

SON OF THE WSFA JOURNAL

SF/Fantasy News/Review 'Zine -- 2nd Feb. '74 Issue -- (Vol. 21, #5; Whole #125)
 Editor & Publisher: Don Miller ----- WSFA Issue #10 ----- 25¢ each, 10/\$2.00**

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In Brief --

The Local Scene: Radio Notes: WBJC-FM for Feb. (Cont. from SOTWJ #124): high-
 lights of "Sounds Like Yesterday" (7-8 p.m.) for 2nd part of month: 20, Arch Ob-
 ler's "Devil & Mr. O" and "Drop Dead"; 21, "Escape" ("A Letter from Jason"); 27,
 "The Shadow" ("Mark of the Black Widow"). ## TV Notes: WMAL-TV (ABC), highlights
 Feb. 10-Feb. 23: "SF Week", Feb. 11-15 (4-6 p.m.): 11, Forbidden Planet ('56; ad-
 venture on Altair-4 in 2200 A.D.; entertaining film); 12, Five Million Years to
 Earth ('68; horror/suspense film about ancient time capsule unearthed in London;
 has its moments....); 13, The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms ('53; laughter-provoking
 scenes of terror as atomic blast looses prehistoric monster); 14, One Million
 Years B.C. ('67; w/R. Welch; love and war among the savages); 15, Robinson Crus-
 soe on Mars ('64; despite its corny title, this is a surprisingly good film);
 other SF-related shows: The Six Million Dollar Man Fri's 8:30-9:30; "Wide World
 Mystery" Mon's & Tue's 11:30 p.m.-1 a.m. (TSPM was p.m.); ABC Suspense Movie:
 Live Again, Die Again (16th; '74; no details yet). Not much from 17th-23rd.

Miscellany: This is last WSFA issue to March, being 5th of current quarter;
 if any WSFA'ns want rest of Feb. issues, subscribe or tell us to use any issues
 you have remaining on your WSFA subs. ## #126 has Delap's Oct. prozine column;
 #127 will have either his Nov. column (rec'd yesterday), or the questionnaire &
 poll results; #128 will have whichever one we decide not to run in #127; there
 will probably also be a #129, and maybe a #130 in Feb. ## TWJ #83 should be
 out by end of Feb.; will count 5 or 6 SON's, depending.... ## To keep sub rate
 from going up too high in March, may put out occasional double-issue (w/non-news
 material such as: reviews, letters, indexes) sent 3rd-class (22 pp.). Comments?

SOTWJ is approx. weekly; subs: 25¢ (10p) ea., 10/\$2 (80p) or multiples thereof
 (will go up Mar. 1); all subs incl. any issue(s) of THE WSFA JOURNAL pubbed during
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 meaning, see #122 or 125 (but note that K, something of yours is mentioned/review-
 ed within; N, you are mentioned within; X, Last issue, unless....).

--- DLM

TWJ/SOTWJ

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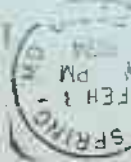
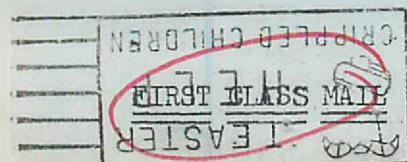
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SPECIAL REVIEW: Killdozer!, by Ted Sturgeon (ASTOUNDING '44, Best of Science Fiction '46, and.... a made-for-TV movie (ABC '74), with screenplay by Ted Sturgeon) /Reviewer, JAMES GOLDFRANK/ --

If you can suspend your disbelief long enough to accept the premise that an intelligence lying dormant in a meteoric rock can control a giant bulldozer, you will find all that follows utterly believable. With implacable hatred, it crushes all but two of a construction crew on an isolated island. After futile attempts to burn and dynamite it, and duel it with a steam shovel, the two survivors electrocute it. What will they say when the relief ship comes? They will tell the truth. If you missed Killdozer!, be sure to catch it on the reruns.

I checked the 55-page story out of the archives after the conclusion of the movie. It stands as a classic in its own right, but suffers by comparison with the movie. The difference is the 30-year-later maturity of a then already-great writer, plus good use of the visual medium.

The story has good action and description, plus more that the movie fortunately does without. Strip a page and a half of mumbo jumbo about how the intelligence got there. Pull out wordy technical detail that the movie renders unnecessary. Remove an office politician type and an overdone Georgia redneck whose drawl goes on for paragraphs. Eliminate a contrived ending with suicide mission Japanese bombers to provide a plausible explanation for the damage and deaths wrought by the machine. What's left is pure excitement!

Oh yes, and a touch of humor: As the men crank up the generator to fry the beastie, one of them asks, "Think it'll work?" In response, Kelly the foreman (played by Clint Walker) says, "It ought to, it's under warranty!"

TV MISCELLANY: We've been so busy watching SF/Fantasy/Horror films on TV the past couple of weeks we've been neglecting our typing.... Among the films seen were: The Night Stalker (good fun; especially effective vampire; and, re the recent question concerning the credits, we noted it carefully: "Screenplay by Richard Matheson, based on an unpublished story by Jeff Rice."); Scream of the Wolf (ABC (as was The Night Stalker); starring Peter Graves & Clint Walker; we found this a bit of a letdown after The Night Stalker, but will admit the characterization was well done); The Horror at 37,000 Feet (CBS; effective study in terror); Skullduggery (ABC; a hammed-up version of Verne's philosophical SF novel, You Shall Know Them; instead of an actor, Burt Reynolds played the lead, and many of the major details were wrong (in the book, the baby tropi was sired by Douglas, who then killed it with an injection so he could stand trial for murder (of his "son") in order to obtain a legal definition of "human" which would also apply to the tropis; in the film, the baby was sired by another tropi, and died at childbirth (the ability of the tropis to breed with both ape and human was a key factor in determining that the tropis were, in fact, "missing links", and a major point in determining whether Douglas, in killing his tropi son, had killed a human or an ape; the film, in ignoring this completely, and in glossing over many of the other issues presented in the book, turned one of our favorite stories (at least, it was when we read it in the mid-fifties) into a complete farce)); The Questor Tapes (NBC; Gene Roddenberry at work (with Gene Coon) again--result, an excellent two hours of entertainment; one wonders, however, how this could be made into a worthwhile series....); The Mind of Mr. Soames (Eng.; Ch.20; good acting on the part of Terence Stamp as a 30-year-old man with the mind of a new-born infant); The Hellstrom Chronicle (ABC; we'd seen this at the theatre, and so didn't watch it on TV; it was one of the best documentaries we'd seen--but we were afraid the small TV screen would work too much against the truly outstanding closeup photography which made the documentary so impressive); Killdozer (Jim's review, above, says it all....); See No Evil (NBC; lots of terror for Mia Farrow, who handles the part well); The House on Haunted Hill Ch.20; Vincent Price in one of his lesser roles; predictable plot twists). Also notable: In Search of Ancient Mysteries (NBC; lots of food-for-thought here; same vein as In Search of Ancient Astronauts, this time dealing with evidence what astronauts established colony on Earth); "The Monkey's Paw" (on the excellent Wed. night series, Great Mysteries (CBS, 7:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.)).

BOOK REVIEWS -- SF/Fantasy:

MIKE BLAKE, reviewer:

Analog 6, ed. by John Campbell (Pocket Books, '69). An anthology of the best stories, as selected by Campbell, that appeared in ANALOG in 1966. My favorite is "Bookworm, Run!", by Vernor Vinge, about a superintelligent young chimpanzee whose eidetic memory has been accidentally exposed to the vast, top-secret programming of the U.S.'s central defense computer. He runs away from the researcher who raised him, thinking there is nothing unusual about the sight of a monkey wearing clothes, carrying a knapsack, and who speaks cultured English. Among the other stories is "Light of Other Days", Bob Shaw's first "slow glass" story. ## For the most part, a better-than-average collection of stories which I feel, for the most part, did not suffer from the deficiencies associated with ANALOG shorts.

DON D'AMASSA, reviewer:

People of the Mist, by H. Rider Haggard (Ballantine). This long (360 pages) novel is one of Haggard's better-realized creations. It actually consists of two novels. The first 100 pages deals with the attempts by its hero, Leonard Outram, to rescue a young European girl who is being held by Portuguese slave traders in an African fortress. After her rescue, Outram and the girl travel to the fabled city of the People of the Mist in an attempt to impersonate their gods and steal a fabulous treasure. ## Haggard may have been making fun of himself in this novel. Outram is superficially another Allan Quartermain, but there are differences. He is magnificently obtuse, for one thing. The brains of the entire operation are those of Otter, a black dwarf. And even with Otter's help, Outram never does manage to get the treasure; in fact, he barely escapes with his life. Haggard tells a colorful, fast-paced, and inventive story.

The Whispering Mountain, by Joan Aiken (Dell Yearling). Joan Aiken's juvenile fiction has at least one major value--it is not written down to a supposed juvenile level. This is an entertaining fantasy-adventure story about an unhappy teenager who becomes involved in the theft of the fabled Harp of Teirtu. With the aid of the young girl Arabis and her gypsy friends, he clears his own name, finds his place in the world, and learns the secret of the race of dwarves who live inside the whispering mountain. Aiken's characterization is superb, her plot intricate, and her settings colorful.

Var the Stick, by Piers Anthony (Bantam Books). This is the direct sequel to Sos the Rope /reviewed in SOTWJ #124/, to which it is greatly inferior. Var is a deformed human befriended by Sos the Rope, master of a Nomad empire following a nuclear war. Var serves as the Nomads' champion in a conflict with the Underworld, a secret organization headquartered inside a mountain. Sos believes that Var killed his daughter during the fight and swears to kill him. Var and the girl, Soli, then proceed on a meandering and rather pointless voyage around the world. Some of their adventures, particularly while on New Crete, are up to the quality of the first volume; others, in China and among the Amazons, are either boring because of the stereotyped situations, or pointlessly violent. Sos and Sol patch up their quarrel offstage and with insufficient explanation; the Nomad-Underworld conflict remains unresolved; and the book ends with the situation totally up in the air. Presumably volume three, Neg the Sword, will resolve these. Unless Anthony plans yet another volume, perhaps Ban the Bomb?

The Games Psyborgs Play, by Pierre Barbet (DAW Books; translated by Wendayne Ackerman). The incredibly bad word choice in this novel can be blamed on the translator. The terrible plot must be laid at Barbet's door. A young Earthman is sent to investigate a planet where hallucinations have been used to discourage contact. He lands, complete with disintegrators, rayguns, nuclear weapons, and other gadgetry, and finds himself accompanying Huon of the Horn on various quests. Barbet's previous DAW Book, Baphomet's Meteor, was entertaining; this one is not. (Over)

BOOKWORLD (Continued) --

Night of Light, by Philip José Farmer (Berkley Books). Farmer's most ambitious novel features John Carmody, who had previously appeared in some shorter pieces. Carmody is investigating a compelling religious movement which flourishes on a relatively obscure planet, Dante's Joy. Convinced that the basis of the alien religion is superstition and slight of hand, he is unprepared when miraculous events actually take place. The aliens do possess the one true religion. This is not a lightly entertaining novel. Farmer is dealing with a difficult subject in a mature manner, restrained, and with a delightful sense of humor sneaking in when the reader isn't looking. Imperceptive readers may miss the overtones of the philosophical struggle, and therefore find the physical events unsatisfying.

Mind One, by Mike Dolinsky (Dell Books). I have read that the first printing of this novel was snatched off the news-stands in record time. I cannot understand why. Dolinsky writes as if he were inventing telepathy for the first time, and flounders through all the stock situations. Universal telepathy ensues after a breakthrough at a psychological laboratory, and human civilization rapidly disintegrates. So does the book.

JAMES GOLDFRANK, reviewer:

The Day of Their Return, by Poul Anderson (Doubleday, '73; also, SF Book Club). People, whether human or non-human, do not emerge strongly as the protagonists in this novel. The protagonist is the planet Aeneas, its many subcultures, and its stark and contrasting physical beauties. Nothing much really happens: all action leads merely to more description and conversation. ## Aeneas is a vital square on a gameboard. One player is the cumbersome, probably benevolent, possibly decadent Terran Empire. The Merseians have the stake here of generally raising hell within the Empire. Their agent (or is he?) "resurrects" the mind of a member of the long-gone race of Elders of Aeneas into a human Aenean who is to be a prophet. But who is the agent and who the master, between the agent and the Merseians? ## This is a novel of subtly interwoven deceptions, of good but somewhat dull writing, which is best left to Anderson fans.

KEN OZANNE, reviewer:

Wolfbane, by Frederik Pohl & G.M. Kornbluth (Penguin '67; orig. '59). Rather a short book, as are several of the other collaborations between these two writers. ## A static future society is being preyed upon by aliens. The "sheep" of the culture are "harvested" for alien purposes when they reach a certain point of meditation. ## But there are "wolves"--non-conformists to the gentle, doomed society. What happens when a wolf is harvested makes the story. ## I shouldn't need to tell anyone about how good a book Pohl & Kornbluth could write. Anyone who hasn't read The Space Merchants should turn in his propellor beanie. You! Yes, You! The neo down the back there! Go and buy yourself a copy of The Space Merchants, read it, and we'll discuss that license to LoC fanzines again. ## This book isn't in that class. But read it anyway.

The Phoenix and the Mirror, by Avram Davidson (Ace '69; presumably repr. from one of the Ultimate 'zines of '66). This is fantasy, set in an alternate past. (One in which the medieval legend that Virgil, the poet, was a wizard was true.) Virgil (spelled "Vergil" throughout, for no reason that I can see) has one of his souls extracted by a woman who insists that he make her a virgin speculum before she will return it. (This is an important soul; without it, Virgil is impotent. Three guesses how it was extracted.) (If you don't know what a virgin speculum is, this probably isn't your kind of book.) ## The great task serves as the wellspring for most of the action of the book. But then a suspiciously helpful ship's captain turns out to be a phoenix in disguise. He is in love with the lady of the first part, and there are a couple of her daughters about, one of whom she hopes to marry to the Caesar of the time. An attempt is made to pass off the other daughter on the phoenix, but Virgil wants that one. And so on and on. A rich book. ## Highly recommended.

(Cont. next page)

BOOKWORLD (Continued) --

The Other Side of the Sky, by Arthur C. Clarke (Harbrace, '67; but there are other editions, and the stories date back to the '40's and '50's). This is a better collection of Clarke's shorts than the one reviewed a few SOTWJ's back /Tales of Ten Worlds/, but there are 24 stories in it, many of them too short to describe. So I'll just hit the highspots. ## "The Nine Billion Names of God" (Can anyone have failed to see this? The title tells all.); "The Wall of Darkness" (A wall runs right around a planet of a strange universe. What is on the other side?); "The Star" (Space travellers find the star that was the Star of Bethlehem. Disturbing.); "Out of the Sun" (An expedition to Mercury learns tragically of the existence of life in the sun. Not on, in! I'm not sure this one has been anthologized elsewhere.). ## Okay. Those are the highpoints. But the others are virtually all of a higher level than those in Tales of Ten Worlds. This one you may need, depending on how many of the top stories you have elsewhere. ## Recommended.

Operation Ares, by Gene Wolfe (Berkley, '70). The U.S. has become a third-rate power, overgoverned to an incredible extent, somewhere in the 21st century. Before its decline, a viable Martian colony had been set up. ## The Martians return, as an invasion force, making up lack of numbers by technological superiority. Their aim is to take the country into the 21st century by removing the causes of stagnation. ## But there are threats from the day's superpowers--China and Russia. The Martians are forced to use Chinese as "advisors", and the government is allied with Russians. Problem--stop the country from becoming a satellite of either while restoring it to economic viability. ## Mildly recommended. Rumor has it that Gene's writing has improved muchly since this--I'll try to report when I locate some more.

DAVID STEVER, reviewer:

Triage, by Leonard C. Lewin (Warner Paperback Library). I never got hold of Report From Iron Mountain, Lewin's first book (a supposed government study as to the desirability of peace), so this is the first book of Lewin's style I've come across. Triage is a series of tapes and records of various groups' efforts to--how should I put this?--thin the population a little, by setting traps for certain groups. One hospital officer decides to thin out the people who can never return to good health; a welfare man culls the New York City drug addicts by giving them pure stuff for a change; and to close the coal mines, an official sets up a few major mining disasters. These are just a few examples of the situations that Lewin has given us; each set of characters can give moral justification for its case, and the author asks questions that make the reader shift uneasily in his seat as he reads. ## You might not like the book (or the author either) after you have finished it (if you can finish it), but questions are asked which really make the reader think for himself. I really couldn't stand it, but I recommend it to you.

Mystery/Suspense/Gothic:

Lord Peter Views the Body, by Dorothy Sayers (Avon Books) /Reviewer, MIKE BLAKE/. Chronologically, this collection of short stories takes place rather early in Lord Peter Wimsey's career. The first, and most famous, "The Abominable History of the Man with Copper Fingers", details a singularly grotesque adventure that predates the First World War. ## The cover blurb notwithstanding, the twelve stories contained herein are not all murder mysteries, but involve Lord Peter in such varied problems as missing wills, blackmail, secret formulas, and the man who inherited his uncle's stomach. Highly recommended to all, if for no other reason than for the last story, which contains Lord Peter's obituary (which leads one to speculation that Ian Fleming had this particular story in mind when he wrote chapter 21, "Obit", of You Can Only Live Twice).

Souvenir of Monique, by Marion Zimmer Bradley (Ace) /Reviewer, DON D'AMASSA/. This is a pedestrian mystery built on a framework of absurd situations. The heroine, Laura Monteith, impersonates the murdered Countess de Montigny in an
(Over)

BOOKWORLD (Continued) --

attempt to unmask her killer. One could perhaps accept that the Count coincidentally found his wife's double at the opportune moment, but not that the countess' family (particularly her son) would not easily see through the masquerade at close quarters. A predictable series of confrontations and menaces carries through to the end.

A Tough One to Lose, by Tony Kenrick (Bantam 7/73, from '72 hb) /Reviewer, GEORGE FERGUS/. A struggling young lawyer and his ex-wife track down a missing 747 jumbo jetliner that apparently disappeared in mid-air, and along with its 360 passengers is being held for 25 million dollars ransom. This may sound like an episode of Banacek, but both the puzzle and the humor are better. Among other complications, a mad bomber has booby-trapped the plane. Highly recommended.

STEVE LEWIS Reviews Two by Bruce Graeme (Blackshirt & House with Crooked Walls):

As any subscriber to THE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE (TAD) knows, editor/publisher Al Hubin has undertaken the task of correcting and updating Ordean Hagen's master-work Who Done It?, a bibliography-plus of all crime and detective fiction published in the U.S. or Britain. After twelve installments, in the latest (11/73) issue he is now through ISRAEL, CHARLES E. The job, by my reckoning, is therefore about half done; in another three years, Al will be able to start over, updating and correcting the corrections.

One most interesting aspect (to me) is the discovery of so many British authors with enormous outputs never published in the U.S. The late John Creasey finally broke into the U.S. market in his later years, but U.S. versions often were edited into slightly different form. And many essentially unknown books by many writers are still on the other side of the Atlantic, to stay.

For example, William Murdoch Duncan wrote over 120 mysteries in various series, including those under pseudonyms of John Cassells, Neill Graham, Martin Locke, Peter Malloch, and Loyal Marshall. Edwy Searles Brooks wrote over 50 books about Norman Conquest under pseudonym of Berkeley Gray, and nearly as many about Bill "Ironsides" Cromwall of the Yard (as by Victor Gunn). Of course, there is also Sexton Blake, the books about whom are yet to be counted, written by innumerable authors over the past century.

Another character unknown in this country is called Blackshirt. From TAD, the following is obtained: He is a character in 11 books by Bruce Graeme (who is really Graham Jeffries) and 20 more by his son, Roderic Graeme (Rodric Jeffries). Also, a character called Monsieur Blackshirt, an ancestor, stars in four books by David Graeme (another pseudonym of Graham Jeffries). Isn't this fun? But it isn't all. TAD lists about 70 more books by Bruce Graeme, and additional pseudonyms of Peter Alding and Jeffrey Ashford (and more books) by Roderic Graeme.

All of which is introduction to a review of Blackshirt, by Bruce Graeme. First published in 1925, my copy was reprinted by Harrap in Feb., 1934. Blackshirt is not a Fascist, but a gentleman super-thief, in reality famous author Richard Verrill. His escapades on the wrong side of the law are performed for the love of it, earning him the respect of Scotland Yard. This is a strange introduction in that Blackshirt spends most of the book puzzling over the identity of the mysterious woman who has learned of his secret and with whom he gradually falls in love over the telephone. The job for the reader, through various exploits, is to outguess Blackshirt; which of the two women in his life could it be? Sort of a soppy outdated romance, but an entertaining book. (A-)

So I dug up another Bruce Graeme book, this one House with Crooked Walls. My copy from Hutchinson Universal Book Club. First published, 1942. Not Blackshirt this time, but book dealer and sometime amateur detective Theodore Terhune. Can a house possess a power for evil? Why do the village folk around House-on-the-Hill have a subconscious fear of the rambling wreck of a house near Bray-in-the-Marsh? Historical detection mixed with the psychic supernatural, and current-day mystery. Romance is shoved to the background (and the rest of the Terhune series). Shivers are produced midst the slowly building suspense. What will happen to the new tenant of the house? (B-)

Mystery fans, dig up some British contacts.

(Cont. next page)

BOOKS RECEIVED (Reviewers, pls. note) -- Quality Paperback:

FANTASY CLASSICS #4: Ancient Sorceries, by Algernon Blackwood (Fantasy House, 6045 Vineland Ave., N.Hollywood, CA 91606; \$1.95 (\$2.25 if by mail); F.C.'s are published monthly; special rate: \$20/year; 8½x11"; heavy paper stock & covers; wraparound multicolor cover by John Pound; 48 pp., incl. covers) -- Besides the Blackwood feature story, also included are: "The Vanguard of Venus", by Landall Bartlett; "A Hand from the Deep", by Romeo Poole; "Dialogue of the Dead", by Lucian. Stories are profusely illustrated, resp., by: Weiss (incl. one in color), Ortiz (two in color), and "M", with a Doré print decorating the last tale. A handsome book, which we look forward to reading when our eyes permit.

FANTASY READER #1: Alien Carnival, by Walt Liebscher (Fantasy House, address above; \$1 (\$1.25 via mail); 4x8½"; heavy paper covers & good quality paper; multicolor cover by Robert Kline; 72 pp. / covers) -- "A Fantastic Extravaganza" of the writings of Walt, on (I) The Sexy Side ("Mama Hates Green", "Furors Over Fudge", "Indian Shove Call: A Scatological Reverie"), (II) The Dark Side ("The Framework of Her Face", "Alien Carnival", "Prodigy"), (III) The Gentle Side ("The Morning the Birds Forgot to Sing", "The Tomb"), (IV) The Way-Out Side ("Acolyte to an Artist", "I Remember Zelda"), plus a collection of his "Pomes" ("Quixotic Quatrains", "Piscatorial Poems", "Before the Five Year Plan", "Musical Notes From All Over", "Brown Thumb", "Ode to Ogden").

FANTASY READER #2: Food for Demons, by E. Everett Evans (same publisher, price and other statistics as #1, above, except that cover is by John Pound, and there are interior illos by H.M. Eichner) -- Five macabre stories orig. published in Mexico in LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICA: "Food for Demons" (8/49), "The Martian and the Vampire" (11/50), "Blurb" (1/49), "The Brooch" (8/49), "The Unusual Model" (12/51), in Spanish (translator not named); plus short appreciations of Evans by Ray Bradbury, Mel Hunter, Walt Liebscher, E.E. Smith, and A.E. Van Vogt.

Master of Middle-Earth: The Fiction of J.R.R. Tolkien, by Paul H. Kocher (Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston; '72; \$2.95 (also pub. in hardback); 247 pp.; 5½x8 3/8") -- "... considers /Tolkien's/ fiction as a whole and shows the relationship of the short prose and verse narratives to the major works and to the author himself. . ." Chapters: "Middle-earth: An Imaginary World?", "The Hobbit", "Cosmic Order", "Sauron and the Nature of Evil", "The Free Peoples", "Aragorn", "Seven Leaves"; plus Bibliographical Notes, several pages of misc. Notes, and Index.

Two Dr. Thorndyke Detective Novels: The Stoneware Monkey & The Penrose Mystery, by R. Austin Freeman (Dover Publications, Inc.; NY; '73; 440 / viii pp.; \$3.50; 5 3/8 x 8 1/2") -- Introduction by E.F. Bleiler; full texts of U.S. editions of Freeman novels The Stoneware Monkey (orig. pub. '39 by Grosset & Dunlap; 218 pp.; combination mystery and satire on modern art) and The Penrose Mystery (orig. pub. '36 by Dodd Mead & Co.; 210 pp.; archaeological mystery).

Misc. Paperback -- SF/Fantasy:

Flashing Swords! #2, ed. Lin Carter (Dell Book #3123; 2/74; 268 pp.; cover by Frazetta; 95¢) -- Introduction: "Flashing Swords and Black Magicians", plus notes for ea. story by Carter; four stories: "The Rug and the Bull", by L. Sprague de Camp; "The Jade Man's Eyes", by Michael Moorcock; "Toads of Grimmedale", by Andre Norton; "Ghoul's Garden", by John Jakes. Original sword-&-sorcery anthology. (One puzzlement: is copyrighted '74, and says their appearance in this book is the first appearance of the stories herein; however, the same book with the same stories appeared in Sept. '73 as a selection of the S.F. Book Club....)

The Godwhale, by T.J. Bass (Ballantine Books #23712; NY; 1/74; short extract appeared in GALAXY in 1/72 as "Rorqual Maru"; 281 pp.; wraparound cover by Paul Lehr; \$1.25) -- Abandoned by mankind, Godwhale Rorqual Maru, a "marvelously complex combination of biology and mechanics" over 600 feet long, survived. Now forgotten by Man, she needed him...and her search for him would lead to war with the human race.

(Over)

BOOKWORLD -- Non-Fiction:

New Worlds for Old: The Apocalyptic Imagination, Science Fiction, and American Literature, by David Ketterer (Doubleday Anchor Book #A921; Garden City, NY; '74; also avail. in hb edition from Indiana Univ. Press; 347 / xii pp.; cover by Jim Cook; \$2.95) -- "Employing a rigorously defined conception of 'apocalyptic' literature, David Ketterer offers an understanding and appreciation of science fiction and its relationship to 'mainstream' literature. . . . Among his arguments is his belief that SF 'is as endemically American as the western'. Chapters: "Science Fiction"; "A Prophecy of America, the Moon, and Mars", "Edgar Allan Poe and the Visionary Tradition of Science Fiction", "The Left Hand of Darkness: Ursula K. LeGuin's Archetypal 'Winter-Journey'", "Utopian Fantasy as Millennial Motive and Science-Fictional Motif", "The Means and Ends of Science Fiction", "The Transformed World of Charles Brockden Brown's Wieland", "Solaris and the Illegitimate Suns of Science Fiction", "Epoch-Eclipse and Apocalypse: Special 'Effects' in A Connecticut Yankee", "New Dimensions of Time, Space, and Literature", "Melville's The Confidence-Man and the Fiction of Science", "Vonnegut's Spiral Siren Call: From Dresden's Lunar Vistas to Tralfamadore"; plus Preface and Index.

Also (all Berkley Medallion Books; NY; 1/74): Grand National, by Richard Petty (as told to Bill Neely) (#02455; 175 pp.; 95¢; the life of stock-car king Petty); The New Roget's Thesaurus: In Dictionary Form, ed. Norman Lewis (#N2252; 496 / xvi pp.; 95¢; 19th Prtng. in Berkley ed.; indispensable reference work); Putnam's Contemporary French Dictionary (#02489; 95¢; 501 / x pp.); Putnam's Contemporary German Dictionary (#02492; 95¢; 525 / xviii pp.); Putnam's Contemporary Italian Dictionary (#02491; 95¢; 448 / xvi pp.); Putnam's Contemporary Spanish Dictionary (#02490; 95¢; 465 / xiii pp.). (The dictionaries & thesaurus are exceptional values @95¢; dictionaries are all "two-way", with numerous appendices.)

Misc. Fiction: (all Berkley Medallion except where noted; NY; 1/74)

Mystery/Gothic/Adventure: The Lone Wolf #4: Desert Stalker, by Mike Barry (95¢; #02504; 192 pp.); Steps to the Grotto, by Cassandra Nye (#02498; 95¢; 224 pp.; Gothic); The Violent World of Parker #7: Deadly Edge, by Richard Stark (#02502; 75¢; 176 pp.; orig. pub. '71 by Random House).

Other: Bad Times Coming, by Gil Martin (#02505; 75¢; 144 pp.; Western); Queen of Romantic Fiction #3: The Golden Summer, by Anne Duffield (#02500; 95¢; 272 pp.; Large-Type Ed.; orig. pub. '54); The Singer and the Summer Song, by Beatrice Levin (#02496; 75¢; Berkley Highland Book; 144 pp.; orig. pub. '63 by Arcadia House); Sloop of War, by Alexander Kent (#02503; \$1.25; 333 pp.; historical novel re war at sea in 1778).

BOOKS ANNOUNCED (Announcements received by SOTWJ):

AVON BOOKS (959 8th Ave., N.Y., NY 10019): New Worlds #5, ed. Michael Moorcock & Charles Platt (Flare #18093; 267 pp.; \$2.95) -- Collection of 26 stories selected from British magazine NEW WORLDS, to be published in large-format Flare edition. (Avon will publish another collection from NEW WORLDS, New Worlds II, Sept. '74.)

DOUBLEDAY S.F. BOOK CLUB (Garden City, NY): Apr. '74 releases: Case and the Dreamer, by Theodore Sturgeon (\$1.49) -- Three stories: "Case and the Dreamer", "When You Care, When You Love", "If All Men Were Brothers Would You Let One Marry Your Sister?". Monument, by Lloyd Biggle, Jr. (\$1.49) -- "What does a man do when he enters Paradise? . . ." Plus alternates The Gold of the Gods, by Erich von Daniken (\$4.50); New Dimensions 3, ed. Robert Silverberg (\$1.49); Rendezvous with Rama (\$1.49); Cities in Flight, by James Blish (\$3.50); The Left Hand of Darkness, by Ursula K. LeGuin (\$1.49); The 1972 Annual World's Best SF, ed. Don Wollheim (\$1.98); A Science Fiction Argosy, ed. Damon Knight (\$3.98; 2 novels, 24 s.stories).

Also rec'd Catalogue from Albert Schuster (POBox 95, Old Chelsea Sta., N.Y., NY 10011), listing numerous Star Trek-related items (comics, bubble gum cards, photos, novelizations in pb by Blish, posters, etc.), plus items relating to 2001, the comics, et al; also material by Vaughn Bodé and Frank Brunner.

Dustbooks, Fax, Kaleidoscope Books, Dover, Don Grant, Movie Book Club, and others in coming SOTWJ's (another large pile recently received....)

THE AMATEUR PRESS

GENZINES -- U.S. (Specialized):

THE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE VII:1 (Nov. '73) ("A Quarterly Journal Devoted to the Appreciation of Mystery, Detective and Suspense Fiction"; Allen J. Hubin, 3656 Midland, White Bear Lake, MN 55110; offset; \$6/yr. U.S., \$7/yr. elsewhere) -- 100 pp. / cover (by William Dixon) & contents page; "The Clue of the Dying Message", by R.W. Hays; Film Reviews, by Wm. K. Everson; "Ellery Queen in Wrightsville", by Francis M. Nevins, Jr. (excrpt. from forthcoming book); poem by Hays; "Mystery Master: A Survey and Appreciation of the Fiction of George Harmon Cox", by J. Randolph Cox (Ch.4: "Caribbean Cruise--Danger Guaranteed"); Chronological List of Cox's Writings, / Appendix; Mystery Quiz by Bob Briney; "The Golden Years of Elizabeth Daly", by Ann Waldron; Classified Ads; "On Lolita as a Mystery Story", by J.R. Christopher; "Dear Me, Mr. Van Dine", by Robert A.W. Lowndes; "The Problem of Moral Vision in Dashiell Hammett's Detective Novels", by George J. Thompson (Pt. 3); "The Prophet Before the Fact: A Note on John D. MacDonald's The End of the Night", by Veronica M.S. Kennedy; "The Best of John Creasey", by Deryck Harvey; Charles Shibuk reviews paperbacks; "A Bibliography of Secondary Sources for 1972", by Walter Albert; "Bouchercon East", by R.E. Briney (report); "A Checklist of Mystery, Detective, and Suspense Fiction Published in the U.S., July-September 1973", by Robert Breyfogle Green; Book Reviews (both retrospective and current); "Book Exchange" (free ads to subbers); continuation of Bibliography of Crime Fiction (pp. H-29 thru H-49/I-1 thru I-4). ~~##~~ Take a half dozen of the best SF fanzines ever published and combine them, and you have something approaching THE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE for the SF field. TAD is the best fanzine we've seen to date in any field, and is very highly recommended, even to hard-core SF fans.

NOSTALGIA NEWS #22 (undated) (Larry Herndon, &Nostalgia, Inc., POBox 34302, Dallas, TX 75234; irregular; offset; 75¢ ea.; 5/3, 10/35.50, 25/10 U.S.; Canada, 5/33.50, 10/36.50, 25/11.75; elsewhere, 5/34.50, 10/37, 25/12.50) -- 32 pp., incl. covers; Editorial notes/announcements; short lettercol; comic strips: Inspector Wade, by Lyman Anderson ("The India Rubber Men", by Edgar Wallace"; 17/6/35-29/6/35); Alley Oop, by V.T. Hamlin; Thimble Theatre (starring Popeye; 3/2/41-15/2/41); Barney Baxter in the Air, by Frank Miller; Flash Gordon, by Dan Barry; Blondie, by Chic Young; Secret Agent X-9, by Robert Storm (17/6/40-29/6/40); ads; "The Rex's of Western Filmdom", by Buck Rainey (Pt. 2: Rex Bell); "Movie Villains", by Gary J. Levinson (Ch.6: Bruce Dern); Classified Ads.

REMEMBER WHEN #13 (undated) (Larry Herndon, address above; irregular; offset; 4/2.50, 8/4.50, 12/7 (25¢/copy extra for 1st-class mail); UKAgent: Alan Dodd, 77 Stanstead Rd., Hoddesdon, Herts., UK (4/41)) -- 32 pp., incl. covers; notes/editorial; short lettercol; ads; "The Passing Parade", by Larry Brooks (movie star obits); Classified Ads; cartoon; "Reminiscences Of...", by Buck Rainey (thish, Buddy Roosevelt & Pete Morrison); "Western Film Festival", by Warren Chaney (report); "Radio Cornucopia", by Allan Williams; Episode 9 ("Fighting the Fire Dragon") of Flash Gordon serial.

~~##~~ NOSTALGIA NEWS is becoming primarily a comics 'zine, while REMEMBER WHEN continues to be 1/3 to 1/2 ads, with the majority of the remainder devoted to films. If your nostalgia kick is old comic strips, N.N. is perhaps the best around devoted to this field; if you are interested in nostalgia in general, then R.W. is the one for you. (N.N. is printed on quality paper, R.W. on newsprint.)

THE TERATOID GUIDE #3 (Oct. '73) ("International Guide to Magazines Dealing with Science-Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films"; Claude Plum, Jr., POBox 531, Hollywood, CA 90028; quarterly; offset; \$1.50 ea.) -- 42 pp. / covers; short lettercol; Greg Shoemaker reviews THE JAPANESE FANTASY FILM JOURNAL; editorial (lack of response may make #3 the last issue); Short Biographies of some of the editors and publishers of the mags.; Alphabetical listing of 'zines (separate list for Star Trek 'zines); additions to previous lists of 'zines, books, articles; Index to Films in Frame by Frame Magazines; Checklist of 'zines published to date, by editor/publisher; "Directory of Services"; 'Zines to come; Monster cartoons by

(Over)

THE AMATEUR PRESS (Continued) --

Glenn Campbell; Clyde Primm's "Tales of Way-Out-Space" (#1: "Let Us Spray"); misc. reviews, ads, stills, etc.). ## An invaluable reference work for the film field. It would be a shame if it died, so if you're interested in SF/Fantasy/Horror films, buy a copy, send a contribution, or drop Clyde a line expressing interest/support.

GERMANY (Specialized):

VAMPIR (Devoted to SF and Horror Films; Manfred Knorr, 85 Nürnberg, Wanderstr. 133, W.Germany; quarterly; offset; 8 1/8" x 11 3/8"; DM 2.50 ea., 6/DM 15) -- #2 (Jan. '73): 60 pp., incl. covers; article and filmography on Christopher Lee; film reviews; Dracula poster; film ratings; news/announcements (incl. stills for new films); review/discussion of The Day The Earth Stood Still; Vampire Filmography. ## #3 (Apr. '73): 60 pp., incl. covers; "Boris Karloff: Master of the Macabre" (article and filmography); review/discussion of King Kong; article: "Trickmann Trumbull"; news/announcements/stills (posters) for new films; film reviews; ads. ## #4 (July '73): 68 pp., incl. covers; "Fabrik der Ungeheuer: Die Geschichte der Hammer-Filme", by Hans D. Furrer (✓ filmography); Rolf Giesen on Godzilla, Camera & Co.; news/announcements/notes on new films; report on 2nd French Convention on Cinema Fantastique, by Jean-Claude Michel (winner of Best Film award was Asylum, by Roy Ward Baker; Best Actress: Martine Beswick (Dr. Jekyll and Sister Hyde); Best Actor, Peter Cushing (Tales From the Crypt); Best Script, Brian Clemens (Dr. Jekyll and Sister Hyde)); Film Reviews; review/discussion of Dracula ('31); "Zur Ideologie der Monster Thriller", by Rolf Giesen. ## #5 (Oct. '73): 60 pp., incl. covers; "The Frankenstein Story", by Uwe Schneider (w/filmography); Interview with Paul Naschy (✓ filmography); book review; news/announcements/notes on new films; reports: 1973 Trieste International Film Festival, by Hans Furrer; Fantasy Film Festival at Locarno, by Herbert Pabst; Film Reviews; review/commentary on This Island Earth; section on "New Film Literature". #### Each issue is lavishly illustrated with stills from the films, is on quality paper, and is handsomely reproduced; and, we failed to note above, each issue is in German. If you can read German, you'll find this is the best film magazine around; if not, you'll still be able to get enough out of it to make it worth your while to subscribe. Highly recommended.

NEWS & AD 'ZINES -- U.S.:

THE JOURNAL (Paul Kowtiuk, Box 1286, Essex, Ontario, Canada; monthly; 11 1/2" x 17"; on newsprint, printed as a newspaper; 25¢ ea., 12/\$1) -- I:4 (Dec. '73): 16 pp.; News; Comic Fandom Calendar; letters; reviews; column; fiction; classified ads; back cover by Leialoha, in memory of Walt Kelly; numerous ads. ## II:1 (1/74): 20 pp.; news; Calendar; Top 100 Comics; column; reviews; letters; classified ads; Review of Starlost; misc. short items; numerous ads; bacover by Cirocco. #### The comics adzine, and as such, a must for all comics fans.

LOCUS (Dena & Charles Brown, POBox 3938, San Francisco, CA 94119; mimeo; approx. bi-monthly; 40¢ ea., 18/\$6 N.America; overseas (airmail): 18/\$10 C. & S.America, 18/\$12 elsewhere mailed directly; thru Agents: U.K. 18/L3 (Peter Weston, 72 Beeches Dr., Erdington, Birmingham 24, UK), Continental Europe 18/\$8 (Michel Feron, Grand-Place 7, B-4280 Hannut, Belgium), Australia 18/A\$6 (Robin Johnson, GPO Box 4039, Melbourne, Vic 3001, Australia)) -- #151 (1/12/73): 8 pp. ✓ DUFF & '74 LOCUS Award Nomination Ballots; spot illos by ATom; misc. news; Philcon '73 & Stockholm Con reports; Chambanaccon report; sections on Markets, Duff & Taff News, People, Books, SFBook Club, SF Scheduled for Nov., Prozine Contents, Orig. Anthology Contents, Media Notes, Fanzines, Conventions; Tony Lewis reviews 8/73 Prozines. ## #152 (22/12/73): 8 pp. ✓ T-K Graphics flyer; spot illos by Stiles, Rotsler; misc. news; Halfaconreport; sections on People, Books, SFBC, Prozine & Orig. Anth. contents, etc.; Tony Lewis reviews prozines for 9/73 & 10/73 (with most of 11/73). ## #153 (30/12/73): 16 pp. ✓ F&SF & BOSKONE 11 flyers; spot illos by ATom, Rotsler; misc. news; sections on People, Books, SF Sched. for Dec.; "1973: The Year in Books"; Fanzines Rec'd 9-12/73; short book reviews (by Dave Hartwell & Bob Allen); 1973 Index to LOCUS. #### Still the #1 U.S. newszine (altho a bit slow of late).