

S O N O F T H E W S F A J O U R N A L

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In Brief --

Erratum for this: to ANALOG listing on pg. 7, add Science Fact Article ("The Third Industrial Revolution", Part I of III), by G. Harry Stine. ##### Questionnaires still being returned; we will publish results as soon as they stop coming in (overseas readers and traders have not yet had time to respond), so you still have time to get yours in (WSFA members, this especially means you). ##### We badly need reviews; pile is down to only a couple. ##### We are interested in getting a section started in SOTWJ on the mystery field; any info on this subject (reviews included) anyone wishes to send in to get us started would be appreciated. ##### And, for that matter, any news-type material anyone sends in (like the Ken Faig contribution on pg. 2) would be greatly appreciated. We would especially like short commentary on books/magazines/fanzines/TV shows/movies/etc. which you have read/seen/heard. If you don't have time or inclination for an in-depth review, just jot down a few comments/impressions on a postcard and send them to us; the old "Recommended Reading" section in F&SF some years back was most useful, and SOTWJ is the ideal place for something like this once again. ##### We have given up on artwork for TWJ #80, and gave stencils to Alexis Gilliland so he can stencil in some artwork of his own. As soon as he gives them back, #80 will start coming out (approx. 130 pages to date; counts as 2 issues on TWJ subs).

SOTWJ is bi-weekly. Subs are 20¢ ea., 12/\$2, w/deposits for automatic extensions accepted in increments of \$2. All subs to SOTWJ include any issue(s) of TWJ pubbed during sub (counting as 2 or more issues on SOTWJ sub). For info on ads, Overseas Agents, & Address Code, see #73 or #76 (no room thish). Nextish FAPA Issue.

-- DLM

THE WSFA JOURNAL (Supplement)

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TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Ken Faig, Jr. sends the following info (probably should have gone in "The Bookshelf") -- "Arkham House's October 1972 catalogue--free on request--might be of some interest to some SOTWJ readers. It lists planned books for 1972-73 and future predictions. For fall 1972, but evidently somewhat delayed, were Long's Rim of the Unknown (\$7.50), Jacobi's Disclosures in Scarlet (\$5.00), and Ramsey Campbell's Demons by Daylight (\$5.00). Listed for 1973 are Derleth's The Chronicles of Solar Pons, Wandrei's Colossus, Basil Copper's From Evil's Pillow, Joseph Payne Brennan's Stories of Darkness and Dread, Lovecraft and Derleth's The Watchers Out of Time and Others (all their 'posthumous collaborations', including the title story, left incomplete at Derleth's death), Howard Wandrei's Time Burial, Wilkins-Freeman's Collected Ghost Stories, HPL's Selected Letters IV, and Donald and Howard Wandrei's The Circle of Pyramids. HPL's Selected Letters will now evidently extend to seven volumes, IV covering 1932-1934, V 1934-1937, VI letters omitted earlier in the series, and VII: a general index of the series. Now in short supply from Arkham are Derleth's Over the Edge, Derleth's The Trail of Cthulhu, La Spina's Invaders from the Dark, Long's The Horror from the Hills, and Ramsey Campbell's The Inhabitant of the Lake."

TV Notes -- Every 400 years or so creatures of the devil hatch out of eggs hidden away from mankind somewhere and challenge Man for control of the Earth. These creatures, half-lizard, half-man, always lose--but a mated pair inevitably escapes, lays new eggs, and dies. Maybe next time? This, in essence, is the theme (and plot) of a made-for-TV-film, Gargoyles, starring Cornell Wilde and Jennifer Salt. If you missed its premiere, you were lucky.... ##### One night while we were at Gettysburg College we were listening to a playing of "Porgy and Bess" over the town radio; after about 15 minutes, the announcer broke in to say that because of "numerous complaints" from listeners about the language in the opera, the station was going to substitute another recording for the remainder of the program. And on came one of the most enchanting pieces of music we have ever heard--Ravel's One-Act "Fantasy" operetta, "L'Enfant et les Sortilèges" ("The Child and the Sorcerers"). Imagine then our delight when PBS offered a French-TV production in its International Performance series a couple of weeks ago (to be repeated at 9 p.m. on WETA-TV (ch. 26) Dec. 28 & , probably, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 30). The production was quite good, and most likely captivated those hearing it for the first time--but it was somewhat unsettling to have the mental impressions we had developed during countless playings of our recording of it shattered by seeing it thru the eyes of someone else. ##### "Sixth Sense" will be dropped by ABC-TV (at least in this area) in January; "Kung Fu" will become a weekly show. ##### If you missed International Performance's screening of Oscar Wilde's "Salome", try to catch it when it's repeated. It's one of the most unusual things we've seen on TV in a long time (incredible settings, music, and imagery, and a fine performance by Ludmilla Tcherina as Salome). ##### Did anyone out there catch the annual showing of "The Plot to Overthrow Christmas", a re-creation of a studio broadcast of Norman Corwin's 1938 verse play about the devil's attempt to kill Santa Claus? ##### NET Opera Theater recently presented Jacques Offenbach's wonderful "Tales of Hoffman", based on three fantastic tales of E.T.A. Hoffman. The BBC production featured Michele Molese as Hoffman, Elizabeth Harwood as the four women in his life, Geraint Evans as his nemesis, and pastel-tinted sets and costumes. It was a very fine production--but for us the J. Arthur Rank film of some 20 years ago (which we have seen at least seven times) is still the ultimate in "Tales". If you get a chance to view a repeat screening, nevertheless, be sure not to miss it.

Radio Notes -- A flood of old-time radio shows will be broadcast during January, among them such titles as "The Lone Ranger", "The Great Gildersleeve", "The Shadow", "Inner Sanctum", "X Minus One", "Fibber McGee and Molly", and others. Full schedule will appear in next issue of SOTWJ (just received schedule, but no room for it here).

ESFA REPORT: Minutes

((The Eastern Science Fiction Association (ESFA) meets informally on the 1st Sunday of the month, at 3 p.m., in the YM-YWCA, 600 Broad St., Newark, N.J.))

Meeting of November 5, 1972 --

The meeting was opened at 3:25 p.m. with an attendance of 14 persons. The September minutes were read by the Secretary, and accepted. The Treasurer read the October minutes from notes, and gave his financial report. Both were accepted.

Under new business the Treasurer pointed out that dues collected over the past several months have not been enough to cover expenses, since the present roster of members consists of 17 active and 4 sustaining. Alex Osheroff suggested that interest and attendance might be stimulated by sending meeting notices out in the form of a newsletter, covering the previous month's meeting, rather than a standard postcard. Sam Moskowitz suggested that non-members be charged \$1.00. A motion by Alex Osheroff, seconded by Sam Moskowitz, that meetings begin at 2:30 p.m. was carried.

The Secretary read a letter from Milt Spahn, saying that he was recovering from a heart attack, and would not be attending meetings for some months. The club requested the Secretary to send a get-well card. Sam Moskowitz revealed that he was preparing a series of stories of fictional detectives of the period 1890-1910, to be run in MIKE SHAYNE'S MYSTERY MAGAZINE under the title of "Detectives by Gaslight". He also said the revived WEIRD TALES, under his editorship, would appear about March, 1973, to more-or-less coincide with WT's 50th anniversary of its first issue. Included would be the first part of a three-part life of William Hope Hodgson, together with a new, or previously unprinted Hodgson story.

A question by guest speaker Sol Cohen about a Bradbury story being published by Moskowitz led into a discussion by the two on copyright law and procedure. Sparked by a question by a member, and without a formal introduction, Mr. Cohen began to speak, telling of the outcome of a protest by Scientologists of an article by Barry Malzberg in the November, 1970 AMAZING. It was dissolved amicably by publishing an article by a Scientologist. Mr. Cohen says he buys first rights to cover art and returns them to the artist. He feels artwork is important to sales, for very often--for no understandable reason--an issue will show an increase with a particular piece of cover art. Twice as many copies were sold during the Joseph Ross editorship, but sales went down during the recession of 1970. After hitting a low point, sales have now picked up. The lowest sale ever was the "Guilford Conference Writers" issue of FANTASTIC (October, 1971).

Mr. Cohen went on to talk of his days in the early comic book industry, when he was the first publicity and promotional manager for Superman. Although he says it is generally unknown, he claims a large share of the credit for the growth of the industry. At a time when comics were selling well only in N.Y.C. he built Superman up from 25,000 to 155,000 nationwide in less than a year. He also worked for EC and Avon comics before moving on to GALAXY and AMAZING.

Adjournment came about 5:40 p.m.

Meeting of December 3, 1972 --

The meeting was opened at 3:04 p.m. The attendance total was 17. The minutes of the November meeting were read and accepted, as was the Treasurer's report. The Treasurer went on to project present income against usual expenses to show an expected deficit of some 80 dollars for the forthcoming year. On the basis of this he recommended a raise in dues to 75¢ per month, and \$3.00 per year for sustaining membership. After some discussion Sam Moskowitz moved that dues be increased to \$1.00 per month, or \$10.00 yearly, paid in advance. Sustaining memberships would be \$3.00, and \$1.00 per meeting for any attended over four per year. Reinstatement would cost \$3.00. Student rates would be 50¢ per meeting. All

dues increases to take effect Jan. 1, 1973. Upon seconding by Alex Osheroff the motion was carried 13-1.

(This is the first dues increase since the meeting of June 8, 1952. ESFA has more than met its obligation to help hold down inflation!)

Sam Moskowitz reported that the revived WEIRD TALES has gone to the printers and should appear in late January, dated Spring 1973. It will be a pulp-size quarterly to sell for 75¢, and contain some 75,000 words. It will have about 12 stories and a previously unpublished Virgil Finlay cover, originally commissioned for the August 1936 issue but never used. There will also be five Finlay interior illustrations.

The guest speaker was Samuel Mines, editor of THRILLING WONDER STORIES and STARTLING STORIES, 1951-1954. Mr. Mines said he had been a free-lance writer before joining Standard magazines as an editor. At first he was mainly concerned with westerns and detective fiction, but because of a liking for sf, he took over editing TWS and SS when Sam Merwin, Jr. left. His editing philosophy was to get stories of better literary worth that would still be a good story with the sf left out. He thoroughly enjoyed editing the magazine, spending most of his time on the letter column, which he said was his pride and joy. He thinks the letters were at least as interesting as the stories and believes they helped circulation. After the magazines collapsed in the general bust of the early fifties Mr. Mines went to work in industry as a science writer. He did little sf reading for 15 years, feeling that it was going downhill and writers were repeating themselves. A few years ago he was asked to review books by LUNA. A great believer in clarity in writing, Mr. Mines says the so-called New Wave leaves him bewildered. Incoherence and confusion is no substitute for good writing.

In answer to a query on his book, The Last Days of Mankind (from Simon & Schuster), Mr. Mines said that even if we achieve zero population growth now and stabilize by the year 2000, we will produce a population of 15 billion. He feels the outlook is grim for undeveloped nations, whose ZPG will inevitably lag. Environmental crises never look very bad until too late.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

-- ALLAN HOWARD
Secretary, ESFA

THE CLUB CIRCUIT: Clubzines Received 1-15 December '72

INSTANT MESSAGE #115 (27 Nov '72) (NESFA Newsletter; NESFA, POBox G, MIT Branch Station, Cambridge, MA 02139; bi-weekly; mimeo; free to NESFA members, not avail. to others) -- 4 pp.; Report on "Other Meeting" of 26 Nov.; misc. club notes & announcements & business items; CoA's; The NESFA Cat Census; map of next meeting site; list of upcoming events.

M-ANATION VII:12 (Dec. '72) (Newsletter of the Baltimore chapter of Mensa; ed. by Don Laughery, 112 W. Second Ave., Baltimore, MD 21225; monthly; mimeo; free to members, not avail. to others (membership chairman is Fred Davis, Jr., 5307 Carriage Ct., Baltimore, MD 21229, if interested and eligible for membership) -- 6 pp.; Report on Nov. meeting; misc. club notes & announcements; Report of the Membership Chairman (says here dues are \$3); 1973 Election Report (nominees for May '73 National Election); letter from Jerry Montgomery; Puzzle Corner; Mensa Friends Note; Vespuccian plug, by D. James Gilmour; Prexie's msg.

On the Move (a couple of quick CoA's, for those who may have missed them):

Barry, Jeremy -- POBox 5301, China Lake, CA 93555.

Cochran, Don -- 708 S.Arlington Mill Dr., Apt.9, Arlington, VA 22204.

Goldstein, Steven -- 3309 Beret Lane, Wheaton, MD 20902.

THE STEADY STREAM: Books Received 1-15 Dec. '72

((Reviewers--both local & out-of-town--please check titles below & let us know, ASAP, which you'd like to review. Reviewers urgently needed! (In the future, except in a very few cases where the reviews are better suited to TWJ--e.g., are in reality articles--all reviews will appear in SOTWJ rather than TWJ.)--ed.))

HARDBOUND -- None received during period covered.

SOFTBOUND --

Dangerous Visions, ed. by Harlan Ellison (Berkley Medallion Book #D2274; NY; 12/72 (orig. pub. '67 by Doubleday & Co., Inc.); 576 pp.; \$1.50; cover not credited) -- Foreword 1: "The Second Revolution", by Isaac Asimov; Foreword 2: "Harlan and I", by Isaac Asimov; Introduction: "Thirty-Two Soothsayers", by Harlan Ellison; Stories (each with a long introduction by Harlan Ellison and an afterword by the author): "Evensong", by Lester del Rey; "Flies", by Robert Silverberg; "The Day After the Day the Martians Came", by Frederik Pohl; "Riders of the Purple Wage", by Philip Jose Farmer; "The Malley System", by Miriam Allen deFord; "A Toy for Juliette", by Robert Bloch; "The Prowler in the City at the Edge of the World", by Harlan Ellison; "The Night that All Time Broke Out", by Brian W. Aldiss; "The Man Who Went to the Moon--Twice", by Howard Rodman; "Faith of Our Fathers", by Philip K. Dick; "The Jigsaw Man", by Larry Niven; "Gonna Roll the Bones", by Fritz Leiber; "Lord Randy, My Son", by Joe L. Hensley; "Eutopia", by Poul Anderson; "Incident in Moderan", by David R. Bunch; "The Escaping", by David R. Bunch; "The Doll-House", by James Cross; "Sex and/or Mr. Morrison", by Carol Emshwiller; "Shall the Dust Praise Thee?", by Damon Knight; "If All Men Were Brothers, Would You Let One Marry Your Sister?", by Theodore Sturgeon; "What Happened to Auguste Clarot?", by Larry Eisenberg; "Ersatz", by Henry Slesar; "Go, Go, Go, Said the Bird", by Sonya Dorman; "The Happy Breed", by John T. Sladek; "Encounter with a Hick", by Jonathan Brand; "From the Government Printing Office", by Kris Neville; "Land of the Great Horses", by R.A. Lafferty; "The Recognition", by J.G. Ballard; "Judas", by John Brunner; "Test to Destruction", by Keith Laumer; "Carcinoma Angels", by Norman Spinrad; "Auto-Da-Fe", by Roger Zelazny; "Aye, and Gomorrah...", by Samuel R. Delany.

Other Worlds, Other Seas, ed. by Darko Suvin (Berkley Medallion Book #S2278; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. 1970, by Random House; 222 pp.; 75¢; cover not credited; in Berkley International Science Fiction series) -- Anthology of sf from Eastern Europe. Contents: Preface, by Darko Suvin; Poland: "The Patrol", "The Computer That Fought a Dragon", "The Thirteenth Journey of Ion Tichy", and "The Twenty-fourth Journey of Ion Tichy", all by Stanislaw Lem; Rumania: "The Contact", by Vladimir Colin; Czechoslovakia: "Vampire Ltd.", by Josef Nesvarba; Bulgaria: "Why Atlantis Sank", by Anton Donev; U.S.S.R.: "The Master Builder", by Genrikh Altov; "The Founding of Civilization", by Romain Yarov; "Lectures on Parapsychology", "Biocurrents, Biocurrents...", "SOMP", and "The Noneatrits", by Ilya Varshavsky; "A Debate on SF--Moscow 1965", by Nikolay Tomar; "Interview with a Traffic Policeman", "The S*T*A:P*L*E Farm", and "The Island of the Crabs", by Anatoliy Dneprov.

Non-Science-Fiction Books Received for Review --

Bellevue Is a State of Mind, by Anne Barry (Berkley Medallion Book #Z2269; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. '71 by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc.; 192 pp.; \$1.25) -- Experiences of a journalist who feigned insanity in order to get into Bellevue.

The Buddy System, by Michael Hoffman (Berkley Medallion Book #N2270; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. '71 by Holt, Rinehart & Winston; 191 pp.; 95¢) -- Sex novel.

Codeword: DIREKTOR, by Heinz Höhne (Berkley Medallion Book #Z2267; NY; 12/71; orig. pub. '70 by S. Fischer Verlag GmbH; Eng. Translation pub. '71, by Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, Inc.; German title: Kennwort: Direktor; 448 pp.; \$1.25) -- Story of WW-II espionage network, "The Red Orchestra".

Gourmet Cooking for Two, by Beatrice Ojakangas (Berkley Medallion Book #N2273; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. '70 by Crown Publishers, Inc.; 288 pp.; 95¢) -- Just what the title says it is.

Grey Mask, by Patricia Wentworth (Berkley Medallion Book #N2135; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. '29 by J.B. Lippincott Co.; "Large-Type" Ed.; 320 pp.; 95¢) -- A "Miss Silver" Mystery.

Laid Out, by Alex Lindsay (Berkley Medallion Book #22235; NY; 12/72; 224 pp.; \$1.25) -- Sex novel.

Real Magic, by P.E.I. Bonewits (Berkley Medallion Book #N2268; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. '71 by Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, Inc.; 271 pp.; 95¢) -- "Shedding Light on the Powers of Darkness . . ." (author has an A.B. in Magic....). Contents: Introduction; Chapters 1-9, resp.: "The Laws of Magic", "Fun and Games with Definitions", "Parapsychology, the Apologetic Science", "Mantra, Mandala, and Mudra", "Black Magic, White Magic and Living Color", "Placebo Spells, the Switchboard, and Speculations on Explanations", "The Fundamental Patterns of Ritual", "Miscellaneous Ologies for Fun and Profit-cy!", "Conclusions and Suggestions for Future Research"; Appendices: "Glossary and List of Abbreviations" and "Bibliography and Reading List".

The Wayward Madonna, by Veronica Black (Berkley Medallion Book #S2272; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. '70 by Lenox Hill Press; "Large-Type" Ed.; 190 pp.; 75¢) -- "Gothic".

Where Dragons Dwell, by Frederick King Poole (Berkley Medallion Book #N2271; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. '71 by Harper's Magazine Press; 224 pp.; 95¢) -- "American adventurers find sensuality and deadly danger in mysterious Bangkok."

Wildcat on the Loose, by Jeff Clinton (Berkley Medallion Book #S2276; NY; 12/72; orig. pub. by Berkley 3/67; "Large-Type" Ed.; 192 pp.; 75¢) -- Western.

THE AMATEUR PRESS: U.S. Fanzines Received 1-15 Dec '72

KWALHIOQUA #1 (Ed Cagle, Rt.#1, Leon, KS 67074; LoG's, contribs, trades; monthly; mimeo) -- Dec. '72; 12 pp.; no illos; Editorial/introduction to 'zine; article: "The Putty of Childhood is the Concrete of Maturity", by Dee Gace; short lettercol; page of fictitious ads; fake features; "Local Insanity" section (thish, "Civic Pride: The Christmas Tree in the Intersection"); misc. ## Purpose of most of the material in thish is "to establish a general mood of harmless insanity" for future issues. Future issues should be fun....

LOCUS 128 (1 Dec '72) (Dena & Charlie Brown, 3400 Ulloa St., San Francisco, CA 94116; bi-weekly; mimeo; SF "newspaper"; 12/3, 26/6 N.America; 12/4, 26/7 Central & S.America; 10/3.50, 26/8 Europe; 10/R3.50, 26/R8.00 S.Africa; 10/A\$3.50, 26/A\$8 Australia & Asia (all airmail but N.America); see SOTWJ #74 for list of Overseas Agents) -- 10 pp.; Philcon report; reports on Creation II and Milenicon; misc. news items; sections on: "People"; "SF Scheduled for December" (by Joanne Burger), "SF Book Club Selections for May '73", "Book Notes", "Conventions", "Media Notes"; listing of fanzines received (mit recommendations); Terry Carr Column: "Instant Crunchy Karma" (on Bob Tucker); review of play, Via Galactica, by Brian J. McCarthy; short book reviews by Charlie Brown; filler illos by Bill Rotsler, Grant Canfield, ATom. ## The #1 SF Newszine; need we say more?

MASIFORM D #2 (March '72) (Devra Michele & Deborah Michel Langsam, 250 Crown St., Brooklyn, NY 11225; irregular; mimeo (offset front cover); 50¢) -- 72 pp., incl. covers; front cover by Alicia Austin; bacover by Rosalind Oberdieck; interior illos by Alicia Austin, Connie R. Faddis, Alexis Gilliland, C. Lee Healy, the two Langsam sisters, Sandra Miesel, Mike Miller, Rosalind Oberdieck, & Andy Porter; editorial; poetry by Nancy Giudice, Marian Turner, Claudia Jane Feyton, Eleanor Arnason; "A Glossary of Darkovan Terms", by Marion Zimmer Bradley; "King Kong", by Tony Rabig & Ros Oberdieck (comic strip); "Star Trek" fiction

by Joyce Yasher (short) and Mary Rosalind Oberdieck (24 pp.); "Antsy-climax", by Devra Langsam (anecdote); "Another Nasty Puzzle", by Marion Z. Langsam; poem by Beth Moore (missed this one earlier). ## Note that all of the contents (except the comic strip and a few illos) are by the "fair" sex--and they did a fine job. Good repro, interesting and highly readable contents. Recommended.

PREHENSILE #6 (Nov '72) (Mike Glycer, 14974 Osceola St., Sylmar, CA 91342; bi-monthly; mimeo; 35¢ ea., 3/\$1) -- 53 pp., incl. cover (offset, by the way); cover by Jim Shull; interior illos by Jim Shull, Joe Pearson, Bill Rotsler, Elaine Beitch, Mike Gilbert, Jack Harness, Sheryl Birkhead, Freff, Grant Canfield; Editorial (on LACON); "Is Telepathy a Modern Myth?", by Perry A. Chapdelaine (Part II of II); "Professionalism and a Tired Reviewer", by Paul Walker (on Silverberg & reviewing in general); Leon Taylor discusses TV show, Wild Wild West; "Dark Alleys of Fandom", by Dan Goodman (fanhistory column; this: Tom Digby); Bill Warren reviews films; Florence Jenkins reviews fanzines; book reviews by Donald Keller, Mike Shoemaker, Mike Glycer, Stan Burns, Richard Wadholm; lettercolumn; European fan news from Kees Van Toorn (Eurocon I report); Richard Wadholm on "The Golden Era II". ## Chock full of all sorts of interesting goodies. PREHENSILE has matured very rapidly, going in a few issues from a very uneven 'zine with some good material, to one of the better fanzines being published today in the U.S. Give it a try; for 35¢ you get quite a lot!

 MAGAZINARAMA: Prozines Received 1-15 Dec '72

ANALOG SCIENCE FICTION/SCIENCE FACT -- January, 1973 (XC:5) (Conde Nast Publications, Inc.; ed., Ben Bova; monthly; 5 1/4" x 7 5/8"; 60¢ (30p) ea.; \$6/yr., \$10/2 yrs., \$13/3 yrs. U.S. & Canada; elsewhere, \$8/yr., \$16/2 yrs.) -- 182 pp., incl. covers; cover by John Schoenherr, ill. "Integration Module"; illos by John Schoenherr, Kelly Freas, Leo Summers, Jack Gaughan; Serial: "Cemetery World" (Part 3 of 3 parts), by Clifford D. Simak; Novelette: "Integration Module", by Daniel B. James ("The most difficult thing in all the universe for man to understand is--the mind of man!"); Short Stories: "Health Hazard", by Howard L. Myers; "A Thing of Beauty", by Norman Spinrad; "Proud Guns to the Sea", by Duncan Lunan; "One Plus One Equals Eleven", by G.C. Edmondson (computer tale); "Year 3 of the Shark", by Joel S. Witkin; Features: Editorial ("With friends like these..."), by Ben Bova; lettercolumn; discussion of this year's Hugo Awards and book reviews, by P. Schuyler Miller (books reviewed: Flash Gordon: Into the Water World of Mongo, by Alex Raymond; The Edge of Forever, by Chad Oliver; The Outposter, by Gordon Dickson; The Infinite Cage, by Keith Laumer; The Molecule Men, by Fred Hoyle & Geoffrey Hoyle; The Gorgon Festival, by John Boyd; Other Eyes, Other Days, by Bob Shaw; The Byworlder, by Poul Anderson). From: Box 5205, Boulder, CO 80302.

GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE -- January, 1973 (33:4) (UPD Publishing Corp. in U.S., Universal-Tandem Pub. Co., Ltd. (14 Gloucester Rd., London SW7 4RD) in U.K.; edited by Ejler Jakobsson; bi-monthly; 5 1/4" x 7 5/8"; 75¢ (25p) ea.; 12/\$9 U.S., 12/\$3.60 U.K., 12/\$10 elsewhere; in U.S., from: 235 E. 45th St., N.Y., NY 10017) -- 176 pp. / covers; cover by Brian Boyle, ill. "Project 40"; interior illos not credited (assume all by Jack Gaughan); Serial: "Project 40" (part 2 of 3), by Frank Herbert; Novella: "Case and the Dreamer", by Theodore Sturgeon ("He gave his life to the stars and they gave it back--only more so!"); Novelette: "Mayflower Three", by Ernest Taves ("The moon can be cozy for space scientists--unless they overstay their welcome!"); Short Stories: "La Befana", by Gene Wolfe; "Reflex", by T.J. Gordon; Features: Lettercolumn; Science Fact Article ("Is the Star of Bethlehem Observable Today?"), by Robert S. Richardson; short autobiography of Robert S. Richardson; book reviews, by Theodore Sturgeon (of: A Spectrum of Worlds, ed. Tom Clareson; Another Roadside Attraction, by Tom Robbins; The Metallic Muse and The World Menders, by Lloyd Biggle, Jr.; and a bunch of quickie reviews).

Orbit 10: An Anthology of Original Science Fiction Stories, ed. by Damon Knight (Putnam's Sons; 254 pp.; \$5.95).
A Science Fiction Argosy, ed. by Damon Knight (Simon & Schuster; 828 pp.; \$9.95).

The Orbit series has a freshness few other anthologies can boast--originality. None of the 11 tales included in this tenth volume has previously appeared in print; all were especially commissioned from new and old hands at this genre. Additionally, Orbit 10 includes an index to the first 10 volumes which is especially valuable to sf buffs who like to keep track of favorite writers' works.

But first and foremost, Knight collects quality. The fact that the twice-yearly anthologies have won, in the five years they have been eligible, four coveted Nebula Awards from the Science Fiction Writers of America speaks volumes. Names like Lafferty, Panshin, Wolfe, and Wilhelm provide expected brilliance, while lesser-knowns like Effinger, Dann, and Peck offer the surprise of discovering quality in unexpected doses. The tales told are as varied in treatment scope, imagination, and topicality as their authors.

I'm already looking forward to Orbit 11.

A Science Fiction Argosy also reflects Knight's anthological adeptness, but is almost overwhelming in its two-inch-thick, bulging treasures. It includes some of the finest stories written in this genre over the last 40 years. Besides the 24 stories spread throughout two Books, two full-length novels--classics in their authors' lifetimes--round out a truly amazing collection. The novels are Alfred Bester's The Demolished Man and Theodore Sturgeon's More Than Human.

The author list abounds with other sf greats: Asimov, Tenn, Wilhelm, Leiber, Wyndham, Anderson, Aldiss, Kuttner, Harness, Finney, Jackson, Shaw, Smith, Niven, Pohl, Sheckley, Piper, de Camp--sounds like a Science Fiction Hall of Fame.

It's hard to imagine a larger chunk of good science fiction, or a better bargain for your money.

-- JAMES R. NEWTON

The Gods Themselves, by Isaac Asimov (Doubleday, 1972; 288 pp.).

The first Asimov novel in 15 years seems to have been worth waiting for. In his introduction, Asimov explains that he didn't actually set out to write a full-length novel, but his short story carried him off (to another world, in fact). I for one am glad he got carried away; the experience was exhilarating to say the least. And it seems worthwhile to point out that the old man of science has acquired a taste for sex in his climbing years: No, not detailed or down to the nitty-gritty sex, but enough subtle sex in good form to let you know that he must think this helps sell books nowadays. But this one doesn't need sex to sell it--the plot and characters and most of all the Asimov imagination are the salable qualities of this novel. (I only wish I had more of a background in physics and mathematics in order to better appreciate some of the technicalities that make TGT so absorbing. Not that the learned Professor's technical concepts are boring--heaven forbid Asimov should be in any way boring! Quite the contrary, it's fascinating!)

There have been many fictional writings about the sun going nova. But this one has a different twist to it. A not-so-brilliant scientist has an earth-shaking discovery of a virtually free, virtually non-polluting, and virtually limitless source of energy virtually dropped into his undeserving lap. He naturally wins the love and gratitude of the whole greedy world. The only catch to this panacea energy source is that, as a by-product, the sun is gradually overheated until finally--KABOOM, no more sun, no more Earth, etc, etc. Only, Earth's population is too greedy, too stupid to accept the scientific evidence that such a catastrophe is possible. To quote Asimov, who quotes Schiller: "Against stupidity, the gods themselves contend in vain."

This is the main overall theme, but the intricacies of the skillfully-contrived plot are so interdependent that an attempt to paraphrase them here would at best be inadequate. All I can say is, Read it, you'll like it!

-- BARBARA KELLER

The Lathe of Heaven, by Ursula K. LeGuin (Charles Scribner's Sons; 1971; 184 pp.; \$4.95).

I have now read all this year's Hugo nominees for Best Novel, with the exception of Farmer's, and The Lathe of Heaven is definitely the best of the lot (I mourn still for The World Menders, though). Following up such fine works as The Left Hand of Darkness and "Nine Lives" with a novel like this should certainly establish Ursula K. LeGuin as a writer of the very top rank.

I must take violent exception to P. Schuyler Miller's comment that this novel is more conventional science fiction than The Left Hand of Darkness. By the very nature of its gimmick it seems more reasonable to classify The Lathe of Heaven as science-fantasy. Like Philip K. Dick, LeGuin questions the nature of reality. She asks the age-old question of whether there is an objective reality or whether it is all the product of our imagination. Even closer in concept is Charles Harness' "The New Reality", in which reality is altered by our thoughts.

George Orr discovers that he has the power to alter reality through his dreams. When this happens, no one except George remembers the old reality (i.e., the altered reality functions as if it had always been in existence). In an attempt to suppress this power he uses more than his legal allotment of drugs and is picked up by the police. He is sent to a psychiatrist who at first does not believe him, but is later convinced.

The psychiatrist then hypnotizes George and manipulates his power for the betterment of the world. This raises the moral question about the use of such Godlike power. LeGuin gives us her answer, as something goes drastically wrong with each reality, necessitating the creation of a new one. With each succeeding reality, George's alienation, caused by his memories of things that no longer exist, is sensitively related. Also, infused throughout the story is the effect of these changing realities on his love for a woman.

The only flaw in the novel is that the plot becomes rather confused and unbelievable. This is caused by too many complications being piled one upon another. If you have any doubt as to my recommendation, though, read my first paragraph again.

-- MICHAEL T. SHOEMAKER

THE FOREIGN SCENE: Fanzines Received 16 Nov-15 Dec '72

ENGLAND -- (CHECKPOINT's rec'd Nov.; others rec'd Dec.) --

CHECKPOINT (News & review 'zine; ed., Peter Roberts; '87 W.Town Lane, Bristol, BSL 5DZ, UK; US Agents, Charlie & Dena Brown, 3400 Ulloa St., San Francisco, CA 94116; Australian Agent, David Grigg, Box 100, Carlton South, Victoria 3052; S. African Agent, Nick Shears, 52 Garden Way, Northcliff 4, Johannesburg, Transvaal; bi-weekly; mimeo; 8 " x 9 3/4"; 10/40p (2nd class & Europe), 6/\$1 or 8/R1 foreign airmail) -- #21 (31 Aug. '72; annish) -- 14 pp.; illo. by John D. Berry; Results of the 1971-1972 CHECKPOINT Fan Poll (Best British Fanzine: EGG (followed by: CYNIC, SPECULATION, MAYA, CYPHER); Best Single Issue: MAYA #3 (followed by THE LITTLE-READ STOOL BOOK); Best British Fanartist: Harry Bell (followed by Kevin Cullen, Dave Rowe, Terry Jeeves, Andrew Stephenson, Arthur Thomson); Best British Fanwriter: Gray Boak (followed by Bob Shaw, Terry Jeeves); Best Article: "Looking Back", by Mary Legg (MAYA 2 & 3); Revived Fanzine: FOULER (followed by HYPHEN));

a look backwards at the 1961 SKYRACK Poll results; "The Fannish Year" (reports from various "centres of fanac" around the world: Great Britain: B.S.F.A. report, by Archie Mercer; Tolkien Society report, by Hartley Patterson; Birmingham SF Group report, by Peter Weston; report on Gannetfandom, from Ian Williams; report on Kingston Group, by Gray Boak; Australia (report by David Grigg); Canada (report by Susan Glicksohn); S.Africa (report by Nick Shears)). ## #22 (9 Sep '72) -- 6 pp.; listing of this year's Hugo Awards; short reviews of fanzines recently received; fanzine news; Gerald Bishop lists Sept. releases by U.K. publishers; listing of Europa Awards; misc. fannish news; John D. Berry sends news from U.S.; CoA's. ##### Very informative newszine.

HAVERINGS #53 (30 Sep '72) (Ethel Lindsay, 6 Langley Ave., Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 6QL, UK; USAgent: Andy Porter, 55 Pineapple St., Apt. 3-J, Brooklyn, NY 11201; Australian Agent: John Bangsund, Box 4946, Melbourne, 3001; bi-monthly (or is it quarterly now?); mimeo; 7 3/4" x 10"; 6/40p or (\$1) -- 11 pp.; Ethel's short but useful and informative reviews of a large number of fanzines received from all over the globe, plus a short letter. ##### A "must" for anyone interested in what's going on in the fan press. (Ah, 'tis quarterly, saith SCOTTISHE.)

SCOTTISHE #63 (October '72) (Ethel Lindsay, address above; mimeo; quarterly; 7 3/4" x 10"; same agents as HAVERINGS; 3/\$1, 15p ea.) -- 22 pp. / cover; cover by ATom; interior illos by ATom and Rotsler; short book reviews, à la YANDRO; "Lowdown on Liftoff" (Part 2), by Ella Parker (report on Apollo 16); lettercol; "Change the Experience and You Change the Intelligence", by Ken Cheslin; editorial natterings. ##### Ethel's genzine, like YANDRO, does not go overboard for fancy repro and a heavy line-up of big-name contributors--but every issue is interesting, informative, and a pleasure to read.

THE BOOKSHELF: New Releases, etc.

DOUBLEDAY S.F. BOOK CLUB, Garden City, N.Y. -- February, 1973:

Cities in Flight, by James Blish (Member's Ed., \$3.50) -- "The epic story of mankind's destiny throughout the ever-changing cycles of time." Contains four interconnected novels: They Shall Have Stars, A Life for the Stars, Earthman, Come Home, and The Triumph of Time.

And Walk Now Gently Through the Fire, ed. by Roger Elwood (Publisher's Ed., \$6.95; Member's Ed., \$1.49) -- Anthology of 10 stories; contents: "Caught in the Organ Draft", by Robert Silverberg; "Mother Earth Wants You", by Philip José Farmer; "Forever and Amen", by Robert Bloch; "Making it Through", by Barry N. Malzberg; "Chronicles of a Comer", by K.M. O'Donnell; "Stella", by Ted White; "The Gift of Nothing", by J. Hunter Holly; "And the Power", by Rachel Cosgrove Payes; "A Sense of Difference", by Pamela Sargent; "And Walk Now Gently Through the Fire", by R.A. Lafferty.

Alternates: Astronomy, by Donald H. Menzel (Publisher's Ed., \$17.50; Member's Ed., \$7.95; 8 1/2" x 11"; 210 photos (50 in color), 85 drawings, 24 sky maps); Orn, by Piers Anthony (\$1.49; d.j. by Frank Frazetta); Willard, by Stephen Gilbert (\$4.95; \$1.69); The Metallic Muse, by Lloyd Biggle, Jr. (\$5.95; \$1.49); Alph, by Charles Eric Maine (\$1.49); The Many Worlds of Science Fiction, ed. Ben Bova (\$4.95; \$1.49); A Clockwork Orange, by Anthony Burgess (\$3.95; \$2.49).

DONALD M. GRANT, Publisher/Bookseller, West Kingston, RI 02892 --

The Wolf in the Garden, by Alfred H. Bill ("Time-Lost" paperback series; 75¢) -- ". . . the most exciting werewolf thriller ever done--a very good novel".

Swordsmen and Supermen, ed. not named ("Time-Lost" paperback; 75¢) -- "swash-buckling anthology", with stories by Howard, Arthur D. Howden-Smith, Darrel Crombie, & others.

Other titles avail. from Mr. Grant were listed in SOTWJ #74.