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THE DEVIL'S WORK #5
Norm Metcalf

I was especially interested in your comments on Vern's "Empire of Jegga". I read the novel about a month ago, and rather than admiring its atrociousness, I kept going with the thought that somewhere, sometime, this putrid plotting must end. I should have heeded the advance warning provided by Vern's "Mhyskin" in Other Worlds mid 1953, which was only 69,000 wasted words. In all fairness to Vern, however, it should be mentioned that he wisely copped-out before the novel was completed, and Palmer finished the last 10,000 words himself. I was unable to detect any change in writing style throughout the entire story. "Empire of Jegga" became progressively worse, in fact, and the ending was the capping improbability to a whole series of confused and distorted actions. There is possibly one way in which "Empire of Jegga" could prove beneficial. I think it should prove to be an invaluable aid to all beginning writers, as an example of how not to write a science fiction story. Have you ever tried to read Shaver's "Gods of Venus" or "Daughter of the Night", Norm?

Your prophetic talents are impressive. As you must know by now, Worlds of Tomorrow has folded.

SYNAPSE

Jack Speer

My sentence on the bottom of page 3, GODOT #7 was written before Pickering's larcenous habits were revealed. It's true that he was never brought to court, but I refer you to DEGLER #165, in which Pickering admits everything ("...I have made a very stupid, abominable, mistake..."). No one denies (not even he) that he is guilty, but I tend to wonder what sort of thinking can equate a crime with a "stupid mistake". He implied that his stupid mistake was not the act of criminal theft itself, but having been caught at it.

By a "three laned" highway, I meant three lanes in each direction, a total of six in all. Similarly, two laned would have two lanes in each direction, which I feel is impractical and unrealistic for modern high speed driving. I don't think a roadway, with a single lane in each direction, could be considered a highway.

Fantastic Story Quarterly was a pulp, publisher: Thrilling Publications reprinting a novel, novelet or two and shorts, and also including a few original shorts. The first issue was dated Spring 1950, and with the fifth issue the title was changed to Fantastic Story Magazine which remained until its demise with the Spring 1955 title. Among the reprinted novels were: "The Hidden World" by Edmond Hamilton, "The Exile of the Skies, by Richard Vaughan", "In Caverns Below" by Stanton A. Coblentz, "Enslaved Brains" by Eando Binder, "Vandals of the Void" by J.M. Walsh and others. The covers of the first two issues were reprinted from Startling Stories in the 40's.

Ray Palmer used to start a new serial in the issue in which an old one ended in Other Worlds in the early 50's. It was also a common practice to run more than one at the same time in the pre Ziff-Davis Amazing but Frederik Pohl adopted this policy for IF after all other editors dropped it.

SALUD 26
Elinor Busby

If you liked the two Beatles films you should like "The Monkees". You may recall Micky Dolenz seven years ago, when he was Mickey Braddock and starred in a juvenile series called "Circus Boy". "The Monkees" is often creative, unusual, and different, rare qualities to be found in tv programming. Like "The Avengers", "The Monkees" is also kaput. I regret having discovered "The Avengers" shortly before another discovery that they were going off the air at the end of the summer. Did you see the episode in which they did a take-off on Agatha Christie's "And then there were None", and came up with a twist that even Miss Christie would have been proud to devise? Emma Peel, is of course M. Appeal (Male Appeal).

HORIB 6
Pat and Dick Lupoff

Surely you could have come up with a better title than "War of the Doom Zombies". You must really stretch the imagination, try, for instance, "Alpha Yes, Terra No", or "Dr. Bloodmoney, or how we get along after the bomb", and, as the absolute capper "The Devolutionist and the Emancipatrix".

Your Nycon comments are well stated. But how about the reversed situation. Envision the parallel universe which has been awarding separate fan achievement awards,, Pongs, along with the professional awards, Hugos, since their inception at sf cons in the late '50s. Assume a maverick convention chairman decides that the double awards are unnecessary, and with no prior approval or precedent, completely eliminates the Pongs and announces that henceforth the best fanzine Pong will be replaced with a Hugo, while the other two fan awards are to be done away with.

Steve Stiles had a good cover.

ACAPULCO GOLD
Andy Main

I wish you luck on your travels - I'm sure I envy you too, since my business and family ties would not permit me to embark on a similar trip. I respect your views on vegetarianism, although I wonder if you think that by not eating a certain meat, the specific animal it comes from will be allowed to live. This is just not true; if you don't eat the hamburger, than the guy who comes into the diner after you will. In either case the animal has had it. Most restaurants feature special dieter's dishes, usually salads and suited to your purposes.

William Rotsler

No, William Rotsler isn't in this mailing, but I have some egeboo just the same. I was in New York city last month on business, walking along Times Square and reading the ads on the skin theatres. These ads are for conservative, urbane gentlemen of wealthy means ("Naked lust, raw fiery emotions, nude sin scorches the screen"). One theatre had a film called "The Girl with the Hungry Eyes", and on the bottom of the poster, in big letters, was: A William Rotsler production. You may be happy to know that I observed more persons entering this theatre than three other movie houses I passed on the same block.