

1955  
HERFST

# TIOT

VOL I  
Nº 3

## ACCIDENT HOLDS UP PUBLICATION! INK SPOILS MASTERS

ANTWERP, Sept. 25 (CAAP) Magazine publication in Borgerhout, suffered a severe setback this afternoon, when a complete stock of printer's ink spilled over the already prepared masters for this magazine. The culprit responsible for this laxness has been put under arrest.

Cries emanating from the typing room during the tea-break this afternoon, caused Mijnheer Jansen to rush to the scene, where he beheld a large black spot which continued to grow even as he was watching it. Rushing forwards to try and stop the tide which was fast engulfing all the masters for this magazine, he noticed a sudden movement in the corner of the room. Not caring whether criminals were still hiding out in the

immediate neighbourhood, he did his best to save the master-sheets, but all his efforts were in vain.

However, Mijnheer Jansen proved successful in apprehending the criminal. This person was immediately put into confined quarters. The reason for the strange action of the culprit are still uncertain, though 3rd degree methods were employed.

The culprit, one Sonja J. aged 5, was

unable to give any coherent statement up to the present moment.

Sonja J. will perhaps be remembered by some of our regular readers for the contributions she submitted to this magazine, and were published here in our previous issue.

A solution as to the incentive for this foul deed will possibly be forthcoming when Mevrouw Rosa notices the beautiful additions to the design of her carpet.

Until further judgment Sonja J. has been committed to bed where she will stay the rest of the day.

We can but hope for her sake that the judge will view the matter more as an accident than as a wilfully perpetrated crime.

TIOT : driemaandelijkse uitg.  
voor clubleden van O.M.P.A.

Verantwoordelijke Uitgever:

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A FANJAN  
PUBLICATION!

## HONOURS

Borgerhout, Sept. 25 - IT HAS BEEN DECIDED BY THE BOARD OF CONSIDERATION, TO GRANT SPECIAL HONORARY MENTION TO MIJNHEER ARCHIE MERCER, FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIFTH OMPA-MAILING.

A SPECIAL AWARD CONSISTING OF THREE CLOSELY PRINTED PAGES FROM F&SF HAD ALREADY BEEN BESTOWED EARLIER.... (see p.3)



# LETTERKUNDIG OVERZICHT

ONZE REDACTIONELE STAF #

FESCENNINE

I abhor the colour scheme, Mike, but would like to congratulate you both on reproduction and material. Might that Shamey tag sure sticks. Meagre comments for such an enjoyable ish especially a first.

*Through Darkest Belgium*

VENDELMANS-BENNETT

I rejected that title three days prior to your typing this up Dave. Couldn't see the title wasted on a one-shot after the preceding TDI and TDE. The latter so far off in history I'll have to dig it out one of these days to see whether it was really called that. Perhaps the next one-shot from these here parts will be the Enchanted Dupe? Should I blame me Ron for his one-track mind?

HOW

Mailing comments seem to have gone out of fashion recently. The main reason for bringing them back in TIOT. A good mailing to start off again, with there not being too many items to review, and then even lots with some kind of fiction where one can hardly say more than whether one likes it or not. Liked the antics anyway.

*Archive*

MERCER

What again? Re Ib Tenebo - could it be an illusion to the fact that Stu was holding on to the Space Times duplicator at the time? Seems I remember reading about that somewhere in a mag. And that was about the time OMPA got started, wasn't it? Quota 16 pages but you pay 12/- for membership, I gather. Then if you publish more you get a refund (or you pay less the following year) according to a scale of 1/- per page or something? Without of course ever getting more than 6/- credited. That I believe is the meaning? Fair enuf I suppose, but what will the poor treasurer say to all this? It is nice to be able to spell enough enuf when you're trying to justify the mag, isn't it? Strange that you shud? mention the Mark of the Bird, where Bill Danner has had a couple of articles on the excrements of dogs and other animals in his Stefantasy of late....Ta, too.

NOW & THEN

*Turner & Needham*

2 It is mags like these which kill

*Wallace*

off the mailing reviews. Perhaps one of the reasons Eric continues those weird stories of his. He doesn't like mailing reviews anyway. Though I like Now and Then. But it is hard to comment upon in the space one usually allows mailing comments, for to carry on a running commentary in the spirit the zine is written in would take up pages too, always allowing for the fact that one could possibly do justice to it. But I do like the mag tremendously. Please do continue Mr Turner and Mr Needham, sirs. I seem to be slipping on my representative's activities, though. Shame on me.

*Archive's Cover*

MERCER

I just used a couple of extra staples. Was that an attempt on deluding me into actually loosening the batch of Archives?

ZYMIC & THE LESSER FLEA

*Clarke & Goodwin*

Presumable Ving read the above cover and thought of this to muck up my filing system. (RdB-Hecalls that mess in the cupboard a system!) Only effect it has is that I'll consider throwing those two out. Dirty trick!

*Satan's Child*

RATIGAN

I tried hard, but couldn't make much out of this. Looked as if it was going to be something good, and then let me down. Hope it's just lack of comprehension on my part, and that others will have enjoyed it. Modernistic art? Perhaps I ought to take it over to Jean Steer?

BILCYN

*Slater*

Very nice at least not to think of us continentals as possible runners off with OMPA. Perhaps I could get some more members here so that we could swing things like a voting in our favour at a future date? Perhaps you'd better start treating us nice or we might just do that. I don't like your stapling system, please go back to the more usual style will you? Why should I repeat that NY'll have the convention next year. By the time you read this everybody should know. To quote Dick Ellington "London will undoubtedly make a serious one (bid) next year in NY." Was there anything laughable about this year's bid? At any rate I'm hoping to hear from the World Exhibi-

-----ctd on page 6-----



# MAIL ROBBERY?

Antwerp, 23 Sept. ARRIVAL AND CHECKING OF THE 72nd FAPA MAILING BROUGHT TO NOTICE THAT A PUBLICATION FROM ZARA PRESS HAS FAILED INCLUSION in the fifth OMPA mailing. On itself, one could expect to believe the PO guilty of withholding the parcel, but a further absence has been noted, namely that of our dear confrator: De Antwerpse Letterkundige en Wetenschappelijke Gazet two issues of which were mailed out early August and have not seen what Welling looks like.

Though immediate checks have been made in the vicinity, no results have been obtained. Club officers have been warned about the privation hereby occasioned to some club-members, especially in Liverpool, where one member is thirsting for egoboo.

This matter however raises the question of whether we should hold the PO responsible, or (and we deem this a far more satisfactory solution) should an amendment be brought forward to bar alcoholic beverages within 50 miles of the OE of the club, the first fourteen days of each mailing month?

A parcel of tissue-paper, sent on to our honorable OE, on the off-chance... has brought no answer.

We trust we shall be able to bring you good news in the near future. In the meantime we are certain that our OE will keep us fully informed about the researches.

A temporary two-minute silence will be observed, both in Antwerp and in Savannah, Ga. to pray for the misfortunate publications.

## A THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

YOU HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OVER ME .... YOU LEARNT ENGLISH - I JUST PICKED IT UP AS I WENT ALONG !

Mike Wallace  
(author of the famed  
Four Just Fen, &c)

## M. AMERCER Ctd.

### By our own reviewer.

I am sure that all the members will have been puzzled for a few moments, when, upon opening their mailing envelopes, they came across the Off T'rail magazine.

Suffice it to be said that your reviewer was himself temporarily deluded, and was wondering whether having voted a female office into power had been such a good idea after all...

Besides the wonderful travesty, M. Mercer's contribution included also an unwanted list, which has enlarged the reviewers library already.

Yet not satisfied with these signs of activity, we find yet another manifestation of duty before dinner, with further Mercatorial fishes, and writings. Having already fully commented upon same by personal letter, I refrain from further comments here, but must urge greater attention paid to our one and only

Jan Jansen.

# BEST OMPA'N POLL

for increased & improved activities !!!

Lincoln 18 Sept.

Van onze korrespondent ter plaatse.

Earlier on I suggested in a letter to either Viné or Ken Bulmer that a vote should be held each mailing for the best item of the mailing (including postmailings to the previous one), the producer of the winning item to have his dues extended free for one mailing. He replied that he favoured the FAPA method- without demonstrating it though as you've done...

Bgt. 24 Sept (CAAP) In conjunction with the above, and for those who may not know, a short summary of the FAPA-poll.

Every year the vice-president of that organisation includes in the OO, a postpaid pcd on which the following classifications have been stencilled: Best article writer; fiction writer; humorist; artist; editor. Further best publication and best mailing comments. All these categories have three blank lines, n'd 1, 2, 3 after which each member can put his/her favourite fans in their special departments. There is also a poet wanted, only the best, no seconds or thirds required. Polling is done by approx. a third of the members.

Members of OMPA don't seem to go for voting either, but if sufficient people are interested, how about it? Shall we too have a poll?



# OUR FEATURE PAGES

## CHURCH & COMMUNISM

BY G.M. CARR

Seattle 22/8/55. From our special sparkling gem-correspondent.

As you have doubtless observed, I consider religion a very interesting topic of conversation (via paper--vocally it is apt to become too heated). The discrepancy you point out between what the Church (Catholic, I presume you mean) preaches and what it practices is very noticeable, and not only in the matter of beautiful art treasures piled up in the churches with hungry and homeless people contributing (or being asked to contribute) to their support. Human beings do not shed their human foibles merely by accepting a religious tenet, I guess. It is very true that the basic values which Jesus propounded as being important, have been so overlaid with layers of rationalization that it is almost impossible to locate them. Unfortunately, those values were exceedingly difficult for the average human being to accept -- or, having accepted them emotionally and/or intellectually --- to live up to. It is far easier to extrapolate some symbolic action and substitute that for the more difficult mental and

physical and emotional discipline which are required. Just as a chronic alcoholic finds it easier to abstain from alcoholic beverages altogether than to take one or two drinks and stop there --- so humanity has found it far easier to build churches and fill them with expensive (but useless) art treasures, than it has to attempt to share a genuine and friendly interest in the welfare of other people. It is not at all easy to do. I doubt very much that the Communists on their home grounds behave with any greater sincerity than the Church does --- after all, if one were to judge the Church by the behavior of its Missionaries in the foreign fields, one would have a very different picture of it. Communist propagandists are, in effect, missionaries of the ideology they hold. Their activities are no more typical of the established rule of that Ideology than the heroism and charity of the Missionaries are typical of the stay-at-home Parish Priest. But as you well say, they gain their converts among the poor that the Church has ignored.... GMC

## LULLABY OF BIRDLAND

N.Y. 10/8/55. (D.E.) Re your last issues correspondence: You should see the Alaskan kee-kee bird. It's scrawny, olive drab colored, likes beer & gives out with the cry of "Kee-kee-kee-rist-but its cold". We also have a Midwestern Yah-yah bird which flies at an ever increasing speed in an ever diminishing circle till finally it disappears completely up its own ---hole.

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One really special we have over here is the Extra Marital Lark whose call is "Kinsey, Kinsey, Kinsey". Often seen at parties hovering around the Hairy chested nut scratcher which it often mistakes for its mate... DE

## LANGUAGE

BY PETER

Southport, 1/8/55: I never was any good at languages, even though I have had had French, Latin and German all forced down my unwilling throat at one time or another. I'm glad I'm not in your position regarding letters. Perhaps you like it, getting letters from all over the globe. So would I if everybody would learn English for my benefit. But they won't; what a pity. This brings to mind the way in which s.f. authors get round the language difficulty. As you know they usually make references to the "universal tongue" of the future, or else they take an easier way out and say English has been adopted by most countries. If different nations got



N.Y.10/8/55 -And then there's scenic New York. The Statue of Liberty with that lovely coat of green verdigris, sort of a seasick green. And the lovely odors of rotten garbage and frying garlic drifting up the sunlit canyons. The sweet sound of the neighbors having a drunken brawl in the middle of the street, the rhythmic clatter of the garbage cans at three a.m. and the sun setting in the windows of the building across the street, the last rays lingering on a cluttered one room flat occupied by a couple who think those curtains are opaque. Then there's Coney Island on a summer Sunday, the friendly people stepping in your face and apologizing profusely, the broken beer bottle upended just where you sit down and the lovely yellow water, tastefully decorated with banana peels toilet paper and the lost bottom half of a bikini. Then there's those quaint picturesque people, the cab-driver with his deep voiced chant: "Geddadda daway!" and the bus driver: "Moveagahd amnrearofagahdamnbuorwesithereallga hdamnnight". But we love every stinking inch of it. And I'll bet London agrees.

DE

C"CAN YOU SPARE ME 4 PAGES PER WEEK IN YOUR MAG?..."

GB

## BARRIER

RIGBY =

together to discuss this question, they would probably find a case for the adoption of any language as universal. Firstly, the language spoken by more people than any other is Chinese, with English in second place quite a long way behind. Secondly, English is spoken by a great many civilized countries; but what would the Russians say about that? Thirdly, French is the language of diplomacy. Fourthly, Esperanto belongs to no country and would be easy to learn. German is a precise, scientific language. Latin is the base of many languages. And so the list grows longer.

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PR

## OUR NEW SERIAL

### INERTIA

BY A. & J. YOUNG

The description of the rotation of bodies like wheels involves the use of a quantity known as the "moment of inertia" of the rotating body. The moment of inertia incorporates two properties of the body that are of first importance in connection with its rotational characteristics: the mass, and the way in which the mass is distributed. Unfortunately, it is not possible to calculate values of moments of inertia mathematically except in only a very few cases (those in which the body has a regular & fairly simple geometric shape). As a result, experimental methods of measuring the moment of inertia of a rotating body assume some importance since they are often the only practicable means of obtaining an accurate value. In this experiment you will become acquainted with a simple means that can be (and sometimes is) used in engineering practice to obtain the moment of inertia of a wheel (in practice perhaps a flywheel). In addition, you will have an opportunity to apply the concepts of kinetic energy and gravitational potential energy to the analysis of the motion of a system of bodies, and you will have some review of the kinematics of uniformly accelerated motion.

Ctd

If readers' replies warrant such, we will gladly continue the novel in our coming issues.

Red

ALPHA!

the only fanzine with both  
FIRST & LAST PAGES

Food of the Gods

PLUS free insurance  
against boredom !!!



tion people at Brussels. You see, at the last WE the rates from and to US were cut by 50%. The WE will be in 1958, and if the rates are again cut, I think there'd be a large number of fans able to afford the trip who would normally have to stay at home. More about this as soon as I hear anything from Brussels. I wonder if it has finally been noticed by OF that I now live at Borgerhout and not in Wommelgem. It would be just about time too. How many circulars have I missed already?

#### NOISE LEVEL

I did read it John, but too much jazz. And I don't like poetry either but then perhaps you don't care for this type of stuff...

Agree on Morph. I didn't care much for the first two instalments, then with the third read them all again. Now that I'm more or less fascinated, I don't get Morph in my mailing envelope.... What constitutes a good OMPazine, John? I have not, so far, received unanimous applauding on anything I have ever published. Same goes for an over-all mag, always people who dislike it, and people who adore the thing. I keep myself to that explanation sheet that was circulated to prospective members when we started off. The third 'purpose' was listed as experimenting, and that's what I'm doing. This is the third variety. One planned mag one rambling type, now this imitation yellow rag... Don't know what's coming next... Something will!

Several people have commented on TIOT by letter, and have offered advice on various points, and I've discussed this. Just because I don't immediately follow such advice does not mean that I purposely ignore it though. All the suggestions are carefully filed and will be considered when I do a similar mag some other time. And I appreciate the hints. Just as well you added the pleasant after the muskrat remark. You see, I haven't the faintest idea what a muskrat rambles like, and the name doesn't exactly sound nice. I think I'll start me a stamp--collector's page. Uncles, and old fans in general can always tear it out and pass it to their kids. Possibly I'll include a sideline for cigarette cards and

matchbox labels. Sort of even up the jazztalk. Or is counteract the word I should have used?

#### NEEDLE

When I do get over to England, I shall certainly be disillusioned if I don't find fans praying in the general direction of Belfast when the sun sets and rises. Possibly during morning and afternoon breaks as well. With all these pilgrimages to that place... Your comment on Andro makes me wonder what your reaction to three unjustified columns will be!

#### Loco

We have had quite a write-up on the Teddy boys in local newspapers. Some Dutch blokes had been snapped, and their picture appeared in the newspaper under the heading of Dutch Teddy boys. They sued the paper for libel. Don't know how it turned out, as I rarely read that part of the papers. I think there are too many fanzines in proportion to the number of readers. But who's gonna do what about it? Collaborations usually end up on the rocks before too long, so that that's out. And one can hardly go up to a new faned and say: Listen you, there's too many zines around already, so you quit right now.... Vinç's suggestion of chopping off their heads could be usefully applied. Let's start off with Science Fantasy News or whatever the thing was called. Fanthology: a/a wonderful idea b/a lot of devilish work and c/a total financial loss, like every fanzine. But if I can help out... No Rome this time! Next?

to be continued.

#### Last Page Editorial.

And last minute too. Seems postal regulations are again being tightened, and regularity must be at least four times per year. Hence this is going out as is, with another small issue following. For non-OMPA members that is, others will receive both in the mailing.

I hope I cheer the hearts of worrying British faneds when I tell them that we too have a collector of printed matter. Koninklijke Boekerij te Brussel, is the address. There is also a second copy required, but by the province-authorities, in this case Stadsboekerij te Antwerpen, for all material pubbed in Antwerp. JJ.