THE MAGINATIVE COLLECTOR

MAY 1951

COMBINED WITH

DAWN

** D A W N **

The Fanzine From Kentucky Number 14

Combined with--

T H E I M A G I N A T I V E C O L L E C T O R

A Fanzine devoted to collectors Number 4

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ED. RUSSELL K. WATKINS...203 E. WAMPUM AVE....LOUISVILLE 9, KENTUCKY

EDITORIAL...Here is Dawn risen once again with its companion, The Imaginative Collector. I have had some suggestions to shorten the title of the zine. What do you think? I will leave it up to you.

I want to welcome a new writer to our letter page. Ed. Wood of Chicago. He has written a very intelligent and enlighenling thought-provoking letter. His phrase"intellectual stupidity" needs a second thought to really realize its true meaning. Also his idea bout the consolidation of fanzines is an excellent one which we heartily reccommend. Perhaps we could start another campaign to make 2 or 3 good fanzines for fandom. I for one would be more than willing to cooperate. What about this, fans? Could it be done? It would be a great service to fandom and CCF could be more easily enforced. But most fanzine editors put out their zines either to publish their own writings or just for the fun of it and would not be willing to help on this idea. But I would like a list of all you editors who will think about it. And all of you fans write to me expressing your ideas and opinions.

You will find the 2nd installment of CCF in the Mail at Dawn (no, our mailman does'nt come that early) section. I should have made an article on but I got going in answer to a letter and it lengthened into a treatise before I knew it. Read about it and write again. I am glad for the fine response I received. In passing I would like to mention Hemingway's new book "Across the River and Into the Trees. It contains so many bad word that I wonder why. Perhaps he knows he can fascinate a vast group of people who like to see in print words that they would not dare utter even in a bedroom if there was a chance that they might be overheard.

Again we must ask for more subbers. We need someone to send the mag to. We are at our lowest point in subs. Help us. Also need some funds. Am selling some stuff to get them. Who wants a set of book-binding materil and tools as sold by the Serial Mag Binding Co.? This has been untouched. $2.oo the set. Also a $60 album and stamps value for $25. Also some British ASF, some old, and British Unknown. Others. Thanks to H. Warner for reprinting his Books and Bucks From Horizons. Late fanzine arrival; TORQUASIAN TILES ,1041 Cayuga St. Santa Cruz, Calif. 20¢. Excellent magazine. Get it. goon bye, RKW.

EXPIRES_____ REVIEW_____ EXCHANGE_____

The BOOK COLLECTOR

by D.H. KELLER

During my periodic migrations from the Ivory Tower in Underwood I have been fortunate in being permitted to examine the libraries of several well known collectors. I have looked over the shelves of Ossie Train which completely fill the walls of his bedroom and included not one, but two complete sets of Rider Haggard, all first editions. Chad Oliver in Texas, Phil Gray of Maine, Harry Moore of Louisiana and Andy Lyons of North Carolinia have shown me their treasures.

Through correspondence I have become acquainted with the fabulous collections of Sam Moskowitz, Darrel Richardson, Dr. Barret, Paul Spencer, Charles Lucas, Alex Osheroff and Forrest Ackerman. Barret has four rooms filled with books and fanzines and needs a secretary to card index his treasures; Moskowitz has the desire to have magazines bound; Lucas has one of the few complete collections of Weird Tales; Ackerman keeps his books in a fire proof vault; Moore buys mint copies and then binds them in cellophane to preserve their perfection, while Alex buys two copies of the best fiction, one to keep unread and the other to be read by his friends.

Collectors of imaginative literature can be separated into various groups. While some prize only first editions others are content with reprints and cheap pocket book formats; some collect extensively but do not read, and thus are different from those who have more time thancash and thus read extensively pulp later turc; a few show considerable scatter as far as authors are concerned, while many confined their collection to a very few authors and in some instances only to one.

Their libraries are accumulated by purchase, exchange, gifst from authors and publishers and, at times, by following the dictum of Charles Lamb who explained that the size of his library was made possible by his "..never losing a book and never returning one he had borrowed." Every collector has had sad experiences with borrowers who never intend to return and purchasers who have no idea of paying in the future.

The acquisition of a blbrary has some interesting side-lines. A book autographed by the author becomes more valuable while one extra illustratdonwith an original by even a lesser known artist adds value to an otherwise common place work. The collecting of art and literature is facin ting and fortunately the best artists have illustrated some of my favorite authors. I have James Brandh Cable and Anatole France in many volumns illustrated by Pape, while Dore's masterpieces add interest to my Gulliver's Travels and Don Quixote.

Fine paper is all too rare in most modern books. I have some unusual formats. My Demionality is printed on Bachelor hand made paper, whi while my copies of Desert Islands and ON THE EDGE by Walter de La Mare are fine examples of the best in beautifrl formats. Only occasionally are fine bindings found in science fiction libraries and for this reason I value greatly my copy of the HOMUNCULUS bound in leather by my good friend Ossie Train.

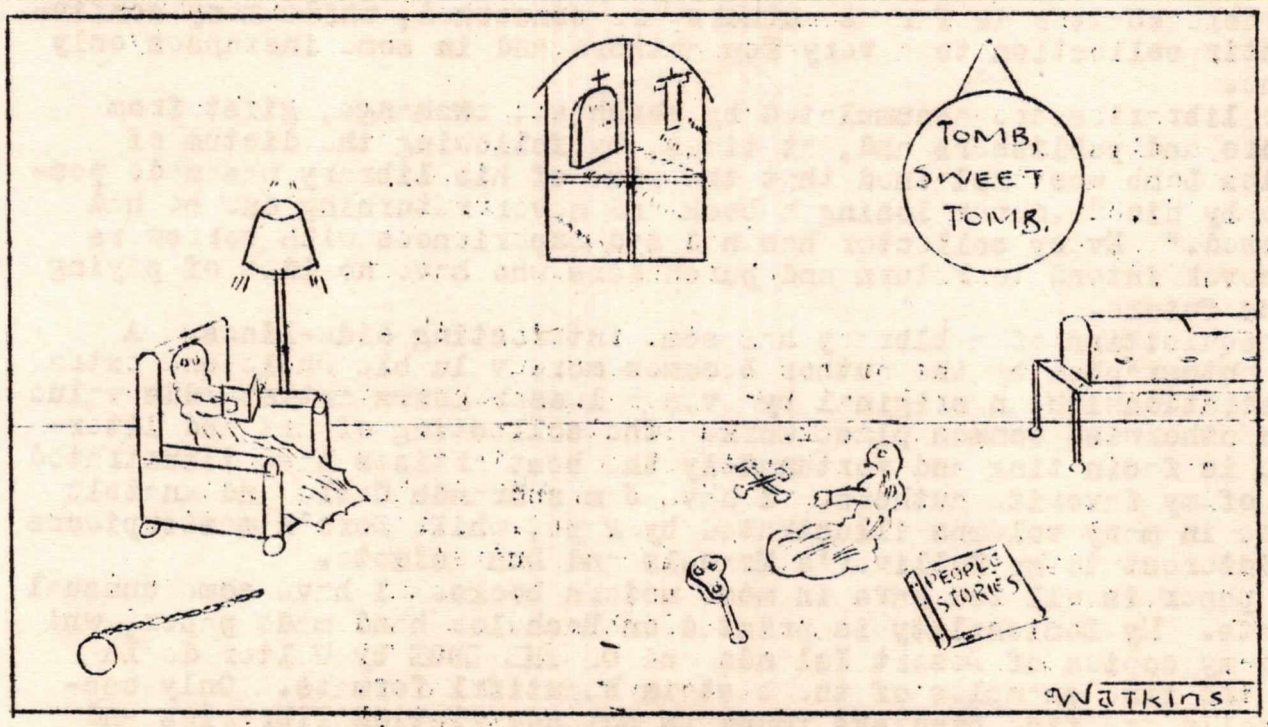
Due to the cheap grade of paper used by most pulp magazines, deterioration seems to be inevitable, especially if exposed to the air. My old copies of Amazing, Wonder Stories and Weird Tales have sur-

vived the years because they have been kept in boxed, but some twenty year old magazines I have recently purchased have crumbling pages and unless carefully handled fall apart. Fortunately the cream of their contents has been preserved in reprint anthologies.

Unless a collector is very selective his library soon outgrows the shelf space available in most modern homes. A new book can only be properly placed by discarding an old book. Of course if a collector is interested in only one author this problem does not arise, but if their is a desire to secure a real literature of all ages and have at least one work by one of the giants, then the problem becomes one of careful selecting.

A good rule to follow is to keep only books that are worth reading several times. If a book is bought, read and there is no desire to read it again, then that book should be disposed of. It is simply so much impedimenta. It may even be best to select not more than fifty books that can be read again and again so that they can become a part of your personal soul-life. Sell the others if you can; otherwise give them away and thus save your executors the bother of disposing of them.

In talking to other collectors I find that their desires change with the years. A man like Andy Lyons will accumulate science fiction, suddenly decide to collect record of grand opera and over night dispose of his books to acquire some fine music. For long years I collected Pennsylvania history and then sold them all simply to give my more space for books which seemed more interesting and important. Now at the age of 69 I am again going over my library and taking out volumns to sell or give away. Of course I will keep on buying more books and perhaps, very occasionally, I will find one like Titus Groan which I will want to keep.



PAPA, DO YOU BELIEVE IN PEOPLE?

The STFantasy Collector

BY THOS. BECK

Undoubtedly the hobby - for some a business and avocation - of acquiring STFantasy 'zines and tomes in one of the most interesting in the world. Many affeciandos of our fiction have been known to be avid numismatists or philatelists, however, forsaking them for the adventure of STFantasy fiction collecting.

With most fans it usually starts off as an undisputed liking for our type of fiction, first at two or three favorite SF mags each month for the novice, and later on larger discovery, they begin to purchase anything that has a rocketship, BEM, or an overdressed hero-in-spacesuit holding a supine maiden in one arm with a blaster in the other on a magazine cover. This eventually leads to a strange form of fanatic fever, sometimes called "STFantasyitis", of which common symptoms are seeing the victim lurk around the racks of resplendent magazine emporiums casting a beady eye in the direction of the pulp department - and finally he either emotes with a gibbering giggle at finding the first issue of some new SF mag, makes a four-yard dash at the lastest issues of STUPEFYING YARNS and INCREDIBLEY PREPOSTEROUS STORIES, or glares at the proprietor with blood in eye for not having the current copy of EVOLUTIONARY ADVENTURES, since it was supposed to be on hand that week but is three days late according to the announcement in the last issue.

In the next stages of the STFantasy collector, we find that the more juvenile ones wish to assume the problems of the older fans and hoarders since upon stocking up on his first amount of 20 or 30 duplicates, he will spare no time in advertising that he is a dealer of reown in in the SF field, which is most distressing to the dealer with silver in his hair who has spent the last 15 or 20 years of his preying life mimeographing, or if finanancially stronger, foto-offset-ting lists of thousands of items at only rates J. P. Morgan or Rockefeller would consider.

With gradual maturity, the collector branches off into various forms of specialization, characteristics of collecting and manners with which de deals with his fellow collectors, proving that not only does it take all types of people to make the world but all forms of fans and collectors who form STFandom, of which collecting is the most important integral. They all fall into such categories: 1.) The Vampire, or leech; 2.) The over meticulous, or fussy; 3.) The specialist: one who collects only certain mags and books; 4.) The completionist collector: One that enjoys the hobby and profits at the same time; 6.) The knuclehead, or spare time collector; Usually frowned down upon by other collectors...and last, but far from least, 7.) The Feudin' collector: An odd specimen of fandom who believes that dealers who profit should have stood in bed, and vice versa as far swaps is fantastic regardless whether he wishes to swap a '50 issue or Planet for a '42 Unknown or not. This is also the fellow who is always making a tragedy or three-act play of swapping with usually a list of five books in reading copy shape, the he may list them as mint, and some dozen mags that the mice rejected in inspection. The Feuder would go into a drama that would make Shakespeare Eince and eventually goes into an opera that would put Verdi and Wagner to shame, primarily when he latches into a copy of OUTSIDER or a few first editions of Haggard.

Of course there are many other variations of the collector other than the seven who are outlined. But of the most predominant figures, the seven listed are the most common.

One of the greatest mysteries to the average neophyte collector is how do so many dealers in the trade act as if they have a private Fort Knox of their own according to the prices they ask. The answer simply is: Any allegedly high prices that dealers have on their catalogues are merely arbitrart; the dealer is willing to make a bargain and come down a peg or two like any other business man provided that the collector wishes to transact his deal in an orderly and businesslike manner. Any collector who goes into unnecessary haggling or who takes up the time of a dealer with irrelavant matters can not get a satisfactory deal. Remember also that most dealers in the field are grown men with families and a real job on the side, and they mostly can't engage in personal correspondence as fans with more spare time can. Neither should we forget that ANY dealer who does not wish to bargain when an order consists of only a few items or items which are already very reasonable, unless the size of the order would compensate the dealer to give a discount. In short, any collector or dealer with averate business knowledge will do well in the long run;

However, more regarding collectors and collecting in the next issue of DATN. Any questions, except swapping or buying, that with the STFfantasy reader and collector can be sent in care of me: 7312 Blvd. East, North Bergen, New Jersey, Apt. 2-C.--All queries must include a three cent stamp.

FRIED RAMBLES.....

Speaking of fans, has anyone ever tried to guess the number of active fans? Active Fans! Yes thats what I said, what I mean is who can you consider an active fan? Anyone who now and then reads the pros will consider himself an active fan but aside from that what has he done to become active? Look at all of the names of Weird Tales members: 95% of them has never heard of N3F, SAPS, FAPA or any other fan group. So the question is still. "Who can you consider an active?" In my opinion an active fan is one who is a member of at least one fan group, reads a large amount of STF and who may or may not collect back issues. What I define as an active fan may not be in the right words but you get the general idea. (I hope)

Astounding isn't as good as it used to be. Fans who read ASF today think it is the best STF ever published. But these same fans have never read an old issue of this mag. My collection of ASF has hit 144 issues which includes an almost complete file back to 1937 and about 15-20 issues before that and I can say that ASF has decreased in story interest. The best years of ASF were between 1934-38. After this ASF was still a good mag but it never did become as good as the years before this. Tho' the years (1939-42) were less interesting than 1934-38 there were still many classics including "Slan", "Final Blackout", etc... Between 1943-46 ASF sank to a new low, after this 1947-50 the stories are much better but as with some early stories in Wonder and Amazing there is so much science the [illegible] plot is lost in the reading. As for 1951, well competition has been keen. If Campbell reads this I hope he takes a hint.

.....Lester Fried

BOOK REVIEWS

"THE DEVIL RIDES OUT" By Dennis Wheatley. Hutchinson & Co. Ltd,. London. 4/6d(About $1, American.)

The likelihood of any U. S. fantasy novel being so popular that it goes through numerous printings, and into over 100,000 copies, is so small as to be almost microscopic. The last books of this type to achief anything like that ammount of popularity were the humorous fantasies of Thorne Smith. Nevertheless, that is precisely what has happened with this English book. Obviously, fantasy, it of the right type, is far more popular there than here.

The book itself clearly deserves this recognition. It is, on the whole about as good as most American fantasy novels, whether they be written for the pulps or the slicks, or even for book publication directly. In fact, it is far better than some of the class stuff published over here.

The plot concerns devil-worship and sorcery, set against a present-day background. The mysterious Mr. Mocata, the leader of a Satanist cult with headquarters in London and Paris, is searching for the Talisman of Set, an instrument of tremendous power, which will unleash the dreaded Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse upon the world if used again. It has previously brought about every important war in history, and if uncovered, will start yet another.

Opposing him are a small group of people, headed by the Duke de Richelieu, a White Magician of no small power. There is a young American, whose romance with the lovely Tanith, a member of the cult, occupies a goodly portion of the book, and several others.

One of these, Simon Aron, is a strangely important figure, useful in locating the hidden Talisman, and is about him that a good deal of the struggle rages.

Events become more and more exciting, the tension mounts, and finally, in a very unusual climac, the battle is won--by which side, you can probably guess.

Although by no means to be compared with some of the really good writing in the fantasy-weird field, I found this novel both interesting and entertaining. There is a wealth of information about Black and White Magic, Egyptian Legendry, and other aspects of occult science. The Lord's Prayer said backwards, and so on. This is not the way to write convincingly of witchcraft. The evil forces should be a little more than mere mirror-images, with values reversed, of the forces for good. They should have a definite lo c and ritual of their own. Otherwise, the b ok is a good one, and well suited to an evening's entertaining reading. ------- KEN BEALE

"THE CIRCUS of DR. LAO" by Charles G. Finney. Grey Walls Press Ltd., $3.00.

This most unusual book has not,it seems to me, received the recognition it deserves. It is listed on few of stf-fantasy dealers' booklists, and it is neither mentioned nor reviewed in the fan or pro publications. It is in an effort to remedy this that I am reviewing it here.

For the book is a fine ~~indeed~~ and not of the sort to be passed over casually. It's writing shows a good deal more serious thought than some of our own fantasy novels, and it appears to go a far deeper. Yet is neither a light "escape" novel, nor a religous or moralist tome. The plot-such as it is- concerns the arrival of the circus at a small Arizona town. There is a parade that features a good many strange creatures--some from myth and legend, others almost unknown. One of these in a bit of symbolism which I am not sure I am not sure I fully understand, by turns is taken for a bear and a man. Different people dispute this, and finally one tries to settle the argument, by stating it is actually neither, but a Russian.

Then the circus sets up it's tents, and the show is on. For one day, the citizens of Abalone, Arizona, are treated to a spectacle as unusual as it is edifying. They see fauns and satyrs, a salamander and a sea serpent, a chimera, and a witches' Sabbath. These are only a few of the wonders that the circus unfolds. There are many, many others.

But the main emphasis in the novel is not on plot, nor is it on the strange events and supernatural beings, although they play a large part in the story. The chief concern of the narrative is with people, the people of the town of Abalone-male and female, young and old, bad and good. Their reactions to the events, their various fates and histories and their loves, hates, and passions, are all dealt with. You will want to read of the henpecked, whose spouse mst a fate reminescent of that of Lot's wife; of the old newspaper proofreader, accustomed to correcting error; of the rather frigid librarian, and of her sudden metamorphosis; and of the lawyer, who went to the circus skeptical, and returned badly shaken. These, and many more, lend color to the novel.

Of course, since they, too, are poplke, or at least living things, the members of Dr. Lao's menage also have their emotions and thoughts explored. My favorite of all these was the sea serpent--he seemed a lot more human than many people I've met!

Only the character of Dr. Lao himself remains obscure. To me, he was the most intrigueing character in the book; what were his motivations? His history? His character? Why, precisely, did he assume and discard hias Chinese accent at will? And above all, who was he? What does he represent--God, learning, philosopyy, or what? These questinns are never wholly--or, in most sases, even partially--answered inthe text. This, then, is a book at once fantastic and real, puzzling and revealing. These contradictions only make it finer. Not the least of the unusual things about it is it's construction. There are no separate chapters, only one long narrative, divided into episodes. It is followed by a curious feature indeed: a catalogue, where every person, place, and thing, mentioned in the text is defined and summed-up. It is just as baffling and yet illuminating as the text itself, and comlements it exactly, though not perfectly.

The two editions of the book, published here and in England, are both good, and well illustrated, but in my opinion the illustrations in the original, English edition, are far superior to those in the U.S. version. The last named are by Artzybasheff.

-----KEN BEALE

BOOKS and BUCKS

BOOKS AND BUCKS

By Harry Warner Jr.

I do only a modest amount of fantasy book buying through the mail, and have never yet been severely stung on a purchase of this kind. But I think that the fans who would like to set up codes of ethics would do well to start at this point.

At least a half-dozen semi-pro and pro fantasy book dealers with whom I've never done any business whatsoever have me on their mailing lists for catalogs, and I'm going to confine myself to them in order to write without prejudice. In other words, what follows is intended as suggestions to the trade, not complaints.

One thing that strikes the eye most forcibly, in any glance through an issue of Fantasy Advertiser, is the manner in which many books are listed for sale without reference to their edition. I grant that in many instances such information is superfluous: if someone asks three dollars for a copy of Bradbury's "Dark Carnival," the would-be purchaser can be quite certain of exactly what he is purchasing. But when it comes to H. Rider Haggard books, or the dozens of fantasies that have been published first in book format, then in cheap, paper-backed reprint editions, the advertiser or dealer who fails to list the necessary information is simply not playing fair. Caveat emptor is a good excuse, but not a satisfactory one: the dealer who is actually selling a first ecition without stating that fact is liable to miss an order from a collector who wants one but is unwilling to enter into correspondence about t the volume in question, and the dealer who is selling a cheap reprint without admitting that factis going to make enemies among his customers, sooner or later. Lots of people who are just beginning to collect fantasy volumes will pay a dealer $1.50 for a used copy of a Modern Library edition which is still available in any book store for $1.10, simply because they haven't been around long enough to know the ropes.

Another blot on the record is not altogether the fault of the dealers. It is the habit of advertising for sale, oftentimes at fancy prices, amidlistings of fantasy books certain volumes that cannot come under this classification by any stretch of the imagination. Sometimes these books apparently find their way into the fantasy catalogs because of their titles, or because a quick scanning indicates fantasy contents--"The Return of George Washington" or "The Living Buddha," for instance. The fantasy bibliophiles have made mistakes, too, and that shows up in the dealers' catalogs. "After Dark," a collection of Willkie Collins short stories, somehow slipped into the incomplete Searles bibliography, and dealers have been selling it ever since. I don't think this is a good practice, even if the dealers feature a money-back guarantee clause in their terms of sale. Even if the purchaser feels he has been gypped,

he may be reluctant to show his ignorance of the true nature of the volume he purchased, or he may not want to take the trouble to wrap it, mail it back to the dealer, and write a letter explaining why he wants his money back.

I think something could be done to standardize descriptions of the condition of books, and in particular to thrust into limbo that when I thought a complete collection of the prozines was a highly desirable possession, I never wanted magazines--or books, for that matter--for any other purpose than to read them. I don't think many collectors feel differently today, despite the past prominence of a few people like Frank Robinson and Harry Honig who seem to have done a lot of harm in this direction. Use of a star system would standardize matters, and would also get rid of certain unfortunate connotations of words that are commonly used for descriptions of condition today. By adopting * after the title of a book to show that it is in filthy and tattered dondition, to indicate that a book is as fresh as new as if it just came out of the printery, and two to four stars for the shades in between we could stop worrying what the mysterious little initials mean. We'd also move away from the idea that there is anything essentially wrong with a book whose stampings are rubbed faint and shows signs of hard wear. If a volume isn't positively grimy, I'd just as soon own it in used as in new condition. A book that oviously has been read hard proves that at least one person found pleasure in it in the past.

There is never going to be a uniform system of pricing for second hand fantasy books, and I don't think that one is really desirable: if adopted now, it would have a tendency to keep the present inflationary prices in effect for the rest of eternity, and it would also take quite a bit of the pleasure out of the pastime of hunting through catalongs and price lists for good buys. But dealers could apply a little more common sense in their pricings, and one thing is badly needed: a listing of all the clothbound and cheap reprint volumes that are still in print and readily obtainable at their original price. Distribution of such a list would keep collectors from paying jacked-up prices on stuff which can still be purchased by applying to the publisher. The common sense is needed in connection with certain fantasy books that have gained general popularity in recent years, and with std. works. It stands to reason that a book like Mistress Masham's Repose is far more easily found in the second-hand shops than other fantasies which appeared in the same year without gaining a place on the best-seller lists; yet the fantasy book dealers don't recognize that in their pricings. The habit of referring in ads to books as "rare" or "out of print" is being badly overdone, too. Just about half of the out-of-print stuff in the latest catalog of Stephen's suffers from this unwarrented appelation; I refuse to believe that such things as a volume published only nine years ago by one of England's most popular hacks, Dennis Wheatley, deserves the designation at this time. Prices on the Burrough's books seems out line also considering the huge editions in which they sell. I think it was Laney who pointed out that S. Fowler Wright's Deluge is one of the easiest of all books to find in second-hand condition. Yet most dealers charge for it almost as much as they ask for the realy scarce books by the same author. A whole essay of considerable length could be written on the subject, but another time.

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THE IMAGINATIVE REPORTER

BY KEN BEALE

Finlay due for a revival in SS and TWS.....John W. Campbell says that the promised volume of proof on the operation of Dianetics will be out soon. A pamphlet of this type has already been issued. And a second text bringing the original up to date is in preparation. A good deal of the data in the first book will have to be revised..... Some forthcoming books, PB type, from England; SLECTED TALES OF ALGERNON BLACKWOOD: PRINCESS OF MARS: CARSON OF VENUS and a lot of Tarzan; all by Burroughs; NORDENHOLT'S MILLIONS: ADAM & EVE & PINCH ME by A. E. Coppard; OTHER EYES WATCHING by Polton Cross; THE NARRATIVE OF ARTHUR GORDON PYM-POE: TERROR FROM TIMORDA by Festus Pragnell and S. Fowler Wright's classic DELUGE. More of titles as well as prices and Pubs. will be found in the NFFF checklist of pbs compiled by Ev Winne, assisted by, among others, your freneticolumnist. It will be put out as a Welcom booklet, which probably means free. Those in search for further data or copies should write to Mr. Wynne at 109 Ashley St., Springfield, Mass. ..... If it comes your way don't miss Orpheus, a French film, written and directed by Jean Cocteau. It is not difficult to understand, as fans seem to think surrealistic pictures are and is veryvery good indeed, and the closest thing to an Unknown novel ever filmed. I liked it better than any stf or fantasy film I've ever seen, with the possible exception of Well's THINGS TO COME. Yes, it is that good. Plot concerns the strange romance between the poet Orpheus, and a lady known only as the Princess who seems to have the ability to raise the dead, walk through mirrors, and to do other odd things. There are some very effective scenes in "the other world", and some of the best cinematic sorcery ever filmed. NY fans who've seen it are raving and raving. This is the sort of thing Hollywood ought to make, instead of the current crop of trash.....

Stfflickers; After all the to-do about American stf films, the British have apparently decided to jump on the bandwagon too. Their first venture (not really the first, if you count "Things to Come".) is to be Alduos Huxley's BRAVE NEW WORLD, under Sir Alexander Korda's aegis. They couldn't have made a better choice..... Sets for WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE, due very soon from Paramount, are all in miniature, something like DESTINATION MOON, The rocket, only four feet high in actuality, will look 100 times that on the screen. It will shoot out fifteen jet flames, be operated by remote control, and in fact do everything but take off. Thst's up to the special-effects men, who actually sat in on the writing of the script. Backgrounds for the scenes on the planet Zyra are by our boy, C. Bonestell. Other features of this film: Storms, tidal waves, earthquakes, eruptions, and finally, the destruction of the earth, seen via Visiscreen (only they'll call it TV, Natch) as the rocket leaves for Zyra. The last scene, showing the ruins of a pyramid, is supposed to pave the way for a sequel, in which an ancient civilization is found there. Producer, as if you didn't know, is George Pal.....The name of the Thurber Film will not be THE THURBER CARNIVAL, as erroneously reported elsewhere. The pic, featuring both

cartoons and live actors, will be called MEN, WOMEN, and DOGS. THE WHITE DEER, Mr. Thurber's fine fantasy, will be one of the sequences. Other titles for the different parts: THE UNICORN IN THE GARDEN: A PREFACE TO DOGS, and part of IS SEX NECCESSARY?. Media and United Productions of America are puuting it out.....Orson Welles, according to reports, is directing a picture called FAIR WARNING. It deals with the war between Monaco (the state containing Monte Carlo--and little else) and the rest of the world. Monaco wins, due to a magnesium-bomb stockpile. Border-line stuff, I reckon....Film makers reportedly bought Dr. HAGGE'S PRIVATE PLANET, a British yarn about our old friend, the mad scientist. Ivor Latchford is the perpatrator..... Walt Disney, whose current movie fantasy is ALICE IN WONDERLAND (out soon--maybe even as you read this) is reportedly working on another--PETER PAN.....Abbott& Costello seem definitely slated to louse up an stf motion picture. The name of their forthcoming movie is INVADERS FROM THE MOON. Pic is a super-gangster melodrama, and is undoubtedly not based on the Heinlein screenplay reportedly written for messr A&C..... The John Collier film (THREE WEIRD TALES) directed by John Huston, may star Vivien Leigh and Hubby Lawrence Olivier....WOW!..... BOOKNEWS: The latest satire on you-know-what is in HOPALONG FREUD and OTHER MODERN LITERARY CHARACTERS by Ira Wallach, pubbed by Henry Schuman, at $2. Title? DIAPETICS..Also in that volume: WORLDS IN COLLUSION.....Fell has outed with THE CITY AT WORLD'S END, an item I missed at $2.75.....Another belated bookitem: SOLUTION T-25, from Doubleday, at $2.75.....Every fan I know who's seen it says that it's undoubtedly the world's worst stf book, save your money.....DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS unheralded in the fan press, is out in book form. This was the COLLIER'S serial about intelligent plants, and their diabolical plot to take ober the world. (When are the slick writers going to grow up?) John Wyndham wrote it, Doubleday published it, $2.50 takes it, and you can have it.....TOMATO CAIN is the intriguing title of a book of original pieces by Nigel Kneale, a new British author. Fantasies, mostly. Knopf, $3..... It isn't a book, but the Bok Artfolio--a new one, that is, is out at about $3. Chances are you could find out more if you wrote Hannes at Box 137, Cathedral Station, N.Y. 25. If you send money, better write c/o one of the promags he draws for; I'm a bit dubious about that address.....

MISCELLANIMANIA: This column is getting harder & harder to fill. How about a little help? Send contribs, by way of news items, directly to me at 115 E. Mosholu Pkwy, Bronx 67, N.Y. Any news item at all will be appreciated. Tell you what: to the senders of the 1st 10 items I can use, I'll send copies of my new 'zine BEWARE. So, it's no bargain. But the others will at least get their names pubbed in this column..... Neither ASTONISHING nor DYNAMIC seem slated for revival.....Bradbury appearing in MACLEAN'S, a Cannadian mag, much like our own SEP, with several yarns. Some are originals! Chances are they won't appear elsewhere 'til his next book comes out. The title of that one is in doubt; last time I reported it as FROST AND FIRE, but it may well be called THE FIREMAN. It will be a collection, not a novel..... Recognize the chap on the April ASF?..... Go see MRS. O'MALLEY AND MR. MALONE--or better still, just walk and look at the pix outside the theater.....Flash! Jerome Bixby is no longer editing Planet. New ed. is Malcolm Reiss. Bix is in comics now. Real dough in that field. And that cleans it up for this time. 30

Ken Beale

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F        I  R    R  S      T        I S      S      U   U E
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FANTASTIC ADVENTURES, Volume 1 #1---May 1939
This is the first of a series, a new feature intended to be a regular article of Dawn and TIC. A description of the first issues of all pro mags now being published. The first mag, picked entirely at random, is Fantastic Adventures, May 1939.

This was a mag slanted toward the fans directly; Ray Palmer, who had com under adverse criticism for his policy at Amazing, decided to follow the wishes of the fans for his companion magazine. So, he made its first issue large size-8½ x 11; trimmed the edges; instead of advertisements the back cover featured a painting by Frank R. Paul; the front cover painting was done in oils in four colors, and there was no printing on the painting itself.

Unfortunately, this didn't last long. Within nine issues, FA had shifted to the pulp size it has now, had dropped the back-cover painting, and had reverted to the policy of its companion. But for the first few issues, FA was quite impressive.

Volume one, Number One contained 96 pages plus covers, but the large pages contained nearly 1000 words each, considerably more than any current mag. The price was 20¢.

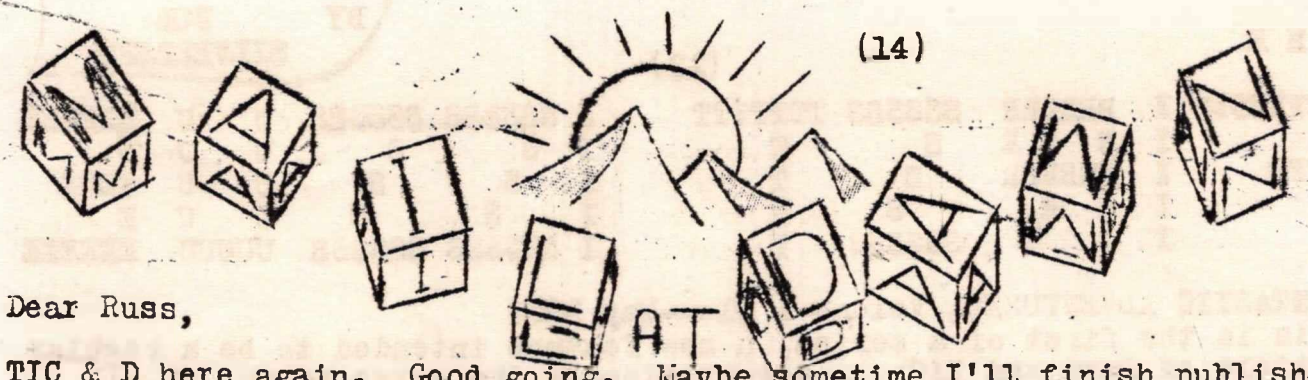
The first issue contained seven stories of fairly creditable fantasy and adventure. The lead story was by on Arthur R. Tofte, called "Revolt of the Robots"--it was the only straight stf story in the issue. Also included were six short stories: "The Invisible Robinhood," by Otto Binder; "The Empress of Mars" by Ross Rocklynne (this story was later reprinted in 1942 as the first of FA's reprint 'classics'); "The Sleeping Goddess" by Maurice Duclos, "The Mummy of Ret-Seh" by A. Hyat Verill, and "The Devil Flower" by Harl Vincent. A fair mixture of stories, but far better than some of the later offerings from the smae magazine.

The front cover was by Robert Fuqua illustrating the robot story; the back cover by Paul illustrated "The Man From Mars", and was accompanied by a scientific expalnation of the painting. Features included Palmer's editorial, a quiz page, a letter page, a column entitled "Fantastic Hoaxes", and the first installment of a science-detective comic strip called "Ray Holmes". Public opinion was so strong against this that it never appeared again.

The magazine was published bi-monthly; outwardly the only resemblance to the current magazine of that name was the cover lettering, "Fantastic Adventures", which is basically the same today. The 20¢ price-tag remained until 1942, when the magazine increased to 244 pages and the price was necessarily increased. Despite a reduction of 114 pages, the price is still 25¢. 1st FA; an interesting item but now rare.

BOB SILVERBERG

Next issue-----FFM, Sept.-Oct. 1939.



Dear Russ,

TIC & D here again. Good going. Maybe sometime I'll finish publishing BIZARRE #2, . You're doing much better re schedules than I. Your lead-article is pretty good. Mr. Burkes must be quite a guy. Liked his article a lot. (Seems to have been written to bear out the point I made that fanzines do help aspiring writers, or try to.) Like your idea of cleaning up fandom. But I feel that it will be about as un-popular as some of the projects I've worked on in recent years. I'll back you, though, since my middle name seems to be backing up un-popular projects.

And speaking of off-color fanzines, I could name one (but I won't) which beats all I've ever seen for abscenity. (anyone interested, write me for the name and address.) Such uncultured words as "damn" are bad enough; when it comes to.....(violates U.S. Criminal Code), then it IS time to clean up fandom. I shall write letters to several other fanzines suggesting that they ally with you in this crusade. Before someone gets the idea I'm a misogonist (hater of women) or some such untruth, let me assure you that I believe everything fits into its place like a puzzle, but when some of the pieces are not fitted in right, then you have an ugly picture.

Perhaps I should have stated my point about the influence of fanzines on the pros in a different manner than I did. (Re Ken Beale's letter) Fanzines are **not** primarily a "kindergarten" for the pros, but they inadvertently serve in that capacity--sort of a dual purpose or should I say, they do a dual job. No matter what the "stated" purpose may be every time a fanzine publishes a story, and then publishes the comments received on it, that fanzine is helping some writer become a BETTER writer--regardless of whether that writer is trying to become a pro or not. Certainly every amateur will read and consider the comments--critical and otherwise--published on his stuff, and if he does consider those comments, he is likely to become a little better as a result.

You assert that there are not "hundreds of fanzines;" a friend of mine collects them. At last report he had about 1500....I admit I don't know how long it has taken for him to accrue that number. But did you ever try handing out enough money at one time to subscribe and/or renew to all your faborite fanzines? Could you take a 1 year sub to ALL fanzines in the U.S. for less than $75? OK, there must be at least 200 in foreign countries. But enough of this. It's no money lost if I'm right or wrong.

As a whole, your zine this time is good. Ken, what did you mean by "oh NO!" to the report that a book would be published by Jack Williamson? I liked his "Darker Than You Think" quite a bit. Read it?

Sincerely, STAN CROUCH..... STERLING,VIRGINIA

ED. NOTE:Thanks, Stan, for the kind comments about The Clean-up item. We believe we are right too. Something must be done. Seems that all liked Burks article. It was a real scoop. Glad we could present it.

Dear Russell, (15)

The artwork and mimeography have not improved, as you doubtless know, but the issue on the whole was good--in fact very good. The Burkes article was one of the best things to have been published in any fanzine this year. As a would-be writer myself, and the pround possessor of a TYPEWRITTEN rejection slip from Anthony Boucher (on my 2nd story) I took many of his comments to heart. They will probably help a lot.

The "Hail at Dawn" section had only 1 letter besides the chain. I presume this was due to lack of space. I trust that when you get on your feet you'll be able to have more pages, and more letters. I won't complain about the errors that crept into my material both here and in the column, won't even point them out.

Gibson's letter struck me as the best (all right, the second best). This was inspite of the fact that he wrote about himself, and his own opinions, rather than the topic. He makes his letters very interesting. I rather like Joe, in spite of the fact that he prevented me from joining a fan club he belongs to! I hold few grudges.

Now for somethings I've been saving for the last--your article on S-x.

What can I say? You're wrong here, Russell, just agout as wrong as it is possible for a guy to be. Fandom needs no censors and reformers. The bluenose is always hated. Far from gaining subscriptions thru this piece, you'll probably lose some, I fear. That's no way to become popular in fandom. Filth in fanzines? I haven't noticed any, but if you see something of that type, a note to the post office dept. will suffice. The mag will carefully inspected in the future, and nothing of the sort allowed to get by. And if the post office does pass it, you can be sure it's not as bad as you thought it was.

What's that? You don't want to get any fanzines banned from the mails? Then why the hell (if you'll pardon the expression) did you start this silly crusade of yours? The whole thing impressed me as (sorry to say it but) juvenile in the extreme. The truly adult, mature person finds nothing "dirty" in the female body--clad or unclad. The immature one can go into raptures over bathing suit photos--even if of the gay 90s! As for four-letter words, if you can use them in conversation (as a lot of us do) why not in print?
I could go on and on, but I would only be wasting time and space. But let me leave you with this--censorship is silly, absurd, nonsensical. In N.Y. several acts have been banned from nightclubs as being "obscene" an inch or two of material added to the gal's costume, a movement of the bady altered slightly, and presto; the law can't touch them. Plays banned in Boston have been huge successes here. We ban burlesque, but allow shows like "Peep Show" which are far better (or worse, depending on your viewpoint) on our legitimate stage. Doesn't that show you ridiculous the whole thing is? Don't waste any more space on the thing, Russell. I speak as a friend (I trust). Don't take this as anything but sonstructive sriticism. I'd appreciate it if you'd print either this, or some of the other letters you'll receive saying more or less the same thing.

Oh, yes. Bob Pavlatt seems to think that in my part of the chain I said that the N3F would be even more futile if fandom grew. No such thing. Go back and read what I said, Bob. I meant that joining the N3F would become "the thing to do", and that it would begin to show signs of life.

Just plain sincerely, KEN BEALE.....BRONX, NEW YORK

ED. NOTE: In answer to Ken and to any others that may share his opinion; (by the way, Ken's was the only full length letter against the campaign that i have received. I did get 3 more cards stating disagreement but that is all.)

I was in all sincere about the article "Let's Clean Up Fandom". This little answer in the letter section will be the 2nd installment of the item. Ken, did speak as a friend and still is. He is also one of our better writers and Dawn has seen much of his good work. I am sorry that he does not agree with me on this idea. But everyone his their own opinions. I did expected some hot letters bout the subject all right but not one of such vehemence from Ken. I hope I can do juctice in this rebuttal.

I will try to answer each point mentioned; Firstly; The curse words. I have been taught from youth up by teachers and others that cursing was done only by ignornant people who had no vocabulary to express themselves. For a simple example; You can say you know damn well it is so and so. I can say I know very well, quite well, and extremely well and others even better that certainly means as much as yours and is just as emphactic. I think this simple example will show what I mean along this line. I think it is a mighty poor conversion that has the "4-lettered words" abounding in it. I trust and pray that the 3-LETTERED WORD is not used lightly. There are scripture references for not using either type if one is by any chance religious.

Next; I want all to know that I have not hidden this campaign to still be "popular" as Ken calls it. I have sent the issue containing the article to all the fan editors whose addresses I could find. (if anyone knows of any I have missed I have some copies left I would be glad to send.) I have several comments and letters commending me for starting the crusade. (You will find some of those letters here.) I also have a couple of prominent fans backing me but prefer to let their names remain unknown at present til they see that it is going over well. I will admit that if I could get these kind of fans to speak openly for the campaign in their zines it would do the crusade a great deal of good. I hope that by this respondse that they will. Silent backing means much to me personally but does help the main idea much or any.

In a comically vein. I think that censoring would help fandom. If not in the high level and ideal way I want it to, than probably the fanzines' circulation would rise overnight that I blacklisted such as the shows and books that Boston banned. Therefore fandom would indeed be popular with all. I will admit that I do not know the postal rules concerning obscene pictures or pornergraphy. But I know some things have came through that were bad. (See Stan's letter for 1 example) But then look at the so-called "modern novel". Most of them contain a greal deal of sex and immorality. And they are read by millions.

Thank goodness, that science-fictions novels have not been degraded by such nonsence. That is one reason I get such pleasure from reading stf. Because they are not cluttered up with vulgar incidents.

I am an adult person. Not juvenile as has been inferred just because I believe in the better and clean things of life. I do not see anything "dirty" in the clad or unclad body of the female. I was not referring to this in my article. The item was not an attack on sex but an attack on filth in fanzines. This was misunderstood by others. I did not mean it that way. I merely meant the drawings that are vulgar and degrading to the female body. The ones that are drawn purposely to attract attention for selling or other reasons. There are many buyers of stf books and mags that are not mature; therefore these drawings are for them. But this is not an attack on pros. They have been bombbarded with letters about their covers for years and have done nothing about them because they sell. It seems that in this case nothing can be done except not to buy them. And this would have to be done by so many that it probably would never work. Many buy them that are not fans and we could not reach them. But at least we don't have to have our fanzines the same way. We can clean them up. We can only subscribe to those that meet with this condition After all we buy them before we see their covers so we don't buy them by impulse buying. I appreciate good artwork as well as anyone else when it is presented in such a manner. I hope I have made myself clear on this.

I wrote the article with the very serious intention to aid fandom. I cannot see why anyone should insist so emphactically that I desist from this tirade and good intention. I am not trying to be popular with or in fandom. But am trying to help it. Being unpopular costs a lot more sometimes than being popular. It is not so easy to follow the right "road" when so many others you know are following the wrong one. It is simple to be popular with the "gang" when you do as they do. It is being the different and unusal kind that is hard. I have been on the editorial staff of DAWN for 2½ yrs. Very few fanzines have seen my letters or writings. No pro zine has ever seen a letter from me. So all can see that I did not start this just to be popular in fandom. I just want to accomplish something. And with the help of you fans, with your suggestions and compliances, I can.

I see that this is getting so long that I should have made it a separate article this time too, but it is too late for that now. I am not listing the names of those who are with me yet (except in their own letters printed this time.) I have several names on that CCF list though and their willingness to aid me is appreciated. But I want at least 50 more the next issue comes out. Then we'll really show them! We do mean business. You can help me if you agree with me by writing all of your friends that I can't reach. Let's make that list grow! I certainly appreciate the kind comments from those who agree. They show me that I was right. And they have strengthened me to carry on the fight.

But to do this I will need some help and some suggestions. Ken Beale, in another letter which I don't have space to print here, brings up some points about how hard it is to cenosr. I will give them to you and want you to think about them and write me your suggestions to

overcome and solve them. First, there is the question about who will be the censor. We need someone who is familiar with fandom and with fanzines. Someone who is willing to take all the responsibility of deciding what is clean and what is not. This someone will no doubt make many enemies. It isn't a pleasnat job. He will have to be honest with no prejudices. And his judgement will have to be final because there won't be anyone to censor the censor.

Secondly how are the judges (presuming the censor to be plural is my idea for two reasons; one, censoring is more apt to be fair if there is a board of censors to pass on the zines, two, it would not put such responsibility in only one lap.) going to get all of the fanzines to rule upon? I am sure that the good zines will more than be glad to sent their zines to the board but how about the ones that know they will be rejected? We cannot force them to do so. And we cannot censor them if we don't have them.

Another point; Suppose a right-thinking fan sends us his mag for approval and we find some wrong or bad article in it. We tell him so. What is he now to do? No doubt he has already mailed all copies to his subbers. Or if he hasn't should he rip out that particular page? Or do the mag over? As Ken pointed out, it seems that censorship is hindsight rather than foresight. That is, we can show what is or was censorable but would have a hard time trying to stop anything from being circulated. Except of course the things that the postal authorities. could stop.

These are a few of the probablems that are confronting us. There are others I am sure. I would like suggestions and advice on these matters from all who are interested. .....KKW

Dear Mr. Watkins,

I enjoyed the issue you sent us of DAWN & TIC. I appreciated very much its adult approach to science-fiction, and while I cannot agree with you "Clean Up Fandom" movement, I must admit that you do have several strong points. Especially interesting was Burks' article--congratulations for procuring a real scoop. On the whole your zine ranks as one of the best.

I remain, Very sincerely yours, ...R. HEWITT RENEAU SANTA CRUZ, CAL

ED. NOTE: Thank you very much for the nice compliments re our fanzine. Coming from one who puts out a nice zine themselves this means much. Hewitt puts out TORQUASIAN TIMES, a very fine mag which is reviewed elsewhere. I am glad you agree with some of my points about fandom even if not all. Good luck to you on your zine.

Dear DIC,

(How do you like my new abbreviation?) Well, it seems as if have something going on here. Clean-up Fandom: a well written article with a Great Message. Now if we get enough people and edit this list of decent fanzines, we'll also have an excellent shopper's guide. As

a rule the cleanest zines have the best material. But we are confronted with a considerable problem: if we do print this checklist, we'll have to put it out in fanzine bulletin form. And like every fanzine it will have a very small circulation. It will not reach whom we want it to reach most: the general public. Answer might be to send a letter of explanation to such departmenst as FANDORA'S BOX in IMAGINATION. and to all prozine and fanzine editors. Let 'em write editorials about it; if they're not willing to donate the space but it.

Our checklist-bulletin would have to be free. Nobody wants to spend a dime for something that tells him what to buy with his money. If our organization was big enough we could put our seal on a zine. This seal would read: This fanzine is reccommended by the Clean-up Fandom Organization as being good, wholesome reading matter. The crux of the matter hinges on; IF WE WERE BIG ENOUGH!!

Ken Beale in his letter paints a very good picture of myself and fanzines. I like 'em all. So fanzines do affect the out-of-the-way-fans. But doesn't fandom usually center about the in-person big-name fan? Correspondence is all right as far as it goes. This might be a good reason for Clean-up Fandom in itself. If a corresponding fan gets hold of a batch of bad fanzines wouldn't they to some extent influence his moral standards? And a corresponding fan might start a chain-reaction with letters! Very unlikely; but possible. As to correspondence everybody better join the INTERNATIONAL STF CORRESPONDENCE CLUB. (Thanks for the plug.)

Prozines & fandom: With the increasing number of prozines the quality in some mags will of course get lower. But in most zines it will stay much the same. This will call for a culling-out of the poorer mags for the general fan; something I haven't had to do as yet--I still buy and read them all. Just think; in the far future we might have a Clean-up Pro-don Campaign.

Ken Beale's column is for the most part good. However, let's not drag in everything that has a remote connection with fantasy. We certainly don't want a movie review of "Alice In Wonderland". (Do we?)

Fancerely, FRED CHAPPELL.....CANTON, NORTH CAROLINA

ED. NOTE: You have some swell ideas there for our crusade, Fred. I hope we may be able to use some of them. Glad to have you back again.

Dear Russ,

RIC combined with D made a big impression on me. It's a good, down-to-earth common sense magazine with lots of helpful information and interesting articles. What's more, the staples used in it are actually big enough to hold it together. My, my. What will they think up next?

The magazine review (in no. 12) was good and should be revised and repeated at least once a year. One thing, tho. I'm afraid I'll have to agree with Ken Beale when he says the mimeoing leaves something to be desired. If this could only be improved there is no reason why T. I.-C.C.W.D. (whew!) couldn't become one of the best zines in the country. [illegible] G.C.W.! [illegible]

Count me in the C.C.F.! Its about time we had something like that. Lordy--I've lost count of all the times I've managed to interest someone in S.T.F., only to have them see a cover (and it only takes ONE lousy cover to do it) and say "Oh, I've got a trunkful of that kind of crud at home," or, "Is this what you've been telling me about? No thanks!" And one "fanzine" I saw-- Ghu! It wasn't a fanzine, it was a sexzine.

Sincerely, PAT EATON .....OTIS, OREGON

ED. NOTE: Thank you, Pat, for those encourageing remarks about our little effort and about the CCF. It seems that everyone knows just what I am talking about. But no one has so far done anything about it. This is that doing. May we succeed! Maybe your friends will be influenced and impressed then. Thanks again and write more.

Mr. Watkins:

Your latest ("13) was surprisingly good as regards material and brings forth a few comments from me.

Cleaning up fandom is an impossible job due to the rapid turnover of fans and the intellectual stupidity of the majority of them. So many of them disguise their lamentable fan magazines with overtones of sex, sadism and iconoclastic comments that no one could possibly be interested in them. It is regretable that there are so many loose ends in fandom. Because of this, few worthwhile projects, even of those contemplated are ever completed. The best solution to the problem (nude on fanzine covers) would be a folding or rather condensation of the majority of magazines into a few worthwhile fanzines like RHODOMAGNETIC DIGEST, NEKROMANTICKON, FANTASY-TIMES, SCIENCE FICTION NEWLETTER. If you begin to add up all the sundry quarters and dimes that go out to purchase fanzines, you can see that the field could support an expensive' little magazine like the defunct ARKHAM SAMPLER very nicely. There is a point beyond which competition becomes absurd. To have 50 or 60 fanzines among a few hundred fans is just plain silly. If it were possible to produce a decent overall coverage magazine (or 2 or 3) it might be possible to gain more adherents from the ranks of the pro readers and perhaps put the magazine on a sound financial footing. One of the countless tragedies of fandom was the demise of SCIENCE FANTASY REVIEW, certainly the best of them all, rahking with FANTASY MAGAZINE, and ARKHAM SAMPLER.

On a different topic in many ways related to the above, the current unsteady situation of pulps indicates that many changes are in store for the fantasy field and the wildcat expansion of the past two or three are due to leave a bad taste in the mouth of many fans. Certainly if the growth of fandom does not keep pace with the field of science fiction. It would be difficult to say whether the near contraction of the pro magazines will bring us again to the days of the "big three". But many of the worthwhile magazines on the stands will fold as the present trend continues. This will drive most writers of talent into other fields leaving the hacks for science fiction.

ED WOOD .....CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FANZINES

TLMA....#1 June '51....Ed. Lynn A. Hickman.....408 W. Bell St., Statesville, N.C. 25¢.....Don't ask me to pronounce this one, I can't. It means tho' The Little Monsters of America. Whom it represents. Price too much, Mimeo needs improvement. Nice article by Basil Wells. Long article on or against Dianetics by M. Banister. This mag is aimed toward good fan fiction and it has it this issue.

DESTINY....#3 ....Ed. Jim Bradley & M. Willits....3245 NE 73rd,Portland, Oregon.....15¢....A very nice lithoed zine, 5" x 6" in size. Excellent cover and artwork. Features poems & fiction and some silly ad about technocracy by Technocracy Inc. Might be a fake.

SEETEE....#5 May '51....Ed. Tellurian Sceincefictioneers at 3046 Jackson St., San Francisco 15, Calif....10¢.. Well they come in all shapes and sizes, this one is postcard size but longwise. Fine mimeoing with red and black ink. Contains a partial list of Science Fantasy poetry by Knapheide which is valuable.

SEYDELL QUARTERLY....25¢ From Ed. Mildred Seydell, Hotel Siru, Brussels Belgium....Yes, Belgium, that is no misprint. This is not a fanzine but is worth reviewing because of its interesting content. It is printed and has some fine poems, articles of the foreign land, and some good fiction. Try it, it will prove interesting.

SPACESHIP #11 ..Ed. Bob Silverberg....760 Montgomery St., Brooklyn 13, N.Y. 10¢...Another good zine..mimeoed...Good fan fiction and articles. Contains a checklist of Fantasy Magazines, 1950. Try it.

MOBIUS...A one shot...by Ken Beale...115 E. Mosholu Pkwy. Bronx 67, N.Y.....Another unusal size, a mobius band, it was hard to do and mail but Ken did it. If you want to see it write him. Interesting.

NEWSSCOPE..#6 &7...Ed. Ray Campbell...43 Tremont St. , Malden 48,Mass. 5¢...And well worth it. A news zine as its name implies. Has some interesting items of interest to all fans before they are well known.

STF NEWS LETTER..Ed. Bob Tucker, PO Box 260, Bloomington, Ill. 15¢ This one needs no comments. Every fan should get it. News complete.

QUANDRY #9 & 10...Ed. Lee Hoffman, 101 Wagner St. Savannah, Ga. 10¢ The BEST zine in the country for a dime. You really get your money worth. Lee fooled everybody and put out 2 quick issues. Full of columns (6) and interesting fan doings and writings. No fiction.

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Sorry I ran out of space. Thes last 2 are good and deserve more.

BKW

Robert
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