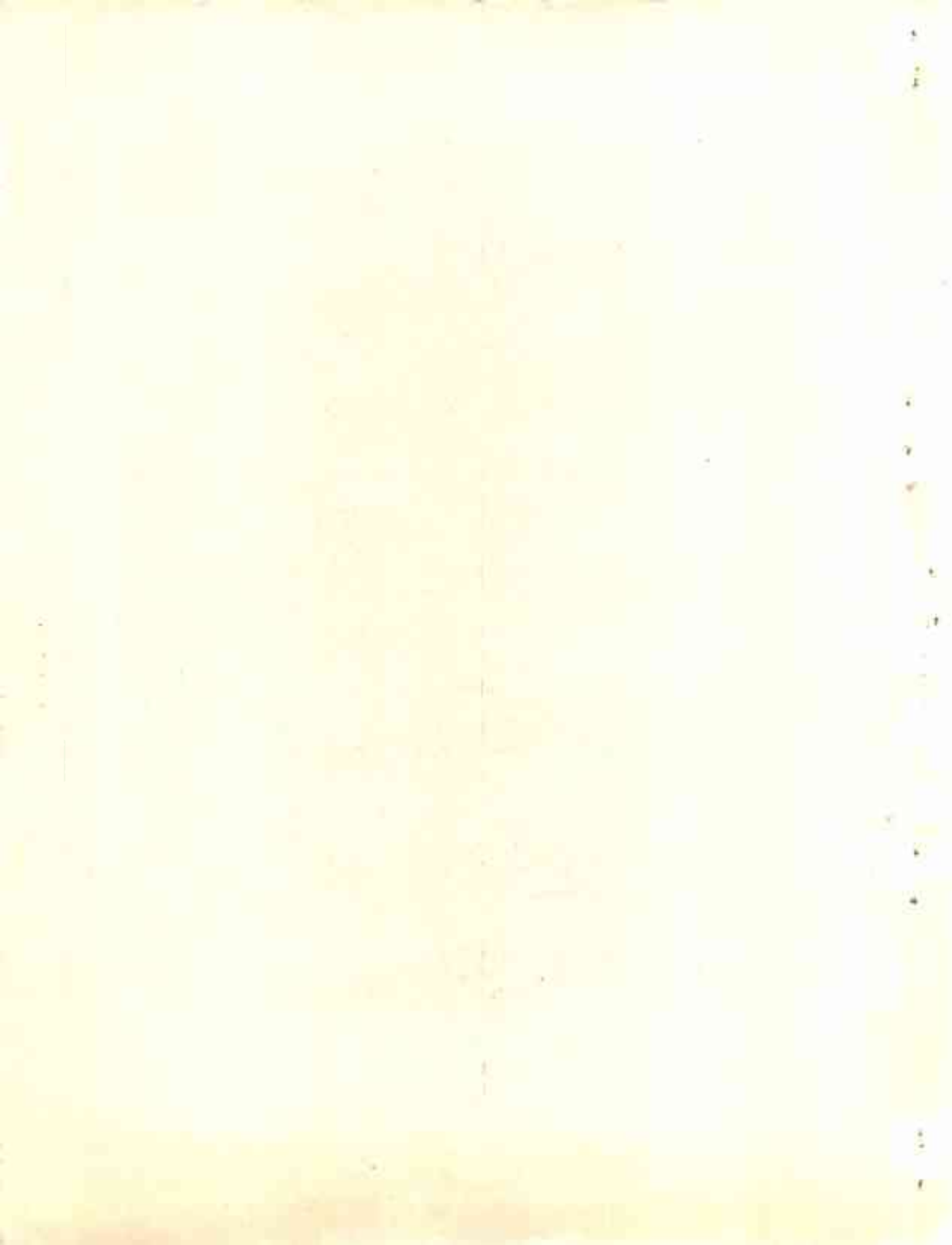


3

ODD...



jack



ODD

MAGAZINE

Editor in chief :

Art Editor :

Duggie Fisher Jr.

Ray Nelson

Co-Editor : Richard
Elsberry

TABLE

OF

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COVER:

JACK GAUGAN

In reply to Ray Cambell's questionnaire: RAY, you recieved the OCT
NOVEMBER, Vl. 3 No. 1, Whole number 7; This Issue is the Vl. 3
No. 2, whole number 8 ish of ODD.

Sorry to say, but Bob Tuckers letter didn't get back from Rich
in time to be included in this issue, and EdCo's letter was rec-
ieved to late. Write sooner next time, please!

HYMN TO A BEM
by Barbara Ann Lahn

"Forever chased by heroes bold,
Oh bems to the I say;
Beware of Bems - hast not been told?
All Bems shall have their day.

Without the Bems, there could not be
A cover, fans would shout,
From open windows you would see
Pro-zine artists jumping out!

And so fair Bems to the this hymn
I write but somehow well----
It seems an awfully silly whim
to have you in my cell.

It's hard to move around my room
these days, You've so bent the bars,
The keeper says that I'm a loon
'Cause I say you're from Mars!

This jacket that is wrapped around
me hurts, but I don't mind
Its not your fault you ran a ground
when you had me in mind;

Soon you are leaving me you say
But why, ah now I know
For every Bem must have his day
and therefore you must go.

(((EDITORS NOTE: DUE TO LAST MINUTE CHANGES, (that were compleately unaviodable) THE FEATURE APEARING ON PAGE ONE ARE NOT LISTED IN THE INDEX, (PAGE 100) and BOB TUCKER'S LETTER WAS CROWDED OUT OF THIS ISSUE.

There is going to be a special CHRISTMAS edition of ODD due out the last of December, so get those letters, manuscripts and subscriptions (HAW) in as soon as possible.

What do you readers think of this colored paper. Starting next issue, I am going to have one different colored paper each edition.

Hope you like this issue of ODD. Rich an I surely worked like hell getting it out to you, but if you think that this is something, just you wait till next ish.

Yours, Ya Ede!

SCRAPHEAD -3-

It seems that there has been a slight mix up in the various dates that abound in ODD. I have been asked several questions as to which are correct and which aren't; what whole number is this and when's the anniversary issue coming out, etc! I've given up trying to answer each question separately, and so I'm going to try to answer most of them in this editorial.

Up till now, ODD has been bi-monthly. I've published a little ahead of time for the last month or two, and so this issue will be slightly different. This is the December issue, the next issue will be out around the first of January and will be the January-February '50 issue. This issue is the Volume 3 Number 2 issue, whole number 8.

Comin up next issue (Vol. 3 No. 3) We'll have another all star line up with many interesting features. Some of them are, Fish Fry by PAUL COX, IF by Sirak Pampalonian, Roll Call, by Rory Faulker, Plus many more stories, articles, artwork, and misc. The cover for next issue, by the way, is done by CHABOT, and the cover for issue after that is by NELSON. A very good line up, I'm sure you'll agree.

Now a word or two about the anniversary issue. There have been several changes made in the anniversary issue, all for the better. The date will be July-August, instead of June-July as formerly reported, and it will have 40 pages, instead of the thirty two previously. BUT, the anniversary issue will carry advertisement at the rates of \$2.00 per page, \$1.50 per half a page, and \$1.00 per 1/4 a page. There will also be fewer copies mailed out. If you do not have material in my backlog, or have been a contributor in the past, or a subscriber, this issue will not be mailed to you, you'll have to come after it in person(HAW!)

I'm kinda sorry to announce this, but since paper, ink, and stencils has gone up I'm forced to charge the following price for ads in the future. For full page ads on stencil (letter-size) \$1.00. Without stencil, \$1.25. For half page ads with stencil, \$75¢, without, \$1.00; One fourth page ads with stencil, \$50¢. Without, \$50¢.

Rising costs have also forced me to discontinue the printed covers for a couple of issues but only temporarily. They, and many new features will continue to appear as the months go by.

The new never before happening that was to be in this issue, has been transferred instead, to the giantiac anniversary issue.

REMBER, any suggestions, comments, or brickbats sent in, help make ODD a better magazine. But, that suggestion, or criticism will do no good if you never write it down, so why not write in to us and tell us just what you think of the magazine. Send all letters to

SCRAPHEAD, (ooooops! that is) SCRAPHEAP

% DUGGIE FISHER JUNIOR

1302 Lester Street,
Poplar Bluff, Missouri

And so, as our typewriter sinks slowly into the stencil correction fluid, we bid fond farewell to ODD for another two months (Thank GOD)

Well, here's the 8th issue of ODD. I certainly hope you like it. We try to improve with every issue and I think we do. But no fanzine can progress without material. That's why we're always looking for material to come in to our ever increasing standards. If you feel that you can write a story or article that is as good or better than anything we've had in the past issues of ODD, then please send it in. It doesn't do us any good if you don't get it down on paper. Subscriptions are also an integral part of any publishing attempt. Most fanzines run on without them, or very few. It is rarely that a fanzine pays for itself. We don't expect ODD to pay for itself, but we would like a little help. ODD is getting bigger and bigger and so are the costs. If we don't get some subs ODD will have to suffer a cut in size. We hate to do this but we also hate to go broke. So, we take the lesser of the two evils. Let's have those subs, they give us both moral and monetary support. Your letters are welcome too.

But now onto a brighter side. Last ish you saw that magnificent cover by Jon Arfstrom. Now it's Jack Gaughan's turn to display his talents on this ish cover. But all good things don't necessarily come to an end. Tho we won't have any printed covers for a few ishs we do have a couple of nice stencil jobs coming up by Hank Chabot and Ray Nelson. I think you'll like them. The interior artwork should also be perking up. From time to time you'll be seeing pics by Chabot and Grossman in addition to Ray Nelson's stuff. Grossman has done me up a nice heading which you'll see at the head of "Nothing Sirius" next issue.

We've got an Anniversary issue coming up and also a few surprises, but I'll Dig tell you of that. I don't want to leave him with nothing to say as I know how hard it is to fill a page when you haven't anything to say.

The artwork isn't the only thing that looks good for future issues. We have a swell article on hand by Roger Dard, which will probably headline the next issue. I really enjoyed reading it and I think you will to. Then too we've been lucky in securing some poetry from Mary Faulkner. Mary is one of fandom's top poetess's and I think you'll agree after reading some of her poems. Another article on the off-trail subject of Witchcraft (off-trail for a primarily SF fanzine), which has an interesting approach to the subject, should also be along soon also. On the fiction side, things are a little more tentative. We have a larger selection to choose from and, of course, that makes predicting a little more difficult. I think you'll be seeing some pro by-lines in ODD before many more issues go by tho. Kenneth Grey and Charles DeVet, are two boys I am cracking the whip to. I hope they respond, and soon!

We are in the market for one thing that I think any-one can write. Fillers! One-quarter and one-third page fillers are in demand. They're just the thing to fill out a page or so and a magazine can't have too many lying around in its files. So let's see what you can do with that. Just put out a paragraph on some interesting fannish subject and slip it in your next letter to ODD and they'll really be appreciated.

Here, I am going to add a note about the article, "Behind Friedman's Iron Curtain", in this issue of ODD. It's an article I'd been meaning to write for a long time. It's an article that needed to be written! I've received numberless complaints from UM members about how they've been taken in. And still the situation hasn't gotten any better. In fact it's worse! Some fans have started a petition to have Friedman kicked out of UM. They'll get plenty of names --- but that's all. They won't be able to get Ron out. Friedman's club is supposedly flourishing in Brooklyn; I've reports that Ron got's great gatherings at his home for local meetings. I don't know how true they are, but as an international club, UM has gone to hell! Your comments on the article are requested. We'll print all we can in the next Scrap Heap. And, I might add, every statement in that article is backed with documentary proof!!

That's all; see ya next issue....rich.

BEHIND FRIEDMAN'S IRON CURTAIN

by Richard Elsberry
Welcome Chairman, UM

I first exchanged letters with Ronald Friedman in the summer of 1949. It was at this time that Ron was busily forming a new fan club -- The Universal Musketeers. Ron asked me to join saying that I would be a charter member by just signing the Constitution which he was then circulating. I never received a copy of the Constitution but I was treated like a charter member.

Ronald asked me to run for a position in UM and I told him to put me down for Welcome Chairman. I wrote a short note about myself for the first X-Ray. The X-Ray was dated Dec. '49 and was a slim affair of five pages. In it were a list of 38 charter members of UM and the election ballot. Nearly everyone ran unopposed.

Friedman, who had started the club was the most obvious choice for president. In cards sent to the members he stated: "In the advent that I am elected, I will strive my utmost to make UM the greatest and most active fan club in the world." Keep that statement well in mind as you read this please.

On January 27, 1950 I received a short letter from Ron saying that I had been appointed Welcome Chairman and that he had won the Presidency. He added that we now had 90 members. This was very good considering the fact that our membership campaign had not been launched yet.

So, a short time later the second issue of the X-Ray, the O.O., came out dated Jan'y 1950. This is the last issue of the X-Ray that has ever been put out! And the X-Ray was supposed to have been a monthly. This issue was much better than the first one and contained 16 pages, most of which was propaganda for UM, since this issue was to be sent around to gain members. Several hundred copies were distributed. I received two at the time and Rick Seacory commented on how he had received three copies. This seemed to me to be a sheer waste of money. But the propaganda served its purpose. Plenty of members were drawn in. How could they help it, the advertising was too much for anyone.

The promises were thus: All members of UM were to receive the X-Ray monthly, Univeers, a bi-monthly zine was to be free to members as was Merchart, a tradezine, to be published three times a year. Members were also to receive it and Fantopologist free and also one issue of Skylark for nothing. None, save two issues of the X-Ray, of these mags have ever been distributed to the membership. Why? You've got me.

Another thing that bothered me was my duties as Welcome Chairman. I read over the Constitution, which had finally appeared in the X-Ray #2. My duties were: to enter all new members in the organization and to tell them a little of the club, and to have control over a committee composed of members who had brought three new members into the club. Many is the time I wrote to Ron asking him to explain my duties more fully and to explain about the special committee. I might as well have been beating my head against a brick wall for all the good it did. Ron carefully evaded the question every time. And he also never sent me the names of any new members to write too, probably because he didn't want me to find out the names of any of the members.

The Constitution was also a thing of beauty to look at. Written by Ron himself undoubtedly, it was foolproof. From his standpoint that is. There is absolutely no constitutional way to oust the President from his office. Friedman was holding the reins and he knew it.

There were other quirks to #2 X-Ray. One was in having all the dues sent to Ron instead of to the recently elected Sec-Treas. Rose Davenport. This he explained off was because of the bill he had to pay for the mimeoing of the big #2 ish of the X-Ray. The money has been and is still going to Ron. The Sec.-Treas. has never seen one red cent of it!

The officers took office on Feb. 1st, 1950. At first it was kind of hard to see that anything was wrong. Things weren't running very smoothly but no-one suspected Ron of doing any wrong. We just couldn't get any co-operation from him. It was rumored that UM had well over 100 members but I really doubt if anyone but Ron really knows how many members there are. And he won't tell. Time and time again I have asked Ron for the membership list, and so have other officers. Once he promised to send it. It never came and altho I've been an officer of the club for eight months I know of only the 38 charter members. Why? Because Friedman will not send the membership list to his officers!!

Now that Ron had the money rolling in to him from his big propaganda issue, he thought it was about time he got rid of his pesky officers. So he refused to answer their letters. They were probably striking too close to home. I had been corresponding steadily with Jack Schwab, the UM Librarian, and on March 29th I received a typical letter from him:

"I am in the same boat as you are as far as Friedman is concerned. I haven't heard from him in two months so don't know any more than you do about what is going on in UM. I would hate to tell all the people I have gotten to join that I gave them a bum tip as to joining U. # It seems funny to me that Friedman can have the membership fee's sent to him instead of the Treasurer and then to him for expenses incurred but that is what's happening. I tell you Rich, if I don't hear from him myself pretty soon and get an explanation I am resigning my post as Librarian."

This was the way everyone felt. We were afraid that Ronald was making fools of us. He was! The deluge of threatening letters we were writing to him must have caused him to get nervous or something. Toward the first part of April he started a magazine called SP Weekly. The officers of UM each got the first two issues, but that's all. In the second issue of SP, Ron had this to say:

"UM MEMBERS NOTE: Lack of printing facilities have put a temporary stop to the official organ. It, and the other club zines will resume publication on May 1st, when the publisher will have his own mimeo. Missing issues will be made up and the entire membership roster will be distributed. PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH US."

I feel that I've boared with Ron long enuff. Here it is Oct. and I have not seen an X-Ray since #2 nor have I ever received a membership list. When we no longer began to get SPW anymore I began to wonder again. But finally I rec'd my first letter from Ron in nearly three months. It was dated April 12th, 1950. It is the last letter I ever rec'd from Ronald. I have sent him at least four letters and cards since that time. But, of course, I am only the welcome Chairman of UM. The letter was extremely short. It did make this statement tho:

"I'll send you a complete membership roster by the end of the week."

Liar! And Ron ended his letter saying:

"Write soon and never say UM is dead."

I wrote --- no reply --- UM is dead as far as I am concerned.

A letter from Jack Schwab shortly later mirrored my thots completely. It went: "Just heard from Ron Friday, claims he was sick and had to study for exams and is sorry for not writing sooner. In his letter he also included a two page zine printed by him. In my book if he had enuff time to print this zine he had enuff time to at

least answer his mail and write to his officers and let them know what is what, but he didn't so I am ignoring his letter as he did the many I sent him. # He is late with the X-Ray, but he could put out that little zine of his. I don't understand all I want to know about the situation Rich, and I am still thinking of resigning my post as Librarian. My face turns red when I think of all the fans I wanted to join UM. Everyday I get letters from someone wanting to know why they don't get some confirmation of their club membership after they sent their dollar in and more letters why don't the X-Ray come out. I tell you Rich, I am disgusted with Ron and the whole deal."

This is an extremely accurate picture of the way Ronald was running the club in April. It has not changed a bit in the last five months! One interesting thing is that Ronald seemingly never confirms new memberships. Thus, by not confirming the fact that he received your dollar he can't be prosecuted for mail fraud. Friedman isn't a dumb cluck by any means. He is sort of an up-to-date edition of Degler or Hanback.

At this time both Jack and myself wrote to the other officers to find out their feelings. I also wrote to Ron at this time proposing a 7 point program: (1) X-Ray out by July 1st and there after every two months on time. (2) A couple of one-shot fanzines to inform UM members that the club is still here and being reorganized. (3) The membership list mailed to the officers within 1 week. (4) Round-robin letter started by you so that the officers may get in contact. (5) Regular correspondence with the officers, exchanging letters at least once a month. (6) 3 months added on to all memberships. (7) All initial promises made in the X-Ray #2 carried out in Full!! I told Ron I would resign if these were not put into effect. Bill Khaphaide later talked me out of this but the program was not entirely a failure as Ron feebly attempted to put some of it into effect.

The first officer I heard from was our Voep Bill Khaphaide. In a letter of May 27th he said: "Rose has shown me the p-c you sent her and Rose and I both agree with you and Jack that Ron's conduct of UM is intolerable. I too have solicited quite a few fans to join UM and believe that it is high time action is taken. I have called Ron's attention to the matter twice in two different letters this past Spring. I am still awaiting an answer. I am going to write to Ron this week and request him to delegate to me the necessary powers, since I am Voep, to carry on in his place if he is unable or unwilling to do so."

On May 30th Khaphaide sent a letter to Ron that was also received by the other officers of UM. It read: "Dear Ronald, The situation in regard to U has reached the critical stage. I realize that you are perhaps pressed for time putting out your SEK, however, unless UM shows increased activity within the next few weeks, it will most certainly become a defunct fan club. Since many of the charter members have gotten many fellow fans to join, our reputations will be worthless in fandom if UM collapses now; in addition, the dues paying members are entitled to something for their money. Several of the other officers of the club and myself have rec'd complaints from the rank and file of the membership concerning our inactivity. In view of these facts, I would suggest the following: (1) Resume active leadership yourself; (2) or else, delegate sufficient power to me to handle the situation. It is of the utmost importance that publication of the UM fanzines be immediately resumed and at least one ish must be in the hands of the members not later than June 30 of this year. Circumstances require that I have an answer to this letter not later than June 21, 1950 --- if not, I can not be responsible for what ensues."

This letter and my own undoubtedly caused Ron to publish UM NEWS #1, dated June 8th. This is not one of the fanzines Ron said would be published and it is the only issue of Um News that did come out. It is a two sheeter whose purpose was to quiet the officers and to calm the fears of the members. It was not very effective as either. Ron's reputation had become too firmly established by this time to be disregarded by so

slight a zine. Here's what Ron had to say: "STOP, UM NOT LOST! Regardless of popular belief among members of the UM, the UM is not lost. A standstill was in effect for a while, but all members who have paid their dues will get an extra 3 months allotment before their next 12 month dues period goes into effect. UM publications are returning shortly, and activities will soon be back to the big boom! Next week, the UM NEWS will present a complete list of our membership to date. All members who have not already paid their dues, will be listed as delinquent."

Naturally there was never a second issue of the UM News since then Ron would have to print the membership list or think of more excuses. He must have been running out of excuses about then. And of course if he published the membership lists then the officers could probably get some support behind them, which wasn't good...especially to Ron's dictatorship.

In a letter of June 10th, Khapheide enclosed a letter he had received from Ron in reply to his letter of May 30th. It said: "Dear Bill: Note new address! Membership list is on stencil. Will forward copy tomorrow when I run off. Am catching(sic) up on all mail. Never write a letter to me except when absolutely necessary; always a postal card. # As you probably know by now UM is back on its feet. Am still radifying memberships ---- get tons of mail daily from all sources. Sincerely, Ron Friedman."

A nice letter isn't it? Carefully evades all of the points made in Bill's letter of the 30th. And there is that postal card business. Pretty good when the President wants to correspond with his officers by p-c. Of course, Bill didn't get the membership list, as neither did the rest of us. In that letter of the 10th Bill goes on to say: "By what process of logic, or illogic, Ronald reaches the conclusion that UM is back on its feet, is a mystery to me. If you are able to perceive the logic of that statement, I would appreciate it if you would please enlighten me. I fear it is beyond my meagre intellect."

On June 11th, Veep Khapheide wrote to Ron again: "Dear Ronald, I received your letter, however, I doubt very much, from what they have told me, that the majority of the officers will accept anything less than a copy of either X-Ray or Universe, and this not later than June 30th. I am glad to see, nevertheless, that you are putting out an up-to-date membership list. This should at least facilitate correspondence between the membership; it might relieve some of the tension in addition. # You mention that you are still busy with quite a bit of correspondence to take care of. I would suggest, as I have in previous letters, that you delegate sufficient authority to me, such time as you are able to devote sufficient time to UM, to keep the club going. # You mention that UM is back on its feet now. I am curious as to the premises upon which you base this conclusion."

Khapheide also wrote to me on June 11th. "Dear Rich, I presume that you have rec'd your copy of UM News by this time. What do you think of it? I find the following objections. (1) It is too commercialized and Ronald is trying to make money to finance his own projects. Also, it is open to non-members which is objectionable since club fanzines are supposed to be for the use of the members only. After all, I don't believe that the NFFF makes its fanzines available to non-members. # On the other points: (1) The Sec-Treas. does not have the treasury; (2) Rich, is Ron still keeping you in the dark as to the duties of Welcome Chairman? (3) We have an editor for our fanzines but he does not edit them (Howard Blind). To what degree the other officers are prevented from exercising their duties I do not know, but it seems to this writer that Ron's reign is closer to a dictatorship than a democratic one. Another interesting point, Ronald is offering the fanzine to outsiders, as mentioned above, but what happens to the fanzine if Ron loses the presidential election next year? Ron is putting out the fanzine, apparently, as a commercial venture. Will Ronald voluntarily give it up if he loses the election -- or does he have the election fixed."

It was at last definitely decided that we should make an attempt to oust

Ron from office. In order to do this we had to get either the UM Board of Directors or the Senate organized. We thought the Senate would be our best bet. The Senate is supposedly made up of local groups. Since none had been announced we took it that there were no local groups. Accordingly, then we formed a San Francisco group with Agnes Rundle as sole Senator. Being the only Senator in the Senate she quickly passed some laws. The literature on the forming of the Senate and the appointing of Agnes Rundle and the amendments to the Constitution were sent to all known members. The amendments to the Constitution are in the following resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION

July 1, 1950

"Undoubtably, many of you members have wondered why UM seems to be so "dead! Unfortunately a key office of the organization has shown a laxity of effort which is unparalleled in the history of fandom, at least insofar as international clubs are concerned. Under the Constitution this office retains powers of a dictatorial nature. In case you have not already guessed this office is that of the President. However, there are two provisions in the Cons. which permit us to get around this situation, namely those pertaining to the Senate and the BOD. # I, Agnes Rundle, as sole member of the Senate of UM and, thereby, constituting the full and complete membership of the Senate do in accordance with Article III of the Constitution, make and declare the following amendments to that Constitution.

AMENDMENT I

No member may belong to more than one local order.

AMENDMENT II

All memberships shall be granted by the President or by a majority vote of the BOD. In order to be effective both the Sec-Treas. and the Corresponding Sec. must be informed of the new members approval.

AMENDMENT III

The BOD shall be appointive, as originally provided for in Article III.

AMENDMENT IV

Members may be expelled from the club upon a 2/3 vote of the elected officers, or by a 2/3 vote of the entire membership. Officers may be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the elected officers or by a 2/3 vote of the BOD when at least 8 Directors are in office, or a 2/3 vote of the Senate when at least 5 Senators are in office."

Ronald would have to be pretty blind not to see what we are trying to do. But whether he could, or would do anything about it was another matter. We were at a disadvantage from the start in not having the membership list and in the Sec-Treas. not having the treasury. We could pass amendments til we were blue in the face but we couldn't get Ron out of office if he didn't want to get out of office. He didn't! His silence was complete and foolproof.

Knapheide's letter of July 5th: "Dear Rich: The break with Ron is now in progress. I am sending out the literature which I sent you last week to all UM members. I have decided to adopt most, if not all, of the 7 point program you proposed in your letter of June 3rd. I have little hope of recovering either treasury or membership lists from Friedman. # I have not yet received answers from either Helena or Benulis. Until such time as they decide to write me and inform me of their position in this matter, I have no alternative but to consider them as in favor with Ron's policy of inactivity. A 2/3 vote of the BOD is required to unseat Ron. If Helena and Bill go along with Ron, it will be impossible to get a 2/3 vote, therefore, we must rely on the Senate. # Ron's failure to announce in either of the issues of the X-Ray or to send out separate notice of the formation of such a UM local invalidates any claim he might have had as to having a local in his NY area now. After all, we are not bound to recognize Ron's word, especially in the light of his past distortion of truth. # If both Helena and Bill side with Ron I can see no other alternative but to break completely with the Friedman faction, and reorganize as a separate club. We will still, however, in that event, be and rightfully maintain to be the legal successors of UM."

Knapheide wrote the final letter to Friedman on July 11, 1950. He said: "Enclosed you will find copies of new amendments which have been passed by the Senate and sent to the known membership. It is regrettable that such action had to be taken but there was no other alternative for an honest officer to take. Most of the other officers support me in this. These include besides myself, Ron Davenport, Rich Elsberry, Jack Schwab, and Howard Blind. # The other officers wish to remove you from office regardless of your future behavior. I am not quite so bloodthirsty as yet. If you will turn over to the respective officers not later than July 24, both the complete membership list with addresses of members to myself and at least half the treasury to Rose Davenport, our elected Sec.-Treas., I will initiate no further action against you and you can finish out the term of President. Also included in these requirements is that Howard Blind shall have full and complete power to edit and publish the club zines. If these requirements are not met, you can expect the worst after the above date. # So that there will be no misunderstanding as to our position, I will state it bluntly. If you will co-operate with us, you can finish your term as President, if you refuse, we shall seek to remove you from office and/or proceed without you. # A club exists for membership and when the membership ceases to receive satisfaction they and/or the officers have every right to take whatever corrective measures they deem fit. These measures should fall within the club constitution wherever possible, but when a constitution is so tight that it is impossible to pass corrective measures inside that constitution the membership and/or officers are fully entitled to revolt. This is the proper democratic concept and you are not exempt from it."

Well, we tried to oust Friedman but we didn't quite make it. With only one Senator we couldn't use that method of dethroning Ron. The five officers could not elect enough members to the BOD to get a 2/3 majority so that method was useless. The best one seemed to be the 2/3 vote of the elected officers. But with eight officers we could only muster five. Thus we fell about 4/3 short of removing Ronald Friedman from office.

But even if we did not succeed in gaining control of UM, something was accomplished. A new club, the club that U should have been, was formed; and this club is free to all who have paid their dues in UM. And not only that, but Friedman has been shown up for what he is. He still has control of UM, but I am afraid that it isn't doing him much good!

Friedman, not content with the loot he has already gotten out of honest fans now sends his fanzines around for review. In the Sept. 1950 issue of Amazing Stories, Rog Phillip Graham reviews Ron's first two issues of the X-Ray in the Club House. Altho they are fairly old Rog gives them a big build up. This will undoubtedly drag in more dollars to pad the Friedman pocketbook, which is already bulging.

And thus ends the first phase of a dictatorship. In this article I've attempted to show what has been going on behind the scenes in Universal Musketeers. I hope this will bring a greater understanding of what has been happening in UM to those who didn't know about it.

The moral to all this is: If you want to make a little money on the side --- start a national fan club!

THE END

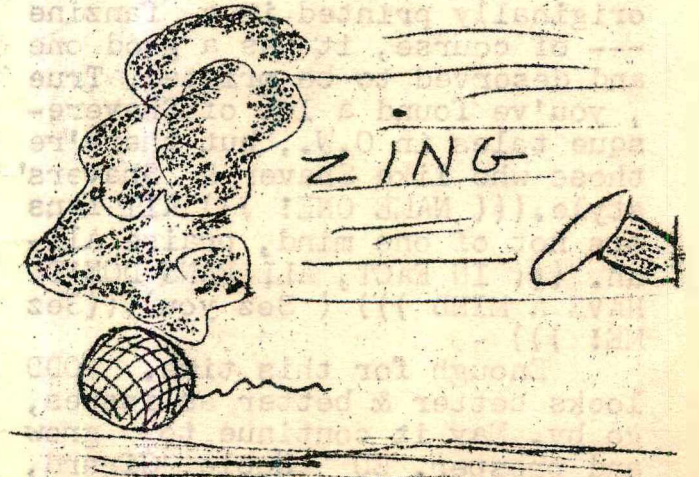
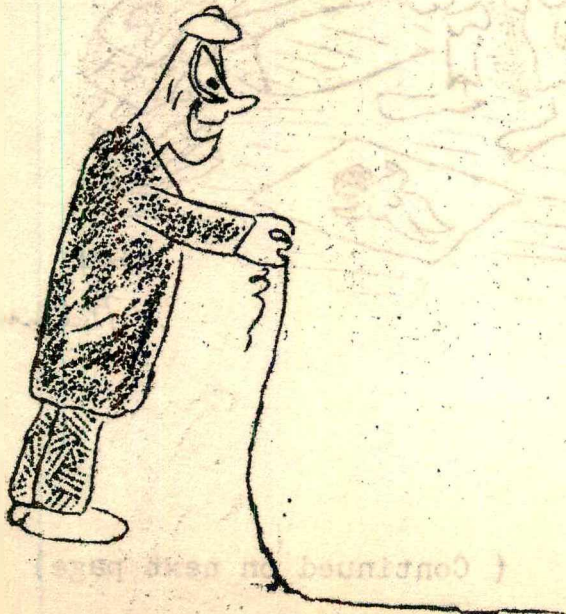
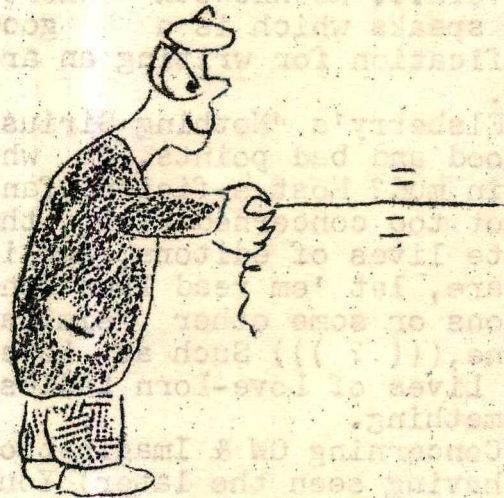
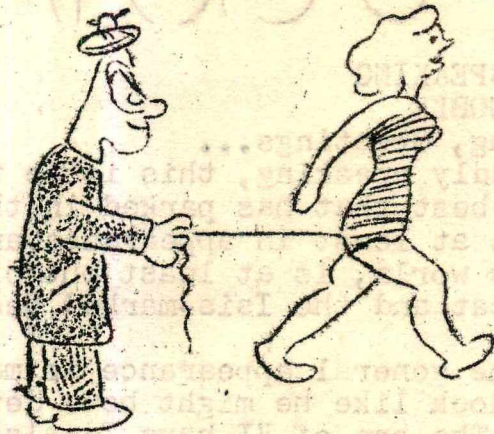
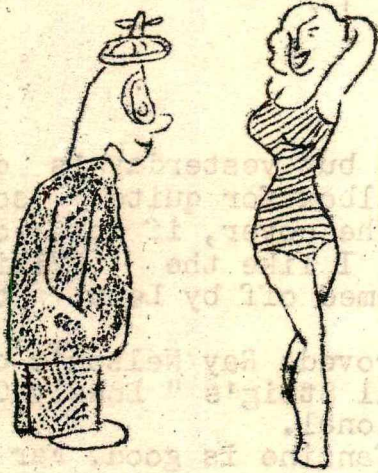
POUL ANDERSON HAS SWITCHED TO PLANET!

Hear what a famous author has to say about PLANET. When caught in a corner of the Casanova by one of ODE's editors Mr. Anderson had this to say: "Yes, I've switched to Planet. I like Planet not only because of the lower rates they pay out also because it is a lot easier to sell to them. They have such a nice policy. Yes, Planet is great!" Then after a moment he added. "And A. A. Craig also likes it too."

Why don't you take the advice of this great and renowned author, switch to good old PS!

Look! ALL

KNIT.



"SCRAPHEAP"

-8-

ODDLY SPEAKING

BY ED NOBLE

Dear Dug, Greatings...

Oddly speaking, this issue that arrived but yesterday is one of the best that has parked in the Noble mailbox for quite some time... at least in appearance and format. The cover, if not out of this world, is at least out of this time. I like the Viking long boat and the Isis-marked bee-yooty, framed off by Lena the Hyena.

The general appearance is markedly improved. Ray Nelson's cartoons look like he might be a devotee of Bill Steig's "Lonely Ones" ... The one of "I have Ideals" is exceptional.

Baldwins article on how to put out a fanzine is good. Far better than previous ones of similar vein... he knoweth whereof he speaks which is a good qualification for writing an article.

Elsberry's "Nothing Sirius" has good and bad points... why drag in mud? Most s-fiction fans are not too concerned with the private lives of editors, and if they are, let 'em read True Confessions or some other similar prozine,(((?))) Such as Love-Lurid Lives of Love-Lorn Ladies, or something.

Concerning OW & Imagination (Not having seen the later) You'll find supporters for RaP, and you'll find others again' him. It can be said that OW has printed at least one story which was originally printed in a fanzine --- of course, it was a good one and deserved to be printed. True, you've found a lot of Shavere-sque tales in O.W., but there're those who like Shaver & Shavers' style.(((NAME ONE!))) All fans are not of one mind, praise Allah. (((IN FACT, ALL FANS DON'T HAVE A MIND))) (Sez you)(((Sez ME!)))

Enough for this time. ODD looks better & better as issues, go by. May it continue to grow and prosper. ED Noble, Girard, Penna.

How To PUT OUT
A FANZINE



(Continued on next page)

Best-Yet

by J. T. Oliver

Dear Duggie

-1 -

This ish of Odd is the best yet (((Hmmm! Where have I heard that before?))) I liked the cover, But I'll bet that cost a lotta dough to do things like that (((And How!)))

Liked Elsberry's column. Fanews & gossip is always interesting. People, including me are kinda down on Campbell, it seems. I guess Galaxy is going to take over no. 1 position now.

The fiction this ish was well balanced, one light, the other serious. I'm tempted to recall the crud I've sent you. (((don't do that, instead send me all that you can. It may be an issue or two before it's printed, but it will be printed, sooner'r later.)))

I've discovered a Ga. Fanzine... Quandray. They're a bunch of kids, and they need material. (((If any of you jer...err geniuses have any time to spare, you might send these kids some material. Their address is - 101 Wagner Street, Savannah, Georgia they would enjoy it, I am sure))

Nelson's cartoons are kinda cute, but I don't think that full page pic's should be scattered thru out a zine..

I thot that Paul's story 'd be liked. He's a good writer. If he didn't get lazy in the middle of a story, I think that he might sell some of them.

Altogether, you've got a damn good fanzine Duggie, all you need now is a proof reader. Bye, for now, Jay. 712 32nd street, Columbus Ga,

Ghu to you to!

by John Davis

Der Duggie,

You wanted my opinion, so Ghu save you. (((Salimi, Salimi, etc))) Expansion: The only good thing in the zine. Except for the letters. (((SIR!))) Only one thing-- was it the secound Universe, or was it the first Universe.... (((Dunt ask me. I'm only the Editor) Malice in Blunderland. That was a story?

The cover was beautiful. Only you spoiled it by folding it ,GR RRRRRRRRRRRRR!!!!!! A Pox on you.

Lets see now. I'm not the cat's meow, I don't want to defend M' self, I'm not a gig wheel (Hey!), You don't want any material (sob, I'm heartbroken, sob!). Aha! You want my opinion on this rag, opps Mag. I was going to start with, "I take typerwriter in hand; but , that was to heavy, so I'll just say a-dios Impasionadomente, John Davis. (((Are you a Sexocrate too?)))

(Continued on the next page)

Yea Gods!

by William Berger

Dear Duggie

Why do you review fanzines that consider yours not worth buying? (((Even tho they do not think my magazine is worth much, I'm not a bigot, I still think that SpaceWarp's a tip-top magazine, and I always will))) Somehow, this fails to be a sane way of acting toward those who don't like what you print.

"Expansion" by Eugene De Weese Proved Ray Bradbury's idea that you can't write original fantasy if you read the stuff. Mr. De Weese can write wonderful prose, but the tale of his lacked a certain something which impresses you. It's too much of a strain, I realize, to give up science fiction reading.

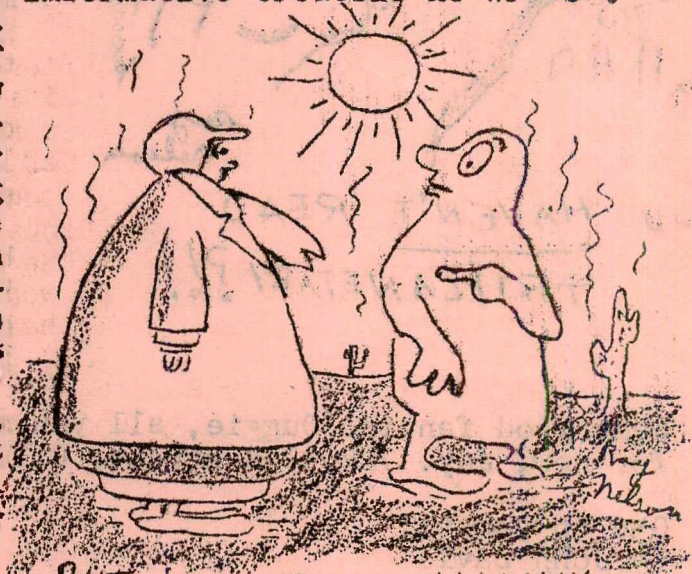
"So.... You Want to publish a fanzine" was another example of how you are attempting to put yourself out of the amateur fantasy field. Yea Gods!, and little fishes! Imagine what would occur, if big money fans read Mr. Baldwins article and started to print a slick fanzine. (((Maybe so, but it would be better for fandom in the long run, and thats what really counts.))) Warren, made one misstatement; in a highly informative treatise he wrote. He said that writting professionally was beyond the ability of most fen. Ha! Doesn't he know that most anyone with normal intelligence can become an author providing that he has a burning wish to become one, and will have the energy to keep trying! In Short, no special talents are required to the art of putting words on paper. (((PLEASE, DON'T ANYBODY TELL HIM!)))

I wish that Warren had said, a few words, about how much it takes to pay for a mimeographed fanzine. (((Around twenty bucks, and a Hell'va lot of work.)))

"Nothing Sirius" by Mr. Elsberry is a column that has something needed in other fanzines.

Scrapheap is a most apporite title for your hack dept. Lets have have letters expressing an opinion on a science-fiction topic or a fandomish topic. How about it readers (((err!))) are you really contributing something by merely telling that you liked this story, or that this storu stunk? Why not show some originality? (((Go ahead, if, and when I get a/or letters like this I'll publish them, but I've got to get them first)))

"Malice in Blunderland" brought more yawns than giggles, I'm sorry to say. Better luck next time. Best of luck, William Berger



BUT IT WAS SO AWFULLY COLD
WHEN I WAS A BABY.

(Continued on next page)

MONEY!

Dear Duggie:

It (sound of fan-fare in background) gets gooder, an gooder. Guess I'll subscribe.(((WHOOOP-DE-DOO!))) Enclosed is a buck. Seems like you left out some of the best parts of the pretty girl on the cover. (((An Arfstrom cover, and you want MORE? Egad! what do you expect from a mere "A" fanzine))) Who's the other tomato? The Artist's old school teacher? You wanta give us nightmares? ((YUP) RALPH BAILEY, 354 W 56St. New York City, New York

BIZARRE Isn't it.

By S.E. Crouch

Dear Duggie (((GAD! I'm begining to wonder about that name!)))

I got ODD today from Tom Covington. He's editor of BIZARRE, you'll recall. (((Wonder if this is an attempt to advertise that mag. In any case, Bizarre doesn't need much advertising. It speaks for its' self. just read a copy, and see what I mean.))) So far, Odd looks like it has some very suerior quality stuff. Especially the cover. I long for the day when BIZARRE can Boast of such fine art.....Yours, Stanley E. Crouch, Sterling, Va.

OUCH(?)

by Jack Cuthbert

Dear Dougal-- (((AT LAST! a different begining)))

Much as it pains me , (((Give till it hurts...))) I am enclosing 50¢ in hard, well used coins for a slight subscription to one piece of material known as ODD (((It's known by several other names also, but it all depends upon who's doin' the calling))) from the editors of the same type. Since I have had no nefareous dealings with you before, I supect the reason for me finally getting a sample copy, is due to the evil workings of the mind of one Ricardo of Elsberry with whom I have had some passing of words, both printable, and un.

Anyhow, unaccustomed as I am to subscribing to so many of these things, I am forced, by its superior quality and interert, to break down and do such for ODD. (((Wish more of you'd break down and do such as well!)))

The cover alone is well worth the price of anyhow one admission and I'd appreciate it, if you would bow low for me, in the direction of one J. Arfstrom. (((Mr. Arfstrom, consider yourself bowed to.)))---and the contents of said ODD are also of moment, this is more than I can say for too many of these items know cornily as "Foo Zines" the two stories were well written, but these alone would not cause me to resort to hat waving---no---it's the gossip, an the news, as well as scandal which attracted me and I note that these mostly come under the heading of the above mentioned R.E. an tell the beetlehead, or I will, to keep up like this and he will , merit well chosen wordsvand cheers-- I note that he has even scooped SF NEWSLETTER in a couple of items. (((Ah-yesssss!))) anyhow, it is all a very nice job --good size, and makeup. You should have no trouble climbing right up there with the best, and from all that I can deduce, I suspect, and expect that you will improve.

Oh well, I have enough trouble now, and you might talk in you 'r sleep, as you seem to spell in your sleep, or at least try to. Yours, Jack Cuthbert, P.O. Box 1763, Pittsburg 30, Penna.

Poison Pen's last stand

By Sankey Charnoff

Dear Shocked, aren't you, (((Opps!))) Dear Duggie:

Shocked, aren't you?

(((YUP))) The millenium finally occured. I got a tp, err! typer. Now you can actually read my handwriting, or rather typewritting. ((HAW)

Cover, beautifully printed, a navy blue might have been more effective though. (((Nope. Tweren't any good a'tall. It was sorta gashtly in effect, and affect!))) Expansion--could it be that the ship returned to the first galaxy? Or had the second been created at the same time as the first and was as old as the first? Very nice, in any case.

Henry can do a lot better than the illo on page 8. I love your, I guess they're yours, little squib. Nice article Baldwin put out.

Whats with the next issue, or rather the June July issue?(((To begin with, ther's benn a little mix up on the date. It will be the Whole number 12, July-August, Volumn 4 No. 3 2nd anniversary issue of ODD. IT'LL only have 32 pages, but since there will be no ads, or no letter section, it (ODD that is!) will have 32 pages of Stories, Artwork, articles, news, reviews, just about anything. IT'll have a printed cover (I hope.) at least I think it will. I'll let you know more about this, next issue: Editors Note:)))

Someday I will send you an atom bomb in the mail. I'm warning, I will. (((You'd have to ship it express; the mails don't carry any explosives. HAW!))) Nothing Sirius --- Ah! the gem of the mag! always full of interesting facts, or otherwise. That's al fo' now. Goobye! Sankey Charnoff, 2334 Ocean Drive. Brooklyn, New York

Dear Duggie:

Me boy, ya gota zine ta be proud of!

Thanks a million for sending me a copy of it. The cover is super, duper, zooper wonderful. Sigh, it's by far the best I've ever seen on a fanzine, though I've not seen too many fanzines, it's true ly in a class by it'self. (What)?The cover, Natch!)

The rest of the zine is generally good, though not as magnificent as is the cover. The format is passable, and the reading material is, in some parts, excellent; in others only average.

Undoubtedly the best thing in the reading department is Richard Elsberry's column, "Nothing Sirius". It's the ultimate in informativeness (Gad, what a word!) (((WHAT! A WORD??))) It makes me f feel like subscribing to the zine, or something. (((MOSTLY SOMETHING!))) I can't see how one person can collect so much news - even with all the contacts he doubtlessly has.

Thanks for the long letter column. Ya got quite a collection of names there.

Even if you do fail to wring a subscription out of me, I guess you won't lose by having sent me a free copy of ODD. Look closely over the mail for the next week or so 'cause it will probably contain a few attempts at fiction for you to consider for rejection. Yours, Tom Covington, 315 Dawson Street, Wilmington, N.C.

??

(((NO adress on this, no letter, and no sub either)))

Find enclosed one 25 cent piece.

Anonymous (((no name also)))

-17-

Dash of Class
by Barbara Ann Lahn

Dear Raymond:

Odd came a few days ago -- and it is twice as good as the first issue you sent me! I feel certain that sooner or later your mag shall be on the "A" list it will be, if you keep improving so from one issue to the next!

First - I want to defend the spelling - it is to the point now where it's more amusing than annoying, but I suppose that IT'll not strike many other fen that away.

Beautiful cover - I salute thee, Jon! Also the slick cover gives Odd a dash of class. "Leaky Faucet" good. Hope you never find a washer.

Liked both of the stories.... also the article. In my opinion, "Nothing S. is your best feature.

Say! That illo on page 8 has just the right amount of glum despair. Who dood it? I can't read that scrawl in the corner. (((CHABOT is the artist that illustrated the story)))

Heck- why pull Odd apart bit by bit? (((YEA! WHY?))) The whole mag is good and getting better every ish. Yours, Barbara Ann Lahn, ????????????????

Confoozin' ain't it?

By Ray Campbell

Dear Duggie

The printed cover was novel but gruesome. I'd like to request tho, that you'd tell me just what issue I recieved. I couldn't find a date anywhere, although the editorial said read the great November issue, and the letters say "I enjoyed the Aug-Sept issue", making this the issue I recieved the November issue, and then the ad says don't miss our big 32 page June-July issue. What, I ask, is going on. Can't you get you fine magazine organized? Hah? I'm the sensitive type and I got to know what issue I got. (((Some people, you just can't please.))) The news column seems to change from Flashes in the Pan, to News 'n Views, and then to Nothing Sirius all in the same issue. I've never before seen such a confused magazine. (((Try any copies, of any earlier issue, of ODD))) If that isn't enough, then the pages go to 14, then jumps around to 21 and back again. I had to take it apart and restaple it myself. (((The exercise 'll do you good))) That combined with the horrible spelling, makes the mag look rather shoddy. I hope you improve.

On the whole, the magazines contents are fine. Esp. like "NOTHING SIRIUS". By the way, how do you get a copy of Fanzine Editor? Write Lee, and ask him? (((YUP!))) (((THE Following is a paid advertisement))) Now to give my mag some publicity. S-F Newscope is a news fanzine for 5¢ (((The fact that it's only 5¢ is news to me))) Not bad either. (((Smoke Cools, Smoke Co-ols!))) Now back to ODD. Oh what mess the ??? 1950 issue was, and yet its one of my favorites. (((Speaking of favorites, has your cigarette tasted differently lately? Does you mouth feel dry and harsh in the morning, if it does, swich to SFUD. The only cigarette made from dried potatoes.))) Yours, 43 Tremont St., Malden 48, M.

"I'll say she is"

by Al ('M' Pal) Leverentz

Dear Duggie

I'll be a little original and won't start this "Odd has made terrific improvements, etc." Instead I'll make a few (((?))) complaints, which remedied, will make ODD one of the best.

You seem to have solved the problem of the miserable spelling, but now we are plagued with the most unorthodox type of hyphenation. Try to get rid of this and don't find something worse to replace it. Complaint number (2) consists of this: Why don't you date and Number your magazine. Your contents page, I gather that that's the purpose for which it is used, bears absolutely no

SUCH designation.

Hearty congratulations to Elsberry's "Nothing Sirius". It is reminiscent of Rapp's "Pointless" in Spearhead. Rich seems to have some excellent sources of information, I would also suggest a book review or two for ODD. I know that a lot of fans will wince at that, but why don't you get a column that does reviews of older books (((Would you consider doing something like this for ODD. IF you'll do it, we'll print it.)))

"Malice in Blunderland" was cute, "Expansion", mediocre. Your cover was just about the best I've ever seen on any zine, both the drawing, and the reproduction. I'm impartial as far as Nelson's cartoon's go. The one on page, number 12 was cute though. The full page illustrations in purple, or blue was ghastly!

I'm looking forward to your super "July-Aug-" issue. If the past issues can be taken as evidence, I don't think I'll be disappointed. Yours, Al Leverantz, 320 Stenzel Street, North Towanda, New York.

Now then Ray: (((HOT DAWG : I KNEW IF I WAITED LONG ENUFF, SOMEBODY'D BE DIFFERENT AND HAVE A NOVEL OPENIN' WHEEEEEEE!)))

Is that nice? I ask you -- please answer, as I'm not sure whether it is or not.....

What am I talking about? (((YOU'RE asking ME!))) Oh-that little X on M's copy of ODD -- the second one saying that I'm a cat's meow. Since my first name is "TOM", that's a little fitting of Cuss.....

But after the perusal of the outer side of ODD, I open it. And then YEOW! (gasp) Smelling salts! ARGGGGGG! G! After all the times you asked me to contribute -- after all the chances I've had to really get into ODD.... I should commit suicide and end it all. Who I wonder is this 'Reed' Boggs?????????????any kin to red Bugs??????? Yours, Shelby Vick, Lynn Haven, Fla.

WELL? I GUESS THATS ALL UNTIL NEXT TIME! WE RELLY ENJOY GETTING THESE, AND OTHER, LETTERS, SO IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO, PLEASE WRITE IN AND TELL US WHAT YA THINK OF THE MAG. DUGGIE & CO.

DO YOU WANT TO BUY?

WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SELL

OR MAYBE YOU WANT TO TRADE!

If you do, and want to get quick results, place an ad in the Biggest little adzine in the whole of FANDOM.

A D O Z I N E
(the zine with the ads)

This zine has the biggest circulation for its kind in fandom. I won't say ADOZINE is the biggest zine in fandom, but for it's size, and the prices I charge for ads, its the biggest little zine in all fandom.

The last issue out, reached over 425 fans and is still growing in circulation. So to get results on your advertising, place an ad today.

Full page (4 X 6')30¢
repeat of same ad.....15¢
Cut your own stencil.....15¢
A years subscription.....25¢

send in your ads to.....

ADOZINE

2058 E. Atlantic Street
Phila. 34, Penna.

QUESTIONNAIRES ?

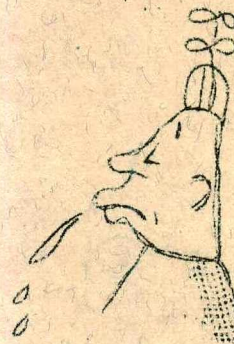
BY Nelson



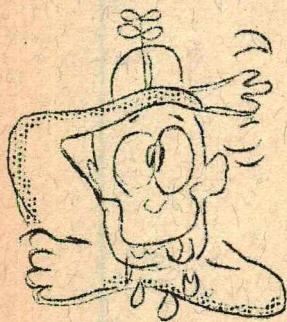
What do you think
of DALE TARR!?



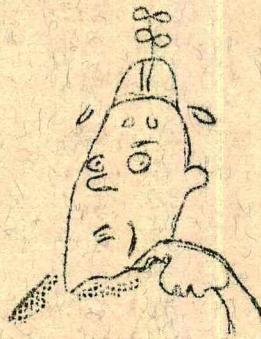
Do you publish
a fanzine?



What do you think of
other fanzines?



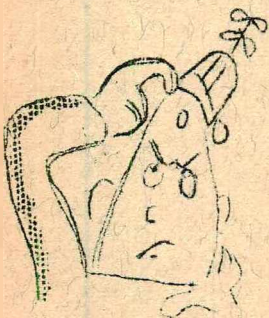
What do your friends think
of Science-Fiction?



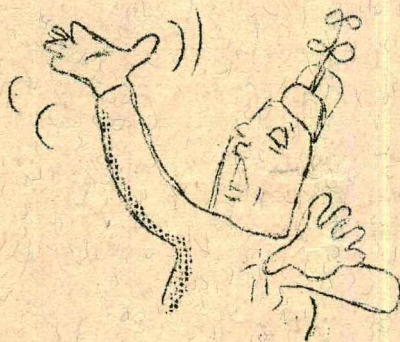
What do you
think of Communism
in fandom?



Do you think it
should be outlawed
from fandom?



WHY NOT?

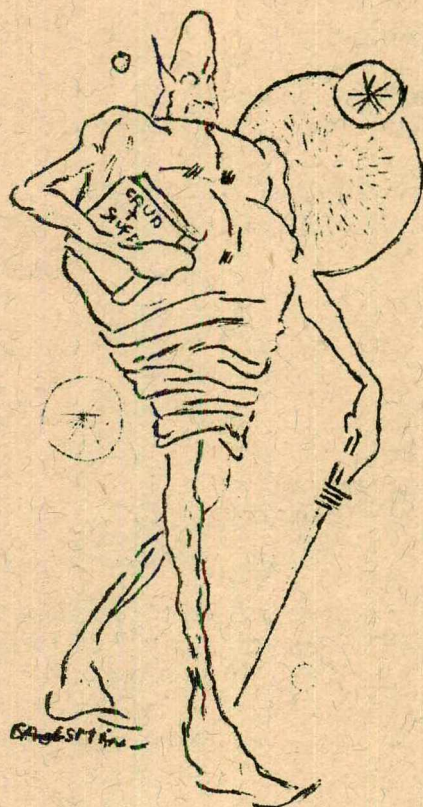


Can you understand
Einstein?



CAN YOU SPELL!

"NOTHING SIRIUS"



ELSBERRY ON

WEIRD UNSOLVED MYSTERIES

DIMENSION HEX

BOND LAYS AN EGG

MUCH ADO ABOUT RAP

ST & THE MOVIES

THE WRITING SCENE

WEIRD UNSOLVED MYSTERIES:

Some time ago, Poul Anderson sent a story in to JWC, Jr. A short time later Poul received a check for the story. Everything seemed fine till two weeks later when he received the story back from Standard Publications with a rejection slip. It was easy to deduce that something was fouled up somewhere. The story hadn't been sent to Herwin. How did he get it? And how did it get out of JWC's office? Poul decided to wait and see what would happen. It didn't take long. Comes a letter from JWC asking Anderson if he can send along the carbon, he's lost the original somehow. Poul sent the original back to JWC but he still didn't know how it got into Standard's office. Noel Loomis had an answer tho; he'd had the same thing happen to him once. He figured that an agent must have come to JWC's office and left a bunch of scripts for Campbell to look at. Later when he came back to pick up the slush pile, Poul's story must have gotten mixed in accidentally. Later, when Herwin found the Anderson manuscript on his desk he probably checked with the agent and found out that he wasn't handling Poul. Since it wasn't his he must have had Herwin send it back to Anderson. While it still isn't certain that this is the way it happened, JWC must have been pretty happy to get his story back.

Perhaps still stranger is another deal that JWC pulled off. Early in 1948 Kenneth Grey sold JWC a trilogy. Naturally everyone around Mpls. was glad to hear this. Kenny had cashed the checks and he too was happy. In the August issue the first story, "Smaller Than You Think", appeared. It received a B rating in the Analytical Lab, because of stiff competition from W, H, and G. And so everyone here calmly waited for the next two stories to appear. We're still waiting! What happened to them no one is sure. Kenny thinks they're slipped down behind Campbell's file. Perhaps, now that Campbell is improving his memory with dianetics he might be able to remember what he did with those two stories.

FUGLEHEAD OF THE MONTH:

John W. Campbell, Jr., for rejecting Clifford Simak's "Time Quarry".

BOOK NOTES:

-21-

vV's "Voyage of the Space Beagle" is out from S&S. It's a novel made up from four stories, three of which were pubbed in aSF. The story is great, but that binding...gaaa! if it's one thing I hate it's pressed cardboard for covers. Lippencott has combined Salmer & Lydie's two great classics, "When Worlds Collide" & "After Worlds Collide", in one volume and the price is only \$2.95. Previously, Lippencott had (and still has) both books for sale at \$2.75 each. # In the field of anthologies one should comment on Fell's "Best of SF: 1950". A lot of dispute there undoubtedly will be over this one. In my opinion, the choice is very poor. The editors, instead of picking the best stories from the field, decided to take the best stories from each of the several magazines in the field to give a more even representation. Thus we have 3 from aSF, 4 from Herwin's mags, 2 from Sat. Eve Post, and one each from Blue Book, FA, and HofferSF. When stories like "The Double Dyed Villians", "The Undecided", "What David Can Tell", "The Itches of Kares", "Lost Ulysses", "Transcience", and others are left out to make room for "Five Years In the Marmalade", "House", and "The Lifework of Prof. Muntz", I must, sadly, sadly shake my head as I stock out of the bookstore. This book definitely does not represent the best of 1950. # Frank Scully's best seller on the flying saucers is nothing out a hoax! Your wasting your time if you read it. # At long last we get a Lew Ladjett (Henry Kuttner) anthology, titled "A Gnome There Was". # Heinlein has a fourth juvenile out from Scribners titled "Farmer In the Sky". # Recently got a chance to look at an advanced listing of the stories in Gnome's new anthology "Journey Into Infinity". This is another of Greenberg's "Adventures In Science Fiction" series and will probably retail at \$3. I think it's going to be great. It's contents page reads like this: "Breakdown" by Williamson, "Here Shall Be Darkness" by Moore, "Pother Earth" by Asimov, "Taboo" by Leiber, "Overthrow" by Cartmill, and "Metamorphosite" by Russell. This is just a fraction of the contents of this book, look at it and drool! There's a RAH yarn too. Greenberg certainly seems to have the right idea. # Shasta plans to have unpublished stories in their single author collections from now on. # I recently received the 1951 listings of Fantasy Press not too long ago. One very heartening note was struck when I saw that "Hobbyist and other Science Fiction" by Eric Frank Russell was on the list. In my estimation Russell is one of the top five SF authors of today, and his work, up till now, had been altogether too sadly neglected by anthologists. Now FP comes out with this top-notch author collection containing such gems as "Late Night Final", "The Undecided", "Hobbyist", and "Metamorphosite". This is a must on my list; how about yours?

MUCH ADO ABOUT RAP:

Recently Ed Noble informed me that he'd received a letter from Palmer, requesting that he submit some stories. Now so far, Noble has written strictly fanzine material. He's been mostly engrossed with a series of satires centered around one Mr. Littlechip, which have been appearing in Hanley's Fan-Fare. It's one of those that RAP must have read and had in mind when he wrote to Noble. Now in my estimation these stories are not of pro calibre. As fanzine material they are fine, but not for the big time. But I doubt if RAP really cares. So far he's used fanzine material by he and Clive Jackson and from the looks of things he is going to be using more. When I pay 35¢ for a magazine I expect to receive something better than third rate fiction. But there will always be someone who'll say: "Well, he's helping young authors isn't he?" And I'll reply: "Yeah!"

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

Highly recommended is "Chas. Addams Monster Rally" from S&S at \$2.95. Only 92 pages but those famous Addams cartoons from the New Yorker are really worth it. I nearly died laughing. I can think of some people who wish I had.

"IF THIS GOES ON..."

vV has quit as west coast director of the dianetics foundation. He's writing again. # Hubbard reportedly sending out a pamphlet to those who bought the book bringing them up to date in dianetic therapy. If you want to get any more of these bulletins tho you must become an Associate Member In Dianetics at \$15. I knew there was a catch in it. # Hubbard making auditors at \$500 a head. "Ah, sweet idiocy". # Over 55,000 copies of "Dianetics" have been sold. Hubbard now working on a second book which will be out this winter at \$2. # Last meeting of the MFS made more interesting by the presence of one who had been audited. He'd undergone thirty hours of therapy and they'd uncovered no engrams. He was a little disgusted about this. He seemed to think that a lot of this so-called recall is nothing but auto-suggestion. He thinks that auto-suggestion hasn't been looked into enough in connection with dianetics. Even tho he's had negative success he still thinks that there is something to dianetics. One thing that seemed to annoy him was Hubbard's evasiveness about the "clears". Everyone seems to hear a lot of talk about them but the only know clear is Mrs. Hubbard. # Looks like this new rival to the Rosecrucians is here to stay.

SF & THE MOVIES:

I doubt if they'll ever make another movie as successful, to the SF fans viewpoint, as Destination Moon. But they will try, and they might succeed! Now that SF has successfully been introduced to the public the rush will be on to turn out SF movies mass production. That abortion, "Rocketship X-M", showed how financially successful even a poor movie can be. # Howard Hawks of RKO is starting work now on "Who Goes There?". Only now it isn't "Who Goes There?" any longer, now it's known as "The Thing". Shooting on "The Thing" is scheduled to take place in both Alaska and Wyoming. Hawks isn't planning on using any name actors, he wants to keep it as quiet as possible. Since this is a big studio we'll probably get a good movie out of it but you never can tell if they start making a series out of it. Just think, we could have sequels like "The Thing Roams Again", "Bride of the Thing", "Son of the Thing", etc. I hope this never happens. # One consoling fact, with SF movie coming of age, I doubt if we'll have to sit through pics with mad scientists, boiling test tubes, and electrical demonstrations. It's a good think tho that "When Worlds Collide" and "Farewell to the Master" don't lend themselves too much to that sort of movie. # Rip von Bonkol reported working with Bradbury on a screen script of Ray's "To the Future", a Collier's tale. Bonkol also doing the screenplay for "When Worlds Collide". # Arch Oboler directing his own SF picture on his own ranch in Cal. It's an atomigodden yarn. # Horizon pictures have purchased three of John Collier's stories for filming. # "Faust and the Devil" is an Italian operatic film with english subtitles that is especially noteworthy for the fine photography work on some fantastic scenes. # MGM is certainly giving a big build up to its forthcoming "King Solomon's Mines". Haggard's tale has had much of the fantasy extracted for the movie version. # FINAL MOVIE NOTE: Can't you just see a movie of the adventures of Lancelott Biggs with Danny Kaye playing the lead role?

THE FIRST SF OPERA?:

The Norwescon has sent Carlos Menotti, composer of "The Medium" and other fine operas, a transcription of Reinlein's "The Green Hills of Earth" with a letter asking if we would please set it to music. Menotti has been known as a SF fan and so this request may bring some results. I personally think it is a great idea and I really would like to see an SF opera. Or imagine even a "Green Hills of Earth" symphony! It's about time we had some music based on a future history theme.

WONDERINGS:

Does Eric Frank Russell live in Australia? I am beginning to wonder. There's an Eric F. Russell in Australia and an Eric Frank Russell in England. Who's who???

FOR WHAT THEY'RE WORTH DEPT.:

Duggie Fisher, ODD's Co-Editor and publisher, received a three column spread plus picture in the Sept. 21, 1950 issue of the Daily American Republic of Poplar Bluff. Naturally, the article was about ODD. Ray Bradbury's "The Earth Men" appeared in the November Esquire as "The Great Illucination". How many times can he sell his stories anyway! The SF Trader, Kaymar's zine, has folded. The Fan Directory has finally been distributed. It is printed and contains 404 names of fans. Guess I didn't check too closely when I said that Olaf Stapledon had died at the age of 62. It was 64. Sorry. Bob Peterson finishing up his Fantasy Index to go with his Science Fiction index of last year. Arthur J. Strangland is trying a comeback in SF. For that matter, who isn't? The background music for Destination Moon is available on Columbia L-P. "Who Goes There?" sold to Paramount for \$10,000, of which Erle Kershak picked up two grand for his share in the sale. Ten grand seems kind of paltry when you realize that Tennessee Williams received \$375,000 for the screen rights to "The Glass Menagerie". Destination Moon grossed \$1,000 in one week in the LA area and \$50,000 for one week in the NY area. And they only spent \$600,000 on the picture! Ray Bradbury had one of his very best stories in the Sept. 23, 1950, issue of Sat. Eve Post called "The World the Children Made". The story was originally titled "The Veldt" and Ray received a cool \$1,000 for it. Al Parker's illustrations are really an attention getter. Clifford Simak received \$1,500 from Galaxy for first serial rights and \$1,500 from S&S for book rights. Ray Bradbury has a penname -- Leonard Spaulding. Will F Jenkins working on an SF anthology. Bradbury's "The Martian Chronicles" will be called "The Earth Men" when it appears in p-b form. ME trying for a unified fan club with an attempt to form the New York Science Fiction Association. McCall's magazine for Oct. 1950, has an interview-article with J.C. Jr. It's called "Outside This world" and is by John Gunther. The article is not about SF mags in general but is mainly concerned with aSF. You certainly can't get much better publicity. Mekromantikon will continue after 1/4 even tho the 25¢ price doesn't begin to cover the cost of the magazine. I'd say the magazine costs Bannister about 40¢ a copy! CT Beck's ASFS is listed in the Writer's Market as a writers club. Hmm! Galaxy's next serial most likely will be Asimov's "The Stars Like Dust", currently on the Doubleday forthcoming list.

THE WRITING SCENE:

Fred Brown is doing an SF-Detective for AMZ, which will be book pubbed after the magazine appearance. Geo. O. Smith and Rog Phillips have p-b's coming from Century Books. "Operation Interseller" and "Worlds of If" respectively. Poul Anderson has sold a 6,000 worder to knight's "Worlds Beyond". Payment was something like one and three quarters cents a word. Galaxy reportedly paying 3¢ a word for first serial rights. Kris Neville sold his third story to aSF: "Casting Office." Other Worlds is overstocked from what we hear. Rumors around that Hank Kuttner has sold novels to Galaxy and Amz. Gordie Dickson, MFS'or, sold his second, third, and fourth stories last month to aSF, Planet, and HoffaSF. A binge story written by the MFS after a meeting and which sold to OJ should be coming up soon under Anderson's by-line. Poul Anderson has the lead story in the Jan. 1951 issue of Planet under the pen-name A. A. Craig. Poul is also thinking of working "Logic" into a novel for Gnome Press. Greenberg has asked him about it. We hear that JB of Planet has to sneak good stories under the nose of his managing editor, but he is not doing too bad with purchases from vV, Tenn, Tyfo, and Schmutz. Jim Blish has sold an unpublished novel to 2Cs-aB for their third issue. AC Clarke will be in the second with anew one, "Seeker of the Sphinx". Fan Bill Venable reported to have sold a story to OJ. Fritz Leiber has sold a "Grey Louser" story to Planet. DeCamp working on two non-Krishnan novels. One will be a spring book. Ollie Sarri and John Chapman, two old-timers, back writing again. They've done a collaboration which is being handled by the Fred Phol agency. That's the latest writings.

BOND LAYS AN EGG:

In a recent issue of Blue Book, Wilson S. Bond came out with a startlingly new theory on the formation of the Solar system. In, "And Lo, The Bird", a gigantic bird was supposed to have layed its eggs around our sun to hatch. In this story the bird comes back to help its young out of their shells. It finds that the first egg has been drawn into the sun. Mercury is hatched and the bird goes on to Venus. After listening a while the bird knows that the young one inside is dead, and so it heads for Earth as the story ends. Of course, on Earth they're drilling tremendously deep mine shafts and chucking atomic bombs down them. Bond makes no reference in the story as to why some of the eggs should be so much larger than others. Can't you just see a giant bird laying Venus?

DIMENSION HEX:

Dimension X has lost its sponser. It was to be expected. The quality was getting so low I wondered why anyone would want their names to be associated with the program. NBC recently annouced that Dimension X received more fan mail from children than any other program on their network. This flood of fan mail from the kids is probably what has lowered DX's quality. "The Outer Limit" was repeated for some reason. "Doc Brinshaw's Sanitarium" was so bad that I couldn't listen to it. "Hello, Tomorrow", at least keep me in laughs with the stupid way it was presented. If DX doesn't pick up soon I am afried we'll be listening to it, if at all, at 5:00 Monday through Friday, just like that great "Space Patrol". But not for a while... it'll probably stay on this fall as an unsponsored program because of it's high rating. Where it gets that I don't know. It should return to the air in early Nov

MAGAZINE NOTES:

Cartier, Orban, Isip, all doing illos for Planet now. Bill Crawford, supposedly buying material for a new mag called Spaceways and a revival of Marvel Tales. DAW has annouced that cotwa will have a companion magazine. The new mag has no definite publication date as of now and only a tentative title. The copy for the first issue has been purchased already. Ziff-Davis will probably put out another pulp SF mag if-and-when Amz does go slick. The moronic pulp readers of America must be satisfied! Next 2 Galaxy Science Novels will be "Legion of Space" and "Needle". DRAFTED: Arthur J. Burks, and artists David Stone, Paul Calle, Walter Miller. In speaking of cotwa in Writers Market, Kolheim sez: "...light on the science." I've bought my last issue of that mag. FFM goes digest size and 112pp. starting with the Jan. 1951 ish. They've cut out interior illos. FN will remain the same. Science-Fantasy #1, Summer 1950, has arrived statside. It's got 98 pages, and is digest size. Cover is by Powell, price is 30¢. In addition to 5 fine stories by James, Clarke, Youd, Cleator, and Walsh, S-F also has the book reviews columns from the defunct Science-Fantasy Review. It bids fair to out distance New Worlds. Don't miss it. A demon knight has left has left Popular Pubs, where he was ast. editor of SSS, to take over as the editor of a new SF mag, "Worlds Beyond", to be pubbed monthly by Hillman Periodicals, Inc. The mag will be digest size and 128 pages, selling for 25¢. The first issue should be out Nov. 10th, dated Dec. knight has stories by Anderson, Shaw Kornbulth, Tenn, Merril, Vance, McCormack, Temple, etc. He will also use reprints. Hmmm, maybe a poor man's MoffatSF!

CROWDED OUT of this issue were: Rumor Dept.; Current Fanzines; Boggs Lets His Wires Crossed; Interview with An Imaginary Author; Reader's Choice; Authors, Authors!; & others. Some of them will make the next issue.

THE NORWESCON-25-

BY RAY NELSON

Frank Dietz was going to report the con for Fantasy Times, but due to the fact that Frank, like all good Sexocrates, puts first things first, his report will not contain anything suitable for publication. At least not from the point of view of the U.S. Post-Office Department.

It remains for me to shoulder the blame, errr! burden and plod onward, upward, etc! with my genuine account of THE event of the fan year. (Mine is printable; Barely.)

Upon arrival at the Multnomah Hotel, the day before the festivities, I donned my trusty helicopter beanie and was instantly recognized for what I was by Harry Moore, the fan from New Orleans. After getting settled, I joined the fans on the mezzanine and shot the bull with some guy who headed the club called the TS. (Don't anybody tell him) Certain that a club with initials like that could not go wrong, I forked over my dues and recieved their colossal (post-card mimeographed) Official Organ.

Walter Coslet of Saps soon appeared and was given cause for dismay as I loaded him down with a pile of my zines for the next SAPS mailing.. With a gracious smile I informed him that if carrying it home would cost him extra, he could take it out of the SAPS treasury.

I know more about that
Shaver business than
I care to tell



Returning to the mezzanine I beheld that visision of feminine sex-appeal, Nancy Moore, earnestly putting several dewey eared TS members thru their paces. The sight of great big boys like that trying to stand on their heads soon palled on me and, stepping over the prone bodies of her worshippers, I entered into a gay conversation on the subject of the Cosmic Circle with her. She had her picture in the convention booklet alongside Delger an claimed, that Deg had gotten that picture under false pretenses. She had such innocent eyes that I almost believed her. Just then my ears were shattered by a familiar voice from downstairs in the lobby. "George Young" I gagged.

The Michigan group in Martin Algiers big Packard had arrived. My day would have been ruined except for the silver lining in the George Young cloud (clod). Two of the Detroit girl fans had come along and one of them was Perdita Lilly, The girl I'd take the shirt or more off my back for any day. The Detroit group was in the midst of a wrangle about whether or not they would bid for the next year's convention, and so, knowing the ways of the DSFL, Nancy and I quietly slipped away from their pointless polavering and

had supper. We met up with George again at the Multnomah and went over to his hotel room to round up the Dsfl, which had strayed, as usual, to all parts of the compass. Nancy was feeling a bit tired so we left her alone to take a nap in George's room while we went upstairs to Perdita's.

While we were gone, George's room mate, Ed Kuss, walked in on Nancy. Was he surprised to find a strange woman asleep in his bed? Did he call the house detective? No, he just sat down beside her and said, "Hi. I'm Ed"

After the Dsfl had been herded together again, we returned to the Multnomah for a round of the famous "Smoke-filled" rooms.. Nancy was still a bit tired, so I walked her over to the elevator and bid her goodby. I took quite a while getting back to the Multnomah, so none of the gang believed that I'd left Nancy at the elevator. Looking back now, I find it a bit fanstastic myself.

After a brisk walk around Portland at night with the DSFL I parted company with them at their respective hotels, and then got lost. The river was very peaceful and I narrowly missed falling into it, but somehow I managed to tear myself away, and finally made it back to the hotel.

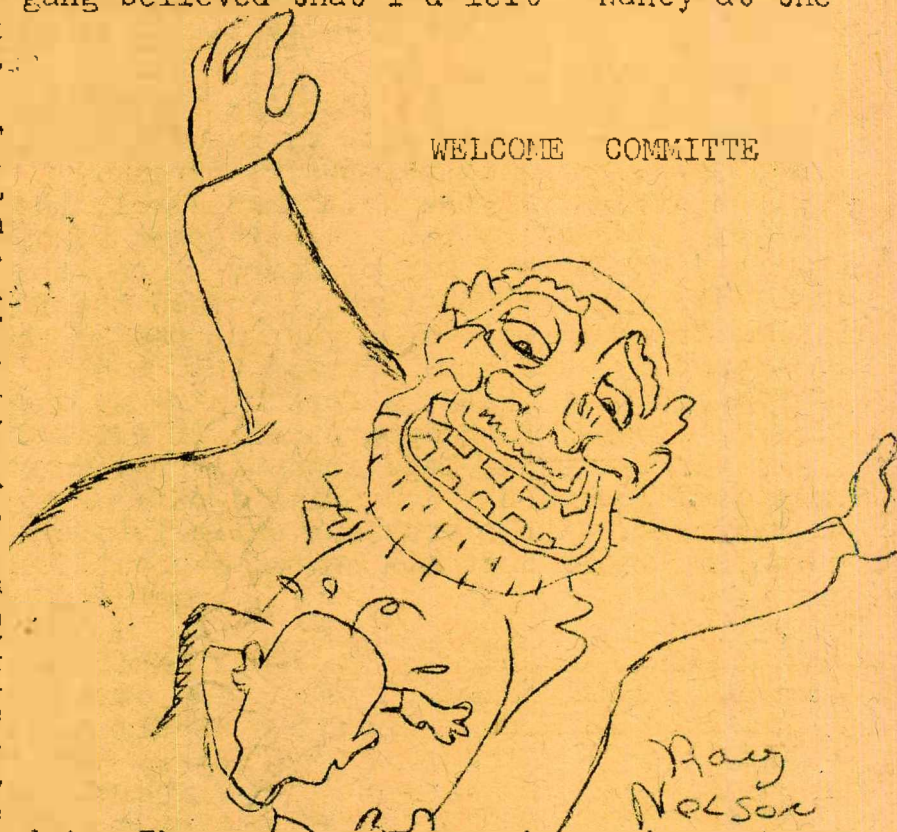
Early next mornin I strolled over to Nancy's hotel. After I had aroused everyone I could think of, she finally came to the door and let me in. Just then however the phone rang, and Nancy answered it. The conversation on her end consisted of a few terror stricken "Y-yes's", and when she at last set the reciever down I asked her "WHO WAS THAT?"

"Degler" she whispered, turring a shade of fish-belly white (a very interesting color contrast against the black of her lace slip

"Cosmic Claude himself?" I breather, crossing myself.

"None other," she answered.

Degler was at the Multnomah. so Nancy and I went shopping all morning, and aranged Nancy's train reservations home. Later we got a bold streak and returned to the Convention, but there Nancy's n-earve failed.



A whirl of activity was afoot as the fans tried

to figure out how to get out to the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry for the feature in their Planetarium. We caught a bus and arrived there in three jerks of the floor out from under us. The star-show was very interesting, tho it would have been better if I could have heard the lecture instead of George Young's rumbling monolog from behind me, which drowned out all else completely.

After the show was over, I watched Roger Sims wrestle with a Museum Possum and listened to Ralph Rayburn Phillip's, sound off on American "Coca-Cola cluture".

At 7:00 P.M.
got under way with
couple of

the Convention program really
Dimension X Transcriptions, a
screwball STF Movies



"And this is our little science-fiction club honey....."

Sample scene: The moon, One spaceman says to another "Someone else is on this planet." Band of cowboys gallop past after a herd of wild cattle.

At 2:PM the fen gathered in the convention hall for the big introduction. First they introduced the big wheels, then the littler wheels, then the cog-wheels--until every last soul present,, but me, had been introduced. As if this wasn't enough of a diss-illusion, Frank Dietz showed up and started to make a play for Nancy.

Nancy was overjoyed to have, two males running around, and in a not too happy threesome we retired to the bar. After a number of beers, the management inquired about the possibility of Nancy, an I being under 21. As she is 16 and I 13, we two made a hasty exit leaving Frank holding the bag.

Then the "Death March" began, to see whether Frank or I would last longer with Nancy. It covered an indigestible chinese meal during which Frank and I put on an amazing act of enjoyment. It also covered several near-fistfights. It was Nancy that finally collapsed.

We took her to Frank's room to rest up. Frank diagnosed her trouble as flu and we hurried down to the drug store and picked up some anti-histamine. When we returned, Nancy was no better, so she gave Frank 18 bucks to bid on a Cartier Original that she wanted, and us fellows came on down stairs to wait for the auction. Having nothing else to do, I walked over and spoke to CLAUDE DECLER.

It was kind of disappointing. "The Scourge of the COSMIC CIRCLE" was a darn nice guy, if a wee bit fuggheaded.

Then the auction started. Frank was no where in sight and the illo that Nancy wanted was the first up, so I carried it off myself for eight bucks and hauled it up to Frank's room. The door, which we had left unlocked, was now locked, and when Nancy came to the door, she was carefull not to let me see into the room. After Nancy and I had been down at the auction for awhile, Frank came into the room looking like the cat that ate the canairy.

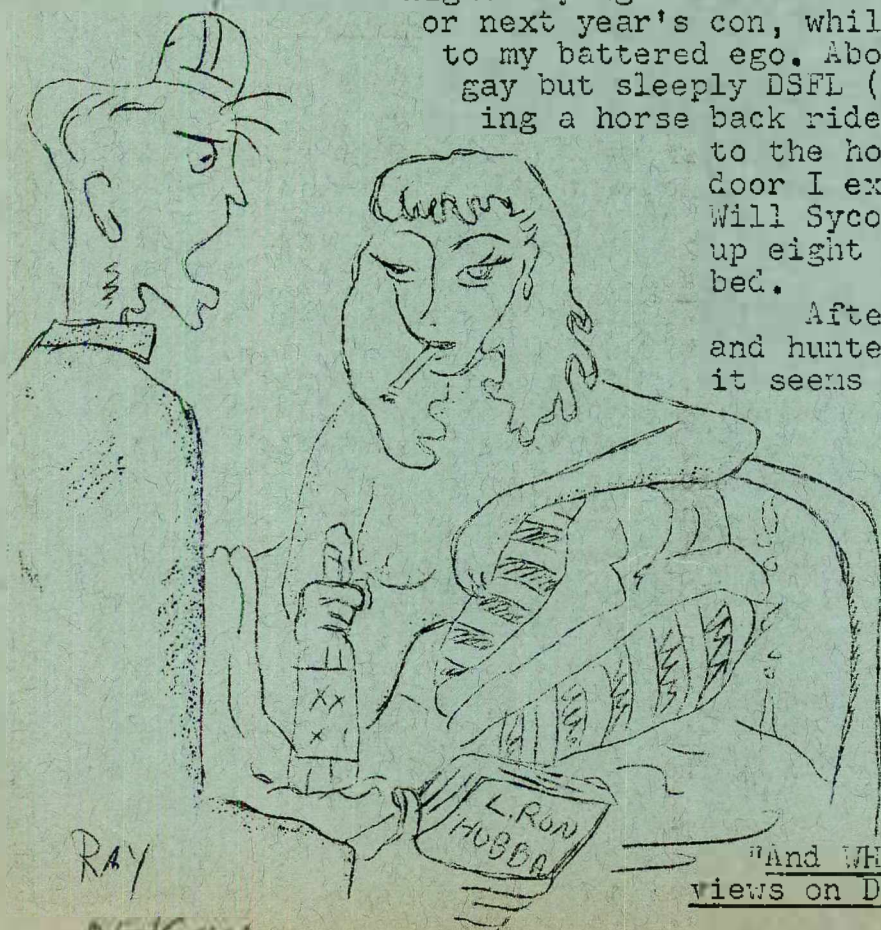
I began to see the "Mini Tickle Upharsan's" on the wall and took Frank to one side. If you think I got rough in fanzine articles, you should have heard me give that boy hell! He just stood there and smiled to himself, so I just gave up, and bowed out.

I joined George Young just as he snagged, for some fabulous, outlandish sum, a Bonestell original.

George, Roger Sims, and I went over to Sims room after the auction for a soda-pop party and stayed up all night trying to decide whether or not to bid for next year's con, while Perdita applied aid to my battered ego. About sun-up I left the gay but sleepily DSFL (They were contemplating a horse back ride.) and staggered back to the hotel. As I neared the door I exchanged greetings with Will Sycora and finally made it up eight flights of stairs to bed.

After a while I got up, ate and hunted up Perdita and Agnes it seems that they'd not gone a horseback riding after all. They were still not sure that they wanted to vote for the Next Con.

At 7:00 PM, we latched on to the rest of the DSFL and went to



"And WHY won't you tell me your views on Dianetics?"

see the Decourcy "Matter Radio" Skit. John had a hugh machine set up on the stage, and beside it a cabinet from which the matter was transferred, or rather transmitted. The first thing he brought into the cabinet was his wife Dorothy. Unfortunately, or rather fortunately, depending on your outlook, Dorothy had not yet dressed and appeared in the cabinet in nothing but a towel. After returning her to wherever she had came from, he asked for, or called for, a volunteer. After sending the volunteer away by the "Matter Radio", John had a little trouble in bringing back the right person. First he accedently brought back a bellboy, then a Martian BEM. Don Day and some other Portland rabble began to show signs of discontent (such as swinging hangmen's ropes with grim smiles. (((Editor's Note: Thats something that I've always wanted to see. A hangmen's rope with a grim smile, that is.)))) and John was spurred on to finally recover the volunteer, battered and torn, from the distant sewer to which he had been sent.

With mixed feelings I viewed the next portion of the program.-- an exposition of dianetics by 4E Ackerman, an Theodore Sturgon.

At midnight we all tramped down to the Guild Theater for a free showing of "Destination Moon", a technically perfect picture, but all so a plotless thing that no doubt delighted the



"HAPPY CAREFREE SCHOOL DAYS"

hearts of every fan there but me. As luck would finally have it, I got a seat far away from George Young, and was able, not only to see, but to hear the movie as well.

The next morning at Ten there was a Meeting of National Organizations, But I was too sleepy to notice.

At 2:00 P.M. came the business meeting. After tabling Degler's resolution to "outlaw" Communism from fandom, they passed several other resolutions to approve "Destination Moon", and some Stf programs, such as Demension X. Rick Sneary presented a NFFF "Octopus plan" for turning control of the conventions over to the NFFF, but of course they were voted down. Sycora tried to get a resolution passed against the Hydra Club, but this also was finally voted down.

Then Came the big moment, the choice of the next convention site... (FOR THE INSIDE STORY OF HOW NEW ORLEANS WON THE CONVENTION BID DON'T MISS THE NEXT ACTION PACKED 2nd INSTALLMENT NEXT MOUNTH IN

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VERMIN
by Demund

The night was black and always had been, but for the punctures in the veil. The shining pin-points known as the Sources of Life. In the Eternal Night there were sleepers. Many of them. They had tired of their games, so novel and thrilling in the fresh enthusiasm of the Beginning. But as the eons passed they tired of these things. So they slept.

Ranged around the Sources of Life, they slept in solitude or in groups of eons-long comradeship. Sometimes there were stirrings, but all over creation, the sleepers slept finally an peace reigned like a dark blanket.

And so as the ages went by as do seconds, fleetingly, the Universe went on its mechanical existance. The Sleepers unknowingly accumulated various blankets of cosmic waste that hid them in their slumber but of this they did not know. And would have cared less.

But then, a dim stirring here and there. Some were almost through their naps, and merely dozed. Then awakened and looked for comrades still in slumber. Games they wanted naught, but there were more serious things. So where are their friends? Divesting themselves of their unwanted blankets, they called. Some groups gathered, still only a few from the many. But thoughts winged silently here and there and so it came to pass..

It penetrated the first barriers but still faltered in darkness. And then went on determinedly into the deep slumber of Thorg. And his mind awakened. Questioned.

"Come Thorg! Awaken, for we have plans", came the thought of Sunev. Familiar.....Then the being realized.

"Why do you call?" went back his questioning thought. "We sleep".

"But no more!" The thought was firm and stronger. "Our comrades awaken and have plans! Come!" The thought was urgent.

Thorg was still doubtfull. "But we sleep and are tired of games. Cease your bother...." and darkness came in, hovering..

"These will not be games! We were young then and our mind s immature! Come! Cleanse your body, make ready and enjoy your existance!" Sunev's thought elucidated, thrillingly.

"I come!" returned the fully awakened thought of THORG. "Let me but divest myself of my blanket and...the vermin."

And he stirred, sent forth a feeler.

Some were able to run outside, but not all. It was usless anyway. People screamed reluctant welcome to doom as the Earth split open and houses crumbled to the madly dancing tremors, as destruction reigned supreme.

Men held their dear ones tightly as the world rose up and slammed them in the face and the black thundering death swept through the sky, blotting out the sun, cleaning, cleaning.....

The end

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