

THE COLLECTOR'S BULLETIN

SPRING 1967

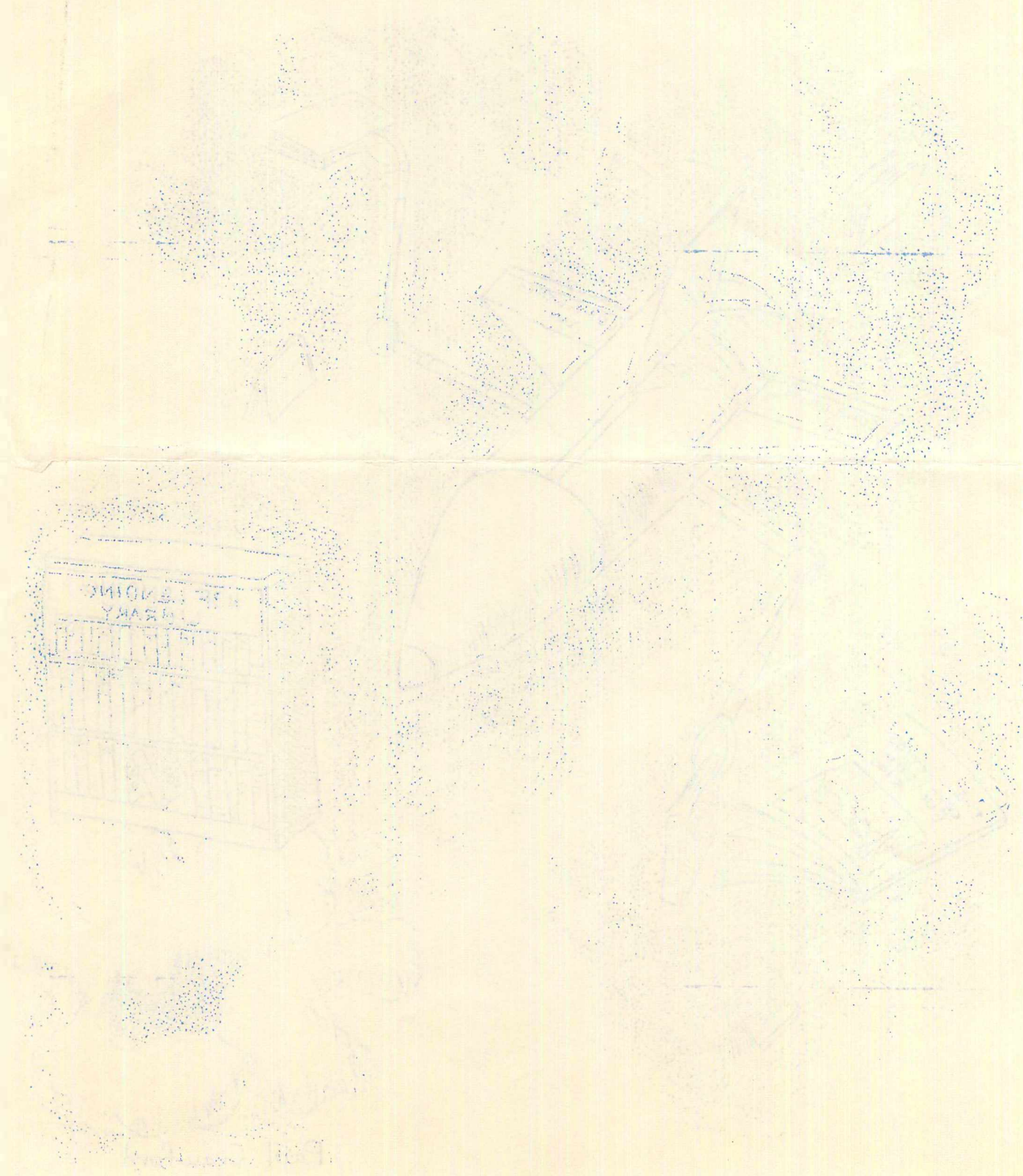
NUMBER 7



Paul Crawford

THE COLLEGE FOR

THE CITY OF NEW YORK



RALEIGH ROACH has dissolved his collection (a sad thought...), mostly by giving it to me. Several items are for sale to CB members however: Mint copies of the MITSFS Index and the Cole Anthology Index, and a nice set of BEYOND (all 10 issues), \$5 for each of these. Checks should be made to me. Raleigh's new address is 1315 Spruce St., Berkeley, Calif-94709.

WINSTON F. DAWSON, 11809 Four Lakes Dr, South Lyon, Michigan-48178, is another new neffer who has asked to join CB but hasn't told us his collecting interests. Fakefans!

FRED COOK, of BRONZE SHADOWS fame, has the sheer gall and audacity to suggest that ALL of the Bok illos be reprinted with the Bok illo index! I'm not particularly concerned with copyrights, Fred, the main problem is the cost! If I get copies made of all the Bok illos in my collection and send a preliminary copy of the index to you with these checked off, will you copy the remaining ones from your collection? Between the two of us and Wald (who has a complete set of WT), and a couple of others, we could about cover it. If you say you will, I'll compute the number of illos in my collection and see what it would cost to have them copied for offset reproduction.

HECTOR PESSINA, an Argentine fan, asks if anyone is interested in Spanish translations of Lovecraft. Also he mentions the "Hospital Ship" and "Treen" series, these have both been covered by Corrick.

FRITZ LEIBER kindly sends in some info on his "Change War" series (see the article by John Boardman).

RICHARD LABONTE, 971 Walkley Rd, Ottawa 8, Ontario, Canada, is a new member, and starts off with a bang by sending in three series indexes.

GEORGE INZER, Box 1162, MAGNOLIA Dorms, Auburn, Ala-36830, is a new member. He sends in some Bok info, also wants to trade various items (see trade column).

PAUL CRAWFORD, who did the excellent cover on this issue, also sent in an index to the magazine appearances of Heinlein, books by Heinlein, and an index to the Heinlein "Future History" series, in both chronological and sequential order.

PAUL WILLIS is editor of INFO, the official organ of the International Fortean Organization. If you are interested in the documentation of facts that our current science fails to explain (as any trufan should be), write him at Box 341, Festus, Missouri-63028. Paul also publishes a Lovecraftian zine ANUBIS, about which I will only say that the first issue reprinted three pages from the NECRONOMICON.

JAY KINNEY wants a Cartier Illo Index... A good idea, why doesn't somebody start one for us?

HARRY WARNER kindly lent us some bibliographic material for copying. Also has some of Bok's early fanzine work... If you could just start a fanzine section to the Bok Index by indexing what you have, Harry, we would be a long way ahead of where we are now in that department, namely nowhere. I have neither the material nor the knowledge to even start the job.

DICK WALD advises that he will soon be selling an index to Ace sf, by author, title and number.

WALT WENTZ asks if we would like an article and index on the "Toffee" stories... I hope I wrote him yes already, tho the article has not yet appeared in my mailbox.

T.G.L. COCKCROFT sent much info on Merritt which was forwarded to Wentz for his 2nd edition of the Merritt biblio. He is also working on Bok material for us.

GREG SHANKS, 209 W. 8th St, Perrysburg, Ohio-43551, sends in some series index material, says there are more than four "Hogben" stories...

CHARLIE BROWN is a dealer in a small way, and will send you a list of hardcover sf if you ask for it, but you must agree to return it to him. I've bought some nice things from him. Address 2078 Anthony Ave, Bronx, NY 10457.

LARRY SMITH, 216 East 71st St, Columbus, Ohio 43202 is one of those maddening fans who claims to have his entire collection cataloged and indexed... I'll get there one of these days!

PAUL WILLIS (see also above) asks about a tale from the Jun/July '39 Weird Tales, "Far Below" by Robert Barbour Johnson. This was anthologized in the 1954 Editor's Choice in Science Fiction. Does anyone know anything about this author? Oops, the above anthology was edited by Moskowitz. Your other question, Paul, about the A. Conan Doyle story "The Terror of Blue John Gap", I don't know whether it has been reprinted or not. Cole's Index lists Doyle stories back as far as 1895 and this was 1910, so either it was never anthologized, or Cole missed it, or Cole didn't consider it sf. I see by the Tuck Handbook though, that this story was reprinted three times in Doyle collections: The Black Doctor & Other Tales Of Horror & Mystery (Doran, 1925); The Last Galley (Smith, Elder, London, 1911; Doubleday, Page, 1911; Murray, London, 1931). I even have a copy of the Last Galley.

Getting back to Barbour, I see that he had a story in a 1958 zine called PHANTOM, also in the Nov '64 Magazine of Horror. In regard to your search for foreign Lovecraft editions, Paul, note Pessina's offer above.

RON BOUNDS accuses DON D'AMMASSA of omitting Robert Moore Williams' CONQUEST OF THE SPACE SEA from his article lastish because it did not fit Don's theory set forth therein... How about that, Don?

GEORGE FERGUS sends in a great deal of series index info. I hadn't known before that besides MINIONS OF THE MOON, William Beyer wrote MINIONS OF MARS, MINIONS OF MERCURY, and MINIONS OF THE SHADOW... He must have had some sort of thing about "minions"!

DOUGLAS HOTCHKIS, 2022-7th Ave E., Hibbing, Minn 55746, collects old pulps, is also looking for Famous Monsters #1, 12, 15. Also looking for something to do... Just start in anywhere, Doug.

PAT PRICE wants to know if we are working on any comic-book indexes (we are not), and where he might find such.

BRIAN BURLEY, 180 S. Chicago, Kankakee, Ill-60901, writes of a cheap search service that a used book dealer is setting up. I haven't heard any more about this after the one letter from Brian, so rather than give the details here, I will just give the dealer's address and see what happens. Brian says he (the dealer) is a Tolkien fan, so he can't be all bad! Write Harry Manogg, Manogg's Books, Box 769, Kankakee, Ill-60901.

So much for the mail this time around... I forgot to mention above that this issue will also carry John Boardman's article on Leiber's "Change War" stories, which John kindly gave me permission to reprint from his KNOWABLE #10.

The cover is by Paul Crawford, mimeoed by my uncle, who is not a fan, but is fannish, if you know what I mean...

For Cordwainer Smith fans, I might mention that I ran across his early novel RIA (Duell, Sloan, & Pearce, New York, 1947) in a local library. This was published under the pseudonym "Felix C. Forrest". It could be considered only borderline fantasy, actually a psychological novel. I would not call it a good novel, but it is interesting, though it drags in places. I wish I could find a copy for my collection! It is interesting to note that on the next to last page there is the phrase "instrumentality of man" (lower case).

TRADE COLUMN

GEORGE INZER wants pulp AMAZINGS and early GALAXIES, also anything with The Shadow in it. He has for trade The AVON MURDER MYSTERY MONTHLYS #29, 41 with Merritt tales, the first VENTURE, the F&SFs with GLORY ROAD in them, a Sept '48 FANTASTIC ADVENTURES, and a Nov '50 MARVEL SCIENCE STORIES.

NED BROOKS (ye ed.) wants LEST DARKNESS FALL by DeCamp, with the Hanes Bok d/w in good condition. Will trade a fair copy of THE FOX WOMAN/ THE BLUE PAGODA by Merritt/Bok and a mint 1949 Fantasy Calendar with illos by Bok and Cartier.

As mentioned in the comments, I am selling a mint MITSFS Index, a Cole Anthology Index, and a set of BEYOND for Raleigh Roark at \$5 each.

NOTES AND NEWS, AND SO ON...

I recently got a catalog from the "Collector's Book Store" in Hollywood, Calif. Besides not being a very good catalog (the books are in no order at all), the items listed are all overpriced, at least double and often more what other dealers are selling the same for. Caveat Emptor!

Something called "Esser's Coddington's D.C. Trade Center" at 79 Brown Rd. Wexford, Pa. 15090, appears to be trying to organize comic collectors. The 22 page "Dangling Conversation" they sent me is ditto, fairly good tho blurry, and goes on and on about organizing and so forth, tho there is nothing about comics in it and I had to read a while to determine that that was what they were organizing for. The artwork is only fair, tho multicolored. I never could figure out what the "D.C." stood for, what the mysterious "Academy" was (there seemed to be some controversy as to whether they should get into a fight with it), or why practically everyone mentioned in the zine was referred to as "Mr" this or that, which looks a bit odd in a fan-zine. But if you collect comics, maybe you understand all this and will want to contact them...

The efforts of "The Committee" headed by Harlan Ellison seemed to have saved STAR TREK, at any rate it will be back next year. But keep writing those letters, especially when they make logical or technical boobos. It's no use saving the show just so it can deteriorate into another LOST IN SPACE.

Good newszines for those who collect current f&sf are:

SCIENCE FICTION TIMES (\$3/year-monthly) Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209

DEGLER! (15/\$1 - weekly) 24 East 82nd St., New York, N.Y. 10028

THE WSFA JOURNAL (\$2/year - biweekly) 12315 Judson Rd., Wheaton, Md. 20906

Those interested in Lovecraft have probably noticed that Chalker's MIRAGE appears to be defunct. There are, however, Paul Willis's ANUBIS, and a new effort, LOVECRAFTIANS INC., address Fred Phillips, 1278 Grand Concourse, Bronx, N.Y. 10456. Fred seems to be a good man, even if he doesn't believe that ANUBIS is reprinting pages from the NECROMOMICON...

SERIES INDEX

There follows here a list of the series for which we have recieved indexes. Each is listed by the most-likely to-be-familiar popular name, the author's name, and whether it seems to be complete.

- "HOTHOUSE" - Brian Aldiss - C (complete)
- "REMBRANT VAN RIJN" - Poul Anderson - C
- "DOMINIC FLANDRY" - Poul Anderson - I (incomplete, he may yet write more)
- "ASTEROID" - Poul Anderson - E? (appeared under "Winston P Sanders")
- "TIME PATROL" - Poul Anderson - C (probably complete)
- "GALACTIC PATROL" - Poul Anderson - C (last entry 1956)
- "BURNING BRIDGE" - Poul Anderson - C (last entry 1961)
- "HOKA" - Poul Anderson & Gordon Dickson - C
- "FOUNDATION" - Asimov - C
- "ROBOT" - Asimov - C
- "MINIONS" - William Beyer - C
- "OKIE" - James Blish - C
- "SEEDLING STARS" - James Blish - C
- "MARS & VENUS" - LEIGH Brackett - ? (runs 1940-1964, one 11 year gap)
- "PSI SOCIETY" - Walter Bupp - E (runs 1960-1965)
- "MODERAN" - David Bunch - I (we can't decide which ones go in)
- "PENTON & BLAKE" - John Campbell - C
- "WADE, ARCOTT & MOREY" - John Campbell - C
- "RALPH KENNEDY" - Mark Clifton - C?
- "BETSY" - Mark Clifton - C
- "RIM WORLDS" - Raymond B Chandler - I (probably)
- "PHILOSOPHICAL CORP" - E B Cole - C
- "DORSAI" - Gordon Dickson - I (probably)
- "BULBUR" - Gordon Dickson - I (probably)
- "VIAGENS" - De Camp - C
- "BLACK JOHNNY" - De Camp - C
- "HAROLD SHEA" - De Camp & Pratt - C
- "MAD FRIEND" - G C Edmondson - C?

"RIVERWORLD" - Phillip Jose Farmer - I
 "BUREAU OF SLICK TRICKS" - H B Fyfe - C
 "LORD DARCY" - Randall Garrett - I?
 "IMMORTAL" - James Gunn - C
 "SPACE STATION" - James Gunn - C
 "FUTURE HISTORY" - Heinlein - C
 "PEOPLE" - Zenna Henderson - I (probably)
 "ESK" - Hayden Howard - I
 "ARTHUR BLORD" - E M Hull - C
 "DOC METHUSELAH" - Ron Hubbard (as Rene Lafayette) - C
 "BRAK" - John Jakes - C? (I hope!)
 "HOGBENS" - Kuttner - C
 "GALLAGHER" - KUTTNER & MOORE (as Padgett) - C
 "BALDY" - Kuttner & More (as Padgett) - C
 "FAHRD & THE GREY MOUSER" - Fritz Leiber - C? (I hope not!)
 "CHANGE WAR" - Leiber - C?
 "MED SERVICE" - Leinster - C - (these overlay, will probably be listed as all one series)
 "LANDING GRID" - Leinster -
 "GREE" - C C MacApp - ? (appeared in '64, '65, '66...)
 "ELRIC" - Micheal Moorcock - C
 "PARATIME POLICE" - H. Beam Piper - C
 "SPACE VIKING" - H. Beam Piper - C
 "ENSIGN REUTER" - Arthur Porges - C?
 "BEL ROGAS" - Robert Randall (Garrett & Silverberg) - C
 "UNITED PLANETS" - Mack Reynolds - I
 "FRIGID FRACAS" - Mack Reynolds - I
 "BERSERKER" - FRED Saberhagen - I
 "CONTACT" - Jack Sharkey - C
 "AGENT OF VEGA" - James Schmitz - C
 "HUB" - James Schmitz - ?
 "LORDS OF THE INSTRUMENTALITY" - Cordwainer Smith - C
 "BLUE FIRE" - Robert Silverberg - ?
 "CITY" - Simak - C

"VENUS EQUILATERAL" - George O Smith - C

"DYING EARTH" - Jack Vance - C? (should the Ougel stories be included?)

"MAGNUS RIDOLPH" - Jack Vance - C

"CLANE OF LINN" - Van Vogt - C

"RULL" - Van Vogt - C

"WEAPON SHOP" - Van Vogt - C

"SPACE BEAGLE" - Van Vogt - C

"MIXED MEN" - Van Vogt - C

"HOSPITAL STATION" - James White - C

"SEETEE" - Jack Williamson - C

"WATCHER" - Jack Williamson - C

"TROONS OF SPACE" - John Wyndham - C

* * * * *

I have tried to put these in alphabetical order by author, I missed a couple of times by a little bit. A few of the series were already covered in the TUCK HANDBOOK, which goes through 1957. For the present, it would probably be as well not to bother with any series that ended before 1957, as it is probably already listed in Tuck's. There are still many series not covered, I hope you will get busy and do them. Note that most of the "Incomplete" series listed above are because the author may well yet write more stories in the series.

* * *

"Change War" Series, by Fritz Leiber - Compiled by John Boardman

1. TRY AND CHANGE THE PAST - ASF - Mar'58

2. THE BIG TIME - GALAXY - Apr'58

3. A DESKFUL OF GIRLS - F&SF - Apr'58

4. DAMNATION MORNING - FANTASTIC - Aug'59

5. THE OLDEST SOLDIER - F&SF - May'60

6. NO GREAT MAGIC - Galaxy - Dec'63

7. WHEN THE CHANGE WINDS BLOW - F&SF - Aug'64

8. KNIGHT TO MOVE - BROADSIDE - Dec'65

1,4,5 published in Ace D-491 THE MIND SPIDER & Other Stories/THE BIG TIME.

2 published as THE BIG TIME in Ace D-491

This article is reprinted from John Boardman's KNOWABLE #10, with his kind permission. Wish I had similar things for all of the series! An index to the Change War stories appears on page 7.

ALONG CAME A SPIDER

by John Boardman

Fritz Leiber's stories about the "Big Time", and the Change War that takes place there between the Snakes and the Spiders, have a wider scope than almost any other science-fiction story. The Change War takes place, not only in the past and in the future, but in all kinds of possible pasts, presents, and futures as the Snakes and the Spiders try to change the history of the universe to their advantage. In Leiber's Change War stories, the war is described as extending a billion years into the past and future, and across several galaxies.

The exact nature of the conflict is never clearly stated. The only novel in the series, the Hugo-winning The Big Time, comes the closest to doing so. A human from the distant past explains to the heroine that the beings who fight the Change War "are the fourth order of evolution... they can make all of what might be past of what is, and that is their evolutionary function." Thus, a human being recruited into the Change War as a "Demon" has taken a step analogous to the first air-breather's emergence onto dry land, out of the present into the Big Time - which is the entire Kosmos. According to this view, the Change War is just a manifestation of this evolutionary breakthrough.

From this broad view we turn to the specific operations of the Change War, and the question may be raised: what are the Spiders and the Snakes fighting over? When they intervene in conflicts on the "Small Time", why do they choose one side rather than the other?

Some answer to this may be seen in the small-time conflicts in which the Snakes and Spiders intervene, as reported in The Big Time. The Spiders seem to support the "West", whatever that may mean. They supported the Romans against the Parthians, and put the Roman Empire and the Catholic Church under German rule. In the 20th Century, they again back Germany, keeping "England and America out of World War Two, thereby insuring a German invasion of the New World and creating a Nazi empire stretching...from Nizhni Novgorod to Kansas City." Opposed to this is the Snake Three-Thousand-Year Plan, an alliance among "the Eastern Classical World, Mohammedanized Christianity, and Marxist Communism".

If any thing can be made out of this, the Spiders and Snakes have two fundamentally different viewpoints of humanity and society. These viewpoints might be called, with some degree of oversimplification, "elitist" and "universalist". Elitists generally believe that some classes or races of men are superior to others, and that some are born to rule while others are born to be ruled. They tend to favor a hierarchy of birth, with secret doctrines to which only initiates are privy. The structure of an elitist organization is like a pyramid, or the web of a spider, with a central node from which authority flows down to the operational level.

Universalists operate on a different set of assumptions - that their ideology is the proper ideology for all mankind, and that distinctions of birth or class do not confer a right to rule. A universalist ideology may have a hierarchical structure, but the way to the top is in theory limited only by the capabilities of the aspirant.

Examples of universalist ideologies are Roman Catholicism, liberal democracy, and Soviet Communism. Elitist ideologies include Gnosticism, certain medieval heresies such as Bogomilism, Freemasonry (insofar as it had political overtones), and, in our own time, Fascism and Nazism.

The Spiders, supporting both the Confederates and the Nazis, are plainly of an elitist persuasion. The Snakes, on the other hand, could well have implanted universalist ideas in "the Eastern Classical World" and carried them forward to their present anti-elitist manifestation in the Socialist movement. To aristocracies of the past, the adherents of the universalist ideologies must indeed have seemed like Snakes, burrowing underneath the foundations of their orderly and structured societies.

With these considerations, we can identify a prominent 19th-Century Spider agent. Though this man posed as a scholar and writer, his chief activity seems to have been "cutting ghostgirls" - that is, he collected exudations of ectoplasm from the skins of naked women and carefully stored them away, to be revived later in the recreation centers of the Change Warriors for their off-hours delectation.

This agent was the Rev. C. L. Dodgson, alias Lewis Carroll. Though noted chiefly as the author of Alice In Wonderland and Through The Looking-Glass, Carroll seems to have had quite as many personality kinks as Emil Slicker, the ghostgirl-collector of Leiber's Change War short story "A Deskful Of Girls". Martin Gardner reveals many of Carroll's idiosyncracies to us in the introduction to The Annotated Alice. Among other things, we learn that "he thought the naked bodies of little girls...extremely beautiful. Upon occasion he sketched or photographed them in the nude, with the mother's permission."

Carroll seems to have had no overtly sexual interest in women of any age. What he may have called a camera was probably in actuality a device for cutting ghostgirls. Probably, somewhere on the Big Time, there are warriors recruited from a culture in which pre-pubertal girls are acceptable sexual outlets. Carroll was collecting girls for their off-duty hours.

But was Carroll a Snake or a Spider? Gardner gives us an answer: "In politics he was a Tory, awed by lords and ladies and inclined to be snobbish toward inferiors." He bitterly opposed Gladstone, the Liberal leader of the day. If the Spiders can be identified with the elitists, then Carroll was undoubtedly a Spider.

This assessment of Carroll agrees with an analysis by E. Merrill Root in a recent issue of American Opinion, the monthly publication of the John Birch Society. Root claims that Carroll's poem The Hunting Of The Snark is a satire on collectivist ideologues. He examines the poem in great detail; for example, the Bellman's map is totally blank, which is supposed to represent social reformers' ignorance of the landmarks of history and society. If this poem is seriously intended as such a satire - and Root appears quite serious, to the point of stuffiness, in his thesis - it is consonant with Carroll's known political beliefs. Furthermore, the dangerous Snark, which Root conceives as Communism, is compounded by Carroll from "Shark" and "snake". The aristocratic and anti-Communist Spiders, working with their proverbial patience, have planted in our literature a 19th-Century satire which Root shows to be directed at a 20th-Century Snake-directed movement.

* * * *

Ed.- I will gladly print any interesting comment that this may bring forth...

A REALLY RARE ONE

by Andy Zerbe

THE WHISPERER--A Checklist

First Series

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1936										1 1	1 2	1 3
1937	1 4	1 5	1 6	2 1	2 2	2 3	2 4	2 5	*2 5	2 6	3 1	3 2

Vol 3 #2--last issue of First Series. In between, The Whisperer appeared in every other issue of The Shadow.

Second Series

1940										1 1		1 2
1941		1 3		1 4		1 5		1 6		2 1		2 2
1942		2 3		2 4								

There may have been other issues after the April 1942 one.

*Vol 2 #5 for 1937 could have appeared in either August or October, or there could have been two Vol 2 #5's for that year. This is one of the few issues I lack.

The "Doc Methuselah" Series by L. Ron Hubbard
(under the name Rene Lafayette). All stories in ASF.

Compiled by Jim Corrick

1. "Old Doc Methuselah" - Oct. '47
2. "The Expensive Slaves" - Nov. '47
3. "Her Majesty's Aberration" - Mar. '48
4. "The Great Air Monopoly" - Sept. '48
5. "Plague" - Apr. '49
6. "A Sound Investment" - June '49
7. "Ole Mother Methuselah" - Jan. '50

All the stories were illustrated by Cartier.

THE PROBLEM OF BIBLIOGRAPHY

by Jerry Page

Last September, after several years of vague groping and thinking on the project and after many times having dropped the idea because of what others were doing (some, like Don Franson in his N3F Information Bureau, better than I thought I could), I finally issued the first number of a small fanzine I called Lore. The idea behind Lore was simple: it functioned much like Franson's column in TNFF, with questions and answers, but instead of being a column, it was to be a fanzine with the advantage of having the opportunity to publish long and involved checklists, letters, articles and items of curiosa in the field. Lore has been a success, attracting a lot of experts in the field and providing the answers to many highly technical and difficult questions--so many truly obscure ones that I can't help but feel it's been largely a matter of luck.

But Lore, with its emphasis on bibliography, has brought me to grips with a problem that I feel many fans lack comprehension of--especially the newer fans, who are the ones who need to understand the problem most because they are the people with the most enthusiasm and energy. I am speaking of the problem of bibliography, of course.

In the second issue of Lore I ran an article on Cordwainer Smith, using information available in any library, listing his real name and the other pen-names used by this author, and listing his books and many magazine articles (non-fiction) and appending a listing of his science fiction stories. As Cordwainer Smith is the pen-name of one of the most prominent educators and political scientists in the country, it wasn't hard to uncover many interesting and (as far as the science fiction field was concerned) previously unknown facts about him. The article was literally thrown together, with a basis of maybe two-hours research from a lead originally published in Jimmy Taurasi's Science Fiction Times, which gave Smith's real name for the first time in the fan press. (Probably in Ed Wood's column, although Taurasi himself may have given the name in his own column). Despite the haste, and the really bad writing in the article, this item has been called a phenomenal job of good research.

Well, it was mostly accurate. I used good sources. The people who researched that article were the editors and staff of the Reader's Guide, Who's Who in America, Contemporary Authors (an invaluable aid for bibliographers, I might mention) and the Cumulative Book Index. I merely made abstracts and listings from their work and dummied it up and put it on stencil.

But in listing the science fiction stories, I fouled up beautifully. A third of the dates must be wrong and several omissions were made. I'm in the process of issuing a corrections and addenda article in the next Lore. The reason for the mistakes is basically the fact that I have no place to store my collection accessibly and

couldn't (and probably wouldn't have, anyway) checked out the dates I used. Specifically, I relied on an unreliable index: The MIT Bluedex and Blackdex, which is highly inaccurate; and on a much less reliable source even than that: my memory. To supply the titles and dates of unlisted stories, I used the listings of stories published in Smith's collections and memory. Memory worked fairly well, but I forgot two stories and went crazy trying to remember a couple of titles. (Can anything be more frustrating than trying to identify a story by its illustrations alone?) I was just fortunate that those stories which appeared in magazines (like *If*, during the editorship of Damon Knight) which were not distributed where I lived, were accurately listed in the MIT Index.

In consequence, I made the same blunder on a smaller scale that MIT made. I put out an important index without proper preparation. MIT has issued a new index, which is considerably better and more accurate (and downright more useful) than the original one, but to a large extent they've done the same damned thing again. They failed to think the project through. Consequently, the Index contains much data that isn't needed and in a format that's unreadable. But that's neither here nor there for this article, except that it illustrates the problem.

When a fan first enters fandom, he has a lot of enthusiasm, a lot of curiosity, a large desire to be noticed and a lot of ignorance. He writes fiction and articles for fanzines and they're pretty bad until he begins to catch on--if he begins to catch on. Notoriously, few first examples of fanzines or artwork by new fans are any good, either. Most of us improve.

To the new, over-zealous fan, a checklist looks like an uncommonly good way to fit up a contribution for a favorite fanzine. Next to book reviews, and bad stories, I'd guess checklists must be the favorite example of the easy road to fame.

Don't you believe it.

Let's approach this subject realistically. Let's start off with statistics. We won't claim accuracy, but we will try to get an idea what we're up against. How many fanzines currently publish checklists?

I won't even guess. Remember? I said we'll be realistic. But among those I can think of, The Collector's Bureau, Lore, Ed Cox's Acruz, Science Fiction Times (which keeps a running listing on pbs, magazines and hardbounds, with an annual appraisal by Ed Wood of the year's magazine output), Riverside Quarterly, ERB-Dom, The Burroughs Bulletin, The Howard Collector, Paradox. These nine hardly comprise even a comprehensive listing of the important bibliographic fanzines--and for one reason or another, due to a lack of recent issues or a lack of knowledge on their general usage of indexes, I have left out such fanzines as Mirage and the Tolkien zines. Note also that in at least one case (Riverside Quarterly) the bibliographies

used by the fanzine have been just that--bibliographies attached to a critical review as source material.

Okay, nine fanzines using regular, reliable indexes. Say an average of five a year. That's 45. Okay--plus all the other indexes, such as N3F might issue or might be run through the apas--these we can easily keep track of. Another 50? Plus the neozines and the genzines and the various appearances here and there and at random places about fandom...maybe a couple hundred this year, you think?

That isn't unreasonable. I should think that the various entries in the upcoming Encyclopedia of Science Fiction should provide at least that many separate indexes in various stages of completion. Each and every one of them an excellent job, too, serving a specific, well defined job, expanded from a previous source of the author's (Don Tuck) or completely new.

So we have a number, a large number but hardly an unreasonable one. Let's assume this has been going on for several years--since fandom began. Is this unreasonable? No it isn't. There were dozens of good collector oriented fanzines in the 40s and even the 50s. There was the Fantasy Commentator, the Acolyte and more recently Xero, Si-Fan and FanHistory. And what about The Journal of Science Fiction, Destiny, The Fanscient, etc.? And all those apas. Nope, we aren't being too liberal. A lot of indexes have been published since the first fanzine. And just to be conservative, let's deliberately pick as an average, a number that's probably low. Let's pick 50 as the average number of indexes published in a year's time in fandom.

That first fanzine, or at least the first club bulletin, appeared in 1930.

That's 36 years. We won't count the formative years. We'll just say 30. Thirty times 50. That's an estimated--conservatively estimated--1,500 indexes published by science fiction fans so far.

So you want to do an index, do you?

Well, to begin with, I'm going to echo Don Franson's remark in CB 5 and urge you to do one never before attempted. An awful lot of those indexes are duplicates of earlier ones, in many cases adding nothing to the original. I later discovered that the British SF Association has issued an excellent listing of Cordwainer Smith stories, superior to the one I did for Lore. (Luckily they listed none of his non-fiction or any works under another name.) Most of the major authors in the science fiction field have been thoroughly indexed and many of them appear in the MIT Index and/or the Day Index with every story he has written. Can you improve on that? You want to index Keller? Can you improve of the index Moskowitz did of his work? Or the one in Paradox? Weinbaum? He's been done by Moskowitz and Tuck. Hamilton has been done by Bob Kennings and

Don Tuck, separately, each doing an excellent job.

Too many recent examples of indexes have been sorry examples of rehashing older indexes. A couple have been suspiciously a bit too much like some older indexes, which are not mentioned by the compiler, but which contain errors the compiler repeats--and note I don't say 'duplicates.'

T.G.L. Cockcroft gives a good example of how to do an index. Many of his fine indexes are in fields which have been done before, yet his are always more useful, more thoroughly researched and more interesting. The secret is hard work. You will also note that he is scrupulously honest in listing previous sources. Right now he is compiling a checklist of fantasy from the Munsey magazines. One of his sources is the old "Thumbing the Munsey Files" column in Fantasy Commentator. This was an issue by issue review of the fantasy stories in the Munsey magazines, making no attempt to list by author or title--being, in intent, primarily a review. Cockcroft is rearranging these in title and author listings and the work involved must be tremendous.

This brings us to the second problem: that of organizing your work for usefulness. An index should be arranged so that any question on its subject can be answered easily. Most aren't.

So I'm going to try to list some rules now: A sort of checklist for checklists. I hope, if you're planning to do any checklists in the future--or are working on them now--that you'll heed these rules.

(1) Make sure the checklist is needed. Be certain you are doing an index on a subject or in a way never before attempted; or, if your subject has been attempted before, that the previous index is incomplete.

(2) Make sure that your index is accurate. An index containing more than a reasonable number of mistakes is of no use to anyone.

(3) Make sure your index is useful. It should be well organized and comprehensive--to say nothing of interesting in itself.

(4) If the above are outside the range of your capabilities, don't try the index at all.

And finally, a warning. Don't do an index to impress anyone with your knowledge. If you are knowledgeable, the fans will know it already--if not, you'll just look like a fool. There are, it should be pointed out, too many people trying to make reputations as experts--Johnny-come-latelies, mostly, doing it by parasitically draining their facts off the hard work already done by others. Like I said, if you try to make an impression, you'll end up looking like a fool. Fandom doesn't need any more fools.

THE PAPERBACK COMPLETIST

by Dan D'Amassa

There is a certain fatal fascination about completism that draws many an unwary collector. Being no exception, I found one day that I had a remarkably large collection of science fiction paperbacks and was instantly struck with the idea of becoming a paperback completist. To be more precise, a collector of American paperback science fiction.

Now, first, there was the matter of definition. I defined paperback as popular paperback, to exclude quality additions, and old historic volumes such as the Frank Reade stories. Then I specified American, so I could exclude British, Australian, Canadian, and other foreign additions; also cheating slightly by eliminating Vega books, which is just the Americanized addition of the British Badger Books. All books that were eliminated from my consideration were kept, however, as I collect them also. But for the purposes of my central intention, they were not the immediate problem.

Then came the big problem. How did I define what was sf? First I crossed off all fantasy & horror, to exclude ghost stories that are extremely hard to find. Then I grudgingly eliminated borderline, because although I have all that I know of, with minor exceptions on recent books, there could quite easily be others that I have no records on.

Now I had simply to make a checklist of all individual sf paperbacks, those fitting my restrictions, and check off the ones which I had. This was done by examining the last few years of book catalogues, BOOKS IN PRINT, PUBLISHER'S TRADE LIST ANNUAL, and so forth, until I could be fairly sure that I had a list of all sf paperbacks. Eliminating reissues (which I do collect, though do not include as separate books for the purpose of my main collection), I had a list of approximately 1200. Of these I now need exactly 15 to have a complete set.

In addition to these, there are approximately 200 fantasy paperbacks, of which I have about 150; there are approximately 175 horror paperbacks, of which I have 110.

Some of the rarer items include: DELUGE by Leonardo da Vinci, a Lion book; FULLY DRESSED AND IN HIS RIGHT MIND by Michael Fessler, a Lion book; GADGET MAKER by Maxwell Griffith, a Pocket book; DAMN YANKEES by Douglas Wallop from Pocket Books; MOMENT OF NO RETURN by Stephen King-Hall, from Ballantine; AIR FORCE by Frank Harvey from Ballantine, and so forth.

But collecting alone soon proved a dead-end, for I can easily stay caught up on current releases, and there is little active work I can do on the 15 oldsters. But then I thought of a solution:

I could read them all. This, however, took a surprisingly short time, so I began to branch out, buying magazines, hardcovers, second editions, third editions, quality paperbacks, British, Canadian, and Australian paperbacks, and so forth.

Then I discovered a new breakthrough, reading mysteries, mainstream, westerns, humor, and so forth. So now I'm an American paperback completist, including quality editions, and with a good-sized foreign collection. I took French in school, so now I'm making arrangements to import French sf paperbacks.

Where will it all end?

((To answer Don's question, he will come to an untimely end when the second floor of his house transfers its contents to the first floor in a sudden and catastrophic manner. And serve him right, too. Completists! --Ed.))

* * * * *

The "Van Rijn" Series by Poul Anderson
All appeared in ASF

Compiled by Jim Corrick

1. "Margin of Profit" - Sept. '56
2. The Man Who Counts - Feb.-Apr. '58
3. "Hiding Place" - Mar. '61
4. "Territory" - June '63
5. "The Three-Cornered Wheel" - Oct. '63
6. "The Master Key" - July '64
7. Trader Team - July-Aug. '65
8. "A Sun Invisible" - Apr. '66

#1 was published in the collection Un-Man and Others (Ace, 1962).

#2 was published as War of the Wing-Men (Ace, 1959).

#3, 4, and 6 were collected into Trader to the Stars (Doubleday, 1963).

#5, 7, and 8 concern David Falkayn, an employee of Van Rijn.

BOOKS WANTED by Chester D. Sutherland, 1104 Mulvey Avenue, Winnipeg 4,
 Manitoba, Canada. These titles are all fiction, and the condition is
 not important, as long as the text is complete.

AUTHOR

TITLE

ALLEN, Grant	THE BACKSLIDER
	THE BRITISH BARBARIANS
	THE DESIRE OF THE EYES
	HILDA WADE
	THE JAWS OF DEATH
	STRANGE STORIES
	TWELVE TALES
Anonymous	HOUSE OF THE GALLERY
	NEWS FROM THE INVISIBLE WORLD
	THE SPAEWIFE
	STRANGE MANUSCRIPT FOUND IN A COPPER CYLINDER
AUSTIN, Benjamin Fish ...	CHRIST OR BARABBAS
AUSTIN, Lillian Edna	SHUDDERS
BARR, Robert	IN A STEAMER CHAIR AND OTHER SHIPBOARD STORIES
	THE FACE AND THE MASK
BECK, L. Adams	DREAM TEA
CAMPBELL, Austin	THE ROCK OF BABYLON
CRAIG, Hamilton	A HAZARD AT HANSARD
DENT, John Charles	THE GERRARD STREET MYSTERY
EGBERT, H. M.	ERIC OF THE STRONG HEART
	MRS. ALADDIN
	THE SEA DEMON
ERSKINE, Douglas	A BIT OF ATLANTIS
FRASER, W. A.	THE OUTCASTS
HENSHAW, Julia Willette ..	HYPNOTIZED
HOCKER, LeRoy	ENOCH THE PHILISTINE
KERRY, Susan Alice	FORTUNE'S GIFT
	GONE TO GRASS
	MANY STRANGE BIRDS
LEAVITT, Thaddeus	THE WITCH OF PLUM HOLLOW
LLOYD, Wallace	BERGEN WORTH
	HOUSES OF GLASS
	THE SWORD OF GLENVOHR
MacDONALD, Flora	MARY MELVILLE, THE PSYCHIC
MEYNELL, Laurence	STOPW AGAINST THE WALL
MORESBY, Le Louis	CAPTAIN JAVA
	RUBIES
MORTON, Guy Eugene	THE BLACK ROBE
PENDLE, Walter Henry	POEMS, SHORT TALES, PHANTASIES
REID, Leslie	OF CAULDRON BUBBLE
SULLIVAN, Alan	IN THE BEGINNING
	THE MAGIC MAKERS MAKERS
	MR. ABSALOM
STRINGER, Arthur	THE WOLF WOMAN
WOOD, Joanna E.	A DAUGHTER OF WITCHES
YOUNG, Phyllis Bret Bret	PSYCHE

Special publication of the PURPLE MOUTH PRESS
February 20, 1967

A Mine of Faults

NFFP * * * * * THE COLLECTOR'S BULLETIN #27 * * * * * NFFP

NED BROOKS
713 PAUL ST
NEWPORT NEWS, VA-23605

3rd Class - Printed Matter
Return Postage Guaranteed



Elaine Wojciechowski
4755 N. Keystone Ave
Chicago, Ill - 60630