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YANDRO

#94 / NOVEMBER '60

VOLUME VIII - NUMBER 11

Published monthly by Robert & Juanita Coulson, Route 3, Wabash, Indiana, USA. British Agent, Alan Dodd, 77 Stanstead Rd., Hoddesdon, Herts., England

Price, USA & Canada: 20¢, 12 for \$2
 Price, England: 15d or 12 for 12/0
 Price, elsewhere: 2 for 45¢, 12 for \$2.25

 Typical British aplomb: "The Chicago Loop? Oh, you mean the place where all those shops are."

.....Eileen Carrol

 Demonstrate: Unbent devil

.....Gene DeWeese

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ARTWORK

Cover by Herb Beach (Printing by Al Wilcox)

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Page 2	-----	JWC	Page 11	-----	Dan Adkins
Page 3	-----	JWC	Page 16	-----	Bo Stenfors
Page 4	-----	Barbi Johnson	Page 17	-----	Dave Prosser
Page 5	-----	NOTT			

Copies of this publication may be obtained in return for all sorts of things; paintings, guns, promags, stencils, tubes of oil paint, old comic books and old fanzines (all these have been accepted) plus of course contributions and cash. Trades are subject to editorial whim, and letters of comment are accepted gladly, but not as payment for the mag.

RAMBLINGS



And on top of everything else, I forgot to bring my typer home from Anderson this weekend, so I'll have to use Buck's monster.

The cartoon at the right is not very far-fetched at all. Buck was remarking sympathetically just a few minutes ago - "Not as much fun to run this time because of the lack of illos?" Quite the contrary, if I had put in a lot of illos, I'm pretty sure I would not be getting the whole thing mimeoed on one Sunday. It's the illos that take extra time, extra inking, slow turns of the crank, and

zo weiter. And without Herb Beach's cover, I rather feel I would be in a state of complete collapse right now, instead of mild exhaustion.

Ah, well, just a couple more weeks of this. As it happens now, my last class, presumably a final exam, will be Monday, Nov. 21, with my other exams Thursday the 17th, and Saturday the 19th in the afternoon? Heesh! What a time for an exam, especially in Mental Hygiene...I shall be feeling very maladjusted by then.

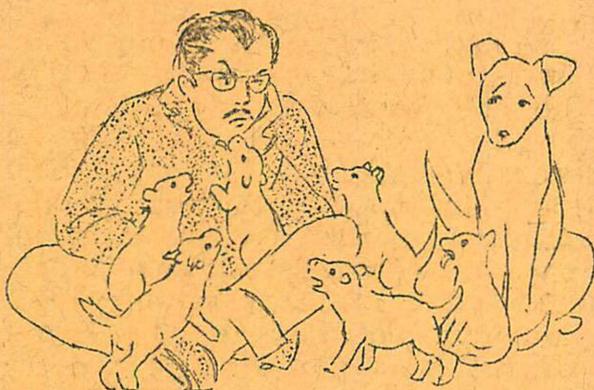
Next week I attempt to give an oral analysis of the Brothers Karamazov in my elective class, in twenty minutes yet. The class is a hodge-podge of elementary students, speech therapists, English majors, and what-have-you. The orals so far have consisted of everything from a very lucid and thoughtful breakdown of Tess of the D'Urbervilles to a simple, and rather juvenile plot recitation of Mill on the Floss (the first session of orals covered the English and American authors - my session will include the Europeans and the Nobel Prize winners...I'm eagerly awaiting the speakers on Camus and Kafka, both the students are English majors and seemingly bright and perceptive people). So one is torn between spending a fair share of time on Dostoevsky's admittedly off-in-all-directions plot or giving the Grand Inquisitor the analysis time it deserves.

Several fellas have written in to state the other convention going at Pitt was the Aarvarks, not Aardvarks. Well, I'll tell you - the only time I saw that Marquee was coming back from lunch or supper or something and at that time it said Welcome Aardvarks. (Of course, there was a group of hotel employees out under the marquee, staring up with consternation and confusion, and one of them was mounting a ladder and beginning to shuffle things around on the sign, but I insist the last time I saw it, there was a 'D' very much in evidence.)

Last weekend we were up Milwaukee and Fond du Lac way, enriching the coffers of some medical clinic for some adrenalin (and something else pronounceable only by an asthmatic) for Buck. That wasn't all we did, of course. We enjoyed a fine time with Phyllis and Arthur Economou and old-time fan Lee Carroll and wife and son; then Sunday we jaunted up to Grennell's for a fantabulous time including a groaning table laden with home-made bread, red gravy, oodles of eatables - and me on a diet, bah! This, of course, eventually ran into a punning session, all the more heightened by Dean translating jokes into English for British-born Eileen Carroll.

To all of you people I owe letters to, Dave, Naomi, etc., please let this do for a while, and maybe after Thanksgiving I can really spend some time at the typewriter putting out something besides term papers and hastily contrived editorials.

R
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Well, don't say I didn't warn you. The size and lack of illustrations in this issue are a direct result of Juanita's schoolwork; those of you with morbid imaginations can think about the results if something serious should happen to her and I had to do all the work myself. Anyway, perhaps the Tucker column will save the issue from complete disgrace. Juanita will be home next month, so something a bit fancier may be expected.

Did you know that TV GUIDE operates just like a fanzine? Yeah, they give out free copies in return for letters of comment -- or at least for the ones they publish. And to think I've been wasting my time commenting on AMRA....

Any of you people out there want a guaranteed fannish puppy? Rann presented us with 9 of them a few weeks ago. I got rid of 3 because she couldn't feed them all, but the rest are available, at quite reasonable prices. Like free -- you can't hardly get no more reasonable than that.

Tucker provided another clipping; this one, from a film trade journal, mentions the marriage of Harlen (sic) Ellison to a girl who writes for the movie mags. Presumably this is our Harlan....

A newspaper item assures me that "Brand X" cigarettes will be on sale this month. I haven't seen any ads yet, but according to the story, the first one will read "Costs a little more -- but remember it promises a little less." And the slogan will be "For the man who is satisfied with nothing less than second best." If all of this isn't some reporter's imagination, I may have to break down and buy a pack when they show up.

Recommended book this month is "The American Heritage Picture History Of The Civil War", available at better bookdealers everywhere. This is the sort of volume you can leave casually lying around to impress your friends; it's especially impressive if they open it and notice the \$19.95 price on the jacket flap. (After all, I've been recommending these paperbacks all the time; you might think that I never spent any money on books if I didn't mention something like this once in awhile.) Anyway, it's a perfectly fascinating volume, recommended to anyone who has the cash to buy it and the strength to lift it. For you cheapskates in the crowd, Dover has reprinted Robert W. Wood's "How To Tell The Birds From The Flowers" in a 75¢ paperback edition. I haven't run down a copy for myself yet, but the excerpts I've seen read somewhat like Ogden Nash with a faint tinge of Will Cuppy added. Wood is the man who provided the scientific background for those two ancient sf novels, "The Man Who Rocked The Earth" and "The Moon-Maker" (which were written in collaboration with Arthur Train). He also provided a set of photographs to illustrate "The Moon-Maker" when it appeared in COSMOPOLITAN; these were never used, and it's a pity. I've seen a reproduction of one and it's quite excellent table-top photography -- particularly since it was made in 1920, or possibly before.

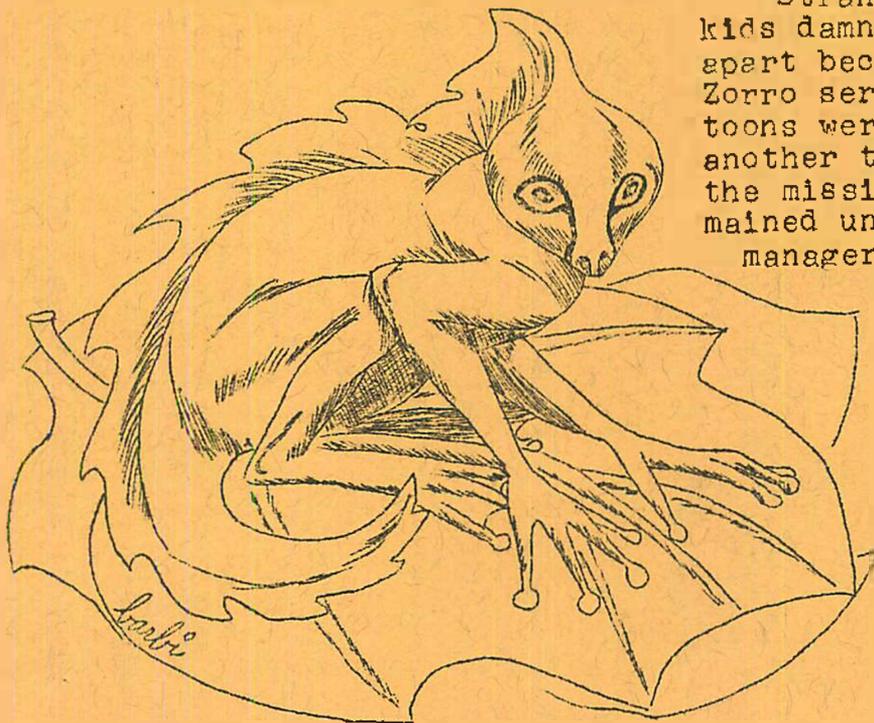
Future possibility; Arthur Economou promised to supply us with the address of a source of cheap 9 x 12 envelopes. If we get this, future YANDROs will be mailed in envelopes in the US, as well as overseas. (The envelopes I buy now cost \$2.70 a hundred and I won't use them on everything.)

A Doric Column—bob tucker—

Locally, the town was buzzing over what happened at our largest downtown movie house one Sunday in May. It wasn't published in the paper but then you don't have to be H. Warner jr. to understand why. The news just sort of oozed around, aided and abetted by people who were in on it. It seems that the theater had booked a "science fiction" double-feature: "The Hideous Sun Demon" (a Japanese import) and "Angry Red Planet", which was a crock of equal quality. However, kids go for this sort of thing and the theater opened at noon with two or three hundred of the little monsters in attendance. They began with some cartoons and then ground into the opening reel of the Japanese picture. They thought. The operators (two) being Good Men, had opened the film can and carefully checked the reel number before inserting the film. You don't catch them running the wrong reel, nosiree. However, they didn't get around to checking the title, which is also printed on the film alongside the reel number. Perhaps they weren't paid to do that. Anyway, they slapped in number one reel, hit the screen, and then stood back to ogle the picture. A couple of quite naked, quite American children scampered into view, followed by an equally naked, equally American gal of about twenty or so. The girl was thoughtfully holding a beach ball in front of the hirsute adornment which the courts and the post office consider to be obscene. Some other babes quickly appeared, sitting around a swimming pool — and most of the breasts were Rotsler beauties.

The kids in the theater were having a field day; all the things they had heard at school (surreptitiously) were unfolding on the screen. At about that moment a Wet Blanket in the form of the manager's wife burst into the projection booth and ordered the show stopped. Our men reluctantly obeyed, and somebody went to the film can to look at the picture's title. It was "Hideaway In The Sun". A nudist film.

Strange as it may seem, those kids damned near tore the theater apart because of the stoppage. A Zorro serial and a gaggle of cartoons were quickly brought in from another theater to substitute for the missing feature, but they remained unsatisfied. Meanwhile the manager called Chicago, forced someone to go down to the film exchange, get the right picture and drive it to Bloomington. It arrived in time for the evening show. I hope no one got fired over the incident; after all the close similarity of titles could confuse any poor-sighted film clerk. But it was fun while it lasted, and of course small clippings from the nudie film cir-



culated around to the other theaters for weeks afterward. And now, our manager is considering the possibility of bringing back the wrong picture for a midnight show. But he won't -- his bosses will not permit it. I guess I just work at the wrong theater.

The writers' strike has ended in Hollywood and all sides probably claim a victory, but the following may be added to that information on writers' pay published in Fleiades Pimples some months ago. The new minimum salary for writers on studio contract is \$385 a week. The writer who develops a half-hour TV script from somebody else's story gets around \$860. The writer who develops a script from his own story gets \$1150. No one but the green hand works for these minimum sums; the old hands are getting as much as \$2500 per half-hour.



There is no such thing as a "rejected story" after a certain stage of negotiations has been reached. Unlike the book and magazine world, writers do not submit yarns or scripts and hope for a sale. They and their agents meet with a producer and outline an idea or story; if the producer nods his head the sale is clinched and the writer goes home to write it. Good, bad or indifferent, the producer must buy. All of which tells me what happened to my book, "Wild Talent", purchased by the movies about five years ago. Two men were assigned to write the screen play -- and they did, dropping me a letter now and then to keep me informed. Upon completion they turned it in to the producer and dropped from sight. So did the script, and the movie. It is my guess that the script was bad and the producer was averse to hiring still another hack to rewrite it -- so he shelved it. "Shelving" means rejection, but in the meanwhile the script has been delivered and paid for.

Now if the science fiction field would operate in the same manner!

My gentle critics will be discouraged to learn that someone else also likes Vonnegut's "The Sirens Of Titan"; someone in a position to reverse publishing history, so to speak. Houghton Mifflin is bringing out a hardcover edition of the novel, probably this winter. Perhaps they think this is Real Literature and deserves better than a Dell paper cover.

-
- Lassitude: lines that cut across launchitude.Dean Grennell
-
- The Bloomington library has a volume entitled "Horoscopes For Pussy Cats" and I noted the index number, meaning to look it up someday.Tucker
-
- Osprey: equine showerLee Carrol
-
- Fropane: what a masochist isGrennell

STRANGE FRUIT

Once again, everyone gets a mention and a rating; readers who don't like this type of "review" have my permission to skip these two pages.

SCIENCE FICTION TIMES #348 (S F Times Inc., P.O. Box 115, Solvay Branch, Syracuse 9, N.Y. - irregular - 10¢) Pro news; back to a fairly regular bi-weekly schedule again. Special Interest

FANAC #65 (Terry & Miriam Carr, 1818 Grove St., Berkeley 9, Calif. - bi-weekly, mostly - 4 for 25¢) Fannish news and an occasional column by Walt Willis. Rating.....7

FANFARONADE #1 (Jeff Wanshel, 6 Beverly Pl., Larchmont, N.Y. - quarterly? - 10¢) Not outstanding, but I couldn't have done as well when I was 12. He'll probably turn out to be one of those disgustingly brilliant teenagers. Fannish chatter, this time.

SPACE CAGE #7 (Lee Tremper, 3858 Forest Grove Dr., Apt. A-3, Indianapolis 5, Ind. - somewhat monthly - 10¢) Features Hoosier and some outside talent; mostly young. General type material. Rating....5

FEMIZINE #15 (Ethel Lindsay, 6 Langley Ave., Surbiton, Surrey, England) Her last issue, according to Ethel; haven't heard if another editor has picked it up. An all-female fanzine that failed due to lack of comment; incredible! Rating....4

SPECULATIVE REVIEW #4 (Dick Eney, 417 Ft. Hunt Rd., Alexandria, Virginia - irregular - 3 for 25¢) Devoted strictly to serious criticism of science fiction. Pretty good, too. Rating....7

AMRA #13 (George Scithers, Box 9006, Rosslyn, Arlington, Virginia - irregular - 20¢) Conan, swashbuckling, old Norse legends and some of the best artwork in fandom. Rating...9

SHANGRI-LA AFFAIRES #52 (BJohn Trimble, 980½ White Knoll Dr., Los Angeles 12, Calif - monthly - 25¢) Not strictly for squirrels, despite the cover. Good general material with a fannish slant. Rating...8

CRY OF THE NAMELESS #143 (Box 92, 920 Third Ave., Seattle, Washington - monthly - 25¢) A wacky lettercolumn with a fanzine attached. This won the Hugo award for "best fanzine" at the last con. Rating...8

DAFOE #3 (John Koning, 318 So. Belle Vista, Youngstown 9, Ohio - irregular - 20¢) General fannish material; good writers. Rating...7

PILIKIA #2 (Chuck Devine, 922 Day Dr., Boise, Idaho - irregular - price 30 green stamps) About standard on material and repro both. Rating..5½

DYNATRON #2 (Roy Tackett, 412 Elderberry Dr., Laurel Bay, So. Carolina - monthly? - 10¢) Other people besides the editor are getting into the act; I still like it, but not quite as much. Rating..5½

NONCONN #1 (Alan Boatman, 2422 Barnard St., Saginaw, Michigan - irregular - 20¢) Editor wants material, preferably serious (and preferably good.) About an average first issue.

DISCORD #7 (Redd Boggs, 2209 Highland Place NE, Minneapolis 21, Minnesota) New title for RETROGRADE. Editorial chatter with occasional outside contributions. Very good. (Free for comment) Rating.....7½

HOCUS #17 (Mike Deckinger, 85 Locust Ave., Millburn, New Jersey - irregular - 5¢) Recent change from general-type zine to small, frequent personality-zine. Rating.....4

BANE #2 (Vic Ryan - 2160 Sylvan Rd., Springfield, Illinois - bi-monthly - 15¢) General material; Tucker and Bradley in this one. Rating.....7

INSURRECTION #9 (Bob Lambeck, Bldg. E, Room 215, New Freshman Dorm, Burdett Ave., Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., Troy, N.Y. - irregular - 10¢) General material. Rating.....5

SF-NYTT #14 (Sam Lundwall, Box 409, Hågersten 4, Stockholm, Sweden - bi-monthly - 10¢) Bi-lingual, mostly Swedish, some English. Rating...4

WRR #6 (Otto Pfeifer, 2911 E. 60th., Seattle 5, Washington - irregular - free) And damnit, Otto, stay put! I'm tired of having YANDROs coming back marked "moved". Odd-type humor -- extremely odd-type humor, at times. Fandom's answer to Andy Griffith. Rating....6

NORTHLIGHT #11 (Alan Burns, Goldspink House, Goldspink Lane, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 2, England - bi-monthly? - free for comment) Some good material, when you can read it. Rating....5

JD-ARGASSY #55 (Lynn Hickman, 224 Dement Ave., Dixon, Illinois - irregular but mostly monthly - 12 for \$1 except for this issue, which is 50¢) Worth it, too; over 70 multilithed pages, beautiful artwork (better than most promags), good to excellent material. Rating...10

THE BUG EYE #4 (Helmut Klemm, Uffort/Eick, (22a) Krs. Moers, Umlandstr. 16, Germany - price 20 pfennig, I think) Bi-lingual; mostly German, some English. What I could read was interesting.

WARHOON #9 (Richard Bergeron, 110 Bank St., New York 14, N.Y. - quarterly - free for comment) Mostly serious comment on fandom, politics, and various unrelated subjects. Rating...7

KIFFLE #6 (Ted Pauls, 1448 Meridene Dr., Baltimore 12, Md. - irregular? - 10¢, but he prefers letters) Personality-type; more material than is usual in this type zine. Rating....6

The following are hereby acknowledged but will not be reviewed: GLAM-DRING 3, FLASHLIGHT, PESKYS 5, SAM 1, SONOMA 2, HUNGRY 3, SCOTTISHE 21, CRUZINE QUARTERLY 2, TONGUE IN CHEEKLY WEEKLY 1, HAVERINGS, FANALOG and Lichtman's reprint of SPACEWARP 1. And left for the next issue we have NEW FRONTIERS 3, LES SPINCE 3, PARSECTION 2, CANDI FANTASI 2, XERO 2, CILN 2, MONDAY EVENING GHOST 7 and QUE PASADO? Anybody out there want a fanzine review column?

GRUMBLINGS

GREGG CALKINS, 1484 East 17th. South, Salt Lake City 5, Utah - Peggy Sexton seems to have missed one absolutely vital point in her article on Heinlein in that she states on her second page that "...placing absolute political power in the hands of military people is disastrous sooner or later. They seem to eventually fall in love with their own sense of invincibility and, having control of both the weapons and the skill to use them, they have the ideal means of squelching internal opposition." However Heinlein emphasized that political power was entirely in the hands of the retired veterans and indeed the active military personnel had a better than average chance of dying in harness before ever getting to see what a polling place was like. Criticize the system if you wish but on its own weaknesses, please, not those created in the reviewer's mind.

GEORGE SCITHERS, Box 9006 Rosslyn, Arlington 9, Virginia - /George repeats the objections given by Calkins above -- both postcards with their identical sentiments arrived the same day -- and adds the following./ - However, Miss Sexton's is one of the best discussions of "Troopers" I have yet seen. (The American Legion isn't quite in point either; it doesn't represent all vets by any means.) /My comments weren't to indicate that the Legion analogy is accurate, but that it is the most prominent and likeliest to be accepted, emotionally. RSC/

/from another postcard/ I've just figured out who "Thomas Stratton's Sons" must be: Norman Metcalf. "Odd Vegetables" is almost a paraphrase of the remarks in the letter column of NEW FRONTIERS. /No comment. RSC/

NOTT - somewhere in Utah - You are stuck with nott. George said you had been asked if I was available. Thanks but no thanks. I find that with child #4 on the way I haven't as much spare time as I used to. The egoboo is nice I grant you, but I'll have to depend on Yandro for that if you won't mind.

/We certainly don't mind; a few other fan editors -- clods, of course - may object, but we can ignore them. RSC/

Dans Le Village in #92. How true. It reminds me of ever so many people that I know. A marvelous job. How did she find so many words to rhyme?

GENE DEWEESE, 3407 No. 22nd., Milwaukee 6, Wisconsin - I was looking thru THE ANNOTATED ALICE last Wednesday at Lee's. Included are French and German translations of Jabberwocky. (I didn't really believe it either, until I saw them.) Very nice book, but it costs \$10.00.

Also borrowed something from him: A JOURNEY IN OTHER WORLDS by John Jacob Astor, written in 1894. Reads like a cross between ALPACA and a 1928 AMAZING. One of their major projects is to "straighten" the earth's axis.

Think about that for a minute. Didn't know it was crooked, did you?

Actually, wot they mean is, to arrange the axis so it will be perpendicular to the plane of the earth's orbit about the sun. No more of

this summer-winter nonsense that way.

Their method of accomplishing this was, I think, used in one of the AMAZINGS that Lowndes mentioned in his WORLD OF TOMORROW, 1928 editorials. Or at least, something very similar. They excavate pits at the north and south poles, first. Then, during the northern hemisphere's summer, when the north pole is inclined away from the sun, they will pump great gobs of water from the south pole to the north pole, thus making the north pole heavier. Since it will be heavier, it will of course be pulled toward the sun more rapidly than the south pole. Then they reverse the process when the south pole is inclined away from the sun.

The only thing they neglect to mention is wot they are using for a fulcrum.....

I still can't vouch for Dodd's existence, of course, but: Did you know that Rye House, just northeast of Hoddesdon, was the scene of the famous "Rye House Plot" of 1683?

No? I thot not.

I wonder if Dodd does?

Rye House, by the way, also once had the Great Bed of Ware; it could allegedly hold 12 people at once.

/Sounds like a great place for a slumber party. RSC/

"If I had known you were intelligent, I would have spent more time with you."
.....Sidney Coleman

MAGGIE CURTIS, Room #334, Dascomb Hall, Oberlin, Ohio - Perhaps I'd better say first of all: Don and I are not engaged yet. We'd like to be, but we're not. Let's say that we're engaged to be engaged. The reason for my saying this is, of course, the FANAC item; I'm trying to forestall congratulations...

/Can I congratulate you on not being engaged? RSC/

I like the Bryer bit on pp 6-7 and I was fascinated by "The Clay-footed Troopers" though I didn't agree with all of her analysis. The military system did help to lay Rome low in its day, though naturally it wasn't the sole cause of its fall. An interesting item that came of our bheerbust at the con was finding that apparently Heinlein feels that the vital point of his book is that in the society he presented, there is no conscription....

Dodd's column was fine. "Mutant" was, too. As was the artwork. I like NOTT. And Adkins.

Dr. Antonio Dupla, Po. Ma. Augustin, 9, Zaragoza, Spain - In the 91 I liked the description of the Coulson party, very sparkling, and also the piece about the road in Seven Hills. The World of Null F very good, there are other books, no SF but with a certain degree of parentship, but perhaps MZB has written about them in past issues. Butterfingers has been written so many times and from so far back, at least Hoffman, that no more is to say.

"The Newsstand Experiments" absolutely first rate for the interest of the theme and the clearness of the exposition; for me fenominally interesting and full of data, congratulations to the author; I disagree about the change of Astounding to Analog, apart of the value of so old a tradition that besides seems to sell good, the risk of the change may be so great a one. I agree with the letter of Ian McAulay, here the state censorship banned the showing of "D. Camillo"!

DON THOMPSON, Room 36, 3518 Prospect Ave, Cleveland 15, Ohio - Tackett's "Project 976" was amusing, but I suspect that it because it struck a nostalgic chord. I used to read the adventures of the Heap from the time he was a villainous monster to the time he became a sympathetic hero. Actually, the extent of his villainy was to try to steal (in issue after issue) a model of a German plane from a small boy. He only wanted it as a memento of his past and I always thought it pretty small of the kid to withhold it from him.

I agree with you on the ANALOG name-change; it is stupid, but ASTOUNDING had to go. Actually, what bugs me, and always has, is the word "fact" in the title of any sf mag. I see that AMAZING has now added it. For God's sake, I hope Mills does NOT stretch his title to include the word. Can't you see buying a copy of THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FACT AND FICTION? A staggering thought.

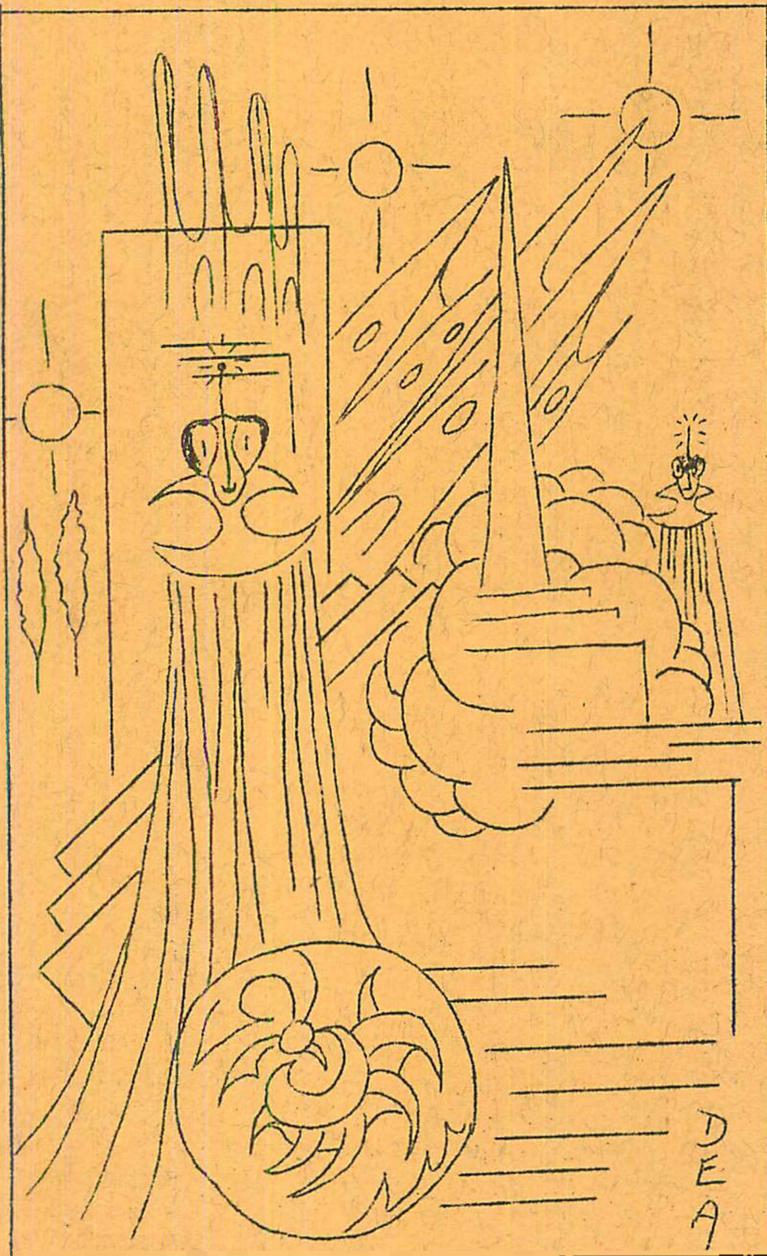
Norm Metcalf approached me at the Pittcon and asked if I was D.B. Thompson (so did somebody else, but I know not who). I'm not, though I'm vaguely familiar with the name. I'm D.A. Thompson, and I'm now the Ohio

one. Hell, I can't even use my middle name for fannish purposes, because it's Arthur and might conceivably cause confusion with Atom (though I can't draw at all). Nor am I the Don Thompson who had a story in GALAXY and a story in IF. I'm just a passifan, reading the stuff for 8 or 9 years, going to a couple of cons and remaining too lazy to write LoCs. Until now, at least.

/from a later letter/

First of all, didn't I say somewhere in my last letter that the "Heap" appeared in AIRBOY comics? /No./ It started out as AIRBOY, later became AIRBOY, FEATURING THE HEAP, and for all I know, may have become simply THE HEAP before the Comics Code removed violence, sex, sadism, conflict and plot from the comics.

Airboy was a young punk with goggles, red shirt, blue pants and an airplane called "Birdie" (the wings flapped). I still recall suffering nightmares for weeks after reading a two-part serial adventure of AIRBOY in which an intelligent rat led the rats of the world in an all out attack on the human race. /The more I read about the old comics, the less of a comics enthusiast I become. Don also says that he knew about "The



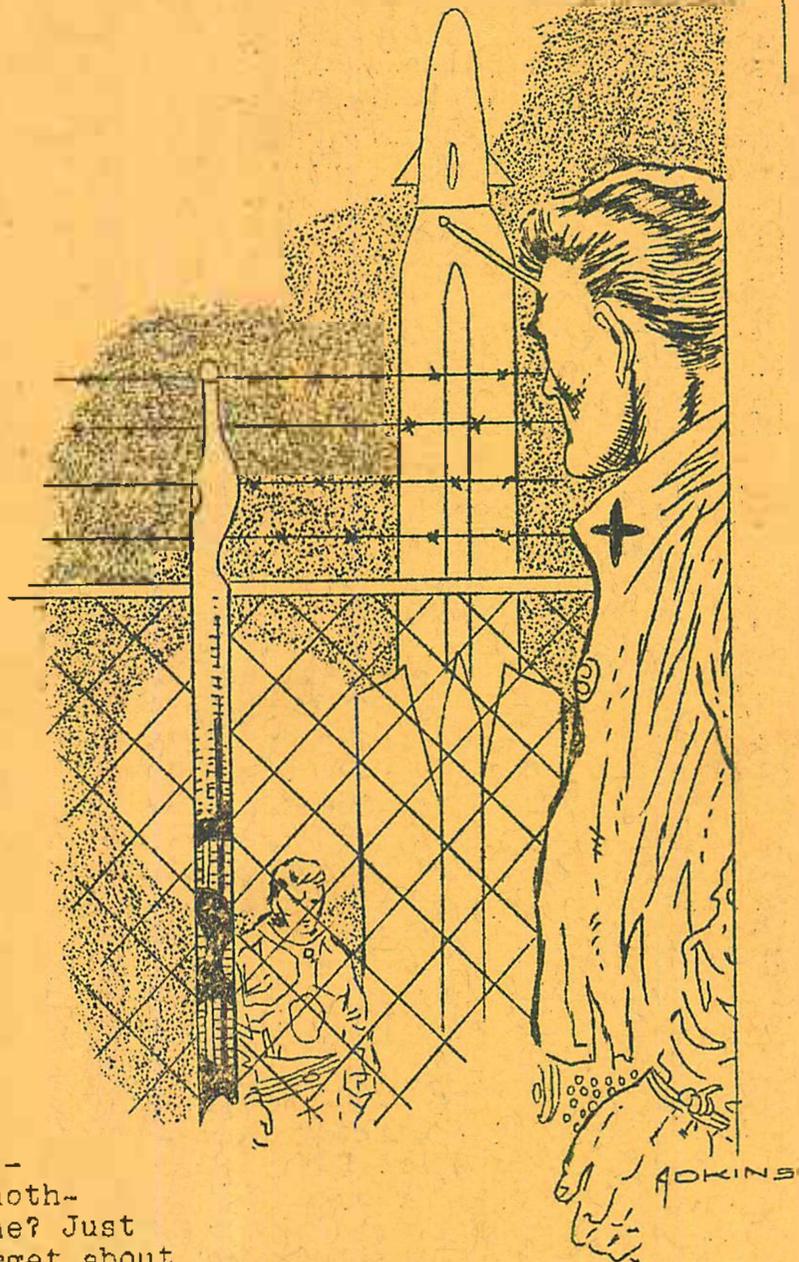
Desrick On Yandro". Several other fans did also; okay, I back down and admit that fans are better informed than I thought. (But up till now Barr and MZB were the only ones who had commented knowledgably on the title, while at least a score of readers had wanted to know what it meant, so I got the impression that the majority of readers were uninformed -- except for the faithful few who were overinformed by dint of reading my explanations every few months. RSC/

ALAN DODD (same address as before) ...And a clipping on another son for Bob Tucker. Where does he find the time to do any writing?? I pictured Bob Tucker as much younger than that somehow - but having a 23 year old son he must be getting along a bit.

/Actually, he was a child bridegroom -- but he is getting on in years; almost doddering, you might say. RSC/

I suppose you want to know about the Post Office article you reviewed as me being so naughty as giving it to two fanzines - well, I sent it to Vic Ryan about six months ago - he never wrote, no fanzine - nothing. So what should I have done? Just let the article get dated, forget about it, "in case" Vic did print it? I decided to send it to Andy Main and told him I had sent it to Vic - but no answer. So he printed it and at the same time Vic suddenly emerged from gaffa and printed it also! It was nobody's fault really - it was just one of those things and I like to think that perhaps some more people read the article from seeing it in two fanzines than they would from just one.

To Jerry Faze's letter about it being a felony to carry firearms in England, it depends on what you mean by firearms. At a post office you can buy a gun license which will enable you to carry and use a shotgun or any smooth bore weapon but if you want a weapon which fires a bullet you need a firearms certificate which is obtainable only at the police station and you really need a valid reason for getting one. "Often carry large sums of money" or "personal protection" aren't considered sufficient. membership in a gun club helps but then you have to ensure the weapon is either at the club, in your house, or in transit between the



two but nowhere else.

/Which is a queer regulation, as far as I'm concerned. Because if I was ever pitted against a gun-toting individual, I'd worry less if it was Dean Grennell and his .44 magnum (even though I just saw him shoot a 98 on the target range) than I would if it was Betty Kujawa with one of her husband's shotguns loaded with buckshot. A sawed-off shotgun is one of the best all-around criminal weapons you can find. RSC/

Les Nirenberg's mention of the Don Winslow series reminds me that we have a similar Boys' Hero live on television here called Biggles - and it's just the same. Why, even the villain is called Von Stalheim. And this isn't filmed - it's live!

Emil Greenleaf is a character I've tried unsuccessfully in the past to contact because I consider he has the most fannish of all addresses - Mystery Street, New Orleans. - why it could be a television show series don't you think?? Well, I sent him a copy of CAMBER from an address on a quote card but I never did hear from him. WHY?? /Maybe he doesn't like to comment on just one issue and decided to wait for a second one to give him a more balanced viewpoint on the mag? RSC/ He mentions that if more people kept guns in their homes and knew how to use them there would be a considerable decrease in the crime rate. He's quite right of course -- and there would also be an equally considerable decrease in the POPULATION!! Knowing how to operate a weapon doesn't necessarily make it the better of the evils, how about that millionaire's wife who killed her own husband as a burglar a few years back, for example? /Well, think how embarrassing it would have been for the poor woman if she'd had to stab him to death by mistake for a burglar...don't you have any compassion for dissatisfied wives? Incidentally, the Nov. READER'S DIGEST has an article titled "Our Irresponsible Birthrate" which is all about the evils of overpopulation and what will happen to us if we don't do something to reduce the population. The automotive industry can't do the whole job singlehanded, you know. RSC/

I'm not sure what an engram is about your fibrous mimeo paper but I don't think we do have it here. I've never seen any "grained" mimeo paper in England like you get in American fanzines.

NORM METCALF, Box 1262, Tyndall AFB, Florida - Tucker: Try also The Weapon Makers, Greenberg, 1952.

Nirenberg: There's a peculiar situation at Tyndall. The Base Exchange news stand stocks all sf magazines but few paperbacks. The local distributor operates a newsstand in town with most of the paperbacks but few zines. But between subs and thorough searching to locate pbs which haven't been sent for review most new sf manages to be located. Distribution certainly is a mess, though. A copy of the third issue of SHOCK was finally located in Maryland after looking in Ohio, Michigan and Florida. The latest AMAZING hasn't been located yet though an advance copy was seen at the con. You certainly can't sell what can't be found by the prospective consumer.

Lichtman: You're correct about AUTHENTIC appearing in a pb format but they abandoned it for a while and then reverted. Offhand I can't recall what format they were in at the last ish. /I don't think so. Once AUTHENTIC started featuring short stories instead of having just one novel per issue -- and changed the title from SCIENCE FICTION MONTHLY (which was originally SCIENCE FICTION FORT-NIGHTLY) they didn't revert, though the size of 4½ x 7 remained closer to the "tall" pb size of 4½ x 7 than to "digest" size until the last

few issues, which were $5\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ (and a blasted awkward size it is to store, I can assure you. I suppose it would be classed as an odd breed of digest.) Layout was strictly magazine format at the end. RSC/

Franson, Willick, etc.: The average pb reader (or the average reader, for that matter) isn't interested in the lettercol. The % of the readership that writes in is quite small in most mundane mags and the ones that enjoy such material, while larger yet, isn't any overwhelming % of the total readership. And somewhere, someone stated that sf mags received a far larger % of mail than do any of the mundane mags. This "x" factor in the makeup of sf readers also accounts for fandom but since no one has come up with a wholly satisfactory explanation yet we'll skip that.

/On letters in stfmags, let's quote H.L. Gold. From GALAXY, Vol. 1 #2: "There is no way to alter our decision not to run congratulatory or ordered letters in the first two issues, BUT we do plan to have a department...unless our readers vote against it." (Dots his, by the way.) Now for a quote from GALAXY, Vol. 1 #3: "Final and most startling point is the letter department. There is evidently a greater reader dislike of mail columns than I had sensed. The objection, in fact, was so vociferous that I am putting off action until more counties have a chance to be heard." And from Vol. 1 #6: "83% of all letters state flatly that they want no letter department." Filling space with free letters instead of an extra story that had to be paid for would have saved Gold money; certainly he had every reason to use a letter column -- except that his readers didn't want one. RSC/

And EQMM has now gone back to revealing their circulation, which is higher than ever (around 130,000 now). I asked JWCjr at the Con why ASF wasn't listed and he replied that they preferred to use the money to pay authors since ASF wasn't attracting many advertisers. To rephrase: ASF's circulation is dropping and they need every cent they can get.

For many years ASF was the only sf zine to release its circulation figures through the ABC so Claude Hall's answer to White isn't valid. And now the only zines to do so are the Z-D mags. Sworn circulations can be obtained from Ayer's directory but these are open to doubt. GALAXY's s.c. of 116,000 seems to be open to considerable doubt, especially when considered in the light of other statements from GALAXY.

QUELQUECHOSE wasn't mimeoed, it was dittoed. And what's this about "Moth And Rust" being a novelette? If I remember right it was one of the longest stories ever run in SS and went to around 62,000 words. Not overly long, granted, but for SS it was an event.

A note on this wordage business. With the new typeface which Z-D claims will be used consistently from now on the customer will get less for his money. It runs to good ol' 410 words per page which will make the maximum possible wordcount in AMAZING 59,000 words (don't know how that 57,000 words showed up) while FANTASTIC seems to be sticking close to 128 pages which would render its max 48,000 words.

Page: Those "novels" in AMAZING aren't full length. Campbell has run longer stories and called them novelettes. Starting in Jun '59 they ran 38,000, 27,000, 45,000, 38,500, 30,000, 40,000..... By comparison, Campbell is running serials from 55,000 to 75,000 words.

There are far fewer digest-sized zines on the stands than bedsheet or pulp so that's not a valid argument. And Galaxy Novels aren't being taken off the stands each month anywhere where I've been. If they sell our they're restocked.

SF fandom might well change its orientation from a social group

centered around a common interest in sf (in the here and now or at some time in the past) to that of a small bibliographic group researching old sf stories. But the apas will no doubt continue for a long time with replacements coming from friends of the members and perhaps a gradual merging because of attrition among the ranks.

GEORGE WILLICK, 306 Broadway, Madison, Ind. - I must admit that your covers have shown steady improvement over the last five issues that I have received. It beats me how you can get good reproduction out of that scrap heap that you call a mimeo. Are you sure that God isn't coediting? /Of course; but that has nothing to do with reproduction because I don't handle that end of it. George had considerably more to say, but most of it appears libelous, so...he's got Hensley within reach to defend him, but I haven't. RSC/

BOB SMITH, 1 Timor St., Puckapunyal, Victoria, Australia - YANDRO 90 arrived today, and congratulations on that Dollens cover; it's great!

I have hated William Castle with passion since reading that article about him in SatEvPost. Not content with inflicting further misery on the poor suffering projectionist with his ghodawful movies and tricks, he had the nerve to let one of his "monsters" run loose in a movie theatre and rough up the projectionist! If someone cares to strap Castle in an uncomfortable theatre seat, I would willingly screen horror movies continuously (complete with effects) until the man was carried screaming and blubbering away to some suitable institution.

One sentence in Alan Dodd's column really intrigued me: this nun walled up in an airless hole, who managed to starve and rot for twenty-one years until her wits left her...something is not quite right here, I feel. /The power of prayer, maybe? RSC/

This business of "Hugo" awards and The International Fantasy Award: in the May 1952 issue of NEW WORLDS Leslie Flood states that the IFA was born one evening at the "White Horse" Tavern; originators were John Beynon Harris, G. Ken Chapman, Frank Cooper and Flood. I believe you have this issue of NEW WORLDS and can look it up for yourself; Redd Boggs may be interested to know of this! In any case, Eney goofed in his description of the "Hugo" in FANCYC. II.

DEAN GRENNELL, 402 Maple, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin - Yesterday we came up behind an antidiluvian auto with a Day-Glo sign on the back saying:

AT THE END OF THE ROAD LIES GOD

One of the better Prosser covers on #91, I think. At least no one is in the active process of getting eaten.

I saw the revived BLUEBOOK but retched dryly and didn't buy it. #A bathtub full of spaghetti - wotta charming thought! #Tell Franson not to forget the various ways that naive gets mangled in the fan press, not to forget naive either. To his query at bottom page 13, I shout, "Yeth! Yeth! Yeth!" #Page's article was extremely good, I thought. /Dean also recorded that he now has a photograph of an establishment called the "Motel Lay". The fan misspelling most irritating to me is "missle" for missile. There may not be much science left in science fiction, but really..... RSC/

ALAN BURNS, Goldspink House, Goldspink Lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2, England - I have evidence that Hoddesdon does exist; my sampler at work, whilst on war service was shackled up there with a nymphomaniac whose address I withhold in case it gives Dodd ideas.

The great Air Crisis - we of the Northern Gas Board By-Products Department have long since dispensed with air. We now exist on an atmosphere of tar-fumes and naphthalene vapour, our only worry is that if we are asked to become members of the first tar plant to go spaceborne how are we going to exist, tar fumes being (according to last year's balance sheet) worth slightly more than silver, and normal air doesn't seem right to us.

BETTY KUJAWA, 2819 Caroline, South Bend 14, Ind. - You always say YOU dont like conreports -- well I am getting tired of "what is wrong with sf -- or who killed etc" (with its little brother, "distribution problems of same") and Peghoot humor -- so there.

God bless Franson and his "misspellings" -- more power to him -- now if someone would only heed and comply.

The "Odd Vegetables" was simply exquisite! It broke me up -- I imagining you were somewhat convulsed when you got it, eh dear?

I dig not nor liked at all the poem "Abrupt Descent" and see no reason for printing same -- you like that sort of thing, Buck??? If so why?? Sadist, honey???? /Certainly; you don't think I buy all those war books just for intellectual advancement, do you? (And speaking of sadism, did you notice what Dr. Wertham called you for liking "The Untouchables"?)

Peggy -- well, spending much time as child and adult around these terrible military types she seems to fear I am strongly urged to shout "baloney!" Maybe she means higher military than I am used to, but my childhood friends had poppes who were Navy Captains and Marine and Army Colonels and many close friends here now are of that rank -- social isolation my left foot!

You come to my house some night and try to pick out the Col. from the lawyer, doctor, executive, professor, or any professional man here -- I'll bet any old thing you couldnt (or Peggy couldnt) either by looks, actions, conversation, attitudes or any other way. Now some of the military wives -- yes, a few you could recognize. But the men, no. But maybe she meant a higher rank?

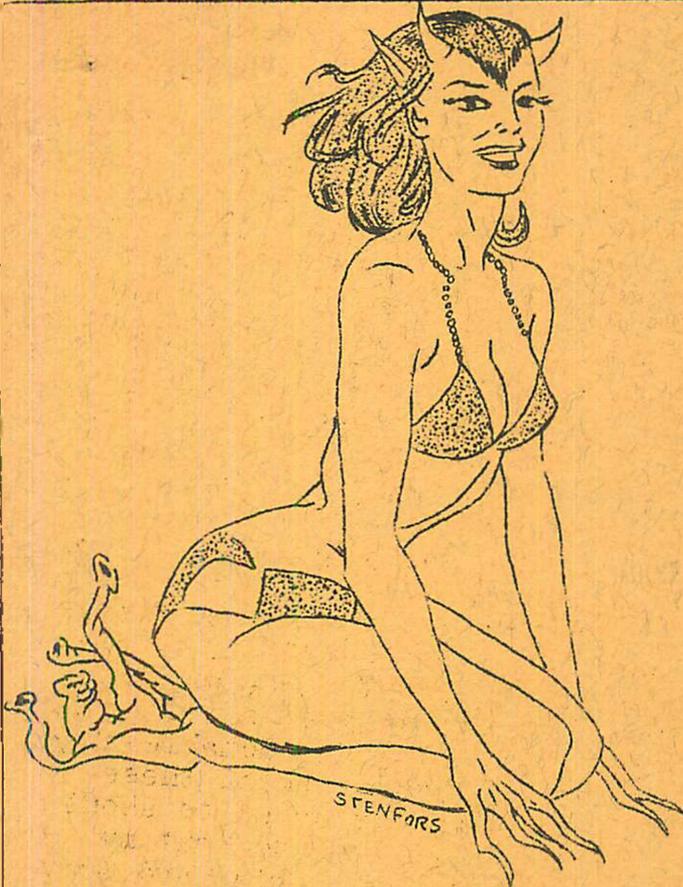
/Or maybe the ones with the real killer urge; the ferocious ones like Ellik and Scithers and Ellis Mills and Norm Metcalf.... RSC/

"Mutant" -- now why that?? Oh those clever clever witty tasty bits of business -- like "snot-diverter", oh how clever can you get?? -- real sharp and adult, that. And neighbors' dogs manure deposits--yeah, real fine stuff there. If this was included to cause comment of the adverse kind, I hope it will.

Sid Coleman's letter was utterly fascinating--didn't agree with all he had to say but thanks for putting it all in--I enjoyed reading it. But -- "incest is bad"?? Since when from the genetic side of it?? I mean all my books said incest aint baaad thatta way--providing the family is healthy genetically there is no harm--in fact there is improvement--citing here the Egyptian dynasties of brother and sister matings all those long years. And remember Pitcairn Island; the descendents of the mutineers -- healthy beautiful people extremely interbred.

BILL DONAHO, 1441 8th. St., Berkeley 10, Calif. - Your quote of "An uplifting example of the difference between hackwork and good writing" was amusing, but somewhat unfair in that the quote from Dostoyevsky was necessarily a translation and translations of Dostoyevsky are notorious for their wretchedness.

I agree with your remarks on Peggy Sexton's article. Before reading STARSHIP TROOPER I was assured that it was the most fascistic science



fiction ever written. I read it and couldn't understand the reaction. I don't think S.T. is at all and even if it were FINAL BLACKOUT would still be the outstanding example. I've never heard anyone criticize that for that reason. Of course people are objecting to the "votes for veterans only" rather than the idea that votes have to be earned, that and the "fallout is good for you" bit. Rather a pity. Al Halevy is doing an article on "The Philosophy of Heinlein" for HABAKKUK #6 and will do a detailed analysis of STARSHIP TROOPER and other Heinlein.

On to Coleman. Another illusion bites the dust. Margaret Murray's ideas certainly got spread around a lot. I've read other people besides Taylor who took them for granted.

The tradition Sid is talking about is not only a tradition of "German systematic biologists". All German academic tradition was along the lines of amassing tons of tiny details about your specialty, knowing

every last scrap of knowledge that could be dredged up about it. This usually resulted in monumental dullness on the one hand and people who couldn't see the forest for the trees on the other. Some ten years ago I discussed this with Sid's fellow Cal Techian Mitch Glickstein. He said that the Jews had a similar tradition and that when the two traditions reinforced themselves in academic German Jews the results were really something. Normally it did result in "wise-fools"; however, when the man also had ability such thorough grounding produced awesome results as in Einstein, Freud and Marx -- the architects of the 20th century. /And a damned shoddy structure they built, too. RSC/

The Kronhausens are of course wise fools. Their most recent book contains some of the silliest drivel I have ever seen. However, as Sid said, PORNOGRAPHY AND THE LAW stands an excellent chance of being taken seriously and it is an excellent stick with which to beat the censors. Not just any stick but an excellent and useful one. After all, ever since the famous decision in the case of ULYSSES, in which the state did swallow the proposition "You should not censor good books on moral grounds", the courts have been willing to distinguish between pornography and literature, but have had no reliable means for doing so. The Kronhausens have given them one.

The criteria which the Kronhausens set up are not so meaningless as Sid's parody would have us believe. Of course Miller and Wm. R. Burroughs are as erotically stimulating (in spots) as John Cleland and Marcus van Heller. This is not the point. The point is that the Kronhausens advance criteria which any idiot can apply and which will let Miller and Burroughs through. I think the Kronhausens do point out a distinction which does exist, but I am not too interested in discussing this point since like Sid I believe that the state should not censor books on moral grounds.

(or any other). However a partial victory is better than none. I think that the Kronhausens' most useful stick should be siezed upon and used to best advantage.

As far as matrist/patrist goes I suspect that Sid just does not like the habits of thought of sociologists. Sociologists do make this kind of distinction and talk in this way and these terms are a useful advance over the floundering around that was going on with matrilineal/matriarchal and patrilineal/patriarchal. In the field they are an advance.

PEGGY SEXTON, Box 866, Hebronville, Texas - I had a wild thought on the possible cause of the boom in science novels and the decline in true s-f novels. Caveat: I am not slamming psychiatry per se or the constructive things it has done in some areas.

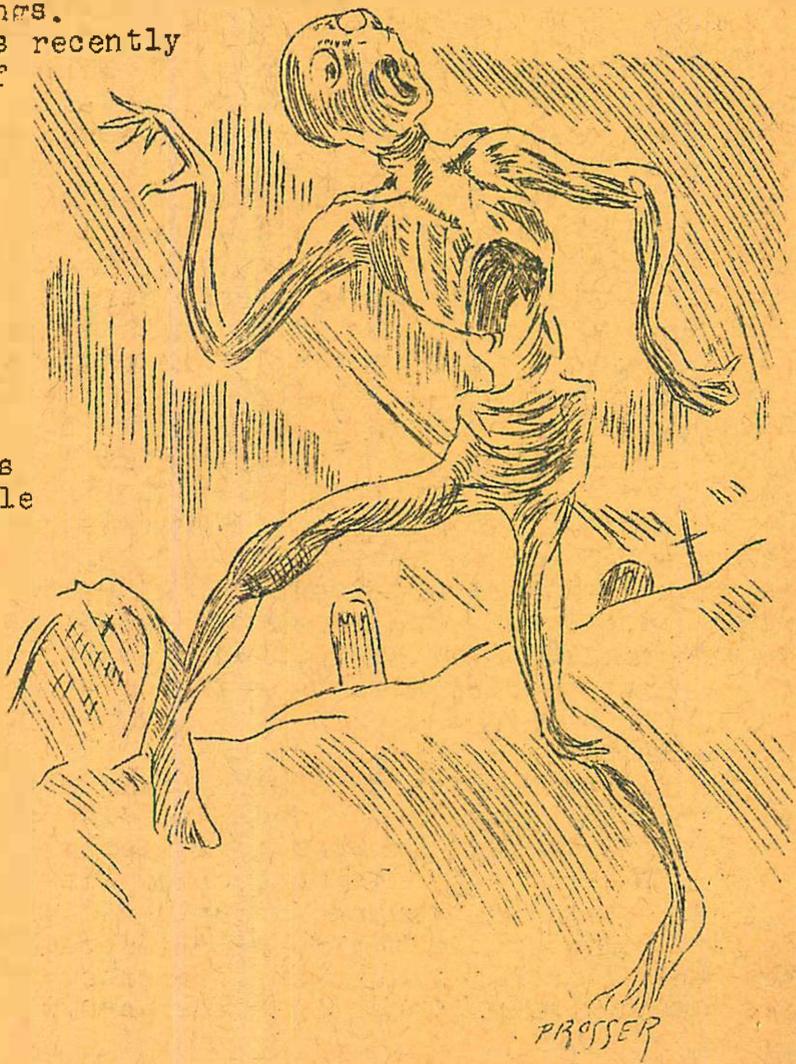
Seems nowadays we have a horrible guilt over abnormality (whatever that means) and a worship of normality (whatever that means), due to the spread of social science (armchair psychology especially) and a probable confusion of "normal" with "average".

Psychology has sold out to conformity in some areas -- education, motivational research, industry personnel testing, etc. The Great God Norm has declared "escapism" abnormal. Science fiction is "escapist" by the Great God Norm's definition. Hence, those who read it are psychic sinners, the term "maladjusted" being preferred. Now no norm-chasing, devoutly adjusted person wants to be an "escapist". So he avoids "escapist" literature, and other things.

Item: "The Wizard Of Oz" was recently removed from the open stacks of Miami' children's library on the grounds that it is unrealistic. (Guh-hod!) /Oz has always had a hard time with librarians, but this does seem a bit too much./

ED GORMAN, 242 10th. St. NW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa - Kerry Dame's poem (and Dame's name sounds phoney if I ever heard a phoney-name, but I guess it's not) is probably the best single item in the ish. Already today I showed it to four non-fan buddies and they all liked it. Good good good.

And now onto the Wail of SF. To say that this theme has been overdone is understating a fact. But somehow none of the comments were boring; Nirenberg presented the best facts, Willick was theoretically the most interesting, and Clod Hell the angriest. What the hell's he got against White? /It's a long, sordid story.....RSC/



Myself, I think the lack is in the public; we can bitch and shift the blame to whoever we want; but I look at it this way. Maybe the distributors are narrow-minded and scrubby and maybe the retailers are stupid and careless, but just the same, I think that if the public wanted sf, they'd get it. Certainly a mag having better display would stand a better chance of enticing more readers, but still, if a reader reads stf and does not see it, he'll search through a pile of mags, attempting to find it, and if he still doesn't, then most likely he'll ask the jerk behind the till. Now here, I'll get blasted because it's possible to say "But what about the newsstand-browser, the guy who just wants something to read, not particularly caring whether it's western, mystery or sf, just as long as it catches his interest." Okay, there we go back to display again. But all the same, I wonder if there are that many potential buyers. It's an opinion of mine that new sf readers, half of them anyway, are introduced to the field because of a friend's prodding. We blame the writers, but can anyone complaining do a better job? We attack editors, but what would most fen be able to do behind a pro-editor's desk? And then we blame distributors, but they're just trying to make a buck like the rest of us. Does a cigarette distributor give Raleighs the same amount of space he does Camels? Most of the time he doesn't.

And in a related vein, I've just gotten off a letter to AMAZING in which I offer to the first 75 subscribers, a free year sub to my five-weekly zine, CILN. Maybe to some fen, it'll sound neofannish as hell, but I do mean it. If we are griping, as we are, then we must make some strides in helping the pros out. Not that anybody'll be getting an excessive deal by getting CILN, I'm not saying that, but, for me, it's the only thing I can do, and I wish that somebody else'd come up with something better. 75 subscribers to AMAZING will certainly not do the mag a lot of good, but if I can get them 75 subscribers, or 25, then think what a group of faneds could do. Maybe it's a crackpot idea, tho, so I'll just have to wait and see what turns up.

/I think Ed has a point; a lot of polls have resulted in claims that stf readers, as a breed, are more loyal and more intelligent than the average (maybe not much so, but above the level of the TRUE CONFESSIONS buyers, at least), and just the types who would hunt for a particular magazine -- if they knew about it. Our job maybe should be to make sure that potential readers do hear about it, not to worry about the newsstand browser who isn't going to buy the stuff very often anyway. Fans can do very well behind pro-editors' desks, though, as has been proved by Robert Lowndes, Frederick Pohl, Damon Knight, Donald Wollheim and others. I'm inclined to doubt the worth of your sub-idea -- the number of people who are even vaguely interested in fanzines being even smaller than those interested in stf -- but at least it's an attempt to do something instead of sitting around talking about it. If I could stand the thought of 75 more subscribers I'd join you. RSC/

ED WOOD, 160 2nd. St., Idaho Falls, Idaho - Marion Zimmer Bradley mentions a book dear to my heart - "Live With Lightning" by Mitchell Wilson. Little, Brown & Co. 1949 and also paperbacked as a Bantam. Wilson is one of the most popular US writers in the USSR; at least the Russians show excellent taste in this case. I've given about 5 copies of this book away and always keep an eye out for it in second hand stores. I think Bradley could have mentioned "The Struggles Of Albert Woods" as being an excellent example of science novels. (Wilson's second book, "My Brother, My Enemy" poor in comparison with "Lightning".)

MIKE DECKINGER, 85 Locust Ave., Millburn, New Jersey - In "Ramblings" you mention the new Kronhausen book, but I wonder if you're aware of the fact that the Kronhausens, along with a doctor Theodore something /Reik; probably/, have made a record in which they discuss sexual matters in great detail. It is not intended to be a "stag party" record just the same, but has a genuine interest for those intelligent enough to hear it. It was made by some company in California and sells for \$4.95 (a large lp record) but as would be expected, it's a bit difficult to get. I've also seen a recording of excerpts from "Lady Chatterly's Lover" read by a Canadian actress but I guess that's old hat compared to the Kronhausen's record.

/Offhand, I'd say that anyone who would pay \$4.95 for a record when they could get the same information discussed in far more detail than any record has time for, in a paperback book for \$1 or less, is hard up for party conversation pieces. (Not stag party -- I'm thinking of the cocktail party hostess who wants to show something unusual to her guests, to get conversation started. Of course, she could show...well, never mind. The record sounds like that kind of gimmick, anyway; for the sort of person who buys mink-covered bottle openers and Hawaiian fish spears converted to letter-openers.) RSC/

"Butterfingers" was typical fan-fiction I'm afraid, a trifle better written than the usual one, but still pretty typical. One thing I noticed, though, was John's use of the word "etiquettily" as an adverb on page 10. I don't believe I've ever encountered this word in that form. According to my dictionary, there is the noun, "etiquette" listed, but no other form. Don't tell me that YANDRO authors are now coining their own terms. Whose fault was it in letting the word by?

/Well, I let it by, deliberately. What's wrong with coining your own words, if they're descriptive? Show me a man who gets all his words out of the dictionary and I'll show you a stodgy, unimaginative creature. Progress and inventiveness are American goals, aren't they? Well, then; coining new words is just being patriotic. RSC/

I disagree with Page about ASTOUNDING/ANALOG. Any veteran of the magazine, be he a fan, non-fan or technical engineer knows that the adjective title ASTOUNDING and the type of material go together. Saying that the title should be changed simply because it is a childish adjective (which it isn't) and totally disregarding the fact that the adjective has built up a group of over 100,000 readers seems rather short-sighted to me. If adjective titles are on the way out, and if we want to have magazines with perfectly accurate titles, we'll have to institute reforms immediately. Can you imagine coming up with THE FRIDAY EVENING POST, PLAYGIRL, and THE INTERNATIONAL ILLUSTRATED GEOGRAPHIC? I daresay those titles are a hell of a lot more accurate and realistic than the originals.

/But you forget that Campbell isn't interested in his veteran readers. They'll keep on buying the mag no matter what title it goes under, and John damned well knows it; the only reason for the gradual change was to make it easy for the veterans to locate the mag. It's the new readers who don't know that the title ASTOUNDING goes with the contents that he's after. The change may lose him 5000 old readers (though I doubt it), but if it gains him 10,000 new ones, what does he care about those who quit? Service always goes to the new customer, in any business; the "regular" will keep coming back anyway, as long as he isn't too ill-treated. And by the way, PLAYBOY is quite an accurate title; the mag is aimed at would-be playboys and caters to them. RSC/

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I haven't seen "Red Rape" but Jerry makes a few mistakes about Connie Sellers. First of all, Connie Sellers is definitely a man (close to -O) and has been writing for the sexy men mags for a long time. It doesn't matter whether his stories are about diving, spaceships, mystery or what have you -- they're all sexy stories and all see print in magazines like ADAM, PLUSH, etc., etc. It's rather comical to see him turning to a sexy sf novel.

DICK LUPOFF, 215 E. 73 St., New York 21, N.Y. - Firstoff, a near unbelievable cover. It's a magnificent job, though I can hardly envy the work that must have gone into it.

/Juanita reports that she spent 4 hours stencilling it. RSC/

Other art than the cover ranges from poor-fair (page 20) to good (pages 3, 10, 11) to very good (pages 14, 15, 21).

"Abrupt Descent" upsets me every time I read it, which is now up to eight or ten. Perhaps I'm just hypersuggestible, but every time I read that thing I see that poor creature going down the drain, I empathize with its simple-minded panic. I guess I'm just a soft-hearted type, but I can't take pleasure from killing anything.

"Odd Vegetables" was pleasant reading. "Clayfooted Troopers" had promise but stopped short of fulfillment...about another six pages might have done it. I had already heard Dodd's joke.

VIC RYAN, 2160 Sylvan Rd., Springfield, Illinois - Well, you did achieve a notable triumph with your anti-Conan speech; this strikes me as being as implausible as Richard Nixon speaking before a national AFL-CIO convention. Next year: "Verbose Tolkien", before an assemblage of members of the Fellowship of the Ring.

I did indeed enjoy Dodd -- and not only because he wrote me into the script (at least, I assume it's me, and not Dick or Mavis) but because he "led me down the path" quite well -- and, actually, when you dig down to the outline, he took a situation and developed it to its "logical" conclusion, a good test of competent sfnal writing.

DAN ADKINS, 5808 Beverly Rd., Booklyn 3, New York - First on #92: Juanita's cover was well rendered but an old idea...one that I've done more than once, like maybe 30 times. But, who has time to think up new things to draw? Gilbert illos are usually okay, sometimes good, sometimes poor. They're seldom real good or plain crud. Prosser on page 7 is the best for the issue. The others don't bring any urge to comment, except that one of mine on page 25 sure must be old. It looks the way I was drawing 4 years ago at Luke Field. /It should; that's what it was. RSC/ For the damn record: LIFE 6,700,000; LOOK 6,300,000 and those are exact figures for this week's sales. The SAT EVE POST is less than 3,000,000. LIFE has outsold the other two for 18 years. As I said before, Ted White's figures on MAD were way off.

First I'll bore you with bringing you up to date on some of my late efforts at the pro field. I think my first stuff for AMAZING will start with the Jan. issue, and FANTASTIC in Feb. Never bothered to find out the issues. The total illustrations I've sold them since I started about 6 weeks ago is 14. They're getting better art now...anyway, stuff from Emsh and Schomburg. Of course there are things from Bernklau and the other new hack artist Douglas coming up. Bernklau has been around awhile but I think Douglas in ANALOG was his start. Campbell said he didn't like Bernklau but still he uses him issue after issue. One good

thing on art for Ziff Davis is the fact that George Barr will have art in it about the time I do. I took along some of his fanzine work in a portfolio I made for him (without his knowing about it) to show the editors. They liked same and I gave them his address. He did up two assignments as of this date.

Ziff-Davis will probably be the only publisher I work for until around March. Perhaps then I'll see F&SF and ANALOG (a mag I'm not ready to work for because Campbell wants very mechanical drawings done up with such an exactness that at present the research would take more time than I've got. In other words, I'm a bit lazy and Ziff-Davis will keep me busy enough...after all I work steady at an art studio too.) The other two mags pay ten bucks an illo and I don't need money enough to work for that. Oh, and stf isn't the only type mag I intend working on...

Now on artists: Emsch and Schoenherr are the best around with Finlay doing a good illo now and then. His trouble is that he re-draws his earlier work over again (same figure, different background. Right now Amazing and Galaxy are both on the stands with a Finlay figure in both that is the same) and this bugs me. Kelly Freas was without a doubt the best stf artist ever. Earlier Finlay and Bok had a great fantasy "feel" but Freas had them all beat when it came to artistic correctness. Now he's in Mexico doing serious work for a year.

SHORT SNORTS: BRUCE PELZ writes that Hal Lynch wrote the article in I PALANTIR which was erroneously credited to Dick Eney. ROG EBERT compliments MZB in #91 for stating a fact "that everyone has 'always known' but never realized." PHIL HARRELL thinks that the last 3 covers (Dollens, Juanita, and Barr) are the finest we've ever printed (I'd about agree, with maybe one or two additions that Phil didn't get to see) and that Barr is a genius. JOHN M. FOYSTER objects to fans calling it ANALOG SCIENCE FACT FICTION when there should be an "A" in the title which will spoil some of the fannish jokes and feels that outside of the Big Slump no prozine folded while it was publishing good stories. How about VENTURE and VANGUARD, John? He also feels that, despite MZB, the best writers are those who don't worry about whether they're being "serious" or "entertaining" but who just write, without worrying about the market. His opinion is also that despite Rod Serling the public wants crap and the public gets what it wants, particularly the American newspaper-reading public. GEORGE LOCKE agrees with Wood that the unavailability of "Who Killed Science Fiction?" is "one of the most tragic events in stf". He also mentions that two of Maurice Renard's books, "The Hands of Orlac" and "New Bodies For Old" have been translated into English, and that a quite good book titled "Up Above" by John Raphael, contains a note that it is based on Renard's "The Blue Peril". STEVE STILES does not feel that Jerry Page has any ability at judging artwork. CRAIG COCHRAN wants to know what happened to the tv version of "Caves Of Steel" -- so do I. TV GUIDE said it would be on, but it wasn't. He also wants a copy of the model airplane mag that mentioned the U-2. Lambeck? GEORGE WELLS wants in on the Citizens Committee for Indecent Literature. DICK SCHULTZ says that the word Sid Coleman wanted was "dummschlau". He also thinks that the peasants put over the Chinese revolution. Oh, they did the fighting; they always wind up doing the actual bloody work. But they didn't start it, lead it, or gain anything by it; you go around calling Mao a peasant and you liable to get your head chopped off. And here's a letter from F.M. BUSBY that I was going to run, and stuff from Page, Lichtman, Shingleton and Thea Grade...but no more room. RSC.

R. & J. COULSON
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