

Hi - SAPS!

This is the reason for the skimpy Calcite GEM TONES in the 25th Mailing -- I didn't get the review column finished in time.

Here it is....

I would have mailed it to you sooner (while the fanzines reviewed therein were current) except that Postmailings don't count for SAPS credit -- and I didn't have the heart to sabotage our OE that way....

G.M.Carr, 8325-31st NW
Seattle 7, Washington.

Resale Certificate

Required under Chapter 2, Sec. 9, Laws of Washington, 1935, State Tax Commission General Ruling
Stm. No. 4, April 30, 1935.

"I Hereby Certify that all of the tangible personal property which I shall purchase from

will be purchased for resale in the regular course of business or for the purpose of consuming the property purchased in producing for sale a new article or substance of which such property is an ingredient or component, or a chemical used in processing the same. This notice shall be considered a part of each order which I give unless such order shall otherwise specify. This certificate shall be good until revoked in writing.

Purchaser _____

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Certificate # C _____

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Address _____

Aw, NUTS! Just finished running off the Violets and Vitriol and part of BOO JEST for SAPS, and discovered to my horror that part of it is practically (if not entirely) illegible! Since I have neither the time, patience nor money to re-run the entire thing, some of you will undoubtedly have pages that absolutely CANNOT be read. I am sorry. I am mortified. I am practically burned to a crisp with disgust -- but I'm damned if I am going to skip a mailing or throw it away!

When taking over the use of this ABDick Model 90, I was cozened into setting it up with ABDick No. 1787 ink. As far as I am concerned, ABDick can take their ink and stick it... the only kind I've ever had any half-way decent success with is the very cheapest brand, and that would make better crankcase oil than mimoo ink. This Nu. 1787 is so goddamned tempermental that it has to be heated to get out of the can, and then the machine has to be kept at temperature while running. So long as the sun was shining down through the basement window onto the machine, all went well... the perspiration dripping off my nose merely served to keep the proper humidity. But when the sun went down and the basement cooled off, the ink simply congealed. I say the Hell with it -- the rest of BOO JEST is being run off with TEMPO ink, which is the only half-way decent ink I've found! And now to continue....

A LA SPACE #4, Kent Corey, Box 64, Enid, Oklahoma. 15¢, 7/\$1.
Appearance: Colorful cover, sloppily multilithed 20 pages.
Variety: Editorials, articles, 2 continued stories, and the rest all "I love me, I love you, I love pulp crud..."
Comment: "A LA S" spells "Alas!" and that is my reaction to this issue. To be sure, the editorial striving is not so pronounced as in the earlier issues, but with the relaxed attitude has come an increased sloppiness -- particularly noticeable in that most frustrating of all discourties, the careless misspelling of material which was obviously correctly spelled when submitted. Gregg Calkins has a question and answer column which would be of great interest if adequately presented; Orville Mosher went to great trouble to expound Project Fanclub; but the rest of the material is just what Kent's policy deserves... "insane babblings", most of it. Sorry, Kent, but your carelessness is inexcusable in view of the quality material at hand. (For No. 5 issue, see "Late Arrivals")

ACHRONIC CHRONICLE, K.K. Smith, Rt. 1, Box 92, Everett, Wash. \$1 per.

Appearance: 20 pages printed, no covers. Consistently neat.

Variety: Comments by a mature mind on almost anything...but recently largely about printing as a hobby.

Comment: K.K. Smith is far from being just another fanpubber, but since he is a hobby-pubber it was inevitable that he should get on a wide exchange-list with other ampubbers. He does not run a review column as such, but occasionally mentions some of these amateur pubs when they contain a thought worth commenting on. I freely admit there is no egoboo quite so heady as finding that something you said was considered significant enough to be picked up by Smith and mentioned.

ABSTRACT, Don Howard Donnell, 5425 Santa Monica Blvd., L. A. 29, Cal. Apt. 205. Subscriptions are "\$1.00 per year (six issues) or 10¢ per single copy. Sample copies free on request." (Well, that's what he says!)

Appearance: 23 pages, nine on black on white, over. Few interior illos, all of the scratchy type -- no letter guides.

Variety: The ToFC lists 5 stories, 1 article, 2 features, and a "special Bonus Story". Actually, Don doesn't seem to know the difference between an editorial, an article, and a feature, so all three are merely editorials in disguise. The letter column was a naive bit wherein the editor took umbrage at a bit of criticism and proceeded unwittingly to prove how justified it was....

Comment: The justified margins, ample white space in the format, and careful copying give evidence that the editor is trying to put out a good 'zine. A good illustrator and the use of letter guides in the headings would make a great improvement. Of course, the fact that the contents were almost completely uninteresting is something that only editorial taste can help.... plus experience.

ASFQ, VI #II, 57 East Park Lane, N.E., Atlanta 5, Ga.

Appearance: Litho cover on 24 pages of probably the most perfect mimeoing in fandom (well, maybe Boggs, Higgs, and a few others do equally good work.) Artwork nothing exceptional this time.

Variety: No fiction or poetry.

Comments: Ian T. Macaulay is relinquishing editorship to Jerry Burge, 415 Pavilion St. SE, Atlanta 3. It remains to be seen whether the high quality of the Atlanta SF CO was due to Ian's editing or the group's interest and cooperation. (Ian intends to reissue Cosmag.) The consistently high quality of the articles in ASFQ make it difficult to review because there's no handle to grab hold of...it is ALL good, adult, and interesting.

BCO, Bob Stewart, 274 Arlington St., San Francisco, Calif. Just noticed that this is now a FAPAazine. Good place for it. FAPA is so full of deadwood that a shot of good, healthy crud might be just the fertilizer it needs.

CHIGGER PATCH OF FANDOM, Nan Gerding & Bob Farnham, % the latter at 104 Mt. View Drive, Dalton, Ga. 15¢ Annual.

Appearance: 35 pages plus covers. Gerding's excellent mimeographing plus exquisite illos by the cream of fandom's illustrators. Nan sure can pick 'em...

Variety: A well-rounded ToFC with just about everything represented except the hysterical type of fan humor.

Comment: Evidently it's just Nan's good nature that keeps insisting that Bob Farnham is co-editor. His touch is definitely lacking, and if any criticism could be made of this lovely little publication, it would be that it is completely feminine in taste.

CONFUSION #15, Shelby Vick, Box 493, Lynn Haven, Fla. 10¢

Appearance: BEETEEG -- 30 pages, beautifully mimeo'd and illustrated with Shelvick's puffins...

Variety: Just the usual confusion of interesting material all hodgepoded together into a good-looking whole. Shelvick manages to include some surprise almost every issue. First it was the "Something up our sleeve" gimmick, and now in this issue he starts "It's in the Bag"...complete with a little game to play.

Comment: No doubt by now it is old news to you fans that Shelvick passed through the Valley of the Shadow of Polio and came out the other side...walking! This is a matter deserving of congratulations because Iron Lungs are full of patients that weren't so lucky.... Cf is too polite to mention it, but it seems there is a little undercurrent of hurt feelings because Cf did so much of the work of promoting the Import WAW Campaign two conventions ago, whereas Q got most of the glory for it because of publicizing WAW via The Harp. Mais oui, c'est la vie d'un Fan...

DESTINY #8, Earl Kemp, 3477 N. Clark Street, Chicago 13, Ill. 25¢ (Malcolm Willits is still co-editor, but all correspondence above.)

Appearance: Photo-offset to half size, 32 pages 8½ x 5½

Variety: Only one story (By Dr. David H. Keller), but well-rounded otherwise in the matter of articles, illos, features, poetry, etc.

Comment: Now that the size has been increased to one-half instead quarter or third, it is much easier to read. Beautifully done

ECLIPSE, Ray Thompson, 410 S. 4th St., Norfolk, Neb. 10¢

Appearance: 32 pages, ditto'd (purple), with a few interior illos not too expertly done. Format easier to read than most.

Variety: Good assortment, the fanfiction is slightly better than the articles, which are somewhat on the "babbling" side.

Comment: Aside from mentioning that there was one doggone good story in it (The Lynching, by Bobby Warner), this mag does not inspire any comment.

ESCAPE, Larry Balint, 3255 Golden Ave., Long Beach 6, Cal. 5¢ (Now discontinued in favor of FANTASTA). ((Thank Goodness!!))

Appearance: 20 pages half-size lengthwise, mineo'd upside down and packwards, plus cover. Honest, this is the screwed-upest mess I EVER saw!

Variety: Well, I can locate a review column and some predictions and a couple of columns...I dunno what the rest is.

Comment: Maybe it is just as well that Larry is going back to editing FANTASTA... I wouldn't doubt but that even HE got lost in making this ESCAPE...

FIENDETTA, Charles Wells, 405 E. 62nd St. Savannah, Ga. 15¢

Appearance: Colorfully ditto'd in all shades of the rainbow; 25 pages in all. The gal on the cover looks like she's holding back her nausea by main force, but the contents really aren't bad at all.

Variety: Mostly high-powered yakking by sundry fannish wits, largely "columns"..ie, guest editorials.

Comment: I note that Russ Watkins is being seen around in fanzines more often, especially in fta. Starting with the Augish (one sheet, legal size) fta is going mineo. Also SAPS..

FANTASIAS #7, Dave English, 63 W. 2nd St., Dunkirk, N.Y. 15¢

Appearance: Mineo'd, 23 pp, amply illo'd. Multilithed DEA cover (which slipped on the machine. Too bad). Best interior illo a page of LACH cartoons "FANTASIAS' Roving Reporter Goes to the Planets". I hope this is a permanent feature.

Variety: 1 story, 1 editorial, several poems & fillers, the rest articles and "columns" of the rambling editorial type. One article, however, was outstanding both from the subject matter and excellent writing. Roger Dard's "The Weird Art of Rosaleen Norton".

Comment: A very competent 'zine from the editorial standpoint, but somewhat untidy in mineography and choice of paper. George Wetzel is still around, so evidently it was another whose obit I read...

FAN WARP, V.I. #1, Lyle Kessler, 2450 76th Ave., Phila 38, Pa.

Trades accepted, otherwise 20¢

Appearance: 15 pp multilithed, dus covers. Double columns, justified. Amply illo'd.

Variety: ToFC breaks the contents into three categories, Features, Articles, and Fiction, and the artwork is good to excellent.

Comment: I was pleased to see Mari Wolf in a fanzine again. Other BNFs listed were David H. Keller, Robert Bloch, Alan Nourse, Sol Levin, Milton A. Rothman. The only sour note in this unusually high level of material was a typical bit of fanfiction by Basil Wells. He can do better when he tries. It is a noteworthy thing that multilith gives any fanzine an edge when it comes to appearance. Illo's that would look distinctly cheesier when mimeo'd, look like Art with a capital A and good material reads even better when thus attractively presented. (Which makes it difficult to determine whether FANWARP material really was outstandingly good, or just gave that impression...) I found the humor refreshingly adult without being either stuffy or smutty, and Dave Hammond's satire was the best I've read since SINISTERRA's Hall of Shame series.

FANTASTA #5, Larry Balint, 3255 Golden Ave. Long Beach 6, Calif.

Appearance: 4 pp, mimeo, double column, illos.

Variety: How much can you do in 4 pages? Larry manages a review column with a new twist to it -- he uses the 5-star system of rating, also quite a bit of pleasant chatter.

Comment: Most chucklesome -- the predictions in "Fishbowl of The Future."

HALF-SHOT, Dick Clarkson, Jon Magnus. A priceless meshot.

Appearance: Mimeo'd, 2-color cover, 20 pp, beautifully done.

Variety: A nice assortment of humorous articles, poetry, and filler. Few illos.

Comment: Thanks for sending me one, Dick & Jon...

INSIDE, Ron Smith, 332 E. Date St., Oxnard, Cal. 25¢ Irreg.

Appearance: Mimeo'd, covers, 50 pp, 5 1/2 x 7, a few interior illos, not too expertly done.

Variety: Fiction & non-fiction, about equally divided between serious-constructive and whacko-humorous.

Comment: Unimpressive appearance, but surprisingly good material. Format doesn't do it justice, being too small for the large type used. Too-large cover mars otherwise ...

KAYMAR TRADER #74, K. Martin Carlson, 1028 3rd Ave., So. Moorehead, Minn. Monthly, 10¢ or 4/25. Special discount to NFFF.

Appearance: Nicely mimeo'd on colored paper, DEA cover.

Variety: This is strictly an ad-zine, but occasionally has a review or short editorial/article.

Comment: This is the old standby for stf readers and/or collectors, and I personally don't see how any fan can afford to miss it.

NOTE #7, ("Annish"), Robert Peatrowsky, Box 634, Norfolk, Nebr. 5¢

Appearance: 60 pages, ditto, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x8 $\frac{1}{2}$. Cover by Bergeron, plus copious interior illos in varied colors.

Variety: Non-fiction.

Comment: Bob made an all-out effort to make this first Annish outstanding. It is completely legible, attractive format, and very neat. But even so, it fails to live up to its promise. Why, I can't quite say -- the articles were well written, but didn't seem to SAY anything. Even Vernon L. McCain's "Louella-Parsonish" fan-gossip about pres-fell slightly flat... A beautiful try, though.

MUGGERY, V I, #1, S/Sgt Edwin Corley, Hq. Sq. Hq. AFMTC, Patrick AFB, Fla. 10¢ 3/25; Bi-Monthly.

Appearance: Purple ditto, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x5 $\frac{1}{2}$ format, illustrated.

Variety: This 'zine is dedicated to drama, and contains three short plays, plus an editorial and a brief article on 3D.

Comment: This could turn out to be something really good. The material was somewhat on the fantasy side, but well done, and this certainly is a wide field untouched so far.

MUZZY Pvt. Claude R. Hall, USAF100611, Btry A, 6th Tng. Bn.

AAA RTC, Fort Bliss, Texas. 15¢ 4/50

Appearance: It looks like a typical crudzine, 18 mimeo'd pages plus a flyer. Cover, Interior Illos.

Variety: As usual, fiction, non-fiction and fillers.

Comment: I'd say MUZZY is an average fanmag -- containing the average fanzine faults and excellences. The material is good, (Art Rapp has a highly interesting column of fandom-memoirs) to average; the artwork suffers from inexpert stencilling, the lack of a letter guide shows up in headings and the mimeography is legible but nothing outstanding. The general effect is pleasant, however. The fiction is interesting if amateurish... #2 is a great improvement over #1; #3 stunk, but #4 is pretty good, in fact, not bad at all. Claud's main difficulty is lack of good material, he needs a stable stable...

OOPSLA, Gregg Calkins, 1429 Talisman Drive, Salt Lake City 16, Utah. No price listed. NOTE: Gregg has joined the Marines and turned over OOPS to the Utah Science Fiction League. He says they will still issue the same 'zine but under a different title -- but how can it be the same fanzine with a new name and a new set of editors?

Appearance: 24 pp, colored paper, very neat mimeography, amply illustrated. Exquisite format and reproduction.

Variety: BNFstuff of highest calibre.

Comment: Richard Elsberry (who apparently is accomplishing his publicly-announced withdrawal from actifandom by a resurgence of articles in practically every fanzine of consequence I've seen lately) gives an inside expose of San Francisco fanpolitics. WOW! This ought to be SOME 1954 convention...instead of breaking up after the con (as previous clubs have done) the SF Little Men broke up before the Con...even the prospect of being Convention Hosts apparently strained friendly relations to the breaking point...What with Friscons, Leprecons, and Tetartoidcons, the Little Men will start their 1954 orgy under difficulties!

PEON #27, Charles Lee Riddle, 108 Dunham St., Norwich, Conn. 10¢

Appearance: 32 pp, expertly mimeo'd, (plus that rarity in fanzines, a few blank pages!) colored covers, tape bound, very neat illos.

Variety: Good fan-fiction; intelligent articles; and a review column of which I can only say that "Kind Hearts and Gentle People" seldom make good reviewers, they tend to get soft around the edges.)

Comment: Since this is the 27th issue, the publisher is well experienced and it shows up in a highly competent, polished, and thoroughly interesting product.

PEON #28, same as above.

Appearance: Beautiful DEA cover (looks like Bela Lugosi in a happy mood); 30 pp, exquisite mimeography.

Variety: A pleasing selection of choice fanfiction, plus adult-slanted articles and filler. Ledyard's fanzine review column had this choice bit of unconscious humor: "...the best in the issue is the story by Robert McCrory, 'The Crud From 20,000 Fathoms' followed by George Watzel's offering.."

Comment: Same as above.

PROJECT FAN CLUB, Orville W. Mosher, 1728 Mayfair, Emporia, Kansas.

Appearance: Colored covers, 20 pp, mimeographed. No illos.

Variety: This is strictly a business-like information booklet, the long-awaited organ of Project Fan Club.

Comment: It says very little for the amount of wordage, and the reliability of the news it does give can be judged by the statement quoted from the Official Editor of ISFCC (who has not produced a single issue of the EXPLORER since taking office a year ago and has given ISFCC what amounts to a death or suspended animation):..."I hope to publish EXPLORER at six-week intervals rather than every two months until the gap between publication and the date on the magazine is closed up" !! However, Pfc is a worthy effort and bears watching.

PSYCHOTIC #1 to #4 Richard Geis, 2631 N. Mississippi, Portland 12, Ore. Apt. 106, 10¢ Monthly.

Appearance: Ditto'd, good use of colors, covers, neat headings and illos. Averages 34 to 40 pages each.

Variety: Rather heavy on the "articles" and "columns", which, though good, suffer the usual fate of being guest-editorials in disguise. Quite good fanfiction, but the best single items are Geis' poems. Geise says his name rhymes with "vice" but he forgot to say whether it also rhymes with "kice" or "jice"...

Comment: Richard did the commendable thing of waiting for a year after discovering fandom before putting out a fanzine. As a result, his 'zine is neat in format, well edited as to spelling and grammar, and avoids most of the fanzine foibles. Furthermore, I note that his ToFC (when he has one) shows names new to me, which indicates he is tapping a fresh source of talent rather than scraping up crumbs from the same weary round of BNFs and would-be BNFs... I guess Richard really means it when he called this a "monthly"...I've received four large, well-produced fanzines since the previous BOO JEST went out.

REVIEW, Vernon L. McCain, RFD #3, Nampa, Ida. Exchange only

Appearance: Blue ditto, solid format, no cover or illos, 8pp.

Variety: Comments, mag reviews, letters and whatever items Vmcc feels like putting into it.

Comment: There is little use in commenting on this 'zine any more than it would be on commenting on a private letter, because if you (the reader) are an arpubber, chances are you have already made your arrangements to trade, and if you are not -- well, there is no use in tantalizing you with a report on something you can't have.

REASON #2, Tom Piper, 264 - 19th St., Santa Monica, Cal. Irreg.
Appearance: 24 pp (incl. flyer) mimeo'd. Covers, illos. Aside from the incredible color combinations of red ink on orange paper, or green in on blue paper, etc., which makes the reading extremely difficult, the mimeography was good and format neat.
Variety: The TofC lists a whole page of Articles, Columns, Features and Fillers, but due to the appalling color combinations much of it is unreadable.

Comment: I am not at all surprised to note that REASON is being suspended with Ish #2. In the first place, it is an unsound beginning when a neofan starts advertising his publication heavily before he has gained experience enough to know what is involved in taking on subs, and in the second place, such advertising indicates not only inexperience, but poor judgement. This was not really a bad 'zine, just over-ambitious. I suspect Tom was less interested in putting out a fanzine than he was in making puns on the fanzine's name -- which would explain the heavy advance ballyhoo and the feeble fulfillment... (and would also explain why he is switching to another name - VACUUM - and repeating the advance publicity. Undoubtedly we shall soon be seeing ads about the 'zine that's full of nothing' -- to which we can add, Too true!

RENAISSANCE #9, Joseph Semenovitch, 155-07 71st Ave, Flushing 67, NY. 10¢ or 12/\$1 Irregular.

Appearance: Neat cover, no interior illos. 26 pp, mimeo.
Variety: Non-fiction, this issue. Slanted toward the occult.
Comment: George Wetzels article on unexplained weird phenomena took up the majority of the issue. George Wetzels neo-Lovecraftian-Fortean gullibility bores me (I'm grateful it was not Shaver he took a crush on!) but I like Joe's editorial policy and relaxed attitude toward his contributors and public...

STF TRENDS, #13, Lynn A. Hickman, Box 194, Napoleon, Ohio. 25¢

Appearance: Beautiful, as usual, but not quite as perfectly done. Looks like a Dollens cover, plus interior illos.
Variety: Some interesting non-fiction material in a reprint from NATION'S BUSINESS, plus fanfiction, filler, and an over-size letter column wherein Richard Elsberry reiterates the pro-underground skulduggery and the Frisco tetartoid-trouble... For a boy that's retiring from fanactivity, Rich certainly gets around.

Comment: I guess I haven't any comment to add.

SATURDAY MORNING GAZETTE, John Magnus Jr., 9312 2nd Ave., Silver Spring, Md. Started out to be a weekly..guess it still is.

Appearance: #1 to 3-4-5 are one and two sheets each, nine'o'd.

Variety: News and views.

Comment: a brief con report in the latest. John has tentatively been appointed NFFF Official Editor, which will be a good thing for NFFF if it goes through. His excellence of mimeography is equal even to Racy Higgs' (which was tops), and his editorial discretion and judgement give indication of being a great deal better. Now, if he can only put TNFF on a regular publishing schedule and keep it there!

SOL, Dave Ish, 914 Harmon Road, Ridgewood, N.Jersey. 10¢ Irreg.

Appearance: 38 pp, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x5 $\frac{1}{2}$, ditto in colors. Tri-color cover, very neatly done. Few interior illos.

Variety: Non-fiction.

Comment: At last Dave is beginning to live up to the editorial promise he started out with. This issue of SOL is characterized by its neatness. The format is less cluttered (justified margins, even!) and completely legible. An occasional sloppiness mars a page or two, but on the whole Dave shows a great improvement.

The contents, as usual, deserve better presentation than they got.

1. Distributed with this issue of SOL was a Convention Report by Bob Tucker on Indian Lake. The more I read about Indian Lake, the more I am convinced that the real fan conventions are not those elaborately staged procons such as Chicago, Philly or San Francisco, but the informal get-togethers like Beatley's on the Lake...

SCIENCE FICTION ADVERTISER, 1745 Kenneth Road, Glendale 1, Cal.

Appearance: Dollens cover as usual, also interior illos. Approx. 32 pp, lith. I don't know exactly what he'd done with the format, but issues V VI #6 and #7 are easier to read and more lively than previously.

Variety: Several analytical articles, plus publisher's blurbs of the review type in addition to the usual ads and bargains offered.

Comment: I always read SFA with a towel handy, because I just can't help drooling at the offers inside.. #7 announces a new type of column which looks interesting. Something about the "Laws of Speculation" wherein we speculate on possible worlds if conditions were so and so.

STY, John L. Magnus, Jr. 9312 Second Ave., Silver Spring, Md.

Appearance: This is one of the most beautiful fanzines from the standpoint of neatness, format, and consistently well-designed covers of any that I have received. Mimeo'd, 50 pp.

Variety: No fiction, the articles are of the informative type and cover persons, events, and reviews. Also letters.

Comment: In one year, (since CHICON II, in fact) John has brought SF into a leading position among current fanzines. Unlike most, his format and covers have not suffered several revolutions in arriving at this status. The June ish mentions that he is accepting trades and subs (\$1 per 8 ishs) as a means of limiting his circulation which he is trying to control at 250. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to get on the list.

SCIENCE FICTION NEWS LETTER, PO BOX 702, Bloomington, Ill.

Appearance: 20 pp, litho, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x8 $\frac{1}{2}$

Variety: News, views, and Who's Whose...

Comment: Better send in 40¢ to get the final two issues before it folds as announced in #39, Summer, 1953. Hail and Farewell...

STAPLANES, Orma McCormick, 1558 W. Hazelhurst, Ferndale 20, Mich.

Appearance: 22 pp, exquisitely mimeo'd, covers hand colored.

Variety: Poetry, grave, gay, humorous and critical.

Comment: The latest issue contained a poem by Philip Jose Farmer of pro fame, as well as a cross-sampling of fandom's best poets.

TYRANN #7, Ebel & Hirschhorn, 853 Riverside Drive, NY 32, 15¢

Appearance: Beautifully ditto'd in colors. TWO covers -- front and back! 25 pp, including poll. 4 page art portfolio by Dave English. But good.

Variety: 1 story, 1 movie review by Richard Elsberry -- the fan who is currently retiring from fandom with a sudden rush of crifanac -- and a slightly BNFish letter column. Plus sundry other columns and fillers.

Comment: Consistently good for a ditto's fannag. Contains a column by one BNF that is now almost non-existent elsewhere in fandom since he retired for active participation in NFFF -- ie, Ev. Winne with his column "The Big Eye".

VEGA, #10 & #11, 119 S. Front St., Marquette, Mich. 10¢ These come so fast I can't keep up with them...probably monthly.

Appearance: Mimeo'd, including covers (3-color cover on #10)

Variety: #10 was bigger than #11, which was rather skimpy since Joel is saving his strength for the Annish coming up, but rather BNFish in the letter column and slanted toward non-fiction. Robert Bloch had a narrative poem in #10 and Don Cantin had a radio-script.

Comment: Looks as though there's a scramble for QUANDRY's fallen mantle between Ellison's STF BULLETIN and Nydahl's VEGA. Since VEGA subs for less than half of the former and accepts trados (which Harlan told me he doesn't) plus giving substantially the same material as STFB, I suspect that Joe is closer to wearing it than Harlan... In my opinion, a fanzine that depends on subs to keep alive is already dead and only its ghost survives as the unacknowledged OO of an unacknowledged club. But in spite of my opinion, Harlan seems to be doing all right. My bet is still on Joel, though.

VULCAN, Terry Carr, 134 Cambridge St., San Francisco, Calif.

Appearance: #2 is a hefty 72 pages of mimeo, ditto, and print.

Variety: 1 note. 3 Serious Constructive Stories; 3 fan-humor Stories; 4 Serious Constructive Poems; 1 fan-humor Poem; 8 features (Editorials, articles, cartoons, letters and quotes). Quite a slug.

Comment: Terry is a boy to watch for BNF-potential. In fact, if I don't watch out I'll soon be "the other Carr" in fandom.... So far already his youthful enthusiasm has produced more quantity than quality, but no doubt time will take care of that. The boy looks good.

WHY?, David McDonald, % THE Science-Fiction Club of New York, 131-20 132 Street, Queens 20, N.Y. 5¢

Appearance: 8½x7, 8 pp, mimeo'd in blue ink on white paper. Cover and a couple of interior illos.

Variety: Rather breezy little booklet with very short "shorts" and "columns".

Comment: An interesting little newcomer with a completely new list of names. The cover artist, Larry Balint, is the only one I recognize. Apparently a new group is breaking into fandom. Welcome, kids.

WHISPERING SPACE, VI, #1, Vol Walker, 6438 E. 4th Pl. Tulsa, Okla. OO of the Okla Science Fiction Club. Free on Request.

Appearance: Just a crudzine, but with possibilities.

Variety: The fanfiction is so extremely so that I believe it must be deliberate spoof; the spelling couldn't be that bad on purpose and the drawing in the illos shouldn't happen to a first-grader...

Comment: In spite of every flaw in the book, this is a refreshing newcomer and worth a 3¢ stamp. You might even send them a nickle to help.

ECLIPSE #5, Ray Thompson, 410 S. 4th St., Norfolk, Nebraska.

Appearance: 30 pp, purple ditto, cover.

Variety: No Tofo and though I read the doggone thing through twice, I still don't know what's in it except an interesting letter from Vernon L. McCain and a lot of fannish yakking...

Comment: Nice clean cover illo. (Shows a skunk taking a bath with Lifebuoy -- spelled LIFEBOUY)

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW #6, GPO Box 853, Brooklyn 1, NY 20¢

Appearance: Photo-offset to half size, 10 pp, no illos or unnecessary filler...just flying saucer data.

Variety: Some of the newspaper clippings were shown as is; most were tabulated.

Comment: The saucers are definitely SOMETHING, and these boys are getting about as coherent a picture as any, I'd say. Anyone even faintly curious about them would do better to contact this group than spend dough on Ray Palmer's wild-eyed speculations. What's more, since they are Photo-offsetting nowadays, they NEED the dough.

FANTASTA #6 & #7, Larry Baling, 3255 Golden Ave., Long Beach, Cal.

Irreg. The price barely covers the postage used, i.e. 2/5¢ Tsk,tsk!

Appearance: A half dozen pages each, pix and stuff. Mineo.

Variety: This is a kind of a newszine, I guess, just full of talk.

Comment: So many of these coming at me I can't keep up with them!

HODGE PODGE #1, Nancy Share, PO Box 31, Danville, Penna. 6/50¢

Appearance: 22 pp, mineo'd. Not as many illo's as one would expect from NanShare, the prominent Fanne artist..

Variety: Nice balance of poetry, fiction and non-fiction. Easily the best item was an article by Art Rapp about time-wasting fanactivity.

Comment: Nan has a pleasant personality which permeates everything she publishes. The only criticism I can make is that every time I say the nice things her anpubbing deserves, she won't believe it! I guess my reputation for being devastatingly subtle in my comments is just too much for her...

THURBAN, Warren Den is, 511 Plaisance Ave. Rockford, Ill. 10¢ 3/25¢

Appearance: Pretty awful. 4-color cover looks like a wiping rag.

Variety: Some good material from N3F MSS Bu, which deserved better fate.

Comments: I guess Warren must be pretty young and doing the best he can. The mineoing is not bad, even neat in spots, but he's got a lot to learn. One big thing in his favor -- the spelling and grammar are good! Also the careful double columns show that he is trying to put out a good mag.

(Received too late for inclusion in it's proper place:)

A LA SPACE, Kent Corey, Box 64, Enid, Okla. 15¢ 7/\$1

Appearance: 24 pp, ditto, printed cover, ample interior illos.

Variety: Mostly guest editorials masquerading as "articles" or "reviews" by other fanzine editors who would have done just as well to confine their editorializing to their own 'zines...

Comment: Kent has apparently broken the downward trend of ish #2,3 and 4. Aside from a somewhat too great a dependence on other fan editors for material, Kent has presented a neat and legible fanzine, attractively illo'd, and with some intrinsic merit as to material. He's apparently still groping around for a definite editorial policy to settle on, but issue \$6 is definitely a step in the right direction. I'm sorry to see Kent file for NFFF President because this is a job for an experienced person and Kent has not proved himself in any administrative capacity in fandom. If by chance he should get it, all the hard work that has gone into trying to get NFFF reorganized during the past two years will be lost, because it will take at least 6 months for Kent to find out all the factors involved, and by that time the machine will have slowed down again as so many times in the past. Too bad there isn't some selective requirements for filing for this post.

ARION #1, Fall, 1953, Ray C. Higes, 813 Eastern Ave, Connersville, Ind. 20¢ Irreg.

Appearance: 24 pp, including covers, beautifully illustrated and mineographed.

Variety: A poezzine, similar to STARLANES, but with a different personality -- more Artiness, less humor

Comment: Surprised the heck out of me to find a poem in it that I wrote after being hit on the head at Chicon II. I'd forgotten all about writing it... 'twasn't bad, at that. At least it was factual!

ASFO VII, #3. Jerry Burge, 415 Pavillion St SE, Atlanta, Ga. 15¢

Appearance: 23 pp, including litho'd cover. Few interior illos.

Variety: Nice balance between serious and humorous.

Comment: This is the first issue since Ian T. Macauley moved and turned it over to Jerry. Jerry has not yet mastered the perfection Ian displayed in mineography, and although the same format, paper, etc. is used - there is a noticeable difference. It is entirely legible (better than my mineography, for that matter!) By the way, Ian's new address is: Ian T. Macauley, 326 Madison Ave., Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey. Good luck, Jerry...