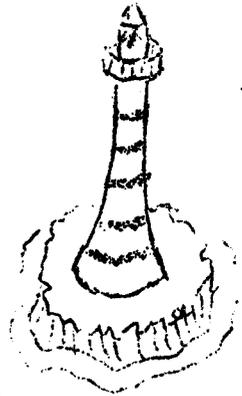


can it be?

SURELY NOT!

BUT IT IS



**NORTH  
LIGHT  
IA**

# CONTENTS

SUBJECT	PAGE
Skylights	1
Curtain Planet	3
Witch Work	7
Desk Clearing	8
Mathematicians come in	10
The need for amateur scientific research. by J. England B.Sc.	11

Northlight is produced by  
Alan Burns,  
Goldspink House,  
Goldspink Lane,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne 2,  
England.

It is published irregularly, when time and energy permit by the above named. Involved in this issue (probably against his better judgement) is Jim England of 64, Ridge Rd. Kingswinford Staffordshire England, to whom enquiries regarding BASRA should be addressed. If anyone has anything interesting to say, then the pages of Northlight are open, although when the next issue will emerge I can't say. Those who receive this get it for the usual reasons. Need more be said?

# SKYLIGHTS



I'd love to say that thanks to enormous popular demand another issue of N. has come out, but this alas isn't so. The fact is that I have a sneaky conscience, and whenever the postman drops a fanzine thru' my letter-slot it says well how about an IOC? But IOC's necessitate reading the fanzines with great care, and with time being what it is I can at the best only skim thru' them and detailed reading is only reserved for what catches my eye as being something that isn't news, or con-reports, or scandal or crud fan-fiction, this last traps me more often than not. A mystery to me is where the writers rake up wonderful titles that seem to indicate here at last is a good idea to filch, then you read on and find that it is only a Dell Shannon song made into prose. Why I wonder do top tenners inevitably walk thru' a miserable rain, with a heart full of pain because their darling has run away. Seeing some of our local teenage types, the girls who run away are to be highly commended! However, here, anyway, is N.14 With my compliments.

The fannish world knows by now that I went on a tour of Iron Curtain countries for my annual holidays this year. The travelogue is the least important, and I meant to forget about it only Terry Jeeves kindly offered it a home in Erg (advta.) I'm sorry to say that I don't think my efforts are Erg standard but anyway that's up to Terry. This issue contains what I deem as the important side of Iron Curtairny discussed, namely whether or not it works. Oh I know Russia's massively efficient at quite a lot of things, but would it make happiness for all the world if the idea was universally applied. From turning this over in my mind there came the idea for "Curtain Planet."

I'd be interested to know just what has, or is happening to John W. Campbell Jr.'s Society of Gentleman Amateur Scientists, if anyone knows anything will they tell me. The last I heard was a demand for a sub to their magazine, but since it asked for dollars I couldn't respond. The reason for this is that a certain Mr. James England has founded the British Amateur Scientific Research Association. The idea behind this is fundamentally the same as JWC's but it is one of those coincidences that occasionally happen, for though Mr. England occasionally reads Analog, he had never heard of JWC's Society. However I'm sorry to say that BASRA ran straight into trouble when its founder tried to get a journal printed. The trouble came in the shape of an inability to set mathematical type on the part of the printers. The journal has therefore been cancelled for the moment, but may possibly come out in a duplicated form, which

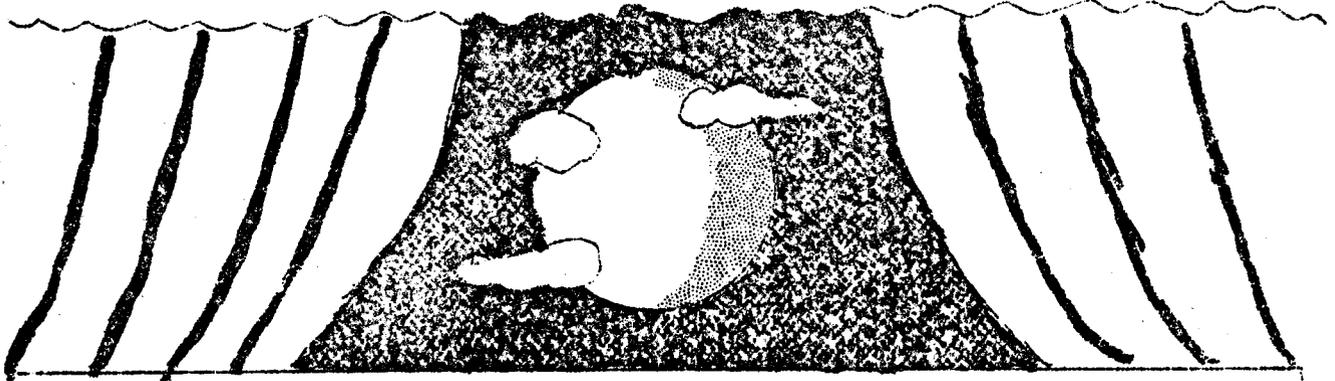
has not the slickness and professional appeal of print, but which makes mathematical work not much more difficult than ordinary typing. Somewhere at the back of N. I am running a table of calculus bits to play myself, non-mathematical readers are asked to ignore these. Please no-one write in saying that I should have said "standard forms" above, calculus bits is my way of avoidance of mathematical pedantry of which I am sick.

This editorial would be no means be complete without a tribute to Ron Bennett for his organisation of the 1962 Eastercon at Harrogate, This con went off without a hitch of any kind, and yet there was plenty of time for anyone to go and look at Harrogate itself which was more than worth looking at. My most pleasant memory was of a meeting in the valley gardens with a member of Harrogate Astronomical Society and being run up by him to their observatory to see the damage done by the gale some weeks before. This gentleman was the cost accountant to the Council and on the whole was very hospitable to a visitor. In addition to showing me the observatory he ran me hither and yon around the countryside and showed me a lot of very pretty scenery that I never knew existed. So N. gives thanks to Ron Bennett, Harrogate, and one at least of its inhabitants for a good time---not forgetting the Copper Kettle tea rooms where I had one of the nicest cups of cafe tea I have had for a long time.

The last part of this editorial is devoted to the newest arrival at the residence, to wit a Ferrograph tape recorder. The near infinite things that can be done with this machine with a few pounds money of extra equipment beggar description. However at the moment, like Nelson's Victory it has a noisy capstan and has had to go back to the works, accompanied by a rocket. I hope that the anticipated week without it will not be extended, because when you have a second tape recorder it makes you wonder how you ever managed with only one. Which reminds me of a filthy thing that certain American Record companies have done. By active coercion they have obliged radio stations who put out a record programme to also put out a supersonic frequency with it, so that when anyone tries to tape record records they get an intolerably high-pitched signal that renders the recording useless. These same gentlemen approached our British Broadcasting Corporation but were sent about their business. However as a sort of sop the BBC has a notice in the Radio Times saying that it is an infringement of copyright to record from the wireless for other than private use, and being such a ponderous colossus the record makers can't do much about it. Of course of these profiteers would bring their records down to the same price as Russian ones (One Rouble, = eight shillings = £1 for a 12" LP) it is probable that they wouldn't have to worry about people pirating copies.

And that brings me to the end of this editorial. I specifically am not interested in LOC's for this ish, but if anyone does write it will be answered,

G. Bye now  
Alan.



# CURTAIN PLANET

CUTTING FROM "THE TIMES" 20-10-2085

The final vacation of Buckingham Palace was completed yesterday without incident. In anticipation of any trouble the usual quota of Ordermen round places of historical interest was reinforced, but as the ex-King and Queen left the small crowd that had assembled to watch them depart into private life as employees of the Reception and Delegations Department, gave them a friendly cheer. Thereafter the crowd dispersed. It is understood that the transformation of the palace into a museum will be accomplished shortly and thereafter it will be open to the public during the same hours as other centres of the same type.

EXTRACT FROM "THE PRIVATE PROPERTY--OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF" BILL PASSED 7-8-84

---And it shall be not permissible for any individual to own any land, domicile thereon, or any natural resource. At the time of enactment of this Bill any person so encumbered shall be required to declare such holdings to the nearest branch of the State Property Department. In order that no hardship shall accrue to citizens drawing their living from such holdings the State is bound to furnish them with gainful employment with such an income as to be equal by assessment to that they formerly enjoyed. In the case of owners older than the normal retiring age, the state is to furnish them a suitable pension until their death.

REPORT FROM "HANSARD" ON THE DEBATE CONCERNING THE STATE "RETENTION OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES" BILL PASSED 9-2-84

Chief Minister Grant:- Some members of this government have made the suggestion that management functions in the nationalised industries are capable of being performed satisfactorily by nominees of our own choosing. While it is not my place to question the qualities of certain people whose names have been put before me I must rigorously insist that they prove their qualities by taking a suitable examination. Our industries have survived the revolution remarkably well. It is not good statecraft to introduce a change of control at this juncture."

CUTTING FROM "THE STATE" 7-7-86

It is appropriate that this, the first issue of the official organ of the State Party should contain an exclusive report upon the World Conference of Governments held in Moscow. The pronouncement that as of yesterday there are no longer any individual governments on our planet is one that all people, whatever their race, will welcome with satisfaction. No longer will nation vie with nation, nor people with people, as the conference chairman Fedor Kropotkin stated. "We are one world as from this time on. The dreams of those who have gone before are now realised and their spirits can look on us with satisfaction. Our politics henceforth are aimed at one goal only, the greatest good for the greatest number." The world is to be divided into regions each of which will return one representative to a world council, this council will meet yearly, each regional capital playing host in turn. World council members will be elected from their own region by the vote of the regional government.

TRANSCRIPT FROM THE RECORDING OF THE SECRET TRIAL OF COLONEL JAMES MORRIS OF THE SECRET SECTION OF THE ORDER DEPARTMENT ON A CHARGE OF EXCEEDING HIS PORTFOLIO.

On the witness stand Chief Minister Grant for the Regional Council.

Court President:- Mr. Grant, will you tell this court in your own words the reason for constituting the Secret Section of the Order Department.

Chief Minister Grant:- Yes sir. When my party came to power in England it was at once realised that the lack of any opposition constituted a serious risk of our becoming a totalitarian state. Such a state, because of the randomness of human reaction to stimuli is not a practical proposition for a condition of peace between, as it was then, ourselves and other countries. It was seen that we must have information as to the feelings of the people upon any subject as a basis upon which to work. For that reason it was decided to create a Secret Section of the Order Department to obtain the necessary information. The portfolio of the controller of this section strictly defined the limits of his power. I regret to say that Colonel Morris arbitrarily used his authority to arrest and question under narcotics the members of a secret movement working against the party. His duty should have been to report the matter to the Controller of the Order Department for action.

Court President:-When this matter came to light what was your action?

Chief Minister Grant:-The members of the underground movement had been incarcerated in the detention block of the Order Department Prison. They had been badly treated. It took considerable persuasion from us to induce them to accept posts, in the Department of Information.

Court President:-Will you please amplify Government Policy in such matters?

Chief Minister Grant:- With pleasure sir. The principle difficulty that any single party control faces is that where an opposition is not officially constituted, that opposition tends to go underground and initiate subversive activities. Our policy has always been that where this has been discovered, opposition can be rendered harmless by employing it in some government department as servants of the state. Underground work always thrives upon difficulty and danger. We make sure that it has no reason to burgeon.

5.

Court President:-Then it would seem that the quickest way into a post in the State employ is to be an enemy to it?

Chief Minister Grant:-Sir, there has always been a desperate shortage of people with natural talent in posts under any government. We believe that anyone capable of organising a movement under difficult and necessarily secret conditions will be able to organise even more successfully when unrestricted.

Court President:- And you have no trouble persuading members of underground movements to take office?

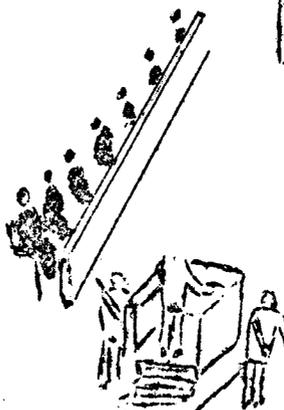
Chief Minister Grant:- Only when bad treatment, of which I have spoken already, renders them suspicious of our motives.

Court President:-This smacks of Utopia but, I would enquire, what happens if, despite all your persuasions, you fail to secure the services of a member of a subversive movement?

Chief Minister Grant:- That person is turned loose.

Court President:-To start again!

Chief Minister Grant:-No, we have rendered it impossible. Let us say that our hypothetical person attempts to establish old contacts not dealt with by the Order Department. What evidence has he or she of bad treatment? None. They have been treated courteously, housed comfortably, and fed well, when they are sent out we make a point of providing good clothing and State Credits. At once they engender suspicions among former associates. Why have they been treated well? What deals have they made? I am happy to say that so far we have had a hundred per cent successes. Recalcitrants who have been released, and who have come back in a few days begging for employment. You see sir, we are the first authority who have used psychology not as an assistance, but as a method. It is for that reason that I took such exception to Colonel Morris behaviour, and it is for that reason that I ask for this court to pass the maximum sentence on him of regional expulsion.



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FOREWORD FROM THE BOOK " HISTORY OF WORLD SOCIALISM" BY DE VREIS BELL.  
PUBLISHED 4-8-98 BY THE CENTRAL PRINTING OFFICE OF THE WORLD COUNCIL.

When we look back over the long history of our planet, we observe that socialism, far from being new is perhaps the oldest form of government, and its strength may be measured by the fact that despite repeated failures, it continually blossoms. The object of my work has been not so much a cataloguing as a contrasting. We have our World Council now, successful, stable, and working always for the common good. Its success in contrast with former failures is because at last the government has made a study of people and used its

knowledge to preserve its position. The essential of any government is stability, so that long-term plans may mature without risk of being swept aside. The fallacy of democracy is that all the people are fully competent to vote, which is, on the face of it, as ridiculous as saying that no man is cleverer than another. The voluntary examination for a voters licence which we have to-day ensures that only those who are actively interested in government can control its formulation. Likewise the political party system is also fallacious, there can be but one object for any political organisation, and that is to do the maximum good for the maximum number of people. The failure of earlier socialist states is directly attributable to these two fallacies being held as tenets. It is true that an initial tyranny is often necessary or indeed unavoidable in the foundation of a stable state. People must realise that the complexities of modern civilisation render close control imperative.

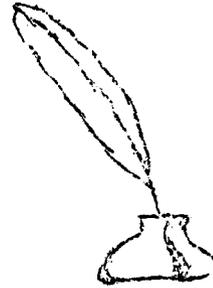
It is to the "Iron Curtain" Lands (as they were called) that world socialism owes its start. Their desperate needs for restoration of normalcy after the war of 1939-45 made them put through a staggering programme of technical education. But education is the art, not so much of making someone learn, as making that person think. The old guard of tyrants died or were ousted from office by a generation of young men and women who were confident in their way of life and determined that the once preached "World Revolution" should take place. The "Free World" as it was so fallaciously named, was dragged down and throttled by its own freedom. One after another, countries turned to socialism as salvation, and with the help of the originators of the system, their governments and services were re-established. One of the first to turn Socialist was curiously enough the former arch-enemy of the Iron Curtain, the United States of North America. The last to turn Socialist was the United Kingdom, which did not embrace the policy until 2083, but though it was the latest it proved an apt pupil and the system of psychopolitics, instituted by the Head of the State Party John Grant, became the model which was copied throughout all the regions. So that the World has now become, as a former generation would have said, and "Iron Curtain" planet. Where there is only one government, and one system of politics.

But what of the future, will the state, as Karl Marx prophesied wither away? The answer is that it is already doing so. The evidence for this is the reduction of the number of civil servants per hundred of population. The multiplication of bureaucracy has been halted by the very difficulty of securing a post in the World Authority. This stems from the original examination for a voter's Licence, which became an initial examination for employment by the government, and the institution of the probationary period for civil servants, plus a generous efficiency bonus, has resulted in a drastic pruning of unnecessary staff. It is possible that as people become better educated, and realise their citizen's responsibilities more fully, no government will be needed at all, the only authority then existing will be that, responsible for essential services. The world will then have earned its freedom. For those who will enjoy that, this book is dedicated.

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Desk



Clearing

The penalty for an irregular pubbing schedule is the accumulation of fanzines that pile up on the desk. Naturally I've never bothered to keep them in order. So I list them regardless of date and soforth.

SATHANAS 3 from Dick Schultz 19159 Helen, Detroit 34, Michigan USA  
Dick's usually readable zine. Notable article behold the conqueror, which deals with the ugly side of totalitarianism.

DOUBLE STAR. From John M. Baxter Box 39, King St. P.O. Sydney, NSW, Aust  
The leading down-under mag. Nicely produced, but mostly American in context and news. This ish features a folio of art by Philby, the pen-name of John's younger brother. Unfortunately Philby is trying to be a down-under Rotsler instead of being original.

ENVOY 7 Ex Dick Schultz--a chatterzine, nothing either notable or unreadable

HKIFLOD 2 from Michael J. Mcinerney, 81 Ivy Drive Meriden Conn USA  
A zine I haven't had before, thish notable for an article by Doc Keller on space opera.

WHO'S WHO IN SF from L.D. Broyles, Rt. 65, Box 453P Waco Texas USA  
A labour of love this, essential to every Fan.

I SHINE from John Baxter--chatterzine

BEDLAM from Mike Deckinger, 31 Carr Place, Fords, New Jersey USA  
This is verging on being a prozine standard fanzine, so much good stuff that there isn't room to list it. Best article, 'Interview with a heterosexual'.

J DIARGASSY Lynn Hickman 224 Dement Ave, Dixon Ill. USA This is probably the most professionally produced fanzine going. Each ish is a collector's piece.

CANTER 13 Alan Dodd, 77 Stanstead Rd, Hoddeston Herts England. This well-produced line has a family value. Best part, an article by Doc Keller on a bit of physiological arcana.

HAPPTIT TOMEAD from Mike Haggerty 1395 Wicks Rd. Pasadena 3, Calif. USA  
One of these days I shall no doubt be enlightened as to what this zine is about, until then I find myself incompetent to crit it.

YANDRO 111 from The Coulsons, Rural Route 3, Wabash, Indiana USA This is not a zine, it is an institution. It is all well worth reading from cover to cover.

SHANGRI L'AFFAIRES from 1825 Greenfield, Losangeles 25 Calif USA This is also an institution mag, that no trufan should miss.

THE BUG EYE from Helmut Klemm, 16 Uhland Strasse, Urfort/Eick (22a) Krs Moers, W. Germany This is an English speaking fanzine, and well worth reading, quite nicely produced by the younger section of Gerfandom.

SF NYTT Sam Lundwall, Box 409 Hågersten 4 Stockholm Sweden This is a zine in Swedish. I can speak the language, but knowing its ed you can bet it's highly intelligent and scholarly.

EAST AND WEST NEWS from Pete Campbell, Birkdale Cottage, Brantfell Windermere, Westmorland, England This is the sort of fellow-travelling magazine that even the Russians despise. It peddles religion as well.

SALAMANDER from Fred Patten, 5156 Chesley Ave. Los Angeles 43, CalifUSA This is a typical American upper-class fanzine. Nicely produced and very well worth getting.

DYNATRON from Roy Tackett, 915 Green Valley Rd. Nw. Albuquerque, New Mexico USA This intriguing zine exudes a pleasant breath of the Far East, to wit Japan, and is worth getting on that account. But the rest is all good stuff as well.

I PALANTIR from Ted Johnstone, "Bag End" 1503 Rollin Street, South Pasadena Calif USA This is a specialist zine, only for readers of Tolkien's massive trilogy The Lord of the Rings. If you like Tolkien you will like this zine.

LOKI from Lt. David G. Hulan, 228-D Nible Drive, Redstone Arsenal Alabama USA This zine is mainly interesting for an article on the Norse God Loki, and another on the tales of Algernon Blackwood by Alan Dodd.

SOL from Thomas Schlueck, Altenbekener Damm 10 Hannover, W.Germany This is a zine all in German. I find it interesting, but then I read German.

MALEPARTUS from Burkhard Blüm 6844 Hofheim, Jakobstrasse 17, W.Germany This is another German fanzine, entertaining if you read German, but meaningless otherwise.

And there, unless something new comes in I end this review. I naturally want to apologise to all the faneds for lightly skipping over their treasured productions, but frankly, when you do receive so many, then it's a task keeping up with them. But believe me I do read and enjoy them all, except any which I have critted to the contrary.

It has just occurred to me that I can hardly let this desk clearing be duped without mentioning the excellently duplicated programme put out for the Harrogate Con. This programme was just about the most comprehensive I've seen in a long time. Kudos at Harrogate too for the amusing spectacle of the tea-drinking con turned into a contest for drinking Harrogate Spa Water. Also kudos for Ron Elik, the guest of honour, for entertaining me very well at the art of brag, during the time when they were showing "A matter of Life and Death" And I agree with Terry Jeeves, has no-one got a copy of Metropolis that will be on show when its promised, and anyway, how about some of the Saturday afternoon serials run together, Oh for the fine old days of Flash Gordon and Co!

Come in Mathematicians, Alan is playing himself!

Q. Using the Van der Waals equn find the minimum work necessary to compress 1 mole of  $\text{CO}_2$  from a volume of 10 litres to 1 litre @  $27^\circ\text{C}$ .  
( $a = 3.59$  litre<sup>2</sup>/atm/mole  $b = .0427$  litre/moles)

The Van der Waals equn states  $\left(P + \frac{n^2 a}{V^2}\right)(V - nb) = RT$

Where  $P =$  pressure,  $a$  and  $b$  are constants.  $V =$  volume  $R =$  the gas constant,  $n =$  moles  $T =$  tempt/abs. In this question  $n = 1$  therefore it is neglected

$$\text{then } P = \frac{RT}{V - b} - \frac{a}{V^2}$$

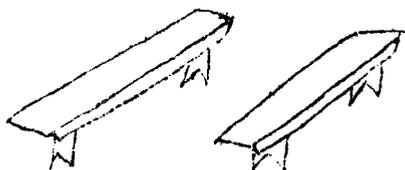
work for compression = work for maximum expansion(w) with a change of sign

$$\therefore P \text{ or } w = RT \int_1^{10} \frac{1}{V - b} - a \int_1^{10} \frac{1}{V^2} \text{ and integrating}$$

$$\text{we get } RT \ln \frac{V_2 - b}{V_1 - b} + a \left( \frac{V_1 - V_2}{V_1 V_2} \right)$$

But since all values are in litre atmos therefore  $R = .082$

and the rest of the problem is straightforward mathematical substitution which one hands into a computer, life being too short.



Standard Forms!

$$\int \frac{dx}{dy}$$

cosh!

Calculus Bits!

# THE NEED FOR AMATEUR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

by J. England B.Sc.

Psychologists tell us that the "exploratory drive" is a drive common to both Man and the lower animals. Rats, placed in a maze, will often explore it out of curiosity even though tempted to leave by the smell of food. Cats and human children are notoriously curious. And curiosity, fully developed in the human adult leads to "Scientific research."

In view of this, it is surprising that the majority of people regard research, not as a "natural" activity, but as an exceptional activity, suited only to exceptional individuals. It is equally surprising, that, as writers such as Norbert Wiener have pointed out, there are widespread feelings of suspicion and distrust of persons engaged in scientific research, along with "anti-scientific" attitudes--tendencies to regard science as something applicable to only a limited number of fields. It is obvious that this state of affairs is undesirable in any nation which hopes to progress. The future of any nation must depend upon its attitude to science, and a nation which undervalues it cannot hope to progress as rapidly as one which does not.

One of the causes of the present state of affairs is undoubtedly the fact that the average man is not encouraged to regard scientific research as something in which he can participate. We are supposed to be on the threshold of an "Age of Leisure", and in America at least, it is reported that "active" hobbies are on the increase, and "passive" hobbies are becoming less popular. Nevertheless, nearly all scientific research nowadays is done by professional research scientists, and not since the days when all scientists were "amateurs" has any large organisation existed in any country with the object of promoting scientific research by amateurs.

That there exist large numbers of people (not professional scientists) who enjoy intellectual activity is obvious from the popularity of puzzles and quizzes in the mass entertainment media, and the sales of "popular" books on science. Moreover, while industry calls for increasing numbers of scientists, the scientists in industry are wastefully employed, often to a shocking extent, and scientists so employed very readily turn their interests elsewhere. Some of this interest could be canalised into amateur research.

Another argument in support of amateur research is the following. It is an implicit assumption in professional science (e.g. in universities where only the 'better' students are allowed to proceed from B.Sc. to Ph.D) that the more intelligent and

the more adept at absorbing a large number of facts a student is, the more likely that student is to be capable of creative work. But this is a false assumption. Intelligence is not always associated with creativity, nor is the ability to absorb facts, and in the past many brilliant and highly educated men have been uncreative, whilst amateurs with little education and only moderate I.Q. have made great discoveries.

Again it can be argued that the large number of facts committed to memory by the professional scientist, may in some circumstances actually hinder in the pursuit of new knowledge. Some supposedly known facts are untrue, and a superstructure built upon them is of little value. An amateur may, in his ignorance, or out of disregard for 'authority', question supposedly known facts and prove them to be wrong. A professional scientist is far more likely to keep to 'safe' lines of research and would be loth to pursue those which seem unlikely to bear fruit, and which would be frowned upon by 'authority'.

Yet again, a professional scientist engaged upon research almost invariably has to specialise rather intensely, and is obliged to ignore fields outside his speciality. An amateur is often familiar with several apparently unconnected fields. And if a scientific advance requires simultaneous knowledge of these fields the amateur is therefore the more potentially capable of making it.

Finally the thing of paramount importance is all research is enthusiasm for or love of one's subject, and the amateur (the word derives from the Latin for 'love') by definition possesses this. Professional scientists, it is true, often share this characteristic, but nowadays it is not uncommon for people to take a Ph.D. and then spend some time doing research for reasons other than a love of their subject.

Assuming then that the above arguments show amateur research to be worthwhile, the question may be asked in what fields can and ought amateur research to be done? Science to-day, is a vast industry and many people may regard it as a closed shop. Vast sums are spent on research connected with defence (e.g. nuclear physics and aeronautics) It would be wrong to suggest that much of this expenditure is unnecessary. But not very long ago, scientists like J.J. Thompson and Rutherford, were able to make world-shaking discoveries with 'string and sealing-wax' apparatus. Even in fields closed to the amateur because of the cost of apparatus there is no reason why the work of professionals should not be followed and experiments that could be carried out suggested.

In many fields of science, research can be done without any apparatus, and these fields are often of the greatest importance. Einstein needed no apparatus to make his discoveries. Among these fields are those of the social sciences and psychology, long neglected, perhaps out of inertia, perhaps out of fear that research would result in the destruction of cherished illusions and useful dogmas. One of the first things that an amateur can attempt is to submit his every belief to rational analysis, and despite pressures from every side, inducing him to accept other people's beliefs, to form his own opinions; to dare to be iconoclastic, when professional scientists, and others who fear loss of prestige dare not be.

In this way amateur research must be pursued, not to disestablish science, but to help it to build the future more soundly and more serviceably.

## ENVOY

This is a kind of stop-press of disconnected rambling and mention of the odd few fanzines that came in after "Desk Clearing was Completed. To kick off with there is

LES SPINGE, from Dave Hale, 12 Belmont Road, Wollescote, ~~6600000000~~  
Stourbridge, Worcs England Coming from an address like that you'd expect a hick zine, but it isn't, Les is very sophisticated. Best part was the conreport, sorry that the article by Berry wasn't worth his talents. But in all, enjoyable.

PESKYS from Edmund R. Meskys 723A 45th Street, Brooklyn 20 New York USA This zine is done on a spirit duplicator, and it looks spiritual in that parts are so faint as to be unreadable (a disease shared by Northlight) What is readable is standard American fan chatter, all very interesting and entertaining.

BHISMILLAH from Andy Main Bem of apt 112 410 West 110, New York City 25 USA This is a real first class issue. That is with lots of articles revised and put in, famous writers--well what more can you want. Andy is sharing an apt. with author Avram Davidson, and evidently some of the great man's wisdom has leavened this excellent ish. Best in ish is Harald Hardass, by Av Davidson, a shit on all sagas, and the Weapon Shops of Usher by Dean Ford, being experiences with folks in cinemas.

SALAMANDER from Red Patten, 5156 Chesley Ave L.A. 43 Calif. USA A typical West Coast mag. That is full of the esoteric West Coast chatter that everyone enjoys, plus mailing and fanzine comments, what more can you want?

THE BB SF LETTERZINE from Bo Stenfers, Bylgjavegen 3, Djursholm Sweden. But we all know Bo, we all know his sexy drawings, need more be said? But anyway this zine is mainly letters about Candy F special, which I think the naughty Post Office seized to read themselves.

And that's about it for this ish I think, for its shortness many apologies, for its shortcomings even more, but if anyone thinks I'm going to prostrate themselves well they are mistaken. This effort is for fun and frolic, lone wolf fandom, brain stimulation, thinking, brotherhood of man and all the rest. The general idea of it is an outlet for me, and that's the lot.

