

ETHERLINE II

The first issue was called ETHERLINE



ISSUE No. 2

the journal of the Melbourne SF Club

STOP PRESS: NEWS!

New Horwitz Releases mark the start of a long-awaited Australian sf book market.

TO BE RELEASED IN FEB & MAR '68 by Horwitz books:

"

"THE GOD KILLERS"

John Baxter

"FALSE FATHERLAND

A. Bertram Chandler

(First printing)

"Masters Choice"

Laurence M. Janifer

(2 vols)

It is suggested that every Australian fan buys all three new releases as evidence of their interest and support in Horwitz's new venture.

BUY AUSTRALIAN- AND KEEP YOUR MONEY

IN AUSTRALIA.....Heaven knows we need it!

CONTENTS

Table of Contents.....	Page 3
Editorial.....	Page 4
News, local and overseas.....	Page 6
Asinov....Robotics.....	Page 9
Special Report.....	Page 13
Book List.....	Page 14
Reviews.....	Page 18
MSFC News.....	Page 22
Film Review.....	Page 25

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Art by John Breden,
cover & page 17

Mike Lawson,
P.3, P.5, P.12,
P.21, P.23, P.25.

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Etherline II is available for 10¢ per copy
or \$1.20 for twelve issues. Etherline II is also
available for a letter of comment, article or
trade.

ALAN G. FRANCE ALAN G. FRANCE ALAN G. FRANCE .

EDITORIAL

Since the first issue of ETHERLINE quite a bit of pressure has been applied from one side and another to change the name and to keep it as what it was. The two camps of thought were divided thus; one side saying that I should not have used a name which was a part of the Australian fan heritage, that I should have thought up a name for myself and used that. The other side said that I was editing a club magazine, the club magazine was called ETHERLINE so that was what it should have been called.

Pat Terry came up with the answer when he said, "Why not call it ETHERLINE Vol 2 or ETHERLINE New Series" so we called it ETHERLINE II. Everybody happy....you better hal be.

I need news, any sort of news, not just the sort that SF writers make. If you went somewhere and did something that will interest other fans, please let me know about it. News is one of the things that I hope to make an important part of this fannag. I hope also to be able to print articles on things that interest people or stir people. I would like to be able to get Australian fandom out of the very deep rut that it is in, to get it moving and becoming aware of the fact that we have a great chance here to go as far as we like to go, now.

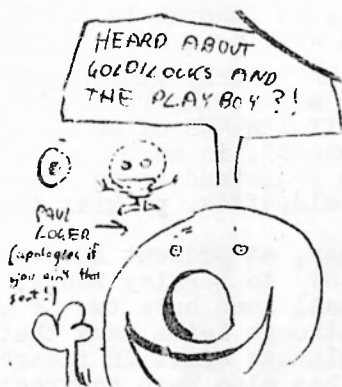
American fans know that we exist. They all know that ASFR exists, but I sometimes wonder if they ever think of their being other fans apart from sercon fans here. I am sure that there are fannish fans and fanzine fans around, but how to get them out into the open is the question. I hope that I can do something about it.

I would like to know what you people think about SF. Other fans would like to know what you think, this seems to me to be the very thing that fandom is based on, the very thing that makes the American fanzines that I get, seem so alive. Sometimes I am afraid that we in Australia have become vegetables, just readers of SF instead of fans. Perhaps it is just that the old active fans have faded away and there are none to replace them.

So much for the rave, now read the 'zine and comment on it, for two reasons, (A) because that is what will keep the thing going, and, (B) because I could do with a little ego boosting. I don't like to think that I am sending this out to a lot of people who just flick through it and then forget it. A letter please.....

L.E.

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NEWS

LOCAL & OVERSEAS

WRITING

Gordon Dickson's intended final novel in the "Dorsai" series has grown to be long enough for two, instead of one. The first will probably be called "Armageddon" and the final one, "Childe".

Andre Norton will shortly finish the sixth of her "Witch World" series, and this, with six other of her books, now only in hard covers, will be brought out in paperback by Ace Books in early 1968.

A. Bertram Chandler has signed up with Fred Pohl to do four new "Rim World" novelettes for "International SF Monthly". The first of these has already been dispatched to Pohl. The title is "The Rim Gods" and Bert writes, "it deals with a misguided attempt to call up the God of the Old Testament, so that he can issue a new set of Ten Commandments...But Jehovah is not the only Deity, depicted as wearing a long, white beard..."

Keith Laumer has nearly finished work on a new novel which he calls "The Planet Breakers". He has just sent off the M/S of two more, one, "Assignment in Nowhere", is an "Imperium" novel. The other is "Time Traps" and is in Keith's own words, "a sort of slapstick, poking fun at reality".

Keith's brother, at present in Hong Kong, has sold a novel (SF) to Berkley Books. It appears that we shall soon have two SF authors in the one family, although Keith says that he and his brother are "planets apart in ideas".

Keith Laumer has also been contracted to write "several novels, based on the T.V. Show,

"The Avengers", which should be fun but tricky, since the main characters are British, and there is nothing worse than a phoney use of British idiom, (unless it's an Englishman trying to write American slang)".

MAGAZINES

Fred Pohl has signed up, apart from A. Bertram Chandler; Jack Wodhams, John Baxter and Ron Smith, and possibly Lee Harding to do stories for "International SF Monthly".

Harry Harrison has bought the novel "False Fatherland" by A. Bertram Chandler, for serialization in "Amazing". He has retitled it "Sparta Planet", but did at least pay the courtesy of asking permission to do so first. Bert has also finished a sea story for Harry Harrison, but this may not be SF.

PEOPLE

Jack Vance is well into preparations for a round-the-world trip, by trimaran, of all things.

Andre Norton's mother died on November 24th at the age of 95. (Pat Terry sent Andre a cable of condolence, signed, "From Pat, and all Australian fandom").

Isaac Asimov writes, in connection with the book, "Fantastic Voyage":

"Never again will I attempt such a task. Though I was able to tie up one or two otherwise "loose ends", having to write the book to a completed, and circumscribed pattern, is not conducive to even reasonably good work, and is far too much of a handicap. However, I did write the story, as nearly as possible, to instructions, and I must accept the blame for any "short comings" that the story contains. But, I repeat, never again."

information from P.A.M. Terry

MELBOURNE S.F. CONFERENCE

Conference year has started but, to date, very few people have paid their subscriptions. You will all have received information about the conference this year, so what about being in it. Three nights and two days of nothing but SF and then more SF, what more could you want. Four feature movies plus shorts and a serial for light relief. An auction of some rare old magazines and piles of books and magazines for general sale. All the principals of ASFR will be there as well as other SF authors and reviewers. Tapes from leading overseas authors and fans will be played as they speak on their views on SF today, and where it is going, after which the local authors will give their views.

Altogether, it should be a very interesting weekend. Why don't you join in and come along? Full membership is \$2.50 and it can be sent to the Melbourne SF Club or Mervyn Binns at 19 Somerset Place, Melbourne. \$1.00 associate membership will ensure you a copy of the final conference report.

EASTER

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Gad it's hot in here, must be the heat.

Whisper

ROBOTICS....

The title, "World's best known writer of SF" is not easily obtained, nor is it won overnight.

Isaac Asimov or "The good doctor," a name by which he has become known, began his path to recognition of what a robot should be and how it should act. Asimov chose to develop his robots on a logical line of thought brought about by the creation of his positronic brain, a welcome change in a field loaded down with super-fical pseudo-men created by mad scientists. In 1939 he began his first robot story, the first in a great series, a chronicle of robotic development under the safe-guarding and unalterable three laws of robotics. These laws were intended to restrict the basic thought pattern of the positronic robot brain to certain laws, all else being subsidiary.

Eventually it was these laws that revolutionized the writing of robot stories. The readers came to expect robot stories to conform to the three laws. No more do you read of the warped, ingenious blasphemer who creates the creaking monster which then destroys him.

In the early stories of "I, Robot", robots are victimised by people with a "Frankenstein complex." Asimov uses this term a great deal in the introductions to his two books and individual stories, by it he means, the instinctive revulsion and distrust that a human will show for a mechanical man. (It must be quite obvious where the term originated.) In the last story of the collection, robots have been accepted; where robots have advanced to the stage where they control the world. This is

not because of any mad lustful desire for supreme dominance, but because they must obey the first law, which is to allow human beings to come to no harm. In other words, they are ruling the world for our own safety.

Fortunately for the good doctor, there is enough ambiguity in the three laws to provide the necessities which bring about the "twist of difference" he manages to produce in each story. There have been enough openings to provide the basis for seventeen robot stories, excluding his uncompleted trilogy, which we shall discuss later.

The stories of the "I, Robot" collection are all told by Susan Calvin (who also appears in "The Rest of the Robots") who became the greatest practitioner of the new science of robopsychology. She learned to calculate the possible variables within the positronic brain, to predict the response of a robot to a certain new situation or surrounding.

In this book she comes under the spotlight as she is interviewed by the author as a newspaper reporter. She relates to him several unusual incidents concerning robots. In an "I remember once" story telling method she relates nine incidents, usually with Mike Donovan and Gregory Powell as the main characters.

The first robot story ever attempted by Asimov was "Strange Playfellow" later to be re-named "Robbie" in the "I, Robot" collection. It concerns a child's attraction towards a play robot as it's best friend. Although Robbie plays the part of a silent toy, a non-vocal piece of machinery, Asimov still enables the reader to understand and feel the emotion of their relationship.

To point out an untidy contradiction, one which you have probably now found, I will

proceed to clarify this for once and all.

By an emotional, superficial robot, I had intended to phrase, the continuous chain of stories including robots with an exaggerated resentment aimed at their creator and/or every other living human on earth. That threat to all mankind, so relentlessly exemplified in the horror stories that began with "Frankenstein" but was later moderated to a slight degree, by Asimov. The emotions displayed by Robbie were anything but resentful. Asimov painted him for what he was, a harmless plaything, with an affection for a little girl. He was unable to express himself except for a nod or a hug, and then in sadder moments, a drooping head and a shrugging chassis frame. This is, to me atleast, more than a vague link with the pathetic "Frankenstein Monster" who was also unable to communicate.

Ever met an obnoxious, stubborn, robot, one that would not except the fact that we are it's creators, or that we originated from a planet called Earth? Assembled in outer space, this robot like the others, is unique for a point of interest so is the story. It first appeared in Astounding SF in 1941 and it is this story which eventually did make history as giving birth to the three laws of robotics. It is called "Reason".

Asimov's second anthology of robots, reputed to be as good, or perhaps even better, than his first, runs basically along the same lines as it. This collection, "The Rest of the Robots" is much larger in scope.

In "Robot AL-76 goes astray" we see all normal things amplified in humour. People run from the robot in fear, all with the exception of one poor soul who is too horrified to move. The comedy comes out in the story "Victory Unintentional" where three robots bring the inhabitants of Jupiter to believe that they

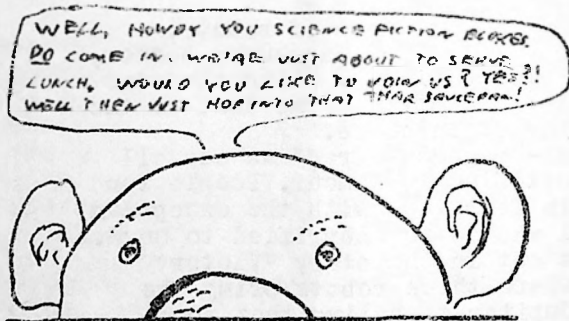
are invincible humans, simply by not bothering to tell them that they are, infact, only robots.

The good doctor admits that at this point, he still did not take the robots seriously. Now, you might ask yourself, "Well, when the heck did he take them seriously?" Just by looking at the pertinent facts; 17 robot stories and two complete novels. I am sure there is no doubt that he must have realised what he had created, even without John W. Campbell to point it out to him.

Asimov's laws of robotics and robot stories have deservedly earned him a top position among the SF authors today. His three laws of robotics have now been taken for granted among writers and readers alike. When an author writes on robots, it is almost always an accepted fact that the three laws are installed, without even so much as a mention.

The good doctor regretfully admits that if he is to be remembered at all, in the future, it is to be for the three laws. Regretfully? Being a scientist and working with facts, it does seem ironic that he will be remembered for his fiction, and not his fact.
Don't you think so?

Bernie Bernhouse



SPECIAL REPORT

An item that all fans should read is a recent article in 'Life', written by Ray Bradbury. It's in the US edition, November 24 and it will probably turn up in the Australian edition, if it has not already done so.

I have always said that Bradbury was a brilliant man with words and even in this short article, his master touch is evident. There are places where he makes a poor fan feel as if he is the star begotten, just like Degler said. Just a few words about meeting the astronauts their recognition of him and a few references to his stories where space travel was just an impossible dream. The dates of those stories are now a long time after it appears that the actual events will take place.

Science has truly outpaced stf, but if what Ray Bradbury says is true, SF has more than fulfilled it's purpose. ((L.E. depending on what you think it's purpose is)) Who can argue that it has not given inspiration to many scientific pioneers of today? Certainly not three or four generations of SF fans.

Mervyn Binns

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A space, what to put in it.

Today the latest copy of 'AMAZING' arrived in at McGills. I usually don't buy it, but since it was the first issue edited by Harry Harrison I thought I might as well risk 55¢ on it. It doesn't seem to have changed much from what it was when Sol Cohen was the editor. I notice that only four of the seven stories are reprints, is it a good sign? Harry Harrison's editorial is mainly dedicated to the memory of Hugo Gernsback and he finished it by saying, "We can honor his memory in no greater way than to produce a magazine that he would have enjoyed reading." Will the fans enjoy reading it? L.E.

BOOK LIST

ALDISS, Brian	Who Can Replace a Man	USPB
ANDERSON, Chester	The Butterfly Kid	USPB
ANDERSON, Poul	Ensign Flandry	USPB
ASIMOV, Isaac	Asimov's Mysteries	USBK
BERNARD, Rafe	Army of the Undead	USPB
BLISH, James	Earthman Come Home	USPB
BLISH, James	Seedling Stars	
BLISH, James	Star Trek 2	USPB
BLISH, James	They Shall Have Stars	USPB
BRADBURY, Ray	The Martian Chronicles	USPB
BULMER, Kenneth	Cycle of Nemesis	USPB
CAMPBELL, J.W.	Astounding SF Anthology	USPB
CLARKE, Arthur C.	Dolphin Island	USPB
CONELIN, Groff	5 Unearthly Visions	USPB
COOPER, E.	All Fool's Day	USPB
COOPER, E.	Transit	USPB
DAVENTRY, Leonard	Man of Double Deed	USPB
DICK, Philip K.	Eye in the Sky	USPB
ELLISON, Harlan	From the Land of Fear	USPB
FAUST, Frederick	The Naked Blade	USPB
HAMILTON, Edmund	Battle for the Stars	USPB
HEINLEIN, Robert A.	Orphans of the Sky	USPB
HERBERT, Frank	Dragon in the Sea	USPB
HOWARD, R.E.	Conan	USPB
HOYLE/ELLIOT	Andromeda Breakthrough	
JAKES, John	Brak, the Barbarian	USPB
JONES, Neil R.	Twin Worlds	USPB
KELLY, Leo P.	The Counterfeiters	USPB
KNIGHT, Damon	Nebula Award Stories 2	USPB
KNIGHT, Damon	Turning On	USPB
LEIBER, Fritz	The Sword of Lankmar	USPB
MASON, Douglas R.	Eight Against Utopia	USPB
MOORCOCK, Michael	The Jewel in the Skull	USPB
MOORCOCK, Michael	Wrecks of Time	USPB
MUNDY, T.	Helene	USPB
NORMAN, John	Outlaw of Gor	USPB
PANGBORN, Edgar	The Judgement of Eve	USPB

Signet	0.70	Feb '68	Possibly Short Stories
Pyramid	0.70	Mar '68	New- 'First' Hippy SF ?
Lancer	0.70	Feb '68	
) Doubleday	\$4.50		US
Pyramid	0.60	Mar '68	From the TV 'Invaders'
A.L.	0.70		Reprint 'Oakie' series
			New British edition
Bantan	0.60	Feb '68	From TV series
A.L.	0.70	Mar '68	The first 'Oakie' book
Bantan	0.70	Mar '68	
Ace	0.60	Mar '68	New
Berkley	0.70	Mar '68	Reprint
Berkley	0.60	Feb '68	
G.M.	0.60	Mar '68	
Berkley	0.70	Feb '68	First pb edition
Lancer	0.70	Feb '68	Previously in pb's & hc
Berkley	0.70	Feb '68	Previously in Pan pb
Ace	0.70	Feb '68	Reprint
Belmont	0.70	Mar '68	
Lancer	0.90	Mar '68	
PB Lib.	0.60	Mar '68	
Signet	0.70	Mar '68	Previously in pb's & hc
Avon	0.70	Feb '68	Reprint
Lancer	0.70	Feb '68	First pb edition
Crest	0.70	Mar '68	
Banner	0.70	Feb '68	New
Ace	0.60	Mar '68	New in pb
Belmont	0.60	Feb '68	
PB Inc.	0.90	Feb '68	
Ace	0.60	Mar '68	New collection in pb
Ace	0.70	Feb '68	
) PB Lib.	0.60	Mar '68	New
Lancer	0.70	Feb '68	
) Ace	0.70	Mar '68	
Avon	0.70	Feb '68	
Ballantine	0.90	Feb '68	
Dell	0.60	Mar '68	New

PLATT, Charles	Garbage World	USPB
PRATT, Fletcher	Well of the Unicorn	USPB
TUBB, E.C.	C.O.D. Mars	
RACKHAM, John	Alien Sea	USPB
REYNOLDS, Mack	After Some Tomorrow	USPB
ROBSON, M.	The Secret in the Sky	USPB
SERLING, Rod	Twilight Zone Revisited	
SHECKLEY, Robert	Untouched by Human Hand	USPB
SIMAK, Clifford	Why Call Them Back	
	From Heaven?	USPB
SIODMAK, Curt	Hausers Memory	USBK
SMITH, George O.	Venus Equilateral	USPB
VANCE, Jack	City of the Chasch	USPB
VERNE, Jules	The City in the Sahara	USPB
VERNE, Jules	Into the Niger Bend	USPB
WALLACE, Ian	Croyd	USBK
WILLIAMS, R.M.	Zanthor of the Many	
	Worlds	USPB
WYNNDHAM, GOLDING &	Sometime Never	USPB
PARKE		

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USPB indicates Americane paperback
 USBK " " hard cover book
 The date is the estimated date of
 arrival

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All the books in the above list can
 be ordered from

Mervyn Binns,
 19 Somerset Place,
 Melbourne, 3000

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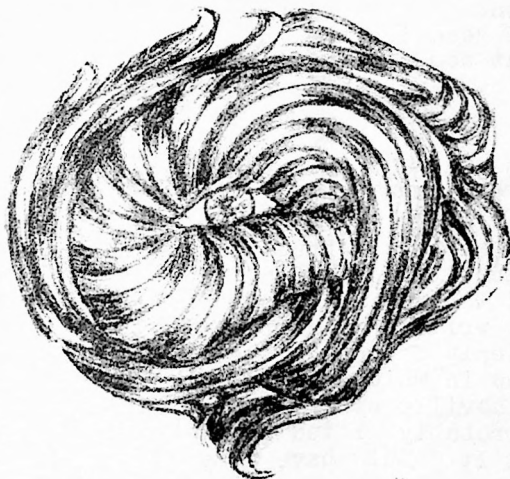
The next showing of the Film Group will
 take place on Friday, Jan 26.

The film will be:

"THE SEVEN FACES OF DR. LAO"

Berkley	0.70		Feb '68	
Lancer	0.70		Mar '69	New in pb
Ace double	0.70		Feb '68	
Belmont	0.60		Feb '68	
Bantan	0.60		Feb '68	
G+D (?)	0.60		Feb '68	
Ballantine	0.60		Mar '68	Good humor SF
Ace	0.70		Feb '68	
Putnam	\$5.95	US	?	Published Jan '68
Pyramid	0.90		Feb '68	
Ace	0.60		Feb '68	New series
Ace	0.70		Feb '68	
Ace	0.70		Feb '68	
Putnam	\$3.95		?	Published Dec '67
Lancer	0.70		Mar '68	Science & sorcery
Ballantine	0.60			Reprint

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REVIEWS

Space War by Neil R. Jones Ace 60¢

Third in the Professor Jameson Space Adventure series, it is interesting if only for it's historical value.

The Arsenal Out of Time by David McDaniel Ace 60¢

This is, to the best of my knowledge, the first SF book from David McDaniel although he has written several "Man From UNCLE" books, also in Ace.

Is a first attempt at SF, "The Arsenal Out of Time" is certainly no better and no worse than the majority of SF published by Ace, though there are traces of spy vs spy lurking in dark corners of the plot. You could do far worse than to buy this.

Born Under Mars by John Brunner Ace 50¢

Another Brunner novel and as such, worth buying....every new Brunner story is worth buying, although I can't say I enjoyed this one as much as I had hoped I might. The story centers around genetics and the future of the human race, but somehow I failed to care how it all came out.

Star Gladiator by Dave Van Arman Belmont dbl.60¢
Special Delivery by Kris Neville

"Star Gladiator" is pure space opera. A credible first effort although the story could have been longer, the only real fault being that it seemed to end all too suddenly. Perhaps the author was writing to a prescribed number of words and suddenly found that he had left himself only five pages in which to finish.

The Kris Neville story is a reprint from 1951 and was probably lifted from the pages of "Imagination". It should have stayed there.

Thongor Against the Gods by Lin Carter

The third of the "Thongor" series, the other two being published by Ace. I wondered why Ace turned it down and since I have read it I know why, it stinks! The story is overloaded with action and is far too fraught with coincidental arrivals to be even faintly entertaining. It falls well below the level of the first two novels and is not worth buying. Atleast Burroughs could make this type of story interesting. PB Library 60¢

Waters of Death by Irving A. Greenfield

The near future and a world overpopulated and facing a food shortage which is made critical by the failure of oceanic food sources. Yes, it's been done many, many, times before but not as well. The author has done a reasonable job and perhaps one can forgive him the lashings of sex that occure every now and then, actually they are the best parts. Worth reading but not worth the 70¢ it takes to buy it for your very own. Lancer 70¢

One Million Centuries by Richard A. Lupoff

I assume that this is Dick's first novel and if this is so, he deserves congratulation for a commendable effort. This will be a reasonably interesting story for those who like 352 of "future society" story with Philosophy, sex, philosophy, adventure, strange animals, even stranger plants and more philosophy. However 352 pages is rather long. Lupoff is a fan who is graduating to pro status, he shows promise.... but 85¢? My sticky cents could be better spent on something else. Lancer 85¢

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And now the kindly old 'Professor of Cruds at the University of French Island' will award the famous 'Heronious J. Flugleneyer Book Of The Year' award.....

HERONIOUS J. FLUGLEMEYER

In avarlink the Vorst boohk of the year, karefull tinkink had to taking place be. Much of the boohk publishers issued many rubbishes under the title off science fictions and this made my tasks much difficults. Finally, I haff decided to giff the avar off the gold-plated ruppish pinn to Mr. Keith Laumer for hiss fine efforts with "The Monitors," puplished by Berkley. He hass done a fine jop and produced a boohk that hass certainly earned the title, "the boohk that most deserves to be forgott and/or burnet." Congratulations Mr. Laumer, most better you shoud herd sheeps for a liflink!

Seconds place shoudt goess to Miss Gertrude Friedburg forr her "Revoltig Boy" while thirds place goess to Frank Belknapps Long, not for any one particular boohk, put because he hass failedt to producce efen van readable boohk for I don't know hows longk.

The MONITORS by Keith Laumer

Since the start off hiss 'Refief' series hin IF magazine, ant the atvent off the "Worlds Off Imperium" Keith Laumer hass been regarded ass a vrtier off noterate opility. From 1962 on he hass been fairly prolific writer of SF vif seferal reasonable nofels to hiss credit and quite a few short stories.

Chust vhat he iss out to prove (prove) iss beyont me, but hiss nofel, "The Monitors" makes it clear that he iss tryink to vin the Vorst SF nofel off the year avart. He hass certainly succeetet! "Catastrophy Planet" vas bat enough to qualify for the avart on it's own, bot "The Minitors" leaffs it for deadt. The SF reaters off 1967 tenant far better. than this ruppish from a viter that they know can to better, ven he vants too. Perhaps haffing taken up writing full time Mr. Laumer hass to puplish a new bookh efery so often or staffe. Iff sos lan

I'am sorries, but the sounds off refoltings coming from reaters ant reviewers will confince him to do better next times.

The basics plots of "The Monitors" is simplies reticulous ant vould not impress a chilts at kintergartens. He tells uss thats a Galactics race of super peings chust nofes in on the humans race and tries to race stuff the betterers liffe down our throats. This is stupits. No galactics race, super or not, vould be ables to muster the resources to tescent on the humans race in numpers that Mr. Launer describes.

Efen iff they trits, they vould soon haff a galactics war on their hants, or tenticles, or whatefer, the humans race peing what it iss. No, sooner or laterers some enterprisink humans being vould discover how to use the aliens technology ant atapt it to weapons ant then



it vould be on.

So muchs for the plots af the story, now for the main charecters (ant characters they certainlyiss!) The hero iss callink Ace Blondel of all thinks, the Heroine, Nelda Mohnroe, ant the Villian iss a General Blackwish. Ace Blontel stakers around the whole crummy plot tryink desperately to fint some centre off organised resistance from which to fight the infadink aliens, gettink finally scoopet up by SCRAG (Special Counter Reactionary Retailiatory Action Group) and meets theirleater, General Blackwish, a sort off super patriot ott the Barry Goltwater, Cohn Birch Society type. He meets Nelda Monroe, the very embotiment of the ofer sext, ofer bering, interpentant, motern

voemens. Helpink Blontel to escapes, they then proceeds to vander around ant around untill he finally solfes the proplems of the nasty olt aliens and the humans race valkes off into a cardboards sunsets off a better liffe. Ass I said, sheer cruds. I suppose it was intended to bes satires, if soI haff news for Mr. Laumer.... IT FAILED!

I often vanters iff Chohn Foysters read it, he doesn't like Mr. Laumer period. I't like to hear his opinions on it. Boy, woultn't that be somethink?

Heronious J. Fluglemeyer

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MELBORNE SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

Let's hope that 1968 will be as prosperous a year as 1967 was for the club. Over the last year many new members joined us and things started moving with fan publication and the conference coming up. New fans have been grabbing up many bargians from the shelves.

If you have anything to sell or you would like to auction at the conference please let us know as soon as possible.

We have been sending notices to many people from whom we have not heard for many months. This issue of the Journal will be the last you will recieve unless we are advisedby you. If you are not a member and wish to receive future issues you can join the club for \$2.00 for the year.(L.B. There are other methods of getting the journal listed in the editorial)

If you are interested in the movies you can join the film group for \$3.00 or both husband and wife combined for \$4.00. This entitles you to attend all 12 shows of the Film Group over the year.

Membership of the MSFC is completely separate and is still \$2.00 a year. If you do not wish to join either group you can still receive the journal each month for \$1.20 for a dozen issues.

Attendance of the club is 50¢ per night. Supper charge for the film group if you do not wish to become a full member, is 60¢ per show. You can get information on the film group only for a charge of 60¢ a year.

We have been trying the response to opening the club of a Saturday morning between ten and noon. So far the response has not been large but we feel that perhaps this is because there has been such a lack of publicity.

We are trying to run a check on the books that are in the library so would those people who have books out which were written by authors with names starting with the initials A or B, please return these books as soon as is possible.

Mervyn Binns

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FILM GROUP

The reply to the circulars that were sent out over the last couple of months has not been too good or too bad. In all, 25 people have submitted lists of the films that they would like to see, their names are listed below. You are reminded that if you have not entered a list of film you would like to see, there is still a little time left to do so if you wish.



FILM VOTING LIST

Don Latimer	16 The Time Machine
Richard F. Molony	15 Invasion Quartet
Ross Cozzens	15 Seven Faces of Dr. Lao
W. Pawlowski	15 Forbidden Planet
John Breden	13 She
Jill Foyster	12 The Birds
P. Blackwell	10 The Haunting
Tony Sander	10 The Warlord
Leigh Edmonds	9 The Collector
Mervyn Binns	8 North. By Northwest
Eric Cohn	7 First Men in the Moon
John Straede	7 Thirty Six Hours
Tony Thomas	7 Lord of the Flies
doug Brown	6 Hercules
Dick Jenssen	6 Laurel & Hardy's
K. McLelland (?)	Laughing 20's
(Not marked)	5 The Man Who Could Cheat
Paul Stevens	Death
David Sofar	5 Operation Crossbow
Bernie Bernhouse	5 Spy With My Face
Brian Jones	5 Gorgo
Derek Kew	5 Cat Ballou
	4 Marnie
	4 Fail Safe
	3 Love Goddesses
	3 Brass Bottle
	Straight Jacket
	Thief of Baghdad
	Disorderly Orderly
	Who's Minding the Store?

All other films scored 2 or 1 votes or nothing. Not counted in scoring due to being ordered for the Conference were, Alphaville and Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine. Most, if not all, of the high voting films will be shown during the year, either at the Conference or at regular Film Group meetings.... watch for further notice in ETHERLINE II soon.

FILM REVIEW

YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE

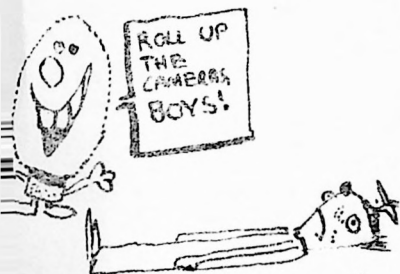
The phenomenal success of the James Bond films are well known. They have been seen by people all over the world and have grossed millions of dollars in box office receipts.

As is usual with a series, the peak, the best film, is reached with the second, third or even fourth film with the series then tapering off. A classic example is the "Frankenstein" series of films during the thirties and early forties, the best being the , second, third and fourth in the series.

It is the same with the Bond films. "Dr. No" as the first was quite entertaining, "From Russia With Love" even better and "Goldfinger" the third film, being the top watermark of the series. "Thunderball", although every bit as good as "Goldfinger" suffered in comparison as it came fourth.

And now, "You Only Live Twice" as the fifth film, marks the decline of James Bond. The story, although entertaining, is not anywhere as good as Fleming's original story with it's

confrontation between Bond and the heads of SPECTRE, Ernest Blofeld and Irma Bunt. In actual fact Road Dahl's screenplay is more SF than international spy vs spy. The story relates the improbable hijacking of Russian and US space capsules in orbit by a huge, crocodile-type rocket which is controlled from a secret base in Japan



— 100% BISH STARRING IN M.G.M.'s
— "The Guy With The Beanie"

by Ernest Blofeld (Donald Pleasance) head of SPECTRE. The idea seems to be that the Russians and the Americans will go to war over it and the Chinese communists will then take over the radioactive remains. Why Blofeld would want to do this I can't imagine, oh sure, the Chinese pay him for it, but where the devil could he spend money with the majority of the civilised world in ruins and the other half controlled by the Chinese?

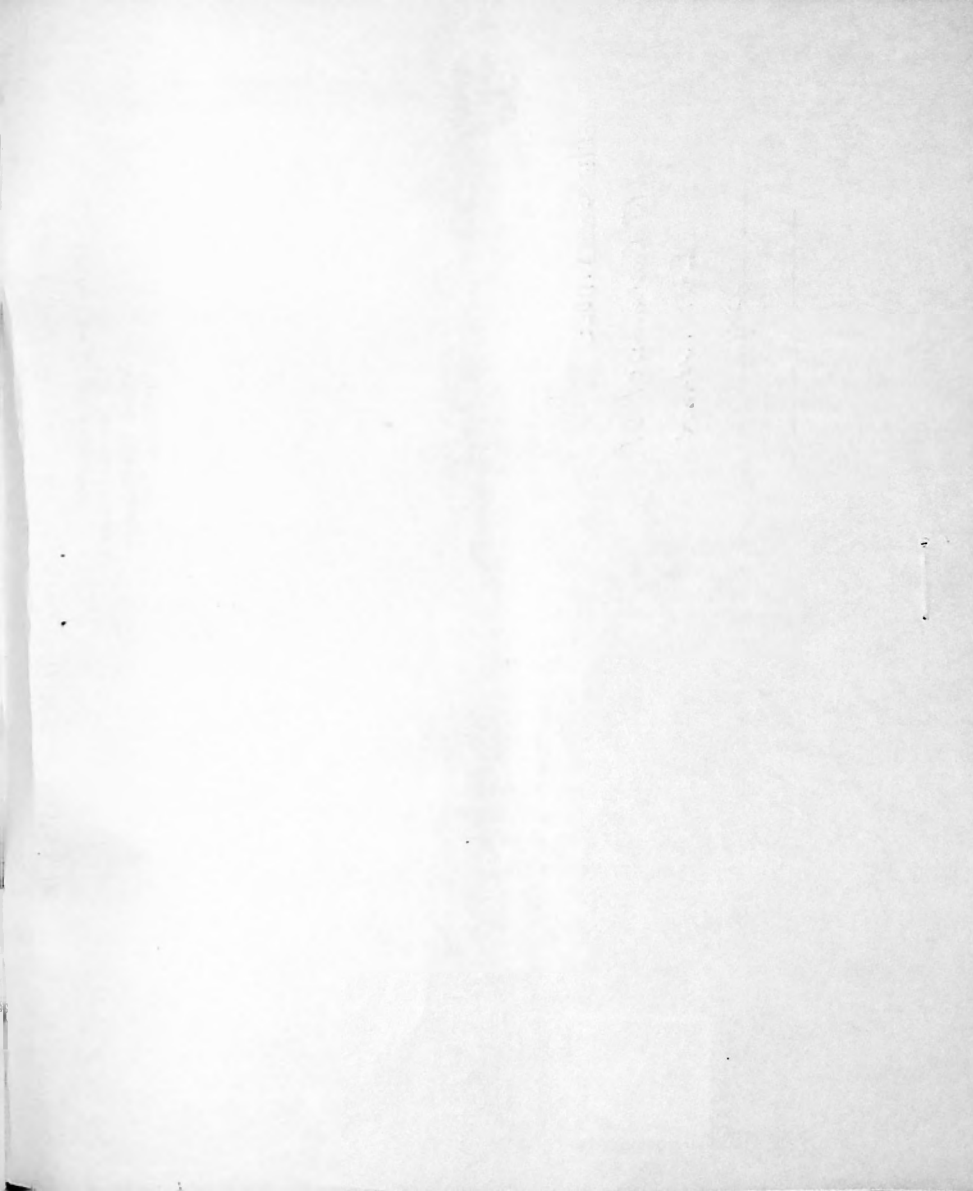
The film contains more than enough visual lovelies to satisfy most people. A mid-air battle between Bond's gyro-copter and four, machine gun equipped SPECTRE 'copters, sexy women, nasty SPECTRE baddies, slightly obvious, though well done, model space capsules, sexy women, an ornamental pool brim full of delightful pairanna's, more sexy women, an unbelievable secret rocket base hidden inside a volcano, even more sexy women and a Ninja (ancient Japanese cult of warrior assassins) invasion of aforesaid rocket base. To top it all off we get the destruction of said rocket base in spectacular fashion to the tune of massed machine guns, thrown grenades, dying baddies and eruption (expected) of volcano. What more could you ask for...AND... they promise yet another Bond film, I'm not sure that I want to see it.

However, a word of advice: if you go to see "You Only Live Twice" leave your brain at home, otherwise the dozens of unexplained loose ends will spoil the show.

Not Exactly recommended

Paul Stevens

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