

R E V I E W

#3

Vol. 1.

Edited and published by:

Vernon L. McCain
Box 876
Kellogg, Idaho

Mimeographed by Charles Wells.
Available by exchange only

"I launched a spaceship in the air
It fell to Earth, and that ain't fair."

Well here we are again. No apologies for delay this time, since I've actually been pretty prompt. This issue was held up however. But the reason is because it is now part of editorial policy to carry a minimum number of letters each issue. From the start I have intended the letter column to dominate the magazine and it is far and away the most interesting portion, as far as I'm concerned. But I've been plagued every other issue with having no letters, although I'd have plenty next time.

As I hope you've noticed REVIEW does not and never has run the sort of letter that goes, "Dear Vernon, got the latest REVIEW today and read it right through. This is one fine little magazine, believe me. I sure enjoyed it. Keep up the good work and be sure and send me the next issue."

Not that I object to receiving such letters, you understand. My ego is as thirsty as anyone's and I am grateful for even the most unimaginative flattery. But when it comes to putting on stencil for others to read I feel a letter should say something....a criterion which I believe has been met by every letter yet published in this magazine. Although I winnow my mail carefully for anything of this nature it is surprising what a small percentage is not devoted to personal topics meaningless to REVIEW readers.

So from now on each issue of REVIEW will be delayed until I have a sufficient number of quotable letters to make for a decent letter column.

Incidentally, anyone noticed the host of new informal mags coming out. All are smaller than average, have limited circulation, eschew formality and complexity, are primarily written by the editor, and are either given away free or in trade...no subs. Sound familiar? Well, it's a perfect description of the policy REVIEW has followed for the last months. Not that I'm claiming originality, I hasten to add. I've no doubt there were a half a dozen such, at least, prior to REVIEW. But I don't happen to know of any. Even if REVIEW were the first I couldn't claim any palm for inventiveness. For REVIEW was nothing radically new and different. It is simply a FAPA or SAPS type zine converted over into the general field.

But I do think it is probable at least partial blame or credit for the current trend can be laid at REVIEW's door since I'm pretty sure it was the first of its kind in several years. Which would seem to indicate (if imitation is as flattering as it's said to be) that the highly personalized and informal policy of REVIEW has been successful, at least with those it has converted. Must say I'm all for the new trend, no matter who's responsible. I publish this type zine not only because it is easy but because it is the type I like best to read. Adios.

READERS INDIGESTION

WRAE BALLARD--Blanchard, N.D.

You made a point when in speaking of web of the worlds you speak of how few people have any knowledge of fencing technique. When we were kids the gang was interested in sword fighting and we made various kinds ~~swords~~ and monkied around a lot. Bill and I were especially interested and made some hardwood weapons with nice strong tin hand guards. Learned a littled part by reading an article on it, and learned something about thrusting, which is something practically no one seems to know...although bayonet practice in the service may have changed that a little. But as it is you give someone a foil and they'll just poke with their arm...instead of stepping in with their body. Don't get the idea we knew much or were any good...but the little ~~wex~~ did know I could do a D'Artagnan on most of the kids...even developed various attacks that seemed impossible for them to stop...a series sort of that was rudimentary but effective since most would just poke with their arm.....But I can see me with my great knowledge of fencing going back and getting myself killed the first time someone feels like killing me. I can just see me now...I go back in time, meet the girl and she is even more unimpressed than they are now because I don't know anything..a fellow comes at me with a sword and I further disgrace myself by running like hell, and finally I end up being a slave to some minor noble. Yep, that's about what would happen. More likely I'd break or lose my glasses right off, and be knocked in the head as being useless. Nope, only special talent I have for time traveling is that I have little or no sense of smell.

Appreciate the references to this fellow Rapp. You know how it is, anyone trying to ~~become~~ known in fandom needs publicity. Kid-ding aside, Vernon, it is hard to ~~believe~~ there are fen that don't know Rapp. Of course I've been living in ~~the~~ SAPSshell where Art has been active...I think he has hit 7 or 8 mailings in a row and he is well known there. I had imagined him well known ~~outside~~ of fandom, but even in fandom I guess fame is fleeting. Not ~~altogether~~, but it does seem odd to see some one explain who Rapp is.

DEAN GREENELL--402 Maple Avenue, Fond du Lac, Wis.

Excuse for 7apa? That's hard to say--for me at least. With only one slim mailing so far, one just can't determine if it will produce anything distinctive or worthwhile. I'd say the reason they ~~formed~~ 7apa instead of merely filtering into FAPA is that it would have taken about 2 years for this gang to work their way up the fapa waiting list and by that time they would have suffered fearful casualties from mafia epidemics and so forth. As for saps, a similar situation prevails as far as getting some 25 people into it en masse; moreover saps, to a greater degree than fapa, has a distinctive atmosphere--a gestalt aspect--which would be quite out of empathy with 7th fandom and vice versa.

So I guess there was some excuse for their starting an apa all their own. What remains to be seen is if an apa so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. For my part, I intend to keep on issuing a postmailing of comment on the mailing rather than to put an entry into the mailing proper. Thus I can justify the fact that I haven't sent in my dues. I scarcely feel like donating \$1.50 to the coffers of any organization which has such a moribund appearance as this.

I don't know that any specific person or group-member is barred from 7apa (and Karen Kruse is so right in saying that that sounds like a beverage). But Ellison, in laying the groundwork for the outfit, had the bright idea of a board to pass on the eligibility of prospective members. In fact, I was drafted as a member of said board. I'm of an exact mind with you in feeling that they should welcome any would-be member with open arms and a free glass beer. There has been no recognizable pattern in choosing members. A mailing was sent to Boggs and Silverberg, neither of whom gave a faint damn to get it. On the other hand a guy who did want to get into the thing, Denis Moreen, was ignored. The entire situation is by no means to my liking.

RORY FAULKNER--164 Geneva Place, Covina, California.

I feel about (John) Campbell like I feel about Arthur Godfrey- both have rather outlived their heyday, and both could do with a little of that well-known "Humility". It seems a man cannot stand year after year of popularity and adulation without getting a bit stuffy.

SFC ARTHUR H. RAPP--RA36 886 935 508th MP Detachment Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Regarding the statement that I carry a mimeo around in a barracks bag, that is not entirely correct, tho it might well become so in the future. The infernal machine in question reposes quietly on a table in a corner of my room in the barracks, except when I set it in operation on my footlocker to produce SW or other vital items. I did carry it from Michigan to Texas in a bag, but it wasn't a barracks bag. It was what is known in GI parlance as an AWOL bag, and to civilians as an overnight bag. As you can see, it makes a vital difference in the size of the container. Anybody could carry a mimeo in a barracks bag. You could carry an elephant in a barracks bag, if it was a small enough elephant and a large enough barracks bag. To get the HIASM mimeo into an overnight bag, however, required great mechanical aptitude, not so much in disassembling it into the smallest possible components in order to get it into the bag, but in putting the pieces together again at the conclusion of the trip. As a matter of fact, I have one piece left over, but since the mimeo works as well as it ever did I conclude that the extra piece must have served some esoteric fourth-dimensional purpose which mere humans could never comprehend. Perhaps, every time I crank out a page of SW with the mimeo minus that part, I am sending out a sub-etheric alarm to the inhabitants of the Lesser Magellanic Clouds. As a matter of fact, I have noticed several BEW-like individuals around here lately, but upon close scrutiny they all turned out to be newly-commissioned Second Lieutenants. Whereupon I gave them my most ferocious Old Soldier scowl and they turned pale and quaveringly asked which way was the PX.

BOB SILVERBERG--760 Montgomery St., Brooklyn 13, N.Y.

Yes, I do feel some sense of egoboo about having touched everything off with my Quandry article, but that's just personal gratification at having done something "important"--but that doesn't mean I'm happy over the quality of the movement I stimulated. I have no doubt

that Seventh Fandom, without the label, would have taken over fandom sooner or later, but it would have been with a greater humility and with less assurance. If I had doubted that Seventh Fandom would someday exist, there would have been no reason to write the article. You hit the nail on the head by mentioning "inbreeding"... already Seventh Fandom as an entity is starting to pay more attention to other things than Seventh Fandom.

RAY THOMPSON--410 south 4th street, norfolk, nebraska.

Something has finally aroused me enough to write to REVIEW. It's Joe Semenovich's comments anent Nydahl's letter in RE8. Upon going back to RE5, in which Morse wrote the letter that started it all, and then reading Nydahl's letter, I actually don't think MADGE and GALAXY can be compared in the same sentence. They are two exactly opposite types. GALAXY is ~~the~~ magazine for the veddy veddy serious, constructive reader, while MADGE slants toward the new readers. MADGE is slanted somewhat toward the fan, while GALAXY is interested in science fiction purely for the sake of the story.

Neither is the best in its respective type. In GALAXY's type, I would place ASTOUNDING head, shoulders, and torso over G, while SS stands out over MADGE so far it's pathetic. Comparing GALAXY and MADGE is like comparing a Renaissance painting to a modern Surrealistic oil; both oil representations of a real-life object, but two very different styles.

And there is about as much sense ~~xxx~~ to it.

And I also find myself disagreeing most vehemently with Joe on the subject of whether or not science fiction will ever become mature reading material. Science fiction is just a different type of reading. I see no reason why it may NOT become mature, in fact is already, moreso than it used to be. To draw Joe's comparison of westerns and sf a bit farther, may I point out that sf has progressed to maturity, while westerns are still the same shhot-'em-up-bang type of thing they always used to be.

"Whattaya mean, they're secondary sex characteristics?"

BEST of 1953

Didn't have space to include this in the ~~PROSE~~ PRO'S PROSE section.

Best Novel of the ~~year~~ -- tie between
and "Childhood's End" - Arthur C. Clark -- BALLANTINE
"More Than Human" - Theodore Sturgeon- BALLANTINE

Best Novelet - "One in Three Hundred" * J.T.M'Intosh - MOF

Best Short - "The Demons" - Robert Sheckley -- FANTASY

For those who are interested I've written a full-length column comparing the two novels and giving my reasons for refusing to choose either as superior. It should appear in OOPSLA in about three months.

When the cat's at home
The Mice will roam.

PRO'S PROSE

AMAZING STORIES--March 1954

Howard Browne, who set off the stampede away from ~~xx~~ letter columns and other editorial features, is now headed the other way...with midget letter columns coming up in both of his magazines. A step in the right direction, at least. Browne's mags seem to have settled into a groove, or rut, fiction-wise. One or two top-notch stories per issue, several other fairly good and readable ones, and the rest smoothly written trash. But then I've expressed myself before on my reasons for believing Browne has no business editing s-f mags. Best stories this time around are Fred Brown's "Keep Out", ~~xxxxxx~~ Ross Rocklynne's amusing "Sorry, Wrong Dimension", and "Call Him Savage!" by John Pollard whom I presume is a newcomer. I particularly enjoyed this 1961 tale of Indians and robots because Mr. Pollard is apparently placing his money on the same politician I am.

ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION--January 1954

Whee! Atomic doom's back and Campbell's got her. Anything remotely resembling atomic doom has been verboten at Street & Smith for 10 these many years which I personally felt was a shame. Admittedly the subject was overdone right after WWII but at least three out of four of these stories which Campbell printed were excellent and the 1945-1949 period when they were flourishing is undeniably one of the two brightest eras in ASF's history. To me it ranked even higher than 1940-1942. Whether the banning of the unpopular atomic doom stories can be correlated with ASF's languishment since is a question; however I feel it is basically unhealthy to ban any type of story before it has been wrung dry. "The Return" is a typical a-doom story with one exception....the trick ending. This is also the weakest part of the story, even though it is probably Campbell's reason for printing it. The rest of this issue is par for course, which is better than Campbell has been averaging recently, with the exception of "The Lonely Man" by Frank M. Robinson. Robinson is one of the most consistently good of the new authors but this story, while quite adequate for lesser magazines, is a sorry sight on the pages of ASF.

AUTHENTIC SFMAQ#38

This magazine flourished briefly early this year. But the British public apparently is currently allergic to all things American. Campbell, who was featuring a large quantity of material from American sources, some new - most reprint, ran into such a volley of disapproving mail that he was forced to revert to using only British authors. It is true much of what he used was poor....OTHER WORLDS reprints in many cases. But not all of it was....there were reprints of van Vogt and Bradbury, and the first appearance of a fine fantasy novel "The Rose" by Charles Harness. But apparently ASFM's readers would rather read bad stories by Britons than good ones by Americans; at least that's the way it works. The top British authors, almost to a man, sell their best material first in the U.S., due to higher rates. Because of NEW WORLD's prestige, Campbell manages to get what little first grade material isn't sold here. And the Scotch prozine, NEBULA

claims it is paying higher rates than any other British mag; "from the looks of their latest issue it would appear they are paying better than AUTHENTIC, anyway. At any rate, by adhering to an all-British policy AUTHENTIC is winding up with the dregs. The current issue contains about the poorest short ever written by E.C.Tubb, best of the new British authors and a long novelette by another promising ~~newcomer~~ newcomer, J.F.Burke, which had an excellent idea for a short story but drags dreadfully when stretched out to this length. The rest of the shorts aren't worth mentioning. I think it is quite fair to say, at this time, that AUTHENTIC is now publishing a larger percentage of poor fiction in its pages than any other magazine, American or British, specifically including SF PLUS and SCIENCE STORIES.

SPACEWAY--Feb. 1954

This second issue confirms the impression left by #1. This is merely a professional version of FANTASY BOOK. Published by the same company, edited by the same people,...it even contains an L. Ron Hubbard story reprinted from FANTASY BOOK. SPACEWAY appears more frequently and has a more professional format and larger size; but it is basically the same magazine. The same old-fashioned stories, the same slightly breathless amateur attitude toward the business at hand, the same mixture of now seldom printed writers from the 30's ~~and~~ mixed with stories by semi-amateurs from the L.A. area. E. Everett Evans story is a reprint from some fanzine (which was reprinted a couple of months earlier by Ron Ellick's FANTASTIC Story Mag). Best story in the issue is the Hubbard reprint, although Lou Tabakow's "Deadly Weapon" needs only a little rewriting and tightening to make it an enjoyable yarn.

NEBULA Science Fiction--Vol. 2, #1.

This magazine has taken great strides. NEW WORLDS is still the only British mag which can hold its own with the American's but this issue of NEBULA has a most impressive lineup of writers. E.C.Tubb, William.F. Temple, Forrest J. Ackerman, J.T.M'Intosh, and Ross Rocklynne. The Tubb short novel is typical of what one expects from this fine young writer, the Temple novelette is a very weak effort for Temple, but still worth reading, M'Intosh "War's Great Organ" should have been printed under a pseudonym; it's not really bad....just very bad for M'Intosh, while Rocklynne's "Alpha-bet Scoop" is good enough to get by with no particular criticism but undeserving of praise. Only Ackerman drags this down to the level of preceeding issues. His story is typically Ackermanish -- meany very punnish, very very bad, and mercifully short. This Glasgow published mag (edited by a teenager) bears watching.

RECOMMENDED STORIES

E.B. Cole -- "Exile" -- ASTOUNDING

H. Beam Piper

and John J. McQuire -- "The Return" -- ASTOUNDING

John Pollard -- "Call Him Savage!" -- AMAZING

Ross Rocklynne -- "Sorry, Wrong Dimension" -- AMAZING

E.C.Tubb -- "The Troublemaker" -- NEBULA

FANZINES AT MIDNIGHT

CAMBEROO(!!)(these zeros were supposed to be dashes....my finger slipped. The mag isn't actually named Camberoo, altho I'll admit it makes an intriguing title. Let's start over)

CAMBER-- (there, better?) No. 2, Fred J. Robinson, 63 Newborough Avenue, Llanishon, Cardiff, South Wales, U.K. 15/- a copy.

It is only fair to remind readers that this writer has long been prejudiced against convention reports and the prejudice is constantly growing. Scientific measurements have proven that 97.1% of all con reports are insufferably dull and repetitious to boot. (What's a matter, my unprejudiced opinion not rate as a scientific test in your books?) This issue of CAMBER is one long convention report. Next magazine, please.

CONFUSION--(I seem determined to louse up titles tonight, don't I?) Shelby Vick, Box 493, Lynn Haven, Flo.

The first appearance of this mag since its editor recovered from an alien invasion by malignant entities (polio to you, bub) this midget issue is a hearking (harking? hearking?) back to the PI issues of cf's early days. Practically all of this unstabled two-sheeter is an article by Robert Bloch. Delightful. Nuff sed.

FAHRENHEIT 100 (I assure you I'm not drunk even if I can't make my pinkie land on the hyphen key where it belongs instead of the goose egg. Ok, for your edification the title is "Fahrenheit 1", not 100.)

When REVIEW was started some eight (or is it nine issues, I forget which number I'm working on) issues ago (it seems like only yesterday and maybe it was) I promised to review SAPSazines received in trade. I didn't mention 7APAZines, because not only was ~~Seventh Fandom not yet thunk of~~ 7APA not yet thunk of, but Seventh Fandom itself was still a bee in the beanie of Bob Silverberg. Well, for the edification of you arthritic old-timers from fifth fandom who don't keep up with all the latest goings-on there is now a third apa known as 7APA. Don't ask me why; I'm just reporting. Offhand I can't think of any good reason for a third apa but maybe there is one. I've gotten a couple of zines (both postmailings as a matter of fact) from this group so I see no good reason why these trades shouldn't be reviewed also, even if all my SAFS trades except for GT and OUTSIDERS have vanished into the vortex. This two sheeter is, like all Magnus jobs, beautifully mimed. Mostly chatterings in a casual manner by Magnus about the college he attends I personally find this mag better than either his elaborate and dull SF or his perhaps-too-brief SMUG (reviewed below). Evidently Magnus is an ajer at heart.

MUZZY--#6, Claude R. Hall, 807 N. Main, Carlsbad, N.M.

Probably the last issue so query before sending any mail. Hall is full of enthusiasm, energy, and regularity. I think he's even published more frequently than Geis this fall. But so far the mag has been nothing to write home (or even in REVIEW) about. Nothing really to pound upon critically but almost infinite room for improvement. Can't beat that frequency anyplace else in fandom, right now, tho.

FIENDETTA--Charles Wells, 405 East 62nd St., Savannah, Georgia

The 'Fiendish'. Unfortunately, (and I hate to make you mimeo this, Charles,) the title is far and away the best thing about the issue. This issue is loaded down with questionable fiction including one piece by a certain Wilson Tucker, using an alias, which can only have been accepted because of the lustre attaching to the Tucker name (altho I did enjoy that last line). There is a collection of incredibly grim puns posing as an article (I think it was supposed to be an article; it couldn't have been intended humorously) rendered by one Karl King which even Ackerman would have been ashamed of. (Willis and Bloch have spoiled me. Once upon a time I enjoyed Ackerman's puns.) The issue is extremely attractively mimeographed (don't take REVIEW as an example, tho; Charles takes more care with his stencils and has a better typer than I).

GREY--Charles Wells, same address as above.

This is quite something else again. A one-sheeter imitation of SMUG which far surpasses the original, this is far far superior to anything else Wells has done in the fan-pubbing field. Just fan-chatter and stuff, with a limited circulation of 35, but it makes for extremely enjoyable reading and gives promise that Wells, if he stays with fandom, will be one of its most highly valued and respected members in a metamorphosis ~~at~~ a la Silverberg. Charles, if you can duplicate the special personal quality of this first issue, I'd advise you to forget all about FIENDETTA and concentrate on GREY. After all, look at what relaxing ~~it~~ in print did for one of your neighbors. This mag is the first real indication of writing talent I've seen from Wells and contrasts incredibly with his fta editorials. Wangle yourself onto the GREY mailing list if you possibly can. It's the most promising new arrival since the first issue of PSYCHOTIC.

HYPHEN--#5, Walter Willis, 170 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast., N. Ireland.

This zine has gone monthly with the avowed intention of filling the gap left by QUANDRY. With all due respect to Mr. Willis, and admiration for HYPHEN, the unreconstructed Orangeman has overreached himself this time. It just isn't in the cards for "Hyphen". Although her impact on fandom was greater I always felt Walt was always one jump ahead of Lee Hoffman in everything she tried, but it looks like a frequently appearing mimeod magazine is an exception. Not that HYPHEN is bad. Far from it. It has Willis, for one thing, and WAW still has only Bob Bloch for serious competition in the fanwriting field. And it has Willis contacts which are slightly fabulous. The mag is crammed full of brilliance and wit and is one of the most enjoyable ones available today. But its only resemblance to QUANDRY is to the immediate post-NOLACON issues when Lee still hadn't recovered from the heady effects of her sudden name and was cramming the magazine with high-powered names, temporarily forgetting the languor and relaxation which made QUANDRY in the first place. Best thing in this issue is the "Soupcon Report" which alone has the true QUANDRY flavor. The letter column is 'real George' (a

British expression I picked up from James White a couple of issues back which means the same thing as when we Americans say 'top-hole', I gather). However, poor Bert Campbell must be wriggling his hands in confusion, saying "But I don't even remember meeting any Vernon McCain" after seeing the insert by Willis where he implies Bert is the object of a brief mention by yours truly as 'a British fan with extremely bad manners'. So let me make it clear that Bert Campbell didn't meet me, or vice versa (come to think of it, maybe that is sufficient excuse for calling him a boor) nor was I referring to him. I said a fan, remember, Walt. Actually I doubt if his name would ring any bells in the mental caverns of any REVIEW readers, but just in case it would, I shan't repeat it. However, I am curious why visiting Britishers never visit the Northwest. Are jealous members of other sections of the country spreading untrue tales about us to keep from being the subjects of embarrassing comparisons? Or is it just that you're afraid you'd never be willing to return to Madelaine or the White Horse after seeing what the rest of the world was designed as a contrast to? (Listen to my cosmopolitan views? Of course I've never actually been to Europe but that doesn't prevent me from linking it with California and the Eastern U.S. in my views. Why should I bother examining before I condemn something? After all, I'll have you know I'm a fan!) By the way, did any of you ever search through a pagefull of closely spaced quotations, all of which sound strange, trying to figure out which one you are supposed to have said? It's most intriguing but I finally convinced myself I was responsible for the one I found most amusing. I must say it's difficult to understand how I forgot saying it if I actually am responsible.

OUTSIDERS--Wrai Ballard, Blanchard, N.d. -- a SAPSzine.

I've reviewed this mag so often I find it next to impossible to say anything good about this best of the SAPSzines, without repeating myself....and as for saying anything bad, what are you trying to do... impugn my motives? I do not criticize just to be contrary.

GEM TONES--G.M. Carr, 8325 - 31st N.W., Seattle 7, Wash. -- another SAPSzine.

G.M. trades with probably more people than any other fan-editor. This year she's been running a review column called Boo Jest, reviewing every mag received (something REVIEW doesn't even attempt, and my trade list is much smaller) an invaluable service which was the original purpose of this mag. Unfortunately, G.M. finds it impractical, like everyone else, and this is probably the last installment. A shame as probably the best single project ever undertaken by G.M. Far more worthwhile than secretarying the NFFF, for instance. I cry.

RENEW--John Hitchcock, 15 Arbutus Ave., Baltimore 28, Md. 3¢ a copy.

Yes, RENEW, not REVIEW. I haven't gotten that starved for egoboo, yet. You can't say this mag is overpriced. But if this fourth issue is typical it's not too much of a bargain, either. Practically all fiction. Yeah, you know, that stuff.

SATURDAY MORNING GAZETTE--John Magnus, #11

Beautifully mimeod, useful, admirable....trot out all the adjectives usually used for FANTASY TIMES. This one-page news-gossip-comment sheet continues semi-regular appearance and is always greeted with pleasure, if hardly with ecstasy, in these quarters.

SPACE TIMES--monthly. Eric Jones publishes for the Nor-west Science Science Fantasy Club. Editors, Eric Bentcliffe and Jones
47, Alldis St, Gt Moor, Stockport, Cheshire (ENGLAND presumably)
7/6 per year, no American price given but probably trades can be worked out, either direct or through OPERATION FANTAST.

This anniversary issue has an elegant cover. Inside is mimeod, mostly fiction, which, as regular REVIEW readers know, is hardly my cup of java (see how cleverly I Americanize these quaint British sayings? 'Pip, pip' to quote Bill Morse). The rest of the mag is chiefly reviews of one thing and another. Not bad at all, probably quite good if you like fan fiction. There's even one piece by John Russell Fearn, better known as Vargo Statten to all you readers of GALAXY, ASTOUNDING, and NEW WORLDS.

SKY HOOK--Redd Boggs, 2215 Benjamin St. N.E., Minneapolis 18, Minn.

This magazine won the FAPA poll for 1953 as the best FAPazine. Not that I've seen the returns yet but it's inevitable. In the memory of living man no other magazine has even come close. In the future they will probably just print SKY HOOK on the first line of the ballot and use blank lines for 2nd, 3rd, and etc. places (that last was stolen from Bob Tucker. I have to give him credit since he gets this issue. Otherwise I'd take credit for it myself as probably nobody else but Redd has seen that particular piece and Redd's in no position to quibble over that kind of praise.) The reason a FAPazine is being reviewed here is because Redd is taking subs for it, now. I don't know the sub rate but I'd say each issue is well worth 25¢. It's far superior to most subzines and more regular too, appearing inevitably every quarter. It contains mailing reviews but the bulk of the magazine is of a general nature of interest to non-FAPAns. Redd corrals a larger percentage of big names than any subzine pubber I imagine. Current issue has an article by Sam Moskowitz, some poetry by Virginia Blish, Redd's own "Twippledop", William Atheling's peerless pro review column (that's a penname by the way for some Minneapolis writer, probably Noel Loomis) and other odds and ends I forget at the moment as I absent-mindedly mailed off my copy yesterday to a friend I send my FAPA mailings too, forgetting I still had to write this review. (I also mislaid FIENDETTA and GREY and reviewed from memory. Sorry Charles and Redd.) Anyway I'd recommend highly you get at least one issue. This couldn't be more different from the omnipresent Seventh Fandom zines and from me that is high praise. You won't regret writing Redd for a sample.

SPIRAL--Denis Moroen, 214 Ninth St., Wilmette, Illinois.

Far better (in fact, damn near perfect) mimeoing than formerly but the material, with the exception of the Riddle and Geis items, doesn't deserve even poor mimeography. Still better than lots of 7th Fandom zines, tho.