

G "The 20th & 21st Mailings: Off-trail Mag. Pub. Asso." V

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This issue of GRIST (uncombined with/from UR) marks a new era in the editorial policy of unURpressed Publications. Henceforward this magazine will represent my chief contribution to OMPA. It will consist in the main of mailing commentary. OMPAns desiring to receive UR must be advised that they are now under the same obligation as other recipients of that sterling publication to acknowledge each and every issue in one manner or another. Those of you who commented in the 20th mailing may look forward to UR-7. Those who did not must take thought to filling out the coupon attached to Straight Talk and returning it. I have a multitude of reasons for the change in policy, chief among which is my indolent character. At the time I published UR 6, I fully intended to have UR 7 ready for distribution at the Detention. It is now the first of November and I have not cut one single stencil, either for it or for the mailing comments on the Twentieth Mailing which I put in draft form some three and a half months ago. In the interest of more frequent appearance in OMPA then, I am divorcing UR from that august body.

The following comments on the twentieth mailing are to a certain extent superseded by your comments in the Twenty-first. However, I shall not allow such minor considerations to deter me...

SYNERGETICS; Hey now, is Art Coulter really Bob Leman? This sounds more and more  
MARSOLO; like one off his clever parodies. I wonder how Mervil Culvergast  
Hayes: would react to Synergetics. Did you ever see what happens to a transformer when you reduce and eliminate all the impedances across the output? Maximum Smoke! How about a bit more detail on the mailing comment and a bit less of NFFF-ISFCC oriented material. It would have taken but a few extra minutes to have run off fifty copies of Marsolo without pages 4 & 5.

T. J., Did you select this title with a view toward expatiating upon ERG; sin-ERG-etics? And what is this sercon bit about the space-satellite. Jeeves: It must be a proud and lonely thing to be a BSFA official. Your treatise on spacecraft omitted any reference to those ingenious vehicles known as the Skylarks, therefore you missed an opportunity for importunity. You could have demanded the book or the money. I assure you that I'm still looking.

ARCHIVE QOS; I'll stipulate two points:  
TALES from the a. the interpolated pamphlet in Grist/UR 5A had nothing to do  
OUBLIETTE; with the mailing, however, I had the assurance of Mr. Bennett  
Mercer: that the labour involved in carting it back and mailing it to you lucky people was of such nature as to qualify it for page credit, provided that I had already sufficient count not to need it and that such credit be non-transferrable, and I thought you chaps might enjoy the few uplifting thoughts therein, or at least cherish it as a souvenir of South Gate.

b. that I have been guilty of sloppy phraseology; and I hereby amend the offending statement to read; "Since John is an English Mercenary serving with the police force of a Conservative Government."

I shall not stipulate, however, that there is no reference to my use of the sub-heading, 'Magazine of Apartheid' in the issue. Your close attention is directed to the last two lines in the first column on the second page of 'A Glance at The Horizon' and the first six lines below the illustration of the caravel on the same page. For your express benefit and edification, I herewith utter and cause to be made a STATEMENT OF EDITORIAL POLICY: to wit:

Whereas "Togetherness" as a way of life has received an inordinate emphasis in recent years and; Whereas it is deemed necessary by the editorial staff of the U R P press that some attempt to counter this trend be taken in hand in order that the public may be reminded that a certain amount of Apartheid ( in a sense of GAFIA) is necessary for the well being of any individual; It is hereby proclaimed the the magazine "U R" shall henceforward be referred to by the subtitle "The Magazine of Apartheid" and the continued efforts shall be made to emphasize this noble cause.

3 PEALS; More tolling remarks; developed. From the basic premise of a successful man turning from his success into the world of art we find two entirely different treatments. I must say that I prefer Gulley Jimson to Sterling. Perhaps we'd have enjoyed the "Moon and Sixpence" more had we had a colour television, certainly the paintings of Gulley Jimson would have lost much of their charm in black and white.

MORPH; I fear that I must disclaim the possession of a gem. Mervil Culvergast was Roles: the discovery of Bob Leman. It is true that his doubts as to Bob's purity of intent might allow some one else to take over as the interlocutor twixt Mervil and Fandom but Bob seems singularly loathe to divulge Mr. Culvergast's address. I do not blame your lady for getting aroused. Buses using letters from my correspondents for police would vex even this phlegmatic personage. She is quite sensible in desiring to meet you in Person. Pickups are more enjoyable in the flesh than via projection. Then your reference to Birmingham's other dirty groups might have caused a prudent person to wish to see you first, mayhap without being seen... Long pig? Perhaps I would, undoubtedly I would were it the only alternative to losing my carefully nurtured figure. My typos this issue are due to the newly avowed editorial policy of indolence, lassitude, and general induration toward the esthetics of publication. This also explains the lack of two column justification.

This brings me to the end of the notes I can find on the twentieth mailing. The following statements are made directly upon the stencil without premeditated malice, any offense taken should be regarded as coincidental.

JD-Argassy; I met Lynn at the con and expressed, I hope, my pleasure at receiving this so frequently. We have also exchanged a couple of notes. Mom says I ought to inquire about entering First Fandom cause I used to read T.W.Burgess' Mother West Wind Stories and Uncle Wiggly stories before 1938. Unfortunately I never got around to writing to the editor and there wasn't a letter-col in those books anyhow so I guess I don't fit.

Down PEBBLES IN THE DRINK; 3;  
we Harvard & Dodsworth:  
go...

Glub

Glub

g l u b . . .

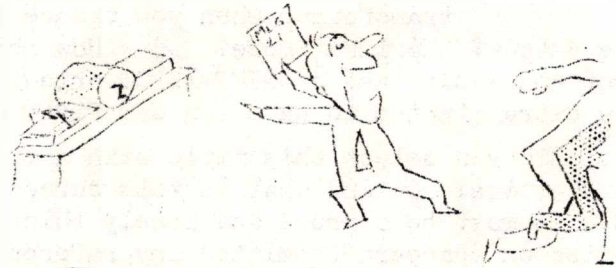
ROT; I get a "%" sign when I try to type a capital "5". And I should think that Ashworth: it would indeed be folly to put a plough in front of a metalivorous ox, as one would get few furrows turned before the plough was devoured. This ROT was appreciated.

There is no 's' in Burn, there is no 's' in Burn, there is no 's' in...  
These pamphlets were interesting but not comment arousing.

SIZAR # 3;  
Burns:  
MEET;

CHILD; The controlled selection of breeders of the race could be good for Ratigan: the race. However, one wonders if the organisation capable of overseeing such a project might not also be capable of directing the results of such unions even more effectively than our present day society, utilizing advances in motivational techniques in such manner as to leave said inheritors of our destiny content to be lead everywhere or even pushed from pillar to post without an awareness of such manipulation. This too is an old theme. However, the tendency toward docility and conformity is more environmental than hereditary.

Just being in **OMPA**



Won't get you UR!

Receiving a Fanzine in this day & age entails ACTION:

NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT!

fill out the coupon (or any reasonable facsimile) and return it Today



NANTZ; IDM testing is, of course, a further manifestation of malignant mechan-  
Gerding: ization. I read recently that the dream of one telephone executive was  
of a future wherein each child would receive at birth a telephone number  
and that each person would have a pocket transceiver with ten buttons on the one  
side and a view screen on the other. One would be able to talk to anyone in the  
world by depressing the buttons in the proper sequence. If the screen failed to  
delinstate the visage of the person called, one would know that he/she had finally  
escaped the reach of our machines. The concept of numbers for names is not new to  
SF readers or to servicemen. The keynote in military testing is 'Multiple  
Choice' even on those tests which are not machine processed. The Air Force, and, I  
presume, the other branches of the service are placing a great deal of emphasis on  
the On-The-Job-Training program (OJT) as a partial relief of the great cost of for-  
mal (i.e. classroom) training which formerly occupied as much or more than fifty  
percent of an airman's enlistment. (I spent 18 months of my first three years in  
formal schools and I took several additional months to become reconciled to actual  
flight-line practices.) One necessity of any training program is frequent eval-  
uation of progress and the AF's OJT Program requires that each phase of training  
be judged upon the results of a quiz containing at least ten multiple choice quer-  
ies, and that a pre-test be administered upon completion of the training prior to  
submitting the trainee to the AFJKT (Job Knowledge Test) or the AFPRT (Proficiency  
Requirement Test) which are machine scored 150 question multiple choice tests. The  
pre-test consists of 150 questions and is scored by humans in the squadron. The  
pre-tests are compiled by skilled technicians in the fields concerned and must meet  
the following criteria:

It must not obviously be a rehash of the phase tests, although the  
same or similar questions may be used providing that the order is shuffled;

It must not be too obvious a preview of the AFJKT or PRT;

Each question shall have -

One (1) right answer

Two (2) almost right answers \*

One (1) obviously wrong answer

\* One of the two almost right answers may be slightly more obviously  
wrong.

The theory is that essay-type questions are not 'fair' to the average semi-illiter-  
ate product of our educational system. Most of the testees (sic), it is felt, would  
not be capable of analysis of the situation without some choice of solutions be-  
fore their eyes and could not briefly and clearly express the solution either. In  
addition, they Will Not READ the Questions. At testing time at the NCO Academy  
the admonitory letters RTFO were inscribed upon the blackboard to remind us one and  
all to Read Those Foolish Questions. While many of the questions on AF tests are  
not models of lucidity the general fault appears to be the inability of the testee  
to understand even the plainest English. Even I find that I am apt at times to as-  
sume an unwarranted meaning in a set of words. In fact on the last PRT I took I  
very nearly missed a question because I didn't think out the answers. When I reread  
the question and answers I decided that there was indeed only one correct answer  
and that I had deceived myself as to the wording of one of the answers.

Your m-c's were as usual, concise and informative. I have already admitted the error  
in the "socialist government" in my notes to ARCHIE. OC-CXXXVIII;  
It would appear that you had room for a cover (had you folded the Eney:  
zine) but perhaps there was a slip in the feeding and the second page  
wasn't intended to start halfway down the paper with the review of Griffin/Unicorn.

PEALS; This was quite enjoyable all round. I should like to offer two terms you  
Dietz: overlooked when compiling the list of expressions of difference between us  
and those ~~sorted~~ slotted angles: Vest - waistcoat, weskit and Undershirt-  
Vest. As in the Horse's Mouth when Gulley Jimson tosses Mrs. Coker two small gray  
wads and answers her query as to what they are, "Them's me pants and vest." 'Tother  
night I was visiting a friend of mine and we watched Lawrence Olivier in "The Moon  
and Sixpence." After that was over we sat and discussed it for a short while and  
suddenly decided to go see "From The Horse's Mouth". Here the chief attraction  
was Alex Guinness (my goodness). Strange how differently a basic situation can be

LET GEORGE SAY IT; This zine gives me a good opportunity to put in a plug for Fandom's Kitchen, which organisation has recently issued Fandom's Cookbook. Ruth (Kyle) had a number of copies of this valuable work available at the Detention, and had planned to do some vile huckstering. However, the best intentions pave the well known road and the availability of this Collation of Culinary Capers appeared to be one of the least told secrets of the con. Quite a number of copies may still be had (at \$.5 the copy) from Ruth Kyle, % Station Wpdm, (1470 Kylecycles remember), Potsdam, New York. Dave, who has had to try all the masterpieces described in the Cookbook appeared to be in the best of health at the Detention. A few of the recipes submitted had to be turned down, all were prepared twice before inclusion in the Compendium and those that passed the scrutiny of the discriminating animals supplied by the Potsdam Pound were prepared for Dave. If he survived the test, the recipe was in, unless it was too obviously a crib from some other cookbook. Ruth's highly developed sense of ethics forbade any possible infringement of copyrights, either express or implied. You sluggards, like myself, who never quite got around to sending in a recipe or few, should keep in mind the possibility that if enough new taste sensations are submitted it is possible that a revised issue of the cookbook might see the light of day.

Chuck I admire you for stating your opinions and am quite convinced that SWAN SONG 2; you do not necessarily represent the views of any significant portion of Harris: fandom, either express or implied (local). The man who never says anything wrong probably never says anything. Congratulations should be in order by the time you receive this if you have finally decided that a single state is no longer to be Bourne.

ESPRIT; But does it follow that if one religion's God is the next one's devil Buckmaster: that the last religion's Devil is this one's God? Your complaint about prevention of disease is well taken. We are by and large only too ready to accept the convenient placebo and continue as before. My Air Force is, concurrently with the other branches of the service over here, waging a campaign against obesity. The Doctor's here start each group of 'Fat Boys' out with a lecture on the possible harmful effects of a life of over-indulgence and the dangers of accumulating chloesterol in one's blood. They then suggest several relatively painless methods of reducing the caloric intake by changing one's eating habits. The Doctor's do not advise strict adherence to any low-calory diet as they feel, and with reason, that the person who starves himself to lose ten pounds will turn about as soon as the immediate objective is obtained and resume those self-same dining habits that brought him to the point of dieting before. The person who begins by eating but one slice of bread per meal in place of two or three and continues by eschewing potatoes at most meals, takes an extra leafy salad (or even two or three) in place of a rich dessert, who learns to take his time while chewing his meat and salads will gradually attain his optimum weight and with a moderate amount of exercise may even regain the figure lost through careless love of food. I am quite fond of potatoes, particularly baked (which are after all least fattening - before one adds the butter and/or sour cream) and of hot rolls. I have managed to lose about eight pounds in three months and look, I am told, as though I'd lost fifteen, while still squeezing in an occasional baked potato or hot roll.

By happy coincidence I read your query re 'kibitzer' shortly after THE LESSER FLEA; reading about the beasts in "THE BRIDGE-PLAYER'S BEDSIDE COMPANION" J. CLARKE: (Edited by Albert A. Ostrow; Prentice Hall - 1955; Library of Congress Cat. Card Nr. 55-10154) One of the articles entitled 'Kibitzers Do Not Live Long.' gives a bit of the history of the term. It originated from the German 'Kiebitz' or pewit, and first gained prominence in America with the appearance of Edward G. Robinson in the title role of "The Kibitzer", a play which had 120 performances on Broadway. Ed left Broadway for the cinema shortly after this success. The pewit is noted for its curiosity and for its subterfuge of flapping its wings in the faces of egg-hunters to their subsequent annoyance. This annoyance is similar to that of the dedicated card player when beset by the 'human' KIBitzer. No room left for BLUNT but a sad goodbye to Vinz, now perhaps we'll see him frequently in TLF and BLUNT. -30-



# G "The 20th & 21st Mailings: Offtrail Mag. Pub. Asso." W

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This portion of GRIST covers the twentieth mailing plus one. The dawn of a new OMPA year brings us a magnificently recap of the past five years in APATHY; I have but a few minor notes, in the nature of clarification. Clarke: Technically speaking, the unnumbered issues of Grist were just that. However, with editorial license I counted the section of STYX IYias Grist #1, and the one included in mailing 11 as number 4. If you think its taking too much license to count #4 before #2 and #3, then figure that the Grist which was combined with UR 5a and not numbered tho assumed to be #5 by the edistress to be #4. To eliminate further (or to cause perhaps more) confusion I am declaring all previous issues of the title Grist, whether as column in another zine or as a separate entity, to consist Volume One, and am starting a clean slate with Volume Two #1. This is V2 #1, and you'll note that while I am reviewing two mailings, I am not dividing the zine in two bitty parts for the sake of maintaing a numbering system I never had. # The question of UR is as simply dealt with. OMPA never received UR # 1 or UR # 2. These issues were distributed to members of the ISFOC and a few others. Portions of the first two issues were distributed to OMPA with additional material as STYX IV and TOC. TOC was to be UR's counterpart in OMPA but a falling off of my interest in the ISFOC combined with a preference to the format of an Unsatisfactory Report over that of a Technical Order Compliance led to the abandonment of the title. ## It might have been interesting to have had a section comparing the page count per mlg.

ARCHIVE QOS; PEANUTS; I believe, is intended to refer to the band of youngsters that inhibit the strip. Chief amongst these is, of course, 'Good, old Mercer: wishy-washy Charlie Brown. He represents to me the relentless impact of the cruel world upon the individual who is merely trying to 'get on.' His every effort seems to be of no avail and every venture to turn at the last moment into a rich brown pile of futility. He never comes out smelling like a rose. During my annual Convention Furlough I picked up several hundred strips that Mom had been clipping from their paper during the past year. When I finish gloating over the ones devoted to the actions of PEANUTS, I may send you a wad. ## The belated introduction to TFTO was as interesting as the novel itself. So you ruthlessly expunged the 'love interest'! What a subject for speculation. I'll have to sit down one of these days with the entire lot and read it straight through, if possible.

I didn't have much to say on your entries in the twentieth mailing BLUNT; nor does this issue spark much more than just a few appreciative nods S&nderson; and a quiet grin or two. # I have recently obtained another MIMEO MACHINE, 200 out of Speed-O-Print. I am using it with black ink and have switched the old model 'L' to blue out of a desire to see how it would look (and perhaps, a secret impulse toward conformity.) This issue will see whether registry between the two machines will present any great problem. I'll send further details on the machinery to Vinz later. I've already managed to borrow Speed-O-Print's catalogue # 67, which is the parts and service instructions for the Models 'L' and Liberator Models 50, 75, 100, 200, and 300. plus details on their Scopes, File cabinet, pulpit and utility cabinet, I propose to write the company and request a copy for my very own, but will be able to use this one for data requested if they won't send me one.

HE BULLFROG BUGLE; Hickman: Thanks for the information. Let's have more of these spurs. Well spoken, young man. I hope that I may number friends in nearly all BURP!; camps of the current hassles. I do not desire and have not tried to 'make Bennett a name for myself' by tearing into someone else. Perhaps I have been brainwashed. If so, it was in my home environment the first time and may have happened more than once, as I seem to get on fairly well with most of the opposing factions. I look forward to the Convention each year and to the occasional meeting of fen elsewhere with eagerness untempered by thoughts of feudal desires.

ERG; The tape information contained herein makes a valuable addition to my files.  
Jeeves: I had much fun with the crossword and with the one this inspired me to construct. A thirteen by thirteen square utilising a number of terms from the Fancyclopedia this will appear in U R # 7. I missed 1 Across, 18 Across, 1 Down and 14 Down. While I might have been expected to have gotten the two Across, our AF does not have that sort of wizard. What is it, Pilot Royal Air National Guard?

Please explain to me the meanings of 'voughly' and 'narchy'. I correlate 52nd St;  
'altough' with 'although' but these words escape me. Linwood:

GRIFFIN; I can visuallize a day when fen will refer to a zine as showing a 'fine,  
Spencer: Spencerian hand'. The zine as a whole was quite engrossing and those vignettes do grow on one.

Thats a novel idea for training Nicki and you have my approval. The LesserFlea  
I've already talked some more about IBM testing in re Nantz for the Clarke:  
Twentieth Mailing. The AF Tests are scored by running cards which  
have been marked with an electrographic pencil through a machine. The machine passes an electric current through the marks and if the mark is incorrectly placed or not placed at all an error is marked up. Some AF Specialities are sub-divided and the tests for these fields have 'shred-out' sections. There will be seventy-five questions that are general to the field, then the examinee turns to the section of the test booklet which covers his particular equipment. An error by the machine operator could result in scoring a test for the 'G' shredout with the 'C' key and the poor testee would have had it. The AF uses a booklet of two cards which are about 3" by 8" in dimensions. The examinee prints his name, age sex, rank, AFSC (Speciality Code), serial number on the front of the first card and then turns the card over to answer the first fifty questions. The second fifty are on the front of the second card and the last fifty are on the back of that card. The cards are numbered in sets. Answers are indicated by placing a firm, black mark neatly between sets of parallel lines. A sample question and illustration of the method of answering follows:

1. The use of code names for classified projects is to;
  - A. Provide a more colorful AF vocabulary.
  - B. Confuse the people who are participating in the project.
  - C. Provide an unclassified designation by which the operation may be referred to.
  - D. Show that the higher Brass has a sense of humour and are really good guys at heart.

SAMPLE ANSWER  
A B C D

1. || || || ||

The correct answer is 'C' and everyone who placed a firm black line between the two lines beneath the letter 'C' may score one point for their side. The line should look like this;

1. || || || ||

I'll try to obtain a set of 'time cards from a friend in Stat Services, punched

so as to demonstrate the principles of punched cards. These are slightly different from the test cards but you wanted to know what else IBM did besides make typers and I'm a goin' ta tell ya. The IBM Corporation has made a big thing out of renting machinery to process and sort data and the distribution of THINK cards. The cards are punched by operating a keyboard similar to that of a typewriter and they may be used to reproduce the material impressed by running through a machine that has been properly keyed. The cards can be sorted by machine too so that one may extract from a deck of several thousand cards the three or four having the information you desire in seconds. Income Tax Returns (Short Form) may be made on IBM cards and all US postal Money Orders and Government checks are IBM cards.

The Millers of GRIST - A Cornycopia for OMPANS; uns  
RESSED Publications wish you all A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!



MARSOLO +4; Your lead article shows the proper spirit. So you haven't clicked up to  
Hayes: now. Don't let it worry you and keep plugging. But where do you get off  
saying you can't write comments. I like this batch just fine. I should  
hesitate to say that on most of the continent the cars are driven on different sides  
of the road. At least not more so than over here with our intoxicated speed-demons.  
Sweden, Great Britain and Japan are to my knowledge the only countries that 'Dare To  
Be Different.' There they sit smug in their insularity and say it's all very well for  
you chaps to go mucking about on the right side of the roads, we'll take what's left  
and like it. Of course, I can't pretend to assume what Johnny would have to say on  
the subject. Pelz' bit was interesting. Using the one-mil Mylar tape one can make  
a nice sized correspondence tape by begging some cast-off fifty-foot 8mm film spools  
from a camera shop and filling it with tape from a seven-inch reel. One should be  
able to put about 600 ft of tape on the reel which would be one-half hour per side. If  
one is neither so garrulous nor rich enough to afford the thin Mylar, there is the old  
standard tape which is about twice as thick and consequently fills the spool in less  
time, about fifteen minutes. There is also a Mylar tape which is about half again as  
thick as the thin stuff which could be used if one wished for a tape length of about  
22 or 23 minutes per side. I purchased a stereo tape recorder some time back and a  
few of the stereo tapes, but have slacked off acquiring new tapes for the time being.  
I intend to wait until a conversion kit to four-channel stereo comes out at a reason-  
able cost. I expect to wait four or five years to make sure the bugs get all worked  
out and then to switch over. The four-channel tapes are expected to be competitively  
priced with the LP albums of the same music.

This is interesting enough to read in spite of the repro. I realize that MORPH;  
ink is not free but neither is paper and you might find that you have fewer Roles:  
pages with large light areas if you ink more frequently. At least that's  
what bitter experience has shown me. I don't know what the situation is over there  
but here a new drum costs as much as I paid for my machines. In fact a new drum  
for the Model 'L' would cost me \$23.00 and I paid \$16.00 for the machine, a quire  
of stencils, two shading plates, ten assorted stylis, and three lettering guides. A  
drum similar to the one on the Model 200 would cost fifty dollars and I paid \$40.00  
for the machine. (plus \$7.00 for a new impression roller) This seems as good a  
place as any to make a few observations regarding the Pyramid Royal edition of "the  
complete uncut edition of one of the world's most controversial novels", LADY CHAT-  
TERLEY'S LOVER (including the full text of the famous decision by Federal Judge  
Frederick M. Pelt Bryan which lifted the Post Office ban.) One can rejoice that a  
few people still consider 'censorship' a dangerous thing that must be exercised  
with extreme caution, if indeed it must be used at all. Judge Bryan's text deserved  
wide distribution for the sentiments it expressed, however, I cannot help but feel  
that the flaunting of this text in advertising that says, "Buy this book, a Federal  
Judge says that it's not 'dirty'." One of the points in the text was that the setting  
of the Grove Edition and the publicity of the Reader's Subscription club which of-  
fered the book to its readers "emphasizes its literary qualities and its place as a  
significant work of a major English novelist." This I cannot deny. However, it is my  
personal opinion that the Pyramid Royal treatment of the book borders dangerously  
upon a "predominate appeal to prurient interest." It is true that the standards of  
the community have changed greatly since this book originally appeared, 'good auth-  
ors who once knew better words, now only use four-letter words' and it is unfortun-  
ate that the Postmaster General and the Postmaster of New York made such a fuss. It  
was a stroke of good fortune for the book publisher though. Incidentally, the book  
itself did not impress me. I have read much better 'mainstream' literature and worse  
pornography and feel that this rather falls between the two stools.

OPERATION CRIFANAC STYLE SHEET; The Style sheet was interesting but does not explain  
PHENOTYPE (OC-CXLV); Eney: why page 144 in my copy is blank. (tell me its been  
'cleared' and I'll scream. I can't make out the words  
below the mobile on the cover of Phenotype. If you're going to drag Shakespeare in  
to this thing, you might at least indicate which zines are used which comments.

AND PROSPEROS  
A Happy New Year

(unURpressed Publications is the non-pro-  
fit organisation of T/Sgt Ellis T. Mills.  
(PO Box 244, Carswell AFB, Texas.)

PEALS; Mal certainly stirred up the comments with Halfway House. Personally, I  
 Dietz: very seldom even take Aspirin (or any of the compounds based upon the  
 Ground 0/ pharmaceutical action of acetylsalicylic acid). I rely upon clean living,  
 proper food and adequate rest and the advice of a doctor when I miss out  
 on the first three as at a Con. A friend of mine who recently left the Office  
 Supply business to make a living dispensing coffee in a 'Cellar' recommends steam-  
 cleaning for mimeo drums. If you must use elbow grease, spirit duplicator fluid acts  
 as a pretty fair solvent and can be used to clean all parts of the machine. Any sol-  
 vent should, of course, be utilised with caution, a well ventilated working area is  
 advisable unless you want to be sick of it all, and any rubber parts should be wiped  
 dry as fast as the solvent is applied. There was not too much of a problem for  
 me to switch to blue ink as both my machines have open drums. However, I'm going to  
 have to find some way to get a new set of brushes for the Model 200 without ordering  
 the full brush and bracket assembly listed in the Speedo-Print catalogue. They show  
 a unit that is assembled by means of rivets at the cost of \$20.00 while the brush I  
 have is attached to the bracket with two screws and should be rather less expensive  
 to replace. Until such time, I'll have to use black ink in the 200. I've noted  
 that the Fort Worth Library does not file its SF books systematically. They are seg-  
 regated on a set of shelves but there is no order in the placement of the books there  
 on. I spoke to one of the librarians as he was literally throwing books on the shel-  
 ves about it and he explained that this was due to the high rate of turnover of SF.  
 How is the situation in New York? On the way to the Twerpcon we were bowling a-  
 long the autobahn when Nature began its insistent calling. As we also desired inform-  
 ation regarding the Köln Bypass we stopped at a 'Highway Patrol' station and in our  
 halting German enquired for directions ending with a plaintive, "Bitte, haben Sie  
 Toiletten?" The Cop's grinning reply was, "Nein, Haben Sie Busch." This reminis-  
 cence somehow seems to temper any enthusiasm I might have felt for Bavarian Beer.  
 The 'Space Mikes' are merely an adaptation of the 'tin-can telephone' system so po-  
 pular before the advent of plastics and spacemen. The human skeleton kit comes in  
 two sizes, a 1/5 scale model sixteen inches high with a clear lucite 'skin' imprint-  
 ed with circulatory system to surround the skeleton and organs and in 1/6 scale for  
 the skeleton alone or skeleton with organs. The 'Visible Man' kit is \$4.97 from Sears,  
 skeleton alone \$2.97, With organs, \$3.97. Also available are a "prehistoric" turtle  
 farm with seeds, magic soil, plant and turtle food, toy models of prehistoric animals  
 and a ticket redeemable for a live turtle; a kit for young biologists containing a  
 frog, crawfish, fish, and earthworm ready to dissect, plus instruments; for the pre-  
 historic fan there is the Prehistoric World, 23 animals of coloured plastic, a real-  
 istic colourful plastic landscape board 23x13x3/8 with simulated pool and waterfall\*  
 \* Note: All descriptive terms for these wonders are those of Sears Roebuck and do  
 not necessarily represent the opinions of the editor and/or the publisher.) Twelve  
 plastic cavemen wield stones, spears and primitive clubs to defend themselves from  
 all those beasts. 44 pieces out of the past for only \$4.95. If you prefer to create  
 your own landscape you can get a sixteen piece set containing eleven animals, birds  
 and three cavemen for \$.89. Noah and his Ark full of 66 animals (33 pair) are now  
 available in soft colourful vinyl plastic for \$1.97. Something that rather intrigues  
 me is "Waldo and Albert" a set of two goofy looking birds that are purported to bob  
 up and down for days after being filled with water. No springs or wires. \$1.79 a set.  
 It always (This is a new paragraph, sorry) amazes me, this business of commenting.  
 At one time I'll skim through a mag and never find a thing to mention or discuss. At  
 another I'll just be bubbling over and every paragraph will start something. I read  
 around Zero and couldn't find a thing to say other than the obvious compliment. But  
 you see what Peals just did. Life's like that I guess. Another zine I drew a blank  
 on this time was STILL LIFE. I'm happy to see Ken back with us and will say Hello  
 and like that but... Maybe next time.

THIS HAS BEEN the GRIST of the Twentieth and Twentyfirst Mailings of the Off-Trail  
 Magazine Publishers Association, published by the URPress at the sign of (never you  
 find, I'll clean it up one of these days), A Sergeant's Firm, for T/Sgt Ellis T. Mills,  
 P.O. Box 244, Carswell AF Base, Texas. Volume Two Number One, Winter 1959 and like  
 that. Write for reasonable printing rates. I need business - see. A sever, Ellis



# STRAIGHT TALK...

To: The Congress of the United States  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dignitaries:

In a ghost-written speech which you will of course ignore, our president has again set his cleated foot down in favor of a balanced budget. His milk-toast determination to stay within the all-time-high \$77 billion <sup>(1)</sup> budget will little change our time-honored system of checks and balances - gigantic checks and no balances, for 24 of the last 29 years.

Senator Byrd is trying to pass a bill to give the president veto power over certain spending items in a bill without killing the whole bill. Now that would really hurt you fellas back home. You couldn't tack on your pet pork-barrel and log-rolling projects. And that'd sure hurt your "look-what-I-gotcha" speeches to the home folks.

Recently President Eisenhower finally released \$100 million for slum clearance and "urban renewal," from money you voted in past years which he had allowed to lie around unused until he got in the mood. Couldn't you make a law - or get the Supreme Court to - saying that the Executive branch has to spend what the Legislative branch votes, with all deliberate speed?

While it spends more than any other Administration in the history of our little world, this Administration has fallen down on being able to spend it as fast as you can vote it. For togetherness, we either need more experienced spenders as president or fewer as congressmen. Shouldn't we either limit the number of terms you fellas can serve or de-limit the years a president can serve? It's hard for even a military man to get accustomed in eight short years to spending \$80 billion a year.

You have been busy little beavers these past few months slipping your favorite vote-getting bills into the hopper. Even though you may know now that a presidential veto is inevitable, you can prove to the homefolks that you tried.

Don't worry your little heads about all this prattle about cutting down on spending. The nibblers haven't got a chance. No alcoholic ever cut down on his drinking for very long. Old alcoholics never fade away, they just die, or go on the wagon. I'm sure you won't let the turn-back-the-clock crowd intimidate you into any pay-as-we-go program. We can

afford all those nice things you give us, we just can't pay for 'em. We still "owe it to ourselves" and in 25 more years what we're due to collect from ourselves will be absolutely fabulous. Your co-owners, Walter Reuther and George Meany, have presented a ten-point labor program which would end mass unemployment, raise wages, build houses, uplift depressed areas, aid schools, balance the budget, and reduce taxes. And Mrs. Roosevelt's ADA has just recommended an additional \$8 to \$10 billion program of new welfare necessities by which we could spend our way out of our present \$12 billion deficit. New billions for college dormitories, reclamation, dams, rivers, highways, illegitimate babies, pensions, veterans, and "urban renewal." (You've taken over the states, now you can take over the cities.)

Some people gripe because one farmer got \$322,012 of our grandchildren's money for taking 127,239 acres out of production of wheat. Always picking on the poor farmer. U.S. News And World Report said recently that one drunk who had been arrested 285 times in one of our larger depressed areas had cost that city \$45,373. Yet you don't hear any great clamor to do away with the drunk program.

Only 2,422 farms in this country got price support payments of more than \$10,000 each in 1958. Only 11 farmers got more than \$100,000. So you fellas are helping the poor little farmers by showing them what you can do for them when they get big. There are only 149,473 full and part-time government agricultural employees, federal, state, and local. With their children, these agricultural employees would comprise a city considerably larger than Birmingham. Kill the farm program? That'd be like throwing every breadwinner in Birmingham out of a job. Even Bear Bryant couldn't get away with that. To complicate the farm program further, we have fewer farms each year and that means more government agricultural workers. The less there is to do, the more government workers it takes to oversee it. <sup>(2)</sup> Speaking of overseas, fellas, the Hoover Commission reported that of the 115,250 persons employed in giving away our Foreign Aid, 84,560 were not even Americans. If we killed the Department of Agriculture could we let 84,560 of those displaced government agricultural workers take over those jobs from the foreigners? (continued overleaf)



Most people think that our dynamic debt in recent years has been caused by so-called Defense spending. They don't realize that since 1954 Defense spending has decreased \$300 million, from \$48.6 billion to \$48.3 billion. During that same period you've increased non-Defense spending \$14.3 billion, from \$19.1 billion to \$33.4 billion. You voted most of those billions for us, and we should appreciate it. In 1958 you appropriated \$1,250,000 a minute, based on 128 eight-hour-days you were in session.

In the olden days, when charity was a virtue instead of a government department, President Hoover spent less on everything than you spend on mere interest on the federal debt. Ever since Harry Hopkins invented "tax and tax, spend and spend, elect and elect" we've had a thinking man's frills and a spending man's taste. Money won't buy as much today as it would in the depression when we didn't have any. But don't let anybody fool you with that "money is worth only what it'll buy" routine. We like lots of money regardless of what it buys, whose it is, or where it came from. So keep on printing it, borrowing it, and spending it on us. We're all back of you 20%, your present program of cutting down on Defense only is fine, until we go broke and the Russians attack. If there's anybody left, the next ex post facto War Crimes Trials may be held in some Smoky Mountain cave. Guess who'll be Castroed? You.

your humble servant,  
/s/ Tom Anderson

STRAIGHT TALK was taken in its entirety from THE INDEPENDENT (on sale at Biundo's Drug Store, Cleo's Drugstore, and Cucchiara's Drugstore) V18, Nr.10 published for the homefolks of Independence, La. on Friday, March 6th, 1959, by the MURRAY PUBLISHERS, Box 192, Hammond, Louisiana.

The opinions expressed in "STRAIGHT TALK" are those of the author and not an actionable expression of those of the UR Press, however, we enjoyed it and thought that you might be moved by it to chuckle or to scream and write to your congressman. I dare not. The opinions expressed in any unsUPressed Publication are not to be regarded as an indication of the support of those beliefs or the encouragement thereof by the USAF or any portion of our government. We remain, for the moment at least, a free agent, subject only to our own discretion and the bounds of our conception of good taste.

Mr. Anderson's column was received from Quantius P. (John) Murray of Hammond, Louisiana, publisher's son, who indicated that Mr. Anderson is editor of a Farm-and-Ranch magazine and that there would probably be no objection to my reprinting the article. We hope not. etm

(1) The word 'billion' in this article refers to the colonial interpretation of 'one thousand million'.

(2) This is a derivation of Parkinson's well-known Law.

Notes by etm.

A MOTHER'S QUIZ; FOR A SON IN THE SERVICE WHO HAS NOT WRITTEN HOME IN SOME TIME:\*

Check one answer

YES MAYBE NO

1. Did you break your arm?

2. Are you dead?

3. Did you get caught in a Texas Longhorn Stampede?

4. Did a Texas Beauty kidnap you?

5. Did you get caught in a sandstorm?

6. Did a 'gusher' come in and drown you?

7. Did your typewriter fall on you?

8. Did you fall out of your bunk?

9. Are you conscious?

10. Are you just saving your strength, stamps?

\* Quiz furnished by Quantius P. Murray, from his voluminous correspondence files.