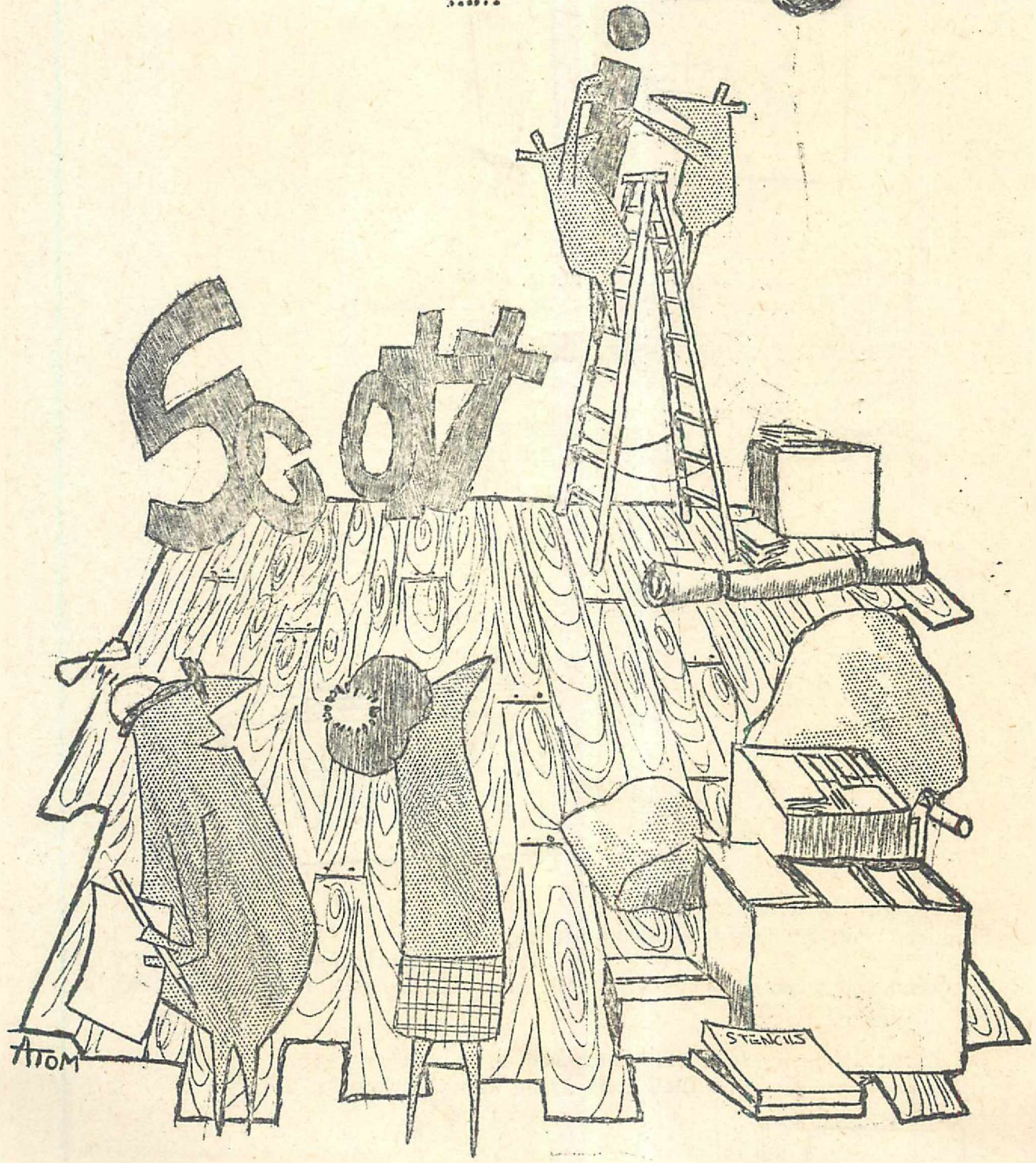
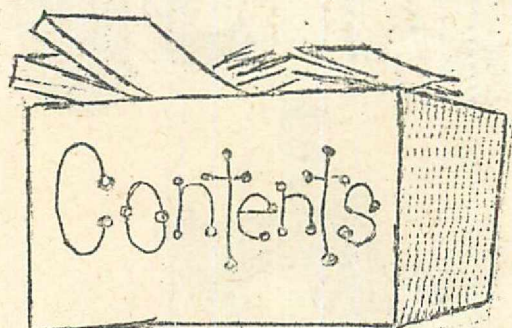
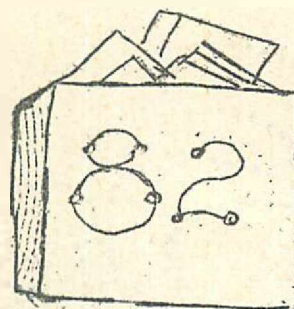


Got This



"TWENTY SEVEN YEARS, THAT'S NOT TOO MANY....."



CARTOON.....by ATOM
NIBBLINGS....SF REVIEWS.....by Ethel Lindsay
CARTOON.....by ATOM
HAVERINGS....ZINE COMMENTS...by Ethel
CARTOON.....by ATOM
LETTERS.....by The Readers
CARTOON.....by ATOM
Natterings.....by Ethel



All Artwork by ATOM

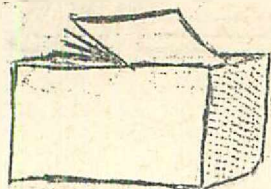
Produced and published by Ethel Lindsay

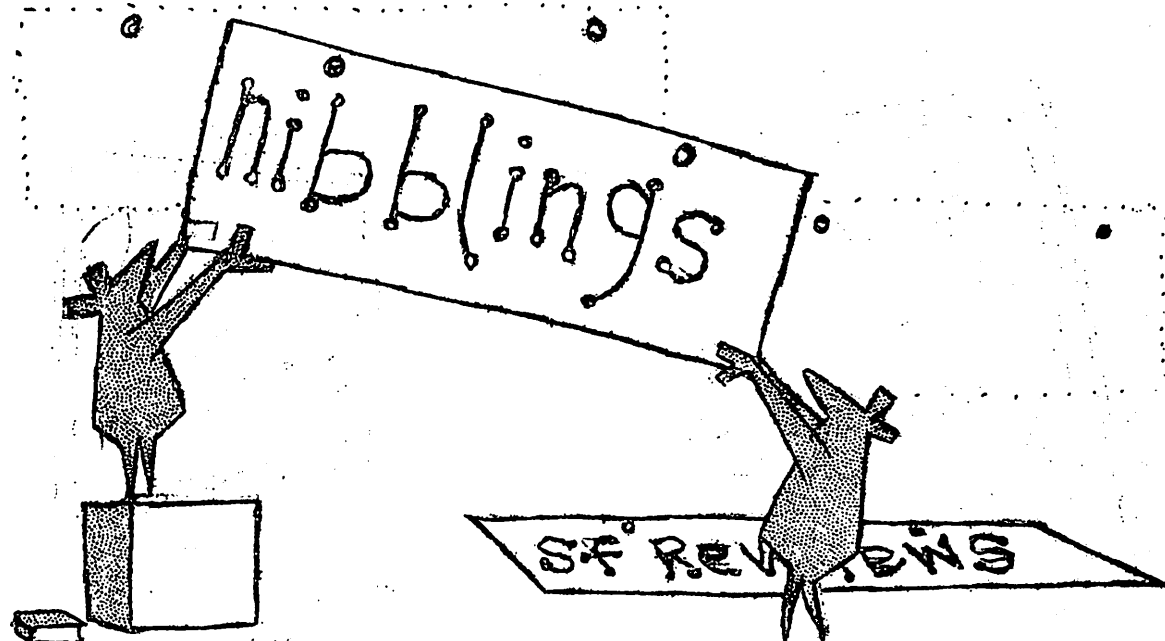
69 Barry Road, Carnoustie, Angus, Scotland, DD7 7QQ.

American Agent was Andrew Porter to whom all thanks for sterling work and unfailing kindness.

The first issue of SCOTTISHE appeared in September 1954.

This last issue dated September 1981





CRISIS ON CONSHLEF TEN by Monica Hughes. Methuen pb. 90p. 144pp. Aimed at the children's market. Very convincing in technical details. The story of 15yr old Kepler born on the Moon, paying his first visit to Earth. He finds himself more at home in the underwater community where he meets the Gillmen and finds adventure.

TO CONQUER CHAOS by John Brunner. DAW pb. \$1.95 160pp. Three hundred miles of barren-land is the source of weird monsters that constantly harass the dwindling group of people who live at its core. Conrad lives on the edge and has been plagued by visions of the centre all his life. When he meets Jervis and they decide to cross the barrenland the puzzle begins to be solved. Sf with a puzzle in it is what I really like!

HUROK OF THE STONE AGE by Lin Carter. DAW pb. \$1.75. 192pp. The third of this series. Continues the adventures of Eric Carstairs in Zanthodon which is a cavern-world lying beneath the Sahara. In this story Eric is held captive and an expedition headed by Hurök the Neanderthal heads out to attempt to rescue him.

TERRA SF: THE YEAR'S BEST EUROPEAN SF. edited by Richard D. Nolane. DAW pb. \$2.25 263pp. 14 stories plus an Introduction and a Meet the Authors section at the end. Plenty of ideas are here mulled over afresh. Some new ideas too, the best being a vision of the edge of the world by Sam Lundwall.

THE BOOK OF DREAMS by Jack Vance. DAW pb. \$2.25. 234pp. The fifth and final Demon Princes novel, in which Gersen finally tracks down the last man on whom he had sworn revenge. One macabre scene sticks in the mind... a school reunion at which the villain wreaks retribution on his former school-mates!

DUST OF FAR SUNS by Jack Vance. DAW pb. \$1.75. 160pp. 4 novelettes. The one I enjoyed most was DODKIN'S JOB in which Luke lives in an Organised world and stubbornly follows the trail to where the Organisation begins, very funny!

TRULLION: ALASTOR 2262 by Jack Vance. DAW pb. \$2.25. 192pp. Imaginative description of a world of fens and islands. The people are called the Trill and we see their culture through the eyes of Glinnes who returns home to find one brother vanished and another, having sold off some land, being mysterious about his reasons. Quite an involved plot!

MARUNE: ALASTOR 933 by Jack Vance. DAW pb. \$2.25. 188pp. This describes another world in the Alastor Cluser. Marune is lit by shifting suns which dictates its culture. We see it through a Rhune whose memory has been stolen. He has not only to find out who he is but also the identity of his enemy. Again an intricate plot against a fascinating background.

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THE CASTAWAYS OF TANAGAR by Brian Stableford. DAW pb. \$2.50. 319pp. An involved story! Descendants of a star-ship create an intellectual society that places its misfits in deep freeze. When it is decided to find out what happened on Earth these characters are sent there. The adventures of the many characters are varied and eventful and enable the author to reveal the different philosophies of each group. In many ways a powerful story.

PILGRIMAGE by Drew Mendelson. DAW pb. \$2.25. 220pp. The City is a towering building which is moved by the Structors from Tailend to Frontend whilst generations live there and die. Brann lives on the 37th Tier until one day the tower begins to shake to pieces. With his companions he has to escape not through the normal channels but down ways that have been forgotten for centuries. The author produces many vivid scenes that linger with the reader.

NECTAR OF HEAVEN by E.C. Tubb. DAW pb. \$1.95. 160pp. Dumarest of Terra No 24. Dumarest is now on a world which is split up into holdings continually traded on a stock market. Unknown to him at first is the fact that the major holder is aided by a Cyber. More of intrigue than fighting ability is required of Dumarest this time!

DOWNBELOW STATION by C.J. Cherryh. DAW pb. \$2.75. 432pp. This covers a vast canvas but at its centre is Pell Station circling the planet they call Downbelow. Conflict has begun between the Fleet of tired Earth and the Union of rebellious colonies and Pell is the target for both sides. We see it all through a large cast of characters--Downers who are Pell's natives, Stationers, Unioners, Fleet Captains and a Ambassador from Earth. They all have their goals and hopes and the author weaves from one to the other as the battles sways to and fro. Compelling reading about very believable characters.

LYCANTHIA by Tanith Lee. DAW pb. \$2.25. 220pp. I do wish this author would use her undoubted powers to turn from fantasy to sf again. Here she tells a tale of werewolves and their meeting with Christian who is a very unusual young man. The story contains many moving passages..but I can't believe in werewolves. What I can believe is the self-centred character of Christian which is drawn in a very convincing way.

FIRESHIP/MOTHER AND CHILD by Joan D. Vinge. Magnum pb. £1.10. 191pp. 2 stories. A fireship was a ship set on fire and sent among an enemy fleet, and Ethan Ring is likened to that in this computerised future. He is a man combined with a computer. An enticing notion with which I felt the author could have done more--material here for a full novel. MOTHER AND CHILD describes a human culture which has had aliens meddling with the natural pattern. The story is told from shifting viewpoints which adds depth to the interest.

THE GOLDEN MAN by Philip K. Dick. Magnum pb. £1.50. 337pp. 15 stories. Dick's introduction and his notes on each story should make this book extra invaluable to those who admire the works of this unorthodox writer. The title story is about a mutant whom humanity cannot stop, the second story concerns an alien machine, again unstoppable by humanity. Not all are downbeat but they all are certainly off the beaten track.

WELL OF SHIUAN by C.J. Cherryh. Magnum pb. £1.50. 253pp. The second story in the saga of Morgaine who comes to close the Gates between planets. The world of Shiuan, however, is being devastated by earthquakes and floods and the only escape for the people is through the Gates. High fantasy with a basis of solid sf.

CELESTIAL CHESS by Thomas Bontly. Magnum pb. £1.50. 279pp. This is an occult book from which I usually recoil. It has all the ingredients--ghosts, covens, mediaeval manuscripts, ruined Abbey and haunted family--these usually leave me cold. I found this one quite different however, it is told in a quiet, scholarly manner that dampens the horror and plays up the mystery element. I found I thoroughly enjoyed it due entirely to the dry wit of the author.

Nibblings 3

THE MERMAN'S CHILDREN by Poul Anderson, Sidgwick & Jackson, £7.95. 319pp. A fantasy story of faery having to give way to the coming of Christendom and this tragic theme is shown by the things that happened to the halflings - those born of the merman and a human woman. Told with sympathy and the usual Anderson elegance.

SONGS FROM THE STARS by Norman Spinrad, Sidgwick & Jackson, £6.95. 286pp. A post-holocaust story that certainly is different. Aquaria is a town that uses 'white' science and over the mountains is the society that uses 'black' science - the petroleum and atomics that nearly destroyed Earth. This is full of ideas that expand with the story. It is entirely believable that the 'white' science would flourish on clandestine use of the 'black'..and that each society would have much to offer the other if ever they could get together. Told with verve and panache.

THE SHADOW OF THE TORTURER by Gene Wolfe, Sidgwick & Jackson, £7.95. 301pp. Book one of the Book of the New Sun. Severian is an apprentice of the torturer's Guild whose life is disrupted when he falls in love with a prisoner and for her sake disobeys the rules. His punishment is to be sent to a distant town. By the end of this first book he has only reached the Gate at the exit of the vast City. I feel that this book has only scraped the surface of the society revealed in Severian's adventures..weird, wonderful and totally absorbing. I can only think of Gormengast as being so fantastic and yet believable. I really must read the next two books!

SUNFALL: by C.J. Cherryh, DAW pb. \$2.25. 158pp. The sun of earth is dying and this tells of what happens in the Cities that are left..Paris, London, Moscow, Rome, New York and Peking. Each tale stands on its own and is told through a central character and in this way the background is beautifully revealed. There are some wonderful descriptions..Moscow surrounded by snow, Peking surrounded by barren plains, and New York towering higher and higher. The characters too are tragic and in many ways symbolical. A fine work of imagination.

DOOMTIME by Doris Piserchia, DAW pb. \$2.25. 173pp. Two Everest-high Trees dominate Earth- humans are subservient to them. Creed lives in the City of Neo and his desire for knowledge sends him out to struggle against the Trees. A strange story and vividly imagined. The author's style is also strange, abrupt and often disconcerting.

SECOND GAME by Charles V. De Vet & Katherine MacLean, DAW pb. \$2.25. 158pp. An alien culture is encountered by Mankind's Ten Thousand Worlds- much like humans but with a warrior culture that is rigid and not open to negotiation. One man is sent to investigate the culture and one thing he finds is that they are game-playing enthusiasts. Fairly predictable but with many shrewd twists and always enjoyable and entertaining.

THE 1981 ANNUAL WORLD'S BEST SF edited by D.A. Wollheim with Art Saha, DAW pb. \$2.50 252pp. 10 stories, Sharon Webb writes of the problem of longevity; John Varley of sex-changing; Marion Zimmer Bradley of human isolation; Howard Waldrop of the extinct Dodo; Norman Spinrad of future entertainment; G.R.R. Martin of a weird expedition; Lisa Tuttle of an unusual alien invasion (this was the best I think); Bob Leman of an alien horror (and so the most horrific); Michael Coney of how man lost his aggression; and Lee Killough of the end of the world. Good value!

JUNIPER TIME by Kate Wilhelm, Arrow pb. £1.60. 280pp. Alpha is a space satellite abandoned for years whilst Earth suffers a devastating draught. Three men hope to re-start Alpha. Cluny is one, son of the man who started the project, Jean is the daughter of the astronaut who lost his life there. The story goes from one to the other- some striking passages when Jean goes to live with Red Indians, and Cluny's involvement with Alpha and politics. Both a beautiful and frightening story.

THE MAGIC OF CAMELOT by Arthur H. Landis, DAW pb. \$2.25. 207pp. Rousing yarn of magic and aliens, the further adventures of Kyriw Fern.

FLOW MY TEARS, THE 1st ICEMAN SAID by Philip K. Dick, DAW pb. \$2.25 208pp. The J.W. Campbell Memorial Award Winner.

Nibblings

ROBOT IN THE CLOSET by Ron Goulart. DAW pb. \$1.95. 160pp. Roscoe is a time-machine robot hired by Sara to trace her family tree. Sara's reluctant boy-friend Tim accompanies them back to San Francisco two days before the Earthquake is due. Plenty of adventures but rather a standard Goulart.

BLOOD COUNTY by Curt Selby. DAW pb. \$2.25. 176pp. Blood is a mountain town in America, ruled by a vampire. This is a vivid tale, a real horror story. As I don't like horror stories I did not like this one, but have to admit it is powerfully told.

SCIENCE FICTION SPECIAL 37 Two Books in one volume. BLIND VOICES by Tom Reamy. THE ULTIMAX MAN by Keith Laumer. £8.95. 254pp plus 217pp. Sidgwick & Jackson. Danny is a small-time crook kidnapped by an alien intending to use him as a guinea-pig to assess human potential. The alien does not really bargain for the double-dealing Danny—this one is quite good fun. BLIND VOICES is set in the 1920s when Haverstock's Wonder Show rides into a small American town. Three teenage girls attend the show and what they first thought of as trickery becomes frighteningly real. The atmosphere of the time and place is extremely well done and the story mounts up to a exciting climax.

QUANTUM SPECIAL 2 Two books in one volume. THE FAR CALL by Gordon Dickson. IN THE HALL OF THE MARTIAN KINGS by John Varley. Sidgwick & Jackson. £8.95. 414pp plus 316pp. THE FAR CALL is really one for those interested in the technicalities of space-flight, in the dangers and the politics that surround such ventures. IN THE HALL OF THE MARTIAN KINGS is a collection of 9 short stories with an introduction by Algis Budrys.

THE REPAIRMEN OF CYCLOPS by John Brunner. DAW pb. \$2.25. 159pp. The Corps Galactica has a base on the planet Cyclops. Alura is the woman who rules the planet; when her lover is injured and taken to the Base this triggers off a series of events that has her demanding the removal of the Base. Cyclops is hiding a ghastly secret which the Base is in danger of exposing and there is now a race against time for the Base personnel. Exciting and interesting.

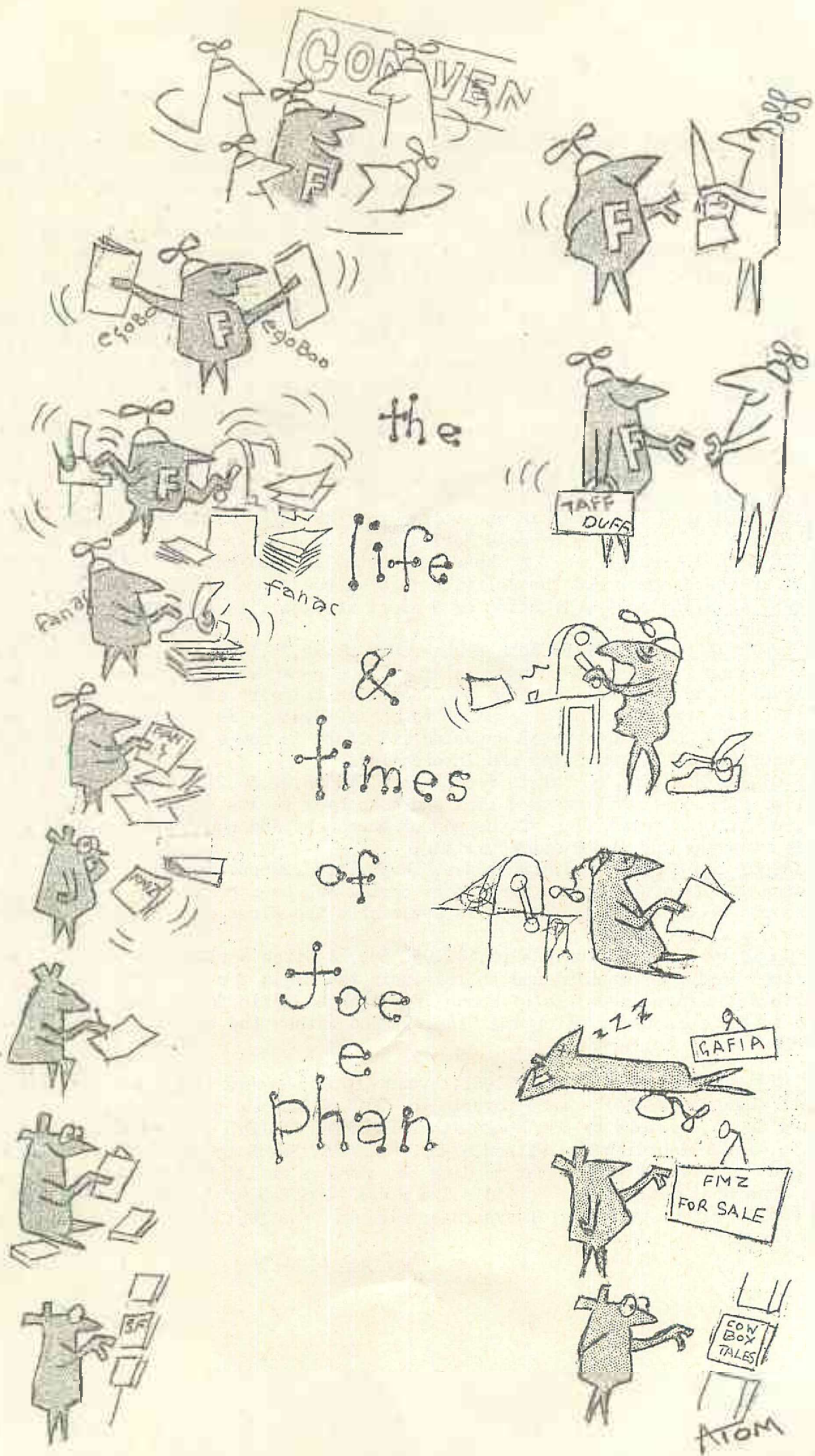
HADON OF ANCIENT OPAR by Philip José Farmer. DAW pb. \$2.50. 224pp. Farmer takes the theme of Burrough's Atlantean colony and goes back to its beginnings. This was written with the permission of the son of Burroughs and continues the tradition of high fantasy and imaginative writing.

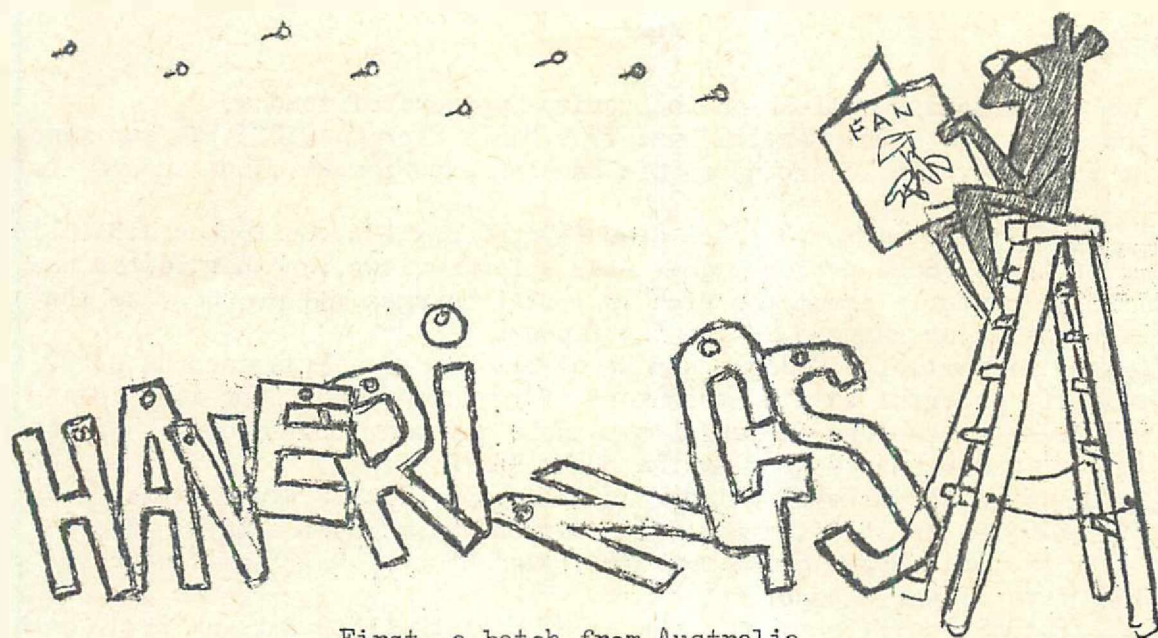
BANNERS OF THE SA'YEN by B.R. Stateham. DAW pb. \$2.25. 206pp. The story of a lost spaceman who is greeted as a Lord whose coming has been prophesied. It is told by one who becomes a disciple and is apparently the first of a series. Adventure in the grand tradition.

HORN CROWN by Andre Norton. DAW pb. \$2.95. 255pp. A Witch World novel that tells of the first coming of mankind and so this sets the basis for the entire series. It describes the first meetings of humankind with the magic forces that prevail there in the persons of Eltun the Clanless and Gatheia the Wide Woman. One for the Witch World collectors.

STARSHIP MAGAZINE: No 41. Spring 1981. 1 year \$10.60. 2 years \$18.80. I am British Agent. cheques should be made payable to ALGOL PRESS and sent to me. 1 year £4.85. 2 years £9.50. Article by Sam Moskowitz I REMEMBER DERLETH full of fascinating details. Interview with R...Wilson. SINS OF THE REVIEWERS by George Martin is from the point of view of the writer reading the reviews whilst he gnashes his teeth. James Gunn next analysing Hein's THE PUPPET MASTERS, and after this comes Fred Pohl's column which is always entertaining. The last column of reviews by Susan Wood is brilliant.

Ethel Lindsay





First...a batch from Australia..

SIKANDER:Nos 3&4:From:Irwin Hirsh,279 Domain Rd.South Yarra.Vict.3141.Australia \$1 or trade etc. Irwin makes the valid point that fan editors owe it to their contributors to pass on any comment received about their work. This is a genzine and Irwin has quite a lot of contributors, the most amusing was by David Grigg on a meeting with his agent. Rather low-keyed but a likeable zine.

THE MENTOR:Nos 29&30:From:Ron L.Clarke,6 Bellevue Rd.Faulconbridge,N SW 2776. \$1. This is another genzine which also has fiction. It is also valuable for a series of articles on the history of Australian fandom.

ORNITHOPTER:No 7:From:Leigh Edmonds,PO Box 433,Civic Square,Canberra,ACT 2608 This reviews A HISTORY OF AUSTRALIAN FANDOM 1935-1963 which had been serialised in THE MENTOR. This leads Leigh on to a general musing about the interesting subject of writing fan history. There is more editorial writing in this one so giving it more personality.

ERIC B.LINDSAY:Nos 9&12:From:Eric B.Lindsay,6 Hillcrest Ave.,Faulconbridge,NSW 2776. I liked Eric's ideas of a "relaxicon". Very much a personal zine, easy in style and pleasant to read. I admire his attitude to cars and must quote.. "if a part falls off, and the car doesn't stop, it obviously wasn't an important part..". That rather sums up his attitude to life which I find enjoyable to read about. As for his ambition to be a slum landlord, he really ought to make that a millionaire slum landlord. No use dreaming by half!

CHUNDER!:Nos:Vol.41-5.Vol.5 No 1:From:John Foyster,21 Shakespear Grove,St Kilda Victoria.3182. 8/\$2 or trade.The first issue has an enthusiastic report of the N.Zealand con that augers well for its future.After that there is a highly entertaining view of Seacon from George Turner. This also is mainly a personal zine and has some instalments of John's SEACON visit; as John is one of the good writers of fandom this starts in fine fashion. He also tells with restraint the poignant story of the death of their new-born baby. Haven't suffered a sudden death in my own family recently my condolences are sincerely felt.
a few from Canada..

NEW CANADIAN FANDOM:No 1:From:Robert Runte & Michael Hall,c/o Box 4655,Southside P.O.Edmonton,Alberta,Canada T6E 5G5, 4/\$2.Sample on request.A very handy newszine of mainly Canadian items, covering cons,clubs and zines.Useful too for new fans.

NEOLOGY:No 6:From:NCF,PO Box 4655,S.Edmonton,Alberta,Canada T6G 0Y9.4/\$2.Sample on request. Newsletter of the Edmonton SF and Comic Art Assoc.News plus letters and reviews. Some good advice for fanzine editors.

ZOSMA:Nos 14&15:From:Steve George,94 Brock St.Winnipeg,Manitoba,R3N 0Y4,Canada. 50¢ or trade. Mostly book and film reviews but a nice too-short article from Mary Long brightened things up.

and now to the US of A..

DYNATRON:No74:From:Roy Tackett,915 Green Valley Rd.NW,Albuquerque,N.Mexico 87107. 50¢ or trade etc.An interesting editorial on the rise of fantasy in the sf field heralds a welcome return to thisfanzine after quite a lull. Roy is dubious about continuing because of the cost of postage. This does seem a pity as he

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always has a refreshing outlook on the various aspects of fandom.

HAWAII:No 3:From:Seth Goldberg,PO Box 7309,Menlo Park,CA 94025,USA,Fapazine. App so no room for Seth to expand on his Hawaiian experiences...just enough to tantalise!

CULLOWHEE COMMENTS:No 6:From:Richard Llewellyn,PO Box 2349,Cullowhee,N.Carolina 28723.50¢ or trade. Some personal chat plus a few reviews..another editor who is complaining bitterly about the rise in postal charges,and prophesying that this could make major changes in fanzine fandom.

GENRE PLAT:No 4:From:Allyn Cadogan,435 Hayes St.No 38,San Francisco,CA 94102. \$1.Determinedly cheerful with contributors of the same mind. Best item is a lovely sideswipe at the use of jargon by Angela somebody, but coming a close second is Poul Anderson remembering the BURMA SHAVE signs.

SELDON'S PLAN:No 47:From:Wayne Third Foundation,Box 102,SCB,Wayne State Univ. Detroit,MI 48202.\$1 or trade.Editor:Brian Earl Brown.A genzine with quite a lot of good artwork. Eric Mayer gives some good vignettes of New York, and Brian muses about the future of world cons.

SHANGRI L'AFFAIRES:No 77:From:Los Angeles SF Society,11513 Burbank Blvd.North Hollywood,CA 91601.\$1 or trade. Good to see this zine flourishing again. I am enjoying the series by Len Moffatt where he remembers the many fans who have been LASFAS members. There is much discussion over the growing custom for wearing fantasy costumes at cons. There were two girls at Leeds who wore costumes all the con weekend, but I thought they looked rather lonely and I did not see them speaking with anyone. They are, of course, much more in the minority over here. SHAGGY spells out the pros and cons on this issue.

ZELOT:No 4 Zelook No 6:From:Ragnar Fyri,Bactrianus Enterprises,Solliveien 37,N 1370 Asker,Norway. The latter is a 30pp diary-type zine covering sf, fanzines, radio, and personal news and views. And how did it get among the USA zines, you may ask, well it is in English and I thought it looked like one. Particularly Zelot which is the Blue Zelot and a very good skit on the Pink Panther.

THE WRETCH TAKES TO WRITING:No 5:From:Cheryl Cline,1621 Detroit Ave.No 23,Concord CA 94520.For trade etc. All about wrestling! However also a lot about why people watch it and that is quite enlightening. Not my cup of tea though!

TELOS:No Gary Farber,Patricia & Teresa Nielson Hayden and Fred Haskell.\$1 or trade. Gary has a thoughtful editorial about how size has changed fandom.A Terry Carr column surprised me,didn't think he still wrote in zines, was glad to see his opinion of BEING THERE,that's one I can miss now.Now Richard Bergeron as a columnist! This zine sure brings out the talent...for next comes John D.Barry very acute about the way idiotic phrases spread through society.In the letter column after reading letters by Willis and Hoffman-I felt like Jean-Henri Holmberg when he wrote: "Gee, as they say, whiz, a real fanzine just like they used to make them." Easily the most riveting item is by Teresa writing about being excommunicated from the Mormon church.

JANUS:No 18:From:SF3,Box 1624,Madison,WI 53701.4/8.The name is to be changed to AUTORA. The post-holocaust theme as used by feminist writers is the subject of a fine article by Jeanne Gomoll. This theme is carried on by reviews of this type of book and the reproduction of a panel on the theme held at Noreastcon2. Quite a serious issue this time well worth reading for the new ideas it engenders.

PSFQ:No 5:From:Michael Ward,Box 1496,Cupertino,CA 95015.4/6.Very slick production. High point is an interview with Robert Silverberg considering his writing career and decision to start writing again.A fair amount about feminism in the letter column, that is not to be continued. Instead the articles discuss Speculative Poetry with a useful bibliography, and Human Electricity. A genzine then,but not easy to put in only that category.

NIEKAS:No 25:From:106 School St,Laconia,NH 03246.4/6.50. Again a handsome production. There are four editors but Ed Meskys handles the editorial/personal column. He describes New York fandom, guide dogs,sonar glasses, and associations for the blind. I hope the British Association compares favourably with the one Ed describes which does not provide proper service. This is another zine with a theme..that of religion and SF. The most interesting article is by Fred Lerner who quotes what religious writers have had to say about SF.

NAGINATA:Nos 5-8:From: Jessica Amanda Salmonson,Box 5688 University Station,Seattle

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Washington. 98105.6/\$6. This magazine, which is small and neat, is devoted to Amazons in fact and fiction. It covers an amazing territory..Chinese, Welsh, Russian, the Wild West, and Celtic. I found the Wild West women most remarkable..we never see anything like this on the screen! Jessica has many contributors who do a tremendous amount of research.

SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW: Nos 38&39: From: Richard E. Geis, PO Box 11408, Portland, OR 97211. \$2. This magazine reviews in depth a huge amount of SF books, plus a thorough coverage of the magazines. There is an interview with Jack Williamson in one issue and one with Gene Wolfe in the other. The latter is very interesting to anyone who has recently read his SHADOW OF THE TORTURER. Geis himself writes film reviews that are valuable, and he has a strong stable of contributors such as John Brunner, Ian Watson, Darroll Schweitzer, Larry Niven etc. His letter column attracts all those seriously interested in SF and able to write about it knowledgeably. Highly recommended.

YANDRO: No 252: From: Robert & Juanita Coulson, Route 3, Hartford City, Indiana. 47348
British Agent: Alan Dodd, 77 Stanstead Rd, Hoddesdon, Herts. 754 or 35p. Interested to see Buck defending the COSMOS tv programme of Sagan on the grounds that if the public want gurus it is better Sagan than Maharishis! There are 16pp of book reviews here, a very catholic coverage and full of Buck's trenchant humor. In the letter column I was amused at Darrell Schweitzer's semi-serious suggestion that the fanzine HUGO be awarded by fanzine reviewers...I bet there would suddenly be a lot of those critturs! Nice to see a few zine reviews creeping back into Y.

FANZINE DIRECTORY: No 3: From: Allan Beatty, PO Box 1906, Ames, IA 50010. \$1. This is a bibliography of fanzines published world-wide in 1977. Zines are listed in alphabetical order followed by editorial names and address. The editor promises the next issue will combine 1978 and 1979. Invaluable for the collector.

THE WHOLE FANZINE CATALOG: No 18/19: From: Brian Earl Brown, 16711 Burt Rd. No 207, Detroit, MI 48219. 4/\$2. A catalogue of recently published zines, handily sectioned into clubzines, newszines, zines by country. Again, valuable for the collector, and also anyone dipping a toe in the zine pond.

and now some British zines...

SING ME A SONG: From: Pete E. Presford, Ty-Gwyn, Maxwell Close, Bwcle, Clwvd. N. Wales. A personal zine that is a bit chaotic as Pete seems to be composing on stencil, and without any planning. Had he taken one subject and written about it thoroughly this would have been better. Certainly his thoughts on fandom and on standing as a Welsh candidate barely scrape the subjects.

FAN EXILED FROM TYNE ZINE: No 1: From: Alan Hamilton, 38 Park Way, Etwell, Derbyshire DE6 6HU. A personal zine in which he describes two incidents..an accident to the ship on which he was travelling and a visit to Dakar. More detail would have made both more readable. A paen of praise to his cat I skipped over lightly. Now I could write vividly about the cat across the road who makes a beeline for my garden. Cats sure won't foul their own garden!

TWILL-DDU: No 19: From: Dave Langford, 22 Northumberland Ave. Reading, Berks. RG2 7PW. 50p This has the start of Dave's Trip Report-which appears to be in sufficient detail to make it the type I like. It was inevitable that fandom would use satire on the writing style of Joseph Nicolas and here Dave really does a lovely job! I also enjoyed his way with a letter column. With this comes a one-shot titled VISITORS PASS which Dave published with Stu Shiffman. It is really a publicity sheet for TAFF giving a sample of what it will be like to read their respective TAFF reports (very very funny!). It is good to see this evidence of activity on behalf of TAFF..it augers well for the future!

SECOND-HAND WAVE: No 42: From: Alan Ferguson & Trev Briggs, 26 Hoecroft Court, Hoe Lane, Enfield, Middsx. EN3. The editorial informs us that "bad taste" is fashionable and (I take it,) laudable and that their zine is in this tradition. Humour is aimed for and mostly attained. At least once though unintentionally. That is where it is said in an article on music that "The old guard cling to the Beatles, Dylan and Floyd". My Old Guard clings to Crosby, Sinatra, and Gilbert & Sullivan.... I thought most of the cartoons were the funniest items.

THE CIDERAL TIMES: No 11: From: Allen Boyd-Newton, 42 Church Lane, Bicknoller, Via Taunton, Somerset. 35p. Book reviews are a feature being given more length than is usual. Fan fiction that requires knowledge of the fans involved for full benefit.

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WALDO: No 6: From: Eric Bentcliffe, 17 Roverside Crescent, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire CW4 7NR. Eric describes his visit to Canada and the US, I always find this sort of thing enjoyable and this was no exception. A good genzine with a John Berry story and lots of fans writing about when they first encountered SF.

ARENA SF: No 11: From: Geoff Rippington, 6 Rutland Gardens, Birchington, Kent. CT7 9SN 60p. The mainstay of this magazine is serious study of SF. The line-up is very impressive..a GOH speech by Kate Wilhelm, an interview with John Brunner, and another GOH speech by John Brunner. The latter was given in Poland and this adds a dimension to the remarks on how people face up to the future. Good book reviews are done by Brian Stableford, Dave Langford and Barry Bayley.

THE NEW GWENT REVIEW: No 1: From: Bryn Fortey, 46 London St. Newport, Gwent, NPT 8DG. Bryn is always original and I read his sad story of the demise of a Welsh industry with sympathy. The remainder of this issue is concerned with poetry and letter writers giving their views is stimulating. There are 3pp of poems by Lisa Conesa..I wish I could say I liked them but to me they are so melancholy. Grief and sadness I can understand but the state of melancholy always seems to me to be self-indulgent.

PHOENIX: No 1: From: The Association for Independent Disabled Self Sufficiency, 7 Alfred St. Bath. Avon. BA1 2QU. Edited by Pamela Boal. £1 for one year (4 issues). Pamela is, of course, a fan; and those who read of her horrid experiences with a wheelchair at the Brighton convention will understand why she is so involved with this Association. Subscribe, why don't you, and you will find it full of articles of benefit.

HINDMOST: No 2: From: The 42 Dundee SF Society, Editor Jon Wallace, 21 Charleston St Dundee. Angus. A clubzine, so there is a mixture of fiction, articles, poetry and a few letters. I'd suggest some personal notes about the club members to give this more personality.

ERG QUARTERLY: Nos 74 & 75: From: Terry Jeeves, 23C Bannerdale Rd. Sheffield. S11 9FE. 2/£1 or LOC plus 30p. Terry has started a MASA column giving all the latest news from there. Book reviews wander outside the narrow SF path in an intriguing way. Part 2 of Terry's Boston Trip Report is in 74 and copies of the complete report can be obtained by sending him 75p..that is if there are any left..he has not done a large amount of copies. It is detailed and entertaining. Both issues have useful articles on computers. A very good genzine.

Some newszines...

SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE: Published monthly by Algol Press, PO Box 4175, New York NY 10163. 1 year \$15, 2 years \$26. I am British Agent - 1 year £3.75. 2 years £15. Should you subscribe through me please make cheques payable to ALGOL PRESS. Professional printing and layout, very good photographic sections. The news items cover everything of note in the SF world from the forthcoming publications to the Nebula awards. Plus relevant editorials and stimulating and informative letters.

ANSIBLE: Published by Dave Langford, 22 Northumberland Ave. Reading. Berks. RG2 7PW 6/£1. Convention listings, convention reports, up-to-date news and fascinating gossip. Highly readable!

LOCUS: Published monthly by Locus Publications, PO Box 3938, San Francisco, CA 94119. \$1.50. British subscriptions can be made through FANTAST MEDWAY. All the latest publishing news, reviews, photographs, convention reports. Another that is highly useful to the writer and fan alike.

Some other useful critturs..

FANTAST MEDWAY LTD, 39 West St. Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 2LX put out monthly catalogues which often also contain news items and up to date con listings.

FANTASY CENTRE, 157 Holloway Rd. London N7 8LX. Regular catalogues

FERRET FANTASY LTD, 27 Beechcroft Rd. Upper Tooting, London SW17. Regular catalogues that feature early and rare SF in addition to modern SF. There is also a section now of detective fiction. Some of the items here are so tempting!

De Profundis: The Newsletter of the Los Angeles SF Society, 11513 Burbank Boulevard, N. Hollywood, CA 91601. 12/\$5 or trade. Club Minutes are gossipy and informative and amusing. The fan activities calendar is guaranteed to make you envious. Other news notes cover a wide field.

Haverings 5

DAGON: An APA-Q Zine published by John Boardman, 234 East 19th St. Brooklyn, New York 11226..every third Saturday Not just mailing comments..but John often discusse his ideas on American politics and has the kind of news not always printed in British papers. So valuable from that point of view and it is entertaining as well. Join the Aps or trade for this one.

That cleared a large pile..now I can comment as the sines roll in...

THE MENTOR:No 31:as before.John J.Alderson here on the popular subject of energy conservation. Bob Smith is entertaining on present day 'fannishness', as is A. Bertram Chandler on a variety of topics. This also has Part vii of the history of Australian fandom by Vol. Molesworth..this bit dealing with schisms is very absorbing. A good genzine.

GENENSHEIN:From,Eric B Lindsay,c/o 6 Hillcrest Ave,Faulconbridge,NSW 2776. Australia. \$1.60A. A nicely relaxed personalzine, enhanced by a good letter-column. Enjoyed Eric's description of a visit to a hobby-computer exhibit.

Intermediate Vector Bosons:No 3:From:Harry J.N.Andruschak,Box 606,La Canada-Flintridge,Cal.91011. \$2 or trade.Genzine that has such high features as an article by Burbee and another by Bloch. Both hugely funny needless to say. A continuation of histories of the apas has Terry Jeeves writing about OMPA and Taral writing about Canadian apas. Harry himself keeps us up to date about JPL.

ZOSMA:No 16:From:as before. Steve in his editorial is quite firm that his fanzine shall be a hobby, not a chore, an attitude I applaud. This is mainly a blend of book and film reviews with some letters in between. I liked the friendly atmosphere and the leisurely discussion of what makes good fan-writing.

NIKKAS:No 26:From: as before. 60pp and in small print makes this good value. Top marks to Ed Meg's column, he has been in fandom long enough to take a tolerant view of most things and to give vivid descriptions of fandom.I cannot itemise all the good things in this one..the contents range over all types of literature and all contributions are highly polished. Reviews are particularly valuable and letters are informative. On all fronts-very professional and yet without any stuffiness. Highly recommended.

Groggy Tales:No 12:From:Eric Mayer and Kathy Malone,140F Powers Lane,Rochester, N.York 14624. Eric fills the issue himself this time, he takes the birth of his daughter, the death of Lennon and memories of his Grandfather and weaves this into an enthralling piece of writing. Congratulations to you Eric, and Kathy on the advent of Fleur!

DRIFTING SOUL:No 1:From:Mike Hamilton,38 Park Way,Etwell,Derbyshire,DE6 6HU.No price 7pp.Main item a description of the reasons why superstition is still rife on modern ships. Very logically worked out. Slim promising zine.

STEFANTASY: NO 11:From:William M.Danner,R.D.1 Kennerdell,PA 16374.Obtainable by editorial whim only, ask and you may receive, no price but he will expect some response. The editor produces this on his own printing press and the coloured ATOM cover is just lovely. This zine specialises in experimental use of type, in hoax adverts(Join the Kook of the Month Club)and interesting, sometimes hilarious extracts from back issues of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. The letter column improves with every issue.

DE PROFUNDIS:No 128:From The Los Angeles SF Society,Inc.11513 Burbank Blvd.,North Hollywood,Calif.91601.This newsletter describes the activities of the most active SF club in the world. Some idea of their scope comes with the news that they will buy a 16mm film projector for \$1000!

STRAWBERRY B K:No 4:From:F.Browne,34 Gillies Place,Broughty Ferry,Dundee,Angus or W.Herbert,Brasenose College,Oxford.30p plus 14p stamp.A university fanzine so mostly poetry and fiction.Two of the poems are outstanding, one by Bill Herbert and one by Judith Schaufeld because they had something to say and were not just stringing words together. Obviously a good place for budding writers.

FANZINE FANATIQUE:No 41:From Keith & Rosemary Walker,6 Vine St.,Greaves,Lancaster Lancs.LA1 4UF. Comprehensive fanzine listings plus reviews. 3/\$1 or 6/£1

DEAD TREES:No 2:From:Ken Josenhams,116 Burcham Rd.East Lansing,MI 48823.No price. Thoughtful start by Ken discussing ethics now that"duplicating technology is rapidly outstripping both the principles and the laws involved in copyright". Annelaurie Logan next produces a guide for a polygamous lifestyle, I guess it is something badly needed these days. There is also a good column by Marty Siegrist.

Haverings 6

THE SF AND F JOURNAL: No 91: From Don Miller, 12315 Judson Rd. Wheaton, Maryland. 20906. \$2.25. 70pp. Good start with Gene Wolfe's idea of staging the worst convention of all time. Must say his idea of siting the con in the Bible Belt struck me as very shrewd. There is an index to the magazine NEBULA. After this news and reviews which cover a wide field and which I find valuable. With this comes Don's other slimmer zines (he has been sick and yet is a prodigious worker) THE GMS INFORMANT 13-15 which covers SF, Mystery and Boardgaming, an incredible amount of news and reviews are crammed in here. There is also three supplements to The Journal which is concerned with "overflow" which gathers in fanzine reviews and lists of published books. Highly recommended.

ICOSAHEDRON: No 1: From: Moira J. Shearman, 25 Scott St. Dundee, Angus. Moira calls this a one-off personalzine but response may change this! She appears to be chiefly interested in fantasy and everything is held up in the light of Tolkien. In discussing fantasy she says she would rather wait for a good book than have the writer rush into publication. For this reason she praises Katherine Kurtz who is refusing to hand over a new book in the Deryni series until she is satisfied with it herself. Moira then gives a thoughtful review of the books of Kurtz, let's hope she does continue to publish a fanzine!

SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE: Nos 11&12. as before. Photographic work is even more lavish, particularly in the coverage of the American Bookseller's convention. There is a good close-up on the DAW 10th anniversary cake! Among the many news items I note with pleasure that Terry Carr will be reviving the ACE SPECIALS.

HAWAII: No 4: From: Seth Goldberg, PO Box 7309, Menlo Park, Ca 94025. Fapazine, but is generally available. This one has Seth discussing scientific research and the Hugo awards.

NEXUS: No ? : From: Mike Gay, Bridge Chambers, Bridge St., Leatherhead, Surrey. KT22 8BN. 30p but 50p by mail. Professionally printed it is a "forum for pictorial and reprographic collectors, fans, and readers. Mainly aimed at collectors but also has hints on publishing, letters and want lists.

STOP BREAKING DOWN: No 7: From: Greg Pickersgill, 7a Lawrence Rd, South Ealing, London W5. 30p in stamps or trade etc. Chris Atkinson first, describing her sexual fantasy life which seems pretty weird to me, I guess this shows how mundane I am. Next comes Linda Pickersgill's thoughts whilst housekeeping, I felt much more sympathetic to this article. Greg himself writes about the Leeds convention and his strictures on the fan room being placed in a bar are very true. From this he moves to discussion of the Doc Weir award and is very indignant at it being won by John Brunner. His objections are that it should be awarded to a fan but of course a fan according to his definition. Why his definition should exclude John Brunner and yet not exclude Bob Shaw who won it the year before, I do not understand. I can, however, agree with him over his thoughts on TAPF. It was useful in the beginning when we were all so hard up that a trip to the US was a dream -- but if Dave Langford is really having to run around drumming up custom then it is time to stop. After all if fans want to meet a specific fan there are always things like the very successful Tucker Fund. A stimulating fanzine but if there isn't something in it somewhere to shock you I doubt the editor will be disappointed.

SMALL FRIENDLY DOG: No 20: From: Skel and Cas, 25 Bowland Close, Offerton, Cheshire, SK2 5NW. This uses a diary-type format which is one I always enjoy. This time, however, it mostly consists of extracts from logs with some comments on them by Skel. Sorry to hear that Cas has been unwell and hope she improves soon. Main thing from Skel is a simplified explanation of British politics by him for overseas readers.

AURORA SF: No 19: From: SF3, Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701. 3/\$6, Overseas 3/\$8. Formerly JANUS. The SF stands for Speculative Feminism. Madison's group does not have the club-room of the Lasfas but a study of their programme shows that they are equally active, notably in the taking part in tv and radio. Letters begin this issue and among other things, decries the tendency to thinking in black and white. Suzette Haden Elgin writes about linguistics as used in SF, and how wrong this often is used. This issue has as a theme... communication. Terry Garey discusses how to do so in poetry and is very good about what to avoid. How we communicate and the problems that would result in alien communication is dealt with thoughtfully by John F. Alexander. Rather frightening is Otein's ideas on the future effect of video games. The reviews are excellent and the production is a treat to the eye.

Haverings 7

OUT OF THE BLUE:No 3:From Harry Bell & Kevin Williams,9 Lincoln St.Gateshead,Tyne & Wear,NE5 4EE. trades send 2nd copy to Kevin at 9 Whitton Pl.,Seaton Delaval, Northumberland. 30p or trade etc. This features part of Peter Robert's TAFF Trip..where he encounters Disneyland..British fans reaction to this always interests me but on the whole Peter did not curl his lip very much.There is a brilliant article by Andy Firth about the human trait of humming to yourself. I wish though he had told me how I could stop doing it..there are some days when a tune drives me mad! Another highlight is-a Bob Shaw speech. A good-natured fanzine that I enjoy.

SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW:No 40:as before.This one has a fascinating telephone conversation mainly between Arthur C.Clarke and Harlan Ellison. There is a very perceptive essay on the meaning of SF by Barry Malzberg. I thought the film reviews by Dick himself were particularly useful this time. I also appreciated Dick's fine tribute to James H.Scmitz who sadly died this year.

ARENA SF:No 12:From:as before.I think of this as Britain's answer to SF REVIEW; certainly the serious coverage of SF is as high. James Corlay on religion and SF has some new thoughts to offer. Ian Watson describes some pitfalls that await writers. Richard Cowper is interviewed; having recently read his 'Corley' books I found this illuminating. There is a good letter column discussing the merits of previous reviews and, of course, the reviews in depth are valuable.

HARLOT:No 2:From:Avedon Carol,4409 Woodfield Rd. Kensington,MD 20795 & Anne Laurie Logan & Ken Josenhans,116 Burcham,E.Lansing,MI 48823.Trades- one to each editor. Most of the material is by Avedon and Anne; they cover a variety of subjects such as US politics, crowd psychology and fannish doings.Most amusing bit is from Jeanne Gomoll describing her Graduation Day. Undoubtedly a fannish zine which assumes you know everyone mentioned.

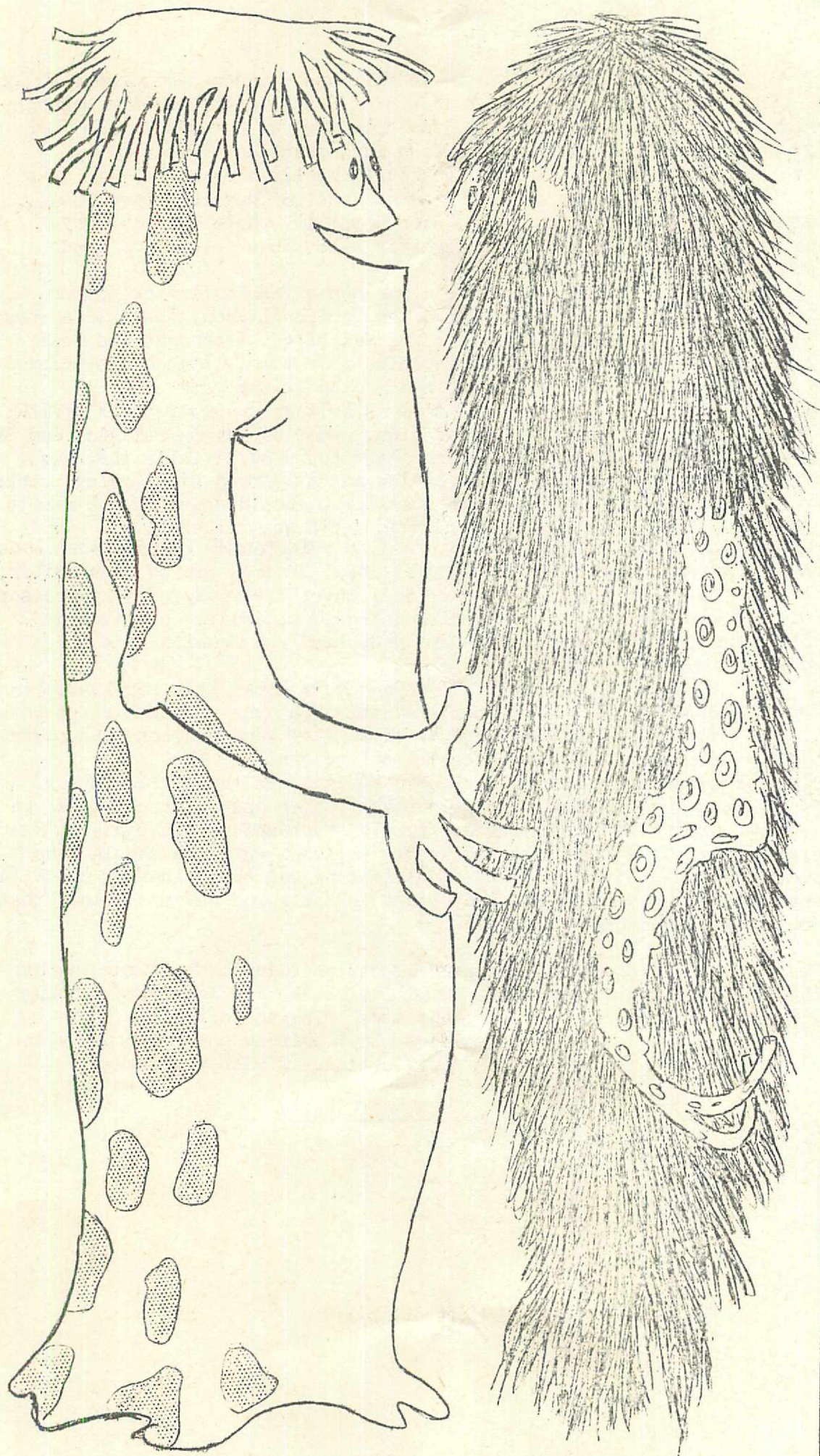
THE SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR:No 15:From:c/o Pandora's Books Ltd.,Box 1298,Altona Manitoba,ROG OBO CANADA.6/\$9.Tabloid form.bimonthly.Contains a checklist of Laser Books,Perils of Pulp Collecting,Bibliography of William Hope Hodgson plus pages and pages of material for sale. Ideal for all collectors.

THE FANTASY CENTRE:From:as before. There is in addition to the sf listings of books for sale a supplement devoted to detective fiction and reference books in this genre. I am sorely tempted but need a tumble dryer before the winter!

DAGON:FROM:as before: This time,John has kindly enclosed cuttings showing the reaction to the Royal Wedding in the US. Most amusing was the columnist whose 'aunt' thought there was a great career for Lady Diana in Hollywood and who opined that she "could be bigger than Julie Andrews".

Which brings me to the end of the fanzine comments as today I start running off on my trusty machine for the last time. I will miss the fanzine stream coming through my door, the constant surprises that they bring and often the sheer delight. I am not going to make any promises about writing a loc for every one that I now receive, I guess I could not sustain that. I will try though.

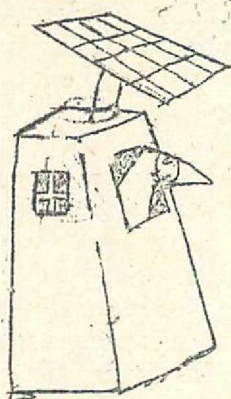
Ethel Lindsay



"THE THING ABOUT THIS A4 PAPER... IT ALLOWS US
LARGER TYPE BEMS TO GET INTO PRINT"



Robert Coulson: The passive solar house appeals to the sort of "little people" who have the kind of money necessary to buy the land, pay a contractor for building the house, etc. I wouldn't mind having one, but I can't afford it. What the hell good does Roy think a house like that is going to do twelve million people in New York City? Small-scale solar power advocates all seem to have one thing in common -- money...I expect a lot of people dread retirement because they don't know what to do except get up and go to a job. Some undoubtedly like their jobs and dislike quitting, but most seem to dread all that spare time. Of course I'd retire tomorrow if I could afford it, but then everyone says I'm weird. If I retired tomorrow, I just might be able to read all the unread books around here before I die. I have

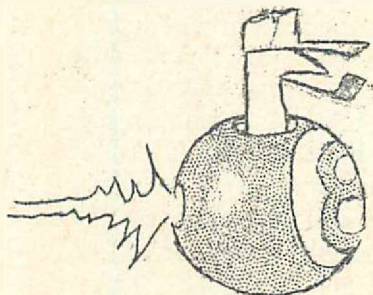


plenty of things to keep me busy without wasting time on work.***I know a couple of women who are dreading retirement and all that spare time.***

Eddie Bundred: "Thanks for SCOT 81 and for publishing my letter, although it was embarrassing to see the number of grammatical errors. I'm not sure how many were my own fault and how many were misprints. I feel I must agree with the Hirsch letter in praise of ATOM. His illustrations especially for the letters are excellent. Eric Needham's article was completely incomprehensible"***I do not think I ever made grammatical errors but now that I have gone there is a vacant title for Queen of the Typos.***



William M. Danner: I have just finished reading Scottish 81 which came this morning and am starting this letter before lethargy and laziness and procrastination scuttle the idea. I'm sorry you're ditching Scottish for it's one of the two fanzines I always read from cover to cover upon receipt, despite your well-known typos, misspellings etc. When your time is all your own seems an odd time to drop it, but I know how it is. When I was working I seemed somehow to have more time for hobbies than I have had since, but of course I was a lot younger then. Anyway, I'm glad you're enjoying retirement as I knew you would. I've been enjoying it for 33 years now. At times recently I didn't think I'd make it; I've had a peculiar new sort of virus that causes



what are not quite dizzy spells, but a sort of whirling sensation in the head. The Doctor put me on something called Papaverine. At times I feel back to normal, but this bug seems a hard one to shake. I'm beginning to think I may live; but that first spell was a real one, and for a second or two I was sure I was dying right then and there. It's hell to get old, but as Eddie Stuart of Pgh used to say, there's no use complaining about getting old, because when you stop getting old you're dead!*** The way to face old age is to lower your sights a bit and greet it with contentment***

Letters 2

Sid Birchby: "Thanks for SCOT 81 which is perhaps the most nearly sane of fan-zines, refreshingly free of those elaborate Faghoot-type puns which are now taking hold in the mundane world, and other baroque forms of mirth. Would you agree that 44 years in the NHS drives a person completely sane - or otherwise? Come to think of it, fanzines nowadays do far less to damage the mind than the BBC News or the Guardian, and some of us who joined fandom to escape from reality might suspect that we took reality with us, because the world news is now so senseless that no SF editor in his right mind would buy it. For example, the current spy farce—who would pay for a story about a bunch

of homosexual double-agents including 'Cassandra' of the 'Daily Mirror', the Keeper of the Queen's pictures, and possibly the former head of MI5? Not even Robert Sheckley, master of the surreal, could sell that, and certainly not Len Deighton. It's a pantomime-world, where the Principal Boy is a girl, and vice-versa. Fandom is much more logical, and a Good Thing. You asked about my Hummadruz enquiry into unidentified sounds. Mainly of interest to Fortean, perhaps, just as ley lines were a few years back, and not really fannish. Part of my other interest. I am not just a pretty face, said he, combing his whiskers." Pamola Boal: "You can imagine your Natterings were of extra interest to me this

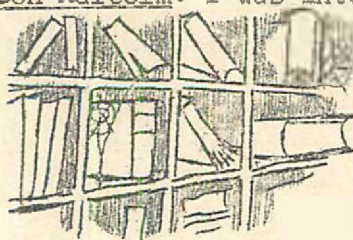
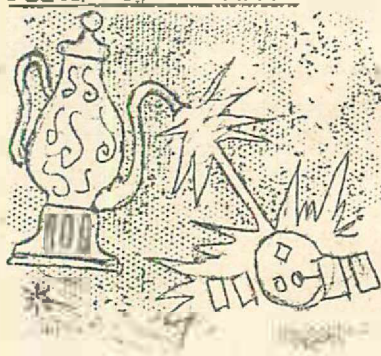
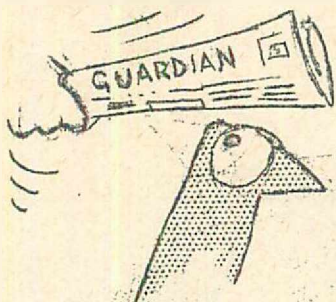
time. I do hope something comes out of the meetings of the voluntary societies. In this area they have been happening for some time and are grandly titled "The Carcing Network". Alas, people pay lip service to the notion of finding out what other groups and organisations have to offer but really only want to air their own problems and are terrified that co-operation would mean loss of their own scare funds or workers. AIDS has grown from two housebound people to a national membership. We enjoy a good deal of respect from other organisations because we practise what we preach-cooperation." ** The

result of the meetings of all the local organisations was a committee of various representatives. A deathly silence after that will not surprise you!***

Aller Boyd-Newton: "Thanks again for SCOT and feel very sad that publication is soon due to cease. It's always a pleasure to receive (much like ERG), one knows more or less what to expect, not as if you were trying to set the world on fire failing and burning yourself out in the process..three issues at most before the said fanned gaffiates for good... With the news that America has tracked a killer satellite recently (a Russian one that supposedly destroyed a Russian satellite) one tends to become a little pessimistic and wonder whether it's wise for the human race to leave this planet, especially if we take our paranoid and warlike tendencies with us..Letters are delightful and amusing and

it's at least half due to Atom's cartoons "I'd argue with you here..not all humans are paranoid and war-like. It seems to me that if you were sitting out in space surveying humans since the days of the cavemen - you might see a little improvement! I am going to quote here from "alcolm muggridge..." "It seemed to me that just having an enormously more powerful weapon altered nothing! it was the will to destroy rather than the means which mattered..the crossbow is only different from nuclear weapons in degree, not in kind."

Don Malcolm: "I was interested in your comments about libraries. I tend not to use libraries more than I have to, being one of that vanishing tribe of book buyers. I have a book cellar as some people have a wine cellar with always a selection of books laid down for future reading. Basically I like to own the books I read. On a practical level I have been forming a comprehensive library for many years for my own use and for my sons in the future..I think that the day of the free lending library is long past and that the system is abused."



Letters 3

One library in which I worked was in a rural middle-class area with a very high proportion of home ownership. It was instructive to listen to the conversations about exotic holidays, expensive cars, house extensions, etc and watching books being taken out by the bag load. The thought of actually buying a book didn't enter most of their minds"*** Oh how I disagree! The cheapest hardback these days is £5..how many of those do you think I can afford? I am a very fast reader and gobble down at least one a day. Were it not that I am quite happy to re-read a favourite book I should sometimes be in sad straits!***

Harry Warner: "The trouble with passive solar houses is that they would solve only one part of the energy problem, the residential heating part, even if they could make it super-efficient. Moving everyone into them wouldn't affect the energy needs for factories transportation, electricity, public buildings, and all the other major demands. The year when fossil fuels are used up would be moved back by a few years. Collecting solar power in space and beaming it back to earth would cover every form of energy needs. But I don't really expect to see any major action toward this or any other solution until the year of reckoning comes a little closer. Men and women generally begin to reach positions of authority when they're in their 30s, they can expect to retire about

25 or 30 years later, and if the energy shortage won't become desperate within 30 years, why should they worry? If the crisis seems to be only 20 years in the future, we can expect things to happen at the orders of executives who want to make sure they still have jobs up to retirement age."***That sounds very cynical, Harry and also very true.***

Eric Needham: "You could supplement your income quite easily. Your expertise in ophthalmology should enable you to devise some golfing bifocal lenses to sell to the golfing fraternity round Carnoustie. These bifocals enable you to look down and see a very tiny golf-ball. Then you look up and see a very large golf-club. You hit the golf-ball with the very large club, and then by holding your head like this you see a very small golf-ball drop into a very large hole. You ought to make a fortune...I'm in a Retirement Society too but all that ever happens is that I listen to the Minutes of the last meeting, eat a biscuit, drink a cup of tea, pay 10p into the Dead Loss Fund and go home again.

Oh, I tell you, the suspense of waiting for the Annual General Meeting is unbearable!" ***I doot you are nae golfor; you use a putter for holeing the ball.***

We also heard from and wish to thank?....

Michael Moorcock to whom, as ever, best wishes

George Grieff, who said very nice things about SCOT

Roy and Deedee Lavendar who always send nice letters and fascinating cuttings

Mary Long who I hope will accept this in lieu of the letter I owe her

Peter Singleton who is to be congratulated on making progress

Harry Andruschak, Jon Wallace, Arnold Aikien who should know their letters were very much appreciated. Same goes for Ragnar Fyri

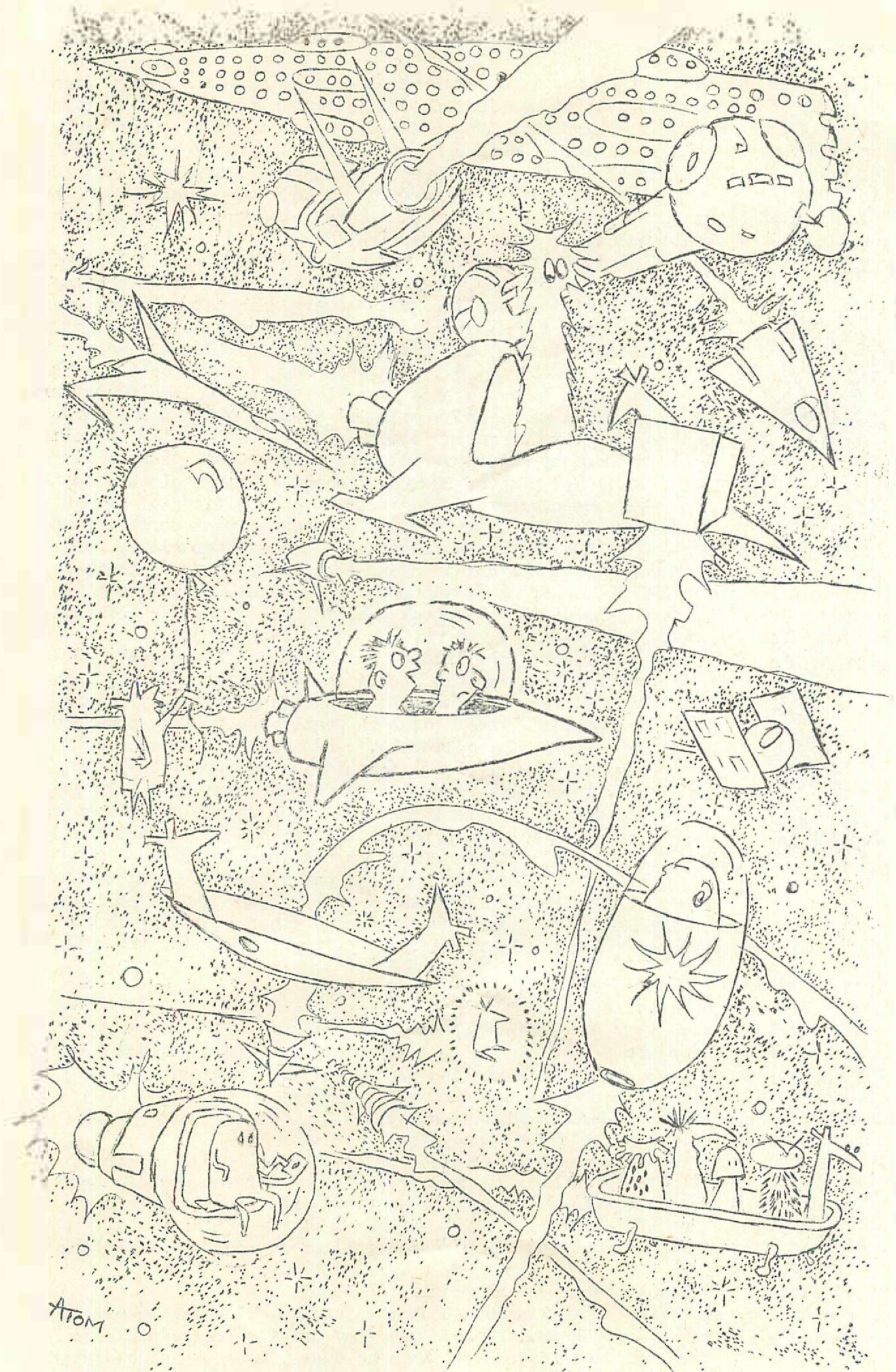
Alan Ferguson, a wise chap who says that Forfar Bridies beat Cornish pasties any day. Peter Nicholls..glad to hear things are easing up for you. John Brunner -I'll miss your postcards! Walt Willis who keeps promising to write but never does, anyway, thanks for the clipping.

Eric Needham who informs me that the Soviet Union invited a group of sf writers for a two week tour.

Roger Waddington who kindly passes on his copies of LOCUS.

Eric Lindsay who entertains by telling me about the fan who got a loc to him and to me thoroughly mixed up..and adds.."reminds me of my original correspondence with Buck Coulson, from some ten years back, when he nearly made the same mistake ..but Buck doesn't make mistakes"!

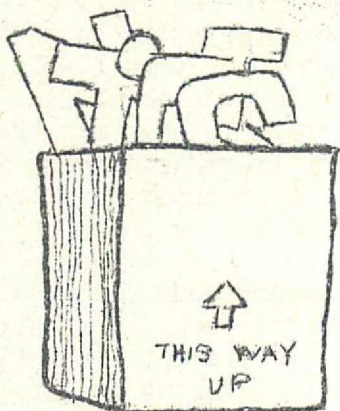




ATOM

"GET INTO SPACE, YOU SAID ... GET AWAY FROM IT ALL ... YOU SAID.."

WATERING



I have approached the last issue of SCOTTISHE with some sadness, but also with feelings of relief. The latter were especially predominant when I had to pay £5.29 for a tube of ink. At one time, duplicating was such a cheap way of producing a fanzine, alas that time is receding. I should think that shorter print runs will be the way most fanzine editors tackle the problem and reader response will be essential if you wish to obtain fanzines. We may well see the end of the 999 lists! I am happy to say that my trusty duplicator will be going into the hands of fanzine producers. May they have as much fun as I have had and find their biggest rewards in the friends they make as I have done. Be warned however the day you feel guilty because you have not been cutting stencils is the day that you are hooked.

Some people have kindly asked me to write for them now that SCOT will be off my hands; but there is only one fanzine where I think I would feel at home and that is YANDRO. I have been asked to continue my column there but I doubt that it will appear soon. I want to revel in a bit of freedom from this typewriter. Still, I do have an itch to write or else SCOT would never have come out all those years, or perhaps I should say a need to communicate. I have never wished to be a writer of fiction, but I do like nattering about whatever is interesting me and goodness knows there is always something.

I had hoped to have MachiaVarley in this last issue but fate is against me. He is once again being moved and house-hunting and removal problems are what concerns him at the moment. I had high hopes of an article about his holiday this year for he and Frances went for a residential week at a school at which they took two courses - one on Bridge and the other on Philosophy. Brian said he expected to end the week feeling philosophical about his Bridge.

Only enough I had been thinking quite a lot this year about my philosophy of life; it seemed to be forever creeping into the conversation. It is easily summed up, I'm afraid there is nothing profound about it. It consists of two clichés - "Done's done" and "Life is too short to worry about that".

The first can be explained by another cliché 'No use crying over spilt milk' and that is something I have never done. One thing that is helpful to me in avoiding such a useless practice is that I have a shockingly bad memory. Should I do any very stupid thing - in a few months the details will have become completely hazy. A bad memory means you can remember every little detail and can blush furiously over again. Not me - I

Natterings 2

have forgotten all about it. The same applies if someone hurts my feelings; the sting dies quickly when you can no longer be sure what was said or why. When I was younger I used to be bothered quite a lot by my bad memory, now that I am older I can see that too good a memory is not a particular blessing. It also helps if you have no desire to linger over the bad patches, to mull over wrongs, to stew over what can't be altered. I was always in complete sympathy with Scarlett O'Hara when she said "I'll think about it tomorrow."

The second saying "Life is too short to worry about that" has been with me since I was eighteen. I was then a very junior nursing probationer when one day the Ward Sister told me to go to the end of the ward and sit beside a man who appeared to be sound asleep. She did not tell me why - those were the days when you were liable to be told "You are not here to think, Nurse". For about twenty minutes I sat, glad that for once I need not dash around the ward, and listening to this man breathe easily in and out. Then he suddenly stopped, between one breath and the next he was gone. That was the first time I encountered death and my chief reaction at the time was great surprise.

Since that day I have seen death many times, some easy like this (the best kind), some very hard, some slow and some so quick that not all the desperate efforts could prevent it. I learned to take in my stride the dressing of dead bodies and to observe the emptiness before me. That first death though was the one that taught me that one should be grateful just to be able to breathe in and out. Alongside this continuing miracle how trivial every other worry can seem.

Knowing how short life can be, people who worry about little things continually amaze me. Some of them act as if they were going to have two lives, one in which they can harass themselves and one later which they can enjoy. Particularly one should never worry about what They think, life is far too short to worry about such nonsense.

To those who wanted to know about Life in Carnoustie in one sense it proceeds sedately enough, in another sense the weeks whizz past and I can hardly believe that it is now three years since I moved into this flat. There is a vast improvement in the garden as I continue to plant flowering bushes around the border. Among them I have planted what I call Broom and my expert friends call Cystius. It still seems an affectation to me to have all horticultural names in Latin but I guess this tradition is too engrained now to ever change.

The sedate part is easily described, every Tuesday I take out my Aunt and my cousin (my Aunt is now 89!); most Saturdays I go out with my brother and his wife; one month I visit friends and drink their whisky and the next month they come and drink mine. Monthly there is the Red Cross, the Townswomen's Guild and the NHS Retirement Fellowship meetings and, come October, there will be the weekly Embroidery classes. Best of all is that if I feel like sitting down in the middle of the morning to read there is nothing to stop me providing I avoid looking at the dust. Oh, and who would worry about a little bit of dust...not me!

Now and then there is something different such as last Saturday when I accompanied my brother David, his wife Ina and my cousin Alison to the Arbroath Pageant. This is a re-enactment of the signing of the Declaration of Independance which took place in Arbroath Abbey on 6th April 1320. The Abbey is now a ruin, the walls of which are a rich red stone. The action takes place in the main church area, only the bases of the pillars that stood there are left. It is flanked by the high altar and dominated by the great eastern wall of the transept, with its huge "Round O" the remains of a rose window dedicated to St Catherine. A large tier of seats had been erected and we were glad we had brought blankets to sit upon as the seats were rough wood planks. This was the matinee, a fine sunny afternoon but with an erratic wind which at one point blew down the candles on the altar.

First came a play called THE LAUREL CROWN which is as a good prelude as it is based upon the somewhat meagre historical details of the trial of Sir William Wallace, the first protagonist of Scottish Independance. It shows the trial by Edward 1st of England who adjudged Wallace a traitor because he would not acknowledge Edward as King of Scotland. This happened in 1305, a time after the death of the Maid of Norway

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when there was a bitterly disputed succession to the Scottish throne. This play was a pretty straightforward clash between Edward's view that he had a right to govern through conquest and Wallace's view that Scotland was an independent nation. A clear right versus wrong with Wallace becoming a martyr. Edwards' speeches were such that Alison muttered to me.. "We should boo him!".

There were actually 13 claimants to the Scottish throne but Robert the Bruce emerged as King because he led the fight against Edward. At that time Abbot De Linton of Arbroath Abbey was Lord Chancellor of Scotland and he arranged the ceremony at which the Declaration of Independence was read out, signed by the King and also the Barons. This was addressed and sent to Pope John XXII. For that time in history it is a remarkable document, particularly the passage which reads.. "For as long as a hundred of us are left alive, we will yield in no least way to English domination. We fight not for glory nor for wealth nor honours; but only and alone we fight for freedom, which no good man surrenders but with his life".

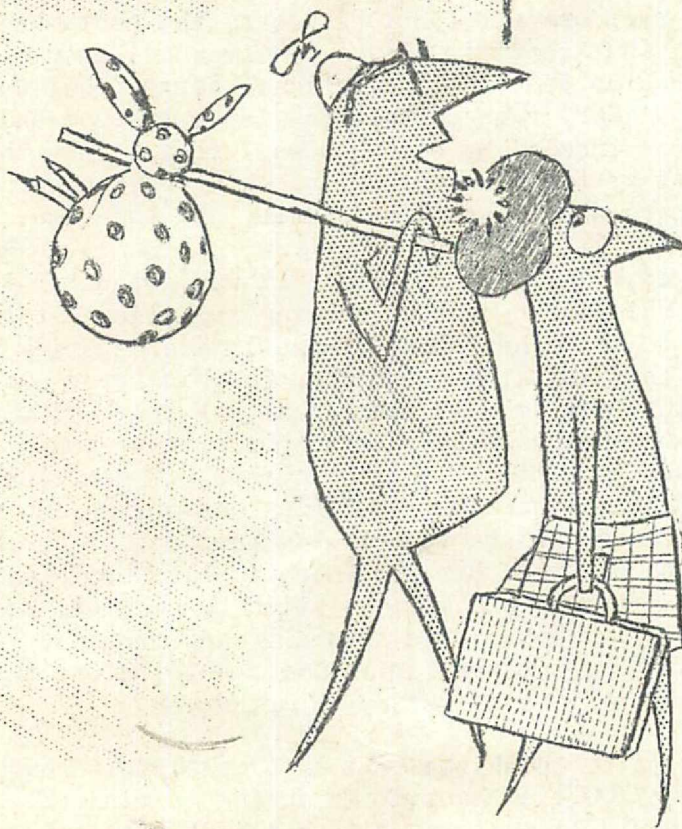
The actors taking part are all local citizens, the costumes made with great ingenuity by amateurs. The Abbott is played by someone I knew at school, the Cross-Bearer by an ex-MP for the Scottish National Party. Not that there is great emphasis on today's SNP, rather the focus is on freedom and a nation's right to it. The loss of freedom by conquest was wrong in the thirteenth century and one would think that by today's century this would be universally agreed. Alas, the daily newspapers show that this is still not the case.

When the first issue of SCOT came out it had one small illo. It was not until issue No 4 that an Atomillo appeared. This was a cartoon showing two aliens at the Scottish border. One is saying to the other "Don't forget! Keep quoting Rabbin Burns". This made me laugh out loud and Atom has had me laughing ever since. In fact looking through my SCOT file I am very aware that all the best work in SCOT has been done by ATOM. He has helped make an atmosphere that showed this zine had a sense of humour and never took itself too seriously. It has been a good hobby for us both. I met Arthur at the first Nattering convention, he was sitting in a corner surrounded by fans and he was drawing cartoons at an enormous speed. The fact that we were both new together, both Scottish and both enchanted with fandom helped to make us friends and the tradition became that only the artwork of ATOM appeared in SCOT. He won a Hugo naturally and remains, I am convinced, the best cartoonist that ever appeared in fandom. Any letters that come to me as a result of this issue will be passed on to Arthur.

It only remains for me to thank the various people who throughout those 27 years have contributed to SCOT..so many names spring to mind..Sid, Rick, Buck, John, Roy, Harry, Eric,...but I could go on forever... all Good Folk and so I say to you all...thankee kindly!

Ethel Lindsey.

September 1981



ATON

"OF COURSE, NOW YOU HAVE ALL THIS FREE TIME AND A DUPE
AND A TYPER.....YOU COULD....."