

# SON OF THE WSFA JOURNAL

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## In Brief --

TWJ #84 has been mailed to all but authors/publishers whose works are reviewed within; we should be getting to them next week. A few copies of TWJ #80 still remain, in case you didn't have enough issues on your sub at the time to get it (now costs \$2 or 8 SOTWJ's on sub, as does #84). ## This is the first of the first post-post-England-catch-up issues. #175-176 (already half-typed) should bring us up to Jan. 15 with the exception of a couple prozines and maybe a few fanzines. No more Delap prozine columns on hand after this issue, so #175-176 may contain the delayed Vol. 28 Index instead, time & space permitting. (Which brings up a question: would you rather we sent out the Indexes with TWJ, kept them in SOTWJ, or simply made them optional (at extra cost) for anyone who wanted them?) ## We'll be glad to sponsor anyone who's interested for membership in the Doubleday S.F. Book Club, Mystery Guild, Saturday Review Book Club, Movie Book Club, History Book Club, or any of the other clubs to which we belong (we get a "bonus", and you get a handsome (in most cases) entry package). For overseas SOTWJ readers who are forbidden to belong to the SF Book Club or the Mystery Guild directly, we'll be glad to receive your books at this address and forward them to you, as long as you will keep a deposit on hand with us and pay our extra postage costs.

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THE CLUB CIRCUIT: MINN-STF REPORT

Minutes of Meeting of 4/1/75, held at the Bucklins' home (by Dennie Lien, Secretary).

Called to approximate order at 5:04 by President Blue Petal.

The meeting of 1 Feb. 1975 will not be held at Cynthia Franzen's, as previously announced; it will be held instead at 1762 Blair in St. Paul. (Telephone 646-4398)

Lien mentioned that Blue Petal's term expired at midnight, with Jim Young assuming the Presidency at one second thereafter. The question was raised as to who would serve as President for the intervening second. The general consensus was that Blue and Jim could arm-wrestle for it. Both declined.

Someone retrospectively noted that the Secretary should be taking minutes. Secretary indicated disinterest in doing so. Vote called for and taken. Motion that Secretary was goofing off passed with one dissent. Question of moral turpitude brought up. Linda Lounsbury asked what should be done with the Minn-STF Tapes. Consensus favored erasing, shredding, and stonewalling.

Dick Wilxon moved to adjourn; Dick Tatge seconded; passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08, and not a moment too soon.

THE LOCAL SCENE

Radio Notes -- WAMU-FM (88.5) will celebrate the 12th anniversary of its nostalgia program, "Recollections", with a 5-hr. "Big Broadcast" Feb. 2, 7 p.m.-midnight; starting with "Melody Ranch", the station will broadcast mostly musical, variety, quiz and old news shows until 11:30 p.m., when "Escape" will air Irvin S. Cobb's "Snake Doctor". A "Suspense" episode ("The Doctor Prescribed Death", w/Bela Lugosi), will be on "Recollections" 16/2 at 9 p.m.; "X Minus One" (Fri., 9:30 p.m.) will air Fritz Leiber's "The Moon Is Green" (7/2), Frank Robinson's "The Reluctant Heroes" (14/2) and "The Girls From Earth" (21/2), & James Gunn's "Open Warfare" (28/2); and remember "Gunsmoke" (Wed. 9:30 p.m.), "The Columbia Workshop" (Mon. 9:30 p.m.; note "Four Quartets of T.S. Eliot" 17/2), & "Tales of Time & Space" (Sun., 7:30 p.m.). ## WETA-FM (90.9) has overhauled its evening schedule; "Theatre of the Air" is now on Mon. at 7:30 p.m.; "Theatre Royale" has moved to Mon., 7:30 p.m. (will be broadcast after "Theatre of the Air" series ends); "Radio Revisited" is on Fri., at 7:30 p.m.; don't know specific programs to be broadcast ("Suspense" and "The Great Gildersleeve" will end in Jan.) as will "Jack Armstrong". ## WBJC-FM (91.5) still has "Sounds Like Yesterday" weekdays at 7 p.m. for one hour (a few programs of note: "Suspense" (5/2), "The Shadow" (12/2), "X Minus One" (18/2)).

Film Notes -- Circle Theatre (2105 Pa. Ave., NW; 331-7480): 28-29/3, The Omega Man & Night of the Living Dead; see also listing in SOTWJ 172 for Feb. titles. ## Biograph (2819 M. St., NW; 333-2696): 30/1-2/2, Flesh Gordon & Barbarella; 6-9/2, Slaughterhouse 5. ## Hood College (Frederick, MD; Rosenstock Hall): 7/2, Yellow Submarine (7:30 p.m.); 21/2, Slaughterhouse 5 (7:30 p.m.). ## Univ. of Md. (College Park, Center of Adult Education): 14/2, M (8 p.m.). ## Central Enoch Pratt Free Library (Baltimore): 22/2, Kwaidan (2 p.m.; highly recommended--the best horror film we've ever seen!).

Miscellany -- "Life Elsewhere in the Universe" is the Feb. show at the Catonsville Community College Planetarium (11 a.m.; 747-3220). ## SOTWJ's returned from Scott Dennis, Gil Fitzgerald, Joanna Miller; current addresses needed. ## Recent new WSFA members & CoA's of WSFans: Paul Bixby (6406 46th Ave., Riverdale, MD); Robert Bosma (6805 Pineway St., Hyattsville, MD 20782); Martin Buchanan (2040 Lord Fairfax Rd., Vienna, VA 22180); Karen Blair (2937 N. Calvert St., Toad Hall, Baltimore, MD 21218); Dennis Carroll (2922 Telestar Ct., Falls Church, VA 22042); Richard Dale (3328 Buchanan St., Apt. 302, Mt. Rainier, MD 20822); Daniel Joy (7437 Hastings St., Springfield, VA 22150); Ron Leonard (CoA: 6905 Furman Pkwy., E. Riverdale, MD 20840); William Metz (708 1/2 "A" St., S.E., Wash., DC 20003); William Mayhew (71 F. Ridge Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20901); Mark Owings (CoA: POBox 2838, Main Post Office, Wash., DC 20002); Irene Reddick (CoA: 2 Deauville Ct., Apt. 1A, Pikesville, MD). ## WASH STAR-NEWS (19/1/75) carried illust. article on Larry Mooney, of "outer Alexandria", & his collection of bizarre oddities (mummies, sea serpents, death masks) & rare films. A "field trip" to his "museum" might prove interesting....

BOOKWORLD: BOOK REVIEWS -- SF/Fantasy:

Reviewer, DON D'AMASSA:

The Paradise Game, by Brian Stableford (DAW Books) -- The fourth volume in the adventures of Grainger, pilot of the starship Hooded Swan, maintains the high quality of the previous volumes. This time Grainger's boss, Titus Charlot, orders them to investigate a world about to be exploited by the ever-more-powerful Caradoc Corporation. Grainger becomes involved in the conflict between Caradoc and an extremist group which opposes the company's plans for the planet. The solution hinges on the mysterious evolutionary force which has banished all aggression from the planet's ecological system. Not the high point in the series, but definitely a worthwhile novel, and one of the best recent DAW Books.

Stormtrack, by James Sutherland (Pyramid Books) -- The first Harlan Ellison Discovery Novel is strangely disappointing. Strange not because the book is badly written--it isn't--but because it seems a rather pedestrian novel that could just as easily have been an Elwood discovery, a Wollheim discovery, or a serial in VERTEX. The young hero is rushed aboard an orbiting weather station where he becomes enmeshed in complicated political and personal intrigues. He eventually learns that an alien observer has infiltrated the project personnel to study Earth, though only for the most benevolent of purposes. The alien is misunderstood by us paranoid Earthmen, however, and there's plenty of fighting and intrigue. Sutherland's science may be impeccable, but his characters are strangely thin and insubstantial.

Prince of Annwn, by Evangeline Walton (Ballantine Books) -- This final volume is actually the first chronologically in Walton's reworking of the Mabinogion. Prince deals with a human who is forced to exchange bodies with the ruler of the underworld and his subsequent adventures. The introduction notes that this branch of the Welsh folk tale is essentially a light adventure story, and it is subsequently less meaty than the other volumes. It is nevertheless a good light fairy tale, far superior to many another volume by a less talented writer.

The Life and Adventures of Peter Wilkins, by Robert Paltock (Hyperion Press) -- This rather long fantasy novel first appeared in the middle of the 18th century and attracted a great deal of critical attention. Essentially another Robinson Crusoe, it adds a lost race of winged humans who have curious gaps in their culture which enable Wilkins to ingratiate himself with them. The novel is very slow-paced, but despite this, it rarely seems archaic and the modern reader is likely to find it highly enjoyable.

Reviewer, GEORGE FERGUS:

The Enforcer, by Andrew Sugar (Lancer 3/73; original) -- All you completists will be overjoyed to learn that this book, which sports the cover blurb "The contract's out from the Mafia masters--get the Enforcer! Before he gets us!", is actually SF. It is about an altruistic organization which offers people with terminal illnesses the opportunity to prolong their lives by impressing their minds into artificially grown clone bodies, in return for their services in discrediting or assassinating various powerful bad guys. Because of flaws in the process, each body wears out and has to be replaced every three months. The hero, who becomes one of their agents, also has strange mental powers of unknown potential, which in addition to mild ESP give him the ability with sufficient concentration to increase his strength and to ignore pain. It's the first of a series, in this episode of which the villains have a secret experimental laboratory which is turning people into vegetables, literally, by infecting them with a virus that changes protoplasm to chloroplasm. It isn't worth reading, but I just thought you'd like to know about it.

Reviewer, JIM GOLDFRANK:

Fire Time, by Poul Anderson (Doubleday & SF Book Club; '74) -- Recipe: Take a meticulous description of a world called Ishtar in a triple solar system. Orbit one of the suns so that it passes to the north of that world every thousand years, bringing civilization's fall to barbarians heading south. Create a race of aliens, depicting their biology, and their culture, even to the point of showing how being four-fingered, they use a base-8 numeric system. Make them technologically less

(Over)

BOOKWORLD: BOOK REVIEWS (Continued) --

but socially more advanced than humans. Plant a human colony more in sympathy with the natives than with Earth. Embroil Earth and another space-going race in a war over a planet both are colonizing. Send an Earth naval officer to set up a base far from that war, and with instructions not to interfere with the affairs of the native and human Ishtarans, even though Ishtar's civilization may perish at the approaching end of a thousand-year cycle. ## The result is a novel that starts slowly as Anderson intellectually sets the stage, then builds up to a peak of action and emotion. It is stimulating and exciting, and incidentally a fine anti-war novel. You'll want to read what will surely be a Hugo nominee.

The Eden Cycle, by Raymon Z. Gallun (Ballantine; '74) -- Eden Cycle is overlong, overdescriptive, and overtalky. It concerns a device called Sensory Experience Stimulation. Through it, the eternal Lovers Joe and Jennie live situations from far past to far future, with visits to Heaven, Hell, and even Middle-Earth. The whole thing is so episodic that you wonder whether the plot, if there is one, is really going anywhere. Joe and Jennie, jaded with a million dull trips, finally try reality. ## Eden Cycle is not terribly written, just terribly boring. However, since it might quite appeal to people who like this kind of thing, I recommend scanning through a copy before making a buy-nobuy decision.

Reviewer, ERIC LINDSAY:

The Thirteen Bracelets, by Robert Lory (Ace; '74; 188 pp.; 95¢) -- Thanks to exposure to radiation, secret agent Hari Denver found changing his appearance to that of anyone else a simple matter. However, when his boss's headquarters were given to visiting Brasilians by the President/Chief Railway Engineer of the Pentagon, Hari found his task of finding 13 stolen gold bracelets, with slave girls attached, somewhat complicated. (Of course, with the whole country split into warring gangs, nothing was very easy....) ## This story is a reasonably fast-paced farce. Lory is a graduate of one of the "Famous Writers" schools (at least, his name has appeared in their advertisements), so he knows the technical elements of writing, and when to boost an almost non-existent plot with a bit of action. However, I personally find that TV gives me more than enough mindless entertainment.

Alternatives, ed. David Gerrold (Dell; 7/74; 175 pp.; 95¢) -- In his introduction the editor tells us that "writers have forgotten their responsibility first and foremost to tell a good story . . . and I won't have it." Unfortunately, he does, and the result is that a load of unknowns have sold him a bunch of garbage. I assume that he was unable to offer enough to attract old, known writers, and was thus compelled to make a virtue of necessity by using "new young writers". ## Having said all that, I now have to retract. Sallis, Bryant, and Malzberg are not exactly new, but then, with the exception of Bryant's "Cowboys, Indians", their stories are not worth reading either. Of the new writers, Vonda McIntyre impressed me the most, with a totally unoriginal story about a consumer fighting a bill-sending computer. Come to think of it, I wouldn't really call most of the stories science fiction--just forgettable.

Sar, by John Robert Russell (Pocket Books; 5/74; 157 pp.; 95¢) -- It seems to me that the author may well be an academic, for there is an air of campus about both Sar and his earlier novel Cabu. Simple explanations of societies, and a simple unfolding of the story-line are characteristic of each. In Sar we have a future a few hundred years ahead, in which the world is fragmented into small groups, with characteristics of various past or predicted societies. Thus Sar grows up in a feudal society, then escapes to a band of robbers, then goes through Roman, Women's Lib, primitive, and others. ## The story is one of a quest for knowledge by Sar, on behalf of one of the societies in which he lands. As an adventure story it isn't all that bad, but is a bit slowed down by constantly running into new societies. Some of the groups depicted for satiric purposes are amusing--the scholars, for example, with throwaway lines like "Our foremost scholar on obscure electronic music of the late twentieth century started life as a river savage." Buy it if you feel like reading between the lines when the action sags.

(Cont. next page)



Reviewer, DON D'AMASSA:

Night-World, by Robert Bloch (Crest Books) -- I have a rather mixed reaction to this recent suspense novel from Robert Bloch. A group of inmates of a sanitarium escape after murdering the staff. One of the escapees begins to systematically murder the others, and any other people who might provide some clue as to his identity. The plot is developed cleverly to point the finger of suspicion at one particular escapee, Bruce Raymond, but only the most callow of readers won't realize right from the beginning that Bloch is going to reverse himself in the final pages. It is fun, however, to see how the author gets to the final confrontation, despite the transparent attempt to cloak the murderer's identity in the final chapters. Not another Psycho, but well worth the reading.

The 39 Steps, by John Buchan (Popular Library) --- This classic suspense novel is an extremely clever, prolonged chase sequence. Richard Hannay, a South African vacationing in England, learns of a sinister international plot and must flee from both the police and the German spy ring. Most of the capture and escape is contrived past credibility; for example, at one point Hannay stops for help at the isolated country estate which just happens to be the headquarters of the spy ring, and the shed in which they lock him just happens to have a cabinet full of dynamite in it, and Hannay just happens to be proficient in the use of explosives. Despite this, the novel is a delightful romp, colorful, and entertaining throughout. Read it with a grain of salt, but read it.

Reviewer, GEORGE FERGUS:

Operation: Super Ms., by Andrew Offutt (Berkley 11/74; original) -- This is the "spy novel featuring a truly liberated heroine" that Andy mentioned at DisCon. (I don't recall how the subject came up. Perhaps someone was berating his "John Gleeve" novels, which I have never read.) You know something is different right off, when the heroine's name turns out to be Eve Smith rather than Pussy Galore or Penny Candie, but the first real example of liberated behavior is that when meeting one of the characters for the first time, at the point where he might compliment her legs, she forestalls him by murmuring "nice chest". Unfortunately, this is about the only noteworthy item in the book. The characterization and dialogue are competent, and the lady's love life believable, but the events of the story are generally uninspired. There is an excellent car chase toward the end, unusual in a non-visual medium, but the rest is only fair.

The Vanished and Undercurrent, by Bill Pronzini (Pocket Books 3/74 & 8/74, from '73 hcs) -- These sequels to The Snatch (reviewed in SOTWJ 120) feature a lonely private investigator in the classic Philip Marlowe mold, probably the most realistic one in current mystery fiction. His love life is poor--the women he meets on cases come to associate him with the tragedy that usually befalls them as a result of his investigations. He is more interesting for what he thinks and observes than what he does, in his slow, methodical way. In The Vanished he hunts for a missing person. Undercurrent involves him in a murder where the important clue is a 20-year-old paperback suspense novel. Neither is particularly exciting or interesting, but I couldn't help becoming involved with the main character and whomever he is trying to help. Recommended in that limited respect.

Review Extracts (from the Press):

WASH. POST (Joan M. White) -- Grave Doubt, by Ivon Baker (McKay; \$4.95): "... reaches back in time to pre-World War I Germany and is updated with murder on an English countryside road two generations later. . . Baker writes a whopping good tale, handling a complicated plot with finesse and working with some engaging characters . . . [he] neatly handles the time reconstruction and, while the motive seems transparent before the investigators pin it down in words, the suspense builds to an exciting finale." ## Write Murder Down, by Richard Lockridge (Lippincott; \$5.95): "Lockridge entangles one of his favorite detectives, Lieutenant Nathan Shapiro, of the dour face and dyspeptic stomach, in the intricacies of the publishing world. . . a smooth Lockridge job, well-plotted around an interesting array of people. It is pleasant, if undemanding reading."

(Over)

BOOKWORLD (Continued): BOOKS ANNOUNCED (Announcements rec'd by SOTWJ) --

AVON BOOKS, 959 Eighth Ave., NY, NY 10019, is introducing a new series, "The Science Fiction Rediscovery Series", which will bring back into print "important and influential works of science fiction--classics and favorites . . . published in large format (5½ x 8") Equinox editions, at a price of \$1.95 each, and . . . will stay in print as long as there is a demand for the titles." The first four books in the series, published Dec. 2nd, were Strange Relations, by Philip José Farmer (#20575), The Syndic, by C.M. Kornbluth (#20586), The Reproductive System, by John T. Sladek (#20917), and Rogue Moon, by Algis Budrys (#20925). (The 1st two were covered in "Books Received" in earlier SOTWJ; the latter two are covered in "Books Received" elsewhere in this issue.) Among future titles to come are: The Iron Dream, by Norman Spinrad; Inside, Outside, by Farmer; A Mirror for Observers, by Edgar Pangborn; The Great Explosion, by Eric Frank Russell; The Winds of Time, by Chad Oliver; The Man in the Maze, by Robert Silverberg; and others.

BALLANTINE BOOKS, 201 E. 50th St., NY, NY 10022, is now publishing a monthly booklet, BALLANTINE BANDWAGON, describing in detail their forthcoming releases; reviewers are asked to choose a maximum of eight titles from the list--we've already chosen from the lists noted below, but in the future would appreciate our reviewers letting us know, as soon as possible after receipt of SOTWJ containing new listing, which title(s) they'd be interested in reviewing, so we may be certain that the titles we order will actually be reviewed. ## Jan. '75 releases: Star Trek Log Three, by Alan Dean Foster (\$1.25; 224 pp.; #24260; "Once Upon a Planet", "Mudd's Passion", & "The Magicks of Megas Tu", all from scripts for TV series); The Best of Planet Stories #1: Strange Adventures on Other Worlds, ed. Leigh Brackett (\$1.25; 224 pp.; #24334; anthology); Voyage to a Forgotten Sun, by Donald J. Pfeil (\$1.25; 192 pp.; #24338; novel); The Brotherhood MAD, by William M. Gaines (95¢; 192 pp.; #24331; 1st in series to be reissued by Ballantine); The Last Days of the Late, Great State of California, by Curt Gentry (\$1.95; 416 pp.; #24342; novel); Gods from the Far East: How the Chinese Discovered America, by Henriette Mertz (\$1.50; 208 pp.; #23964; 16 pp. photos; "offers two ancient Chinese texts . . . containing meticulous accounts of the geography, plants, animals, mountains, and other natural resources of North and South America. . ."); The Healing Journey, by Claudio Naranjo (\$1.50; 256 pp.; #24328; "A thorough collection of startling case studies that demonstrate the psychotherapeutic potentials of four remarkable new psychedelic drugs. . ."); House of Cards, by Stanley Ellin (\$1.50; 336 pp.; #24336; "a suspenseful and surprising action novel set in Paris and Italy"); plus misc. fiction & non-fiction & illustrated military histories. ## Feb. '75 releases: (This is the "science fiction. '75" issue, with an editorial by Editor Judy-Lynn del Rey re "Science Fiction: The Category with a Future", in which Judy discusses the state of the field, announces the creation of a special "Ballantine Seal of Selection--a distinctive logo that will appear on each new sf title", and announces that, starting in March, Ballantine will publish three (rather than two) SF titles ea. month. To introduce their new "look", they published nine SF titles in Feb.: six new ones, three reissues.): More Than Human, by Theodore Sturgeon (\$1.50; 192 pp.; #24389; novel which won '54 International Fantasy Award); The Tar-Alyn Krang, by Alan Dean Foster (\$1.50; 256 pp.; #24085; reissue of space-opera novel); Cycle of Fire, by Hal Clement (\$1.50; 192 pp.; #24368; novel of survival on a "strange and blisteringly hot planet"); Norstrilia, by Cordwainer Smith (\$1.50; 288 pp.; #24366; Smith's only SF novel, "published for the first time in its complete, unabridged form", which "takes the reader on a journey to the first century of the Rediscovery of Man"); The Man Who Awoke, by Laurence Manning (\$1.50; 160 pp.; #24367; classic SF novel orig. serialized in WONDER STORIES in the '30's; a novel in five parts, "spanning 25,000 years of future history"); Warm Worlds and Otherwise, by James Tiptree, Jr. (\$1.50; 224 pp.; #24380; collection of 12 stories, with critical study of Tiptree & Introd. by Robert Silverberg); Starman Jones, by Robert A. Heinlein (\$1.50; 256 pp.; #24354; classic novel); Farthest Star, by Frederik Pohl & Jack Williamson (\$1.50; 288 pp.; #24330; 1st book in new trilogy, dealing with "a strange and foreboding object called Cuckoo which is hurtling

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BOOKWORLD: BOOKS ANNOUNCED (Continued) --

through space toward our galaxy"); A Funeral for the Eyes of Fire, by Michael Bishop (\$1.50; 288 pp.; #24350; first novel, in which "two humans carry out a program of shameless exploitation of an alien species...with the open cooperation of yet another alien group"); also, The MAD Reader (#1), by William M. Gaines (95¢; 192 pp.; #24360; humor); Jason & Medeia, by John Gardner (\$2.25; 560 pp.; #24418; "epic of busybody gods, befuddled brave heroes, exciting adventures, amazing landscapes and incredible sights"); The Murderer is a Fox, by Ellery Queen (\$1.25; 240 pp.; #24364; mystery novel); Appelby's End, by Michael Innes (\$1.25; 224 pp.; #24409; mystery novel); Dragonmede, by Rona Randall (\$1.75; 320 pp.; #24351; Gothic novel--"A brilliant and terrifying tale of a girl who was a pawn in a sinister game of life and death"); Lost Continents: The Atlantis Theme, by L. Sprague de Camp (\$1.95; 384 pp.; #24379; 16 pp. linecuts & maps; covers "everything that has ever been published, hypothesized, suggested, or considered" about Atlantis theme); The Reimann Curse, by Jean DeWeese (95¢; 192 pp.; Beagle #26688; Gothic novel); Beward the Bog, by Myrs Kingsbury (95¢; 128 pp.; Beagle #26687; Gothic novel); The Amethyst Tears, by Marilyn Ross (95¢; 192 pp.; Beagle #26686; "Birthstone" Gothic #2); plus numerous other works of fiction & non-fiction.

DOUBLEDAY S.F. BOOK CLUB, Garden City, NY --- 2/75: The Best of Henry Kuttner (\$2.49; collection of 17 stories, w/special introd. by Ray Bradbury); Ice and Iron, by Wilson Tucker (\$1.98 (pub. ed. \$4.95); In Earth's newest Ice Age, 200 years from now, the bodies of primitive men from Earth's future--killed off and sent back through time--begin appearing....); plus alternates The 1974 Annual World's Best SF, ed. Donald A. Wollheim (\$1.98); Universe 3, ed. Terry Carr (\$1.49); Orn, by Piers Anthony (\$1.49); Science Fiction Hall of Fame Vol. Two B, ed. Ben Bova (\$3.50); Total Eclipse, by John Brunner (\$1.49); Flashing Swords #2, ed. Lin Carter (\$1.49); Prelude to Man, by Arthur C. Clarke (\$1.69); The Day the Sun Stood Still, by Poul Anderson, Gordon Dickson & Robert Silverberg (\$1.49). ## 3/75: The Best of Frederik Pohl, ed. Lester del Rey (\$2.49; collection of 19 stories, w/introd. by del Rey); The Hollow Lands, by Michael Moorcock (\$1.98 (pub. ed. \$6.95); "a madcap romp through time with some of the most improbable characters ever imagined in science fiction"); plus alternates The Inverted World, by Christopher Priest (\$2.49); Orbit 12, ed. Damon Knight (\$1.49); Thuvia, Maid of Mars & The Chessmen of Mars, by Edgar Rice Burroughs (\$2.98; illus & d.j. by Frank Frazetta); I, Robot, by Isaac Asimov (\$1.49); Ancient, My Enemy, by Gordon R. Dickson (\$1.98); A Time of Changes, by Robert Silverberg (\$1.49); Alph, by Charles Eric Maine (\$1.49); The Left Hand of Darkness, by Ursula K. LeGuin (\$1.49). ## 4/75: The Mote in God's Eye, by Larry Niven & Jerry Pournelle (\$2.98 (pub. ed. \$9.95); "One of the most exciting, suspenseful and literate science fiction novels of the past decade"); Universe 5, ed. Terry Carr (\$1.98 (pub. ed. \$6.95); orig. anthology of 12 stories); and alternates My Petition for More Space, by John Horsey (\$2.98; SF novel "which begins in the not-too-distant future, when over-population has clogged America with humanity"); An Alien Heat, by Michael Moorcock (\$1.49; 1st Jherek Carnelian novel (The Hollow Lands, above, is the 2nd)); New Dimensions 3, ed. Robert Silverberg (\$1.49); Into Deepest Space, by Fred Hoyle & Geoffrey Hoyle (\$1.98); Forward in Time, by Ben Bova (\$1.49); Iron Cage, by Andre Norton (\$1.90); Rendezvous with Rama, by Arthur C. Clarke (\$1.49). ## Special Offer: The Works of Erich von Däniken (\$14.95 (pub. ed. \$29.80)); also avail. individually as follows: Chariots of the Gods? (\$2.49); Gods from Outer Space (\$2.98); Gold of the Gods (\$4.50); In Search of Ancient Gods (\$5.50).

FAWCETT, 1515 Broadway, NY, NY 10036 --- Dec. 12 releases: The Early Asimov, Book II (\$1.25; 304 pp.; Crest #P2323; 14 stories from the hardback collection of early Asimov SF stories, each prefaced by "informative and amusing biographical details concerning his reasons for writing it and his own critical appraisal of it"); The Liberated Future, ed. Robert Hoskins (\$1.50; 304 pp.; Crest #Q2329; stories by 12 authors (Poul Anderson, R.A. Lafferty, C.M. Kornbluth, Katherine MacLean, Robert Sheckley, Henry Kuttner, Dean R. Koontz, Joe L. Hensley, Barry Malzberg, Anne McCaf- (Over)

## BOOKWORLD: BOOKS ANNOUNCED (Continued) --

frey, William Tenn, & Ursula LeGuin), "whose tales reflect one of the basic meanings of science fiction, the concept of a liberated future").

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN CO., 2 Park St., Boston, MA 02107, announces publication of The Collector's Edition of The Lord of the Rings, containing the complete text of the three-volume edition: The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, and The Return of the King, incl. the six appendices. The volume is a Special Alternate Selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club, and features: 1,200 pgs. printed in two colors; binding & slipcase in red Skivertex, a leather-like material, w/Mandala motifs in real gold & blue & green metallic foil; red & gold head & foot bands; Grandee Spanish gold endpapers; a two-color fold-out map of Haradwaith, hand-tipped into the back of the book; dimensions of 6 1/8" x 8 1/4" x 2 1/4"; a weight of 4 3/4 lbs.; a price of \$35.00. ## In addition, HM Co. has published "Bilbo's Last Song" (Bilbo's farewell to Middle-Earth) as a "Beautiful poster in full color, measuring 15 1/2" x 23", and suitable for framing. . . distributed in a handsomely designed, 10-copy self-display pack, with each poster individually wrapped around a cardboard tube enclosed in cellophane. The 10-copy pack retails for \$25.00, with discounts available." For further info on discounts & shipping, & instructions on placing orders, write: Dept. MO, Houghton Mifflin Co., 2 Park St., Boston, MA 02107. (Apparently not avail. individually directly from HM Co., but designed for quantity purchases by stores, clubs, hucksters, etc.)

MOVIE BOOK CLUB, POBox 2012, Latham, NY 12110 -- Vincent Price Unmasked, by James Robert Parish & Steven Whitney (\$8.50 (pub. at \$9.95); w/50 photos / complete filmography featuring casts, credits, plot synopses & reviews from all Price's films); The Monster Makers, ed. Peter Haining (\$5.95 (pub. at \$7.95); 18-story anthology, w/illos by David Smee: "The Monster Lives!", by Mary Shelley; "The Facts of M. Val-daman's Case", by Edgar Allan Poe; "The Dancing Partner", by Jerome K. Jerome; "Moxon's Master", by Ambrose Bierce; "The Monster Maker", by Wm. C. Morrow; "And the Dead Spake", by E.F. Benson; "The Stolen Body", by H.G. Wells; "The Vivisector Vivisected", by Sir Ronald Ross; "The Incubator Man", by Wallace West; "The Plague Demon", by H.P. Lovecraft; "The Strange Island of Dr. Nork", by Robert Bloch; "It", by Theodore Sturgeon; "Lazarus II", by Richard Matheson; "The Golem", by Avram Davidson; "Men of Iron", by Guy Endore; "Changeling", by Ray Bradbury; "Robot AL-76 Goes Astray", by Isaac Asimov; "Baby", by Carol Emshwiller); / many others.

MYSTERY GUILD, Garden City, NY -- Wint/75: Three From the 87th, by Ed McBain (\$3.98; trio of police procedurals: Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here!, Jigsaw, & Fuzz); Blue Death, by Michael Collins (\$1.98; "A tough, hard-hitting tale of murder and double-dealing as spectacular as a belly dancer's gyrations"); / alternates The Annotated Sherlock Holmes, ed. William S. Baring-Gould (\$16.95); A Requiem of Sharks, by Patrick Buchanan (\$1.49); To Die in California, by Newton Thornburg (\$1.69); Long Way Down, by Colin Wilcox (\$1.98); Archer at Large (\$1.98; omnibus of The Galton Case, The Chill, & Black Money); Tour de Force, by Philip Cleife (\$1.49); Write Murder Down, by Richard Lockridge (\$1.49) (note that Archer trio was by Ross Macdonald). ## 3/75: The Reincarnation of Peter Proud, by Max Ehrlich (\$1.98; "The spellbinding story of a man's search for the woman who murdered him! . . . The basis of a fascinating film starring Michael Sarrazin and Jennifer O'Neill . . . [the story] is not only a gripping, completely mesmerizing novel of suspense, but a provocative exploration of the possibility of reincarnation. . ."); Reverend Randolph and the Wages of Sin, by Charles Merrill Smith (\$1.98; murder mystery); / alternates The Silver Bears, by Paul E. Erdman (\$3.49); Black Alice, by Thom Demijohn (\$1.49); Crime File, by Dell Shannon (\$1.98); Hail to the Chief, by Ed McBain (\$1.98); A Maigret Trio, by Georges Simenon (\$1.98; Maigret's Failure, Maigret in Society, & Maigret and the Lazy Burgler); A Dying Fall, by Hildegard Dolson (\$1.49); Murder on Board, by Agatha Christie (\$2.98).

((No more room thish; will hit the catalogues & misc. flyers, / any new announcements which arrive between issues, in SOTWJ #175. --ed.))

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BOOKWORLD (Continued): BOOKS RECEIVED (Reviewers/Potential Reviewers, pls. note) --Received 16/11/74-30/11/74: SF/Fantasy: (all pb unless otherwise noted):

AVON BOOKS (Equinox Books, 5 1/4" x 11", 12/74; \$1.95 (Canada, \$2.45) ea.; in "SF Rediscovery Series") -- Budrys, Algis: Rogue Moon (#4 in series; orig. pub. '60; 192 pp.; every astronaut who entered the mysterious alien structure on the Moon was killed by it; then science discovered how to bring men back from death, and one man volunteered to go into the structure, "be killed by it, be resurrected, then go into it again...and again...and again...learning a little more each time he died"); Sladek, John T.: The Reproductive System (#3 in series; orig. pub. '68 as Mechasm; 222 pp.; story of "a new kind of machine that can feed on any metal and drink at power outlets in order to grow and reproduce itself", which gets out of control; novel is "filled with memorable comic characters and featuring a plot that barrels along with the speed of a Marx Brothers movie").

BERKLEY PUB. CORP. (Berkley Medallion Editions; 11/74; 95¢ ea.) -- Cooper, Edmund: The Tenth Planet (orig. pub. '73 by G.P. Putnam's; 176 pp.; cover by Richard Powers; novel of "death and resurrection, 5000 years in the future"); Knight, Damon (ed.): Orbit 13 (orig. anthology; 220 pp.; "The Scream", by Kate Wilhelm; "Young Love", by Grania Davis; "And Name My Name", by R.A. Lafferty; "Going West", by Edward Bryant; "My Friend Zarathustra", by James Sallis; "Therapy", by Gary K. Wolf; "Gardening Notes from All Over", by W. Macfarlane; "Idio", by Doris Piserchia; "Fantasy's Profession", by Albert Teichner; "Spring Came to Blue Ridge Early This Year", by Charles Arnold; "Creation of a Future World in The Tracer", by Steve Herbst; "Coils", by John Barfoot; "Time Bind", by Sonya Dorman; "Everybody a Winner, The Barker Cried", by C.L. Grant; "Naked and Afraid I Go", by Doris Piserchia; "Teeth", by Grace Rooney; "Troika", by Steve Chapman; "Black Sun", by Dennis Etchison; "The Mouth is for Eating", by William F. Orr; "Flash Point", by Gardner R. Dozdis; / short notes on the authors (note that the last six stories were omitted from contents page)).

DELL BOOKS (11/74; 95¢ ea.) -- Carter, Lin: Time War (160 pp.; novel of a 20th-century man with extraordinary powers who gets involved in a time war with forces from 200,000 years in the future); Silverberg, Robert (ed.): Deep Space (221 pp.; Laurel-Leaf Library; anthology: Introd.; "Blood's a Rover", by Chad Oliver ('52); "Noise", by Jack Vance ('52); "Life Hutch", by Harlan Ellison ('56); "Tickets to Anywhere", by Damon Knight ('52); "The Sixth Palace", by Robert Silverberg ('65); "Lulungomeena", by Gordon R. Dickson ('53); "The Dance of the Changer and the Three", by Terry Carr ('68); "Far Centaurus", by A.E. van Vogt ('44); orig. pub. '73 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.); Silverberg, Robert (ed.): Worlds of Maybe (208 pp.; Laurel-Leaf Library; orig. pub. '70 by Thos. Nelson, Inc.; anthology: Introd.; "Sidewise in Time", by Murray Leinster ('34); "Sail On! Sail On!", by Philip José Farmer ('52); "Slips Take Over", by Miriam Allen deFord ('64); "All the Myriad Ways", by Larry Niven ('68); "Living Space", by Isaac Asimov ('56); "Translation Error", by Robert Silverberg ('59); "Delenda Est", by Poul Anderson ('55)).

DOUBLEDAY & CO., INC. (hb; 12/74; \$4.95) -- Cartor, Lin: The Valley Where Time Stood Still (179 pp.; d.j. by John Cayea; novel "of fantasy and adventure, set on Mars, about an 'Earthsider'--M'Cord--who forms an uneasy, fateful alliance with a hostile Martian prince", and who takes a strange journey, "Past the boundaries of time itself...into a bizarre twilight world where myth and magic become frighteningly real").

Mystery/Adventure/Suspense/etc. (all pb):

BERKLEY PUB. CORP. (Berkley Medallion Editions; 11/74; 95¢ ea. unless otherwise noted) -- Bond, Evelyn: Lady in Darkness (orig. pub. '65 by Lancer Books; 192 pp.; Gothic); Cameron, Lou: The Closing Circle (255 pp.; suspense nov.; \$1.50); Mulvihill, William: I've Got Viktor Schalkenburg (174 pp.; a condemned war criminal hiding on a Caribbean island is kidnapped by a gentle professor of German History, who finds himself "plunged into a world of brutality and evil"); Offutt, Andrew: Operation: Super Ms. (240 pp.; reviewed elsewhere in this issue).

Other Fiction (all pb):

BERKLEY PUB. CORP. (Berkley Medallion Editions; 11/74) -- Duffield, Anne: Fiametta (\$1.25; 272 pp. (Large-Type ed.); romantic novel); Lewis, Ada Cook: Jenny (\$1.50; (Over)

BOOKWORLD: BOOKS RECEIVED (Continued) --

399 pp.; novel of a "London wench" in 1748); Moore, Clayton: The Corrupters (\$1.25; 256 pp.; #5 in series of "River Falls" novels); Norwood, W.D., Jr.: The Judoka (\$1.50; 192 pp.; novel of a man "whose life embodies the Way of Judo--a philosophy of peace grown out of the precepts of a classic martial art"); Turner, William O.: Blood Dance (95¢; 142 pp.; Western novel).

Non-Fiction (all pb):

BERKLEY PUB. CORP. (Berkley Medallion Editions; 11/74) -- Bornhauser, Tom & Palumbo, Dennis: The World's Greatest T.V. Quiz (95¢; 189 pp.; TV trivia quizzes); Charroux, Robert: Masters of the World (\$1.50; 252 pp.; orig. pub. in '67 by Robert Laffont; trans. by Lowell Blair; more about those "ancient astronauts"); Kriyananda, Swami: Your Sun Sign as a Spiritual Guide (\$1.25; 176 pp.; Eastern way to astrology).

COLUMBIA UNIV. PRESS -- Alazraki, Jaime: Jorge Luis Borges (Columbia Essays on Modern Writers #57; \$1; '71; 5 1/2" x 8"; 48 pp.; one of the best studies of Borges we have ever read....).

Received 1/12/74-15/12/74:

SF/Fantasy (all pb unless otherwise noted):

AVON BOOKS -- Silverberg, Robert (ed.): New Dimensions 2 (95¢; 12/74 (orig. pub. '72 by Doubleday & Co., Inc.); 204 pp.; cover by Walotsky; orig. anthology: Introd.; "Nobody's Home", by Joanna Russ; "Filomena & Greg & Rikki-Tikki & Barlow & The Alien", by James Tiptree, Jr.; "Out from Ganymede", by Barry Malzberg; "No. 2 Plain Tank", by Edward Bryant; "Eurema's Dam", by R.A. Lafferty; "King Harvest", by Gardner Dozois; "Take a Match", by Isaac Asimov; "f(x) = (11/15/67)", by Geo. Alec Effinger; "White Summer in Memphis", by Gordon Eklund; "Lazarus II", by Miriam Allen deFord; "The Men Inside", by Robert Silverberg.

BALLANTINE BOOKS -- Brackett, Leigh: The Long Tomorrow (\$1.25; 262 pp.; 12/74; orig. pub. '55; post-catastrophe novel about "when men of science fell into disgrace...and technology was against the law!"); Harrison, Harry (ed.): Astounding: John W. Campbell Memorial Anthology (\$1.95; 324 pp.; 12/74; orig. pub. '73 by Random House, Inc.; orig. anthology: Introduction: "The Father of Science Fiction", by Isaac Asimov; "Lodestar", by Poul Anderson; "Thiotimoline to the Stars", by Isaac Asimov; "Something Up There Likes Me", by Alfred Bester; "Lecture Demonstration", by Hal Clement; "Early Bird", by Theodore R. Cogswell & Theodore L. Thomas; "The Emperor's Fan", by L. Sprague de Camp; "Brothers", by Gordon R. Dickson; "The Moth-balled Spaceship", by Harry Harrison; "Black Sheep Astray", by Mack Reynolds; "Epilog", by Clifford D. Simak; "Interlude", by George O. Smith; "Helix the Cat", by Theodore Sturgeon; "Probability Zero: The Population Implosion", by Theodore R. Cogswell; Afterword, by Harrison; cover & illus by Kelly Freas); Pohl, Frederik & Kornbluth, C.M.: The Space Merchants (\$1.50; 12.74 (orig. pub. 5/53; based on condensed version serialized in GALAXY as "Gravy Planet"; classic novel satirizing the world of advertising).

DOUBLEDAY & CO., INC. -- Way, Robert E.: The Garden of the Beloved (71 pp., hb; d.j. & illus by Laszlo Kubinyi; '74; sent as a Christmas Greeting from Doubleday to the people on its mailing list; allegory "on the cyclical nature of love").

HYPERION PRESS, INC. -- de Tarde, Gabriel: Underground Man ('74; orig. pub. '05 in London by Duckworth & Co.; 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"; \$2.95; in its "Classics of Science Fiction" reprint series; trans. by Cloudesley Brereton; Preface by H.G. Wells, w/Notes on Tarde by Joseph Manchon; Man struggles to create a Utopia; Earth is beset by a natural catastrophe; the survivors go underground and achieve Utopia).

POCKET BOOKS (both books 95¢; Vols. 1 & 2 in "Spider" Series, resp.; both by Grant Stockbridge; 1/75; both covers by Robert Maguire) -- Death Reign of the Vampire King (144 pp.; orig. pub. '35; Spider fights the Bat and his hordes of trained vampire bats); Hordes of the Red Butcher (158 pp.; orig. pub. '35; the Spider vs. the legions of sub-human beast-men and their brilliant but criminal leader).

WALKER & CO. -- Ellison, Harlan: Approaching Oblivion: Road Signs on the Treadmill Toward Tomorrow (12/74; \$8.95; 238 pp.; d.j. by Diane & Leo Dillon; Foreword: "Approaching Ellison", by Michael Crichton; Introduction: "Reaping the Whirlwind", by Ellison; collection of 11 "uncollected" stories: "Knox" (CRAWDADDY, '74); "Cold

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DISSECTING THE HEART OF THE MATTER: PROZINE REVIEWS, by Richard Delap (May '74)

Perhaps in keeping with the old adage about the "merry month of May", publishers have included a number of giddy stories that take the reader off into never-never land (note especially the works of Kapp, Lafferty, Hallus and Evans). The fiction is, as always, of mixed quality, but the average is reasonably good this time around. The articles and features, however, are a delightful hornet's nest that should have readers jumping in all directions. ANALOG features Joe Allred's guest editorial "Frankenstein Phobia", an excellent discussion of the public fear of "science"; Barry Malzberg's biased but nevertheless interesting look at SF's recent curiosity, Roger Elwood; and allotter column which goes totally crackers over Heinlein's January editorial. F&SF features a zinger of a book column by Harlan Ellison, the always fine science-interpreted-for-interested-but-lazy-laymen column by Isaac Asimov, and Baird Searles' favorable review of the film Zardoz (a rarity for that film!). In GALAXY, Theodore Sturgeon returns his book column to good form after several months on a downhill run, which helps offset the incredible boredom of the science column by Jerry Pournelle "Ph.D." (and don't he let you know it!). THE HAUNT OF HORROR has been revived as a comix-magazine, but it features one work of prose (left over from the previous incarnation?) which is the only reason I'm noting this issue. I will not review future issues that carry only illustrated stories.

FANTASTIC -- May:Serial:

Frankenstein Unbound (conclusion) -- Brian Aldiss.

Short Stories:

Soundtrack: The Making of a Thoroughbred -- Robert Thurston.

Thurston writes with the cunning of a cobra--first there is the sudden shock of recognition, then fascination with the story's movement that lulls us into a sense of false security, then, bang!, the fangs hit home. Replacing horses with humans in a tale of the training of a champion racer may initially smack of simple levity; but don't be fooled. Listen to the words ("human flesh...ultimate proof... a modest sable coat...ceremonial grooming strokes...the satisfaction of duty") and you'll find your chuckles caught up short by sharp intakes of breath. Well done.

Nice and Easy -- Pg Wyal.

Jimmy Brady, a soldier thrust 10,000 years into the future by an exploding bomb in the year 2009, finds himself in a Utopian world of peace and plenty, a socialist perfection. What strikes Jimmy as odd, however, is that despite what he is told by "Administration", the society is encased in an aura of stagnation--"It all looks like San Diego", he remarks. Wyal, a master of sly and devious humor, is not quite in top form here and his story tends to drag down in molasses dialogue, but the conclusion snaps into place with a quick bite that carries a sharp sting.

The Dreaming Dervish -- Spider Robinson.

Everything is relative, it's said, which has given a base to many an SF tale wherein the author creates worlds of varying sizes and expounds on the relationship between them. It's an old tactic, one that Robinson does not handle with much freshness as he tells of a dancer "steeped in madness", a young couple in a night of lovemaking, and an army of ants, all mixed together in a symbolic but not really very meaningful story. Fair.

A New Life -- William Rotsler.

The exploitation of sex is a reflection of social callousness, but how it reflects through individuals is where the real tragedy becomes apparent; and it is not enough to simply portray a series of character actions and expect the reader to automatically become emotional about either the character or the society. Rotsler's concept of depravity is couched in terms like "eyes hard with lust", and his depthless exploration of his theme is incredibly dull. Poor.

In the Land That Aimed at Forever -- David R. Bunch.

A new Moderan story--well, another Moderan story, I should say, for Bunch continues to work the same material over and over. Here the metal-and-flesh people

(Over)

DISSECTING THE HEART OF THE MATTER: PROZINE REVIEWS (Continued) --

must be distracted from the truth about the fate of the first true immortal, the first man to be entirely "replaced" with metal parts. Anyone who's read science fiction for very long should intuitively surmise the results of such immortality. Routine.

War Baby -- Al Sirois [writing as: Lewis S. Allyn]

On a planet made over to house the wars between worlds, two soldiers, one male, one female, are thrown together momentarily with that old "reproductive instinct" taking hold. Sirois begins well, his world an intriguing backdrop, his chance encounter full of possibilities; but at the end he cuts his story so short that the preceding events have no dramatic purpose. Too bad. (The pseudonym, by the way, is listed on the cover and at story's end; Sirois' own name is at the story's head and on the contents page. Clear? Well....)

Metamorphosis -- Kendall Evans.

It is simply not fair to give away anything about this delightful little farce which takes that old cliché about super-heroes and their daring exploits and satirizes it with the hard facts of time and space (read: mundane everyday problems). Short-shorts are extremely difficult to write well, but Evans' two-page belly-laugh deserves credit as the best one I've seen in some time. Very good.

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ANALOG -- May:

Novelettes:

Catalyst Run -- Jesse Miller.

An SF story about truckers? About competitive racing? About egocentrism? Actually this story is a combination of all these, set in an odd future where Detroit's transportation terminal is the only one lacking complete automation and is "a fare system for supervisors and operators". Only one man can hold the position of Top Operator, but the Catalyst Run gives challengers a chance to try and grab the crown from champion John Gutley. Here we have a race between Gutley and Richard Arvius, from Detroit to Denver, with Arvius determined to shake the stigma of his "second-best" position. Arvius has determination but Gutley, on his last run, has more, namely employer intervention. Miller throws in a lot of imaginative detail--the Road Drug, the repelectric roads, the paraphernalia of automation--but in the end it's really the story of one man, Arvius, dealing with his obsessive determination. Uneven and sometimes too slow, the story nevertheless manages to hide much of its plot drag behind some smooth prose. Good of kind.

Laws and Orders -- Tak Hallus.

Lawyer Philo Thompson, equipped with a full arsenal of rejoinders and smartass quips, is a character one finds it almost impossible not to admire. Set up neither as a superhero nor as a dunce, he muddles his way through an attempt to rescue two kidnap victims and refreshingly manages to fluctuate realistically between actions of good common sense and incredible ineptitude. It is he who holds together this flippant but often funny plot which involves an idiot telepath, a stage magician (whose rejoinders challenge Philo's for high points in sarcasm), a rich self-made businessman who treads along the fine line of American hypocrisy, a matter transmitter, and a "mad scientist" who has developed a method of mind control by surgical implant. While the story is overlong and occasionally bogged down in trivia, Hallus keeps his characters hopping like crazy amid a barrage of snappy dialogues packed with many chuckles and a few outright guffaws. Amusing.

Short Stories:

FTA -- George R. R. Martin.

Bureaucratic sluggishness is always a problem, but Kinery is disgusted when the FTL Foundation refuses to pay him attention as he proposes a plan to reach FTL's goal, hyperspace travel, within two years. In confronting FTL's director, he demands a reason why his theories have not been funded for development. He gets it, too, at which the reader may grudgingly admit that bureaucrats may have their reasons for sometimes inexplicable actions. Readable fluff.

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DISSECTING THE HEART OF THE MATTER: PROZINE REVIEWS (Continued) --Owe Me -- John T. Phillifent.

When a security guard is suspected of industrial spying, the company manager calls him in for a confrontation. What begins as a technical puzzle of how and why moves stealthily into a philosophical mode that has the "spy" a carefree, happy and honest man, and the manager coming unhinged trying to figure him out. The story is light, easy to take, sort of a contemporary technological fairy tale.

No Biz Like Show Biz -- Lloyd Biggle, Jr.

Actually this story is only peripherally about future entertainment. Its primary concern is to portray a new system of dealing with criminals--i.e., make them perform in public spectacles, usually in a degrading fashion and often in satiric re-enactments of their crimes. Despite Biggle's concluding twist, he never tries to make his troubled society anything more than an unbelievable and very unpleasant joke. Awful.

The Gods' Decision -- Herbie Brennan.

Take a little history (Rome under the rule of Tiberius), a small crisis (an army stranded in the hinterlands with no way to call aid from Rome), a bit of Kung Fu in the Roman arena, and an inventor who stumbles across the first scientific steps for harnessing electricity. Mix together in pinches until something begins to shape, then top with a layer of irony. It's an interesting try and while it's fun watching it all come together, the final flavor is a little on the flat side. Minor.

Science:

Geothermal Resources -- Eric Burgess.Feature /Guest Editorial/:Frankenstein Phobia -- Joe Allred.Feature /The Reference Library/:The Case of Roger Elwood -- Barry N. Malzberg.

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FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION -- May:

Novelettes:

--That Thou Art Mindful of Him! -- Isaac Asimov.

The creator of the famed and much-respected Three Laws of Robotics at last creates a story which does not seek exceptions to those laws but tries to invalidate them entirely. The setting is well into the future (over a century after the death of Susan Calvin), a time when U.S. Robots faces dissolution, humanity having little memory of the way robots saved them from ecological disaster but still filled with the fear that robots will supplant humans. Although the story's opening is pretentious and clumsy, Asimov hurries past the lectures quickly and into an adequate drama that should satisfy the robot fans. Good of kind.

Straight Shooters Always Win -- Arthur Jean Cox.

While famed for his western novels and a popular biography of Tom Mix, John Thames Rokesmith has never been out of a city environment until the day his friend persuades him to join a cattle drive from California to Nevada. The ordinary but pleasant cattlemen are amused by Rokesmith's inexperience, considering his reputation as an "Old West" expert, and they tease him endlessly, nicknaming him (appropriately) "Fats". What is so very nice about this tale is Cox's mix of attitudes. There is quite a bit of humor, ranging from an easy, drawling, offhand amusement to the very funny near-slapstick of the concluding cattle stampede. But underlying this is a rather serious approach to character analysis and a clever (though sometimes confusing) approach to the fantasy element, which hovers indistinctly between fantasy-accepted-as-fact and psychological obsession. The story's moralistic tone likewise is indistinct, straddling a knife-edge between open satire and even more open adulation, as Cox plays with the reader and refuses to let him settle comfortably at either pole. The writing is proficient and often quite excellent, and even the typos are funny ("the pelf of the mountain loin"). It's an unusual, compelling, difficult to forget, and very entertaining fantasy.

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DISSECTING THE HEART OF THE MATTER: PROZINE REVIEWS (Continued) --Short Stories:The Military Hospital -- Phyllis Gotlieb.

Emotionally strange and troubling, Gotlieb's story of an impregnable hospital and its inhabitants is a lovely example of the insight into the human heart that only SF can provide so peculiarly. The characters--the hospital's temporary supervisor, a man whose confidence is finally matched by his distrust; a soldier, saved from death only to be sent back into its jaws; and a robot nurse, whose actions bring about a question of her automated nature--play out a human tragedy that brings us up dead against the choice of what we want to (or should) call evil. Intricate, subtle, stimulating, it's a story that should create quite a bit of discussion. Very well done.

Like Phoenix from the Ashes Newly Risen -- Phyllis MacLennan.

Contraceptive treatments have in a few generations proved catastrophic, for all the women on Earth are now sterile. But man reaches out to the stars, hoping to find females with which he can interbreed, and MacLennan tries to capture the tension between a man and wife when such aliens are found. The premise is not a very convincing one, and there is little tension forthcoming from the couple's desperate bickering over whether the man should or should not impregnate the alien. MacLennan's gravity covers the plot like a wet blanket, and the result is a very soggy piece of fiction.

The Dawn Rider -- Lester del Rey.

Historical mysteries have long been a favorite of fantasists, and del Rey's tale of ancient Britain and the mystery of Stonehenge (both of which are implicated but never named) centers its speculations in the fantasy of the lost magical arts of Atlantis. For all its color and action, however, it is a strangely incomplete, rather empty story. The narrator, Loureos, has little motivation for his revolutionary actions, and the plot is never able to overcome its chains of explanation. Good try, but not quite good enough....

Trolls -- Robert Borski.

Not only is Harlan Ellison a fine writer, but he's damned hard to imitate, as Borski proves here in a stylistic mish-mash that reads like Ellison strained through an egg-beater ("Hoat fired up from inside, lizard-gut burning acid. Eyes opened, and glare lights phased out hungrily. . . Smelled troll blood already, felt so good"). Borski dulls the shock of realizing the trolls are actually humans looking for relief from a future concrete-ized world, revving up his literary engines for a ride straight to cliché-land. Sorry, Borski, irony (and style) cannot be bottled up so easily.

The Key to English -- C. L. Grant.

Grant, who has been building an enviable reputation as a writer of very effective SF and fantasy horror stories, misses the mark with this fussy and much over-written tale of a private school where the perfection of the system is obviously sinister and suspect. The secret seems to rest in the mystery of a locked room, which one inquisitive student is determined to open. He pays for his curiosity, of course, but I doubt any reader will be much surprised or horrified by the secret. The story's plot is too leisurely, too much emphasis on mood and too little on plot. Fair.

Science:At Closest Range -- Isaac Asimov.

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GALAXY -- May:Serial:The Org's Egg (part two) -- Frederik Pohl & Jack Williamson.Novelettes:Cox's Quality -- William Van Arnyck.

The Board of Directors of UNCART (a world-spanning cartel which has ended war, united nations, and maintained economic stability) are presented with a new inven-

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DISSECTING THE HEART OF THE MATTER: PROZINE REVIEWS (Continued) --

vention, the Encephaloimprinter (ECIP), which can alter the mental "attitude" of the person on whom it is used. Experimental projects show that when the ECIP is used to imprint people with more desirable traits, work absenteeism is down and production is up, and the Directors are finally forced to decide if they should imprint the entire world's population. While never very believable, the plot is still quite interesting for Van Aryck's careful dissection of how easily corporate management can be led astray, his characters (especially Dr. Gold, who perfectly reflects the dangers of total dedication) an arresting group who carry long dialogues with ease. The story is an intellectual tease, without a spot of direct action, but those who like this sort of tale may enjoy it very much. Good of kind. War of the Wastelife -- Colin Kapp.

The focus of Kapp's erratic story is a "mind-jant therapy", a process by which one person can enter another's mind by use of the invaded mind's "perceptual model" of reality and an "artificial cognicenter" (described by Kapp as a spark-of-consciousness entity). One character calls this process "the first approach to mental health that ever looked like becoming an exact science", but Kapp never offers anything to support this sort of statement and the therapy is never more than magic with mechanical overlay. All the same the plot has its moments of fun, as Martin Sawyer is plunged into the depths of the mind of Andrea Cass, an inhumanly cruel bitch goddess who specializes in torture and sadism and who has a grudge to settle with Sawyer, who bested her once before and drove her to a mental crack-up. The mind-images are full of weird effects, most of them overwrought and drowning in fakery, but the confrontation is excitingly studded (like an old-time movie serial) with crisis points and the conclusion packs in a funny twist that is rather surprisingly apt. Minor, I suppose, but still fun.

Short Stories:

End City -- Robert Sheckley.

This one could have been written anytime during the past couple of decades and it would have been appreciated only by the SF cognoscenti. But today any reader can understand what End City means as he looks around him at a world settling like silt at the bottom of a hedonistic sea of luxuries. As with most of Sheckley's stories, it's hilarious, often heartbreaking, sometimes both, but while it is polished and condensed it also seems to be a bit late in the cycle.

Tinkerboy -- Robert F. Young.

Andrew Harris, astronaut on the first one-man Mars mission, is remarkably self-controlled and analytical upon discovering that his ship, as it nears Mars, changes into a plastic molded thing with fake dials and windows, exactly like a toy. Which is what it has become, the toy he possessed as a child. I guess you could find a dozen different interpretations to this one, one of which may suit you. I find it a slightly unfocused exercise in nostalgia-horror, interesting in spots but ultimately unsatisfying.

Endangered Species -- R. A. Lafferty.

Out to save the endangered species, the Spokolspuks, Conrad and his wife Agata must carefully preserve their professional appearance while they scramble to find out what the hell the species is. Madame Hexe, a "discredited medium" who is determined to assist them, leads them to a haunted house where she reveals she's a lobbyist for ghosts and...ah, but why go on? It's simply insane, a jolly boiling kettle of Lafferty fish, all shapes and sizes. Good fun.

Time and Duckworth -- Larry Eisenberg.

Duckworth's back at work again, this time with a substance called Perceptron, which does not alter time itself but speeds up one's perception of time flow. It works well enough, but its social impact promises disaster and its side effects prove deadly. While I'm not much of a Duckworth fan, this story is less cloyingly cute than most of the series and is very short. Bearable but still very routine. Substance and Shadow -- Doris Piserchia.

Here's a story that might almost be said to fulfill that ambiguous term, "science-fantasy". It's a horror story of a machine that can copy a body cell and  
(Over)

DISSECTING THE HEART OF THE MATTER: PROZINE REVIEWS (Continued) --

reproduce a perfect character identification on a plastic punch-card. But if the card can capture the "soul" as well, then what happens to the original? Piserchia crams in so many oddities of character and plot that her story seems conversely underdeveloped--which is probably just as well since it's a rather silly idea in the first place.

Cool Affection -- Sonya Dorman.

On the way to work at her middle-class yarn shop, Mrs. Grandy notices a child sleeping on a doorstep, ragged, dirty, alone and obviously in need of a friend. The child, named Agnes, appreciates Mrs. Grandy's attention, but sometimes even the best of intentions are never quite enough. Dorman strikes a fine balance between sentiment and despair here, her future background highlighting the quirks of prejudice with a clever inclusion of aliens as part of the new Earth milieu. Graceful, calm but not contented, the story is very memorable.

Science:

Those Pesky Belters and Their Torchships -- Jerry Pournelle.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE HAUNT OF HORROR -- May:Novella:

Heartstop -- George Alec Effinger.

In the obscure Pennsylvania town of Gremmage, a salesman, Mr. Newby, seeks a room for the night and finds himself involved in a series of events that seem at first like bad dreams but turn out to be much worse. The characters he meets in the local diner find ways to distract him from leaving--a chess game, played by rules that are arbitrarily changed for his opponent's benefit as they play, is the primary tactic--and the murders these characters commit on the side with shocking casualness seem hardly to matter. Unfortunately the horror is all so symbolized that the stylistic effects (the '50's nostalgia, some clever double-entendre dialogue, the sharp characterizations) lose their initial sparkle when revealed to be totally subverted to a purpose that never gets up enough nerve to come right out and explain itself. Oh, apathy, where is thy sting?...right here, says Effinger, burned into the rock in luminous letters. (Hmmm, maybe there's a burning bush around here, too, someplace?)

Comic Illustrated Stories:

The Rats! -- script: Gerry Conway; art: Ralph Reese.

The Last Man! -- script /uncredited/; art: R. Heath.

His Own Kind! -- script: Roy Thomas, based on the story by Thomas M. Disch; art: Val Mayerik & Mike Eposito.

The Nightmare Patrol -- script: Gerry Conway; art: Ernie Chua.

In the Shadows of the City -- script: Steve Gerber; art: Vincente Alcazar.

MAGAZINARAMA: PROZINES RECEIVED (16/11/74-30/11/74) --

ANALOG SCIENCE FICTION/SCIENCE FACT -- 1/75; 75¢ (40p); 180 pp., incl. covers (fc by John Schoenherr); illos by Schoenherr, Vincent di Fate, Kelly Freas, Jack Gaughan; Serial: "The Indian Giver", by Alfred Bester (pt. 3 of 3); Novelettes: "The Borderland of Sol", by Larry Niven; "End Game", by Joe Haldeman; Short Stories by Barry Malzberg, Katherine MacLean; Special Feature: "The Present State of Igneous Research", by Gordon R. Dickson (humor); /Discon II Hugo report, Calendar of Upcoming Events, lettercolumn, editorial ("1974: The Year That Was"), & book reviews by P. Schuyler Miller; edited by Ben Bova.

GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE -- 12/74; 75¢ (30p); 160 pp. / covers (fc by Steve Fabian); illos by Fabian, Gaughan, Harding, & Kimmel; Serial: "Love Conquers All", by Fred Saberhagen (Pt. 2 of 3); Novelettes: "Cry Wolf!", by Mack Reynolds; "The Eggs of Eden", by M.A. Bartter; "The Bleeding Man", by Craig Strets; Short Stories by Steven Utley, Robert Silverberg; /"Forum" (Ursula Le Guin on "Escape Routes"), science article "Black Holes & Cosmic Censorship" (by Jerry Pournelle), book-review by Theodore Sturgeon; classified ads, & lettercolumn; edited by James Baen.

(cont. on page 19)



EN PASSANT: LETTERCOLUMN --

JIM GOLDFRANK, 10516 Edgemont Dr., Adelphi, MD 20783

(undated)

I've been running into several problems lately. I read a good deal less than I'd like to. I often find that Don D'Amassa, Dave Weems, or another of the motley crew of reviewers among which I number myself, has beaten me to the punch by writing a good review, that I agree with, of a new book. I've no qualms to taking exception to a review, but on the other hand, I don't want to duplicate a good effort by saying nothing new or different. ## Problem #2 is a stock of unread old books, some of which are memorable. I propose to solve these with an occasional column called "From the Archives". It would include only good old books, and ignore the others. It would be directed to three groups of readers: (1) Those who might have the book in their "Fibber McGee's Closet", (2) Those who haunt old bookstores and huckster stands, and (3) Those who find a new edition in accordance with "Miller's Law" that "Everything gets reprinted sooner or later". ## I'll try to turn out a few of these and see if they meet with your and your readers' approval. ## ((Go right ahead--and include not just "good old books", but also newly issued reprints of good old books. And we invite other reviewers--and potential reviewers--to send in reviews for Jim's proposed column. (But don't stop sending in reviews, both long and short, of good (and bad) new books--we can never get enough reviews to suit us.))

ROBERT SMOOT, Three Churches, WV 26765

(27/10/74)

I think I'm among what must be only a paltry handful of resident fans who failed to attend DISCON. Alas, thoughts of school and conservation of moolah, plus a few raised eyebrows by the parents, led to my sponging the weekend at home. Maybe next time.... ## SOTWJ has to be the only 'zine I get that keeps up on all zines and books (or nearly all) and reports with detail and interest. I get only a fingerful (or two) of the material reviewed therein (critiqued, or whatever), but learning of the essential ideas of so many works is stimulating. ## Liked reading Simon's review of Golden Voyage of Sinbad. Either Simon or your typist erred with Ray's name--'tis "Harryhausen", not "Harryhousen". I wonder if Simon hasn't gone overboard a bit, though. Harryhausen and producer Charles Schneer often use the film--or a number of their other films--as vehicles for special visual and audio techniques. Each film, it doth seem, is geared to supply ample room for Harryhausen's fx. Considering Ray's quality and imagination, I'm not complaining. ## Octobriana, if you don't know, is a character in Soviet underground politici-porno magazines. Petr Sadecky has a big 8½" x 10" softback book out on her and her exploits. Well, she found her way to the cover of an American armed forces magazine. Older Brother Thom, back from the Army reserves, receives a magazine from the Army (title of which escapes me), a recent issue of which had a feature on Soviet and U.S. missile capacity. Glory be, there was Octobriana, riding two missiles (one Soviet and one American).

((And, from an older letter, already extracted by Bill in SOTWJ #155/156, a few more items of possible interest to SOTWJ readers:)) Steve Lewis' letter brought back some memories. Prisoner used to be my favorite series. Patrick McGoochan had an interesting character, and the plot basis (where am I, why, and how do I get out?) never seemed to weaken. Science Fiction Theater is still listed in TV GUIDE for the D.C. area, but it's not on a channel I can get. Fireball XL5 and Stingray were puppet programs, with fx that to my very young mind were real (I'm 17, and haven't seen either program for at least six years). ## I like the pubbing of multiple reviews of a book, when space and economy allow. Individual prejudices or personal dislikes come to the front, and the reader gets to view the book from several different angles. ((We'd do this more often, if we were lucky enough to receive two reviews of the same book at the same time. As it is, just after we publish a review, another arrives....)) ## Am 250 pp. into Life and Death of Adolph Hitler, by Robert Payne. Print is small, which, with Payne's skill at organizing details, makes for much data. For anyone else, the 600 pp. might have run for 700 or even 800. Features 44 photos and illustrations, including works by art-inclined Hitler himself. This is a serious, extensive book, and it is well written as well. Recommended for the serious reader. ## THE MONSTER TIMES #34

(Over)

EN PASSANT: LETTERCOLUMN (Continued) --

includes favorable comments on Zardoz; it was even praised as a classic. As you live in the D.C. area, maybe you've heard Davey Marlin-Jones review it? He mentions that a character is falling through space, placed in such an unbecoming situation by Sean Connery, shouting: "It's pointless...pointless...pointless..." Says Jones, in effect, "He's trying to tell us something." (Of course, Jones didn't like it, calling the flic a flop.)

PARRIS, 1725 17th St., N.W., Apt. 108, Wash., DC 20009

(1 Nov '74)

Well, it's happened again. I seem to spend much of my time telling people just what my name is. ## At Discon, I discovered "Miss" upon my name badge. I stormed for a few moments, told some people of the subtle and sexist mistake and then continued on. ## When I joined WSFA, I made certain that it was understood that I was Parris, and that was all I was. Now I find SOTWJ's in my mail box addressed to "Miss Parris", and even in print I am given a title I do not desire. ## Let me explain one more time. My full and complete name is Parris. I give my name without title for the reason that any title--Miss, Mr., Mrs., or Ms., will and does create sex discrimination that I will not allow in my life. It's the subtle things, you see, boys, that perpetuate sexism as well as the obvious. If a society of classless people is ever to exist, where women and men are equal, such "honorifics" which are really no more than verbal shorthand denoting a person's sex/status, will have to be dropped. ## Therefore, please retract the name you have given me in Vol. 27 #3,4, and print my full and proper name. Also change your labeling on my sub to Parris. ## P.S. I would like to point out that Avedon Carol is not Carol Avedon, as you have printed. She, also, has mentioned this to WSFA. ((Noted.))

WE ALSO HEARD FROM:

RICHARD DELAP, who has undertaken (tentatively) a new project: editing a new library journal. He notes that the idea was Harlan Ellison's, who turned the idea over to him for development. He goes on, "I will be editor, and publishing will be handled by a group of California librarians. I'm hoping to begin with a monthly publication, and since I can't possibly review all the books I'll be seeking reviewers from the ranks of fandom. This will cut back on my book reviews for fanzines, of course, but I'll continue movie and magazine review as long as I'm able to do so...depending on how successful this damned thing becomes." And, in a later letter, he states: The library journal hopefully is now set for January publication. I'm having difficulty in finding reviewers who are not only good but can contribute on schedule--if you know anyone who would be interested in reviewing, direct them to me. We are depending on reviewers to supply their own books to begin, but galloys should start arriving in December and reviewers will receive them both for review and as payment. . . Sample copies and subscription order blanks will be mailed gratis to several hundred libraries. No final decision yet on price--probably in the range of \$20 per year, publication monthly to begin, perhaps tri-weekly later if the project goes over big." . . I'll be handling all editorial matters, with Fred Patten handling printing, distribution and subscriptions." The tentative name for the journal is DELAP'S F&SF REVIEW. Watch for it at your library.

GEORGE FERGUS, who sent a sample reader feedback ballot for our next SOTWJ Reader's Poll, and noted: "In your next poll of reader reaction to SOTWJ, I suggest that you ask what information should be given in a book review. Should the publisher be named, or is it sufficient to indicate whether you are reviewing a hardcover or paperback? Should the date of publication of the edition being reviewed be given, plus the year of the original edition, if any? Or is it enough to merely indicate whether you are reviewing a reasonably current edition, or are doing some type of "retrospective" review of an older book? Should price and number of pages be included? Another thing you might change in the next poll is to ask about SCA Reports independently of other con reports. . . And don't forget--I still think you ought to change the name of SOTWJ to SF ARCHIVE." ## Most, if not all, of George's suggestions will be incorporated in our next Poll (which will take place as soon as we have caught up and can spare the space). The name-change will take place when SOTWJ

(Cont. next page)

EN PASSANT: LETTERCOLUMN (Continued) --

changes its numbering system (as noted in TWJ #84) and becomes single, 20-22-page issues rather than 22-page double-issues.

GILBERT GATER, who states that "a particularly kind word is due David Weems on a lovely/perceptive/enjoyable review of the Hugo Nominations" (in SOTWJ 153/154).

TIM KIRK: "Thanks very much for SOTWJ, with Jim Goldfrank's very kind review of the Tolkien Calendar; I really appreciate it!" ((Dave & Jim, take note!))

ANDRE NORTON: "Thank you so very much for sending me the copies of the fan-zine with the reviews of my books in them. This was a very thoughtful gesture on your part and one I appreciate so much." ((We include Ms. Norton's remarks here not as an ego-boost, but rather to thank her for her thoughtfulness in acknowledging the "courtesy" copies of TWJ and SOTWJ we have been sending her. Too few authors respond in any way to receipt of such copies--it's always nice to hear that some of them, at least, are actually reaching their destinations.))

DONALD J. PFEIL (editor, VERTEX): "Congratulations! While I have become accustomed to that spiteful drivel that Delap passes off as critical review, I find it totally incredible that something which calls itself a SF/Fantasy News/Review "Zine could actually publish a review of a magazine 10 months after the on-sale date of the magazine. Just as a matter of interest, what happened to the five issues which have gone on--and off--sale since then?" ((The Delap reviews are being published in fulfillment of the "Review" rather than the "News" function of SOTWJ. While we would very much like to be able to fulfill both functions at one time by having the reviews of the most recent issues, we feel that, even though they are off 'zines no longer on the news-stands, Richard's reviews still deserve publication--and SOTWJ is most happy to be able to provide a home for them. For various reasons, he fell pretty far behind in '74--but, as can be seen from the past few SOTWJ's, he is catching up as fast as he can write (and we can publish.))

FLOYD PEILL, who notes: "Arkham House patrons are now receiving the latest release (The Watchers Out of Time and Others, by Lovecraft and Derleth; \$8.50; 405 / ix; 5000 copies). We should order our copies directly from the publisher, whose address is simply: Arkham House, Sauk City, WI 53583." And, in a later note; "I'm certainly glad to see you give a plug now and then for Dover Publications. You're the only publisher doing this. I'm sure most SF and fantasy fans don't realize the wealth of material in these quality paperbacks." ((Now if only we could get reviews of some of the Dover publications for SOTWJ....)) ((And of the Arkham books....))

MAGAZINARAMA: PROZINES RECEIVED (Cont. from page 16) --

FANTASTIC SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY STORIES -- 2/75; 75¢ (30p); 132 pp., incl. covers (fc by Fabian); illos by Michael Nally, Fabian, Jeff Jones, Mike Kaluta, Richard Olsen, Joe Staton; Novelettes: "Shadow in the Skull", by L. Sprague de Camp & Lin Carter (Conan story); "Perchance to Dream", by Robert F. Young; "To Be a Witch, in Three Quarters Time", by C.L. Grant; "The Dragon of Tor-Nali", by Juanita Coulson (sequel to "Wizard of Death"); "Solid Geometry", by Ian McEwan; Short Stories by "Gardner R. Dubious" (Mike Glicksohn), Alpajpuri, Bruce Arthurs ("Capt. Nucleus" story); / editorial, lettercolumn, book reviews by Fritz Leiber, c/ads; ed. Ted White.

THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION -- 1/75; 75¢ (35p); 164 pp., incl. covers (w/around cover by Mazey & Schell); Serial: "Venus on the Half-Shell", by Kilgore Trout (Pt. 2 of 2); Novelette: "Noomyenoh", by Charles W. Runyon; Short Stories by Edward Wellen, Warner Law, Lou Fisher, Zenna Henderson (re "The People"); Article: "Lovecraft: Failed Aristocrat", by L. Sprague de Camp (book excerpt); / lettercolumn, book reviews by Joanna Russ, cartoon by Gahan Wilson, film reviews by Baird Searles; "Introducing Isaac Asimov", by Arthur C. Clarke; science article, "Thinking About Thinking", by Isaac Asimov; edited by Edward L. Ferman.

WORLDS OF IF SCIENCE FICTION -- 11-12/74; 75¢ (30p); 160 pp. / covers (fc by Rick Sternbach); illos by Freff, Gaughan, Harting; Serial: "A Knight of Ghosts and Shadows", by Poul Anderson (pt. 2 of 2); Novelette: "Stormy Weather", by Daniel Dern; Short Stories by J.A. Lawrence, Craig Strete, Arsen Darnay; / lettercolumn, SF Calendar, Dick Geis' column, book reviews by Lester del Rey; "Following Yonder Star", by Dick Hoagland (re past & future of Astronomy); Editorial (re end of IF); ed. James Baer.

## THE MEDIA MORGUE: REVIEW EXTRACTS (from the Press) -- MOVIES --

THE WASH. STAR -- Donia Mills: 7/6/74: Frankenstein in 3-D (Bryanston Pictures; dir. Paul Morrissey; w/Monique Van Vooren, Joe Dellesandro, Udo Kier, Arno Juerging) -- Andy Warhol's version of Frankenstein: "calculatedly gross and depraved . . . Incest, necrophilia, decapitation, disembowelment, sodomy, sadism, and other perversions are arranged like flowers in this putrid bouquet by writer-director Paul Morrissey, who could probably make good films if he wanted to, but instead makes bad films to prove that all movies are to a greater or lesser degree merely illusions. . . All that is left is for Warhol and Company to adopt 'Sensurround', the newly faveled novelty that punishes the viewer's remaining senses of touch, smell and taste in accordance with what's happening on the screen. ## On that fateful day, the transformation of the movie theatre from entertainment palace to torture chamber will be complete. ## 28/12/73: Fantastic Planet (New World; dir. Rene L. Laloux; written by Roland Topor & Laloux from the novel Oms en Serie by Stefan Wul; animated photography by Lubomir Rejthar & Boris Baromykin) -- "a cartoon with brains, a beguiling bit of frenzy that couches its messages about war, peace, brotherhood and civil rights in some strikingly original graphic forms. . . the style of animation used is the European cut-and-hinged cardboard method, which differs radically from the more prevalent Disney type of animation of drawing characters directly on acetate, in that it produces greater depths and richness of graphic detail. . ." ## 15/3/74: Zardoz (20th Century-Fox; dir. by John Boorman; w/Sean Connery, Charlotte Rampling, Sara Kestelman, John Alderton) -- "it doesn't work . . . but in its own oblique way it usually manages to keep us giggling while we're coming to that conclusion. . . a movie that is humorous when it least intends to be. . . performs the dual feat of being too simpleminded in conception and too complicated in execution. . ." ## 26/9/73: Westworld (MGM; written & dir. by Michael Crichton; w/Richard Benjamin, Yul Brunner, James Brolin, Linda Scott) -- "has a computer-perfect combination of ingredients--science fiction, Western, humor, violence, social relevance--bound to work with almost any kind of audience. . . If [Crichton] were a more thorough thinker or a more talented director, Westworld might have really been a sensational, incisive and enduring work of science fiction. As it is, it's just a sensational piece of escapist entertainment about the perils of escapist entertainment. . ."

WASH. POST -- Jean M. White: 26/9/73: Westworld -- "Crichton spends too much time establishing his robot world and short-circuits suspense with long, arid stretches of Grade B Western. ## For sci-fi films, the viewer should be willing to suspend disbelief for a reasonable amount of time. But Westworld pushes the limits in asking us to believe that table-breaking, rail-splitting fights would leave guests uninjured. . ." ## Tom Shales: 1/1/74: Fantastic Planet -- "never quite touches down. It is science fiction of a Tolkienist sort, not a clear or moralistic parable that seems relevant or immediate. It is random fantasy . . . and not well-ordered conjecture about the future. It has no real use, but it has its charms. . . creates and sustains a consistent and affecting artificial universe that can be both eerie and amusing. . . a haunting, engaging, harmlessly ambiguous cosmic doodle." ## Gary Arnold: 15/3/74: Zardoz -- "a hopelessly ludicrous science-fiction allegory [that is] something of a drag as well as something of a hoot. . . The photography . . . and the special effects . . . are quite handsome, and . . . Zardoz looks pretty classy, certainly classier than Boorman's confused, dishevelled, pretentious scenario deserves." ## 24/8/73: Night Watch (dir. Brian Hutton; w/Elizabeth Taylor, Laurence Harvey, Billie Whitelaw) -- "a semi-Gothic, semi-sluggish movie version of a recent Broadway mystery thriller by Lucille Fletcher . . . a minimal, transparent shocker, misleading in ways that aren't psychologically persuasive or satisfying and identical in style to the mystery moview now regularly ground out for television. . ." ## 9/7/74: The Golden Voyage of Sinbad (w/John Phillip Law, Caroline Munro, Tom Baker; special effects by Harryhausen) -- "a reasonably enjoyable adventure fantasy, somewhat undermanned and hackneyed on the dramatic side but redeemed by Harryhausen's flair for monsters and apparitions. . ." ## Reviewer & date unknown: Terror in the Wax Museum -- "a new horror melodrama in a familiar setting, London's Wax Museum in the era of gaslight." (w/Ray Milland, Broderick Crawford, Elsa Lanchester, Maurice Evans, Louis Hayward, Steven Mario; PG).



THE AMATEUR PRESS: FANZINES RECEIVED (Rec'd 16-30 Nov.) --

ALTERNATE REALITY #12 (11/11/74) (Ron Melton, 694 Broadway, El Centro, CA 92234; 12/\$3; tri-weekly; offset; 4 1/4" x 7") -- 16 pp., incl. covers (fc by Melton) / 2-pg. mimeo insert, THE BRIEFING ROOM (by Mike Ritter), carrying moves, etc. for Postal Diplomacy games; fiction by P.R. Forbes (serial), Mike Ritter; comix news/notes; film reviews; Mike Ritter's column; letters; Diplomacy 'zine reviews; rules for new Diplomacy Variant ("Catspaw Diplomacy"); short game review (Frigate).

BFS BULLETIN II:4 (10-11/74) (British Fantasy Society o-o; ed. David Riley, 4 Lodge St., Accrington, Lancashire, UK, & Jim Pitts, 18 Norwood Ave., Blackburn, Lancs, UK; offset; 6" x 8 1/4"; bi-monthly) -- 12pp.; spot illos by Fabian, Jon Harvey, Trev Goring, Jim Pitts; Book News; ads (Wants & For Sale); "Collecting Lovecraftania", by Ted Ball; Film News/Reviews; Book Reviews; review of WORLD OF HORROR #2; Ramsey Campbell examines some recent Marvel comix; lettercolumn. ## Useful/informative.

CHECKPOINT (Darroll Pardoe, 24 Othello Close, Hartford, Huntingdon PE18 7SU, UK; bi-weekly; offset; 6" x 8 1/4"; 10/60p (Belg. 10/60F, Fr 10/6F, N.America 5/\$1 airmail, Australia 8/\$1)) -- #56 (6/11/74): 4 pp.; Novacon IV report; misc. news; short reviews of fanzines rec'd. ## #57 (21/11/74): 4 pp.; news & fanzine reviews. ## News: '75 DUFF candidates are John D. Berry, Jan Finder, & Rusty Hevelin; Nova award for Best British Fan ino of '74 to ZIMRI 6 (Lisa Conasa) & BIG SCAB 2 (John Brosnan).

THE MUTHALOIDE EVENING EINBLATT (Minn-stf, 343 E.19th St., Minneapolis, MN 55404; ed. Fred Haskell; mimeo; no price or sched. given) -- 2 pp.; info on Dec. '74 meetings; / 2-pg. flyer on MINICON 10 (Apr. 18-20; to be covered in "The Con Game").

FANW SLETTER #16 (Leigh Edmonds, POBox 74, Balacava, Vict. 3183, Australia; 10¢ ea.; bi-weekly; mimeo; 8" x 13") -- Thish 12/11/74; 2 pp.; news from "Down Under", / short reviews of Aussie fanzines.

THE GAMESLETTER #73/74 (1st & 2nd Nov. '74 Issue) (Don Miller, 12315 Judson Rd., Wheaton, MD 20906; bi-weekly; mimeo; 25¢ (10p) ea., 10/\$2 (12/\$2.50 or 12/£1 overseas) -- 22 pp.; Gaming News/Review 'zine (the gaming equivalent of SOTWJ), with sections on Wargames, General Games, Chess, and Diplomacy. N3F Games Bureau pub.

GORBETT #10 (11/74) (Dave Gorman, 337 N.Main St., New Castle, IN 47362; 75¢ ea., 3/\$2; irregular; mimeo) -- 22 pp.; editorial notes; Sheryl Smith reviews Tom Disch's The Right Way to Figure Plumbing; Doug Barbour reviews Le Guin's The Dispossessed; Cy Chauvin reviews Eklund's "The Ascending Aye"; lots of letters.

INSTANT MESSAGE #160 (11/11/74) (NESFA Newsletter, ed. Jill Eastlake; mimeo; bi-weekly; \$5/yr.; NESFA, Inc., Box G, MIT Branch Sta., Cambridge, MA 02139) -- 6 pp.; Minutes for Meeting of 10/11/74; calendar of coming (local) events.

THE JOURNAL #16 (1/12/74) (Paul Kowtiuk, Box 1286, Essex, Ont. NOR 1E0, Canada; monthly; 11 1/2" x 17"; offset (on newsprint); 25¢ ea., 12/\$2 (12/\$2.25 U.S. checks; 12/\$7 overseas via airmail)) -- 16 pp.; comix news/adzine; news, lots of ads, columns; back cover by Craig Russell. ## The best (we've seen) of its kind.

KARASS #9 (11/74) (Linda & Ron Bushyager, 1614 Evans Ave., Prospect Park, PA 19076; monthly; mimeo; 4/\$1) -- 18 pp., / cover (by Jim Shull); spot illos by Jonh Ingham, Mike Gilbert, Jay Kinney, Grant Canfield; news; long article by Linda on "The Future of the Worldcon"; the "WSFS Constitution" (submitted by Dick Eney); & more news. ## Reminiscent of LOCUS in its heyday as a fannish newszine, KARASS is now #1 in this area.

LOCUS #167 (20/11/74) (Dana & Charlie Brown, POBox 3938, San Francisco, CA 94119; tri-weekly; offset; 50¢ ea.; 15/\$6 N.America; overseas, 15/\$12 airmail, 15/\$6 sea-mail) -- 8 pp.; "The Newspaper of the Science Fiction Field", with lots of news incl. regular sections on books, people, markets, conventions; short reports on PgHlange VI & Windycon; book reviews; Harry Warner's column; spot illos by Helmut Pesch, George Barr, Jim McLeod, Herb Arnold. ## #1 in its coverage of the professional scene. ## News: Otto Binder, John Kippax, & William Sloane are dead.

LOVECRAFT: THE FICTION (Don Cochran, 151 Valley St., Jackson, MS 39209; offset; 75¢) -- 15 pp., incl. fc ("Dreamland" map); "An Index to Dagon and Other Macabre Tales, The Dunwich Horror and Others, & At the Mountains of Madness and Other Novels". ## Well produced, detailed index to names & places in Lovecraft's stories. Should prove invaluable to Lovecraft fans.

(Over)

THE AMATEUR PRESS (Continued) --

MOONBROTH (Dale Donaldson, P.O. Box C, Bellevue, WA 98009; offset; irregular; \$1/Section, 6/\$5 (overseas / 50¢/Section) -- #8 (undated): 34 pp.; macabre fiction by Douglas Justice, Sol Kanemann, Adriana Gomez, Renee Buice, B. George Hallenbeck, Janet Fox, Joe Christopher; poetry by Adriana Gomez, Bill Wolfenbarger; illos by Richard Connolly, John H. Davis; articles: "Legend of the Vampire", by William Tredinnick, Jr.; "Introduction to Witchcraft", by Joseph B. Wilson; miscellany. ## #9 (Pt. 1) (undated): 8 pp.; fiction by Sol Kanemann, Richard Landwehr; illo by Jim Garrison. ## #8 is one of the best issues of this 'zine we've seen to date.

MOVIE REVIEW III:3 (11/74) (George Kondor, 329 Lathrop Rd., Syracuse, NY 13219; offset; monthly; 50¢ ea., 6/\$1.75, 12/\$3.50, 24/\$6.50 (overseas add 60¢/6 issues)) -- 8 pp.; news and reviews and ads for 8-mm and 16-mm films and their fans/collectors.

MYTHOLOGIES #2 (11/74) (Don D'Amassa, 19 Angell Dr., Providence, RI 02914; ditto; irregular; no subs (LoC's only)) -- 28 pp. / cover (by David MacCaulay); Don on "maturity", the works of Vanca Aandahl, etc.; poetry by Lee Carson; lots of letters; miscellany. ## One of the most interesting and thought-provoking 'zines we're currently receiving. If Don doesn't watch out, he'll soon have a 100-pg. overwhelming success on his hands....

PERSONAL NOTES #4 (undated) (Richard Harter, 5 Chauncy St. #2, Cambridge, MA 02138; mimeo; irregular; avail. by editorial whim, LoC, etc.) -- 26 pp.; "The Tone Scale", by Jack Harness; Richard reviews/discusses the three surviving Fanzine Hugo winners of the past eight years (ALGOL, THE ALIEN CRITIC, & LOCUS); lots of letters; misc. editorial commentary on this & that. ## Good reading.

PHOTRON #12 (10/74) (Steven Beatty, 1662 College Terr. Dr., Murray, KY 42071; mimeo; 40¢; irregular) -- 39 pp., incl. cover (by Sheryl Birkhead); illos by Birkhead, Dave Jenrette, Frank Thorwald, Steve Beatty, John Kammel; Editorial; "Of the Wanderwoods and the Wanderer", by Barry Eysman (re Swann's How Are the Mighty Fallen); "Economics as a Science", by Steve; "Satire Into Science Fiction: Origins of a Popular Critical Literature", by Mike Glycer; notes & reviews; lettercolumn; poem by George Heap; fiction by Andrew Darlington; miscellany. ## Fine issue (best yet).

SELDON'S PLAN VI:4 (9/74) (Wayne Third Foundation, Box 102 SCB, Wayne State Univ., Detroit, MI 48202; ed. Cy Chauvin; offset; 75¢ ea., 5/\$3 (free to members); no schedule given) -- 46 pp. / cover (by Terry Austin); illos by Todd Bake, John Benson, Randy Bathurst, Roberta Brown, Wayne MacDonald, Cy Chauvin, Frank Murray (it says that bacover is by Mike Gilbert, but our cy has a blank bacover....); Editorial; Interview with Greg Benford; Angus Taylor on "The Two Perspectives" (of SF: the sociological, & the "literary" or "formal"); Jacqueline Lichtenberg on "The Critical Mass" (of SF cons); "Sexism and Science Fiction", by Laura Basta; lettercolumn; book reviews, by Cy. ## Another excellent issue of one of the best 'zines around.

SFRA NEWSLETTER #34 (11/74) (o-o of the S.F. Research Assoc., % Dr. Tom Clareson, Box 3196, The College of Wooster, Wooster, OH, 44691; ed. Beverly Friend, 3415 W. Pratt, Lincolnwood, IL 60645; no membership rate given; offset; monthly) -- 6 pp.; "Rock Music and the Science Fiction Teacher", by Mary Weinkauff (w/list of songs); Leslie Kay Swigart continues listing things that "Someone really ought to do"; book reviews; news & notes; "Works in Progress" section. ## Invaluable publication.

TUCKER BAG #6 (12/74) (Jackie Franke, Box 51-A, RR#2, Beecher, IL 60401; mimeo; irregular) -- 2 pp.; illo by Birkhead; latest report on the Tucker Fund (proceeds to date: \$2,142.08); one more close-out issue to go.

THE WHITE PAPER I:9 (9/74) (Bill Marlow, Rt.3, Box 602A, Crownsville, MD; offset; monthly) -- 7 pp.; newsletter of The White Company (S.C.A.), with news, announcements, ads, letters, calendar of events, reports on events, etc.

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BOOKWORLD: BOOKS RECEIVED (Cont. from page 10) --

Friend" (GALAXY, '73); "Kiss of Fire" (Two Views of Wonder"; "Paulie Charmed the Sleeping Woman" (F&SF, '62); "I'm Looking for Kadak" (Wandering Stars, '74); "Silent in Gehenna" (The Many Worlds of Science Fiction, '71); "Erotophobia" (PENTHOUSE, '71); "One Life, Furnished in Early Poverty" (Orbit 8, '70); "Ecawareness" (SIDESHOW, '74); "Catman" (Final Stage, '74); "Hindsight: 480 Seconds" (Future City, '73)).