of the transmit illustration

ISSUED AS A SUPPLEMENT TO HYPHEN *4 BY AALT WILLIS, 170 UPPER NEWTOWNARDS RD. BELFAST NORTHERN TRELAND.

LOST AND FAN LEFT. (Extracted from Forrest J. Ac. eman's column in 'Shangri-L' Affaires April 1945)

the stood our from all the other passengers on the street car. Toung blonde and beautiful. Drest in a neatly tailored businessuit. Selfpossest, an aura of all I can call it is 'authenticity' bout her. Soft, and yet somehow unapproachable. One's eyes automatically

gravitated to her. She was reading a book. Something about the jacket struck me as familiar. hat could it be? Something I'd been reading myself, recently, I thought. The Great Fogi -could it be? I tried to get a better look. It was difficult. The car was crowded like a salmon steam at spawning time. I felt like Minos of Sardines. I strained my myopic optics. At the top of one page I could make out XXX XXXX XXX. At the top of the other, XXXXXXX XXXXXXX.,?

Carefully I counted. 123 12345 123. Yes. And -- "DESPAIR DEFERRED...?" It must be! o Circumstantial evidence, but a title with 3 periods and a question mark in it....!

I tried to sidle near her. I was burdened by my anny greatcoat and carrying case. And, in any case, was blocked by a wall of human flesh. I was within about 10 blocks of where I had to transfer, and was racing with a deadline to catch a train.

As luck would have it, when I was within about six blocks of where I had to hop off, the individual sitting next to Her got up and I was able to squeeze in beside her. And then....

The Rains Came! A veritable torrent of verbiage. A Second Deluge. Have you ever tried to tell a stranger the story of stf and fandom in 2 minutes?

"Pardon me," I burst in on her reading, "But are you reading that just by happenstance or because you're really interested in it?"

"My-I'm interested in it," regarding me askance.

"Well, say, you'll pardon me if this all seems peculiar, and I'm incoherent, but I have to hop off in just a minute to catch a train, and what I wanted to tell you, say----do you read WEIRD TALES by any chance?"

"Oh, yes,"

we have a club-here in town-guys and gals like you and me who read these stories and like to talk about them...have our own club room ... the original illustrations of lots of the stories ... you know Ray Bradbury?--he lives nearby" ---car stop-- "I have that book you're reading in my own library, which is why I happened to notice it. Our club has WEIRD TALES back ten years or more, and other fantasy mags like to you know UNKNOWN that's been discontinued now! -- just a couple more blocks to go; make it fast, 4e- Say, look, here's a little mag that might interest you-it has reviews of all kinds of books like the one you're reading mow; in fact I think that book is reviewed -- and this is my name, here on the envelope" - half rising - "I'm going to be out of town a couple days, but if you're at all interested please get in touch with me when I get back--we'd be glad to have you attend a meeting as a guest. Goodbye!"

"Thank you for the magazine," she acknowledged.

000 "Yes? Well, you know the EERD TALES Club-that list in the back of the mag? Well,

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> > =:

But she must have thought that was quite the craziest sergeant she ever encount-

"YNGVI IS A LOUSE!

THE SAD SAGA OF SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES (from BLOOMINGTON NEWSLETTER NO 6. Fhilcon Edn., Sept., 1947) of Burbee's fammag.

(Tucker is complaining about the non-arrival of his copies

.... A few months ago I got

tired of this careless publishing system and issued an ultimatum; WI'm no rore Siamese either Burbee get each copy to me promptly as it was published, than you are. " or I'd be forced to send a cash subscription. (n.notaler)

His thoughtful letter of apology follows. "Are you trying to tell me you didn't get a copy of Shangri-etc 36? I sent you one along with the rest of them. What the hell. ((Note the lapse into profamity to cover !his confusion.)) No other beefs have come my way. ((Note the reference to the meat shortage to confuse the issue.)) Is there a hex on Box 260, Bloomington, Ill? Is it haunted? Is it a section of subspace in which things placed vanish for once and all? Is it the dominion of a sluglike being from Saturn who lives on carboniferous matter? There is a mystery about Box 260, Bloomington, Ill. There is a definite out-ofthis-worldness about Box 260. I might go so far as to say Box 260 is extra-terrestrially inclined, if not actually extra-terrestrial. It has other-world habits. Or, to put it briefly, it is the demedest Box I have ever heard of.

I can say this with perfect equanimity, though my eyes have never rested on Box

260: ((Note his implied sorrow.))

Duigherty This is the damndest thing I have ever heard of. by, that stupid for zine ((note how he slurs his product in an effort to reduce my sense of loss)) has been out a month or more. And no copy has reached you. This is incredible. It seems odd to me that you have not discovered the mystery of Box 260 by this time. Has it held forever er to its bosom other works of fannish nature? Had it withheld from you checks from er to its bosom other works of famnish nature? Had it withheld from you checks from stapid enterprising publishers for your fooligh pristine writings? hy, then, must it prey on fanzines? ((Note contradiction of quality in an effort to raise fanzine in equal value to checks.))

Oh well. I am sending you, this very minute, a second copy of that derive excellent fanzine. Please allow a fortnight to pass. If it hasn't arrived I'll send you another. And another, and another, and another. I will teach my children that each and every two weeks a copy of Shangri-L'Affaires No. 36 must be sent to Bob Tucker, Box 260, Bloomington, Ill. We'll make a fetish of it. More, a whole new mythology will spring up around this." Burbee

"Llowly and painfully he leaped to his feet."

A LETTER FROM RAY NELSON "hat the hell is this all about anyhow? Doesn't anybody know why we are floating down this river of piss in a blud-(from SPACEWARP37) enameled bedpan? I just woke up myself to the situation. A

while back I thought the river was soda pop and we were riding in the Queen Mary, but there's a certain air about this whole thing that gave it all away.

Look! There's someone swimming towards us. No. My mistake. It's only warren Baldwin. His faith in Ghod will keep him afloat. Warren, would you care to say a few words for the radio audience?

"Yes. As I stand. I mean float. here, and look out over this majestic river flowing onward to eternity, my faith grows still greater than it was. There must be some vast meaning to it all, some great human destiny. This river must have started somewhere. There must have been, in some distant past, a creator of all this. That creator was none other than Gho...gasp..gag..gurgle..blub..ii

Thank-you-and-goodnight-Warren Baldwin." -- Ray Nelson

