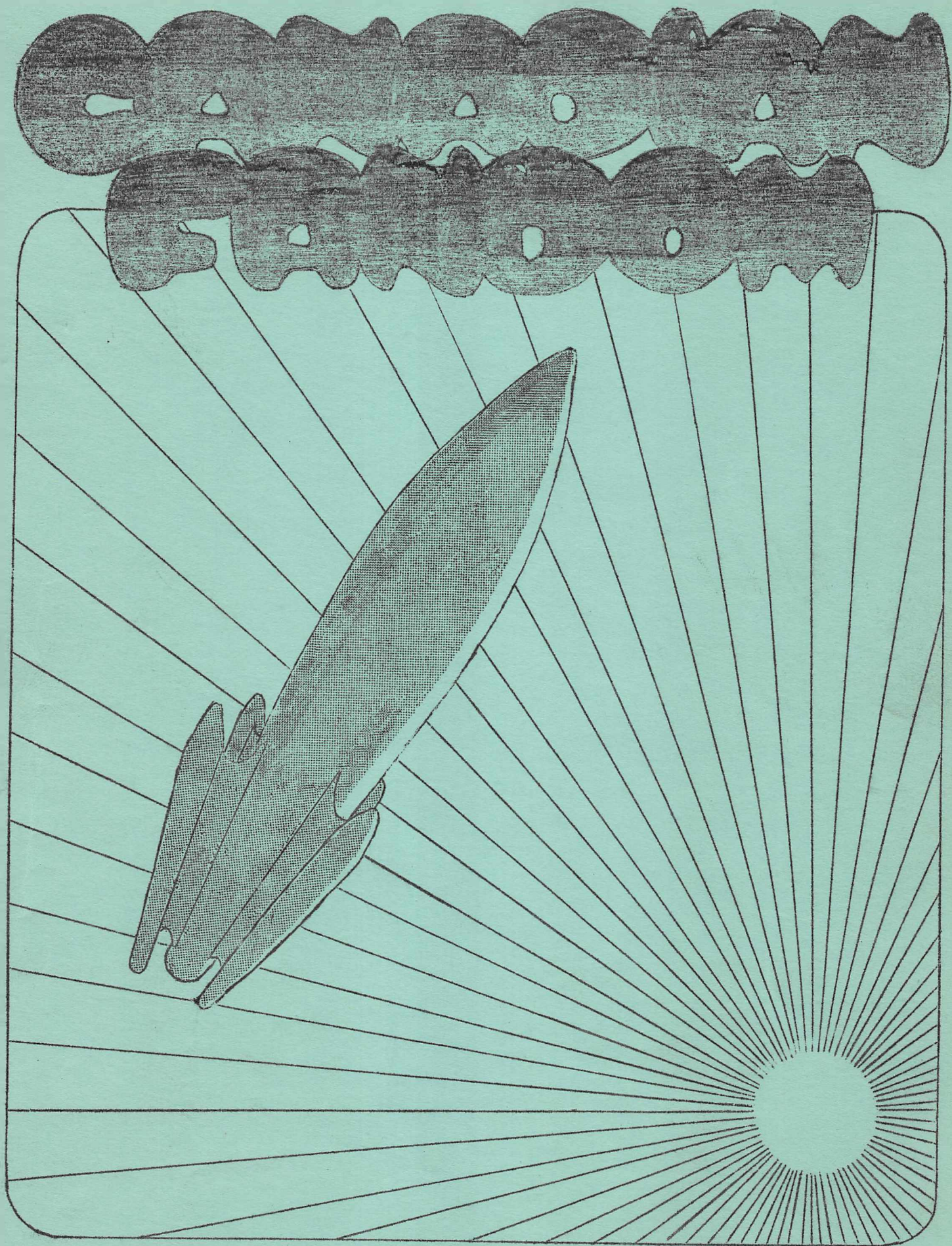
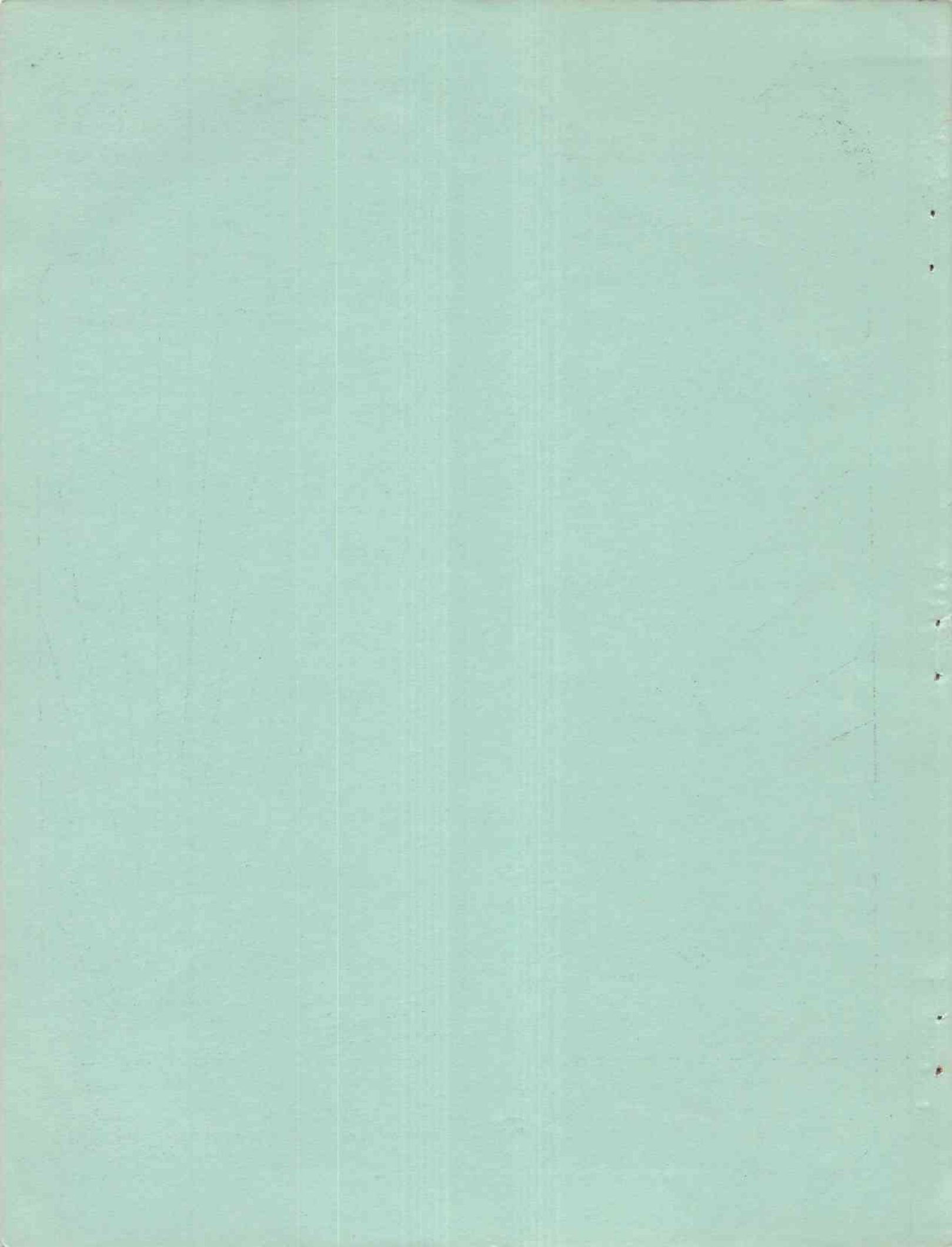


STEWART





CANADIAN FANDOM

CSFA - NFFF

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CORRECTION - The first line on page five is missing, so we now quote-
(Lee feels all the evidence so far gathered at Sheguiandah indicates an)

Editorial We by

Gerald A. Steward - and - Kenneth G. Hall

We were over at Ken Hall's subterranean den a while ago, and while talking about the issue of Can Fan just produced (#19), Ken said he thought that the mag showed a lack of personality. He said, that Spaceship, for example, shows a personality and Can Fan doesn't, being more like a newspaper.

We exclaimed that that might be so, but the reason is that Bob Silverberg probably produces Spaceship all by his lonesome. Can Fan is manufactured under the influence of the three of us. And therefore, if Can Fan showed any personality, it would be a watered-down composite personality of the three, Bill, Ken, and I.

But what is personality? Is it shown through the type of material printed? If so, then Can Fan has our personality because if any of us were doing the mag alone, we would print this type of material. We are all in agreement on the kind of material we print. We have the same ideas of good and bad in that respect.

On the other hand, is personality something outstanding in the mag, for example, the small, witty, pun-like pictures which Bob uses to dress up his articals, etc.? Can Fan has the elaborate headings on it's articals, Is that personality or is it policy?

And furthermore, is personality a necessary attribute to a fanmag or not? Or can there be two types of fan publication; one an elaborate form of personal letter, just oozing with personality; and the other being a form of Amateur Pro-mag and with nothing more than a strong editorial policy? Or should a fanmag be a combination of the two, and therefore a definite form of publication all it's own?

We don't know for sure. Maybe it's just fashionable for a mag to have a personality of it's own, just as it is the current trend to publish humorous material. And then again, maybe Can Fan has a personality and we being on the inside, just haven't recognized it?

Be that as it may, we would like to take this opportunity of stating that unless a vast majority of the readers demand it, there will be no major change in Can Fan for a while. We will just stick to the policy of using the best material we can collect and giving the best reproduction that we can afford. GAS&KGH

And speaking of material, how about submitting some? We can use articles and fiction, although the former is preferred. Let's see something from your pen!

While on the subject of fanmags, here is Can Fan's own personal Black-List. the following is a list of fanmags to which local fen have sent subscriptions and received nothing in return. Not even a postcard in

acknowledgment for receipt of the money. Herewith then, is Can Fan's Black List of Fanmags, (giving the name of the mag, the amount of money sent, and the length of time elapsed since sending);

Science Fantasy Bulletin	-	\$2.25	-	6 months.
Quandry	-	1.00	-	6 months.
Fan - To - See	-	1.00	-	6 months.
Vega	-	.25	-	6 months.

Now we realize that one of the above mentioned has folded and the editors of the other three are probably at college, but that still does not vindicate them. They should have either sent the money back or a letter of explanation.

Sticking with the same subject, we would like to explain a boner we pulled. This is actually the 11th Annish of Can Fan. As explained in last issue's editorial, Can Fan was founded in February of 1943 and from that date to February 1954 is eleven years. So this, the March issue, should be the 11th Annish. While we celebrated our tenth birthday day with the last issue, that birthday was nine months late. And since we did celebrate an anniversary last time out, we aren't celebrating one this time. We'll have a 12th Anniversary next March.

A while ago the local club members held a wild hair session and put out a one shot called A BAS. These will be sent out free to all subscribers. If any one else wants a copy, they may be had for five cents per, or you can get one free while they last, by subscribing to this magazine.

A BAS is more of a "panzine" than fanzine. The fen in these parts got quite a kick out of publishing it and panning this that and the other thing in connection with fandom.

A BAS contains a few items which may bear reprinting or correction in Can Fan for the benefit of those who don't receive the first mentioned. Therefore:

MAD COMIC did not fold as reported in A BAS. We got a report that it had folded with it's sixth issue. We later heard that it had put out it's ninth issue in the States, and the publisher was going to bring out a companion mag. Evidently it is only the Canadian Edition which folded. Considering that it had such imitators as, Crazy, Wild, Eh!, Bughouse, Madhouse, Get Lost, etc., it is rather suprising that Mad should fold. If there is anything to choose between the unsanitary mess of comics, Mad would doubtlessly be the best. All of which goes to prove, that crud may come and go, but literature (Pogo) goes on for ever. It is easy to imitate crud, but who could mimic Pogo?

I will fill the remainder of this page by giving mention to a highly (and justly so) rated fan magazine.

SPACESHIP, edited and published by Bob Silverberg. Anything we can say about this very fine magazine is inadequate, none the less, this issue is up to the high standard set by Bob and which makes Sship the number one fanzine in our estimation. Of particular interest in this issue is the lead article, written by Bob, called 1953 IN REVIEW. The article gives a superb account of all the pro and amateur publishing in the past year, plus a few predictions for next, which, if they come to pass will make 1954 a very interesting year. GAS

ANCIENT MAN in ONTARIO

by CLYDE KENNEDY



Thomas E. Lee, archaeologist of the National Museum of Canada, who discovered the Sheguiandah site on Manitoulin Is.

Here is an exciting article about important new archaeological findings on Manitoulin Island, on Lake Huron in the Great Lakes District. From this we now have new data on early North American man.....

Copyrighted by the Northern
Circuit

About 10,000 years ago, during the last known glaciation, ice moved southward in Ontario to the region of Cochrane. Did groups of primitive move eastward in front of this glaciation to live along the northern shores of the Great Lakes? Part of the answer, at least, may lie in a rich archaeological site near the Village of Sheguiandah on Manitoulin Island, six miles south of Little Current.

During the past summer a National Museum of Canada archaeological party, under the direction of Thomas E. Lee, found interesting evidence that primitive people, who had not discovered pottery, lived on Manitoulin Island from 5,000 to 7,000 years ago and perhaps even earlier.

"Several prominent North American archaeologists have examined the site," declares Lee, "and they have suggested early connections for

the projectile points which we have found - such as Yuma and Pinto Basin." These terms, of course, mean little to laymen, but when it is realized that stone relics, or artifacts, known as Pinto Basin points, for example, are given a tentative age of more than 9,000 years - an extremely old dating for a North American archaeological find - it can be understood why there is considerable excitement about the Sheguiandah site.

The site was discovered by Lee in June 1951 while he was carrying out an archaeological survey of Manitoulin Island with the assistance of W. D. Bell. The following summer the National Museum sent Lee, with a crew of 25, to explore the site. It soon became evident that this was one of the richest of the old sites that had been found in North America. And most important, it had not been disturbed, as have so many Canadian archaeological sites, by souvenir hunters who do irreparable damage.

During this past season, a crew averaging twelve in number has found sufficient further evidence to justify the importance the National Museum attaches to the site. Last year Dr. F. J. Alcock, the museum's chief curator, said: "It is one of the most important things discovered by archaeologists working in Canada. We have many Indian sites of the late type, but an early site like this is really a find."

To explore the Sheguiandah site, Dr. Alcock has recruited university students studying archaeology and amateur archaeologists known for their careful work. Only a handful of these crew members are paid for their work, but all receive free board and tent accomodation. Many of them work for the museum during their summer vacation and then leave to be replaced by others.

QUARTZITE HILL

The site is a quartzite hill rising some 150 feet above the present level of Lake Huron and it covers about thirty acres. More than three tons of quartzite artifacts, including various types of scrapers, knives, and projectile points, have been found. "The projectile points look like dart points rather than arrow points," says Lee. These darts were probably hurled with a throwing board, a device which appears to have been invented by early man before he devised the bow and arrow. The dating of the site is difficult for, though some charcoal from what may have been ancient fires has been found, the quantity is not sufficiently abundant to permit an age determination by the recently developed method of analyzing the content of radioactive carbon existing in all plants and animals and which decays a known rate. However, indications of the age of the Sheguiandah find are given by types of artifacts and characteristics of their flaking, and by the geology of the site.

The determination of dates for early sites in North America is an extremely complex problem which leaves no room for hasty conclusions or dogmatism - both of which have beset archaeology on the continent in the past and occasionally cloud the science today.

Ancient Man in Ontario

early date and he is tentatively suggesting an age of 5,000 to 7,000 years. He has received support for his dating not only from prominent archaeologists who have visited the site, but also from the geological evidence so far uncovered. For example all the earliest artifacts have been found above a well-developed, wave-cut notch which is 20 feet above the present level of Lake Huron. The hill was apparently an island at the time it was occupied by the earlier of the cultures which have left artifacts on it. The most recent culture, the so-called Point artifacts as far down as 10 feet above the present level of Lake Huron. Other evidence of a more technical nature lies in the various types of soil containing artifacts high on the hill.

Considerable excitement was aroused just as this past season's study of the site was coming to a close. Near the summit of the hill is a bog which has haunted Lee ever since he started exploration of the site. Would it contain evidence that hadn't been found elsewhere? He finally set a crew to work putting an exploration trench into it. After cutting through some six inches of root mass the archaeologists dug into black peat. At a depth of one foot they came upon a part of a quartzite blade which had been shaped by pressure flaking (which was probably done by some flaking tool such as an antler tip). Soon other artifacts were found at various depths.

TWO POSSIBILITIES

The excitement caused by this bog is due to two interesting possibilities. First, a pollen analysis may help to date the artifacts. Pollen found in bogs is studied to determine the plant life it represents. This plant life is a clue to the climate that prevailed when the bogs were forming. The relative ages of a series of bogs and the characteristic plant life of their times is determined. Then other bogs can be given a relative age through a study of the pollen found in them. The second possibility is that the human skeletal material may be found. Such remains are extremely rare in the really old sites of North America and the few that have been discovered have been subjects of much dispute. The association of the remains with the geological strata and with artifacts has not always been positive enough to satisfy completely the geologists, paleontologists, physicists, botanists, archaeologists, and other scientists who all play a part in reaching conclusions on archaeological dating.

The bog could yield not only interesting human remains but also remains of animals - for example, long extinct bison (of a type long ante dating the bison that exists today), horses, mastodons and other animals whose remains have been found elsewhere in North America, sometimes in clear association with man-made stone weapons. There are, in fact, many interesting features of the Sheguiandah site - too numerous to outline fully here. For example, there are the quarries where the hammerstones used by primitive people have been found just as they were left. And near these hammerstones are pound marks on the quartzite. Spreading out below one quarrying spot is the most impressive accumulation of quartzite blocks, chips and other worked fragments that covers about a third of an acre. One dump which has been excavated to a depth of four feet has yielded a variety of unfinished blades and has shown a clear stratification that has been most useful in determining the

number and the variety of cultures that have occupied the Sheguiandah site.

On a level, wooded area below such quarries and dumps is what appears to have been the habitation area. There the archaeologists have been digging in 10 foot squares, going down slowly and painstakingly with grapefruit knives and brushes, making charts of the chips and artifacts uncovered every couple of inches and then photographing them in place.

DIFFERENT CULTURES

At various levels on this apparent village site have been found a variety of artifacts within different types of soil, indicating that different cultures inhabited the hill at different times over hundreds of years. On the surface were found flint and slate artifacts of the Point Peninsula culture which is given a dating of about 300 A.D. As already mentioned, artifacts of this culture, unlike those of other cultures found at great depths in the soil on the village site, have been discovered right down the hill almost to the present level of Lake Huron.

Also on the surface - because there is little soil accumulation - and extending a few inches below the surface, is what Lee terms the Sheguiandah culture whose characteristics are large quartzite blades up to 10 inches long, five inches wide, one inch thick and weighing as much as two pounds. The flaking of these is crude and probably done mainly with hammerstones.

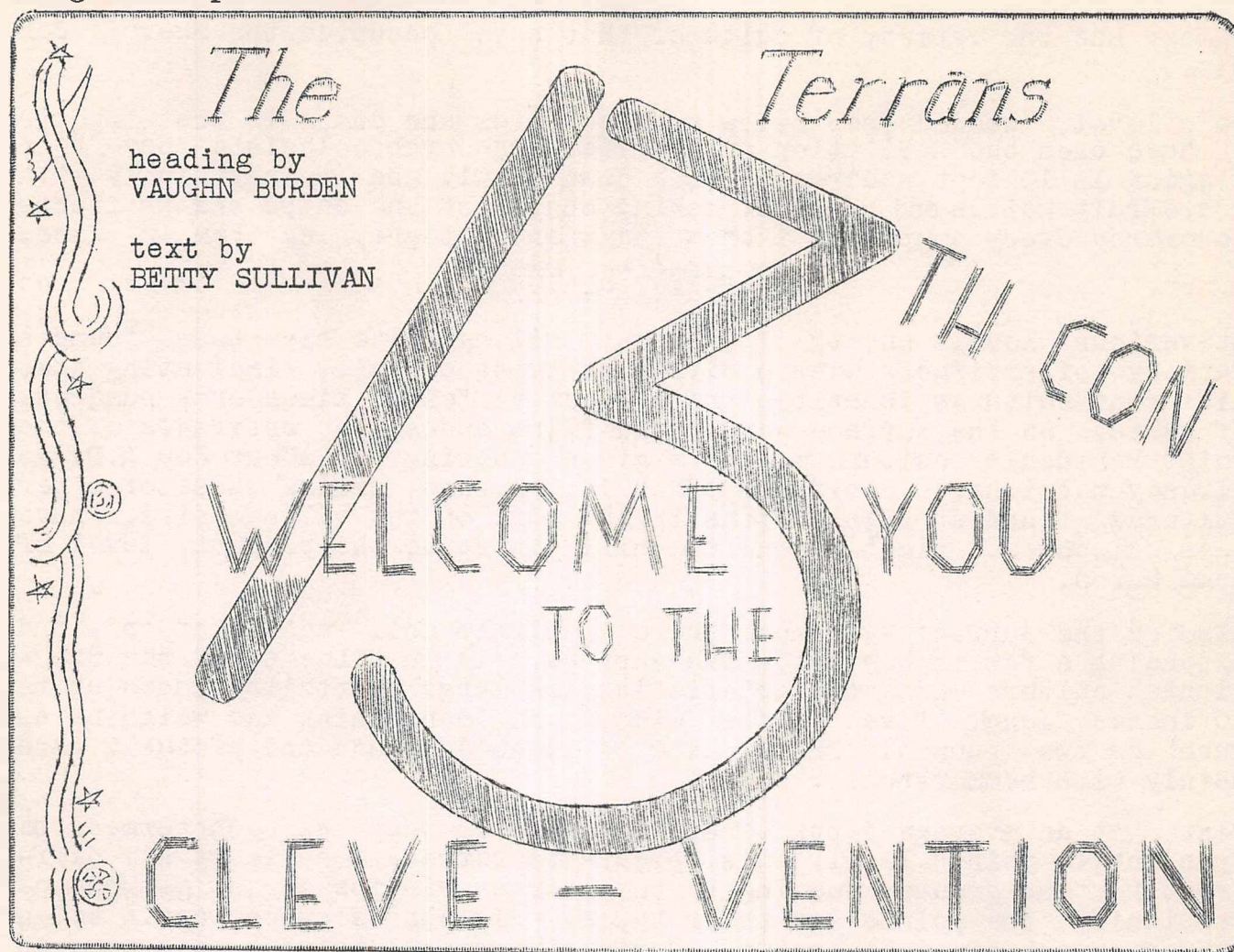
Next, at an average depth of six inches, is what has been termed the "projectile point" level. This appears to represent at least six different hunting groups, judging by the characteristics of the methods of fashioning the points and their types. Big blades appear again at an average depth of eight inches. Curiously enough, these blades have an almost uniform thickness of three-eighths of an inch. Unlike the big blades found on or near the surface, however, these show fine pressure flaking. The length of these blades runs mainly from three to six inches, with few of them longer.

The fifth and lowest level contains mainly chips of quartzite struck off by hammer blows, and flecks of charcoal down to a depth of 22 inches. The chips in this level are definitely tumbled, suggesting that some action, perhaps glacial meltwater has disturbed the layer.

Thus, it can be readily be seen why the dating problems of this site are complex but, exploration continues - the site has barely been scratched so far - new evidence will undoubtedly come to light. In the meantime, the site has attracted considerable attention. More than a thousand visitors, including tourists, local residents, members of Parliament and of the Ontario Legislature, the archaeologists from Canada and the United States, were shown over the site this year by the National Museum party. It will no doubt become a major tourist attraction and efforts are being made by residents of Manitoulin Island and others interested in the site to have it protected by Legislation. Many representations were made to the Ontario Government last year to protect the site and, as a result, a survey of the site has been planned.

CK

Progress Report From Cleveland



One of the members of the Terrans has in his possession a little black book. An ordinary little black book, which can be duplicated in any five and dime in the nation. This little black book is going to be instrumental in the writing of one of the larger, more vivid pages in the unique history of Science-Fiction fandom.

The pages of this unusual little book will contain the "good" and "not so good" items of past SF Conventions. Add to this a complete set of Convention Program Booklets and Progress Reports, then the combined intelligence and direct effort of thirty individuals who comprise the Terrans, Cleveland Science-Fiction Association.

This will be the springboard of action upon which the greatest SF Convention ever held will be created.

From this we have formed the Hospitality Committee and as it now stands this group will consist of all of the Terrans, plus others in fandom who wish to devote a few hours to make this project successful. Two members will be on the floor at all times, properly labeled, to meet arrivals and to introduce them to other Convention members. This, of course, doesn't apply to the "Old Hands" at the game, to you we will merely give greetings and directions to the nearest bar.

Progress Report From Cleveland

The Hotel Committee is already checking and trying to eliminate the sore spots which crop up in most hotels. For example; like waiting one hour for a bucket of ice, house detectives who frown and look mean if there are more than three people in a room talking above a whisper. Carry this sort of a thing to an extreme, as it has happened in several Convention Hotels, and it can become a major irritant.

Is the food in the hotel any good? Here is another, and oft ignored, factor. One of those strange little things for which I have never found an answer is this; many places serve excellent meals at moderate prices, a banquet, out of the same kitchen, from the hands of the same chef, is something to give the most hearty digestive system pause to wonder. Can Cleveland solve this problem? Yes! At least two of our hotels offer a banquet service unequalled throughout the Mid-West area.

The Program Committee is checking, rechecking and eliminating. Do the fans enjoy early sessions? How many of you have missed an important speech because it was badly timed on the program? How many of you have missed banquets, costume balls and the like, because they cropped up on the last night, when some had already left for home. What has been done in the past can not be changed, but we will incorporate new ideas in place of past failures and in this we hope to prosper.

A Voting Committee has been formed to deal with one of the oldest problems in organized fandom. A foolproof method of voting for the next site and a rotation plan so that the Frisco problem won't be repeated again in the near future. Many of you are aware of this situation and know that many friendships wavered over this topic. Even politics entered into the picture, so somewhere amongst us we hope somebody will come up with an answer that will make voting a clean cut, enjoyable portion of the convention.

This is but a small sampling of filler for the little black book, and only a small part of the plans which have already been carried out by the Terrans. Remember, this is only the beginning of the task ahead.

We would like to ask you fans, to add to the contents of the little black book, which grows with each passing week. We invite you to send us a letter with all your pet peeves and things you want at your own SF Convention.

San Francisco is drawing nearer and the Convention we can offer fandom, is growing, bigger and better. You will be hearing more about us from many sources in the next year, so keep your eyes open and give some thought to the things you have read here. When you have done so, we are quite sure you'll agree that it's "Cleveland in Fifty-Five." BS

BETTY SULLIVAN
c/o CLEVELAND SCIENCE-FICTION
ASSOCIATION
2508 EUCLID HEIGHTS BLVD.
CLEVELAND 6, OHIO., USA

Dear Betty:

Get out the little black
book, I'm about to fill it up
with my favorite "beefs".
Away we go — — —

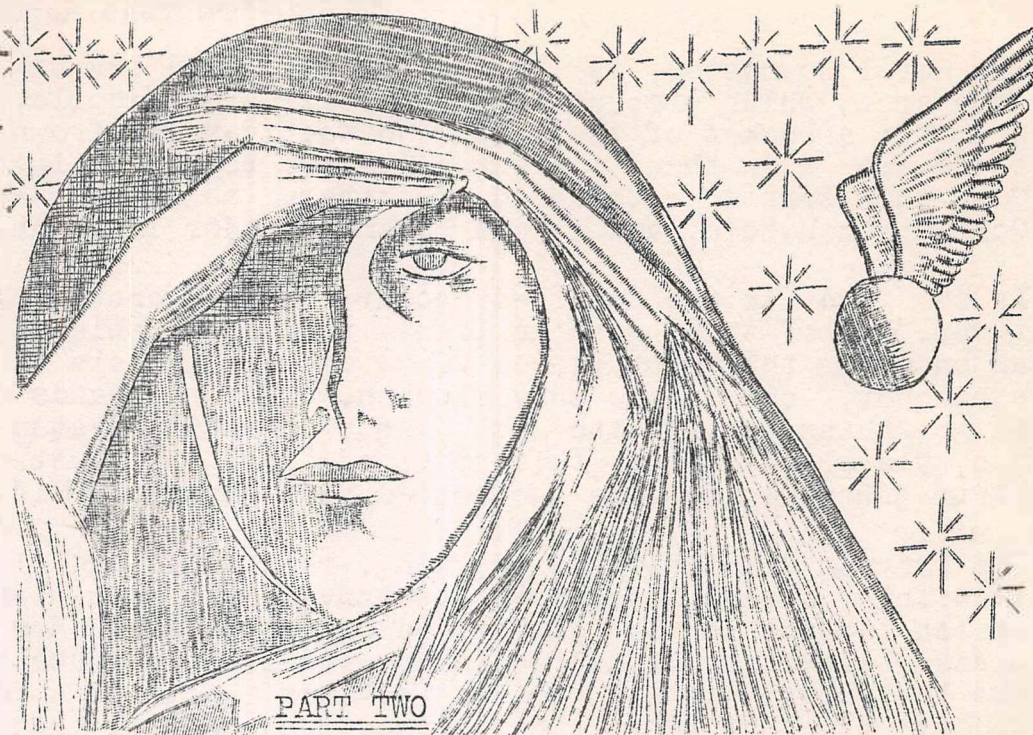
The Ancient & Mystical Order Rosae Crucis

THE
ANCIENT
AND
MYSTICAL
ORDER
ROSAE
CRUCIS

by

MARVIN
SNYDER

Part Two
of 2 Pts.



PART TWO

Sir Frances Bacon originated the plan by which a colony of leaders in the Rosicrucian work was sent from the principal European branches to America, not only to found a Rosicrucian colony, but to establish the Rosicrucian arts, sciences, and trades. This plan was worked out in detail by the main lodge of the order, in London.

In the fall of 1693, a small band under the leadership of Johann Kelpius, a Master of one of the Rosicrucian Lodges of Europe, started out in a specially chartered ship, the "Sarah Maria". They landed in what is now called Philadelphia, and their first colony was located in what became Fairmount Park. Later their descendants moved further west in Pennsylvania and built the colony at Ephrata.

During the first century of the Order's existence in Pennsylvania, a host of eminent Americans became affiliated with the Rosicrucian activities. Two of the outstanding figures are Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson.

Having started in 1693, one hundred and eight years later, in 1801, the first American Rosicrucian movement closed its outer public activities and started in on its cycle of 108 years of retirement and secret activity, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the one hundred and eight year cycle of the Rosicrucian Order. So in 1801, the large colony of Rosicrucians dispersed and proceeded to various parts of the United States, where small branches had been prepared even as far out as the Pacific Coast.

The main buildings in Pennsylvania were abandoned, and the members continued to carry on their work in silence. Children were carefully trained in the teachings, and when they reached adulthood, they were initiated secretly into the organization so that their descendants could also carry on.

The Ancient & Mystical Order Rosae Crucis

In the year 1909, the public appearance of the Order in America was at hand, and definite arrangements for the new cycle had been completed by the Order in Europe. But, it was not until 1915 that the first official public manifesto was issued in the United States announcing the birth of a new cycle of the Order.

From the very start, and with the issuance of the first public manifesto, the correct name of the International Rosicrucian organization was used, that is, THE ANCIENT MYSTICAL ORDER ROSAE CRUCIS. This is slightly abbreviated from the original Latin name. The initials AMORC are used as a further abbreviation of the name.

The term AMORC is patented as is the symbol, the golden cross with only one red rose in its center. AMORC is the only Rosicrucian movement in the United States that is affiliated with AMORC of the world. No other organization uses the term Rosicrucian Order.

Two other principal Rosicrucian organizations in the United States are the Rosicrucian Brotherhood in Quakertown, Pennsylvania, and the Rosicrucian Fellowship at Mt. Ecclesia, California. The Masons have a Rosicrucian degree which is conferred upon certain high officers in their organization, but which has nothing to do with AMORC.

AMORC is represented at international congress and conventions held in Europe and adheres to ancient traditions and customs in all of its standards and practices. The Order does not publish books claiming to contain the Rosicrucian fundamentals, rituals, secrets, rites, or teachings, AMORC does not deal with sex problems or sex practices. It is solely an organization for esoteric learning of the secrets of life.

It is ".....strictly non-sectarian, non-commercial, and not connected with any secret society, fraternity, fellowship, or movement, except the International Rosicrucian Order." (H. S. Lewis, Rosicrucian Questions and Answers, San Jose, Rosicrucian Press, 1941, p. 8.)

For an explanation of why it is non-sectarian, I quote from the Book of Rosaeicruciae, Vol. 1, by Reuben S. Clymer:

The Rosy Cross has never been considered as a strictly Christian Society in the narrow sense of that term. It is assuredly Christic, in principal, but composed of Initiates of all nationalities and of every religious belief known. The Rosy Cross - being Cosmic, that is, over all creatures, cannot possibly be sectarian.

One feature of AMORC is noteworthy because it is common only to the American Order. It is the feature of correspondence membership, known in the Order as the "National Lodge". It was established at the National Convention in Pittsburgh in 1917 to provide instruction by correspondence to those who could not attend Temple Lodges.

This instruction sent in weekly lectures, lessons, and monographs, is especially prepared and is a summary of Rosicrucian principles containing personal experiments, and tests, to make each member able to attain

The Ancient & Mystical Order Rosae Crucis

certain degrees of mastership. National Lodge members who complete the preliminary three grades, covering nine months, may be permitted to receive the "discourses of the higher teachings" of the Temple Lodges throughout the nine grades in the same way they received the preliminary instructions, as long as they pass the requirements satisfactorily. Each grade has its own initiation ritual, which is done by the member at home in his own "sanctum" and "before his own altar".

These rituals are not like the elaborate ones used in the Temple Lodges and conducted by a staff of fifteen in old Egyptian style.

National Lodge members pay their dues directly to the National Lodge Headquarters, at the Supreme Lodge in San Jose. The National Lodge is a very large body with its own signs, grips, passwords and benefits. The members have the privilege of visiting any Temple Lodge on special occasions or whenever there is a Feast or General Ceremony.

Members of both the National Lodge and the Temple Lodges have official membership cards, many similar signs and symbols, and a related membership in every possible way.

Temple Lodge members attend regular lodges and receive higher teachings from the Masters thereof. Their dues are paid directly to the lodge and they have nothing to do with correspondence.

An innovation in the National Lodge is the formation of small study groups. These groups are established in all parts of the country and new groups are constantly being organized. They provide for correspondence members the chance to associate with fellow members. Special discussions and lectures are held which form a very good supplement to the correspondence.

Personal conversation and correspondence with members show, that to a certain extent, the Rosicrucian claims can be proven. The Rosicrucians claim and actually prove to themselves that they can:

solve a problem by dismissing it; see without eyes by inner perception; live a thousand lives in one lifetime; journey into another world yet remain in this one; transform your personality and become another person.

All in all, the results of the work of the Rosicrucians can be summed up in the following quotation from a pamphlet put out by AMORC:

By the use of the principles of self and the laws of nature, as taught by the Rosicrucians, thousands have been able to sustain personal confidence and obtain new joys and opportunities from life. The Rosicrucians have excelled for centuries in disclosing this useful knowledge.

There is no chance, no
destiny, no fate
Can circumvent, or
hinder or control
The firm resolve of a
determined soul

MS

THE MAELSTROM

NAN GERDING, Box 484, Roseville, Illinois., USA

By Roscoe! Now I know it! I'm gonna quit publishing. I'm never going to stencil or print anything again! I refuse! I am positively green with envy and furthermore I simply don't believe you when you say that the illos in Can Fan are stenciled and mimeographed. I will stamp my foot up and down and refuse to believe you. It's impossible to achieve that kind of work via stencils, at least ordinary stencils. Okay, Ger, old boy, give. What kind of paper do you use, what kind of stencils do you use, what kind of ink, by ghod, I want all the details complete. I've seen gobs of mimeo work, from what was considered, the best to the worst and I ain't never seen bothin' to equal the work in Can Fan. I know by gum that you are using some special kind of stencil, also I want to know the name, and price of all the shading plates you use, don't care if you are busy I want some info. Haw! I am so envious. I'm using poor English to boot. But that paper you use is as expensive as hell ain't it? If it ain't, I want some, if it is I want some, but if it is I probably won't get it. Ignatz. How do you do it?

As for contents they're almost as superb and sublime as the format and the reproduction. Still don't believe it. Anyhow, I like every word of Can Fan from start to finish and since it is unbelievable for me to read a fanzine in the first place, (don't even read my own) then that should tell you how much I think of it. Also, after three years in fandom, I think I subbed to maybe three fanzines because I just don't care much for fanzines. Well, I'm enclosing 50¢ for the next four issues, you know this could be called a professional fanzine almost.

(You asked for it. The paper is Gestetner, costs \$4.20 per thousand. The stencils are Gestetner, costs \$4.40 per quire. The ink is Gestetner, costs \$3.25 a tube. (1 pound) Shade plates we don't use. Bill Grant does it all with a wheel pen and a filed down nail for line work.)

RON ELLIK, 232 Santa Ana, Long Beach 3, California., USA

I received the tenth annish of Can Fan recently, I must say that you Canadians sure are good at keeping secrets. I have to admit that no one down here (Southern California) that I have talked to since I received your annish has ever heard of you. But, of course, with Canada and England to spread it over.... Still, 250 copies should have spread it to Southern California, before this.

Not much I can say, re: Can Fan. It isn't a real fanzine, you know. There's some subtle little element lacking which a fanzine needs. However, for what it is, it is excellent. I haven't read everything in it yet, but I did read the editorial, the letters, CAUGHT IN THE ACT, and WEE WILLIE'S WANDERINGS.

The illustrations are neatly reproduced, but again, are not fannish. And the art itself is not the best. True, your people do look like people, (except that nude on page 24; ye ghods what an ugly female) but that "bem" on page 27....

(It is our opinion that a fanzine should contain material related to science, science-fiction, or fandom, which is precisely what the material in Can Fan is, although in some cases rather remotely. As for Can Fan's not circulating in So. Cal. Remember there was a hiatus of two years between issues number 17 and 18. Also, one of your native Californians, Forry Ackerman, wrote many a line in our early issues.)

Letters From The Readers

DARYL SHARP, RCAF Station, Uplands, Ontario., Canada

Have now resorted to writing my letters late at night when the rest of the family is fast asleep, and my homework is done. Since going to college, all my boyish illusions have been shattered. My visions of suave, debonair, sophisticated university students are now but mere memories. By god, we're human!

Might as well get right to the superb job you did on the latest issue of Can Fan. No idle flattery that, Ger, since I'll sure as hell tell you when and if you publish a boob. Your special article on the Convention was a terrific personal account, and Reta seems to have a knack for providing the proper mood.

What I really find effective about Can Fan, is the overall neat appearance. There are too damn many sloppy jobs on the fan market lately. Some have got to go, and if appearance is a deciding factor, Can Fan will be around for quite a while. Most of your material is first rate and of course that helps too. I'm still puzzled over the way you reproduce photographs on mimeo paper. Good tho'.

I'd better put in a few beefs, before you think I'm after some free issues of Can Fan. For one thing, I found the article on the Rosicrucians particularly dull and uninteresting, (only a personal opinion of mine, of course) and one other small point: the article UNDERSTANDING WOMEN by Earle was out of place in a fanzine. Now don't get me wrong I laughed like hell at it, and thought it was a well-written piece, but I found myself thinking, what does this have to do with science fiction? However, it was entertaining, and that is after all the main point.

I found the article on you and your ambitions quite interesting, you ogre. Answered any questions I had about you 'un. Say, what do you plan to use the back cover for, if anything? Why don't you put some illo, dramatic type, on the back.

Just looking over the Con Report by Reta, I see where she mentions that nothing was provided for those individuals with no big fannish friends. Just as Hamling said, she comments on the inadequacy of the Con on the matter of lost fen after the regular sessions. Seems to be a generally held opinion that the Con was entirely too "cliquish" for a well-rounded, friendly affair.

(Take a look at the back cover - I think we have a very dramatic illo.)

DEAN A. GRENELL, 402 Maple Avenue, Fond du Lac, Wisc., USA

Thanks for the look at Canadian Fandom. It's a very nice item and I'm grateful for the copy.

I think the thing that impresses me the most about it is the artwork. Your artist (Mr. Grant, I believe?) has a very definite flair for putting photos onto Gestetner....I think it's a safe guess that you do use a Gestetner as I seem to recognize the work it does. Your chapter headings, your lettering and especially the pictures are as good as any I've ever seen in a fanzine outside of litho work, and they don't compare too badly with some of that.

The upper pic on page 5 is - to use an overworked word - fabulous!!!

The pix on page 18 were nice too - my first look at the renowned Campbell fringe, (pity he's a pro instead of a fan - then he could be a fringe-fan) and the pic of Madelaine Willis whom I hadn't seen

before. Wish you'd had one of Chuck Harris too! An undisputable fact at the bottom of page 21. Miss Sullivan certainly wasn't speaking against the Terrans.

Pic on page 24, while competently executed, seems scarcely justified by the text, but I suppose there are those who like this sort of thing.

Nothing else seems to require detailed comment. My interest in the Rosicrucians is less than avid so I didn't quite get through that article.

The Con reports were excellent. I didn't go to Philly myself and it's always interesting to read various reports and cross-file them against each other - such divergence of viewpoints in some of them.

I'll be looking forward to the next issue if you'd care to send it. Meanwhile, I'm sending you a copy of "Grue", a thing I toss off at odd intervals for FAPA.

(Thanks for the humorous and interesting letter of comment. The pic on page 24 was not put there for its pornographic value, but rather as a gag. The title CAUGHT IN THE ACT, along with such a pic, leads one to expect other things of the accompanying article.)

DENNIS CAMPBELL, 1249 Jepson Street, Niagara Falls., Ontario, Canada

Can Fan arrived today, and having read it, have decided to comment on same.

Thought that the two articles on the Philcon were quite good. Sounded as if the Con was quite a success. All the Con reports I've read, with one exception, were quite favourable. The article on AMORC was interesting, evidently MS knows what he is talking about. Betty Sullivan's Report was good, though I wasn't aware that she belonged to the Terrans.

Must congratulate Bill Grant on his reproduction of the photo accompanying the article. When I was down in Cleveland last summer, I met the people in the picture, among others, and the likenesses are very good. I hope Cleveland gets the Con in '55.

Fan Personalities was also good. I thought I recognized that face when I came to it. Another good Likeness.

(Thanks, Dennis, for the letter of kind words and encouragement.)

I'd like to mention in passing that letters were also received from Elmer R. Kirk, Beverley Wiggans, K. Martin Carlson, Don Ford, Betty Kujawa, Lillian Dimock, Keith Strong, William Conner and others, but we just haven't the space to print them all, much as we would like to.

CANADIAN FANS ATTENTION: The Canadian Science-Fiction / Fantasy Fan Association need your support. Join now, send your membership dues and application to Harry Calnek, Granville Ferry, Nova Scotia. In return, via your support of \$1.50, you will receive, "Canadian Capers", the club bulletin, and the other, as yet unnamed, official organ of the club.

We would also like to mention at this time that a plot is hatching in some of the border towns, (between Canada and USA) and the outcome may very well be a small scale convention to accommodate those of us who can't get to San Francisco, this coming fall. Watch for this plan, it will probably spring into being at the forthcoming Midwest Con in May. Speaking of the Midwest Con, many of us in this "neck-of-the-woods" plan on being at the "do". So we'll close off the Maelstrom and hear all your beefs "in person", when next we meet at the Midwest Con. GAS

BOOKS ★ FILMS ★ RECORDS

HOWARD LYONS KENNETH G. HALL WILLIAM D. GRANT

★ REVIEWS ★

film review "CONVENTION JACKPOT" photographed by William D. Grant and Leslie A. Crouch - A Miracle Picture - RT 20 minutes.

Back in 1948, Les Crouch took some movies of the Torcon, the first films we know of recording a SF Convention, we only wish he had taken more footage. Ackerman looks like he just shaved the fuzz off his face. Then we jump to May 1951, the Midwest Con and all the big yearly events that followed. We meet Darrell C. Richardson, at his home in Kentucky, Bob Tucker sitting on that famous chair, Harry B. Moore in New Orleans, great poker games of the century, all the horrible sights you would expect to see at a costume ball, Bea Mahaffey just before convention time in Chicago and many other scenes that are better forgotten, but fun to see. We admit this film is strictly a "hodge podge" of events, but what can an editor do when it comes to editing three hours of film down to twenty minutes.

By this coming May somebody (to be announced) will be distributing this film, free of charge, except for postage in the USA. This film is on 8mm gauge and is completely sub-titled.

disc review "THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY" starring Ian Hunter and David Enders - A London Record - RT 43 minutes. LLP 472

Many of us have read Oscar Wilde's classic story, others remember the fine movie produced by MCM in 1944. Still others have thrilled to this sparkling performance on records. This version is based on the stage play and is not hindered by dialogue censorship. Ian Hunter, as Lord Henry parallels the screen role, which George Sanders did with fine polish. The voice of David Enders, captures all there is to be had and a little more in the final scenes as Dorian. The scene of the unveiled portrait, although unseen by us, before Basil at the climax, is one of utter horror. This and other major scenes have been captured and linked together by streamline narration. Here again the problem of editing has been a challenge, which Howard Rose has done a painstaking job of adaption and direction. All of us up this way have listened and we are unanimous in suggesting that you give this a listen sometime in the future. In passing we will mention that there is a surface scratch noise on our copy, but this might have been our copy only. WDG

film review "SPACEWAYS" starring Howard Duff and Eva Bartok - Lippert Pictures - RT 73 minutes.

Lippert Strikes Again!!! Everybody remembers with distaste the first effort (sic) from this mob, to wit "Rocketship XM". Well, after several years of blessed silence from this company, they have sent out another epic. This one has been branded "Spaceways" - miss this! The story might have had some merit at one time, but it ends up with the same crappy treatment that XM got. At least this time the speed is not registered on an airspeed indicator. Along that line however, the speed indicator spins like a stop watch. The main complaint is the pedestrian pace of the lemon, together with somewhat inadequate acting from normally competent personnel. The usual scientific inaccuracies run rampant. In particular I was nauseated by the use of a bookkeeping machine in the guise of a super-duper-calculator. Most of the white smocked personnel stand around making pencil marks on ledger sheets and nodding like a second year intern. You will probably be very pleased by the extra large radar screen they use. It measures about three feet in diameter. It bears a superficial appearance to a clear glass window with the lights out behind it except for a flashlight spot which represents several million dollars (and two weeks of construction) worth of rocketship. (three stages, no waiting) The choice bit however is when the ground crew mentions that the ship is traveling at such and such a speed, eight G's. Immediately you see a view in the rocketship of "The Star" (Howard Duff) speaking into a rather tattered microphone, showing no signs of strain and remarking "No sensation of speed". At which point the more intelligent one-one thousandth of the audience are heard to retch up popcorn and peps. The only point of interest is a perfect murder which would interest John Dickson Carr. This is better than a locked room mystery. Two people disappear from a security locked station. The solution offered is that they were murdered, two tons of fuel were drained from an unmanned rocket, the bodies were put into the tank and the whole caboodle launched into outer space. Due to this shortage of fuel the rocket settles down as a satellite and that's what the whole stink is about. Only it turns out that the rocket trouble comes from not using super-plastic in the right spots and the people (one of whom is a scientist who intends heading "east" where "two billion people are in bondage") escaped by bribing a guard. HL

book review "RIDERS TO THE STARS" by Curt Siodmak - Ballantine Books 166 pages - .35¢ pocketbook edition - \$2.50 hardcover.

As soon as I see the name Siodmak, I remember "Donovan's Brain" and I picked this up expecting a science-fiction horror story. It has already been pointed out that one rocket breaks up into crystals and at the climax for some unexplained reason this does not occur under the repeated circumstances. Ignoring these errors and reading this as an almost semi-documentary account, you will find a better than average story of pioneer attempts and some very real human characters in a very precise prose. There is no doubt that this story has been re-written from a movie script, and the author will make a little extra green stuff, but it has been done with restraint and with probably a little more time on the text, could easily have been a minor classic.

I also note Richard Carlson is in the screen version, that's three SF movies within a year, this guy must be a real fan - does anybody know? WDG

book review "SEARCH THE SKY" by Frederik Pohl and C. M. Kornbluth
Ballantine Books - 165 pages - .35¢ pocketbook edition.

The now famous team of Pohl and Kornbluth have done it again. In their latest effort they give us another delightful look into the possibility of the future. They do it entertainingly and convincingly by the use of mood in manner of writing.

In the opening of the story, Ross, the hero, finds himself on a dull dreary, dying planet and the writing in this section can also be called dreary. As the story progresses, though, the tempo picks up and the mood changes in accordance with the particular planet that he happens to be on. In some sections the reader will find violence and fear and frustration to the extent that he or she may be tempted to class this epic of the far future as Space Opera, but I am sure that by the time they have reached the end they will agree with me that Messers. Pohl & Kornbluth have successfully followed up their previous collaboration to wit; "The Space Merchants".

There are a few disconcerting elements in this book, though, and one is the fact that the hero starts out in a cramped one-man scout ship and after millions of miles and many adventures, he reaches Earth in the same ship with Four passengers. Also, (and this I did not like) we are led to believe that a poor, ignorant, savage girl has the ability to manuver the cramped scout ship better than our male hero. But the twin authors make up for this by having the girl pull a real boob which the hero, of course, has to rectify.

I can tell you that one of the visited planets is controlled by women and that this part is very funny, and I can tell you that another of the planets is populated by Joneses who look, dress, talk, walk, and are identical in every respect, but I will not tell you one word about what the hero finds on the Earth of the future. This, the last chapter in the book, is a masterpiece of sarcasm and sly digs at the people of today.

Search The Sky is a must to readers of STF. I am sure that you can not help but enjoy it, be you eight or eighty. RGH

IS ALL FAIR IN LOVE? by Shirley MacKenzie

A once-loved man was possessed with the eyes of Thomas
Doubtful, sunken after nights and days of fretful ease.
His mind dared to dream of a trip to Mercury or Mars
But, it could not for long, for he could not
Remember to forget his relinquished love.

"Man", I asked, "how can you sit, staring into space
When the whole world holds out a welcome hand
Waiting to come forth into a common shake
If only you knew this but someday you shall know".

He answered, "I am sorrowful to be as deserted
As a hermit stranded on a haunted isle
Far from the fair reach of a once-loved one
Free to return to the all-important self,
The self which shall for a long time
Forsake all as it always has been forsaken".

And he withdrew a suffering handshake
And he stalked away, alone to himself.



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Planet Jul. '53 - Future Mar. May. Jul. Sept. '53 - Space Stories Apr. Jun
F.F.M. Apr. Jun. '53 - T.W.S. Aug. Jun. '53 - Science Stories October 53
and other kinds of odds and ends that I can't be bothered to list.

- : T O G E T R I D O F .

B U T I W A N T : -

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Donovan's Brain	Curt Siodmak	Bantam # 819
Dracula	Bram Stoker	Pocket # 452
Mr. Adam	Pat Frank	Pocket # 498
Opus 21	Philip Wylie	Pocket # 722
Pocket Book Of Ghost Stories	(Anthology)	Pocket # 384
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A GRAPE AND -



AN OFFER -

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I've sent away a goodly amount of dough which has vanished into the maw of fanzines which have folded by the time my green gets there.

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If you are a struggling fanzine editor and want CASH for a sub (no trades) send me a copy of your latest effort. This will be paid for in CASH in any case. Along with the sample - which will be paid for in CASH - send a list of back numbers available and how much for the lot. Also some intimation as to whether you will still be in business a week later when my subscription (CASH) arrives.

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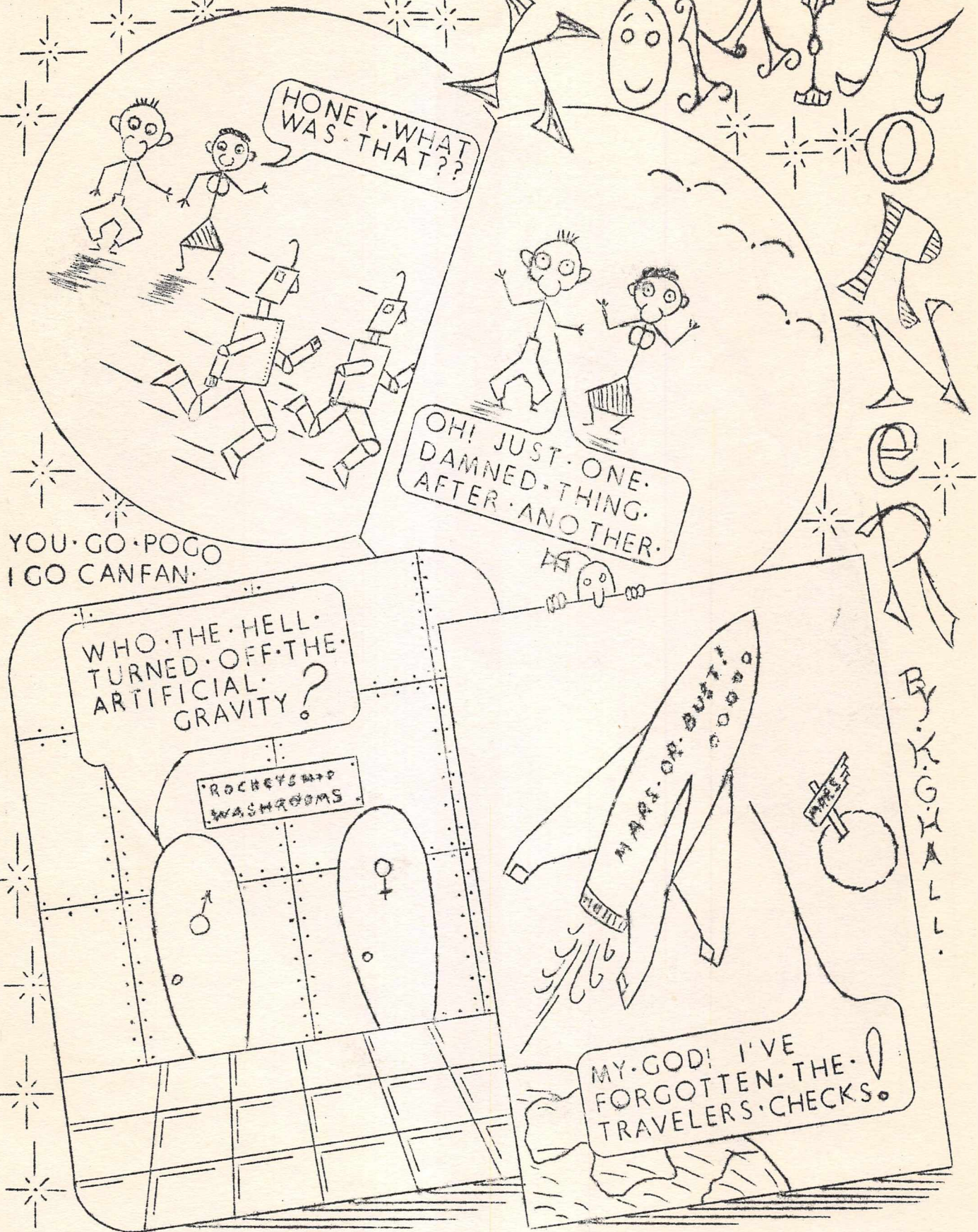
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