

IT'S STAGGERING
TO CONSIDER HOW MUCH
ONE'S SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE
DEPENDS ON BEING
QUADRATICALLY INTEGRABLE



THIS IS AMERICAN FICTION, SAMPZINE # 18, PRODUCED FOR THE OCTOBER 1964 MAILING OF THE SPECTATOR AMATEUR PRESS SOCIETY BY EDMUND R MESKYS, WHICH RESIDETH AT 754 MCLEOD ST IN LIVERMORE BUT WHICH GETTETH ITS MAIL % METCALF, BOX 336, BERKELEY CAL 94701. TYPER A SMITH CORONA ELECTRIC PORTABLE COURTESY OF MY LANDLORD (AND I KEEP REACHING FOR THE NON-EXISTANT "RETURN" KEY, DAMMIT!), STENCILS BRANDLESS CHEAP THINGS PURCHASED AT KING PAPER, PAPER BY CAPTAIN MIMCO, COLORTONE MIMCO AND TRU-RAY, & INK BY GESTETNER.

SO THIS IS TO BE THE 69TH MAILING...I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE THE ZINES OF SUCH CULTISTS AT WALTER BREEN, DICK ENEY, TED JOHNSTONE, & BOTH THE PELZ'...THEY SHOULD BE SPECTACULAR, TO SAY THE LEAST.

OCTOBER SEEMS TO BE GILBERT & SULLIVAN MONTH IN THE BAY AREA. THE LAMPLIGHTERS' PRODUCTION OF "RUDDYGORE(THEIR SPELLING)" BEGAN IN THE MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER AND WILL CLOSE ON 31 OCT. OUR BIG THEATER PARTY WAS ON OCTOBER 3RD AND BIG IS THE WORD FOR IT. WE HAD A TOTAL OF 64 FANS AND FRIENDS AT THE THEATER, AND SEVERAL OF OUR REGULAR ATTENDEES COULD NOT MAKE IT FOR VARIOUS REASONS. I AM AFRAID OF THE RESULTS WHEN THE INEVITABLE WILL HAPPEN AND ONE OF THESE DAYS EVERYONE WILL MAKE IT.

LAST WEEK (5 THRU 10 OCT) A PROFESSIONAL GROUP PUT ON "PINAFORE" AT THE GEARY THEATER, WHICH I SAW YESTERDAY (THE 10TH). AN AMATEUR GROUP IS PUTTING ON "PIRATES" HERE IN LIVERMORE WHICH I WILL BE SEEING FRIDAY. AND FINALLY, THE DIABLO LIGHT OPERA COMPANY IS PUTTING "GONDOLIERS" ON IN WALNUT CREEK. I HAVEN'T SEEN THEIR PUBLICITY, BUT KAREN ANDERSON TELLS ME THAT THEY ARE ONLY PLAYING ON SATURDAYS. IF THIS IS TRUE, I WILL PROBABLY GO ON THE 24TH & SHOW UP LATE AT THE LITTLE MEN HOLLOW'EEN PARTY. (WALNUT CREEK IS ONLY A FEW MILES FROM ORINDA AND IS ON THE ROAD FROM LIVERMORE). IF THEY DO IT ON FRIDAYS TOO, I'LL GO THE PREVIOUS DAY. I DO WANT TO SEE RUDDYGORE AGAIN AND MIGHT GO THE 30TH, IF I CAN AFFORD THE TIME.

THE LAMPLIGHTERS ARE OPENING THE MIKADO ON NOVEMBER 7TH, BUT THE FAN PARTY WILL BE ONE WEEK LATER IN ORDER TO MAKE IT ON A GGFS NIGHT. AND I JUST HEARD RUMORS OF AN AMATEUR GROUP IN BERKELEY PUTTING ON SOME UNSPECIFIED G&S PRODUCTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND WILL HAVE TO GET MORE DETAILS.

WITH ALL THIS ACTIVITY AROUND HERE, I AM REALLY SURPRIZED THAT THERE IS NO LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY...THERE SURE IS ENOUGH INTEREST. AND IF I UNDERSTAND CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN BRUCE & THE SQUIRREL THAT I OVERHEARD, THERE ARE TWO ORGANIZATIONS IN LA.

THIS IS ALSO OPERA SEASON IN SAN FRANCISCO. THEY HAVE QUITE A FEW INTERESTING THINGS WHICH I WOULD LIKED TO HAVE SEEN, SUCH AS "FRAU OHNE SCHATTEN," "CARMEN," "NABUCCO," "BARTERED BRIDE," AND "PARSIFAL" I GOT TICKETS TO ONLY TWO...A DOUBLE BILL OF "GIANNI SCHICCHI" AND "CARMINA BURANA" AND THE AMERICAN PREMIERE OF SHOSTAKOVICH'S "KATERINA ISMAILOVA(LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK)". THE COMBINATION OF TOO MANY OTHER THINGS TO DO AND A COST OF \$20-23 PER PAIR OF GOOD SEATS DISCOURAGED ME. I THINK I'LL CONCENTRATE ON THE SPRING OPERA SEASON, WHEN GOOD SEATS COST ONLY \$4 EACH.

I SAW THAT DOUBLE BILL YESTERDAY AND IT WAS SUPERB! (THE G&S WAS A MATINEE, AND BETWEEN SHOWS I VISITED LOU & CYNTHIA GOLDSTONE FOR A FEW HOURS...IT WAS A LONG, BUSY DAY.) OPERA IS STILL A NEW INTEREST AND I DON'T YET KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT IT, BUT SCHICCHI (PRONOUNCED SKI-KEY) IS THE FINEST COMEDY I EVER HEARD. I FIRST HEARD IT ON THE RADIO SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND THE HUMOR COMES THRU SO WELL THAT EVEN THO IT WAS SUNG IN ITALIAN WHICH I DON'T IN THE LEAST UNDERSTAND IT COMPLETELY BROKE ME UP. I EXPECT TO HAVE MY OWN PHONOGRAPH OUT HERE IN A FEW

WEEKS, AND THIS IS THE FIRST RECORD THAT I WILL BUY! AND SEEING IT LIVE WAS SO MUCH BETTER...THAT TITO GOBBI, WHO PLAYED SCHICCHI, IS SUCH A MAGNIFICENT ACTOR!

BUOSO DONATI JUST DIED A FEW MINUTES AGO, AND THE RELATIVES ARE HUDDLED IN A GROUP, MAKING A GREAT SHOW OF WEEPING. IT IS THE YEAR 1299, AND THE LOCATION IS FLORENCE. THE RUMOR SPREADS AMONG THEM THAT HE LEFT ALL OF HIS MONEY TO THE CHURCH, AND THEY FRANTICALLY SEARCH FOR THE WILL. AFTER SEVERAL FALSE ALARMS, RINNUCCIO FINDS IT AND DEMANDS OF HIS RELATIVES THE RIGHT TO MARRY THE DAUGHTER OF GIANNI, IF AS EXPECTED THEY ARE ALL NOW WEALTHY. THEY GRUDGINGLY ALLOW IT, BUT THEY CONSIDER GIANNI A PEASANT BOOR. AS RINUCCIO'S AUNT, ZITA, STRUGGLES WITH THE SEAL ON THE WILL ANOTHER RELATIVE LIGHTS SEVERAL MORE CANDLES...BUT THEIR WORST FEARS ARE CONFIRMED...EVERYTHING WAS LEFT TO THE MONKS. GIANNI & HIS DAUGHTER ARRIVE THEN, & RINUCCIO PERSUADES HIM TO HELP THEM DESPITE THE INSULTS & ABUSE HEAPED UPON HIM BY THE OTHER RELATIVES. HE SENDS HIS DAUGHTER IN IF THE ROOM AND EVENTUALLY COMES UP WITH A PLAN...SINCE NO-ONE ELSE KNOWS HE IS DEAD, GIANNI WILL IMITATE BUOSO & MAKE A NEW WILL. JUST THEN THE DOCTOR ARRIVES BUT GIANNI CARRIES OFF THE IMITATION OF BUOSO'S VOICE FROM BEHIND THE BED-CURTAINS AND SAYS HE IS TIRED...WOULD THE DOCTOR PLEASE RETURN IN A FEW HOURS? AS THE DOCTOR LEAVES HE BRAGS TO ~~ALL~~ THE RELATIVES ABOUT WHAT A GOOD MEDICAL SCHOOL HE ATTENDED, AND HOW NO PATIENT OF HIS HAS EVER DIED. AS THEY CARRY THE BODY OUT AND GIANNI DRESSES IN BUOSO'S BEDCLOTHES THE CHURCH BELL STARTS TO TOLL. DISPAIR! HOW DID ANYONE LEARN OF THE DEATH? A RELATIVE GOES OUT TO INVESTIGATE AND RETURNS WITH THE NEWS THAT THE BELL IS TOLLING FOR THE MAYOR'S SERVANT WHO JUST DIES. "MAY HE REST IN PEACE" IS SUNG OUT WITH GREAT JOY!

BUOSO HAD MUCH MONEY, OWNED A NUMBER OF FARMS...THESE ARE EASILY DIVIDED UP. THE MONEY GOES TO ALL EQUALLY, AND THERE IS NO ARGUMENT AS TO WHO WILL GET WHICH FARM. BUT ALL WANT BUOSO'S HOME, SAWMILLS, & MULE. AFTER MUCH WRANGLING THEY FINALLY DECIDE TO LEAVE IT TO GIANNI. AS THEY HELP HIM WITH THE BEDCLOTHES EACH WHISPERS A BRIBE IF ONLY HE WOULD LEAVE THEM TO HIM/HER. HE SAYS YES TO EACH, AND THEY SING A CHILDREN'S LULABY AS THEY SEND HIM INTO THE BED. THE NOTARY AND TWO WITNESSES ARRIVE, AND HE EXPLAINS THAT HIS HAND IS SHAKING TOO MUCH FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO WRITE THE WILL HIMSELF. NOW GIANNI REMINDS THE RELATIVES JUST BEFORE THE NOTARY ARRIVED THAT IF THEY ARE CAUGHT FORGING A WILL THEY ARE ALL LIABLE TO HAVING THEIR RIGHT ARMS LOPPED OFF AND BEING PERMANENTLY EXILED FROM FLORENCE, SO THEY MUST BE VERY VAREFUL.

THE NOTARY WRITES OUT THE STANDARD PREAMBLE, TO WHICH GIANNI HAS HIM ADD A CLAUSE NULLIFYING ALL PREVIOUS WILLS, TO THE APPROVING REMARKS OF THE RELATIVES.

THE MONEY AND LANDS ARE QUICKLY DISPOSED OF AFTER A BRIEF FLURRY OF EXCITEMENT. GIANNI STARTS OFF BY SAYING "TO THE MONKS OF SANTA REPARATA I LEAVE.....5 LIRE" SIGHS OF RELIEF, BUT THE NOTARY ASKS IF THAT ISN'T A RATHER SMALL AMOUNT. HE EXPLAINS THAT IF HE LEAVES MUCH TO CHARITY EVERYONE WILL ASSUME HE HAD LEAD A WICKED LIFE AND WAS DOING THIS TO SALVE HIS CONSCIENCE.

NOW HE STARTS A LONG PREAMBLE ABOUT LEAVING HIS MULE TO HIS FINEST FRIEND, ETC., AS ALL THE RELATIVES NOD AND POINT TO THEMSELVES... HIS "FRIEND...GIANNI SCHICCHI!!" THEY ARE ALL SHOCKED, AND ONE PROTESTS "WHAT WOULD HE WANT WITH A MULE?" "DON'T WORRY...I KNOW WHAT IS BEST FOR MY FRIEND GIANNI SCHICCHI." THEY SIT DOWN AGAIN, GRUMBLING.

"AND MY VILLA INTOWN," HE CONTINUES "I LEAVE TO MY FRIEND GIANNI SCHICCHI!" THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR THEM, ESPECIALLY THEIR MARRIARCHAL LEADER ZITA, AND THEY ALL PROTEST VOCIFEROUSLY. HE CALMS THEM DOWN

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WITH VEILED REFERENCES TO WAVING ARMLESS FAIRWELLS TO FLORENCE, AMIDST MORE VEILED THREATS, HE LEAVES THE MILLS TO HIMSELF TOO, BUT THERE IS NOTHING THAT THEY CAN DO WITHOUT EXPOSING THEMSELVES AS ACCOMPLICES IN THE CRIME.

THEN, TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY HE FORCES ZITA TO PAY LARGE TIPS TO THE NOTARY & WITNESSES OUT OF HER OWN PURSE. AS SOON AS THE THREE LEAVE ALL THE RELATIVES ATTACK GIANNI WITH SHOUTS OF OUTRAGED ANGER AND GRIEF...ALL THAT IS, EXCEPT RINUCCIO WHO IS OFF IN A CORNER WITH THE JUST RETURNED DAUGHTER OBLIVIOUS OF EVERYONE ELSE. GIANNI DRIVES THEM OFF WITH HIS CANE AND CHASES THEM OUT OF "HIS" HOUSE. THERE IS A GRAND MELEE AS THEY TRY TO STEAL EVERYTHING NOT NAILED DOWN AS THEY LEAVE. A FEW MINUTES LATER HE RETURNS TO THE STAGE CARRYING A GREAT LOAD OF RETRIEVED GOODS, OBSERVES THE LOVERS, AND ADDRESSES THE AUDIENCE DIRECTLY, ASKING WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS JUSTIFIED IN DOING WHAT HE DID FOR ALL WOULD EVENTUALLY GO TO THE LOVERS AND MAKE THEM HAPPY.

EVERYTHING WAS PERFECT...THE LIBRETTO BY FORZANO, THE MUSIC BY PUCCINI AND THE PRODUCTION, SINGING AND ACTING. I HOPE TO SEE THIS OPERA AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN...AND I WOULD ESPECIALLY LOVE TO SEE IT IN ENGLISH SOME DAY. IF IT IS SO MARVELOUS IN THE ORIGINAL, HOW MUCH BETTER IT MUST BE WHEN YOU CAN UNDERSTAND EACH WORD!

GRANIA DAVIDSON & I HAD BEEN LOOKING OVER THE UPCOMING OPERA SCHEDULE A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO. WHILE I HAD BEEN VERY GOSH-WOW ABOUT SCHICCHI & KNEW NOTHING OF CARMINA BURANA, SHE WAS VERY GOSH-WOW ABOUT THE LATTER & KNEW NOTHING OF THE FORMER, SO WE DECIDED TO GO TOGETHER. I LISTENED TO A RECORDING A FEW WEEKS BEFORE SEEING IT, FOUND IT INTERESTING, BUT NOT OVERWHELMINGLY EXCITING. BUT THE SECOND EXPOSURE OF SEEING IT CONVERTED ME...I LOVED IT.

THIS CONSISTS OF A NUMBER OF 13TH CENTURY SECULAR SONGS IN LATE LATIN AND EARLY GERMAN, REDISCOVERED ABOUT A CENTURY AGO AND SET TO MODERN MUSIC BY KARL ORFF IN THE 30'S. ABOUT 200 WERE FOUND, AND ORFF SELECTED SOME TWO DOZEN OF THESE. I KNOW LITTLE OF THE VOCABULARY OF MUSIC AND AM AT A LOSS FOR WORDS ON HOW TO DESCRIBE THIS. THE MUSIC WAS POWERFUL AND PHYSICALLY MOVING THE WAY STRAVINSKY'S "RITE OF SPRING" IS. THERE ARE PARTS SUNG SOLO, AND PARTS BY SMALL OR LARGE CHORUSES. THE STAGING, BACKDROPS, ETC., AND BALLET WERE JUST STUNNING. I LEFT THE OPERA HOUSE COMPLETELY DAZED.

THIS WORK WAS FIRST PERFORMED IN FRANKFURT IN 1937. PHIL DICK TELLS ME THAT WALTER BREEN TOLD HIM THAT THIS WAS IN PART PUT TOGETHER AS A VEILED PROTEST AGAINST NAZISM. THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE PARTICULARLY EVIDENT IN THE CHOICE OF THE SECOND SONG, WHICH TRANSLATES AS "I LAMENT FORTUNE'S BLOWS WITH WEEPING EYES, / FOR SHE EXTORTS FROM ME HER GIFTS, / NOW PREGNANT AND PRODIGAL, / NOW LEAN AND SEAR. / ONCE I WAS WEATED ON FORTUNE'S THRONE, / CROWNED WITH A GARLAND OF PROSPERITY. / IN THE BLOOM OF MY FELICITY / I WAS STRUCK DOWN AND ROBBED OF ALL MY GLORY. / AT THE TURN OF FORTUNE'S WHEEL, / ONE IS DEPOSED, / ANOTHER IS LIFTED ON HIGH TO ENJOY A BRIEF FELICITY / UNEASY SITS THE KING, LET HIM BEWARE HIS RUIN, / FOR BENEATH THE AXLE OF THE WHEEL / WE READ THE NAME OF HECUBA."

WELL, ENUF OF THIS. I THINK IT'S TIME I GOT TO SOME...NOW DON'T DIE OF SHOCK!...MAILING COMMENTS.

FIRST OF ALL, A COMPLAINT. I JUST DISCOVERED WHEN I RECENTLY STARTED TO READ THE MAILING THAT TWO ZINES ARE MISSING FROM MY BUNDLE. NOW BRUCE IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFICIENT PEOPLE THAT I KNOW AND I JUST DO NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THIS COULD HAVE HAPPENED. FRED PATTEN, DO YOU BY ANY CHANCE HAVE AN EXTRA COPY OF MISTILY MEANDERING THAT YOU COULD GIVE ME? AND NORM METCALF, DO YOU HAVE A COPY OF RESIN #17? (19 IS IN

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THE BUNDLE...BUT WHAT OF 18? WAS THAT BOUND WITH 17?)

GOLIARD # ????

A VERY ENJOYABLE ISSUE. I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU AND RUTH FINALLY PUB THE SPEECHES FROM WESTERCON 16. IT WAS RATHER COINCIDENTAL, THO, TO HAVE YOU BOTH PUBLISH THIS QUITE OLD STUFF IN THE SAME MAILING.

ONE POINT OF ANDRE NORTON'S ACCEPTANCE AMUSED ME, THO...BEFORE 1946 OR SO THE PUBLISHERS WOULD NOT ACCEPT JUVENILE SF FROM HER AND SHE HAD TO GO ON WRITING HISTORICALS, ETC. THEN, SOMEWHAT LATER SHE WANTED TO WRITE A HISTORICAL NOVEL ABOUT THE "MARCH OF THE 10,000 BUT HER PUBLISHER WOULD ONLY ACCEPT IT IF SHE DISGUISED IT AS SF. HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGES!

SPELEOBEM #24

WELL, WITH THE SPELUNKING ARTICLES YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING RECENTLY YOU'RE REALLY LIVING UP TO YOUR TITLE. I PARTICULARLY REMEMBER THE ARTICLE ABOUT "HELPING" THE POLICE HUNT FOR A BODY.

YOU'LL PROBABLY MENTION THIS YOURSELF THIS QUARTER, BUT THE QUIGGS NOW LIVE HERE IN LIVERMORE. I MET THEM WHEN THEY FIRST ARRIVED FOR THEY ARE ALSO GOOD FRIENDS OF THE ROLFES AND VISITED THEM ON THE SAME DAY THAT I DID. I'VE SEEN THEM SEVERAL TIMES SINCE THEN, AND OF COURSE THEY WERE AT THE LAST GILBERT & SULLIVAN PARTY...HAD THE SEATS NEXT TO YOURS, AS A MATTER OF FACT.

HOW WAS THE CREST OR WHATEVER ON THE COVER PRODUCED? MY FIRST GUESS HAD BEEN SILKSCREEN, BUT THE RED LOOKS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE CRAYON AND THE BLACK LIKE WATER-COLOR.

AS FOR AIRMAILING BUNDLES TO OVERSEAS MEMBERS, I LEAVE THAT TO YOUR DISCRETION. AS YOU SAY, BERRY DOESN'T DO MCs SO DOESN'T NEED IT, BUT IT WOULD HELP FOYSTER. EVEN IF YOU DECLARE THAT THIS DOESN'T SET A PRECEDENT, I SUPPOSE THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO SEND COPIES THIS WAS, AT THE EXPENSE OF SAPS, TO ONE PERSON AND NOT ANOTHER WHEN BOTH DO MCs, AND IT WOULD REALLY HURT IF EVER THERE WERE A HALF DOZEN OVERSEAS MEMBERS. WELL, THEN YOU COULD SIMPLY QUIT DOING IT FOR ANYONE, RIGHTLY CLAIMING THAT THE TREASURY CAN'T TAKE IT. ALSO, IT'S A LONG TIME SINCE I CHECKED, BUT I BELIEVE THERE IS AN INTERNATIONAL AIR MAIL RATE FOR PRINTED MATTER WHICH IS COMPARABLE WITH DOMESTIC RATES ...IE, 3¢ PER OZ AS OPPOSED TO THE 25¢/½ OR FIRST CLASS AIR RATES TO AUSTRALIA. I BELIEVE THIS RATE IS SOMETHING LIKE 30¢ PER 4 OZ.

MADELEINE CONTINUES TO FASCINATE. I AM EAGERLY AWAITING THE NEXT INSTALLMENT, AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO RE-READ THE WHOLE THING WHEN YOU BRING IT OUT AS A BOOKLET.

DINKY BIRD #11

WELCOME TO BERKELEY FANDOM, RUTH. WE'RE VERY GLAD TO HAVE YOU SPEND THE YEAR HERE. BUT BE WARNED...I CAME OUT ONLY FOR A SUMMER AND HAVE BEEN HERE FOR ALMOST 2½ YEARS NOW. I KEEP INTENDING TO GO BACK EAST "IN A FEW MORE MONTHS" BUT SOMEHOW NEVER GET THE OPPORTUNITY.

THE BOUCHER ARTICLE/SPEECH THAT YOU PRINTED WAS SUPERB! I TRULY ENJOYED READING IT AS MUCH AS I HAD ENJOYED HEARING IT AT THE WESTERCON. I FEEL GUILTY ABOUT MY MINAC IN SPAS AND SEVERAL TIMES CAME CLOSE TO RESIGNING MY MEMBERSHIP, BUT IT IS THINGS LIKE THIS AND MADELEINE'S TRIP REPORT WHICH MAKE ME TENACIOUSLY HANG ON TO MY MEMBERSHIP. CONGRATULATIONS ON THE FINE JOB OF EDITING THE TAPE.

TONY BOUCHER CAN BE SO INTERESTING. IT IS A SHAME HE IS AT LITTLE MEN'S MEETINGS SO RARELY. HE DID DROP BY AT BRENNAN'S FRIDAY NIGHT AFTER HE GOT OUT OF THE OPERA, THO, AND OCCASIONALLY DOES AT LEAST MAKE THE TAIL ENDS THAT WAY. THAT TIME THERE WERE ONLY A FEW

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PEOPLE LEFT FOR WE GOT THERE QUITE EARLY. OUR FEATURED SPEAKER FOR THE MEETING, PHIL DICK, GOT SICK AND COULDN'T MAKE IT. THUS THE MEETING BROKE UP QUITE EARLY AND WE STARTED DRINKING AROUND 9 INSTEAD OF 10 OR 11.

THE ILLO ON PAGE IN...THE FLOWERS, ETC; DROWN USING COMBINATIONS OF MUSICAL SYMBOLS, WAS INTERESTING.

WAS THE FRITZ LEIBER STORY "THE REWARD" FIRST PUBLISHED IN THE ALL LEIBER ISSUE OF FANTASTIC ABOUT 5 YEARS AGO? I REMEMBER READING ONE SOMETHING LIKE YOUR DESCRIPTION OF "REWARD" IN THAT ISSUE...THAT IS, ABOUT ALL SORTS OF STATISTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE THINGS HAPPENING, TO ONE MAN, AND ON THE SAME DAY. AND THERE WAS A SF STORY ABOUT THE APPEARANCE OF TWO PEOPLE WITH ONE FINGERPRINT IN COMMON. I READ IT IN A PULP AROUND...1953? I ONLY REMEMBER THAT THE COVER SHOWED SOME BEMS WITH S ALIN. I HAVE A VAGUE FEELING THE STORY WAS BY TONY BOUCHER, BUT I DON'T SEE HOW IT COULD HAVE BEEN. FUNNY THING TOO, I JUST RECENTLY SAW SOME OTHER REFERENCE TO IT IN A FANZINE...OR WAS IT IN A CONVERSATION AT A LITTLE MEN'S MEETING?

I SUSPECT GETS AN UNEXPECTED ALIBI FOR A MURDER ON EARTH BECAUSE ON THE SAME DAY A THIEF ON THE MOON LEAVES HIS FINGERPRINT AT THE SCENE OF A THEFT. IT TURNS OUT THAT IT WAS INEVITABLE WITH THE LARGE POPULATION OF A SOLAR-SYSTEM WIDE CULTURE IT WAS INEVITABLE THAT SOME DAY TWO PEOPLE WOULD TURN UP WITH ONE FINGERPRINT IN COMMON. THE STORY ENDS WITH THE HERO FEELING SORRY FOR THE POLICE IN A FUTURE GALAXY-WIDE CIVILIZATION WHEN THERE WILL BE A FINITE PROBABILITY OF TWO MEN HAVING A COMPLETE SET OF FINGERPRINTS IN COMMON.

THE PAPER ON "SYLVIE & BRUNO" WAS QUITE INTERESTING. I SAW COPIES OF THE BOOKS LISTED IN KEN CHAPMAN'S LATEST CATALOG AND WAS ABOUT TO ORDER THEM, WHEN I READ THIS. I STILL HOPE TO READ THE STORY EVENTUALLY, BUT AM NOW A BIT RELUCTANT BECAUSE YOU HAVE GIVEN ME THE IMPRESSION THAT THIS IS A RATHER CONFUSING BOOK WHICH I WILL HAVE TO READ SEVERAL TIMES AND STUDY BEFORE I WILL HAVE REALLY FIGURED OUT WHAT IS GOING ON...AND I HAVE SO LITTLE TIME FOR READING!

I STILL WILL PICK UP A COPY, BUT I SUSPECT I WOULD DO BETTER TO PICK UP THE MODERN LIBRARY EDITION FOR THAT WOULD COST LESS THAN THE TWO VOLUMES AND WOULD ALSO INCLUDE LEWIS CARROL'S OTHER STUFF TOO. DO YOU HAVE AN EXTRA COPY OF THE ARTICLE THAT YOU COULD SPARE SO THAT I COULD KEEP IT WITH THE BOOK AND WOULD NOT HAVE TO GO HUNTING WHEN I WANT TO REFER BACK TO IT? CONSIDER IT A TRADE FOR NIEKAS?

POT POURRI # 34

OOG, THAT JOKE ABOUT THE MAILMAN!

IT'S SO LONG SINCE I DID MAILING COMMENTS THAT I'M SURE I NEVER DID GET AROUND TO MENTIONING THIS. A FEW MAILINGS BACK YOU HAD AN ARTICLE ABOUT STAMPS COMMEMORATING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SPACE TRAVEL. WELL, THE U.S. HAD ISSUED ONE STAMP YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BACK IN ...1949? IT WAS TO COMEMORATE THE UMPTENTH ANNIVERSARY OF "FORT BLISS" WHICH HAD RECENTLY BEEN USED AS A ROCKET TEST RANGE, AND THE STAMP SHOWED A...CAPTURED V2?...TAKING OFF.

ALSO, ABOUT THE TIME OF THE FIRST SPUTNIK, BUT PROBABLY NOT RELATED TO IT, SOMEONE--FRANCE--HAD PUT OUT A SERIES OF STAMPS HONORING UULES VERNE, AND SHOWING SCENES FROM HIS NOVELS.

OH, SO I SUPPOSE WE NOW OUGHT TO DO SOMETHING APPROPRIATE SUCH AS ORGANIZE A SAPS ORCHESTRA AND PLAY "HAIL TO THE CHIEF" IN YOUR HONOR.

HOBGOBLIN 13

PERHAPS MADELEINE'S USE OF "HAIR-UNPINNING BENDS" WAS MEANT AS A HUMEROUS TWIST ON THE "HAIRPIN TURNS" IN WIDE USE...A SORT OF PUN

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AND NOT A NATIVE EXPRESSION AT ALL?

THERE IS A PAPERBACK VERSION OF CLOCKWORK ORANGE...FROM NORTON ITSELF. BUT THIS WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME THAT BALLANTINE REISSUED A PAPERBACK. I REMEMBER THEM ISSUING A VERY BADLY ABRIDGED VERSION OF DOVER'S FADS & FALLACIES IN THE NAME OF SCIENCE BY MARTIN GARDNER. IT COST $1/3$ AS MUCH AS THE DOVER EDITION, BUT HAD ONLY $1/3$ OF THE CONTENT...IF THAT MUCH!

MANY THANKS FOR SENDING ME THE LATEST LIGHTHOUSE...I ENJOYED IT VERY MUCH.

SPY RAY

I LIKED YOUR COMMENTS ON PILLAR OF FIRE ABOUT THE "SOUL SEARCHING FALLACY" VERY MUCH.

THE PUNS ON DOHEUG THAT YOU HAD SCATTERED THRUOUT THE ISSUE WERE BAD-BAD (AS OPPOSED TO THE GOOD-BAD CATEGORY OF PUN) ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN BY CARL FREDERICK. (NEE NIEKAS 9, PP 5-6...OR DON'T IF YOU HAVE A WEAK STOMACH!)

SLUG # 8

WALLY WEBER, YOU ARE A N*U*T...BUT THAT IS WHY I READ YOUR ZINE FIRST. THIS WAS HISTERICALLY FUNNY. WHEN WILL YOU PUBLISH YOUR TAFF TRIP REPORT? AND WHEN WILL ELLA PARKER & THE REST OF ANGLOFANDOM SUE YOU? IF YOU CAN WRITE SO HUMEROUSLY ABOUT A MEER PURCHASE OF A PIECE OF PLYWOOD AND PHONE CALL, THE MIND BOGGLES OVER WHAT YOU WILL DO WITH A SEVERAL WEEK TRIP TO ENGLAND!

BORRY, FOLKS...BUT TIM'ES UP AND I GOTTA RETURN THE TYPER TO MY LAND-LORD. THUS I WAVE A FOND FAIRWELL TO SAPTOM PLACE FOR ANOTHER THREE MONTHS.

Ed McKays