

The



NEOLITHIC

R.J.B.

Borogove in orbit

No. 2, January 2, 1960

"We're dittoed, but the spirit is right"

NeOL is put out by Ruth Berman, 5620 Edgewater Boulevard, Minneapolis 17, Minnesota. NeOL is available for articles, letters, trades, and all people who take ALL MIMSY. ALL MIMSY is an amateur literary magazine put out by me and friends and is available for articles, trades, or thirteen cents postage, contrary to the amount of postage I said in NeOL number 1. The post office, after all, has ruled that AM goes first class.

PROGRESS REPORT. The Twin Cities SF Club moves slowly towards Foundation. So far I have (we have!) an offer of help, an offer of help and membership, and five fan to write to.

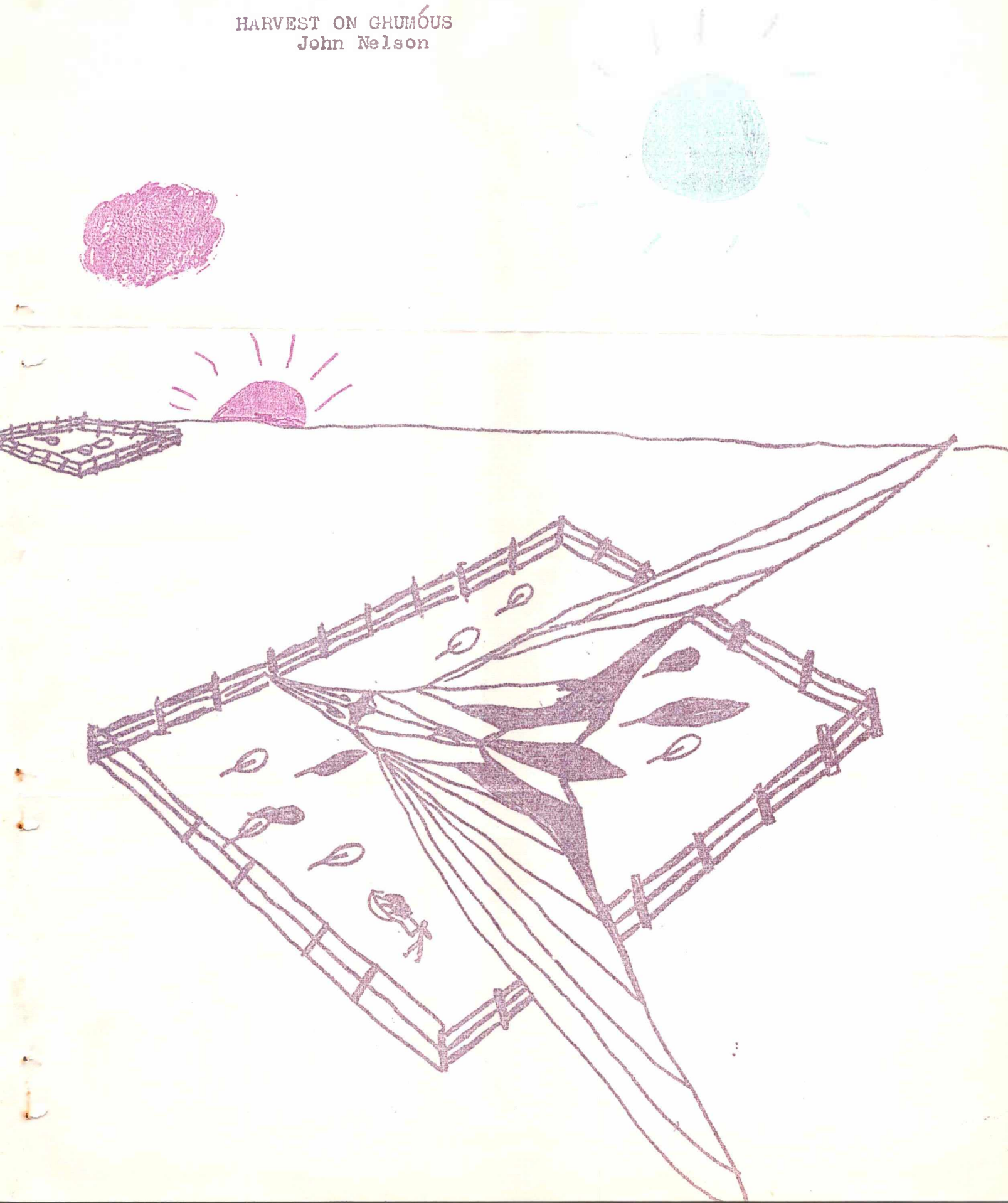
People have written kindly, pointing out that it is cheaper to ditto on two sides of a sheet. Why, they ask, don't we put out ALL MIMSY (and now NeOL) on both sides of the sheet? Well, because for us, it's not cheaper. Your thumb-fingered editors lose when they try to do ditto on both sides because they ditto so many unreadable copies. Among the three of us (our ed-in-chief, George Karg, does not take part in the typing, dittoing, and stapling), we average $3\frac{1}{2}$ thumbs.

Another thing that rather puzzles me is: what is a fanline? At Detention there was some talk that FANAC shouldn't have had an award because it is a newszine, not a fanzine. Why can't a newszine be a fanzine? AM, most of its reviewers say, is not a fanzine, and NeOL itself (see Clay Tablets) is not, exactly, a zine. All right then, what makes a fanzine. Is it the letter col and the reviews? I have a 1954 DESTINY that does not have either. But perhaps the other issues of LESTINY do have them.

Actually, I can see why Dick Schultz called NeOL 1 not-a-zine. He felt it was a letter-substitute, and a letter is a letter, not a zine. Sensible enough. But why can't a newszine be a fanzine, too? Why is AM not a fanzine?

Two reasons why NeOL won't have fanzine reviews. 1, I might be called on to practice what I preached. 2, I'm lazy. That is, I'm willing to think hard about your zine while reading it, or in a letter to you. I'm willing to think hard about making NeOL interesting. But to think hard about both those (which is what I'd have to do for a good review column)...uh-uh.

HARVEST ON GRUMOUS
John Nelson



CLAY TABLETS

All things come to him who waits but look! Without waiting, without forging even, a letter column.

from BRUCE PELZ December 15, 1959

Well, I've received a letter, a card, and NEOLITHIC, and I guess it's about time I acknowledged them. My correspondence is more of a mess than ever, as I'm rushing around in preparation to leaving for Los Angeles the 28th in order to start work at SoCal Library in January. Must keep up at least the fannish correspondence, tho. As if I have any other kind.

I'm afraid I'm no help to you on NEOLITHIC, either. I know no other fans in your area, and I am woefully ignorant of The Blessing of Pan. Not even a copy here in the library where I work.

Like your masthead slogan on Neol -- "We're dittoed..."

[You've plenty of company. So far no one can tell me what Dunsany was up to.]

from BOB PATTRICK December 19, 1959

Can't answer your plea for information in detail, but here's a couple of hints or thoughts: Pan-worship is, of course, paganism, and therefore complete anathema to the Orthodox Church (Jewish and Christian). Such a life would be idyllic, but leading to destruction or loss of the soul (according to orthodox theology). In less allegorical terms, a pandering to the sensual instead of the spiritual. In that sense only it is Utopian. HOWEVER - an atheist or agnostic, rejecting the doctrine of the fall of men, might also consider it the only way of life. I share your bewilderment to the extent that I don't understand what Dunsany was trying to say.

For other aspects of Pan I refer you to CIRCUS OF DR. LAO and WIND IN THE WILLOWS.

from DICK SCHULTZ undated

Just got "The Neolithic" today. Or last week, rather. I've been tardy again in answering correspondence. The art is atrocious, but original. The dittoeing is superb. The ideas are Grand and Big. Maybe a little bit too Big and Grand.

But first let me say something. Hobgoblin is meant as a lettersubstitute and review. Neolithic is simply (so far) a letter substitute. It is not a zine as such --- yet. Once you get a few letters printed up, an article of sorts by somebody, or a review (STF or FANZINES). Well, then you can call Neol a

personalzine. It's a fairly good idea, too. What you're doing. Get a few choice passages out of about 3-4 letters. An article, and a chitter-chatter editorial. Run it to about five pages or six, send it second class (3¢) and stand back as the letters pour in.

A word of advice.

Thee and Arnason should try keeping ALL MIMSY as a straight fantasy-fiction mag. Keep it simple and full of charm. However, there should be a trickle of fannish stuff flowing into headquarters up there. Don't have to return it as being unusable for ALL MIMSY. Use it for Neolithic!

Let the contributors know that AM is a Tolkien-Doyle-Carroll inspired fiction mag. And that ye would appreciate material in that vein, for AM. But that your own NL is absorbing fannish material.

Don't ask me about Lord Dunsany. Him and I don't see eye to eye on how a book should be written. Like most modern writers he has to have the gimmick, the angle, the fancy unexpected twist that usually butchers the whole meaning ~~of~~ the story. Which seems to be what he's done in Pan.

[Well, thank you much all you people who wrote. Dick Schultz may as well take the last word (s).]



"Now what ever gave you that idea, Darling?
All I want to do is kiss you."