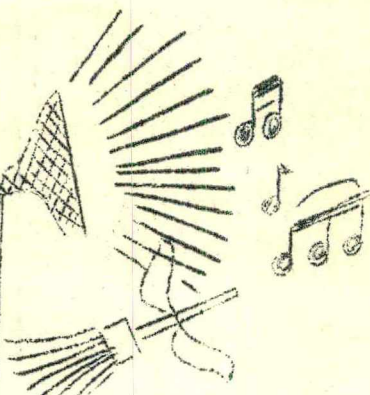
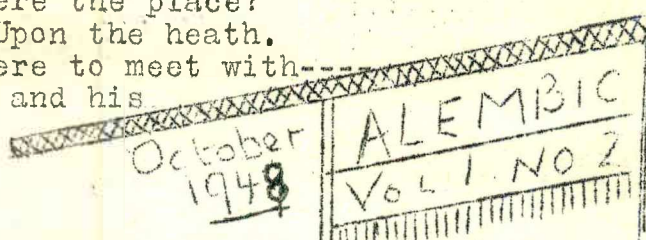
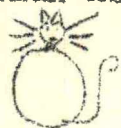


First Witch:-When shall we three meet again
 In thunder, lightning or in rain?
 Second Witch:-When the hurlyburly's done,
 When the battle's lost and won.
 Third Witch:-That will be ere the set of sun.
 First Witch:-Where the place?
 Second Witch:- Upon the heath.
 Third Witch:-There to meet with---
 Norman Ashfield and his



Hullo, fen! Once again we appear, and would thank all those who have written about this fanzine. Of their comments, good or bad, we shall deal later. As we progress with future issues, we hope to get the contents more and more to our mutual interests. What are going to be the aims of the A? Well, in the Booklist we have news about our Library, still the central point of our very loosely knit organisation; then we have Ken Slater's Operation Fantast which is devoted to news about the whole mad crowd of us, humorous articles, short stories and the like. For the more serious of us, there is Fantasy Review, with news about recent and forthcoming mags and books (If you don't subscribe to this, you d--- well ought to. Every fan should have it!) The A does not intend to compete with these others, altho' anyone reading the first issue would not have been able to decide what it was after! You mustn't forget that the A is still teething! So we shall confine ourselves largely to info frequently based on the card index. This doesn't mean that you won't get articles or stories--you will if members care to send me items for consideration. The card index and info will be the basis of the 'zine. (How'm I doin' Tony?--not too many brackets yet, eh? See how ye ed takes notice of his readers!)

.....stories by A E Van Vogt in BRE ASF.....
 Discord in Scarlet 12/39; Repetition 4/40; Vault of the Beast 8/40;
 Asylum 5.42; The Great Engine 7.43; Weapon Shop 2/43; Concealment 12/43
 The Storm 2/44; The Beast 4/44; A Can of Paint 12/44; The Harmoniser
 5/45; The Changeling 7/45; The Purpose 11/45; A Son is Born 8/46; Film
 Library 4/47; Home of the Gods 10/47; Centaurus II 12/47; The Barbarian
 4/48; and I forgot--The Seesaw 7/41. Correct to April 1948.

.....The British Interplanetary Society:.....
 I mentioned a little about the B I S in my article in O F 2. I feel that fans should know a little more about its activities. As I said before it is 'alive', and some indication of its attractiveness can be found in the lecture programme for 1947-8:--'The Interplanetary Project', 'Electronics and Space Flight', 'Recent Developments in Astronomy', 'The Man-carrying Rocket', 'High Strength Hydrogen Peroxide for Rocket Propulsion', and 'Lunar Research'. In addition the BIS arranged a special showing of a Ministry of Supply film about Rocket Flight. Special technical sections of the Society deal with such aspects of the interplanetary Travel question as 'Astronomical', 'Design', 'Dynamics', etc. The lectures mentioned are held in London, but the Society's Journal gives full reports of the most interesting and reviews articles in other publications on the subject. I am firmly convinced that all fantasy fans who are really interested in the problems they read about and are not mere dilettantes would benefit from joining the Society. Drop me a line if you want more info!

.....BRE reprints from BRE!!!!!!.....
 Not content with reprinting material that appeared in the American Unknown, the BRE for Spring 1948 includes two stories that have already appeared in the BRE in 1940--the items in question being 'The Kraken' and 'The Well of the Angels' (from June and May 1940 issues respectively). The publishers state the repetition was inadvertent, but suggest that the stories will be fresh to most readers. Maybe so, but we're getting too many reprints already!

.....ARGOSY--THE BRITISH ONE--NOT THE OTHER:.....
 I should like to draw your attention to the British Argosy which often carries stories that appeal to Fantasy fans. For instance the May 1948 issue contained two 'weird' type of story--Traill's 'Giving Up The Ghost' and Hague's 'The Other Person', and a neat little SF story about a future explorer who discovers the ruins of London--'Dust of Annam' by Gerald Kersh. I think so much of the Argosy stories that appeal to me, that I am listing them in the card index (not all the stories only, those of weird or fantastic nature.)

THE ALEMBEC-an occasional miscellany for fantasy fans.October 48.
Volume 1,number 2. page 2. all enquiries to editorial address:-
'At the Sign of the Black Cat',27 Woodland Road,Thornton Heath,Surrey
Issued free to BFL members and other folk I like.....

.....
Cyril Shute speaks his piece on the Shaver Mystery....

Mr Shaver

Causes my agnostic attitude to waver,

The evidence on which he has to go

I wouldn't know,

But wouldn't it be funny if a miner doing his extra ten
per cent

Found himself hell-bent?

Then Harold Loney talks about 'Weird Fiction'....

As times change, so Weird Fiction changes also. Compare
today's stories with those of 40 years ago. In the late 90's,
Bram Stoker produced his noted 'Dracula'. The style is very diff-
erent from today's weirdisms;a good deal of the story is rather
drawn out,with long descriptions, some sickly sentimentality,and
many of the words used are rather flowery. There is no doubt a
good deal of horror in the book, but its length could easily
have been cut by a quarter. Of the modern writers Ray Bradbury
is a good example. His stories are the beginning of a new era--
the ultra modern ghost story. He writes of ghosts in modern
cities;his style is fresh and new, his characters real. Sometimes
he is amusing but most often he gives to his stories real horror.
Many of his stories have cynical little twists at the end.They
are well-written neat little pieces,which stick in the memory.
The same with R. Bloch who writes quick-fire narratives with few
surplus words. So Weird Fiction changes through the years. Who
knows what it will be like 20 years from now?

.....BIRTH NOTICES.....

I've never had so much correspondence to cope with in my life,as
since the A was born. First of all I must thank all those good
souls who kindly volunteered info. about the BRE's I mentioned.
I am pleased to say that the card index is now complete as far
as BRE's are concerned, and we're now aiming at greater things.
J B Coltherd has weighed in with a list of many Wonder Stories,
and Raymond Bailey has kept my nose to the cards with lists of
American Unknown's--and so we go on..Some folk tell me that they
would start a fanzine,only they haven't a typer,or a duplicator,
or that they're just too plumb lazy(they don't say that in so
many words).The duplication is certainly a problem, so is paper
at about a 4d a sheet. But the most important thing is time,and
the only advice I can give to anyone who cannot spare bags of
his spare time, is don't issue a 'zine, or if you do, say that
you won't reply to letters.Otherwise your time won't be your
own, once you get into type! I have been taken to task by Walt
Willis and others about my views on AMAZING. Well,I must frankly
admit that I haven't found a story worth keeping this year!--and
I did so surely believe AMAZING was on the up and up! Many of
their earlier stories have been well worth keeping,and that
applies to Sherman's stuff,inter alia, but RAB's let us down in
1948--I hope 1949 shews a better position. So now you--SF wallahs
can laugh at my expense! A bloke named Grimes took me to task
for having too long a competition,--well,that could have been
shorter and I wanted to know what you knew. It so happened that
I have only found out what a very few knew--see report later.
I hope that the new comp. will please him better--but don't ask
me the answers--I don't know them. If I go much further I shall
use up valuable space--so thank you one and all for your comments
whether kind or otherwise,on my first attempt. I trust you will
like this one better--no grouses about the list of items in
Amazing please!

.....ARGOSY--Further fantasy items.....

June 1948--Dunsany's Jane Rush;Currey's The Wilding;F F Powys'
The White Paternoster(all fantasy) and Stockton's The Transferred
Ghost. The July issue saw Turgenev's The Adventure of 2nd Lieu.
Bubnov(F) and Grent's Round the Corner(W).The August ish had
Hughe's The Little Bishop(F) and Ogden Nash's Victoria(Weird).

.....SHAVER --and a few others!

I felt it might interest my readers to know the Shaver stories that have appeared in AMAZING, and where that story is not the 'booklength' novel of the issue, I am also stating the latter....

MARCH 1945; 'I remember Lemuria' (Short Novel) (36,100)

JUNE 1945; Thought Revords of Lemuria (Novelet) (25,000)

SEPTEMBER 1945; Cave City of Hel (Novelet) (13,000)

DECEMBER 1945; Quest of Brail (Novelet) (35,000)

FEB. 1946. Invasion of the Micro-Men (Novelet) (21,500)

MAY 1946; The Masked World (Novel) (50,000)

JUNE 1946. Luder Valley (Novelet) (11,000) --the nogel was Heinrich Hauser's AGHARTI.

JULY 1946; Cult of the Witch Queen (with Bob McKenna) (Novel) 45,600

AUGUST 1946; THE SEA PEOPLE (novelet) (25,850)

SEPTEMBER 1946; Earth Slaves to Space (Novelet) (30,000)

OCTOBER 1946. NO SHAVER!! (Hurray) H M Sherman's Novel-THE GREEN MAN-(86,500)

NOVEMBER 1946. The Return of Sathanas (Yes! ITMA--He's back with a short novel of 46,000 words with Bob McKenna)

DECEMBER 1946; The Land of Kui (Short-8,500) The Short Novel (42,000) was Leroy Yezza's 'Double for Destiny'.

January 1947; The Mind Rovers (Novelet-27,500)

February 1947. Once more-NO SHAVER (Cheers) Two short novels-Hamling's 'Orphan of Atlantis' (33,600) and Livingston's Land of the Damned (33,900)

March 1947; Joe Dannon, Pioneer (Novelet 12,500) Hauser's novel-- 'Titan's Battle'-55,000 also appeared. (Novel-55,000)

April 1947; (SSSH-No Shaver). Sherman's All ABoard for the Moon/

May 1947; The Crystalline Sarcophagus (Short-4,500). also Don Wilcox had a novel-Desert of the Damned' (54,000)

JUNE 1947; SHAVER SHAVER AND NOWT BUT SHAVER!-'Formula From The Underworld', 'Zigor Mephisto's Collection of Mentalia', 'Witch's Daughter' and 'The Red Legion' (13,25,22, and 30 thousand words)

JULY 1947; No Shaver-Geier's The Hidden City (Novel-62,000)

August 1947-Mer-witch of Ether 18 (Novelet-12,500) Rog Phillips Novel 'So Shall Ye Reap' (65,000) was the star turn.

September 1947; No Shaver-Hamilton's Novel. the Star Kings (75,000)

October 1947; No Shaver (what, twice running?)-Phillips' The Despoilers (Novelet-27,500) (70,000)

November 1947; Again no Shaver. Wilcox's Novel 'Giants of Mogo' /

December 1947; Of Gods and Goats (Novelet-14,000) Sherman's Green Man Returns (Novel-80,000) largely filled the issue.

January 48. No Shaver. Rikits of Mars (Wilcox) Novelet-26,000)

February 1948. No dero. Byrne's Novel-Prometheus II (54,000)

March 48; RSS returns with Gods of Venus (Novel-87,000)

April 48; No RSS. McDowell's The Wandering Egos (Novelet-27,000)

May 48; No RSS. Armageddon (Craig Browning-Novels-55,000) 32,000

June 48; RSS and Geier produce 'Ict City of the Gorgon (Novelet/)

July 48; RSS missing-The de Courcy's give 'Man from Agharti' (Short Novel--RAP has apparently stopped numbering the words)

--and so to date is the tale of the magazine that descended from giving us SF (remember the good old days?) to a modernistic folk-lore, and repented at long last (in April 1948)--since when things are improving. The period under review was enlivened by such stories as 'So Shall Ye Reap' and 'The Green Man' series, but however attractive Shaver was at first, the novelty palled, and I for one am pleased that the mystery has been passed on to other hands....

.....LOVECRAFT.....

The latest Lovecraft item to come my way is the Avon Collection of his stories 'The Lurking Fear and other stories'. For those with little acquaintance with this matter of fantasy, this little book can well be recommended. It contains such well-known ones as 'The Colour Out Of Space', 'Pickman's Model', 'The Call of Cthulhu', 'The Shunned House' as well as the title story, 'The Nameless City', 'Arthur Jernyn', 'The Unnameable', 'The Moon-Bog', 'Cool Air', and 'The Hound'. Eleven tales of weird fascination, which you will enjoy, unless you are one of those SF fans with a spine that can't be chilled by any weird story.....

.....SHASTA CHECKLIST.....

My copy of the Checklist of Fantastic Literature has now arrived and I'm finding it a great help. Of course, at 30/- it is expensive but really worth it to the serious collector. As to be expected, I differ with the inclusion of a number of books, but that's to be preferred (We're all individualists--not morons)...

presenting:-



By Michael Tealby.

The white building stood on the crest of a wooded rise. Its graceful lines silhouetted against the rainbow-hued horizon.

Other buildings were to be seen in the distance; each one separate with a grove of trees around; but this was the largest in the vicinity.

Inside, most of the building consisted of a large hall with fluted marble columns supporting balconies in a semi-circle around it. Large windows reached from floor to ceiling, high above. Windows which kept changing colour constantly. Nothing of the outside could be seen through these, their only purpose being to enable the ever-changing light rays to enter. The hall space was taken up by row upon row of seats, all facing a raised platform. On this, supported by slender crystal rods, was a large globe. It was turning slowly on the rods, and gazing into its depths gave one an impression of distances unfathomable.

Small spheres, exact counterparts of their large fellow, were placed in the body of the hall and in the balconies. No light was reflected in their misty depths.

A group of white-robed figures were upon the raised dais. Other figures now began to pervade the body of the hall, figures in many-coloured robes. They were entering and seating themselves in silence. That was a noticeable quality--the silence; it was complete. Even the large globe made no sound as it slowly revolved.

As the hall filled, the atmosphere changed. The silence seemed to be broken by a faint hum--a sound so faint, however, that it could not be heard, only felt. The light rays which were emitted by the windows changed to a blue haze. The small globes in the body of the hall began to glow with an inner fire, a blue radiation which pulsed as if alive. The large sphere, however, was still dark.

A figure appeared from a curtained entrance at the side of the platform; a figure with a plain silver band on the forehead; a figure whose garments seemed to change colour with every movement. He smiled at the other figures on the platform. "The conditions are bad, friends," he said, glancing at the dark globe. One of the white figures nodded. "Yes, Manthor. We may not be able to get through."

"Our friends on earth will help us." Manthor replied.

It was a small plain room, but one with an atmosphere of peace and tranquility. There was a small platform at one end. A platform with many flowers. Chairs were placed in a semi-circle facing this. The room was filled with people. There was a figure on the

The group of white-robed figures formed a perfect circle, around the large sphere and within the circle, Manthor gazed into the globe's depths and spoke "Greetings, friends, this is Manthor--"

The medium had, at last, gone into the trance state. Suddenly a shudder passed through his body and his lips moved; "Greetings, friends, this is Manthor..."

[illegible]

Zeda P Mishler writes 'STF is growing in leaps and bounds in the States! Her newstand used to get three fantasy mags and have to return two to his wholesalers unsold; now you have to order a month in advance....she got three Amazings in April, and went back for more, but the seller said he'd had a dozen and his quota was exhausted. (seems they do have some paper difficulties in the States but it can't be so bad judging by their newspapers). Zeda recommends the first story in Fantastic Adventures for July 48-- Berkeley Livingston's Queen of the Panther-World. She mentions that the following fanzines can be obtained from the addresses following:- 'SPEARHEAD' - F Tommy Carter, 8k7 Starling Ave, Martinsville, Va, and 'Burroughs Bulletin' from Box 79, Manito, Ill. Zeda is hostess of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, and would be willing to swop with British fen. Address:- Mrs Z P Mishler, 423 Woodland Avenue, Johnstown, Pa, U S A. If you're interested, get into touch with her.....She might be able to arrange your membership in the N.F.F.F. if you want to join that body!

THAT COMPETITION and another!

I WANTED to find out what you knew --but it seems that only a few fans know anything! Anyway I had ~~six~~ entries which benefits the BFL to the tune of 1/6d! The winner was Ken Slater with 70 points, other entrants being Owen Plumridge, Terry Trollope, C Walker, C Shute, and Harry Manson. Ken gets the book promised and all of them get a little paper-backed book in addition as my thanks for their interest! This time the comp is set by J B Coltherd (what's your Christian name, JB?) --it's a science quiz, and he promises Science Wonders for Feb, Mar and June 1930 as first prize (there'll be no other prize unless sufficient entrants are forthcoming -- if so, I'll add a second!) Entries should be addressed to the editor at the address on page 2 of this issue, and should be accompanied by 4d in stamps for the BFL. (no permutations allowed) And now to the questions:-

1. What is the purpose of the ear in a fish?(1)
2. Which animal has the most highly developed sense of smell?(1)
3. What is the shortest lived of all insects or animals?(1)
4. What is meant by the term Vibgyor ?(1)
5. What is the difference in degrees between the boiling point and the freezing point on the Fahrenheit thermometer?(1)
6. Does the growth of hair stop after death?(1)
7. What has the fastest speed known? (1)
8. Name two types of flesh-eating dinosaurs.(2)
9. Who made the first telescope? - (1)
10. What is the name of Ole Rømer principally connected with in the history of astronomy? (1)
11. What is the Heaviside Layer? (1) (1)
12. Who is the present Astronomer Royal(1) and whom did he succeed?
13. Who was the first English Astronomer Royal? (1)
14. What element is present most abundantly in sea-water?(1)

That competition(continued)

15. How many moons have (a) Venus (b) Uranus (c) Neptune ? (3 marks)
16. What is the speed of (a) sound (b) light ? (2 marks)
17. What is the parallax of a star? (1)
18. Give the names of any two of the seven principal stars of the Great Bear (Plough). (2)
19. Which of the following stars is nearest the earth? (1) Give its approximate distance (1) Aldebaran--Arcturus--Castor--Procyon. (2 marks)
20. Which of the following stars is the most distant? (1) Give its approximate distance (1) Aldebaran--Procyon--Mizar--Betelgeuse. (2 marks)

Total possible marks--28.

Your editor had a go and the following answers show his attempt-

- (1) 'earing.(2) the skunk.(3)a wasp-when I can catch it.(4)!!!
(5) a 'ell of a lot.(6)? (7) A welshing bookie.(8)?(9)?(10)?
(11) Huh--I know this--a cousin of a Rhode Island Red.(12)?
(13)? (14) Salt,I should say,by the taste.(15)'undreds and
farsands.(16)(a) a lot (b) a lot more (17)? (18) Goldilocks was
one ,I think.(19)and (20) Catch questions, huh?--all the same
distance, or they are to me.

See if you can do better; Seriously, we do hope that you'll all have a stab at it! I'm expecting to be flooded out with entries; I'm not marking 'em, JB is! Bung 'em along--and no funny answers!

Editor's interruption--the next issue of The A. should appear in March or April, but so that it can appear in a current number of the Yank mag reviews. I propose to date it Winter (or October 1949) The March issue of the 'zine got mention in October 1948 Amazing! This will help the fan reviews to be up to date.

The editor again interrupts to ask if any folk have the following items which he urgently needs.--after all why shouldn't the publisher advertise his own wants?--

Scopstons 8,9,13,14,15,16,17,18,19; Fantasy (pre-war and post-war); Tales of Wonder numbers 1,8 onwards (excluding no 10) Weird Story Magazine No 1. Yankee Shorts Nos 2,5,6. Occult Shorts No 1. New Worlds No 3.

These are my especial wants, but I have american friends who are wanting most British fantasy mags, and BRE's, so let me know what you have spare and what your price is for them. Books by H Rider Haggard would also be very useful.

ON the next page, an article by Ken Slater appears. Ken is one of the most enthusiastic fans in British fandom, as many of you will have already found out. This is being written in the early part of September, so I cannot give any final news about the Science-Fantasy Fan Federation Of the United Kingdom, which Ken is ardently backing at the time of writing, but it does look as though the UK will at last be put on the map with an all-embracing fan organisation. We already have the British Fantasy Library and the Cosmos Library, both of which have done and are still doing good work. These two Libraries have done a lot to keep fans together in these days of difficulty in getting mags and books from the States; but I do agree most whole-heartedly that there's a lot to be said for a really national organisation. The only real difficulty is in getting in contact with the 20,000 or so readers of the British Editions of Astounding and Unknown. These British editions never remain long on the bookstalls, and there must be a lot of them who would welcome the organisation with open arms, if only they knew. There's the rub--how to let them know? The only way I can see at the moment is for members to write letters to their local papers, stressing the fact that the imaginative stories of yesteryear are factual today, pointing out that the more people are prepared for the things that will come, the more is the possibility that they will be able to play their part when it happens. Local papers will usually print interesting letters from readers (I've had no difficulty with getting mine printed in the past). Let's boost the SEFFUK when it's born.

DISCUSSING THE DEVIL

(By Kenneth H. F. SLATER)

THE QUESTION of placing the 'evil' influence in its correct relationship to life, to religion, -- to all matters, is a very difficult one.

And I don't intend to attempt an answer, but I am going to discourse on a few points connected thereto.

To place it in religion is really the simplest. You have two main paths to follow; firstly, you can follow that path which is chosen by Jewry, Christianity, and Mahometism (among others) and that is to place the 'Devil' in the position of a created being who has revolted against his Creator.

The second course is to declare that good and evil (God and the Devil) are co-extant and co-equal. This is the 'Gnosis' -- Gnosticism; the belief of the Magus, and most magic-worshippers. Also under this heading can be placed all religions which lead to a 'Nirvana' -- which is 'nothing' -- in other words, a cancellation

But also under this second head come a variety of religions both old and modern, such as the old Nordic faiths (Odin, and Valhalla), wherein the two powers are more or less evenly matched, until some factor, possibly a traitor, throws the balance in favour of the evil side, which results usually in the destruction of the Universe. On the opposite side we have such things as the Osiris-Seth myth of the ancient Egyptians, where in the final battle good is triumphant.

Let us continue with these two classes for a few lines; we may be able to see some basis for the mythology -- a rather unusual basis. Let us pre-suppose that the Nordic myth has a strong physical trend, and the Equatorial, a strong Soul-mental trend. Can we see any allegorical meaning in them? I think we can, although it is rather strained -- but due to the passage of time, with resultant adornment and mis-interpretation, one would expect the myth to be strained out of its original shape, and so we may take the liberty of straining back (I hope). The Nordic mythos tell of the destruction of the world by frost and fire giants, aided by Loki, Fenris, and other characters. We can suppose, in our present knowledge, the destruction of the world by two probable means; either by the death of the sun, or under Bode's Law. If we take the latter, Ragnarok will fit with fair ease, in some main features -- the alternate attacks of the frost and fire giants as the Earth's orbit elongates, and it swings alternately closer and farther from the sun -- culminating in its finally breaking into fragments, as the Midgard Serpent squeezes it, and the Hammer of Thor knocks lumps into the original chaos.

And in the other mythology? This holds out a better prospect, I think. The death of Osiris, with his body torn to pieces and hidden all over the world, until the day his witch-wife Isis can bring together all the pieces, and he arises new-born to vanquish Set, the dark angel of destruction. A glorious race, smitten and broken by some terrible disaster, scattered all over the world -- or the Universe? -- until some day they can again regain their powers and rise above their physical limitations. Perhaps it symbolises man's final conquering of his physical inheritance, when he becomes again a complete physical entity, unfettered by physical forms, and therefor not dependant on the physical laws of the universe. Don't forget many of the

Egyptian

Discussing the Devil by Kenneth F. Slater(continued)

..Egyptian beliefs, distorted though they are, tend to point to a previous and a future life of pure spirit--pure mental energy.

Here I will insert what should be the final paragraph in this article, just so you won't be getting annoyed -YOU to whom it refers. The pedantic folk will say that I have ignored many vital points, a number of important factors, and some definite facts. I admit this, gladly, freely. This is written as a subject into which you yourselves may inquire deeper, and think over, should it interest you, and give you reason to think.

To revert to the Devil. We personify him as the spirit of all things evil and destructive--at least, we should, tho we fen are rather liable to treat him as a rather nice old gent, (rather badly maligned by others) in our stories. But we can ignore that, and take the more normal view.

But then we come up against the definition of good and evil, destruction and creation.

Is it good to save the life of a child at the expense of the lives of the two passengers in the car you are driving?

Is it destruction to build a horrible factory in the middle of a beautiful countryside--when the factory is necessary to clothe the people?

I shall not answer these questions--they are ones of a personal viewpoint, don't you agree?

And there, I think, we come to the root of the Devil. No man can know God or his Adversary until he first knows himself. Not others but HIMSELF, and his own views on the universe and all things in it. And does any man know that? I doubt it. Each must be his own judge, his own representative of both sides.

But that may be debated--it is only my opinion, and one which I fear the Church would not hold in great favour. Why? Because the average man--including myself--has a strong selfish instinct, and cannot look at things except in a biased fashion. Therefore, our responsibility to others demands that we should make rules about what is 'bad'--and our selfish instinct demands that we should off-load the blame when we do 'bad' things--hence the Devil!

You don't agree? I thought you might not--so, just go back to the earlier 'final paragraph' and you can do your own reasoning from here on.

DISCUSSING IS THE DEVIL!

.....
Odd Notes: 1) The closing date for the Competition is December 31.
2) AMAZING AMAZING. After the recent disappointing efforts of this mag, the October issue appears with a long SF story 'The Brain' by Alexander Blade. At last I have a 1948 AMAZING that is worth keeping! The story's in the old Amazing tradition. Keep it up, RAP!
3) Have just seen some 1939-40 Fantastic Adventures. My goshe--in those days--it was worth reading. The stories were largely the old SF type, not the present 'fantastic' stuff that appears in that mag--and all too frequently in its sister 'Amazing'.
4) I consider the best mags to be the twins 'TWS' and Startling;-- Fantastic Novels is the best of the lot, but that has the cream of past mags to pick from.
5) BERGEY'S BEM's. He can do covers without BEM's--see Startling for Feb 43--the cover of which was in the 'Wesso' tradition. Drop those BEM's and beee-u-u-tiful wimmen, Bergy!
6) Why didn't Russell give us a decent finish to Dreadful Sanctuary? What a let-down! I expected something like 'Sinister Barrier'.
-----and so ends the October 1948 issue of The Alembic. Adios!