

JD-A #53 Feb. 20th 1960

JD-A is published monthly by Lynn A. Hickman at 304 N. 11th, Mt. Vernon, Illinois. 12 issues for \$1.00.

A R G A S S I N G

As mentioned in the last issue I changed jobs the first of the year. This has upset my schedule somewhat and will delay my Tenth Anniversary issue until May. Orders will be accepted until April 15th for this special issue. Copies are 50¢.

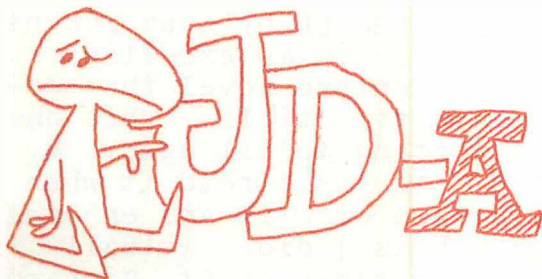
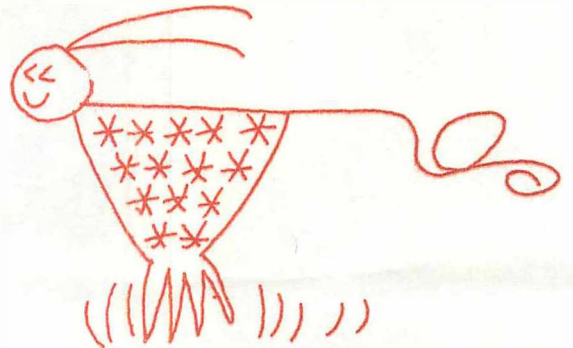
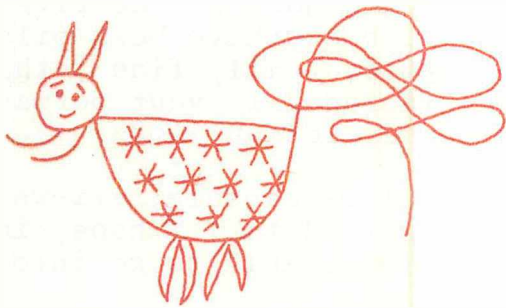
Another thing that has been taking some of my time on week-ends is a two-way radio system I've been playing around with. They are RCA units operating on the citizen's band. I have one in the station wagon and another in the house so that we can talk back and forth from car to house while I'm in or around Mt. Vernon. Have been having much fun with it.

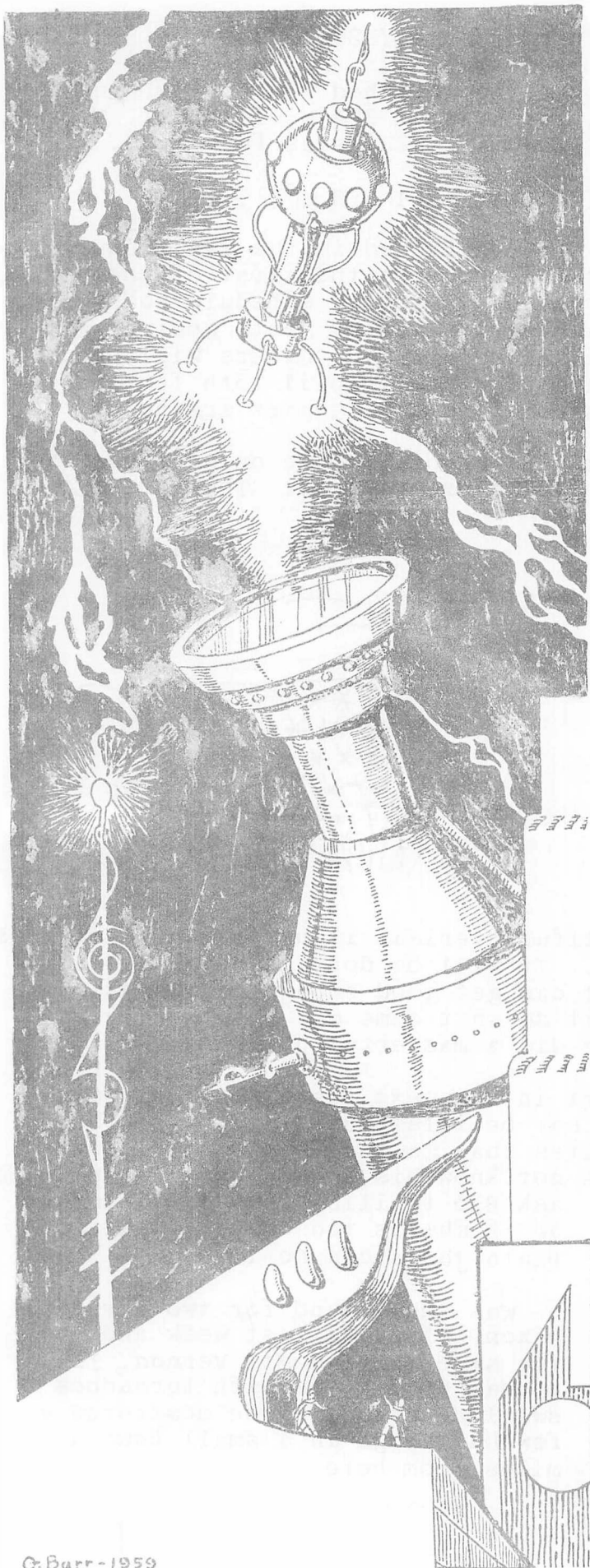
I mentioned in the last issue that had loaned my smaller Multi-lith to Vic Ryan. He has now written that he received a mimeograph for Christmas and will no longer need it. I'll pick it my next trip through Springfield.

George Barr has sent me a beautiful overleaf illustration on masters that I will use for the #54 cover. It will be done in red and black and I'm crossing my fingers that I can get good enough registration to do an effective job with it. If it doesn't come out beautifully it will be my fault not George's. He did a masterful job.

John Berry's SUPERFAN will start in the next issue, but I'm sorry to say the first installment will not be illustrated by Jim Cawthorne as previously announced. John writes that Cawthorne has moved to London and as of this time he does not know his new address. I will ask Bjo to illoe this installment or if she is too busy, I imagine plato jones can do it.

Was snow-bound for two days in Dixon, Illinois last week and at the same time in Mt. Vernon, Ill. it was 60 degrees with tornadoes swirling around. One destroyed a few buildings in a small town a few miles from here.





G. Barr-1959

B O O K S

Due once again to the holidays and my changing jobs at the first of the year, books have been piling up here. Some, really fine, that should be included in your permanent basic science fiction library.

These will be capsule reviews to bring you up to date. I hope, in the future to be able to go into more detail.

Hardcover Books.

Avalon Books 22 East 60th St. New York 22, N.Y. usually 224pp. \$2.95.

Avalon, although aiming at the teen-age library market, comes up with some pretty fine novels. Many of which I would certainly want in my own library. But they also come up with some clunkers such as *ROBOT HUNT* by Roger Lee Vernon. (Sept. release) Unless you have young teenagers in the family, this is one to stay away from. Trite plot about the theft of a secret weapon - the equalizer - that would penetrate enemy force fields, and the bootleg building of subverted robots. Skip this one.

THE DARK DESTROYERS by Manly Wade Wellman (Oct. release) on the other hand is the type story I love but don't see enough of any more. This was originally printed in 1938 in *ASTOUNDING SF* and is the story of an invasion by creatures from a cold planet, and how by "nuisance value" humans were able to regain their planet. A good adventure-science book that I recommend highly.

THE SEA PEOPLE by Adam Lukens (Nov. release). An excellent science-adventure novel that deserved a better title. This one is interesting to all ages. My son Doug (12 yrs.) read it when I had finished with it and enjoyed it as much as I did. Actually it is more the story of Lt. Richard



MacCaishe and the struggle to regain himself as a man than the title would indicate. In this book we have adventure, romance, telepaths, alien people and alien culture. I liked this very much and recommend it.

THE MARTIAN MISSILE by David Grinnell (Dec. release). A rather hackneyed Super Science, planet exploring type plot. Good for children in the 12 to 14 age bracket. Not recommended for the general reader.

THE GLORY THAT WAS by L. Sprague de Camp. (Jan. release) a MUST for deCamp fans. First published in 1952 in (I believe) Startling Stories. A masterful blend of fantasy, sf, humor and history. The story takes place in a recreated Greece, with the inhabitants conditioned to believe they are living in that time. A classical scholar, Wiyem Flin, and Knut Bulnes editor of Trends magazine find themselves in supposedly ancient Greece after going into port during a storm. The adventure takes off from there. Buy this one.

World Publishing Co. 2231 W. 110th St., Cleveland 2, Ohio

GALACTIC DERELICT by Andre Norton. 224 pp, \$3.00. The further adventures Ross Murdock and Gordon Ashe. World Publishing calls these teen-age books, but Andre Norton (like Robert Heinlein) can write science fiction that is as interesting to adults (and actually surpasses most so-called adult sf) as they are to children. If you read the TIME TRADERS you won't want to miss this one. In this adventure, Murdock and Ashe go back to the age of the Folsam man.

Simon & Schuster 630 Fifth Ave., Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N.Y.

THE WAR AGAINST THE RULL by A. E. Van Vogt. 244 pp. \$3.50. I've always been a Van Vogt fan and while this is not his best book it is certainly above average in comparison with the magazine sf being published today. This novel is a tie-up of stories that originally appeared in Astounding SF, 1940 through 1950.

Doubleday & Co. 575 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.

Doubleday has recently issued 3 anthologies, 1 of mediocre value and 2 that I would say belong on any basic science fiction shelf. THE WORLD THAT COULDN'T BE and 8 other novelets from Galaxy is edited by H.L. Gold is the mediocre one. 288 pp. \$3.95, and it isn't worth it. But SCIENCE FICTION SHOWCASE, 264pp, \$3.95, edited by Mary Kornbluth, is a book of another color. Bob Bloch's Nightmare Number Four would be worth the price of the book by itself (and to my knowledge, it has never appeared before). And besides that you get an eerie little piece by Jack Williamson along with stories by Bradbury, Sturgeon, and an especially good story by Damon Knight along with others. One of the best buys of the year. Another book(s) that belongs in your basic library is A TREASURY OF GREAT SCIENCE FICTION edited by Anthony Boucher. 1049pp, \$5.95. Tony has collected some of the cream of the crop from 1938 to 1958. This anthology is in two volumes and includes 4 full-length novels, 12 novelets, and 8 short stories. I won't attempt to even tell you what is in these volumes, but they are all stories you will want to read or re-read. If you were only going to buy 2 science fiction books this year, I would recommend that you make them - SCIENCE FICTION SHOWCASE and A TREASURY OF GREAT SCIENCE FICTION. You wouldn't go wrong.

PAPER BACK SCIENCE FICTION.....

This time around I'll only give the pocket-type books a rating. Will review them in more detail starting in the next issue. My rating system is as follows. A+, a best buy, A, very good, B, average, C, below average. In the case of ACE Double Novels, I will rate each half on its own merits.

ACE Double Novel Books. 35¢

- D-381. ONE AGAINST HERCULUM by Jerry Sohl. C
SECRET OF THE LOST RACE by Andre Norton. A
- D-385 ECHO IN THE SKULL by John Brunner. B
ROCKET TO LIMBO by Alan E. Nourse. B
- D-388 WHEN THE SLEEPER WAKES by H.G. Wells. B
- D-391 THE WORLD SWAPPERS by John Brunner. B
SIEGE OF THE UNSEEN by A.E. Van Vogt. A
- D-397 JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH by Jules Verne. B
- D-403 THE PIRATES OF ZAN by Murray Leinster. A
THE MUTANT WEAPON by Murray Leinster. A
This book as a whole would be considered A+, a best buy.

ACE books (continued.)

D-405 FIRST TO THE STARS by Rex Gordon. A

D-407 WE CLAIM THESE STARS! by Poul Anderson. A
THE PLANET KILLERS by Robert Silverberg. C

Ballantine Books....35¢

335-K WOLFBANE by Frederik Pohl & C.M. Kornbluth. B

341-K THE OUTWARD URGE John Wyndam & Lucas Parkes. B

345-K THE FUNHOUSE by Benjamin Appel. A

353-K STAR SCIENCE FICTION #6. A+, a best buy.

360-K FIRE PAST THE FUTURE by Charles Eric Maine. B

Avon Books....35¢

T-345 MONSTERS AND SUCH by Murray Leinster. A

T-360 WE WHO SURVIVED by Sterling Noel. A+, a best buy.

T-371 PLANET IN PERIL by John Christopher. A

Signet Books....35¢

S-1729 THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SKY by Arthur C. Clarke. A+, a best buy.

S-1752 METHUSELAH'S CHILDREN by Robert A. Heinlein. A+, a best buy.

In the next issue we'll go into more detail on each book, but let me know if you like the rating system and want me to continue it.

PITTCON NEWS

The in-the-process-of-formation BURROUGHS BIBLIOPHILES will have its first meeting at PITTCON. Verne Coriell "will do his utmost" to be here. If so, this will be Verne's first con.

PR #1 is at last in the mail. Although we know PR #1 is not up to standard, since it was done under adverse circumstances, it seemed best to send it out as it is rather than have a further month's delay.

Roger Dard is now our Australian Representative. Although Roger expected to attend PITTCON as fan GOH, his present health will not permit this. He will, however, send a tape-recording of greetings from Australian fans, and auction material.

Ted Carnell's PITTCON attendance is still under consideration by the Chairman of his company. Business...



me. And it did. {(Porry also is responsible for you receiving the JD-A, since it was he that asked me to send it to you. lh.)}

I've done nothing to merit this generosity -- except insult the donor every time I've met him. That easy-going blob of protoplasm from L.A. has always been one of America's most successful ambassadors.

I trust that both FJA and JD-A will continue to amble on genially to their 90th year of publication.

Kind regards,

William F. Temple
Wembley, England

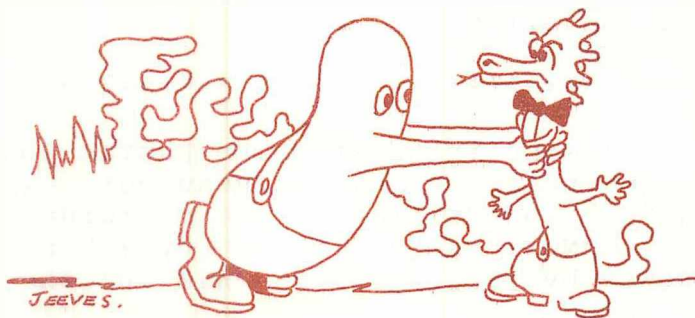
Dear Lynn,

Jim Harmon writes a nice smooth article and I think his piece on Ackerman is the best thing this issue. I met Porry at the WorldCon of '57 and certainly agree that he is a nice guy - a very courteous and unassuming sort of a bloke. Almost English... I liked best Jim's description of Porry's birth.

I can't think of anything to say about chapter 9 of A FAKE FAN IN LONDON except that the whole of this is interesting from the point of view of an English reader who likes to know what other people think of his country.

The Book Reviews are extremely useful. I'd say that instead of the spasmodic letterzine, you ought to have a spasmodic Book Review zine. It's certainly a great help to people like me who have more or less limited book space. I prefer to get paperbacks as these take up less space - also the reviews help me to get the ones I like and stop me from buying what is apparently crud.

Mike Moorcock
Sutton, England



"SO YOU WILL VOTE FOR BENTCLIFFE
WO'N'T YOU?" 7

In other letters, Mary Dziechowski of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, knew I sent her copy at the request of 4e and bemoaned the fact that fandom is insidious and won't let a person completely gaffiate. She says; "NO one ever succeeds in leaving fandom. You can cut all ties --- but the memory lingers on. FIJAGH just ain't so Fandom IS A Vocation, and though I haven't received the "call" to the extent that some of you have, I plead guilty to being a fan-watcher so (sigh) here's \$1. for 12 more of JD-A. #Larry Anderson, Colstrip, Montana is another; "Oh, yes, Ghu is a jealous ghod. He cannot let some of us stray too far afield. I had completely "gone the route", but I just couldn't get out of the habit of looking ebviously at Gestetners, fancy typewriters, and old fanzine." Larry read Belle's column in FANTASTIC UNIVERSE and couldn't resist the siren call. He is now teaching in a school that is out in the middle of nowhere (40 miles from the nearest town). The classes run half Cheyenne and half ranch kids.

Too many letters here to print them all and keep this a short issue. So the also wrotes this time are: Betty Kujawa - South Bend, Ind., Andy Main - Goleta, Calif., Jack Cascio - Benld, Ill., Bill Mallardi - Akron, Ohio, Carl Bostek - L.A., Calif., Jack Chalker - Baltimore, Md., Bob Bloch, Major Cox - Edgewood, Md., Joni Cornell - Monessen, Pa., Barbara Bovard - L.A., Calif., Don Anderson - Rochester, N.Y., Hal Lynch - N.Y., N.Y., Terry Jeeves - Sheffield, England, Ed Meskys - Brooklyn, N.Y., John Foyster - Chadstone, Australia, Ellis Mills - Denver, Colo., Eric Bentcliffe - Stockport, England, Don Franson - N. Hollywood, Calif., Don Ford - Loveland, Ohio, Norman Shorrock - Higher Bebington, England, H.P. Sanderson - London, England, Belle Dietz - Bronx, N.Y., and Ron Bennett - Harrogate, England.

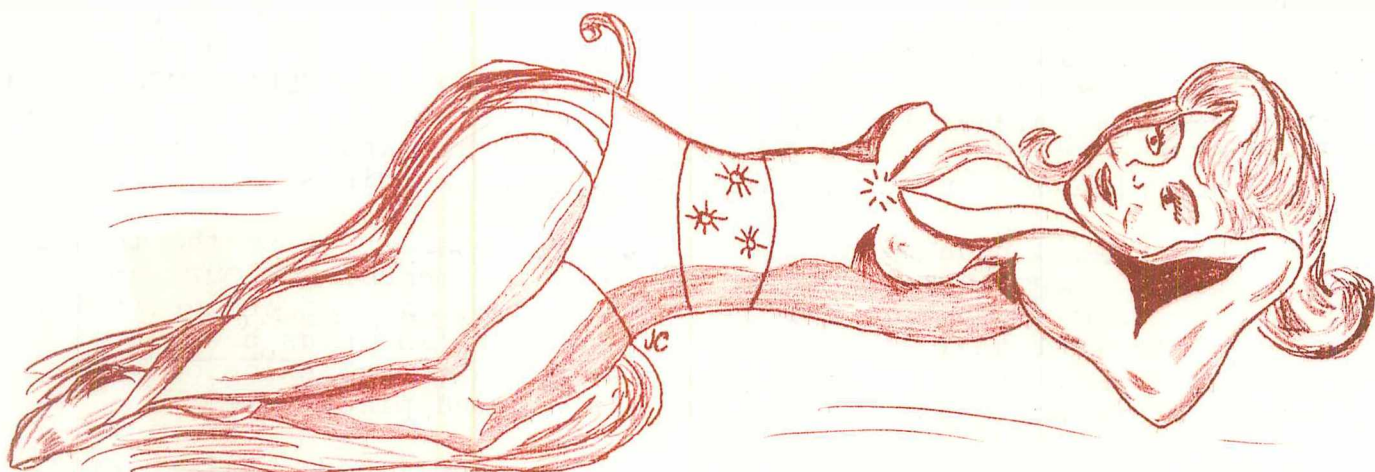
OVERSEAS FANS -- PLEASE NOTE:

Ron Bennett, 7 Southway, Arthurs Avenue,
Harrogate, Yorkshire, England,

.... will act as JD-A's overseas agent. Regular yearly subscription is 12 issues for \$1.00.

.... my special 70 page 10th anniversary issue is not included in a regular subscription, but may be purchased for 50¢. Orders for this special issue should reach Ron not later than April 15th this year. This special issue will not be put through OMPA, so any OMPANS desiring it, contact Ron and silver his palm.

Les Gerber sends the following information on Bantam Books: March: "Night Ride and Other Journeys" by Charles Beaumont. April: "Stories From the Twilight Zone" by Rod Serling. -- "A Medicine for Melancholy" by Ray Bradbury. June: "Notions: Unlimited" by Robert Sheckley. August: "Nine Tomorrows" by Isaac Asimov. All but the Bradbury & Asimov books are originals.



Belle Dietz writes that prentice Hall is publishing FANTASTIC UNIVERSE OMNIBUS, an anthology from FU and edited by Hans Santesson. I hope you will all support this. My personal feeling is that Hans has done more for fandom in the pro ranks, than any editor in the past five years. I know Belle's column in FU is pulling in many new fans, and besides that, FU is a damn good mag.

In March, Ballantine books will publish an unusual novel of science fantasy, THE SOUND OF HIS HORN, by "Saraban" which was published in England by Peter Davies. The American edition has an introduction by Kingsley Amis.

Mr. Amis, in his new book, NEW MAPS OF HELL, a critical survey of Science Fiction and Fantasy, which is being published by Harcourt Brace in Mid-March, recommends THE SOUND OF HIS HORN.

Ace Books will publish THE BEST FROM FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION (3rd series), and as a double-novel, DR. FUTURITY by Philip K. Dick, and SLAVERS OF SPACE by John Brunner this month (Feb.).

The Transatlantic Fan Fund (TAFP), poses a real stickler for the coming year. Three fine candidates are up. Any of the three would be completely acceptable and I'm sure would make fine TAFPmen. I have been asked (by various people) to support their favorites. This is a hard thing for me to do, I feel as if I know all three either through correspondence, OMPA or their fanzines. I like all three, I'd like to see all three. I consider all three friends.

The only way that I can see to make my choice, is to consider what each candidate has done for fandom and vote accordingly. In considering all aspects of fanning, I come up with the following order (and I'm going to do it like FANAC this year and list them in the order of my support).

1st; Eric Bentcliffe. Of all the candidates, Eric, in my estimation, has contributed more in all aspects of fanning than the others. He has edited some top zines such as TRIODE, SPACE-TIMES, etc. published the S-T Checklist, etc. He has also been active in the British conventions (participation as committee member, in programs etc) worked as first secretary of the BSFA, OMPA member, was chairman of the Manchester and Liverpool groups and a member of the Knights of St. Pantony. A real all around fan who got his pleasure in working hard in all these things.

2nd; Sandy Sanderson. Sandy edits what I consider to be the top zine today. (APORRHETA) One of the founding members of OMPA and a London Club Member (treasurer of both). A good choice, but I don't feel that he has done as much for fandom as a whole as Eric Bentcliffe. Sandy, however, for his publishing of APZ, and his writings, gets my support for 2nd place vote.

3rd; Mal Ashworth. A good all around fan, publisher, writer, etc., and a good man. Mal gets my support for a third place vote.

So there you have it. Thats the way I'm going to vote.

First Choice Eric Bentcliffe

Second Choice Sandy Sanderson

Third Choice Mal Ashworth

You make up your own mind. But vote. Lets get enough money in to have a TAFFman at the Pittcon.

Speaking of TAFFmen, Don Ford's con report will appear in JD-A and will also be published in separate booklet form as a project of FIRST FANDOM. This booklet will be sold at the PITTCON (and perhaps at the Midwestcon, if we can work fast enough) and all profits beyond the actual cost of paper, masters, etc. will go to TAFF. We will charge enough that there will be a profit. I'm sure that most fans wouldn't object to paying 25 or 50¢ more than it cost to produce when they know that the money will be used to help bring another TAFFwinner over.

Let me have your expression on this. Are you willing to pay extra for the conreport booklet if the money goes to TAFF? FIRST FANDOM is willing to sponsor it and stand any loss, and I'm sure each member will purchase one to get it started off. Will you send in an order now? We will advise you of the price as soon as it is printed, but I would guess that we will charge either 50¢ or 75¢ for it. I will print the actual cost in the booklet showing how much per copy will go to TAFF. Give us your backing on this.

JD-A #53 is postmailed to the 22nd OMPA mailing.

Artwork is by Rotsler, George Barr, Barbi Johnson, Terry Jeeves, and Joni Cornell.

Written material by Lynn Hickman, Dirce Archer and faaans.

+++++

This will be the LAST issue of JD-A you receive unless you:

Send \$1.00

Write ~~X~~

Trade

+++++

Join the PITTCON!! Send your \$2.00 now!

Dirce Archer
1453 Barnsdale Street
Pittsburgh 17, Pa.

I just finished running off the cover for #54. It worked out fairly well, but I want to experiment with it further. About $\frac{1}{2}$ the copies have very good registration on the color, the other $\frac{1}{2}$ is off up to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, some close, some $\frac{1}{4}$ inch off. It was fun doing, and I'm only sorry that some of you will get covers that aren't as good as the others.

We'll be experimenting further on this double or maybe even some triple run color drawings, so maybe -- well, they say that practice makes perfect.

W A N T E D . . . G O O D C A R T O O N S . . .

I like to publish good funny cartoons, ala FANVARIETY-OPUS-ODD fan type.

R E W A R D O F F E R E D . . .

Good printing job, large circulation.

Lets have your contribution.....

Tenth year of publication



JD-A #53

Lynn A. Hickman

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