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"SKYFODDER"

Writes Elmer Perdue: "Not much has happened around here of late. The local little theater's planning to put on 'Outward Bound' sometime this year or next. And in the line of one-acts, the local dramatic chapter of Theta Alpha Phi has just purchased scripts for an extremely powerful play, 'Skyfodder'.

"Plot: Scene opens in the Amazon jungle. Three haggard, weary men stagger on stage and sink on a fallen log. They talk. It develops, in the conversation, that the plane they were riding in crashed, and they were lucky to have been thrown clear. That was three days ago; and they're still lost in the jungle. One has been bitten by a coral snake; but that was a dull day ago, and he hasn't even been made ill by it. The leader of the party lets slip the information that he's seen the plane, and knows where it is. The other two do not understand why he is reticent, and plead with him to tell them. He does, finally, saying that they've circled and that it's less than a hundred yards off that way. One of them runs off in search of it, and the other remains talking with the leader, who regrets telling them where it was. Then a terrible scream is heard off-stage, and the leader says: 'Yes. He's found the plane. I've been hoping I was wrong--that I didn't really see--what I was afraid I had. He's found the plane--WITH THE THREE DEAD BODIES IN IT! WE DIED IN THE CRASH! WE'RE DEAD, I TELL YOU! DEAD!'"

THE THOUSAND AND ONE

The Druid, Mar 20, #1. "Printed by The Futile Press at Lakeport, California, and for sale at two and one-half cents per copy." Consists of two printed pages presenting an editorial note, a sonnet, a paragraph in Spanish by one Benito Perez Galdos, a quotation from Confucius--all evidently amassed by Claire Beck, the Hermit Hitch-Hiker.

New Worlds, Mar, V1#1. From the ashes of Novae Terrae rises Ted Carnell's mimeographed, 14-paged, folio - we - think - they - call - it - size pub, with a purty blue cover by Harry Turner. An occasional magazine, it will publish fiction, articles, news, &c. Issued sans cost to SFA members; others may send 4d to 17 Burwash Rd, Plumstead, London, SE 23, for a copy.

Invisible Stories, Apr 1, #1. A 12-paged red-&-green Cosmic Pub celebrating Bob Tucker's 10th year in stf. Mimeographed, without price; we believe that this issue of the magazine is filled almost entirely with plagiarisms, inasmuch as all the stories published have seen print in Ackerman's 5th Convention booklet, which see.

Fantasy-Letter, Mar 19, V1#1. James V. Taurasi acts upon the suggestion found on the cover of D'J #3 and publishes an occasional, 2-paged, mimeographed comment sheet for free distribution with F-N.

D'Journal, May, V1#3

Fantasy-News thru May 26, V2#14; Fantasy-Scout, Apr, V3#1

New Fandom, Jan-Feb, V1#3

The Science-Fiction Gazette, New Series #2

Le Zombie, #s 3 & 4

ROBERT RETALIATES

(Robert A. Madle writes from Philadelphia in reply to various charges made by Frederik Pohl in Nell #68. In accordance with our iron-bound policy, we shall permit the debate to go no further--here--unless, of course, the Z wishes publicly to apologize.)

"Pohl's attack is quite typical of that certain portion of the fan field; a very small portion I am pleased to note. They never feel thoroly satisfied unless some fan receives the brunt of their attack--verbally of course. However, to defend myself I have the following statements to make. In the first place, I didn't like the term 'crackpot' being applied to Baltadonis and myself, so I believe I can legally call Pohl screwball in retaliation. Or am I violating good taste? But publishing 'Out of Space' seems to be the 'unforgiveable' affrontery I have committed. In the first place, 'Out of Space' was turned over to me by a certain Buffalo fan to whom it apparently had been given for publication in this fan's fan magazine, which, incidentally, did not appear. The aforementioned manuscript was among a pile of material which was given me for publication in Fantascience Digest. From this stack of articles, stories, and what-not; I took what I believed was most suitable for publication in FD and turned quite a bit of the remainder over to Moskowitz' manuscript bureau. I believe I have vindicated myself already, but I will go further. How could I be 'disinterested' in the fact that the manuscript was being submitted professionally if I knew nothing of it? And why whould publication of the story in FD stop further submission? And as for taking me to court; ye Gods! on what grounds? The manuscript was turned over to me for publication and that is exactly what I did with it! How in the hell can anyone take me to court for that???? Furthermore, due to the fact that I am entirely innocent of Pohl's accusation, proff of which is contained in this paragraph, I demand a public apology."

THE OTHER HALF

"Johnson Over Jordan", J. B. Priestley's life-after-death play, with Ralph Richardson. ("Things to Come", &c.) in the title role, closed four days after its London opening...The late Karel Capek, remembered in the theater for his "R. U. R." and "The Insect Comedy", wrote before his death a play called "The Mother", which predicted the fall of his beloved Czechoslovakia to Germany. The woman of the title is capable of communicating with her dead husband and son, who appear on the stage. The play, which opened in England, at the Q Theater, comes to the US April 10, in Richmond, where it will star Alla Nazimova, before moving to Washington's National Theater and Broadway.

Latest fantastic novel is "Ordeal", by Nevil Shute (Morrow \$2.50), published in England as "What Happened to the Corbetts". The story of the behavior of a typical British family during its bombardment by a foreign, unnamed power.

RIDDLE DEP'T

"In the June issue of UNKNOWN are: A long novel by N. Page, 'FLAME WINDS' adventures of Prester Jon Danger in the dark." --Fantasy-News, Mar. 12. (Q. Where was Prester Jon Danger when the lights went out? A. In the dark.)

Lick Wilson