

S.F. WEEKLY 223

formerly DEGLER!
Week of March 25, 1968

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NEW WORLDS CEASES PUBLICATION: New Worlds Speculative Fiction, the only science fiction magazine left in England, has suspended publication and may cease publication permanently, due to a dispute with their distributor. The dispute arose when the distributor, W. H. Smith And Son, discovered several four letter words in the third installment of a serial New Worlds is running. The distributor withdrew all copies from its newsstands and book stores, and states that it will not distribute the next issue unless the editor, Michael Moorcock, shows the firm galleys fromit first. Moorcock says that the money from the sale of the current issue is needed to make up the next issue, and without the money from these sales the magazine must suspend publication and fold.

The novel causing the furor is Bug Jack Barron, by Norman Spinrad. Rejected from Doubleday, it is being serialized in New Worlds. A major American paperback publisher is currently negotiating to buy it, and will presumably publish it as a special release.

The novel, to quote a press release from Norman Spinrad, the author, "is an attempt at a fusion between the traditional literary work and the speculative viewpoint and incorporates several stylistic innovations in punctuation and prose technique." A recent issue of a Los Angeles fanzine, The Third Foundation, tells its readers, "Mr. Spinrad has requested us to ask our readers to write Doubleday & Company care of this magazine and/or direct, and to ask Doubleday & Company to buy his latest novel, BUG JACK BARRON."

"After all, if science fiction fans are powerful enough to get a TV program renewed, we ought to be powerful enough to get a book published."

It must be noted that Doubleday has since rejected the book.

New Worlds, currently operating under an 1800 pound British Arts Council grant, has decreased in circulation from 25,000 of several years ago to a current level of about 8,000. 40% of this circulation is from the W.H.Smith Bookstalls. Moorcock stated in several newspaper accounts that he has edited the magazine for over a year at no salary, and in fact spent over 2,000 pounds (\$4,800) in the last year on helping to support the magazine. As of this time it must be assumed that New Worlds will fold effective with the March issue. (Sources: Norman Spinrad & Mike Deckinger)

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GALAXY TO SPONSOR \$1750 PRIZE CONTEST: Galaxy Magazine will sponsor a yearly contest to determine the best story published in the magazine. The selection panel will be made up of random selections of subscribers, thus hopefully assuring an honest vote and a knowledgeable one, as subscribers are the most likely to have read all the stories in every issue. The prizes will be \$1000 for first place, with second and third place prizes of \$500 and \$250 also to be awarded. The contest coincides with the resumption of monthly publication for Galaxy.

Back A Winner -- Vote St. LouisCoj For 1969!!

FANZINE REVIEWS

We have been receiving such a large number of fanzines lately that half of this issue is being devoted to them. Besides, it fills up the issue very nicely...

The WSFA Journal #54, 5/\$1.25, from Don Miller, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Md. 20906

This issue includes the usual news of club meetings and conventions; Banks Mebane's usual prozine dissections; a lukewarm report on the open ESFA meetings by Jay K. Klein, plus a lengthy review of each fanzine in an entire SAPS mailing, foolish for the fact that it is rather dated and few if any of the fanzines reviewed are available to general fandom. Other contents include a fascinating letter-column and last minute news.

NOUS #3, 25¢, Ruth & Jean Berman, 5620 Edgewater Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55417. This

issue is so ingroup I didn't even understand what the covers were about. "The essence of Ken Goldsmith: a Machiavellian Christmas tree in levis..." Sounds like Ruth has been engulfed by Los Angeles fandom... Much of the contents are reprinted from APA L zines; repro is good, artwork fair. But contents and editing leave very much to be desired. This is a shame, really, because Jean and Ruth Berman have a lot of talent.

ARIOCH!#2, 8/\$2, contrib, LoC, etc., from Doug Lovenstein, 425 Coolville Ridge, Athens,

Ohio 45701. This issue is improved over the first. Doug has some outside contributions, and expresses himself very well, too. His art varies from very good to good, and repro for it and other artwork is excellent -- electronic stencilled. Other contents include some not so good fanzine reviews and an article on the prozines. This is a good fanzine, improving with each issue.

FOOLSCAP #4, 25¢, Trade, LoC, Contrib, etc., from John D. Berry, Box 6801, Stanford,

California 94305. This issue is astounding in that John D. actually has the time to produce a good fanzine while attending college. This issue has generally good repro, although it's slightly under-inked. Contents include a detailed trip report; a limited article on British fandom by Darroll Pardoe; poor faaan fiction by Terry Carr (so dated it's almost embarrassing); and a well edited letter column. The contents of this issue are a bit thin, but Johnny has the Spirit in him (1964 Beaujolais...) and the promise seems strong.

BAYCON PROGRESS REPORT #2, \$3 from BayCon, P O Box 261, Fairmont Sta., El Cerrito, California 94530. If some one had handed this to me without per-

mitting me to see the cover, I would have classed it as a vile crudzine. Abominable mimeography -- mimeography, in a WorldCon Progress Report; how cheap can you get? -- off centered stenciling (the St. Louis ad on page 4 is crooked, but the green mimeography on page 13 is straight) and ink streaked pages make this one of the worst progress reports I have ever seen. To add to this, the BayCon committee have taken it upon themselves to Proclaim that any artists who had professional artwork published -- Gaughan, Jones, Michael Gilbert, to name a few who exhibited at the NYCon art show -- cannot have their artwork in the art show. One of the committee members has a deep hatred of Bjo Trimble, in charge of the Art Show, and this seems to be his infantile effort to strike back at her, by limiting entries in the Art Show.

Another edict states, "the committee reserves to itself the exclusive right to sell or exhibit all professional production material...from magazines, books, radio, TV, movies, or whatever. This includes artwork, manuscripts, galleys, scripts, props, etc." This means that if you bring a manuscript to the convention, you can't sell it; only the committee can. And they'll take a cut. Is the BayCon committee going to repeat the debacle of 1964? Whatever happens, they've bitten off more than they can swallow. There will be further comments on this topic in S.F. Times and future issues of S.F. Weekly.

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Must Renew This Issue: Ross Chamberlain, Gordon Eklund, James Latimer, Hank Luttrell, Bill Reynolds, Tim Skarda, and Bob Whalen. Next Issue: Sgt. Edward Berglund, Per Insulander. Remember: 12/\$1 or 25/\$2, Act Now; act without thinking!!

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