

Published and edited by Austin Hamel. 2090 East Tremont Ave., N.Y. 62, N.Y. Monthly  
Vol. 1 No. 3..... This is the September 11, 1944 issue. Straight No. 3...

## OBSERVATIONS.....

BY AUSTELHAM

AT LAST! FINALLY! STELLAR is no more to be heckled! No more sloppy heckling is sweet music to any editors ears. At last I can use the large size spacious pages which was originally planned for STELLAR.

Fans, slans, and otherwise, cannot afford to miss that swell fantasy picture, "It happened Tomorrow" starring Dick Powell, and Linda Darnell, written by Lord Dunsany, it is a refreshing fantasy, and as swift moving as an Unknown yarn. And speaking about Unknown, it carried two stories similar to the finding a paper of tomorrow plot, Snubbug, and Everything's Jake.

Don't get discouraged at the title of Joe Kennedy's article in this issue. The title may suggest something dull, and dragging, But wait 'till you read it! If you want more of Joe's terrific humor(?) in Stellar, let me know via the readers' column.

By all means, GRAB up copies of ASF for July, August, and September, and October.. It contains a great serial, 'Renaissance' by Ray F Jones. In conjunction with Joe Kennedy, I too think it will be worth no less than a buck a part in a few years.

The reason you didn't see 'Meteor' Weinstein's column in the last issue of Stellar is that Al went away to summer, (Note Walter Dunkelberger!) camp, and I wanted to have his column in the first mimeoed edition of STELLAR.

Whatdousay we give Walt Kessel a nice hand for the job he did on mimeoing this issue? I'm just cutting the stencils, and already I am giving out bouquets. This just goes to show how far-sighted ye ed is.

Dovercon tp be held August 27th at Joe Kennedy's home. All are invited. It seems that this issue will come out after the con, so I will not be able to tell you much about it. Also to attend the Dovercon are. Unger, Moskowitz, Wollheim, Shaw, Marlow, De la Ree Wilsey, Weinstein, Kuttner, Kessel, Suddsy, and others.

By the way, STELLAR is monthly if you didn't quite catch the date.

Gerry de la Ree, will visit me sometime next month. Will give date if he sends it before this issue is out. Alw to come too. Y not some more of you? Let me know if you would like to come.

How about somemore letters for the letter column? Don't be fussy about how clear this word came out, and how poor this word came out, what I want to know is how you liked the articles and the columns.

Two fen and I gabbed the whole Monday August 21 afternoon away at 2090 E. Tremont. The two fen were Al Weinstein, and a new fan, Monroe Kuttner. Monroe tell s me that Avon has just put out "Dwellers in the Mirage." AS yet I have not seen it on the stands. Glad most of you liked the Wartheover on the last issue, You all know what happened to the original two covers.....

I got little response if any to my question in the last STELLAR to wit: Who can sell me a copy of "THE Metal Monster" by Merritt in its rrm form?"

If any of you want a certain magazine or book let me know. I will print your request in Observations. Here's one:

Kent Bone 2577 Ferris Ave. Detroit 5, Mich. is looking for SG Weinbaum's "Black Flame" He is willing to pay reasonable prices. Fanews: There is little if any. This Summer fandom is at a damn standstill! Many cons were proposed, but few came to being! Phoned Unger, and he told me that Doc Lewndes is new TAPA head.

In case you found Julie not at home he had been away on a vacation..

Well, fellas and goils, so ends Observations. Be back for the next issue, and yawrz truly will be doin a wee bit more Observing.....Austin----

-VVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVV-

FLASH!!!!!!

I have just seen and purchased "Dwellers in the Mirage" in the Avon book. The format is very nice. The cover artist, while not doing an exceptional job, did do a passable hunk of art. Perhaps one of the most important things is in the inside advertisement telling the "THE Ship of Ishtar," and "Face in the Abyss" will soon appear in the Avon pocket editions.....

Maria Montez to do retake of picture, "She" and another good fantasy. Alweinstein informs me of this. While they are both supposed to be good pictures, Maria Montez is a punk actress, and may ruin the whole thing.

-vVV- -vVV- -vVV- -vVV-

HOW TO WRITE A FANZINE ARTICLE

BY

JOE

KENNEDY

THERE WAS a letter from Hamel in my mail today. Yeah. Austih Hamel. You know the guy puts out a fanzine. Let's see... what's the name of it now? STELLAR! Oh, sure. That's the one I was trying to think of. STELLAR. Well, what I'm getting around to is this. He says he wants me to send him the article I promised him I do for his mag. Says he gotta have it. Not much time left before the next issue. Now, I've been trying to stall the guy for a week or two. Sheer laziness, I suppose. But at last, I'm forced to actually write the damn thing!

Well, here goes two sheets of paper with a carbon in the middle are now neatly inserted in the typer. Everything's ready except the idea for the article. Yeah.

What'll it be? Wonder if there are any unused ideas lying around. HMMMMMM. Might be able to use the one about time travel. Shall I? It's worth a try.....

"The theorists of fandom have long been intrigued by the possibilities of Time Travel., if such a revolutionary concept could conceivably be introduced to workable reality. If we grant the existence of as yet unknown laws (Of nature), governing methods equally obscure which would undoubtedly enable a living, intelligent human being to change the plane of his existence to OTHER periods such as the "Past" or "Future" innumerable fascinating plausibilities are automatically presented....."

Enough of that! 'Tis best not to disguise ignorance. Another piece of paper. It's growing hot in here. 90 degrees, and still the mercury climbs. And still the article is unwritten. Another idea. The old gag of punning on fanames....

"The rocket ship pulled into its home base on Venus. A grimey figure climbed out. 'I am all Tucker-ed out', said the figure. 'Have you no food to appease my Unger?' 'To be Shaw', replied the attendant....."

After the room has been fumigated, yet another attempt. A very noble attempt too. A critical essay upon the fantastic works of Conan Doyle.

"Among the greatest of early writers to convincingly dramatize--in prose--is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. This gifted creator of the world's most successful detective character, Sherlock Holmes, also stands amongst such fantasy authors of indisputable immortality as Merritt, Lovecraft, and Edgar A. Poe. Most famous of Doyle's skill in handling the supernatural is his vastly under-rated classic....."

I'll stop right there. Don't know of any fantasies by Doyle off hand. Can't think of any either. Ho hum. That settles that. This is maddebining. Cuss it all. Say-y-y.. Perhaps a semi-satire on hacks who attempt scope and cosmic infinity, et cetera.....

"Slowly Jake realized that HE was the supreme being that fate had chosen to lead expiring Mankind onward to its destined glory. Deep within himself Jake knew that his brain held all the knowledge there is to be known.

Deliberately, he bit off a chunk of cut plug. This was indeed a crucial moment. If Jake were only to think of destroying the galaxy, it would be destroyed. The idea appealed to him. He thought of destroying the galaxy. It immediately vanished in a burst of flame, taking all the human race with it. For countless trillions of light years, Jake's all-celestial mind wandered around infinity... through 23,456 $\frac{1}{2}$  dimensional space planes and 78901234567890234567893/4 qwertyuiopistic (Drat, ed.) asdfghjkl's while Jake formed new plans to obtain cut plug....."

AD.

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 AT 568 AUDUBON AVE. NY 33,  
 .....NY.....

## KENNEDY'S ARTICLE CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO....

WITH A horrible shriek, Kennedy collapses in a shuddering heap upon the floor. Too fatigued to move, he lies there in complete unconsciousness all thru the night. Dawn breaks. Our hero awakens from his exhausted slumber. One eye opens. On the table lie thousands of sheets of paper, with a few lines of typing here and there. The article for Hamel remains unwritten.

Kennedy leaps to his feet. Snatches up the typer, when suddenly--INSPIRATION!

Hastily he goes to work.....

Two days later, in the wilds of the Bronx, Hamel thumbs thru the morning mail. There lies the manuscript from Kennedy! Hamel rips it open, gibbering unintelligible expressions of ecstacy. (Qwertuio pasdfghjklzxcvbnm! Ed.) He begins to read furiously.....

"There was a letter from Hamel in my mail today. Yeah. Austin Hamel. You knew the guy. Puts out a fanzine. Let's see.. what's the name of it, now...? STELLAR! Oh, sure, That's the one I was trying to think of. STELLAR. Well, what I'm getting around to is this. He says he wants me to send him the article I promised I do for his mag...."

----THE END----

((Editor's comments on above article: Ghaaaaa aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa@aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa! ))

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Walt Kessel may not do this issue of STELLAR as I have a queer sort of stencil that may only fit on a pro mimeographer's machine.....

v-v- -v-v- -v-v- -v-v- -v-v- -v-v-

One of my non-reading friends told me that Life magazine was featuring an interplanetary article on life on the other planets. How true this is, I have no idea, but I will try to pick up a copy of this magazine to let you all know something about it.....

-v-v- -v-v- -v-v-

My store is at present all out of Styli, so you note that the articles are not in any design. Rather the article headings.... I am saving the cartoon 'till last, as it needs a stylus to do it..

-v-v- -v-v- -v-v- -v-v- -v-v- -v-v-

/ LETTERS/ FROM FEN-----0-0-0-0

MILTY ROTHMAN

NEW STELLAR just arrived today. Frankly, the best thing about it is the announcement that the next issue will be mimeoed. Some of it was pretty hard to read.. You must use larger spaces, and more empty spaces among the writing. Makes much better appearance. Moskowitz is a bit behind times if he is finding out now that fans are not Supermen. Most of us have known that for several months.. See discussions in Fapa. His remarks about fans slamming other fans in correspondence are well put, tho. Feuds are like drinking.. They are exciting and make life interesting while they go on, But they leave a bad taste later on. Mosk is getting over that taste now..

— VVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVV —

GERRY DE LA REE

Glad to receive your letter as well as Stellar No. 2. First I'll give you my views of the fanzine.

Front cover was all right. Warth seems to be a pretty fair amateur artist.



Here's hoping that the cartoon on page four comes out. As you know, it was done with a knife! It looks fairly good on the stencil one.....

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HANNES BOK, Well known artist in the pros, reports that he is sitting on a couple of of new pics. As most of you know, Hannes has quit the pro field, as, first of all it doesn't pay to work your head off on a pic and get only five bucks for it, and secondly he is too good an artist to waste his time on the pros. Hannes, in the author's opinion, was advanced in his field as, Finlay was in his. Maybe even more so. The author visited Hannes not so long ago, and saw most of his paintings. I'd advise all fens to move to N.Y. just to view them.

A certain somebody by the name of EF Buchanan has recently written to Planet, and blew off his mouth on how infantile and moronic the fan, or rather the readers of PS were. Buchanan was right to a certain extent. But the boiling point came when he hinted that fan were the same way. It's true that most of the babies who write to Planet are puny egotists, drooling to see their own name in print. But that does not hold true in all cases, which our friend Buchy overlooked. And while we're on the topic of Buchanan, let me say this much: I think very much that Buchanan and Peacock are one and the same persons for a number of reasons. First one being that Peacock has a very peculiar sense of humor. Secondly, who ever heard of an editor forwarding mail to a reader? As Peacock said he did? Thirdly: Certain sources inform me that that is exactly what Peacock said when these sources visited him. These pieces of evidence point to the statement that I made before; they are one and the same people. Peacock firmly denies this, but then, which editor doesn't lie once in a while just to get a kick of what he makes up?

While on the topic of Planot: When a friend and I visited Peacock not so long ago, he (Peacock), said that anymore letters pertaining to or about any other reader or fan, such as Buchanan, would be immediately thrown away, because this stuff is beginning to develop a bad taste. And he also requests good, carefree letters, dealing with the stories in the issue just as a auxiliary. Let's see what some of you fens can kick up?

AL'S FALLING STAR CONTINUED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.. FALLING STAR WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT

ISSUE.....

do this, as more readers would be converted into fans, and would help more than degradate fandom. Someone was starting such a booklet once, weren't they?

-vvv-

The latest FFM is a pretty good number, except for the two shorts, in plain English, they stink. Am not thru with the novel yet, but it seems to be pretty good, except that it is so far just a super-Tarzan novel. Excellent writing.. Al Weinstein.....

Coming in the next issue will be two articles, one by Walter Dunkelberger, and the other by Gerry de la Ree. Plus Falling Star, and other surprise numbers, you can't afford to miss it. Tell you fan friends about STELLAR-----

YOUR SUB EXPIRES WITH THIS ISSUE IF THERE IS AN X IN THIS SPACE ( )

This issue mimeographed by Gerry de la Ree, 9 Bogert Place, Westwood, N. J. Any errors or omissions are due to Hamel's inexperience at stencil typing...

FROM Austin Hamel  
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TO :