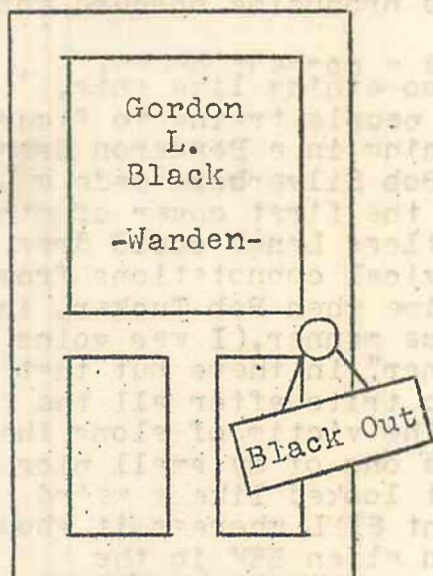


THE SULLIED SOUL and others

THE SULLIED SOUL AND OTHERS will be edited and stenciled by Rich Bergeron, with the possible exception of any illustrations or headings, which will, in all probability, be cut by the publisher who is: a big question mark in my head at the moment. It will be a postmailing to the 21st SAPS mlg. This is a Tidewater publication. The firm that publishes fanzines that return, unlike this one. 1952



The Sullied Soul

Hal Shapiro in his AJ-73-16, this mlg, mentions that "Ah Mr. Woolworth", a poem about two stool pigeons, should not have been by-lined by Bergeron. He goes on to say that he had it in his collection ages ago when he had never heard of fandom.

All of which is very, very interesting, Hal, and very enlightening...as it clearly shows that I am a bigger fool than I thought I was...

You see "Ah Mr. Woolworth" was a poem that I just sort of picked up. No, not like smoking.. I first heard the thread of "Woolworth" as a joke at school. A narration of humorous events, really, one might say. After mulling over this rather lengthy joke through the rest of that school day; I, that night, conceived the idea of putting it down in verse. Thus it happened that the next day, everyone interested was all agog over "Bergeron's takeoff".

One boy, the one who's joke I had lifted my poem from in much the same manner of joke juggling as explained by editor Louis Untermeyer in his "Old Jokes Never Die" in the Volume One experimental issue of Wit & Humour, although I hadn't known that that was what I had been doing at the time, asked to borrow my poem to see if he could make any improvements on it. I let him take it. The next day he returned with it in exactly the form you saw it in Outsiders with the added title: "Ah Mr. ...". He had changed or added to about half of the lines and put it in to the negroid accent form. After reading it over I was impressed, to say the least. I thought: "This is perfect for Ballard's (whom I owe a six page letter that pricks my conscience every time I think of it; he writes letters containing brier patch humour you see.) thing in SAPS" So I asked him to run it in one of the "amateur press magazines" under his name and mine. He wouldn't agree to it. About all he'd say was, "This isn't really my work, you made such a strong base from the joke that it was simple to add what I did. Use it if you want to but I don't want my name on it. You deserve all the credit, Rich." And so being blinded to the real undercurrent of what was happening by my eagerness to emulate the previous Ballard contributions in the "Poetry Haters Corner" and some by Campbell and Alpaugh he'd told me were coming up I sent it to him.

My apologies to Wrai for being takes like that.

The bit that I ran under the Kensmen "5 listing in the 20th race was taken from several such that were brought to school at the time. I thought that particular one might fit into the Dragon heading so I used it. Even if I had thought of crediting it that morning I'd have never known whom (who?) to credit it to. Well, no one said I was a deserving editor.

I hope the above mess of intrigue and back stabbery hasn't gained me a reputation in SAPS of being another fabulous Decker like character or even on a lesser plane, something of another Ronald Friedman. If it has, tho, I think maybe I can live it down. As Carr knows I've got quite a few years to see before I'm a "hoary old fan like Jean Bogart".

The lone for blackmail forms on the left...the one on the right is where you sign.

Fan Fotos

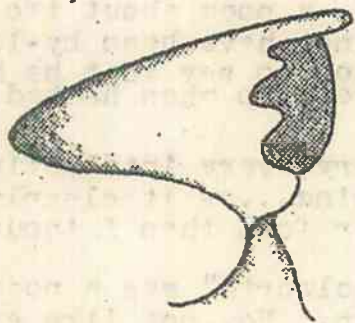
Nice to see the Alpaugh suggestion, that we all run our pics in our zines, has finally born fruit.

Good pic, John, if that's the way you always look.

Just out of sheer curiosity: how old were you when you used to do book reviews for Fan Variety? As I remember some of them, they were better done than the writing you do for your own mag. Is it that you do your away stuff right on the master as it comes out? I seem to notice a lowering in the present Chu's as contrasted with the first issue. I'll bet those weren't done spontaneously...but don't let my own vivid ranting bother you. I write worse than you in any case. -O- Does the Hart tale mark a comeback for him? Ever since his long ride in the presidents desk with the N3P he's just lost, or slipped out as manny do, contact with fandom as a contributor. I admire him his energy in making the Nolacon all the way from Mexico city. Lord! a one way

Obscurity in Art?

There is, or was, a discussion on ... poetry running through FAPA this year. As I'm one of those persons that read few pieces of poetry, and appreciate only ones like "Sea Fever" and "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner", I scanned over the whole thing rather quickly stopping only to read the more interesting items..or those parts that I thought might be interesting, if you'd rather have me put it that way. Thus it is that I have a rough impression from a section of that discussion that some people delight in writing brilliantly word colored poetry that doesn't mean a thing. In other words are producing obscure work. (That's a pun, if you like.)



Here's one for Shapiro to figure out..

So when I read a comment by Hal Shapiro that goes something like this, "dropping dead like people trying to figure out the hidden meaning in a Bergeron drawing." or one that Bob Silverberg made a couple mls ago on the first cover of mine Cosmol used, "doubtless Laney could draw some obvious biological connotations from it." or take the time when Bob Tucker, in a completely serious manner, (I was going to put "deadpan manner" in there but that would have been too trite after all the hoax' he has been the victim of along that line.) photographed one of my small nics on its side so that it looked like a weird plant in the current SFNL whereas it should have looked like an alien BEM in the current SFNL, or to take this a bit further, when various of my correspondents

fail to notice, when asked, whether or not they had been aware of anything wrong with one of my nics in that issue. Common refrain I had to make to most of the answers to the above question was, "Not that one, the other one."

When these things come to pass it made me wonder if my work in the art-line wasn't a bit obscure too.

Is my work typical of some of the present day modernist' who merely splash color on a canvas, call it # 307, and let the viewer read what he wants to see in it?

It is true that I have a tendency to use too many techniques (?) in the ideas I try to put on paper, cross hatch, stipple, etc, so that some of them do look rather crowded. But am I losing coherence in doing this?

Carr

Yes indeed. Like Black I am surprised. Certainly my writing doesn't resemble that of anyone beyond the age of seventeen! I should be insulted that you thought me so much older yet didn't have the sense to editorialize half-heartily in my own SASEzine. Mover over, Davis. Being extremely biased I'm not able to tell whether or not your word sketch of me is accurately given but from the crystal clarity with which it was delivered it's easy to see that it was bounded in there all right.

Remember when I met you at the N3F table? You know, when you tried to sell me a membership...then you asked for autograph and a bit of stfln doodling on it. So I said, "I'm not Hennes Bok." I still remember your look of mystification at that little incident. The only explanation for it that I can think of, is that you didn't or don't know that Bok always makes a little quick line sketch of a mouse when ever he signs his name. Letters, autographs, speed tickets, etc.

What did you think I was doing, making an extremely deep dive for a compliment?

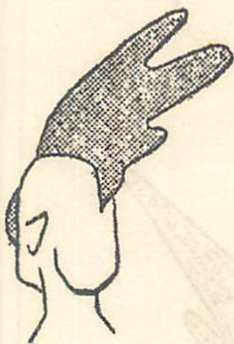
I don't believe in using too much color with my ditto drawings. Occasionall I do bow to the editorial knee and then deplore the stuff I turn out with it. Of course, as Keessler says, there is so little color in fandom that when some comes out it is outstanding along side its drab mimeo bro hers. I think it's easy to spoil a drawing by over coloring, tho. The purple seems to be much stronger and makes itself appear prominent beside its paler companions.

As is usual with me, I had nothing in mind when I wrote the "News Hound". I doubt if I could ever pull off a decent, or even indecent, satire.

Fan Imortalization

Back in the 6th Outsiders in the 18th mlg, WeBallard made a rather starry eyed mention of his name having been chalked up for posterity in a story by Chebot where he had garnered a brief mention due to the fact that his name begins with a B.

This sculb of glee set a chain of events into action that linked together brought Ballard a more completely don imortalization in the



last, er, latest, issue of Warhoon. Unbeknown-
est to myself, however, Jacobs was making Ballard
a character in a piece of his own fanfiction for
that, the 20th, mlg also. And now in this 21st,
the situation has telled down to an ecohoofving
monument of words. I use 'telled down' as I'm re-
ferring to Black's clever, hectic, name in Black-
list.

Has it happened to you yet? Has your name
been recorded for posterity? Well don't just
stand there, if you really want it done leave no
stone unturned and you'll soon uncover someone
to do it for you.

Actually tho all it takes is ~~about~~ a reason-
able amount of activity. (Or should I say unreasonable?)

Pre-publication Plans

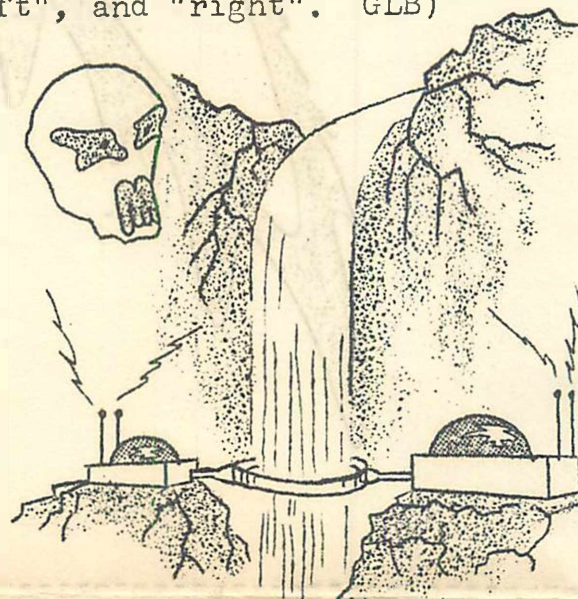
If all goes well and a smattering of masters I've ordered from Coswel
arrive, there should be another Warhoon around come time for the 22
mailing. I sent in a dollar for a stack of them a while ago, then one
month later, after no response from Coswel, checked over the amount
and found that I was a dollar short from the correct amount. So I
sent in another to make it up. No report from Coslet yet. Being that
I haven't paid for the ditto job on Wh # 2 yet it seems surprising
that I'm sending him bills instead of it being just the other way
around.

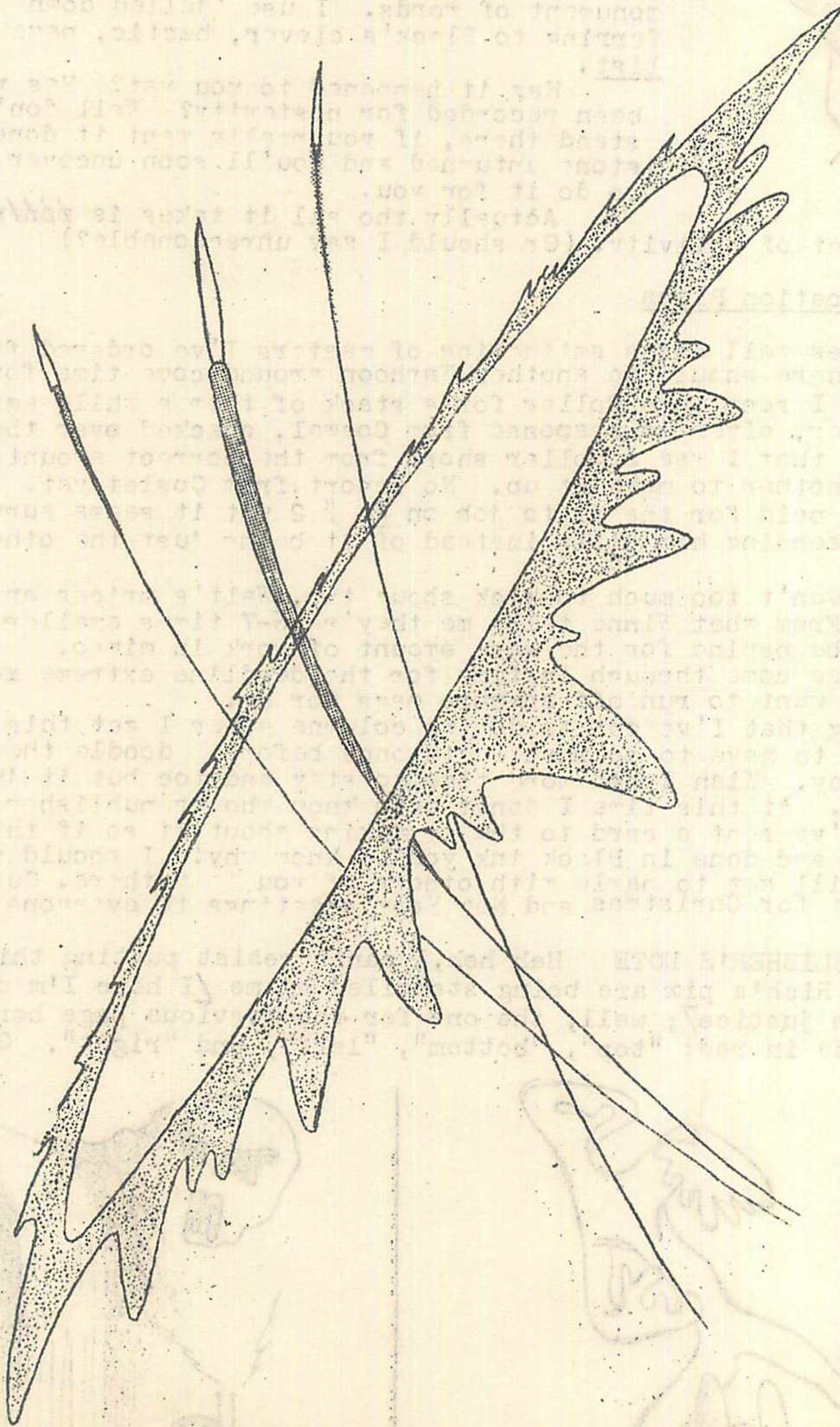
I haven't too much to kick about tho, Walt's prices are amazing-
ly low. From what Winne tells me they're 6-7 times staller than
what I'd be paying for the same amount of work in mimco.

Please come through in time for the deadline extreme x-o-e, that
is if you want to run off anymore mags for me.

Being that I've got to do two columns after I get this stenciled
I'm going to have to do what I did once before: doodle the rest of
my fmz away. Wish I had more time to stay and toc but it just isn't
to be had. At this time I don't even know who my publisher is going
to be. I've sent a card to the oe asking about it so if this is mail-
ed to you and done in Black ink you'll know why! I should make the
mlg and will get to parle with others of you ~~in~~ there. Guess that's
all except for Christmas and New Year greetings to everyone...

(PUBLISHER'S NOTE Heh heh, I can't resist putting this in.
All Rich's pix are being stenciled by me /I hope I'm doing
them justice/; well, the one for the previous page bore these
words in red: "top", "bottom", "left", and "right". GLB)





Rich Bergeron
R.F.D. # 1
Newport, Vt.

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