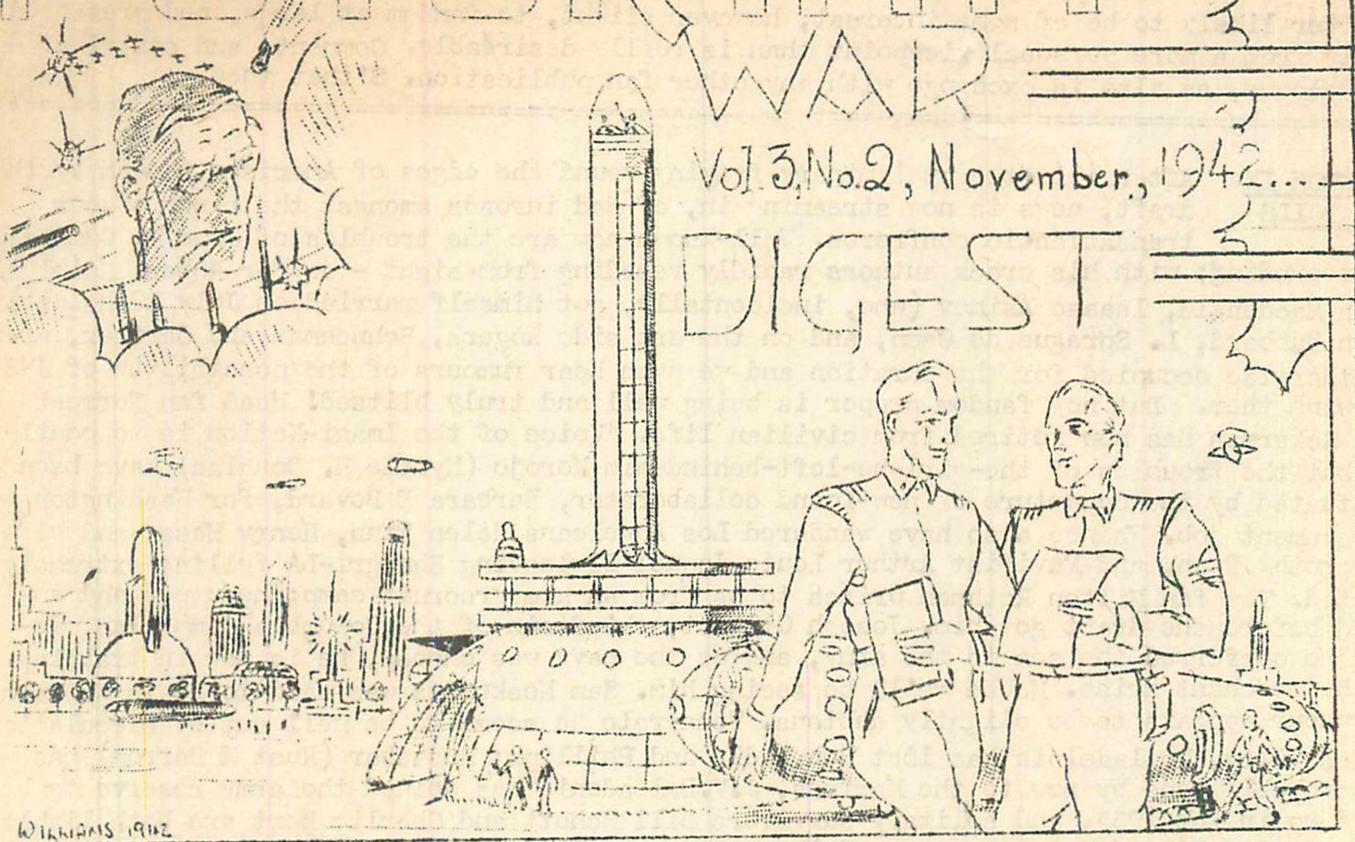


# FUTURIAN

## WAR

Vol. 3, No. 2, November, 1942....

## DIGEST



### "ASTONISHING" NEWS

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We are rather diffident about saying which of the two items of news emanating from Fictioneers Inc, publishers of "Astonishing Stories" and "Super Science Stories" surprises us most. The first is certainly a pleasant enough surprise and comes in the form of a letter from Alden H. Norton, editor of these two magazines, in which he says ;

"During the present emergency a good many science fiction fans in Britain and the Dominions have been deprived of access to American magazines. I have tried to assemble a list of representative fans from across the sea, including yourself, and have just sent a memo to our circulation department, instructing them to put you on our free mailing list for SUPER SCIENCE STORIES and ASTONISHING STORIES. I hope you will find these books interesting. They seem to be going over pretty well with the American fans.

... I know it is only natural to regard with ~~some~~ some wariness anything which comes free of charge. But rest assured that this action on my part is prompted by other wish than to give at least a few British fans an opportunity to get some American science magazines during these unfortunate times."

Needless to say we will all be tremendously grateful for this gesture on Mr Norton's part and offer him our sincerest thanks. May the other publishing companies follow his example.

The other item is that all the rights titles and interest in the Munsey chain of pulp magazines have been sold to Popular Publications, the holding company behind the Fictioneer chain. These of course include Argusy and Famous Fantastic Mysteries. The future of this latter magazine is quite unknown, the Mrs Gnaedinger its editress, is said to be the only Munsey employee to be retained by Popular Pubs. The reprint rights to the old Munsey classics go with the sale but the purchasers at present have a complete ban on reprint material of all types. So possible FPM may break forth as a more "normal" sci magazine. We hope, however than its continuance will be found possible.

Breathless with anticipation, you hold in your hand the November 1942 issue of .....  
FUTURIAN Legend. Being an Amateur Magazine published at approximately six-weekly  
WAR intervals, at 3d per copy, from 4 Grange Terrace, Leeds 7, England; by  
DIGEST J. Michael Rosenblum. Originally reasonably formal and disinterested, the  
Vol 3, No 2. 'zine has now degenerated, owing to its producers lack of time and pre-  
occupation with sundry other affairs, into a hastily compiled anthology  
of matter likely to be of some interest, however slight, to fandom at large, and presented  
largely from a more personal viewpoint than is really desirable. Comments and contribut-  
ions welcome, as also is exchange with any other fan publication. S'that then.

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#### US FANDOM IN THE TOLLS

After a little preliminary fraying round the edges of American fandom by the  
draft, news is now streaming in, of sad inroads amongst the ranks of our  
transAtlantic confreres. Well-known now are the troubles of John W. Campbell  
of Astounding; with his crack authors rapidly receding from sight - so far Robert Heinlein  
-Anson Macdonald, Isaac Asimov (who, incidentally, got himself married on July 20th last)  
I. Ron Hubbard, L. Sprague de Camp, and on the art side Rogers, Schneeman and Cartier, are  
all otherwise occupied for the duration and we even hear rumours of the possibility of JWC  
following them. But now fandom proper is being well and truly blitzed! Head fan Forrest  
James Ackerman has now retired from civilian life. "Voice of the Imagi-Nation is to conti-  
nue, but the troubles of the-girl-he-left-behind-him Morojo (Myrtle R. Douglas) have been  
accentuated by the departure of new-found collaborator, Barbara E Bovard, for Washington &  
a government job. Whence also have wandered Los Angeleans Helen Finn, Henry Hasse and wife  
nee Dorothy Finn, and Pavifist Arthur Louis Joquel II leaving Shangri-La felling extremely  
depleted. Top fan Milton Rothman writes to us from an army recruit camp; he upped and en-  
listed before the draft got him. Joseph Gilbert, chieftain of the Columbia Camp clan, de-  
sided he preferred the sea to the army, and as the navy was choosy, he is now in training  
for the merchant marine. Hebbe we'll be seeing him. Sam Moskowitz was said to be in the army  
but rumour appears to be slightly dubious. Tennyrate he seems to be well out of circulation  
Besides Milty, Philadelphia has lost Bob Madle and Phillips; Rustobar (Rust E Barron) has  
also probably gone by now to the Marines, J.V. Baltadonis has joined the army reserve to be  
called up in Feb 1933, and solitary survivors Bill Schott and Charlie Bert are both liable  
to the draft. Edward E Connor, one of the most promising of the newer crop of fans, is an-  
other absentee. And we learn of US fandom's first casualty too, the death on active serv-  
ice of Arthur Kimball of New York City, in the Pacific. The Denver trio of Roy Hunt, Lew  
Martin and Bob Jenks are in the navy and Olon Wiggins too, is either there or in the marine.  
Charles D Hornig ruminates in a C.O. camp. Willis Cornover, old-time fan, is yet another in  
the army. John L Chapman of Minneapolis is in the Army air corps, fellow-townsmen Cyril  
Eggum and Douglas Blakely grace the army's ranks and Clifford D Simak has been in and out  
of the Military Intelligence and is now back at the writing desk. From Eric Frank Russell  
informs that Fred Shroyer is now a lieutenant in the Air Corps and can be reached by his  
home address, 716 n 3rd St, Decatur, Indiana. And that Henry Kuttner is now in the forces.

Later news says that another draftee is Gus Willmorth, Director of the Los Angeles Science  
Fantasy Society and Ackerman's present address is, Private WJA, Service Command Unit 1959,  
Checking Station, Fort MacArthur, California.

John M Cuning ham reports that he too will be of draft age by the time that this is in  
print and may be therefore abstracted from actifandom. Shoulh this catastrophe occur, and  
no one else be willing to take over the BSFERS service, all unexpired subscriptions will,  
per force, have to be returned. In any case his rota is complete already and no more subs  
of any type can be accepted

ODDMENTS Gunner William Frederick Temple has now shaken the dust of this country from his  
feet and departed overseas. Whence is, of course, as yet a mystery but it might,  
very appropriately, be Egypt and the Sphinx ... on the pseudonym front, FET recently reveal-  
ed that Ron Hubbard is the brain behind Von Rachen and Lafayette. And the new Astounding au-  
thor Hal Clement is in private life, Harry Stubbs, a member of the Stranger Club of Boston,  
Mass ... no orders for the omnibus volume of Charles Fort's works sent to Messrs King Litt-  
lewood and King can be fulfilled till after February, as their importation quota is already  
pledged till that date ... Wanted. Any issues "Weird Tales" in good condition, buy or swap,  
write first, DHouston 142 Ardington Rd, Northampton ... Particularly wanted. Copies of fan-  
tasy books by W. Hope-Hodgeon, write to JMRosenblum. Also sundry other stf works in gd cond.

OVERSEAS MAIL - From M688 S/Sgt. Dmitri de Woronin, HQ 25(BA) Bde, APS, E.A. Comd :  
Home Address, P.O. Tre law ne y, S. Rhodesia.

Dear Michael:-

I suppose you are still there. After being away 2 years I at last got a month's home leave, and found a pile of mail, my brother having s at on it, instead of forwarding on to me as requested. Yours of April 6, 1940 to hand. Won't write much this time, give you "headline news"

1940- May- August: In Palestine with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (complete with kilt). Sept-Dec Western Desert, breathing sand kicking Ities out of Sidi Barrani and B. Jan - May, 1941: Enjoying a dose of pneumonia and convalescing. Said Good-bye to the A and S.H. and sent to East Africa and became a Sgt. in a Bde HQ- Clerical work. Sept sailed to Eritrea and Abyssinia Nov. Captured Gondar and became a Staff Sgt. March 1942 Came back to Kenya, and in May went home on leave. So now I've done Cape to Cairo by road with the exception of the Asmara - Cairo stretch (I hope you can read page 1.

Literary Flashes Had three "war-poems" published in the Salisbury Paper, and the last paid for the enormous sum of 7/6 each (copies on application).

Photo News Became photographic adviser of the Brigade, customers being from the Brigade him self down to native servants. To save speech, which is golden, "published" on the duplicator a "book" for beginners - limited edition of 50 or so copies, which were thrown at all sundry, and, I hope, improved the photo mindedness, etc., of the Bde. During the Gondar Show arranged with Division H.Q. to take operation photos for them for world distribution and scooped a scoop, when the Press photographer decamped, and half an hour later an env came from Gondar and tried to make friends with the Brig. I heard that pictures of the conference were published, but I haven't seen them so far. As far as I know, I was the only photographer present, so they must be mine.

Wrote a Rhodesian story last year, and sent it to my collaborator in Chicago. Haven't done any reading for years. There are Astoundings and Unknowns for 1940 waiting to be read. The Weird Tales are still coming ... Fine to hear from you Dmitri, keep on writing!

STILL KICKING Yes apparently stf isn't quite dead yet, as the following note from Benson Herbert (Faraday House, Southampton Row, WC1) implies ...

"It may interest you to know that I am becoming General Manager of a publishing firm, Lloyd Cole, in January, and we are publishing a series of science fiction booklets by myself at 6. Harry Turner will illustrate." Benson goes on to say that he will appreciate MSS, about 12,000 words for preference, and will be glad to see any that are sent. Payment will be by royalties only. We hope for further details as the scheme proceeds.

LONDON LETTER from old faithful Sidney L. Birchby. "This week I am on leave, on one of the usual giddy flying visits. Yesterday I was in Troon, Scotland; right now I am in Nottingham, having passed through Leeds at three am, & tomorrow I am off to Wells, for a weekend caving in the Mendips. Have you seen in the shops a book called "Romping Through Physics" by Otto Willi Gail, one time Wonder Stories author? Or the Daily Mirrors' new comic strip, "Ruggles' Time Trip"?

Bill Temple, home on embarkation leave recently, had just bought H.G. Wells' new book, "The Conquest of Time", described as a restatement of "First and Last Things". In his opinion and mine, it is not one of his best and about as lucid as a blackout.

A convivial evening was given at Frank Arnold's flat. Frank and Joan Temple discussed womens dresses, Bill and others sniggered over Esquire and tried to force the steel cabinet in which Frank keeps his "Gay Books", while Harry Chibbett held forth upon the latest supernatural mystery; the Gremlins. - mysterious hobgoblins who pervade the upper atmosphere, who they plague unwary airmen by making the machinery go wrong" (Anything but Stf apparently !!)

EGO REPORTS. Arthur C Clarke, still at Yatesbury, tho he prefers use of his home address has tell us; "You might like to know that I shall be appearing on the bookstalls as I have an article entitled "More Television Waveforms" in the November issue of "Electronic Engineering". It deals with the Fourier analysis of the exponential wave produced by the passage of rectilinear voltages through resistance-capacity couplings. Thought you'd like to know. (so we do, and very interesting it is!!) Of more general interest, I should have a letter on the subject of interplanetary radio in the Nov. "Wireless World". They had an article on the subject last month and I made some comments on it which the editor said he would include in the next issue. As you can imagine I am far too busy to take any <sup>active</sup> interest in fandom, which is the main reason why I have not joined the British Fantasy Society. (Shame!) From time to time, of when my sub runs out you will hear from me and that's all."

BFS TOPICS This month there are one or two items crowded out of the Bulletin, and rather than leave them till next time lets try and deal briefly with them here. Forst we are all immensely sorry to lose the services of Jack Gibson, here are some comments by : "The gap he leaves is an extremely difficult one to fill. On the capabilities of the Librar rests much of the future of the Society. An enthusiast is needed with a considerable amount of time to devote to this service, of a mature mind and capabilities, preferably with Ameri contacts. We ask for volunteers. We hope the members will not fail us". Secondly, members cards are now ready and will be distributed with this mailing. Thirdly, a new service is or the point of commencement, namely a "prozine chain" for forces members. Idea is that many fans in the forces cannot comply with the Library conditions about looking after borrowed material; so current magazines will be passed round such people. those wishing to participate inform JMR. Cost will be postage only; and whilst unavoidable damage is winked at, all reas able care should be taken, and the 'zines must be passed on to the next in line. If they survive this chain, they will then go to the MSFP. Other ideas being considered include BFS recognition of Alden Norton's kindness, possible establishment of a fanzine MSS Bureau, and methods of advertising the organisation.

WANDERINGS Worcester seems to be well in the news this month. Firstly 'tis the town where Londoner Horace Vella is undergoing his preliminary army training. Secondly, 'Ti where James Parkhill Rathbone, who has finally married the girl  $\frac{1}{2}$  Alys Rita Pitman - has succeeded in obtaining an appointment at a hospital. And just to round things off, we have managed to establish contact with a mature Worcester fan, Walter E Norcott, who is now initiated into the melee of fandom. Jack Banks of Eastbourne is now "on probation" at an "International Vouluntary Service for Peace" service scheme at Plaistow, London; in fulfilment of his "social service" exemption. John Frederick Burke has been switched over from the RAF to the new REEF and from Dudley to Huddersfield. He has managed to visit ye Ed once so far, and may be here again in the near future. A ~~xxxx~~ brief airgrapg from Harold Gottliffe inform that he now to be reached at No 57 General Hospital MEF. Your editor was astonished last night to receive a phone call from R.E.Folkes of Gloucester. More are promised - phanzines by phone is our motto!

YE NOTICE BOARD If you havn't noticed it already, let me whisper that this issue is being duplicated on paper sent from USA, mainly by 4sj, but Bob Tucker passed on the "advert" on page 6 which does seem slightly familiar. The "Litter" is down somewhat, tho many pe ople will be getting a few enclosures - BFS material mainly. MITE is absent but will be back next month; you may wonder a little at the abruptness of GALAXY but the frontis piece and a full-page advert of the forthcoming Overton-Houston fanzine (price 6d, 40  $\frac{1}{2}$  flsc pacs, out Dec 1st) have been left undone. New subscribers include LAC Eric Patterson, Eagle ur Lincoln and Walter Norcott, Worcester. Subs expiring are those of Ted Carnell, J.Briston, M.K.Hanson, T.Overton, J.Morgan and E.A.Thompson. A.F.Williams, 11 Kenbury St, Camberwell, S25 has quite a few magazines for sale, mainly Astoundings. Write for details. Edwin Macdonald, 25 Dochfour Dr, Inverness, wants the first 5 issues of FIDO. Write first. More moves; AC2 Julian Parr is now at Hagley, Worcs, and Gnr H. Towers has moved from Swansea to Salisbury. Jack Gibson wishes to say that he has been unable to reply to a number of letters received recently due to circumstances beyond his control. He asks that people affected accept his sincere regrets. He also mentions that a number of fanzine chains which have been sent out, have not returned to the fold. This is not good enough; if people cannot pass on the stuff they request, the only solution is to blacklist such saboteurs and cut them out of BFS benefits. Will anybody holding such material please send it at once to JMR. You have been warned!! Dismal news comes from Canada, where it has been decided to conserve shipping space to the United Kingdom by prohibiting the sending of newspapers and periodicals. From the wording of the order we are dubious as to whether books are affected as well; but certainly it means that our Canadian friends cannot send us any further copies of fantasy magazines.

SCIENCE FICTION INSTITUTE Gus Wilmoth writes in the latest issue of "Shangri-L'Affaires" - organ of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society; " The disposal of the magnificent Ackerman collection has already been widely publicized, but it will do no harm to mention here the worthy project of the Science Fiction Institute". If Forrie is carried into actual combat and is thereby liquidated, one thousand dollars and the actual collection is to be the embryo of a foundation dedicated to the preservation of science fiction, it would definitely be someplace to will those well-beloved collections to--a symbol for the whole of fandomania to grasp and revere"

Peter Hawkins, 25 Collingwood Ave, Tolworth, Surrey, wants to buy US stf mags, almost any date also set of Scoops, and most of the Not at Night series of books.

Asking for a full autobiography of the man whose name everybody knows FIDO obtained the following:-

The name is CARNELL, usually known as "Ted" . . . maybe you've disagreed with my views occasionally, for which healthful sign I'm very grateful, as variety is the spice of a stf's life. Especially when it is opinion.

Born in 1912 (that makes me 30 now, my son); first dabbled in fantasy reading with Verne at the age of 8. Shortly afterwards came "Boys Magazine," a lurid red-covered 'blood'; which ran lengthy serials on invasions by Martians and others of that ilk. I used to bind the damn things into book form -- which cost me a Trade Scholarship in book-binding because the Board thought that I shouldn't read such tripe! Later when working through a printing apprenticeship, one of the machine hands used to pass me his copies of WUNDER. That was coming up to 1930 I believe.

That died away, as we only obtained copies spasmodically, until I 'discovered' the Clayton ASF secondhand on the junk stalls in '30. Became somewhat enthusiastic, and followed ASF till it faded out in 1933. Didn't even know that S&S had taken it over until early 1935, when a copy was sent to me by a New York correspondent. But before that arrived, I had become embroiled in US fandom through the letter section of Amazing. When I lost touch with ASF, I took Doc Sloane's mag into my bosom, and was greatly desirous of having a or some New York correspondents.

I picked out George Gordon Clark of Brooklyn, as a possible and wrote him without any response at first. In desperation I then picked out a round dozen names and wrote all of them -- that great friend of mine, Forrie Ackerman, was amongst those who didn't reply. Wild Bill Hoskins was another, as were several other well known names of the times. Then I received replies from Clark, and also from Harold Kirshenblit, also of Brooklyn, and the great game was on. Correspondence began to spread out over the States -- Wolheim and a host of New Yorkers; Dan McPhail of Oklahoma; the Beck's of California; Wiggins, Colorado; Baltadonis, Philly; even down to NZ and Aussie the mail list extended.

Back on the home front, through Clark of Brooklyn, I became acquainted with Les Johnson, later to be in partnership with him in Britain's SCIENCE FICTION SERVICE. Through Les and Eric Russell I met and became firm friends with Wally Gillings, and through Wally I met Ken Chapman and the host of other British fans that was gradually built up in the days of 1937-38. While meetings began to get underway in this country, I was steadily writing badly phrased articles and opinions for numerous American mags, and becoming involved in more correspondence than I intended. At one time I had over 30 American correspondents writing continuously.

The above is a very sketchy outline of earlier days, and what has transpired since would fill at least three of these pages -- a length I'm forbidden. Sorry. Briefly there was the formation of Britain's SFA; meetings and journeys with fans in different parts of the country; weekends spent in the attic with Maurice Hanson churning out his NOVAE TERRAE, which later I took over and issued as NEW WORLDS (to fade out with the advent of war). The attempt at getting a professional monthly going, early in 1940, which brought overwhelming response from American authors -- one of these days I'll publish all the facts about that failure, & some of the original letters in my possession -- and of the great help British authors gave -- most of them.

Of the work that went into the SERVICE, and how it grew from a hobby into a flourishing business, and spread right round the globe. Of the friendships that formed with Americans -- Forrie and I started off with a slanging match about Esperanto, in an early NOVAE TERRE, and then formed a friendship that time and distance cannot break. Of the interesting forceful letters of Williamson and Heinlein, Campbell, Swisher and many others.

So to the war period, which didn't break me of stf. By various ways and means, mainly from American sources, I managed to keep my file of ASF and UNKNOWN up to date -- from 1936 onwards I leaned more and more towards S&S publications, partly because the stories they publish make good reading. (BLACK MASK is another of my favourites).

In condensed form, as Michael has asked for it -- hobbies: dance bands, have played banjos and guitars for years, fitting dances into spare time not devoted to fandom. Typing table tennis and cricket -- the latter two in a big way. Stencilling -- yes, I love to see a fan mag taking shape -- if anyone hasn't seen a copy of the last NEW WORLDS that was put out by the SFA. I'll gladly mail them a copy for a 2<sup>d</sup> stamp. That's a bargain.

This hasn't worked out so briefly as I anticipated -- but then, half a lifetime in stf packs plenty of memories, and I've left out much that would be of interest. See you all at that first British convention after the war. . .

Ted Carnell.

# OLIVER KING SMITH co.

HOME STUDY BY MAIL

## ASSERTED SERVICES

"We talked with the Holy Klono" (Yes we did, Actually and Literally!) And as a result of that little talk a great power came into our life. It can come into yours thru our help! After 39 years of horrible failure we learned at home how to become a fifty dollar per week rocket Technician! Don't let John Jones get that brass-polisher's job ahead of you! A few months from now the admiral will be beaming with approval at your excellent work. (We taught him too.) Get that desired promotion to assistant tube-cleaner today! Find out how we train you at home for enormous pay in rocketry.

Lend us 15 minutes a day and we'll make a new fan of you! We trade in old slans for new. Just a few weeks ago we were a 367 pound weakling. Look at us now! Gamble a stamp and get our free booklet on how to become a healthy animal for 15 minutes per day!

What are the weird mysteries of Mu, Atlantis and Missouri? Are there secret powers in you? Do you hold the key to success but can't locate the key ring? Birds have wings. You too can soar after reading our new sealed book, "How to be Happy with Dandruff".

Learn the fascinating, profitable hobby of taxidermy at home! Learn to mount goons. Preserve the heads of fellow fans in your study! We can teach you how in two easy lessons. No chance of losing your own head!

Tag along with secret service operator 28 $\frac{1}{2}$  as he trails the Boskonian spies! See him capture the lovely female zwilniks armed only with a DeLameter and 125,000 words! You too can capture a zwilnik after youve completed our easy course of 101 new words. Make extra money and amaze your creditors by growing giant zwilniks in your cellar!

False teeth as low as \$116.75 --thirty days free trial-- chomp on our china clippers for 30 days. Return them if not satisfied and we'll send another set just returned from our last satisfied customer. ( We also specialize in headstones, as low as \$9.98, FOB. Send your hat size. )

We offer innumerable courses in home training. The world is your oyster, you have but to pry it open. Let us furnish the ice pick. Check below the free booklets you wish sent to your door. Only \$1.98 plus a few cents postage is all you pay-- now. Or send cash with order and we will throw in a new book, "Female Beauty of the Moon Art Museum"! Act!

- okay, send me the booklets
- spare me the agony
- I'm indifferent
- send them to my grandmother
- your subscription has expired