



jim

NO COWARDS ALLOWED

4



THIS

AND

THAT

Actually, what really started me off was the IPSO thing about what time would you like to go to, if it was a one-way trip, and you could take no gadgets.

Dick Schultz sent me his IPSO-zine, (wherein he chooses to go back and slay Hitler at a time that would do most good), and Alan Rispin sent me his IPSO-zine, where Al puns his way through a visit to Archimedes, and says words to the effect that an alternative would be for him to pop back and bump off the aforementioned Hitler.

(a point that's just struck me, see how our time has been influenced by Adolf, admitted 2 zines don't establish a trend...but it is rather significant that both had Hitler in mind..)

Choosing a time to go to is pretty easy, but surviving once you get there, as Dick points out, may well be another kettle of fish... (quite apart from the fact the Kingsley Amis Sez You Can't Travel Through Time.... "and Kingsley is an honourable man....")

Ignoring for the moment the dictums of the Self Chosen One, and assuming that somehow, something makes a single trip pastwards available, just where to go?

The Court of King Arthur?... apart from it being mythical, 1, you'd be a commoner in a society where serfs were serfs, and serfs do not get treated with much respect, and of course have no rights, are indeed disposable property.

So, you land up in Medieval times, the first thing you know, the second you arrive you're obviously a wizard or demon or something, so it's the all-over hot foot for you.

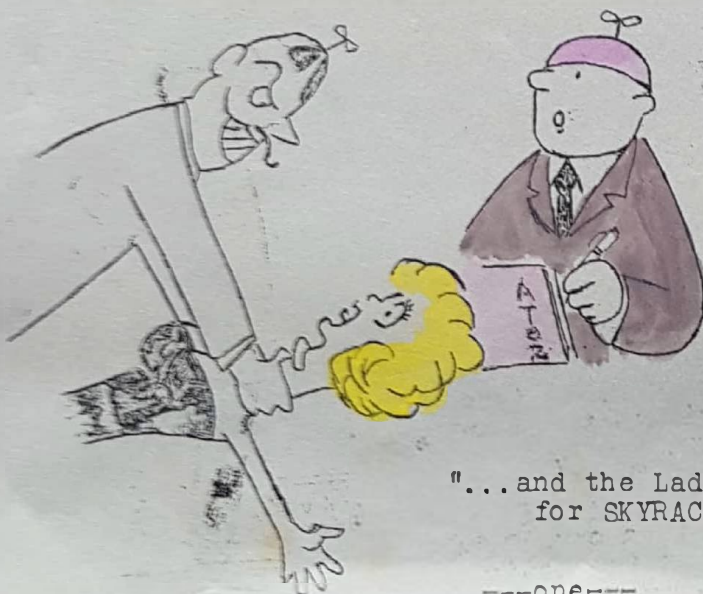
Say you're lucky, you land unobserved.... so how do you eat? You steal a shillings worth of goods, you get hung, so you look for work... (apart from this of course anytime pre-Shakespeare you have to learn what is essentially a new language.. old English)... the idea of getting a clerical job goes right away, unless you can read and write Latin of course... you might just get a job with some merchant

though, we'll allow that possibility.

I assume no-one wishes to do the sort of manual labour typical of the time?

And of course if you want to get into a trade it means you have to serve an apprenticeship, and eventually join a guild.

All things considered it would be some time before you got enough money to retire on.



"...and the Lady's name, Sir?
for SKYRACK?."

Actually your life would be just as mundane as it is now, and you would have to work harder too. Not to mention the fact that if you ever got into litigation with the Church or the Nobility the best you could expect is to lose your case...and if you dropped out of character too often you'd find the Church breathing down your neck muttering Heresy or Witchcraft or something...of course, if you worked it right you could make a place for yourself, and maybe a bit of money too, if you could remember something fairly simple from your old time to put into use then....like perhaps a simple type of printing...woodcuts. Or perhaps you could remember enough of Shakespere to write his plays....or even enough to make a workable bicycle...

Consider we have made a success of fitting in, we have made a mint out of our bicycle trade...then along comes an epidemic of smallpox...or your appendix bursts...or you take a wound, anything which requires a little of our taken-for-granted medical know how, would you trust a doctor who relies on a series of Pater Nosters and a touch from a "genuine" saintly relic for his cures?

Actually I set out to show that it would be practically an impossibility for a modern man to live back then...but maybe he could after all...but it sure wouldn't be as comfortable or as safe as living now.

A safer time and place than Medieval England, in my opinion, would be somewhere like Bagdad during the time of the great Arab civilisation...with the patronage of a scholar, or perhaps even of the Caliph, you could go far...fix it so the Arabs never did succumb to the Mongol raids, and degenerate...if you memorised the formula for making gunpowder you could perhaps ensure that Europe would fall entirely to the Arabs, and that they'd be strong enough to resist the Mongol Hordes.

And communications... (you could say at least that steam power would work)...you could give them the idea of building semaphore stations or even heliographs...and metal ships...and you could also draw them maps...maybe not too accurate...but maps all the same, reliable enough to find America by, and Australia, and so on...and remember too that gold was to be found in California, diamonds near Johannesburg, what sort of peoples to expect when they got there, and things like that...and, a favourite of mine I admit, the good old bicycle.....

Another time and place which would serve as well, (being a stranger they wouldn't expect you to speak/understand them at first)...the court of the Great Khans.

For if the
Polos could
get a good
welcome, then
so could
you...

HELP!

Then of course there are gliders.....twin hulled ships...a modern alphabet, and modern figures, metric system, the Roman idea of making some of the conquered people into full citizens...giving them a pride of belonging...the rotation idea of crop planting,...compasses, (if they were not in use in Cathay then), a workable calendar, even, perhaps, introduce ideas like advertising and propaganda....

State supported schools, at first of course only for the brightest students, and newspapers, matches, wind pumps, and so on, depending on what the Time Traveler can remember. With a bit of luck there'd be one world in a couple of centuries...maybe sooner when the native



scientists and technicians started to make discoveries of their own...as they would be bound to as their numbers and knowledge increased... why, just the idea of rails would enable them to use ~~saal~~ powered "trains"...with horses for the har goings...and it wouldn't be too long before someone figured out how to use steam.

o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o

And what sort of time travel would you like to select? What I mean is...what sort of structure would you like Time to have?

A fixed and unalterable sequence?...the "time river" idea where you have one time stream, but you can change your position in it, (the Wellsian idea, I believe), or maybe the "single time" that is changeable, like, by going back and killing grand-dad, (or Hitler) or again, would you prefer the idea of "weblike time", where every decision is reality ~~somewhen~~, the idea that in one time-stream things are like this, our own time, while a "dimension" away there is the world of Hitler-won-the-war, or Nippon-joins-the-Allies, or an English-v-US atom war, or anything, really anything, could have happened....and all these possibilities exist side by side, a practically infinite number of them, (well, not infinite...but just you figure out how many arrangements you could make using all the atoms in the cosmos...that'd be a fraction of the possible total differing "universes", "time lines"...).

Then of course there's the idea that there is no such thing as time....there is only Change....or would you say that time can only be defined as Change?. That Time & Change are the same thing?....

Personally I reckon the "fixed and unalterable time" one is most likely...but, I like the multi-dimensional, everything-that-could/can happen-has/is-happened/happening...I guess it appeals to the sentimental-romantic Irish in me. (if you see what I mean...?)

The nearest anyone has ever come to Time-Travel so far is in the Archeological world..."digging up bits of History" as Sir Mortimer Wheeler puts it.

And time-travel it certainly is. Admitted your position is more of an observer, than present at the time, but once you get "into" a book you identify to a large extent...with the time, if not with any particular individual. And if the people/time are less "real" than the world just outside your window, they most certainly are not less real than if it were a remote in distance, present-day people.

Consider, Japan is real enough, anyone care to deny that?

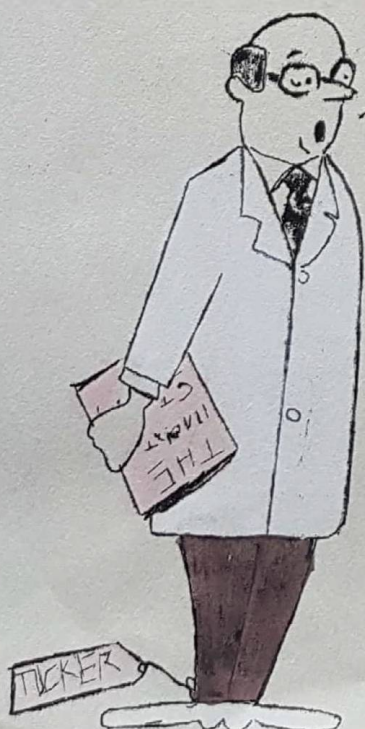
But when you think/read of such an, unfamiliar?, distant country, does it not seem, "not quite real"?...

KINGSLEY AMIS!

So then for the peoples who are farther in time than distance, if the writer of the book knows enough about his subject, (a little writing skill helps a lot too), he can make it at least as real as, say, a description of life on an Indian Reservation in Canada.... (Canada, because it seems somehow more remote than the US).

And then there is History, (I'm not quite sure where the dividing line between History & Archeology is, say the year AD1, for convenience).

But, have you ever read a real good history?... (or even perhaps a Graves, Renault type fiction), one where everyone seemed alive and active, one which, (and this is an important ...)



distinction), one which tells what happened, and the possibility of why it happened, rather than merely listing dry facts (and being deliberately false so as to show the nation up in the best light) and a lot of dates.

Oh, I know, dates are important...but not in themselves, (as the attitude is generally in English schools), but only so that you can see the relationships between what was happening in one country, and how it affected another because it happened at a certain time.

For instance, say we list the 4 most known revolutions, The American Rebellion, The France Revolution, The Russian one, and...the Industrial Revolution.

The words, Industrial Revolution are designed to make you look twice...in case your attention has wandered...I hope you looked twice at it.....

The big three then...you, and I, (I suppose) know that they occurred in the order they are written down. But suppose for a moment that you have never heard of their dates, only that they revolted, successfully, (unsuccessful revolutionaries do not seem to have the ability to write histories, so, they get the mud slung at them..and get forgotten too.). There is no indication there which one was the "inspiration" to the others...and also because no dates are mentioned, no indication of what was occupying rival countries during the Revolution, the reasons why the "Mother" or conquering country, or those in power, failed to put down the revolt are not made clear.

Take for instance the US revolution. They, the Americans, had far more freedom than any other British colony of the time, or indeed of any other colony right up to modern times...the reason for this was the France in Canada, Britain kept the US happy so as not to have two peoples to fight, the Americans for their part heartily disliked the France, and particularly their "Popery", and were quite happy to let GB protect them...

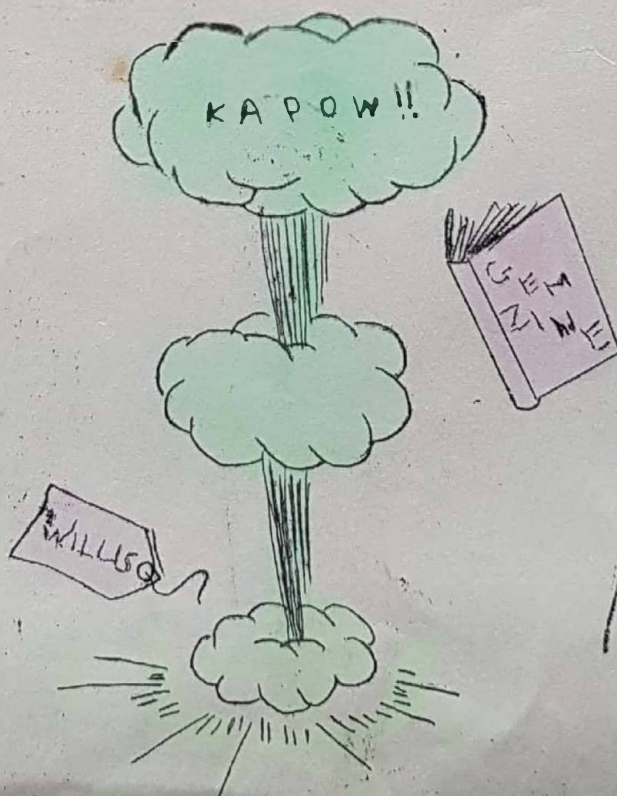
Now, at the time of the Revolution although they were offered what amounted to independence, having only a nominal acknowledgement of the King..and NONE AT ALL of Parliament, which was what they'd been screaming for for years, in spite of this, they really wanted nothing at all to do with GB, but for various reasons, mainly personal I might add, they roused the colonies against the Crown.

They could have been crushed in the first year.

Two things prevented this. The British Government did not want to be harsh to people who were, after all, Englishmen, because they were sure that they would soon see the folly of their ways anyhow...so they sent various, generous, offers...which were refused.

The main reason the US was not crushed at once was because the British C in C was of the opposite political party that was in power in England...and he made sure he embarrassed and let them down in every way he could...at least, so it seems to me.

By the time a C in C arrived who really wished to put down the revolution Britain was at war with Spain, France and Holland....troops were taken from the US, and foreign, trained,



troops were helping Washington....even then the British nearly won the war..it was mad Cornwallis who belted off accross country with his army who lost us the war...

The main point I wished to make was that there were reasons why the US succeeded, and because certain thing happened at a particular date.

Oh I suppose it was inevitable, if we take the view that time/change proceeds along a single track where an action allways has the same result...and I see no reason that it should not...after all, a decision taken in certain conditions and then the memory of the decision being wiped out, the decision would have to be the same again, if all the conditions are the same....and of course at the decision point all the conditions are the same...there is no possible choice in the matter at all...the decision must be made the same way.

When it comes right down to it there is no such thing as having a free will...we have no choice but to make a decision on the basis of what we are, what we think we are, and what we have been thought of by other people...we are just so moulded, mentally as well as phisically, by the effects of the universe on us, and perhaps our effect on the univers?, that everything that has happened since before the first atom bumped into another atom, way, way back, is absolutely inevitable.

A pity really, because I really like the idea of having a multitude of time tracks, decision made, to look over, visit or something...the idea is wonderful for those stories that begin... "What would have happened if so-and-so had done something else instead?".

So what it all comes down to is that this IPSO idea of a time-traveler is very decent for producing views and ideas, although the idea of time travel itself is, a trifle shakey, as far as I know, anyway.



But then...maybe the very inevitableness of the Cosmos requires that a form of time-travel is discovered...and that someone should alter the past, our past that is, after all, how can you detect such a thing even if it has already happening?...we'd still have a consistant history and all the trimmings...maybe in the "real" time the Greeks did use the steam engine, and revolutionize history, (from our point of view), but the someone went and changed it...and we have the history we know now.

And maybe we go thru' constant time-history type changes....we can never know the difference, we would always have a consistant course of events leading up to our present.

I guess the best thing I could do is to crawl back into my hole and forget all

about time...you only end up chasing your own tail anyway.

Sounds like the Midgard Serpent eh? Now there was a formidable beastie...except of course its very size could well defeat it...I mean if you cut its tail off it wouldn't feel the pain till half an hour later, and by the time its reflexes had returned to twitch the tail you'd have an hours start....

Lets see...there was the Wild Hunt too...a nast crew to come up against, I know I wouldn't argue...unless I was a de Camp hero of course...then I guess I'd fumble through all right.

The handiest beasts in the Norse mythology, it seems, were the Goats that hauled Thors chariot, ((no, no, dearie, not Donner and Blitzen..or even Rudolph..you're thinging of another immortal entirely))...they could be slaughtered, cooked and eaten, and then resurected to pull the waggon again...gosh-wow...what wouldn't Norman give for a resurectable Vodka?

...hmm..the Horn of Plenty...I guess someone thought of that before I did...lets see, was that Greek?...

I get mixed up, so many Roman & Greek deities and beliefs and myths are so similar...adapted by each other too, to confuse things...and a lot of Greek stuff was Egyptian once...and they too got their ideas from others... (at least, those idea which are not obviously the result of their living on the Nile...), even most of the myths which use the Nile as a scene can be traced back to the Sumerians...just change the location and the names a little and you have the Land Between Two Rivers.

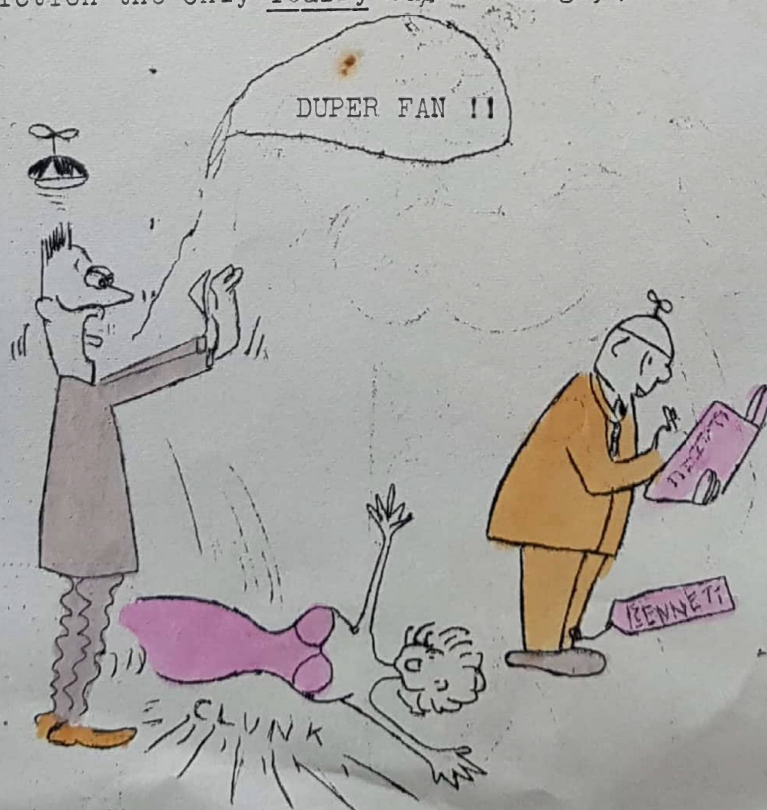
Its a pity that more decent writers, like Graves, Canaway, and Renault don't dig up and use more of the old myths, they would make exiting and interesting reading..and there's no need to say words to the effect that they've been told so often, too often, look at T H Whites THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING, do you think that it would have been better if he'd not written it...there are certainly plenty of Arthurian books about?. No, of course not, and so with any other time worn tale that can be re-told with a renewed vigour, as they were first told a couple of milenium ago, as adventures, in a modern idiom.

The modern idiom...well, I guess that brings us to S/F, which, after all, are myths in modern vein. I think you will see some similarity, in intent, between the stories of the 12 Labours of Hercules, and the trial and tribulations, say, of the Gray Lensman.

In our fiction the only really basic change, (if indeed there is a change), is that for the magic of the old tales we have substituted our brand of magic, science.

Both the old and the new are tales of wonder, and although some presentday mainstream writing does fit this, I don't think very much of it could be so described.

By God, (no particular one), I wonder if that is whats wrong, (or supposed to be wrong) with S/F, not that fans have lost their sense of wonder,



although that is possible to some extent, but maybe the real thing wrong with S/F is that the stories are no longer wonder stories, they become exercises in essay writing....or mediums to manipulate words into sweet sounding phrases....or perhaps are too concerned with thing beloved of mainstream, like, Significance. (with the illuminated S),

Mainstream, ah, mainstream....or at least the majority of the so-called critics...a fat lot they know about S/F...or literature, when you get right down to it..all they have is a set of conditioned reflexes....and what annoys me is a bloke like Kingsley Amis can write a book all about his opinions of S/F, and have it acclaimed as penetrating, etc., while the views of people who really know S/F inside out are dismissed as of no account....I'm sure Mr Amis would have had a less hearty reception had he not written a couple of mainstream books first.

My complaint is not directed against Mr Amis, at least not in full, after all, he only wrote the book, the mainstreamers acclaimed him as an expert on S/F....which I consider he isn't...he isn't actually even a S/F reader...in full...he just has an interest in the part of S/F devoted to social satire, and its relatives, he doesn't really understand what S/F is all about...possibly he might find out in time...but he strikes me as being what MAD calls the Conformists Non-conformists...that is, he airs his interest in S/F as evidence of his bold and avant gaurd attitudes....a sort of intellectual, "by God ain't I really somethin' ".

Although I may be doing Mr Amis an injustice, but from what I saw of him on TV, and his attitude at the Con, I figure I'm pretty near the mark....I guess he's a disappointed beatnik or something. Or more properly, one of these highly overated "Angry Young Men"... may I just mention, in passing, that is a darn sight more easy to be angry than to do something to remove the cause of the anger.

Which is one of the reasons I dislike these mad "plays with a message" we seem to be haveing on TV of late...God knows that they are crappy...but even if they were good, the "message" is wasted anyhow, because the people who watch it either, 1, don't understand it, 2, have "got the message" anyway....So why don't they just show Yogi Bear, or Popeye, or Funny Manne, or a western, and scrap the lot.

And scrap the current "S/F" serial...RD7, ugh, and also Eocch! and the same goes for most of A for Andromeda, at times like this I would gladly settle for Dick Barton....but not Mrs Dale, that would be too much. Thats an idea, instead of sending a chip into orbit, why not send Mrs Dale...after all, the level of intelligence is much the same.

Mind you, I had a two-day rest from TV last week, the set went koodoing!...and no TV for a couple of days...actually it was pretty bad with no TV...people noticed I was around, their eyes not being glued to the goggle box, and I got popped in on a few jobs...and as everyone but me loved "telly" I got jumped on at the slightest excuse..probably they thought I'd put a hex on the thing.....uh?....a hex....a HEX!... now that is an idea.

Anyone know a sure fire method for hexing TV sets?. If Guy Fawkes was alive today I'd hire him, not to dispose of Parliament tho' thats a good idea, but to wreck every TV transmitter he could lay hands on....explode the darn things.



"...but Sir, the lady's name?"

---seven---

COMMENTS ON THE 30th MAILING

OFF TRAILS. Hi Mistuh President, Sah. A thought just struck me, (see the bruise?) Credentials, if the wlers were to have material, (3 items, or 3 times, or 3 zines) in an OMPazine, as I suggested, more or less, in WHATSIT, why, they would have their credentials AND be getting to know OMPA before they even got in.

My offer to print material by waitinglisters still holds good, (tho' to date only Fred Hunter has shown interest), with just the one provisio that I may accept or reject material in much the same way, and for the same reasons, as genzine editors do. I think this is a fair enough stipulation, but, obvious tho' it is, it is worth making clear.

Goshwow, I feel all sinful like, making Ron add another line to his report by overpaying...ah well, you know his motto re-cookies....

OMPAssible S/F...Lewis.

A pity, but I can't find a way of commenting on a lot of stuff here, just sort of accapt it. Delighted of course to see the Keller story, because it was Keller, most of the other stuff was so-so S/F...didn't really care much for for the...poetry?.

UL.4. Metcalf.

is the sort of thing I'm interested in at the moment, hoping to get in written bull sessions.

Ocean currents...if De Vet had troubled to look in an ordinary school atlas even, he would have noticed the tempreature and direction of flow for the main ocean currents. Most of them seem to be circular in motiom anyway.

Similar agreeing type remarks about iceberg formation and magnetic poles.

The "travelling" poles is, (if I remember aright) due to the action of the Sun on Earths magnetic fields. Or, perhaps more clearly, the way in which the Earth

"and the
gentlemans
-name, Sir,?.
for
SKYRACK?.



presents itself to the Sun during the course of its (Earths) orbit.
Damn, I wish I'd been in OMPA to get that Molesworth thing...

Keyboard of my typer, for what its worth;-

"/@_&'()1 23456789-3 qwertyuiop8 QWERTYUIOP8....

ASDFGHJKL:5 asdfghjkl;7 ... zxcvbnm,.1 ZXCVCBNM?%!

where it should go . it goes % in upper case, and where it should be % is ! ,which can be confusing sometimes...still mine is an old typer, L C Smith & Bros. with a device...a typer, inside an upturned horseshoe, (gap downwards) with three white horses, galloping, heads and forefeet only showing above the horseshoe; on the back plate.

I wonder why the Oriental seems to have a better deal than Negros..mayhap it is because they were never slaves? Or perhaps they somehow seem smaller and very inoffenceive? or something like that...not so easy to distinguish from "Pure" whites, at a glance.

I was thinking just the other day, perhaps inspired by a review of a story where EVERYONE turned green, what would happen if there was some easy method of changing skin colour...like taking an asprin and right away being any colour you want.

Maybe K & K & Mac would turn black, out of courtesy, when visiting Negro states...bet the South Africans, white, wouldn't be too happy about such a simple colour change method.

Not that it would make a real difference to Negros, (apart from the shouting) at first...in things like jobs, because they would not automatically become skilled, lacking the training of the more fortunate white people who could get education and training much more easily

before the colour changer came into being.

Possibly the sale and use of such a changer would be banned in some countries, and become a punishable offence then mayhap we would have "Pill leggers".

"Suicide..the one crime whose success cannott be punished"

Wal, according to Roman Catholic teaching, (as far as I know) suicide carries the penalty of damnation, which I guess can be described as punishment.

TRIAL 1 & 2. Hannifen.

Don't like spirit duper, tho' this TRIAL came out clear enough, they usually (the ones I've reviewed) are too faint or smudged into unreadableness...you sure thats your right name? you wouldn't be pulling a Carl Brandon...?.. you realise that Hannifen could be "An Hyphen" like.. hann i fen... or "anyfen"... maybe its just my nasty suspicious nature.

2 was most amusing...reminds me of a Britzine called SCRIBBLE and how come you get such nice clear dupering? you had practice?.

(Hmm..owing 'em an Hyphen...Owen M Hannifen...I still got suspicions). I don't like the teeth in the illo...they make the fans look like deaths heads...

THE 2nd Saturday After the 1st of the Month. Mercer.

most highly interesting, and with a cover yet....WHY has this numbering system been abandoned...Pres? OE? Tres? Anyone?.

AMBLE...8...Mercer.

The Canterville Ghost...so, that's who wrote it, I really liked that story.

Let's put it this way Archie, I don't so much "like to hate them" as being so disgusted etc., with various things as to experience a sort of "charger stamping its feet at the sound of martial trumpets" sort of feeling.

Like, I enjoy, in a grim sort of way, jumping up and down, (verbally or in writing) and stomping on them. if you see what I mean...?

Isn't a ~~knot~~ cleat a sort of a nautical knot... (not knot, ie- mph..but a knot type of knot..um, that is..well...um...eh?).

Gee Archie, how on Earth do you manage to collect musicians, living in a caravan as you do I would hardly suspect you have the room to store them all...

Very interested in your.. autobiography...but nothing commentwise come to mind.

While Graves wrote a couple of very decent books in the Sgt., Lamb pair I don't think he paints an altogether accurate picture.

The war could easily have been won in the first year, (see my remarks in THIS AND THAT) but for the British.

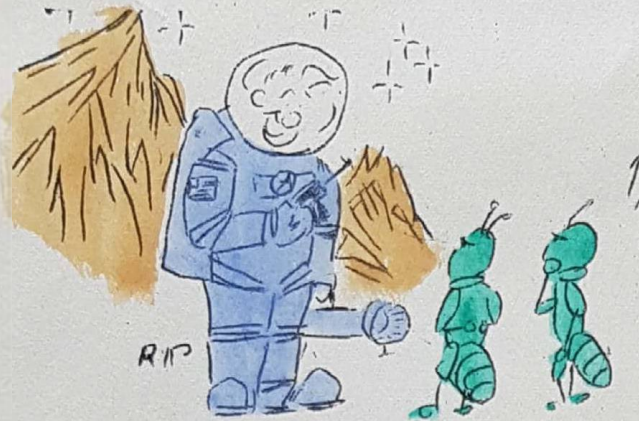
And their "troops" were good for one thing...they had some fine shots amongst them.

The War was eventually won by Cornwallies' ineptitude, and the FRENCE troops who fought for the Americans, and also because we were fighting France, Spain and Holland here in Europe.

I wish we had won. A united North America, and the rest of the Commonwealth, would possibly PREVENTED the France and Russian Revolutions...or at least the West would be in a stronger position now.

One particular argument of the Loyalists was that as America grew in population and power the British Crown would have eventually removed to the States, as being the new centre of the Empire... this might just have happened too.

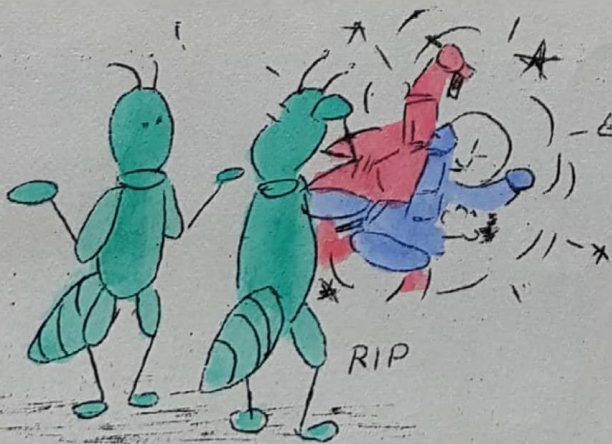
I really liked that THE LADIES BALL.



"ME FRIEND. PRETTY GIFTS, SEE?"



NO! ME FRIEND!



"This is peaceful coexistence?"

AMBLE 8 Mercer.

I don't exactly collect the Sanders books, altho' I have somehow accumulated about a dozen of them... these include the ones under the "Bones" titles... I don't think I'll ever part with them... I like them... but few if any of the other Wallace books.

Say, wan't to start a Sanders Fandom?... (well, I only asked) Saltman is decent... but the Leonard Cottrell books are very good indeed... so alive, vivid you say.

There is another book called THE VIKINGS too... darned if I can remember the author... but it is as good as a Renault book. Maybe I can find the author....

UL 5. Metcalf.

Hi, Haggard fan. Why not read ERB too?, for relaxation, not for the "science"... Nothing else here I can get my comment type teeth into..

ZOUNDS..6...Lichtman.

I like both your typefaces..but the type you used at the top of p.1 seems easier to read somehow.

WHATSIT legal length. I like this size because, 1, the amount of print per page is $1/3$ more, while if you used quarto... hum... say you have a certain number of words, the number of words dictate the number of pages... the amount of print you can get on legal spreads over more pages of quarto.



The same amount of print is cheaper on quarto, because the $1/3$ extra legal is less than 1 and $1/2$ quarto sheets.

If you stencil for quarto you have $1/3$ of a stencil blank, thus you pay full price for only $2/3$ of possible space.

Hum...if you see what I mean...

On the other hand quarto is easier to handle, stick in envelopes or file, and so on... I guess I'll be back to quarto eventually, convenience of siz outweighing savings in stencil/money.

At present tho' I still have $2/3$ reams of the legal left, so I'll use this lot up first.

Demmon...he's right there, the recorded laughter of a gyrating, giant sized, painted figure, (clown) send horrible shivers down my spine... its utterly.. disembodied.. alien.. revolting.

ERG 10...Jeeves.

Ah, I remember Sexton Blake... from comics like "CHIPS"... and some other one, the name of which I can't remember now. Come to think of it, that illo on the front of THE EXPLOITS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES looks just like the illo that used to grace the Sexton Blake storys... not that I was a great fan of Blake, even back in my schooldays, its just that sort of nostalgia these old heroes bring to mind.

The new Blake sounds revoltingly like a Hank Jensen thing. "The Murder of Sexton Blake" just about sums it up.

Oh yes... the Candid Camera team do occasionally get in with an amusing film.. like the ladder episode... some of them are screams.. but so many of them are putrid. Hancock, yup, viva Hancock!... and The Square World, ...uh, yes, thats a nice cover you have on ERG.... again,

ENVOY...2...Schultz.

who dat on the cover Dick...from Virgin Planet, or
The Girls From Planet 5, or JUST a Shultzgirl?

Huh, wonder why you call Bruce "Burns" ... seems to me I read
somewhere recently that that is an old sin by Statesiders...besides,
for a moment there I thought you mean't Alan Burns...most confusing.
Did you out that Metzger illo yourself? (Difficult?)

Up to p.7.now, amusing and interesting so far but, (apologies to
our Ethel) no commet hooks... the strip, which was the first thing
I looked at, is funny, particularly when Franks Monster comes in,
and the Orcs...etc.,

Ugh... "punk packs"... sound a right nasty shower. Sounds something
like the worst of our "Teddy boys"... tho' I haven't noticed that
name used too frequently lately... maybe the Teddy craze is dying out.

Hey, what is "hate to quote in a family fanzine what the phrase
"Eat Willis"... effect it would have on US constabulary? What
would they think of it... what's wrong with it huh?. Don't they like
advertising... or has the phrase, "Eat Willis" have some Sinister
Significance in the US?.

Technically, Prosser is good, I would, say,
But, by glory, he's.....gory.

About the VARAGY Camp Crazy Dick, lets put it this way, Ghosts, haunts
Demons, spooks, jjin, etc., and all that lot might not be very believable,
so why not scratch out any ideas pro or con "Spirits" and keep an
open mind by saying, words to the effect... "Something happened, what
exactly, I'm not sure... so I won't commit myself, I'll just sit and
wait till someone turns up something concrete"... this is the best
policy in my opinion... besides it leaves you room to make all sorts
of wild speculations.... put ghosts etc., in the same category as
ESP..ie;-... maybe... maybe not, I'm not sure which.

Actually we had a "ghost" or something in our flat when we
lived in Stourbridge, the town itself, ... or at least it was something.

My brother came home
on leave sometime during
the last war and on this
particular night slept in
a little room at the top
of the house. He woke up
a few hours later to sense
a sort of man-sized dark
shape standing by his
bed, near his shoulder.

He said he felt very
cold and was extremely
frightened, although the
whatever-it-was just stood
there. He tried to shout
but he couldn't make a
sound.... eventually the
thing just wasn't there
any more and Joe woke the
house with his yells.

Mom sat in the dark room
that night and a couple
more but she never saw or
felt anything... my memory
is not clear but I have an
idea that she sent for a priest eventually to "exorcise" the thing.
I never felt or saw it, or anyone else that I know of... perhaps Joe
just wasn't feeling too good. On the other hand, and I merely offer
it for speculation, we learn't later that a bloke had hung himself
in that room some years befor.

There seem to be plenty accounts of "ghosts" and
things... there is a churchyard at Oldswineford near here, with a
public pathway through it. This is shunned by the locals because
of its unsavoury reputation... tales of "things watching, following"
people who use the passage abound.



I'm sure that fellow OMPAn Eric made
every effort while in the States to
display his well-known English charm.

just wasn't feeling too good. On the other hand, and I merely offer
it for speculation, we learn't later that a bloke had hung himself
in that room some years befor.

There seem to be plenty accounts of "ghosts" and
things... there is a churchyard at Oldswineford near here, with a
public pathway through it. This is shunned by the locals because
of its unsavoury reputation... tales of "things watching, following"
people who use the passage abound.



ENVOY 2...Schultz.

I rather lean to that "the more we know, the more we realise we don't know" saying.

Like, even UFOs...not that I would credit things like the Amie Michael things, the real Saucer nuts, (who have a branch in Birmingham by the way), but I do know that the RAF keeps a record of UFO "sightings"...we even had a sighting at the place I was stationed...two blue lights, one an orangy colour, one white, which was seen by a flying instructor, in the air himself, towards the end of one night flying time. Rhod knows what they were though...and I spotted an emerald green something at the same place some time later...going down towards the horizon slightly west of north.... maybe they had something to do with the blokes who were test drilling, for oil of all things, near the airfield in that direction.

SOUFFLE...1. Baxter.

WHAT is that beast on p.3.?...a tailless Australian swamp walker?

Looky here, DMPAns, this bloke Baxter, half a world away, says he has little difficulty making the mailings, tho' it takes 6 to 8 weeks for zines to go one way on the trip...leaving him, at best, (out of the 12 week complete journey) mere days to read the mailing, and presumably comment.

(the radio just gave out that the British Government intend to introduce decimal coinage, unless the difficulties prove overwhelming ...now thats interesting, isn't it?...seems to me that the Common Market is the Governments target...this way joining may be easier, or at least perhaps thats their opinion...).

Your remarks about the Catholic Church, and particularly, "there is no science that is not part of Gods plan" and suffering afflictions gladly because they too are part of Gods plan. Do you realise that these ideas may well mean the survival of the Catholic Church, when other presentday churches are dust?...the attitude of "God helps him who helps himself" (implied by those attitudes mentioded earlier) is unshakeable. They just cannot be absolutly disproved. Its as near fatalism as the western mind can accept...and it calls for nothing but endurance...they don't have to fight anyone, they just wait a few centuries until the opposition dies of its own accord, or is absorbed by some new cult...yup, I vote the Catholic Church the Church Most Likely to Survive an Atom War and Time or Both. (and mebbe Bhuddism).

You know any books on pre-historic Australia Bob, archeological type things...I was wondering how long man had been in Australia, and wether he had attained any culture above the Abo one.

paraFANalia...9...Burn.

All readable, but nothing I feel like commenting on. The round-robin thing was a laugh. (by the way, superb cover.....). A mulicoloured zine, brings back memories, in my case best forgotten, of an early Spinge .../spinge is early this year..in the spinge a young mans fancy.... are you just trying out the various colour papers, or do you intend to go rainbow all the time from now on?.

"form of a man who had been attempting to run showed how unexpected the eruption of Vesuvius had been" I guess you were misled...actually there was plenty of warning. But people, then as now, just couldn't think of leaving their possessions behind, so they stayed too long and the fumes killed them, or they choked on ash...about 2,000 out of a population of about 20,000 died. Including Pliny the Elder.. read Leonard Cotteralls book, THE LOST CITIES, very good. (all of his books are good, ask Archie)...this LOST CITIES one, for instance, when you learn of all the civilisation that have come and then died, and been forgotten....has the same effect as looking at a million, million stars, and realising how insignificant we are.

SUWAYYA 2. Andy Main.

Hi Andy. Tut tut, We have heard of this BC type, he has a strip in one of our dailies, the Sketch... its good eh?

Haven't seen any collected booklet of the strips tho'... I'd like to have them... and I wish someone would print a collection of our 4D Jones strips, and Jeff Hawk, (instead of stupid "Gambols" and similar things). Of course, we do have the inimitable Giles books.

I like your nice easy stlye, very pleasant. (thats about all I can think of, to say, though.).

CCON Ency.

Well, I've read through your con-rep again, but, what can one say thats original about con-reps?, I can't think of anything anyway. Yours, counting zines arrived after the OMPA mailing, is about the 3rd-4th conrep I've seen.... I suppose there is such a thing as a surfeit of conreps, but so far each report has interested me, probably because they told of the same event, but from different angles. You, that is, there never seems to have been a con-rep where Everything was covered... I guess thats because its just physically impossible to see everything, sigh.

I like books like that THE GREAT WAR IN ENGLAND IN 1897. Some of these old books, true, are hard going, but I've picked up one or two highly absorbing-interesting types too... (hmm, reminds me, about time I did the rounds of the B'ham old-book stores again). for instance.... a 1905 History of the American Revolution....

Also very interested in your account of the Texas revolt, and the various other details... like the "Hosaa Biglow" songs.

Witches and sich, there has been a murder, in Liverpool if I remember right, and the victim was a member of a witch-type cult.

Only they called their "boss" Tiki, ... a Polynesian god, (equates with Chronos-Zeus), who, according to a bloke on TV, has few if any followers in Polynesia now.

Remember Thor Hyerdal's book about the crossing of the Pacific on the Kon Tiki?.

All.

VIPER Donaho.

is one of those fanzines I hesitate to pick up, I can usually get as far as writing the title before I run out of comments,

but thats all. And it isn't as if I didn't want to comment, or you could understand it if Viper was a lousy type zine... but it isn't... and the most I can do is to sit in a sort of dumb wonder.

Viva the Ray Nelson pages... not only highly amusing, but it would most likely work too. Liked Rays sectionalization, or, definition of differing types of humour... most instructive.

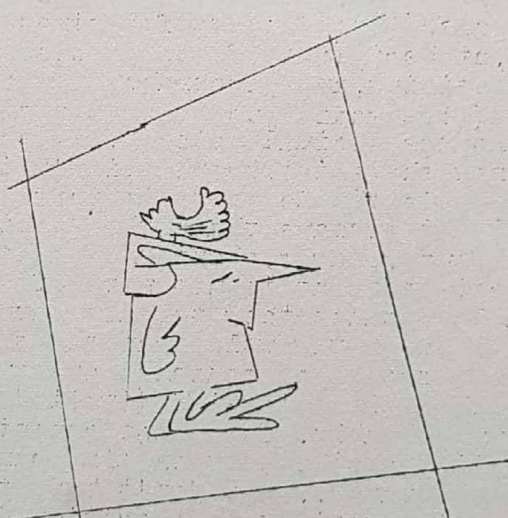
"I Made Him Marry Me"... I found 1, confusing, 2, to my mind, in rather bad taste.... or perhaps I'm just too young and innocent?.

anyway, George Locke was a good antidote. Here imagine lots of words, enthusing over the ASF history, saying things like "interesting, interesting... izzat-so? goshwow" and thanks to Alva... I hear/heard somewhere, via some fanzine or fan or other, words to the effect of "scrap the ASF col in Viper", I'd say the opposite, as long as you keep running it, I'll not only read it, I'll also enjoy reading it. By the way, is Alva the one who reproduces the ASF covers?.... (for me to gloat over).

Your comments on Jetstream; - you mention Goliad. I'd be interested if you, (or some other US fan), would tell me more about this... er... incident(?). Particularly, why did they surrender?.

PACKRAT... Groves.

Thats a good idea Jimmy, making known the Vector poll thing, should interest OMPAns, especially



PACKRAT.. Groves, continued.

...since WHY IS A FAN was distributed through OMPA a mailing or so ago, (before I got in actually)..How well does this compare with WIAF?.....not much to this Packrat...tho' in your ml-cs' there were one or two interesting bits..was rather...intrigued by your ambition to do a geology reference-type map of the UK.

MORPH 25 Roles.

re your comments on NHS. There is some truth in what you say, but. It depends, one could say, on your personal philosophy, whether or no you think NHS should be continued. You will, I hope, note that I am not saying that your arguments are incorrect/innacurate, (although some of them would apply to a private health system), I am merely saying that what you say is true, but... but what about those people who could not afford treatment privately..and no matter what one does or how careful one is, there can come times when medical help is absolutely essential, and, through no fault of your own, you have not the means whereby to pay for it. I suppose you could owe the money and pay in installments after treatment, (if the doctor would treat you sans money), but that means you have a debt hanging round your neck for god knows how long.

It is true that the NHS is abused, things could be tightened up....but I don't see why anyone should suffer just because a certain element takes advantage of the system.

Also, your bit about self employed persons paying the same amount of NHS contributions. 1. does it cost more to have your appendicicts out if you are "a big contractor" than if you were a "rag-and-bone man"?..2. Wealthy types go in for private treatment anyway...possibly from snobbery motives...but all the same, most people who can afford to go as private patients go as private patients.

"Good and bad doctors are undifferentiated"..maybe true.. but the same can apply to the un-NHS systems too...where we hear of doctors being refered to as "fashionable"(!!!)

List of demons etc., most useful...there are one or two names there that would make good fanzine titles..like, TORVATUS, (discord), NITIBUS, the stars, BAGLIS, measure and balance, HAHABI, fear, EIRNEUS, destroyin genius of idols.....BUTATAR, calculations THAGRINUS, confusion, Oh, and plenty more.

SCOTTISHE. Ethel.

Need I say anything about the Atom cover? no? OK. Chucklesome Geldart play. I'd like to see it done... of course....there is that tartan thunder..hmm... Machwhotzit, is becomming..well, say, a part of Scottishe... (strange, I'm reminded of Mal Ashworth when I read Mach.)..one way he could get rid of his rubble;- parcel up his bricks, post them to any MP, enclose a simple note, ie;- "Sir, I believe you dropped this". (by the way, its no good trying to get rid of tin cans this way...or male rabbits.....). Ah, good. MoRoy Tackett coughs up some marine type info. Press on with more Willisania.

Mad Atom pages much appreciated...your own account of your nureing life is absorbing, more, more, more!

That doesn't seem much to say about Scot. Anyway, I can hardly wait for the next one.

And rather than start another comment at the bottom of this page I'll just say;-

ETHEL FOR TAFF !!!

MAILING COMMENTS..Pat & Dick Ellington.

Ah, You're the Cat Ellington. (heh, heh, put that there saddle on me' hobby horse, I'm aimin' tuh ride...or somesuch type language)...at the moment I have only 4 cats... (I had, strictly speaking, 8 cats but a few weeks ago.) 4 cats, ah. Well 5 if you count Tiger Tim, tho' we see little of him, he comes home only about once every 3 months, but the other 4.

Well, no.1 is Matilda, alias Matty, alias Black Beast, alias Black Pig. She is A black persian, half-sister to Timothy, (alias Tiger Tim), mother of Tough Guy and Little Boy, (alias Little Brother)...Matty is about 3½ years old. 3 litters so far, of which Tough Guy and Little Brother are no.s 1 & 2. (in the first lot) their brother, Scruffy, now lives at my brothers' house, (with several other cats, and dogs, and assorted children aged 1 to 12).

Tough Guy & Little Brother are just over two years old. For her second litter Matty had 2 queens and a tom. The shes, because of our already crowded quarters, we had to dispose of...but the tom we kept...until Dave Hale had him. This confused, but happy, animal, (he is known as Tucker, Sergeant, and, and..well, some other name, by the various members of Daves family), is going to be a huge cat...a ringed shorthaired tortoiseshell like his elder brothers.

Our fourth cat is a blue eyed, white, persian.

An albino, and a she. This animal is no relation to the other cats, but when my elder sister brought her Matty adopted her.

So, with 4 cats, the dog, and the budgeie.....

Matty sat on her last lot of kittens and smothered the poor beasts.

Tough Guy got himself gored a little..weell, he got bitten then...in a fight a few weeks ago, (by the time you read this that is), and had an abcess come up on his side.

So, off to the vets.

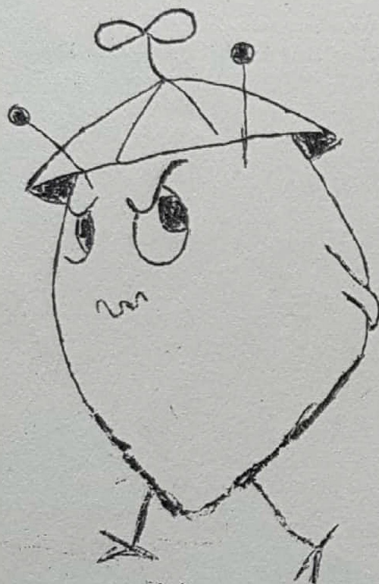
What a perishing game I had with the hairy beast,

maiw, miow, mew, all the way down to the village, (startled one fur coated lady to hear maans from a holdall), and kept pushing his paws and his big head out through a hole, (caused by a faulty zip).... he quietened down at the vets...Then I lifted him onto the table, unzipped the holdall, and the vet grabbed him by the scruff of the neck and gave him a jab, (to stop the abcess filling up again), I have seldom seen such a startled expression on any cats face...he was quiet all the way home...I had to take him down again for a follow up jab a couple of days later..I guess he remembered about bags and buss', and jabs...he played up something terrible, and on the way back too, the injection didn't keep him quiet this time...he'd got accustomed to it I guess and was more angry than frightened.

Had a most interesting conversation with the vets receptionist nurse, on both occasions...the things some people do when they bring their animals to a vets....

By Ghod, justification! years and years ago I got dragged along to see Gone With The Wind...I thought it was terrible, vastly over-rated etc., and amazed because it won some award or other, and ever since relatives and others have looked at me in askance for holding this view. I'm glad somebody holds an equally low opinion of the dratted thing.

I disagree about ERB though...I want all of his books. They are easy to read, full of that sense of wonder, "Up and at 'em" type spirit...well, gloriously whatever the fantasy equivalent of Space Opera.



MAILING COMMENTS..Ellingtons.

IWW and all that was very interesting indeed, more so perhaps because just about the time the Mailing came I saw a play on TV about the rise of a bloke to power in an American trade union.

As I said, very interesting..must look around for material of Trade Union History type..UK & US.

o-o

POSTMAILINGS and Such.

CADENZA...Charles Wells.

Actually I don't think this is meant for OMPA, as an OMPazine, but as Charles W is sitting at the top of the mailing list.....

My favourite illo is that little Atom on p 9. 'cause I've been trying for days to draw a ship. A sort of viking-ben type ship. And I just can't get it right...when I saw this illo here I thought, "Boy, thats it!"...and then ££ &£ &&'£ Atom hasn't done me one. (and if you've ever tried saying ££ &&'£ etc., you'll realise what a state I was in).

By Roscoe, I reveled in your "its the artists fault" assertions. I've no idea how accurate your ..um..theories are, but I sure like your style.

Reorganization of the States. USA type:-

There has been a lot of talk, well mostly only talk, in this country about reorganising the various fiddleing little local councils, and also reorganising/rearranging the distribution of the various counties.

Me, I think this is a good idea. But I doubt that anything will be done in my time...for at least two reasons.

1. the natural reluctance to change, which seems extreme in this country;

2. if the various councils and Counties are redistributed to better advantage there will be fewer of them..which means there will be less seats on the various councils....ergo, some of the councilors will be out of a job. A job that can mean prestige, and, to some councilors, money.

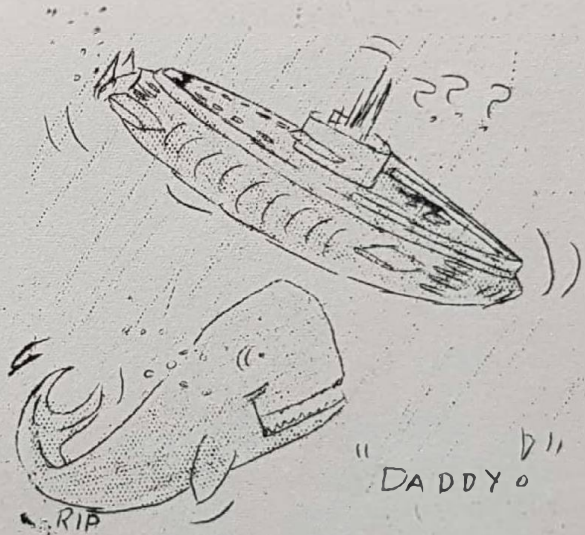
THE WALL part 4. Donaho.

I guess this is my favourite episode so far. Viva Round Robin type Walls. You sure fixed Ethel this time...I'm waiting now to see how, (if) the next Round Robiner gets her out of this.

The Ray Nelson illos, (particularly the cover), hum. scrub that. ALL the Ray Nelson illos add a lot to the effect of the tale. Good, good, good, etc.,

Well thats about all of the mailing comments, unless of course I get some more post-mailing before I send this off... still, never mind, I can always start a new stencil.

(the above few lines is a cunning way of filling a stencil, I couldn't get an illo in here..)



POSTMAILS, continued.

Oh, woe is me, I thought
I was too near the 31st deadlin
to get another PM, it seems
I was wrong, for here is:-

SATHANAS 2, from Dick Schultz
to prove me wrong.

Not that I mind
postmailings all that much,
it just doesn't seem tidy,
somehow.

The cover of this SATH,
(duck, Dick I've got a cold and
I'm in a mean mood)..is either
by Dick Schultz, and titled
Tanz Motte, or Motte is the
name of the unlucky wretch
who originated the illo...
Which depicts, as far as I can
make out, a human/oid girl who
is confronted by some humanoid
but unhuman "thing"...either
the girl is very hot stuff or
the "thing" is the coolest cat
since Ellington locked ...

S.....d in the icebox...for
the 'things' arms, -which are in
the "I surrender" position,
are either melting or have burst into flame....he doesn't seem to
be very worried tho'...he's either asleep or just recovering from
an attack of indigestion. (by ghod I'm having a lovely grunch!).

Anyhow, Dick, I like the collection of Metzger illos, they are
a dickins of a job to cut I should imagine, (those I used some time
ago were electro-cut...got them done cheap by a bloke who knows
a bloke who has an electro-cutting device, if you see what I mean).

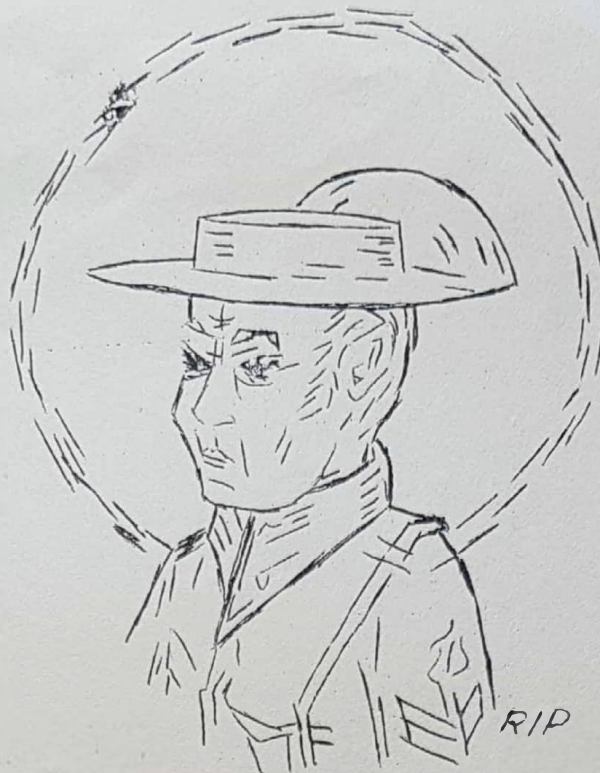
I always, (huh, always yet...this is only 2nd or 3rd time
I've done mcs), as I was saying, I have trouble shifting gear,
changing from "letter of comment" type writing to "comments in
an Apazine" type writing....come to think of it, why not just leave
it as "I have difficulty....writing"? OK, wilco.

WILCO!, now that brings back memories, (shoo, shoo, go away
for a minute Dick, whilst Uncle Ken remeniss, remmem, er, renmem,
while I talk about wilco and things like that from my ~~bold~~ past.

I have allready, somewhere amongst the Lost OMPA Mailings
related how I was born at quite an early age and subsequently grew
hourly more aged. It was after some 18'agonising years, striving
towards...well, perhaps I'd better not say what I was striving
towards, after all This Is A Family APA., anyway, there I was, 18
years old, striving away like mad, when, Phow, (or possibly it could
have been "poldp, or even "t'ud") I was suddenly presented with the
oportunity of serving in Her Majesteys Royal Air Force. As I explained
to the two representatives of this august body, I was delighted,
and at once concieved a desire to thank Her Majesty personally for
having me selected....of course being apprehended on the dockside
was misconstrued, Could _ help it if Her Majesty had gone abroad
that year?.

Ahem...amid the protestations of my friends and relations
(there is no truth in the rumours that they were shoulder to
shoulder shouting "give 'im ten years mate", none of my friends
have ever stood shoulder to shoulder)..The first time I only went
as far as Wolverhampton, 13 miles, for the medical...Had a great
laugh with the...whatever-the-bloke-is-who-tests-your-hearing ...
because I couldn't figure out what he was whispering...it turned
out to be names of football teams...on seeing my blank expression
he immediatly realised he'd found another anti-football fan and
we had 10 mins quite confab about ridiculous football spectators
before he passed me on.

I can't remember much at this distance, about the medical
except that I had though I was pretty weedy until I saw some of





the weird...bodies half-inhabited by some "men"...ah me...I, by some ridiculous piece of mismanagement, got graded A1 and was passed gloatingly on to the lad in charge of...aptitude testing.

Whereafter, in spite of the pleads and tears of the entire staff, I vetoed their proposal to stage an immediate revolution, with me for dictator of course, and elected instead to enter the RAF in a lowly rank...I felt a glow of achievement steal over me, as, eyes averted and with many a mutter of "We're not worthy of course...it was to be expected" I was lead to the door and sent off to wait at home for the Air Ministry to summon me.

Huh...I think I'd better not reveal Everything just yet, I still have to finish doing some sort of a comment on Dicks zine.

Wyatt Earp...actually the main feeling I get from this is a sympathy for Wyatt...after all, if kids hadn't made him all bitter and twisted....Can't understand

the American... (or is this article/description unusual?) idea of a cop...and I can't say I much like the idea of cops carrying guns, or the citizenry for that matter...I read somewhere that UK averages 400 murders a year, while the US 6,000....and you lot haven't got 15 times our population...that would be...15 times 50m... 750million people, no, I guess its just that you're about 3 times as violent as we are.

I wonder...if one can judge by what is called "normal behaviour" in American films, (can I judge that way?) then you lot are a darn sight more Latinesque, Emotional, than we are....

Ray Nelson noted,...this is factual?. (if it is fiction, excuse me, I know not Ray Nelson..apart from his name). Ah, he draws those Beanie Brigade illos...theyre OK.

Terry Jeeves...most excellent "story". Small comment for such a long, large laugh...much obliged Terry.

Hi Al, what are you doing hiding in Dicks lettercol? (Don't answere that..it might cause....you know what to...to...do THAT

again).. anyway, I'm glad you brought up the Subject of Fred Sathans, or SATHANAS. It was just about 1945 that I found 2/3 copies of a comic, (US) highly coloured..with several new, to me, and weirdly wonderful, to me, characters in it....This, apart from the Captain Marvel comics, must have been the First S/F or Fantasy That I Ever Read Outside Of Fairy Stories.

Sathanas...monoeyes, pointed ears, skinny, green as an ivy leaf, and evil as...satan. Lets see .. the plot was...He was too evil even for his evil mates back on his own planet...so they stick him in a spaceship...then rip out all the controls...poor Fred Sathanas then goes careering around the Universe for 10,000 years, until, (the ingenious b.....d) he figures out a way of steering his ship...so he sets down on earth..hides his ship I think..and promptly makes plans for enslaving the Earthlings...out of pure oussedness.

Of course he never succeeds...at least .. not in this edition of the comic. One of his methods if I remember aright, was to build some weird and wonderful machines and somehow operate them so as to cause New York to be drowned...I never figured out how he thought he'd manage it... (a swimming cop fixed him that time..didn't kill Sath of course, he's immortal...killed the cop tho!)...I never did save that comic...maybe I should have?...I might have figured out how his flooding machine worked .. it could have made a super zap.

Then, in the same comic, there was this Wizards' or Sorcerers Apprentice chap...and his 9ft high familiar...named Yggy or something like that, (no, Dick, it wasn't Yngvi). and...hum was it BOGEYMAN?...a sort of Fearless Fosdyke in a mask...a private tec...and some portly little bespeckled man, who was a genuine superman but looked like a clown.. (that was the humour section I guess) he, I recall, was engaged in solving something or other in some place where everyone was his own Gapt. Marvel, or Superman.

Actually, I bet that if I found that comic now I'd give a yelp of disgust/terror and throw it away...at least...I guess I would...

RICHARD SCHULTZ! wasn't that Leiber story the one called, in hard cover at least, GATHER, DARKNESS.?. I distinctly remember the plot as quoted by you...I've read it in the last year or so. Ah, you say "in magazine form"...I cannot remember reading it in magazine form but perhaps I have it somewhere amongst my Great Unread Pile.

Hey, I know who SATHANAS of the comic book reminds me of, that silhouette on the Sandman Port/Sherry adverts...very like old Fred Sathanas...very like.

Hey Dick, you didn't check any of the li'l boxes on the last 2 pages of my copy...y'know, I always feel vaguely cheated when there are little boxes like this in a fanzine, and they aren't checked.

Oh well.

End of Comments
on Sathanas 2.

'bye Dick.

oooooooooooooooo

Some observation
on Amerinds;
by Art Hayes,
sparked off by
reading comments
on Amerinds in
my WHATSIE,
reprinted,
with his
permission, from
a letter.

And also
some details,
an outline in
fact, of NFFF
and related
subjects, cut from the same letter, (by Art, to me) in answer to some
questions of my own...but which I consider interesting enough to
deserve a wider audience.

That, friends, is some title.

The Canadian Indians, in theory if not in practice, are a separate race and nation within the confines of Canada. They have their own Government (which actually includes portions of the USA Indians too) and, in Canada, comes under a Ministry for Indian Affairs. They have certain rights the rest of us do not have, such as no Income Tax on income earned with their Reservation....under certain conditions, they do not have to pay duty on material they bring to, or from, the USA...and others about which I'm extremely hazy.

By treaties signed a long time ago, they get an annual income from the Government, in repayment for certain lands taken from them, (a pittance, but in some areas, even today, this pittance can be helpful at times). If they are willing to give up their Amerind citizenship they can, at will, become Canadian citizens, with the same rights, (and some losses of privileges too) as other Canadians.

Whereas, in the past, it was customary for them to have their own schools in the reservation areas, arrangements have been made in recent years, to integrate them in the same school system as the other, or the same as Canadians. This is done by grants covering the extra expenses, to the schools. The schools are a Provincial matter, whereas

All dealings involving Amerinds, are Federal matters. Recently though they have been granted the right to vote in Canadian Elections, without their having to give up their Amerind citizenship. Recently too, they have been allowed to buy and consume alcoholic beverages, something that was denied to all Amerinds, unless the individual had served in the Canadian forces.

The generalization, however, that they scorn civilization and what comes with it, is somewhat wrong. But they do have a very strong sense of independence, wishing to retain their individuality and independence, and there have been times when this has led to some friction. In some area, some reservations, mineral wealth was found, and developed, and the tribes in those areas are extremely well off, rich in fact. But the picture your TV show gave. (Noble Savage..kmpc) ..no orders given another Indian, will not destroy trees, etc., is ridiculous, and not true.

Up home, not here, (here--Bancroft..kmpc) there are quite a few and one thing that many dislike is their Saturday night get-together where, after some drinks, there is something resembling, (although not in intensity) a war party, with fighting, arguing, orders, etc., all going on at once. A real pow-wow, in a way resembling some fan parties.



Up home, they are not as well off as they could be, spending a little too much of their money on booze, and the result is that some are not so well dressed as the whites, (though they are certainly NOT dark), and this leads, at times, to some occasions that no one can be pleased with. An example occurred last summer, when there was some religious ceremony going on. The Indians WANTED to attend, they were coaxed, invited, etc., to attend BUT NONE DID. Because they felt they were not as well dressed as the others (this involved children) and they felt they might be laughed at. Nothing anyone could do, to get them to come. As I said, they have a big PRIDE on some things.

o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Here be the second half of the letter, this relates to NFFF & N'APA.

.o.o.o.o.o.o.o.o.o.

Once in a while I am called upon, as you are doing, in regards to the N3F.

When those times come around I try to be as fair as I can, without becoming

biased, etc., I've been in N3F since somewhere around 1955 or 1956.

I've been a Director for a couple of years, have been the Directorate Chairman for almost the same length of time, have been

the Welcomittee Chairman for around 5 years, and have had my fingers in almost every corner of the club, in one sense or another. Today is my last day as a Director of the N3F, not having allowed my name to stand for election a few months ago.

The N3F provides the opportunity to do or follow practically any fanatic found in any other club. It is a general purpose type club.

It has, within its membership, all types; from the neo to the Pro, the fugghead to the genius. It has no Activity Requirement, so, in a sense, joining it does not bring on any "obligation" in the sense that I understand your use of the word. I implied an OMPA type obligation, ...kmpc/ You do not HAVE to do anything.

You can be as active or inactive as you like. The basic returns are few; you get the OO (six times a year) and a letterzine (six times a year, alternating with the OO). You have the right to vote in its elections. You can enter MOST of its activities. There is only one section of the club where you might not be able to enter at times, and that is the APA Section, which, when there is a waiting list, you have to wait in the apa limbo until there is room inside. At the present time there are a couple of vacancies, and no waiting list. 4 Jan-1968.

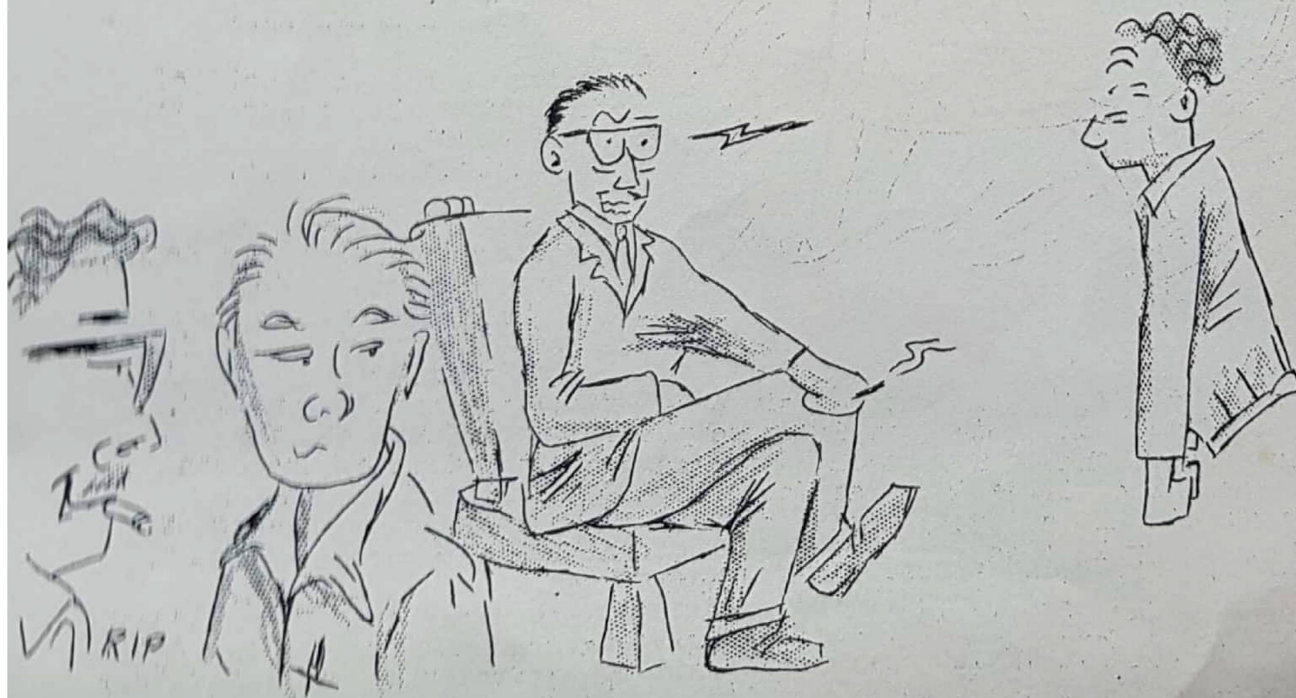
Activities? The apa mentioned (N'APA). No need to describe that, in that it follows the general pattern of all apas, though it does seem to have a preoccupation with discussions of the parent club. The rules vary only slightly from other clubs and apas.

Manuscript Bureau. This is currently in the hands of a professional author, Ed Ludwig. It receives, and distributes, fan written material. He has tried, also, to advise on ways and means for the writers to improve their writings. If something of a potentially saleable quality comes in he will, with your permission, act as your agent to sell it to the prozines. In 1961 there was a contest for fan fiction, with a total of prizes of around \$65. There will be another in 1962. It is not limited to only Neffer members.

Starting within the club, but since given its independence, is an Artists Show. This is strongly supported by the club, and the club does have an award in amongst the many awards that the Art Show has. It held its first exhibition at the Pittcon, a second at the Seacon, both being highly successful.

At the World Conventions, for several years now, it has had an "open house", 24 hours a day, where sandwiches, coffee, tea, etc., (no alcoholic beverages) are served to all comers, without propaganda. It has resulted in some fans who did not have funds to get something to eat, not going hungry living off peanut butter sandwiches, cookies, and coffee. This has not been a cheap affair, though the conventions for several years, recognising that we were at least trying to provide a general service, have, whenever possible, given free rooms for the purpose. The SEACON, in recognition of the activities of the Neffer Hospitality room, gave, from its surplus, \$75 towards our activities in the next convention, the CHICON.

The N3F (N.F.F.F.) started in the early forties, so is one of the older clubs in North America, and its activities, looked upon as good and bad at times, have become an inherent part of N.A. Fandom. It was actually formed by professionals, with the intent of unifying N.A. Fandom, providing a kind of H.Q. for all fandom.



"Isn't it marvelous the way OMPA activity has risen since Roles found that old book of incantation?"



Well, fandom has never accepted any kind of a boss, and the original intent had to be dropped several years ago as not being capable of being met.

Almost all fans of more than 5 years in Fandom have passed through the N3F, staying for varying periods of time, some leaving highly angry, some just leaving. The N3F has friends, and also a lot of people who, while difficult to classify as enemies, still, are not what one would call as friendly.

In some ways it has created ill-will by wanting to, at times, do more than it was capable of, and falling down on many a worthwhile project.

The original FANCYCLOPEDIA, now under Eney, was originally a project between LASFS and the N3F. That was one project that did go through successfully. In the last few years more care has been taken, and fewer promises made, with the result that failures have often been failures BEFORE they were announced, not resulting in bad publicity for the club.

In the minor category, for activities, you get all kinds. There is the Round Robin correspondence, (a kind of limited chain-letter operation going on round and round within a small group of members).

Quads, which are more or less similar, but being carbon-zines, going to all members of a small group at the same time, from each of its participants. The RRs, can be subdivided into several categories; (1) Those based on one specific subject or hobby. (2) General discussion types, where anything goes, (3) Light, and at times humorous. (4) Story Round Robins, which involves each participant in writing a chapter for the story, continuing until all get tired of that story, at which time another story is sometimes started. (5) In the Specific Subject RR, there are surprisingly few, (surprisingly few) based on SF or Fantasy. The Quads, follow similar rules to the RRs. They might be compared closely with the organised CRAPS.

There are groups such as RECRUITING, trying to present the club to other who are not in organised fandom. (A re-write is being done to the recruiting literature, so none is currently available) Jan-62. kmpo-

The WelCommittee, who try, within the limited capabilities of the individual, to help the new member get oriented into the club. (It too is making up literature intended to speed up the orientation of the neo into our portion of fandom, and to Fandom in general).

Then there are such fringe groups, or services, as the Fanzine Crealing house, where, for a sum, a bundle of fanzines is sent out to those wanting them.

Since the N3F includes ANY fanac you can think of, if it doesn't it provides you with the publicity and whatever help it can, to get YOU to get that fanac going. So, the privileges depend on the individual member; there are plenty of opportunities and, if he wants to

be active he can actually find anything he wants, if he looks around enough. In my case, it has provided me with enough activity, so that I'm often over 100 letters behind. It can provide more fanac than any one person is capable of. But, it also requires the new member to go out and look, and thrust himself into it. Some have found the N3F to be everything they could want, many have found it to be.

There are various types of publications sent out to the members free, but this is not a PROMISE, since they are not regular. Some years a large number will be sent out, some years, none.

DUES; This can be a problem to some overseas people, fans.. Where they can send International Money Orders there does not seem to be any problem, but in some countries this is not even allowed. Usually, when a foreign member, fan, WANTS to join arrangements can be made easily. In my case, I often accept postage stamps, (mint), from that country, equivalent in value to the dues, and then I send the actual money to Janie Lamb. Then of course there are subs made in mine, or the particular officials, name, to overseas prozines...

I think you can see that I could go on for many more pages on the N3F. I have probably skipped somethings too, in my brief summary..... One thing I want to make sure you realise is that if you join you will find some of your friends teasing you about it. Many who have never had anything to do with N3F, never been members, following the general line, will run the club down. Confession. I have done that, mildly perhaps, in the past... silly of me. kmpc.

I personally hope you will join. The choice however is up to YOU. I would advise that you join, and make up your own mind as to what the club is. If it doesn't suit you, you can drop out, no renewal, and still remain friend with the club. After all, if the club doesn't suit YOU, it doesn't necessarily mean that the club is BAD, since there are many who DO like the club. So, until such time as you decide to join, or want more information, I'll stop yakking.

A Saturnalian fiend,

sgnd., Art Hayes.

COMMENT;- Well, that's a pretty fair statement, account of, the N3F. If, (although it was not aimed that way) it gains more members for the N3F I'll say well and good. This

does not seem to me to be a fuggheaded lets-take-over-fandom-and-reorganise-it-for-their-own-good type organisation. As was in fact my very early impression of the club... that was a little time ago... since that time my attitude changed to "well, I don't know much about N3F, why should I have opinions about it", and then it changed again up to the present where I say, "it seems a decent enough club, if there are fuggheads you can avoid them anyway"... and, I guess this will stay my attitude until I get the time to do fanac in N3F... whereafter? I cannot of course forecast my opinion. but I am hopeful that it would be similar to Arts'. yours... kmpc.



This has been ENVOY 4. Published for the THIRTYFIRST
(31st) OMPA Mailing, March of 1962, by,

Ken M P Cheslin, 18, New Farm Road, Stourbridge,
Worcestershire, ENGLAND.

Also sent to a few non-OMPAnS for various reasons, like Trade,
it was asked for, you didn't ask but I threatened you with one,
and so on ad infiniteum.

Credits....I suppose you could call them.

The Cover was drawn by Jim Cawthorn and put on stencil by
Dick Schultz.



Illos on pages;-

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8
were drawn by
Harry Douthwaite and
cut by Dave Hale.

Illos on pages 14 & 15
are by Philby, the one
on 16 by Dave Hale, who
also cut all these.

Illos on pages;-
9, 10, 11, 12, 13, also
on p. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21,
22, 23, 24, 25, were
drawn and cut by
Dick Schultz.

Material on p.s.
20, 21, 22, 23, 24 was
reprinted, with his
permission of course,
from a personal
letter from Art Hayes,
thanks.

Colour, is by ME!...
coutesy of Carole,
niece no.2. who let
me use her water
colours again.

Its a pity that I
don't have time to
colour them all, but
the deadling is a
little too near for
me to start that
again.

Also, I'll say sorry,
not for Mailing comments
per se, but because

there is very little else but mailing comments here againg.
Perhaps next time?.

Until the 32nd, yours,
Ken.

YET ANOTHER.....CRINGE BINDER PUBLICATION!.

