



ODD Fanzine commemorative

Thanx to Ned Brooks, I am able to present ODD #9, from late 1951, in PDF form. Some are in color, to celebrate Twilltone, but most are in black-and-white, which takes up much less space.

Why am I doing this? Aside from passing a slice of history along, there is also the fact that Duggie Fisher was the first out-of-state fan I ever met! I had met Joe Green, but he was from only fifty miles away.

With info from Fan Gallery and Joyce Worley Katz, I put together a brief bio on Duggie and put it on wikipedia. Here it is:

Raymond "Duggie" Fisher

Raymond "Duggie" Fisher (October 15, 1935-May 16, 1988) was a science-fiction fan from Poplar Bluff, Missouri. He was a fanzine fan, convention fan and club fan.

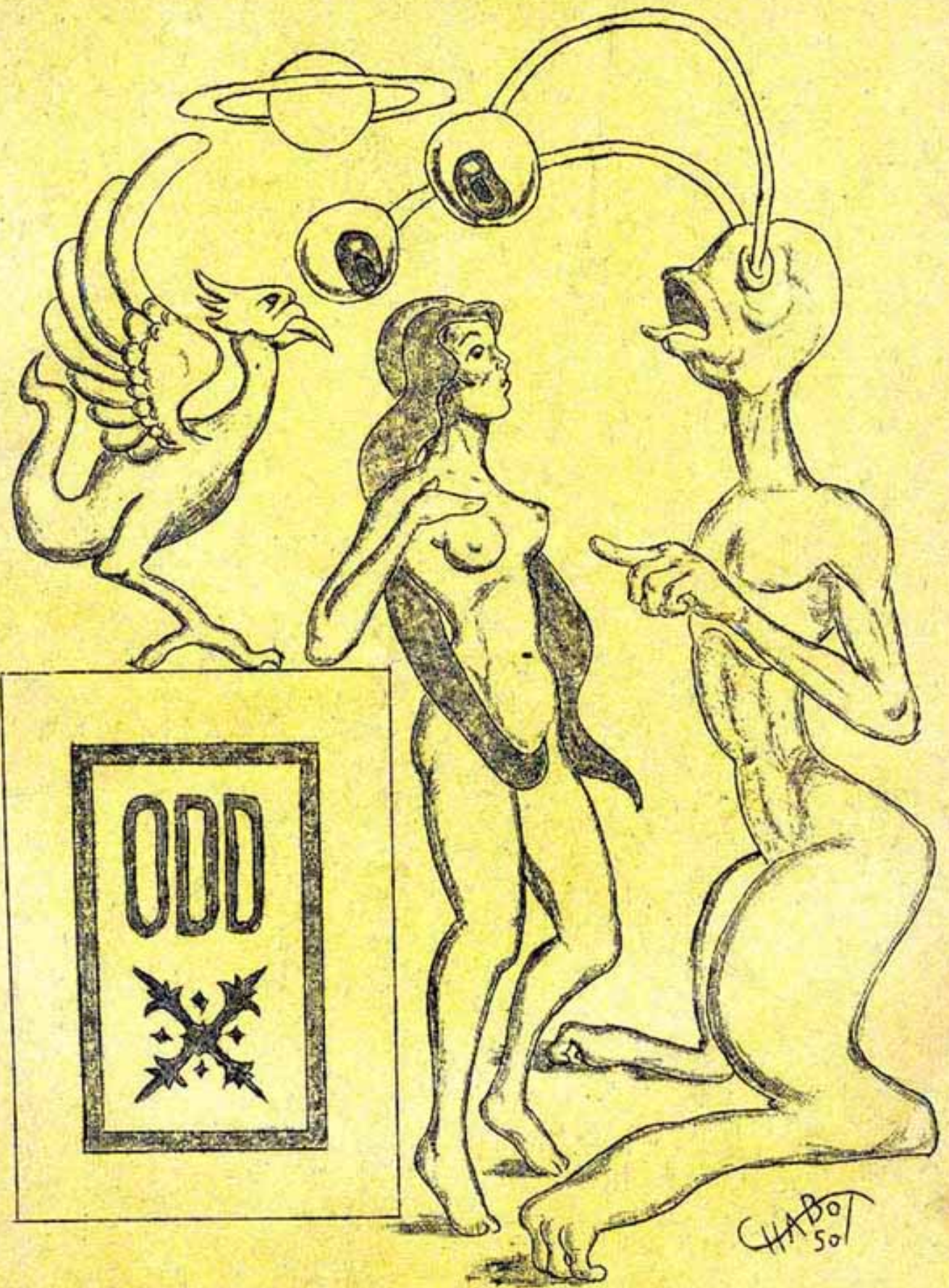
Duggie and his wife, Joyce Worley Fisher, co-chaired the St Louiscon (a worldcon) in 1969. He was on the con-committee for Ozarkcon 1-5 in St Louis 1965 thru 1969 He was a founding member of the Poplar Bluff Science Fiction Club in the 1950s and Ozark Science Fiction Association (OSFA) in St Louis in the 1960s. He was also a member of The Saturday People, in St Louis, in the 1960s.

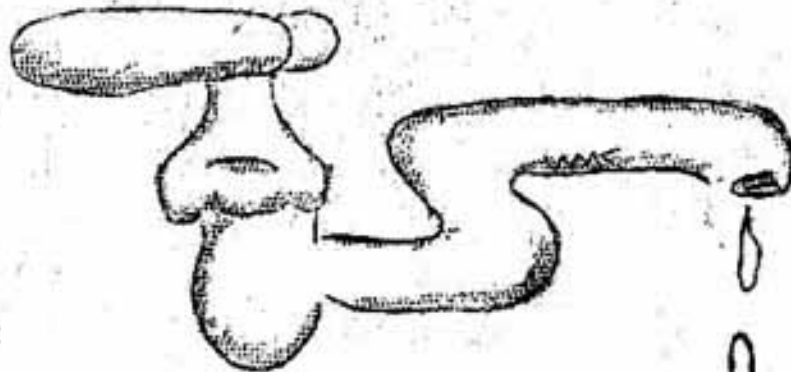
Duggie's fanzine, ODD, was nominated for a Hugo in 1968.

Duggie and Joyce Worley were married July 21, 1956 and the marriage lasted until 1970.

Duggie died in 1988 from complications of diabetes.

(To print, click on to enlarge.)





This will be a slightly different type of editorial than ODD has featured in the past. No more gurgles, sobs and groans, and no more tear jearking. At least not for a little while.

ODD, has now recieved enough subscriptions to continue publication for a while at least. We do need some material tho. Any material that's well written on any interesting subject we will print. Withen bounds of course.

We will only accept first-class manuscripts, but if we do not accept your epic, do not feel that the manuscript is of no importance to us, we will be glad to give constructive critisism in the hopes that we will receive material from you. So if you want any advise that we're able to give, or if you have any material that'll meet our standards, we will be overjoyed to give your manuscript our careful consideration.

Next issue, ODD will feature an excellent cover by Ray Nelson, A short, but interesting article "How It Got That Way", by ED Noble. And three pieces of fiction that speak for themselves: "Death Prefered", by Jerome Bartlett, "Another Sad Case", by Ed Cox, and "Doubt" by J.T. Oliver We will also have interior artwork by Rotsler, Nelson, Chabot and Keasler. Our old standbys, Scrapheap, Leaky Faucet, and Nothing Sirius will be among our regular department heads, and we will also feature the first of a new series in Portrait of a Fan. This series will each mounth bring you a portraitt of some well known fan. The first portrait is done by C.W. SMARE.

Next issue will also have a parshial listing of the contents of our anniversary issue. Don't miss this preview of whats in store for you in the gigantic July-August issue.

Well, I guess thats about all, I'll let Rich take over now, so please turn over to the next page, we aren't finished yet. Yours, Duggie

By THE DRIB

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"Leaky faucet" (cond.)

Duggie wants to get this issue of ODD out shortly after the Xmas holidays. If we make it I'll really be surprised, as I am writing this the day after Christmas. The reason for being so late is that the finals at the U. lasted up till Dec. 20th and then there was Christmas shopping and I've yet to get out my Saps-Fapa mag SNULBUG. So even if ODD shows up a little later than we'd like it too be it'll probably be slightly ahead of our regular schedule.

Earlier this month the editors of ODD tried out corresponding by wire recordings. As of right now I haven't gotten the wire back from Dug so I don't know too much about the next issue of ODD. Incidentally, I don't have the recorder. It is the property of Redd Boggs but he is nice enough to let me use it. We make recordings once in a while for Cal. fans. If any of you readers of ODD have a wire recorder please send us a spool and we'll reply as soon as possible. I really prefer correspondence this way as it certainly saves a lot of typing.

ODD recently cleaned out it's fiction files and so we are wide open for material---as usual. But what we have in our files now is good--damn good. It includes two stories by pros and we're working on some more. In articles tho, we're merely nil. We can use some so how about it? You can send material to either editor for acceptance for ODD. You'll have more of a chance that way, since we have different likes.

We are trying to inject a little humor into ODD. Some evidences of this may be seen in this issue---that is if Duggie uses some of it. I'd like to make ODD a second Le Zombie if possible but I doubt if there are very many fans to day who could write humorous material. (((Any body want to make a liar out of him? Duggie))) Are you listening Hoy Ping Pong? For those Neophytes who don't know who HPP is we'll let you in on a secret --- he's Bob Tucker's Chinese cook.

I should have mentioned that ODD wants no weird fiction. Unless it is an exceptional story, we'll send it back to you faster than a rejected Ziff-Davis manuscript. You can usually send in a script to Z-D on a Monday and get it back the following Saturday.

I can't wait to see Merwin's and Phillip's reviews of ODD's #7 & #8. If we don't wind up on the 'A' list I'm afraid that I'll have to write a very nasty letter to Mr. Mutton. Merwin rarely reads a fanzine anyway and if he just looks at our covers we're in! Phillip's reviews tho will probably bring in more subs --- I hope. (((You and me both Pal)))

(((Some of you have sent in money asking for the latest copy of ODD, and had to wait until this issue was out. I'm sorry about this, but I mailed out all but 10 of last issue, and friends in town have taken up those. If however enough want a back issue tho, I'll reprint some. So far, 18 persons want an extra copy or two of the last issue. If seven more ask, making a total of twenty-five, I'll then reprint some.

Well, guess that's about all. Sorry that we have no Nelson cartoons this issue, but Ray has been moving, and can't be located for the present. He'll be back next ish tho, along with everybody (you should only live so long) else.)))

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IMAGINARY INTERVIEW WITH AN
IMAGINARY ARTIST:

"How do you like going to art school here in Minneapolis, Grossman?"

"Well, they've got a drawing from life course."

"Oh, so that's why you're here going to school."

"You know me better than that., Elsberry."

"Is that an admission or denunciation?"

"I had no chose. It was either school or being a fan artist for-
ever."

"But can you live on what Maeffety pays, John?"

"No, but that doesn't matter."

"That's what you think. Do you want to live on sardines all of your
life?"

"I like sardines."

"Hats!"

"I like those too."

"I saw your latest pic in the Palmer mags John. It was pretty good."

"Would have been a lot nicer if they'd have printed it right side up
instead of sideways."

"Was that sideways? Who'd have guessed? Still it was better than the
story it illustrated."

"I get paid next month."

"Why don't you do some illustrations for Galaxy? I hear they're pay-
ing top rates."

"I'm working on a superealistic cover for them."

"What if they don't buy it?"

"I need some new wallpaper for my walls anyway."

"To change the subject, how do you like art school?"

"Well, they do have a fine drawing from life class, Say! What's that
you've got under your arm?"

"Oh, that. Just some sardines I brought over for you John. If there-
s anything else I can do for you just let me know."

"You didn't bring any crackers?"

COSMIC FLAME
by Calvin Marsden

Across the cosmic reaches
There comes a flash of light.
A briefly flaring brilliance
In the Eternal Night.

What alien cause, the flare
In Cosmic annals, new?
Some new threat to Man
Or cosmic blunder, true.

Could it be the death-knell
Of some dying race?
Or the fire of conquest
Of monsters out of Space.

Or could it be an accident
Of hell unleashed, of planets bent.
Or could it be a higher race,
That watch Man's swiftly rising pece....?

nothing

THINGS THAT DIDN'T COME OFF:

In the last three years SF fans have been plagued with a lot of false alarms. That is, a lot of things were advertised but then never quite came off. The most recent, of course, was the hoax of the slick Amazing. Ziff-Davis no longer mentions that incident. Then it was just a few issues ago in aSF when JWC said that there would be a change in aSF this Fall. Fall is over and we are into Winter and nothing happened to aSF. Then there was the mag that was supposed to come from Gnome Press. We waited a long time for that and it was finally announced that it would not appear. A nother dud.

Early in 1949 Merwin pulled a slick one on SF fans too! His mags increased their size to 180 pages and the price to 25¢. After only 3 issues of this size, sixteen pages were cut off with no mention and, of course, the price remained the same.

There has been plenty of SF books that didn't appear. Hull's Arthur Blord series, "The Ultimate Adventure" by Hubbard, "The Ghoul" by Hubbard, and a book of Hubbard's short stories: "Danger in the Dark! S&S were to republish Slan and The Weapon Maker's but so far haven't done so and it doesn't look like they will. "The Maniac Poltergeist" by AM Phillips was supposed to be a sequel to "The Mislaid Charm". Hadley folded before they were able to publish Keller's "Cornwall" tales and his "Taine of San Francisco" stories. No one has bothered to pick them up, nor have they bothered with Hubbards' "The Wizard and the Witch", which Hadley was supposed to publish.

PROSE ON THE PRO'S:

Of late there seem to be an awful lot of original novels being sold to the book publishers. Up until recently there had only been "The Carnalian Cube", "The Kingslayer", and "The forbidden Garden". None of these first saw magazine publication as had most other SF books. But in the last year and a half we've seen all sorts of SF novels making their appearances that had never seen magazine publication as had most other books before them. There were "Peeble in the Sky", "The Man Who Sold The Moon", "The Big Eye", "Kinsmen of the Dragon", and Grey's "Murder Millennium Six" to mention a few. Prime has a new DeCamp novel and Doubleday has Asimov's "The Stars Like Dust", and Wyndham's "Day of the Triffids" ready for publication. The Asimov story is now being printed in Galaxy but was first sold to Doubleday. Simak's "Time Quarry" was sold to S&S first and now Williamson's "The Maker" has been sold to the same company. We may see this in Galaxy shortly also. It looks like the big push to publish original SF novels is on.

WONDERINGS:

I wonder how JWC must feel now that it is clear to him that most of the stories he is now getting are probably Galaxy rejects??????????????

MAGAZINE NOTES:

Jan. 1 1951 issue of Quick has drawings of life in the year 2000 done by Ziff-Davis artists Krupa, Summers, Sharp, and Swiateck. # Avon has just issued "Perelandra" by CS Lewis in its STF Classics p-b series and Hillman has issued "The Dying Earth" by Vance (Kuttner) and will soon have "Peeble In the Sky" by Asimov out. # Moff&SF will add more word age with it's April 1951 issue. # Sports-Afield has been running an SF serial by Erle Stanley Gardner. # A. Merrit's Fantasy has ceased publication. Merrit's stories will henceforth be published in FN. # Ten Story Fantasy will be out sometime in Jan. from Avon. It will be regular pulp size and cost 25¢. Frequency of publication depends on how well the 1st issue sells. The first issue, incidently, will have 13 stories by deCamp vV, del Rey, Leiber, Clarke, etc. # vV's "House that stood still" will see publication in 2Cs-AB's #4. Simak has sold a sequel to "Eternity Lost" to Galaxy. # GNASHING OF TEETH DEPT: (((WHOOSH? Dugg))) Dynamic Science Fiction is to be revived by the publishers of Marvel Science. It will be on sale early in 1951. # Interior illos will return to FFM with the May 51 issue which features "Slayer of Souls" by Robert Chambers.... # Thrills Inc., Australia's pro SF mag recently fired one of its authors when it was discovered he was plagiarizing stories from American SF mags. # There is a rumor that Ken Crossen will edit a new SF mag. # WL Hamling has bought Imagination from Ray Palmer. It is expected that Hamling will carry on the magazine much in the same style that RAP did, but it is hoped that he will not. He's lined up Bok and Malcom Smith for covers and also plans on using a photo cover for #4. # Worlds beyond will fold after its 3rd issue it was announced. The mag was not selling as well as expected. Another SF mag, Star Science Fiction, folded even before it's first issue. This was the mag that was supposed to have been put out by Gnome Press. Star was to have been digest size and sell for the price of 35¢ and be slanted toward the women. I wonder what happened to the backlog of these two magazines? # The only note worthy thing about WE was its book reviews, in which Mr. Knight tried to review SF books as Time does -- that is -- kick the hell out of them!

IF THIS GOES ON...."

Part of the program at the New Orleans Convention in 1951 will be given over to a dianetics demonstration. What dianetics has to do with SF is beyond me! Just because it was first introduced in aSF doesn't indicate any connection with SF. In fact, dianetics has about as much to do with stf as does astrology! Probably even less. The Con is labled as the 9th World SF Convention. Not as the 9th World Sf & Dianetics Convention. The convention is supposed to be for those who are interested in Science Fiction --- not dianetics. If dianetics fans want to get together so badly, then they should stage they're own convention instead of forcing it upon an SF Convention. I haven't heard of the NFFF changing its name to the National Fantasy Fan & Dianetics Federation. Then why should we have dianetics at an SF convention? Like I said before, why not a demonstration by a group of astrologers. But, we'll have a dianetics demonstration weather we like it or not because the convention chair man Harry Moore is a dianetics backer, I'll back any convention in '52 that has a platform that excludes dianetics. How about you????????????????

(((YES, what about you? If you have any views about this question, we will be glad to print all that space will allow for in our next issue.)))

CURRENT FANZINES...GOOD AND BAD ((This is only a parshal list))

Nekromantikön (1905 Spruce Ave, Kansas City 1, Mo.; .25¢) #3 features a neat four color cover by Bannister. M. Houston's "Twilight Fell At Camelot" headlines the issue, and a swell headliner it is too. Truly a remarkable job of mimeographing. # Ad-O-Zine (2058 E. Atlantic Street, P-hilly 34, Pa.) #6, Nov-Dec '50 contains 16 4x6 ads. Fandom's #2 adzine. # SeeTee (3056 Jackson St., San Fran 15, Calif.) # 3 is the official organ, of TS.(((No, no, it means Tellurian Sciencefictioneers, not.....))) 28 postcard size pages, mostly club news and features. # Fantasy Advertiser (1745 Kenneth Road, Glendale 1, Calif.; 15¢), Nov. '50 contains 28 pages of ads, book reviews, and illustrations. The back-cover by Jonbrin is excellent as is the whole magazine. # SLANT- (170 Upper Newtownards Rd Belfast, North Ireland; 2 1/2 shs for a prozine) #4 is a 40 page printed zn featuring woodcuts by White, excellent fiction, and better departments--th's is a must. Circulation of SLANT is 280 # Procyon (Box 1565, Billings, Montana;) (25¢) #2 is Shore's new printed zine. This issue has 19 pages and a nice format. The mag is dedicated to fan fiction but the best thing in this issue is an article by Coswal. # Bizarre (1630 Old Shakappe Rd., Mpls 20, Minn; 15¢) # 1 is a fifteen page fiction zine. A good story, "Disposal Machine" by R-T Rapp features this issue. Covington was the editor of the first issue, but lane has taken over since then at the above adress. # Peon (CL Riddle, PNL, USN, Fleet All Weather training Unit, c/o Fleet PO, San Frar, Cal.; by request) #15 is a nifty 28 pager from out Hawaii way. Ludwig's "Magie and the Dribbleflib" seemed to me to be the best in this issue. You can get it for a letter, and its well worth it. # Operation Fantasy (Rasch, 715 W. 112th Street. Los Angeles 44, Cal.; 15¢) is Cap Slater zine. You can sub to it at the above adress. This 16 page pro printed mag has a circulation of around 1-000 copies; it rates it and if your not one of the lucky fellows who get it then you'd better get on the ball and subscribe. # STAR ROVER (232 James St., Perth, Western Austraila; 10¢) is Roger Dard's first try at a fanzine and he does a good job with this 9 page lithoed job. This first issue is done mostly by Roger but we'll bet that it'll pick up quick. You can get subs through Rick Sneary, and everybody knows his adress --- or at least they should. # ALEPH NULL (32 Park Place, RD #4, Pittsburg 9, Pa.; 15¢) is Bill Venable's N3F sponsored zine. This issue, #2 contain s 24 pages and fiction by Rapp and Bannister. Pretty good for a new comer. # Quandry (lol Wagner Street., Savannah, Georgia) is a monthly perpetrated by Lee Hoffman. #6 is the current issue and contains such famous fans as Tucker, Warner, & Boggs. 24 pages and plenty of illos. Reccommended. # GHU (?-?-?) is John Davis's little mass of GHU, pretty good but since it is typewritten by hand, you'll probably have a hell of a time getting a copy. # A few well know fanzines were not reviewed in this above ? but if you want your fanzine reviewed, just send a copy marked review to Rich Elsberry, 413 East 18th stree, Minneapolis 4, Minnesota.

QUOTABLE QUOTES DEPT

"How in the world do those boys who spend a dime per copy for paper, a nickel for ink, six cents for postage and \$4.00 for labor make anything selling their fanzines for a quater?" -Manly Bannister, '49. After putting out Nekro for a year Manly I think you know the answer to that one Manely --- THEY DON'T

REVIEW DEPT.

"The Ghoul and the Seraph" by Clark Ashton Smith, Gargoyle Press, 35¢

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Michael DeAngelis has published a poem by CA Smith that I don't doubt was practically unobtainable before. Perhaps it should have been left that way. It all depends on weather or not you like weird poetry. I know that there are many Smith admirers, and for them, this booklet can not be passed up. All copies of this edition have been signed and it is Smith's habit to correct all the errors in the printed text. Luckily there are only five of these errors, for had there been any more the booklet might have been unreadable. The errors are extremely small ones and would have passed unnoticed had not Smith drawn your attention to them. The price may seem a little high for only six pages but the booklet is well put together and in a limited edition and it is undoubtedly worth it to Smith collectors. After all, look what the "Double Shadow" brings now.

BOOK NOTES:

Fantasy Press has lowered the price on their books for '51 to \$2.75. The lineup is: "Dreadful Sanctuary" by Russell, "Beyond Infinity" by Carr, "Seeds of Life" by Taine, "Grey Lensmen" by EE Smith, "The Legion of Time" by Williamson, "The Black Star Passes" by JWC, "The Titan" by Miller, and "The Red Peri" by Weinbaum. # "The Man who sold the Moon" by Heinlein will soon be available in a Signet pocketbook. # It looks very good. # DAW is doing another STF anthology for Fredrick Bell. Roscoe protect us! # "The Illustrated Man" is the new title of Ray Bradbury's book of short stories coming from Doubleday in Feb. It had previously been titled "Fire and Frost". # Groff Conklin has edited a second STF anthology for "Perma-Books. "Needle", "Feeble In the sky", and "The last Spaceship" will soon be available at \$1.00. # "The Cometeers" by Williamson is merely as big as an anthology! # The G & D \$1.00 STF books are as good in every respect except the binding. But as long as you have the dust jacket to cover that, you're ok.

NEWSTAND ODYSSEY:

After classes one Wednesday I stopped downtown at Shinder's newstand to pick up the latest aSF. After stumping around for awhile and pawing all of the SF mags I received a rude start as Bruce Lane appeared behind me. We talked for a bit and Lane bought up most of the SF mags, including that outcast 'AMAZING! Just as we were about to leave, who should I see walking toward the newstand but Redd Boggs -- a Minneapolis Fan. Boggs was deep in reverie and didn't notice us until he had practically trod upon us. Then there was the usual introductions etc! and we stood jawing around awhile until Shinder began to eye us suspiciously. To break the monotony a lady comes running up, her eyes dart over the newstand and she snatches up copies of aSF and Worlds Beyond. Then she begins to take Shinder to task for not having the latest issue of Galaxy. Meanwhile we are making it all in. Finally I step up and with a polite sneer at WB I say: "You'll be sorry." She turns around and sez: "Isn't it any good? It has a story by Fred Brown and he's usually good." Shinder then takes the initiative and sez: "He ought to know lady, he's Fred Brown." The lady let's her mouth fall down and she sez: "But I always thought he was a thin man." I ignore this crack and motioning in the general direction of Boggs I add: "And he's Mack Reynolds." The poor gal looks bewildered, being in the company of such famous men, takes her two mags and departs. I leave 'Reynolds' and Lane and board the next streetcar with a long overdue transfer, which I casually palm off on the unsuspecting conductor.

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SF & THE MOVIES:

Now that SF movies are the coming thing, we'll take that for granted, we should be thinking a little bit about who we'd like to see play in them. Can you imagine Humphrey Bogart stepping off of a spaceship on Mars with Lauren Bacall on one arm? I certainly can't. It just doesn't seem natural. That's why the first two SF movies are made with relatively unknown actors. The big stars won't be in any SF movies for a while.

How would Hollywood produce a "Doc" Smith epic for instance. A movie like that would offer many technical problems, and aside from using miniatures, I can see only one other way. I think that this way will be found to be best. What do you think of Walt Disney making "Galactic Patrol"? I, myself think that he'd do a great job. Cartoons need not be juvenile, in fact, I think you'd hardly be able, to tell they were cartoons because Disney's staff can be pretty skillful when they want to be. What better way is there to depict spaceships in interstellar space and alien monsters than with cartoons? I think the Disney staff could treat us to a great show.

Think what Hollywood could do with a "Gallegher" picture. This I think would make a perfect picture. Almost any of the five stories I think would be great but I rather favor "The World is Mine". Naturally the leading role would go to Henry Morgan. Who could be more Gallegher? He's a mad genius if ever there was one. "The Libbylas", could be cartooned in by Disney and the kids would love 'em. Barry Fitzgerald could play Gramps and the voice for Joe, who shouldn't be too hard to make, would be Clifton Webb. Ah, a great picture it would be.

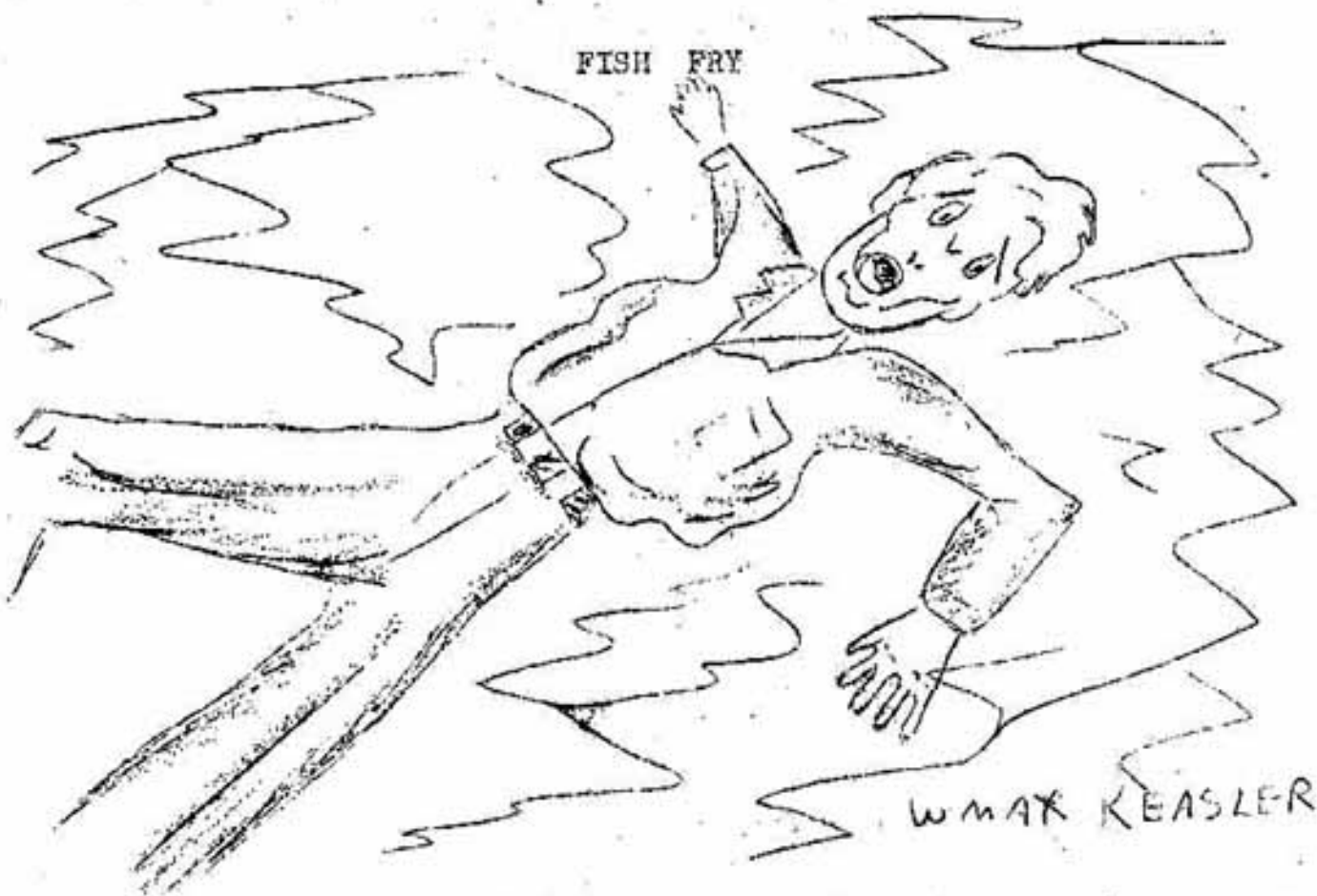
It is pretty hard tho, to picture famous movie stars in a SF movie. I can see Edward G. Robinson, however, in such. He'd make a perfect space-lugger captian or a jetman.

Arch Obler's SF movie has been tentatively titled "Five". Shooting on "The thing" will be done in Cut Bank, Montan. There is practically no similarity between the story and the movie script now. The locale has been shifted from the Antartic to just within the Artic.. The "Thing" shows up in a flying saucer and is human in appearance, but far greater in intelligence. Regardless of how the above sounds Hawks insists that this will not be a B picture.## Robert Spencer Carr has done the first SF movie which will have an all star cast. It is titled "Morning Star" and the sooner it comes out, the better I will like it.## Well, so long until next ish. If any of you have any news, I'd appreciate it if you'd send it to me or Duggie. This way we may have even more news in the forth coming issues.

TIME WAS
!by Sandy Charnoff!

TIME WAS,
EINSTEIN...SPACE TIME CONTINUUM
A GAPING EMPTINESS IN ITS FABRIC
A YAWNING EMPTINESS IN ITS FABRIC
SUNDERED SO BY STUPID EARTHDWELLERS.
TIME WAS
BUT ISN'T NOW...FOR US!

FISH FRY



Jim Spencer strode briskly over the close mowed grass carpet of the campus grounds, drawing in deep lungfuls of the moist air blowing freshly from the south. His classes were over for the day and his tall lanky frame fairly bounced as he hurried toward his room and a cheering glass of scotch. The one drink he allowed himself each day made the tiring job, of beating elementary astronomy into bone-headed students, bearable.

He scanned the dark grey sky and noted the threatening black-clouds. Thin streaks of lightning flickered in the south, followed by a distant sound of thunder. He quickened his pace in order to get home before the rain started. It would have embarrassed him, no end, to know what a comical sight he made loping across the broad open space.

As he ran, he recalled the one bright spot of the day. It always gave him pleasure to pull some smart alec student down a peg, and especially one who argued against orthodox astronomy, citing Charles Fort as an authority.

They'd had a rather spirited argument for a while, with one student bring up all the old Fortean dogma of visitors from space, strange lights on the moon, and alien beings who patrolled the skies of earth. He squelched the discussions with the statement that, "Fort himself, was just a publicity seeking opportunist; a newspaperman with no real understanding of science. His books are collections of senseless drivel, based on hearsay and superstition." He beamed his superior smile over the class room, when the student had started to protest, he said, "And Fort's followers are mostly weak minded fanatics who, lacking the ability to understand real science, take refuge in simple minded fantasies." That had settled that. The student shut up and they'd gone back to work.

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Spencer ran over the grass at an easy ground-covering pace, his long legs clipping several feet off the remaining distance at each stride. Then he came to an abrupt halt. He started down at the small brown rectangle lying directly in his path.

Spencer bent over to pick up the wallet. Green paper, crisp, green paper, peeked enticingly out of the slitted enclosure. Just as he touched it, tho, a terrific blast of light ning leaped from the sky and outlined him, for a fraction of a second, in a whirlpool of surging electrical energy, blinded by the brilliant flash, he was lifted from the ground and hurled with a violent force into space.

Then the light flickered out and was gone -- so was Spencer.

As his eyes recovered from the glare, he peered numbly around him. Confused and scared, his brain would not register the information his eyes transmitted.

Slowly his senses cleared and he became aware of his surroundings, but he still could not understand it.

He was in a small cage; one of about twenty such barred cells set in precise rows with corridors in between. It was bolted solidly to the floor of the giant box-like room of steel -- plates joined together by millions of rivets. Four dim ceiling lights allowed him to examine the place --- the rows of iron cages, the square sheet steel of floor and walls, and the massive vault like doors, in one wall.

....And the four other captives. The two men and two women gripped the bars, a wild bewildered look on their faces. Spencer wondered if he appeared equally stupified to them.

As he watched, one of the empty cells suddenly filled with light. It glowed brilliantly for a moment and then faded slowly away. Where there had been only an empty cell was now a cell containing a new prisoner. The man stood in the cage and looked around him.

Spencer called to the newcomer, "Hey! What's going on here?"

The man turned toward him and with an effort composed himself enough to answer. "Damned if I know mister. I was just about to get rich when ----BLAM! The lightning struck. And then I found myself here in jail."

"Well, that's an idea, anyway. I hadn't exactly thought of it as a jail," Spencer said.

The six captives compared stories. All had been snatched up under the same circumstances. In every case they were just about to pick up a wallet full of money when it had happened. None of them could explain it.

Just then the huge circular door begun to swing open. They fell silent, and watched it open. As it stopped, two stomach twisting monstrosities stepped into the room and walked slowly along the line of cages. Spencer heard a sudden sigh of an indrawn breath and he knew that he had involuntarily done the same. One of the women gave a feeble scream and dropped to the floor of her cell.

The things were manlike only in the fact that they were bipeds and had two arms and legs. There the similarity ended. Spencer could not see the details of their bodies because they wore a heavy fabric suit --- a suit something like a diver's suit. But he could see their heads --- so clearly, enclosed in a glass helmet like an inverted fish bowl. Their heads were hairless domes of a pale green hue, with a row of tiny holes that opened and closed rhythmically like so many gold fish mouths. A large eye in the center of the head completed the features, of the aliens.

As his legs buckled under him, Spencer sat staring glassy eyed at the things who walked along the lines of the cages and examined the human occupants critically.

Jolted, Spencer realized that when the alien spoke, he understood. He could hear the alien's conversation... and they didn't know. They were unaware that the human captives could understand every word that was said.

Then, it soaked in. Spencer realized that he couldn't actually hear the alien's voices but their thought. It was obvious, to Spencer at least, that the aliens did not even realize that they were broadcasting the powerful wave.

He glanced at the others, and saw that they were getting the thoughts too.

"We're doing pretty good today," the pounding thought impulses said. "At this rate We'll have our limit in a couple more hours".

"That new bait is the best I've ever seen. These fish just can't resist it." The other answered. The word used wasn't fish actually, but it translated into that term in Spencer's brain.

Spencer sat on the floor of his cage, trying to shut out the hammering thoughts. Thoughts which told so accurately what the human race was to these beings. Humanity was just so many fish... fish to be caught by sportsmen using stuffed wallets as bait.

What was it Charles Fort had said? "We are being fished for!" Spencer realized then, just how wrong he had been. Fort was right!

The aliens stopped before Spencer's cage. And one of them said "There just ain't nothin' to beat a good fish dinner. I like 'em browned just so and with a touch of lemon juice....."

The end

"Prof. Corky! do you suppose this system can be inhabited?"



Ray Nelson

13

TEMPRANCE ON VENUS

BY ED COX

NOT too long ago, the news that those eternal clouds of drifting white on Venus are not of water vapor, but of dust, fine dust, was spread like wild-fire thruout fandom. And with that news, illusions by the dozen were cruelly dashed. All of the Venus Stories involving the dripping, dank swamps and jungles shadowed by the never-ending fog are now doubtly passe. Sniff!

As far as I know, no stories have ever been written with quite that theory as basis. The prevalend setting was that of a planet mostly covered with water, having a few small islands. Then there was the almost as popular setting of a Venus with about half and half, that is, half water and the rest in continents but still shrouded by the soaring clouds which permit difused light to come through, making a gloomy sort of light. Either there are rainy seasons or periodic rains, or it is always raining.

THEN the author, having constant rain, has a nice basis for a psychological story involving a man going nuts because of the never ending smog. This idea was well worked over years ago and I can remember many of them. One that comes easily to mind is "Rain, Raids, and Rays" that appeared in good ole Cap Future magazine. Our hero nearly went crazy because of said never-ending rain drops pattering on the tin roof. About the best of the wet-Venus type of stories I've ever read is "Venus Station" by Arthur Leo Zagat that appeared in either the last or the next to the last issue of SCIENCE FICTION. It was a well worked out tale, and since it was one of the first science-fiction stories I'd ever read, it impressed me very much as having a convincing atmosphere about it. The fungus-jungle with the amphibious inhabitants((which, by the way, spoke in shrill whistles !)) slinking silently through it with the earth-men trying to make them stop fighting, stalking each other among the over-size toad-stools... ahh, nice fare for the Neophyte stf fan! It was a darn good story.

Another one is Malcolm Jameson's BLIND MAN'S BLUFF that appeared in ASF in Sept 1944 (if I remeber correctly) and involved a sort of land-rush wherein the first to map out a territory, gets said area to settle. This story had the regular fog mantle in which many mounitions reared their ugly, pointed snouts for unwary space ships to crack up upon. In this story there was no young race of Venusians to great the Earth-men with spear and sword. Instead, the civilization is long gone in the story, but it left a nice legacy of jewels,

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and gold and such junk. The kind of junk that earth-men like to fight over, that is.

Ahhh, those old Venusian stories..... dozens of 'em and almost every one having a little different twist. Like Peacock's Victory Of Klon in which the monsters live in darkness all of their lives because the fog-shroud didn't lift, or let any light through. A world of contrasting shadows.... Until earth-men came. Then the light killed! Or, in another Peacock story, THE THINK OF VENUS there were only a few islands in a planet-wide sea full of monsters, men found an unkillable monster that, in the end, could only be killed by sun-light....but there is no sun-light on Venus! The sequel to this story polished off the monster in a unique way which you've peobably all read.

AND we mustn't forget van Vogt's WORLD OF K which took place on Venus too. A Venus of giant, incredibly large, trees. Not to mention other facts that you've all read. Venus has been pictured as having young; barbarian races, or old and vanished races, intelligent races, monster races... but all influenced one way or another by the ever present blanket of fog. Foggy, swampy Venus, the jungles of wet Venus with alien hordes of frog-men, amphibious monsters of many shapes...almost any kind of wet monster you could think of, as conceived by dozens of authors with fertile imaginations.

BUT is it all for naught? Venus a dry, parched, dust-ridden planet whose water has been all dried up because of its close proximity to the sun? Ah, the sad truth..... yes. No,(((Make up yer mind)))more shall we romp in the pleasant darkness of mildewed space suits, no more battling octopod monsters under Venusian sea and no more frog-men trailing us stealthily about fern forests, for the authors will stop writing those stories taking place under conditions known not to exist any more.

The future can bring many interesting stories of prospectors searching for sand-creatures pelts through the dust-storms of Venus from inside there sardine-can-like vehicles or many types of stories, all involving man's fight through the fine dust for some, strange, alien treasure vital to Earth's economics, or some elixier, or drug like substance to save doomed humanity from a horrible plague. Man meeting up with incredible creatures who make their homes in the almost lifeless wastes of dust, and weather out the fierce dust-storms, and so many other ideas and stories that can and will be written.

PERSONALLY NOW, would you rather have the wet Venus or the dry Venus type of story? I know that the new flock of dry Venus yarns will be nice for quite some time, but it seems to me that ideas will run out sooner on the dry Venus theory than the wet Venus idea. After a while, this dusty third planet will begin to pall on you and you'll wish you were back on cool, damp Venus..

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STRAPHCAP

WELL IF ANYBODY'S INTERESTED,

here's Lawrence Cambell

Dear Dugie: (((It's Duggie.)))

At last a fanzine. I haven't seen or received one for weeks. Decided improvement over last issue. NOTHING SIRIUS tops as usual and that cover (sig-g-g-h). Nelson's NORWESCON was almost like fiction, and made for enjoyable reading. Isn't there any thing that boy can't do?

I have a bone to pick. The last letter I wrote to you, I took care to include a plug for S-F NEWSSCOPE the 5¢ fan mag. Then you run out of space before you get my state in. Bah how can I get inquiries that way I ask you? (((HMMMMMMMM!))) (no body's interested anyway, you'd probably say. That's another thing... why do you louse up MY letter (pretty lousy letter, I'll grant you (((Granted))) with your poor humorless comments? (((I have to fill up space someway don't I?)))

Well if anybody's interested in a 5¢ news mag, I live at 43 Tremont, Malden, Mass. So there.

Behind Friedman's IRON CURTAIN, was a very long, and also very well written, and an all too true article. Here is a couple more incidents in the sceme of things. I wrote to Ron last summer and requested info on the organization. I received a card in September saying that instead of giving me a sales talk, he would make me a trail member for a while. Big Deal. That really isn't too bad, but a friend of mine sent Ron a nickel for SF weekly and although he never heard from Ron, my friend's name is in the roster. Pretty shoddy way of running a club. Yours, Lawrence Cambell

To You From Me

By Jhon Davis

Dear Duggie:

To you from me, (just to be different)

ITEM: Cover? cover. Gulp-Deros BEES and space-ships. What next ?
ITEM: Vermin. I think I've heard this before. If not exactly, then something very close.
ITEM: Behind Friedman's Iron Curtain. I also read that he has put a S-F Daily out, also. About 4 or 5 months ago tho.
ITEM: NORWESCON. Whooo funny. I can't wait - why did NO get it? I like suspense. (((THEY GOT MORE VOTES)))
ITEM: Departments. All mediocre except for SCRAPHEAP, mostly because it had a letter by me in it --- hurray for me --- also I liked "?" by Nelson.

I might even send 15¢ for next issue, but I don't have it yet. Why all the mess on the front page- First class postage--returned for additional postage--and several assorted strips of paper? ((IT was all that remains of the one week war of Fisher Vrs US Postoffice. It seem, that if you put those lil' checks on your magazine that you have to pay 1st class rates. I tried telling em that I recieve countless other fanzines that have checks whose editors, or publishers only paid third class postage, but it was no use. I had my choise between 9¢ postage, or rubbing the checks out. AS I had nothing to rub the checks out with, I put paper tape overem see)) (oh!!)

Goobie --- meaning Gubye, Gooby or Goodbye,

JHON DAVIS

#####

Calling car 66, calling car 66, you're really car 99, but you're driving upside down.

#####

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

By Jane Hill

Dear Dug...:

Was I, or was I not supposed to see what was under the strips of paper you posted on back? (((According to the US Postoffice ya weren't, but it's ok by me.))) anyway I peeked. Other than to reassure you that I am definitely for real, I shall give you n.c.

I'd like to thank RE for relinquishing his copy so you could send it to me, Or wasn't I supposed to see that either? (((NO)))

Now to cast a bloody dagger in Richard Elsberrys way in relation to his comments on Nelson Bond. A chicken doesn't always lay eggs of the same size and if two of them were enlarged to the extent that one was the size of the Earth, there would be a great deal difference between their sizes. Moral: Never argue with a woman when she likes something. (((Or when she doesn't like something for that mater.)))

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He : I say, you must be somebody's Meloncholly baby.

SHE: Somebody's Meloncholly baby?

He: Yes, You've got a figure like a melon and a face like a col-lie.

#####

Ron - he may have some unearthly sort of an excuse. I'm satisfied in being more than a trifle suspicious. We may feel awfully foolish if for some reason, we were wrong. (Remember the "OX-BOW INCIDENT"?)(YES but do you remember the tea-pot dome scandal ?))) Let's give Ron a free trial, even if most of us fell, err. feel that something very underhanded is going on. Incidentally, in Ron's new issue of Univeers, he states he's become a pro. PRO WHAT ?

Norwescon: Very entertaining reading. So THAT'S what went on in the smoke filled rooms. I'm so obviously under 21 that I couldn't even get a whiff of alcohol, much less a taste.....and I wasn't invited to the Nameless Orgy (held by GMCarr and other nameless ones in 4E's room..... damn!

Scrapheap (sounds of suicides, drowning in bathtubs, assorted screams) Need I say more? -- Ok, I'll say it.....more.

The features by Ray Nelson were very clever. More!!!

Hymn to a Bem... That title is quite euphonious. Yuuus! I thot it very clever indeed, except the first and third lines don't scan.

'Bye now,

Bob Johnson



MY BOOKS ARE ALWAYS
PRAISED BY THE CRITICS

Dear Dug:

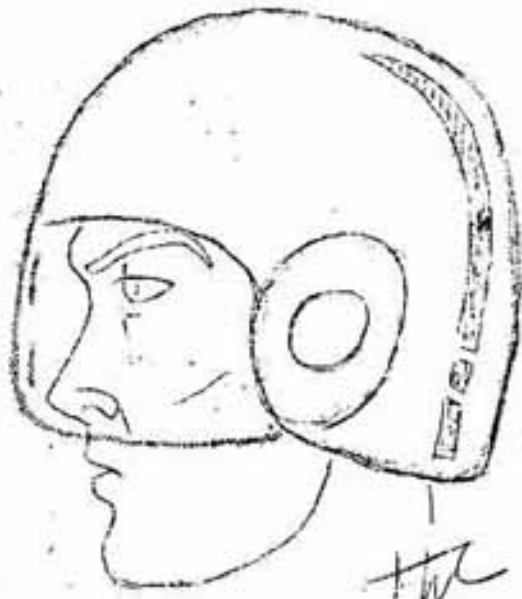
I flipped into ODD #8 to find that beautiful green face peering at me, and mentally comparing this issue to an earlier number you sent me some months ago, and was flabbergasted to note how much you have improved in such a short time (thanks).

A good meaty issue. Especially liked Nelson's uninhibited account of the Norwescon, and R Elsberry's excellent news column. All best regards, Joe Kennedy,...

Dear Dougal,

Very mer... opps. wrong letter
Congrats, me boy! You are the favored soul to recieve the first letter written by Garvin Berry during the year of '51. Are ya not thrilled to the core?(())

The ostensible purpose of this commuicce is a critique of ODD altho' other things, may develop. First my overall impression is definitely a pleasurable one. I've never been much ov an active fan, but I have acquired over the years



(continued on next page)

a few copies of such varied 'zines as SPICY Space Stories, Other Worlds LUNACY, FANTASY ADVERTISER, SUN SPOTS, STELLARITE, GG, LETHE, ATRES ART ES, FANEWS, KAY-MAR TRADER, KLUGG, FANOMENA, FANTASY COMMENTATOR, LOKI, SHANGRI LA, THE ALCHEMIST, VAMPIRE, SPACETEER, FANDOM SPEAKS, AND the early Crawford semi-pro's. Judging from them, although I wouldn't rate ODD the best by a long shot, I would certainly say that it has nothing to be ashamed of and is far better than the average among fanzines. For me, them's unusual words, son.

Now for a more detailed discussion.

The cover is darn nice, rating considerably above many pro covers. Good work, all of you.

Mimeographing certainly adequate. Spelling atrocious; feel there is little excuse to this unless you are trying for the unique Sneary affect which only he can do. Let me recommend a good book I have in my collection; it's a non-Fantasy author named Webster... ((Spoil Sport))

HYMN TO A BEM - no comment. At least it filled space. Fan poetry is apparently worse than fan prose, altho' I should expect it to be other wise.

Re your editorial, Dug. Lemme know how many issues make a buck and said dinero shall be forth coming.

Note your editorial. Duggie, (((My GHU, a stf fan that reads the editorials;))) that you're shooting for some pro-bylines. Might try Doc Keller; he loves to appear in fanzines and does some nice work too. His SHADOWS OVER LOVECRAFT in FANTASY COMMENTATOR in '48 was one of the most interesting articles in fandom. Also Robert Moore Williams lives in St. Louis in case you ever get up there; I intend to try to get in touch with him this coming summer myself. Don't know much about him personally, other than that he wrote 2 or 3 of the best stf shorts I've ever read back in '39 or '38.

Page 11. Ahem! Apparently applied biology is one of the sciences R Elsberry referred to when he mentioned that ODD was a "primarily" stf mag.

Cartoons by Nelson - to lump 'em all together - are rather enjoyable. The Partch of stf, hey? (((HAY ?)))

Letter column not bad, but suffers from the inevitable defect of having nothing but listing-the-good-'n-bad-stuff material. However this is seemingly unavoidable. What am I doing for that matter? I give up. I d'unno what I am doing.

Nelson's QUESTIONAIRES gave me quite a buzz. Heap good. (((HOW ABOUT A FEW QUESTIONS FROM YOU PEEPLE. We got so few questions this ish /Due probably to the fact that I didn't mention that I want'ed any questions to be answered in the Questionaire/that QUESTIONAIRES had to be discontinued for an issue, but if you'll send in questions, we'll publish all that we think are the best in next issue's QUESTIONAIRES)))

Nothing Sirius, altho' more than a little reminiscent of F. Brown's story title, was surprising. This guy Elsberry, must have a staff of d-eros collecting all that infro'. Louella Parsons could do no better. UGH

Again for Mr. Elderberry's infro' the Russel whom he rightfully admires so much, is the one who lives in England.

Again & Again, Mr. Hallsberry, do you mean Jenkins is working on a collection of his own tales, or anthology of general stf yarn?

Back again Mr. Elderfairy, Bond's AND LO THE DOID in BLUE BOOK had its basic idea scooped in every detail back in '34 by Jack Williamson, in BORN OF THE SUN.

On the while, Dougal, a good li'l mag. I paws to reconsider. I think I'll stick that aforementioned buck in this letter. Here 'tis. Cherish it Doug; take care of it; it's been with me a long time. (((Ahh, money \$\$\$\$\$\$))) Yours, G A R V I N B E R R Y . //

(We're not thru yet,)

THE
BY RAY NELSON- NORWESCON

First New Orleans bid, basing their bid on the number of Fleshpots in New Orleans. (A worthwhile point, if you think of it that way.) Then New York, in the person of Sycora, bid on the basis of what swine the Hydra club and ESFAwere.

Nel Korshak took the DSFL to one side and we made up our minds to bid, then first George, then I, took the floor to plead Detroit's case. After one look at George and me, they voted, by a big landslide, for New Orleans. (New York got 2 votes, but we never did find out who Will blackmailed into casting that second vote.)

After the business meeting who should I meet but Frank Dietz, complete with crocodile smile. The previous night (He told Me) he had been dianetically "Audited" and soon afterwards had developed a post-hypnotic fit. S(((CENCORED by ODD's libel editor))) he was carried up to F. J. Ackerman's room and FJ took an hour to break the trance. Here he faced me with these conclusions that

(A) Dianetics is really something because it "gets results."

(B) He was (((CENCORED by ODD's libel editor)))

As soon as he broached this matter of (((Tiresome isn't it))) to her, she, of course ran for cover---in the arms of Steve Metcheette, (A San Francisco fan who knows the score.)

At 7:P.M. came the Norwescon Banquet, a royal feast. Some attended in costume, and after the banquet I dressed up as a ghastly "N-grame", and joined Nancy Moore, Perdita Lilly, and an unidentified female boiled NeoBEM". We took a short stroll around town -- and returned just one step ahead of some talent scouts from the Nut-House.

The big fan costume ball was under way with real dancing to the tune of a real (unfortunately) band. I struggled around the floor a couple of times, but there is something vaguely out-of-place about rubber soled spiked shoes on the dance floor, so I sat down for the rest of them.

The floor show was "MC"ed by Theodore Sturgeon, who also sang a few only slightly off color songs, played his own accompaniment on the guitar. Then some Portlanders put on a skit fiendishly ridiculing dianetics and the dianetics show of the preceeding night. (Sample: Guy impersonating professional hypnotist says to a guy impersonating Theodore Sturgeon. "The technique used in your-uh-therapy seems to-uh resemble the techniques used in-uh-sexual intercourse".)

After the ball I was off to the smoke-filled rooms again, one of em being Rick Sneary's. Rick was in the advances stages of "Godshwowboyohoygeewhizism" and having more fun just sitting on the floor and battling the breeze than most guys get out having a binge with dough and a gal.

George Young was in another room, guzzeling beer. When I entered he was busy slandering Degler, about whom he knows nothing ,WHEN somebody pointed out that Degler was right there in the room, all he did was switch from Degler to Jim Kepner --- who was also in the room. Upon discovering this, he started on me until he saw that I,too, was present. Then, for the first time during the entire convention, he shut his big mouth.

Finally it was all over. Degler, Dietz and I sat down and hashed it ~~kk~~ over. I shall never for get Frank Dietz's parting words, delivered as e stood there, cowboy hat tilted droopingly on his pointed head.

"As soon as I get home, I'm going to hunt up a good dianetic auditor."
((The opinions expressed above are the authors, and not nesicarrily mine.;

Test your Memory
by Richard Elsberry

Match the following famous science-fictional extra terrestrials (1-20)
with the story in which they played a leading part (A-T)

Scoring: Five points for each answer

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Ignatz | A. "Luck of Ignatz" by delRay |
| 2. Sarn Mother | B. "Second Stage Lensmen" by EE Smith |
| 3. Coeurl | C. "The Debt" by Hull |
| 4. Neoterics | D. "Giant Killer" by Chandler |
| 5. Kaw | E. "The World is Mine" by Fadgett |
| 6. Halcyon | F. "Asylum" by V Vogt |
| 7. Tweel | G. "Tools" by Simak |
| 8. Daisy Etta | H. "Seeds of the Dusk" by Gallum |
| 9. Grafius | I. "Out of the Night" by Stuart |
| 10. Ezwal | J. "Short-Circuited Probability" by Knight |
| 11. Archie | K. "A Martian Odyssey" by Weinbaum |
| 12. Xtl | L. "The Embassy" by Pearson |
| 13. Skal | M. "Grey Lensmen" by EE Smith |
| 14. Worsel | N. "The Green Forest" by vV |
| 15. Dreegh | O. "Microcosmic God" by Sturgeon |
| 16. Shrick | P. "Discord in Scarlet" by vV |
| 17. Tregonsee | Q. "Killdozer" by Sturgeon |
| 18. Yevd | R. "The Black Destroyer" by vV |
| 19. Lybblas | S. "Galactic Patrol" by EES |
| 20. Nadreck | T. "Co-operate -- Or else" by vV |

Answers will be found on the last page, or mailing page.

If your Score is: below 40: Back to AMZ you Slob, 40-60: Dianetics needs
you! 60-85: Acti-Fan! over 85: You should be aSF's next editor.

ROLL CALL

by Rory Faulkner

Alpheratz, - Algol, - Antares, - Aldeberan,
Answered the Roll call, one by one;
Gave an accounting for all of their charges;
"All's well with the Planet's surrounding this sun!

Sirius, - Vega, the long roll call continued,
Through the galaxy thundred the call;
Betelguse, - Fomalhaut, - Regulus, - Mira,
Laughing Capella, - Polaris, ----- SOL?

Then came a silence heart-breakingly poignant,
All through the Galaxy stars hushed their mirth!"
As Somberly, sadly, Sol gave his accounting:
"Dead by her own hand - my fairest one - Earth!"

DESTRUCTION OF THE IRON CURTAIN

(Note: This article is in reply to a previous article by Rich Elsberry which appeared in this magazine/Vol 3, No. 2/ titled BEHIND FRIEDMAN'S IRON CURTAIN. All opinions expressed here in are those of the author, and all can be backed up if necessary with documented proof,..)

To whom it may concern: My name according to birth is Ronald, Sheldon Friedman. I am a strong believer in our democratic system of government, and place honesty above all else! I shall, in this article be as straightforward as anyone else could be. I, like most fans, am human. I have many bad points, and a few good ones *** this article should prove this true...

Suprising as it may seem to most of you, I am a new fan. In the spring of 1949, after reading stf for many years, I decided it would be a good idea to form an International fan organization. At the time, I was un-a-ware that such organizations already existed. Looking through the letter columns of a couple of pro-zines, I compiled a list of names of those I felt sure would be suitable to belong to such an organization. One of the first people I contacted was Rich Elsberry. Rich is a darn nice guy, and really takes fandom seriously. Regardless of any comments he has made about me, I still consider him as one of the best friends a fan could claim. The comments that he made about the UNIVERSAL MUSKETEER fan group, and of myself as president are on the whole true, although in parts greatly stretched out, while in others merely, merely personal opinions.

Rich claimed the first issue of x-Ray to be a slim affair of five pages. This is true --- but let us not forget that not one cent of dues had yet been paid by any of the so called charter members of the organization. The issue was printed in the 23 regement armory, the building where my National Guard unit meets. Through the Kindness of a Sargent Colletti, I obtained use of their A.B. Dick \$900.00 mimeograph for one and one time only. Government property should not, and can not be used for the needs of individuals not connected with the government. In my campain statement in that issue, I stated 'If I am elected, I will do my utmost to make UM the most active fan club in the world. I will also give UM a full page in a fanzine which is positivly coming out in either January or February, 1950. I will continue printing this and other club zines on printing apparatus which I shal own by Juanary 1st. I will try to obtain, besides the ones I have all ready secured (5) reductions on books and mags. If I am elected I will do my best! That is exactly what appeared in print. I'd certainly like to know why Rich quoted in his article the speech made by the opposing candidate, Mr. William D. Knapheide! On Jan 1st, at the time I had promised, I paid for, out of my own pocket, \$30.00 for printing apparatus, solely for the purpose of the UM. I also used it to print a one-shot fanzine which I sent free to 100 friends. The reductions, which I did obtain, by the way, were basic ally from Fredreick Fell and Company, of New York; Carl V. Swanson of

North Dakota; and John E. Koester of Brooklyn. Jock Ferrier, who shortly after that went out of business also offered reductions.

Rich stated that he received a letter from me on the twenty-seventh of Jan., 1950 stating that he had been appointed Welcome Chairman. I wrote no such letter with that statement in it, as far as I can recall. ((Editor's note: the following is a direct copy of the letter in question ---

1900 East 8th Street
Brooklyn 23, New York
January 27, 1950

Dear Rich:

Enclosed are my corrections on the constitution (TFC) - naturally they do not have to be used, and I suppose that they won't help much anyway. On the whole you and the other directors did a great job - congrats.

You were elected Welcomer (UM) and will start job on Feb. 1 according to new constitution which will appear in X-Ray, number 2, out in five days. It was pro printed this time.

Whats. going to be about those mags you got. Did you make up lists yet?

Write soon. We have 90 members (UM) including a couple of editors, writers, and artists.

Sincerely,

Ronald Friedman

((Except for a few corrections in spelling, and lengths of the lines, this letter is an accurate reproduction of a letter received by Rich Elsberry by somebody named RON)) I'd certainly like to see it in all events. Bill Benulis (who had no-one vote against him in the race for art-editor) counted the votes, and received votes from both Bill Knapheide and myself. The ballots, I believe are still in bill's possession. I did win the presidency, and at the time, we did have 90 members, but bear in mind, that no dues had as yet been collected. More than half dropped out when the collection of dues began.

Rich also stated that almost everyone ran unopposed. The officers of president and editor, had a total of four candidates ... Well Rich? As to the other officers... eight in all ... bear in mind that over twenty-percent of the members were running for officers. There simply wasn't enough running to make any difference.

Also stated was the fact that the second issue contained mostly propaganda for the UM. Only two pages out of 16 were devoted to such. The remainder contained club news, stories, articles, and some poems . What have you got to say to that, Rich:

Rich pointed out that he received two copies of X-Ray number two and Rick Sneary got 3. According to him, 'This was a sheer waste of money.' I'd like to remind him that 250 of that issue were printed, but only 200 were payed for out of the club treasury. Out of this amount , 100 were sent to members, 60 to those requesting information, and 40 to, prozine editors who had been listed in fanzine review columns. The

difference (50 copies) was paid for and mailed at my own cost to those who had letters in prozines, and additional persons listed in fanzines. Friends of mine assisted me in mailing them, and undoubtedly Rich had a letter in a pro-zine and was sent an extra copy by one of my 5 friends. As to Rick Sneary, he, undoubtedly was sent copies for the two fanzines he then edited, and one copy for a letter in a prozine, by three different individuals. Different copies were mailed from one of two postoffices and for Proff, I suggest you take a look at the postmarks, Rich.

As to the fanzine (free to members situation) stuff - IT was to have been published by William Knapheide. For some reason, it never was, Fantopologist never sent me the copies to distribute to members, and Skylark has been unheard from, from the first issue... I should know - I have a subscription and also have a sub to FANTOPOLOGIST ... Well? X-ray as RE stated was only printed twice, but Univeers was printed. Look to the Nov 1950 (NOV. 5th it was mailed) issue for your facts. (((At the time the article in question was written, Univeers had failed to show.))) Merchant never recieved enough advertisements to warrent publication! As to the amount of membership, when it rose ... well that comes later. Anyhow, UN NEWS (discussed later) was circulated free to members.

I most certainly did not evade the questions as to the duties of Welcome Committee, as stated by Rich. The original constitution clearly did state,

"Welcome chairman - to enter all new members into the organization, and to tell them a little about the club, to have complete control over the welcome. Committee, a committee composed of members who have brought 3 new members into the organization. The Welcome Chairman may appoint one member to the board of directors. But an appointment was never made ... The Board of Directors according to the con had the right to ammend the Con by a 65% vote, and was NOT composed of officers.

Well ... then Elsberry went on to tell in his 'accurate' article how I recieved the club dues instead of the sec'-treas. That second ish it may interest you know cost \$27.00 not counting postage. It was printed in N.Y. by Sid Blitz. I have a bill for it. Check if you want to!

'and the money was rolling in' ... where? Ask William S. Sykora, A N.Y. fan who attended the World Convention. He'll tell you, as well as Morton Paley will, how crazy they thought I was laying out the 27 bucks for the club as well as another 27 bucks of my own.

Rich also claimed that he has not heard from me since April 12th. OK I'll say it - LIAR! I've got proof including his signiture! I recieved a card from him a few weeks ago in reply to a UN official publication, the so called non-existent UNIVEERS ... He mentioned receiving it, as well as his resignation! This by the way I did not accept ... I will explain later...

Rich mentions Jack Schwab being disgusted by the whole deal ... does he mention just exactly how many books, magazines, and fanzines I sent to the club library in dollars and cents, or the two dollars I spent sending those books in separate packages? NO! He does not! I still have the insurance slips - wanna see 'em 'n check them with postal authorities ... then you could really have me for mail fraud, or could you?

Then Rich claims I never acknowledge receipt of your dollar. Tell me Rich -- who acknowledged the bucks that William D. Knapheide, VP and countless others sent in.

Then Rich goes on to say how he asked me to fulfill all of the promises made in X-Ray number two ... you - about the publication well - just look at the Constitution - there's no mention of them as far as time goes in there! The club ran into debt with all the publicans, but still I continued until my accident on April 30. I was going down to WDC by car to attend a Convention when our car turned over. Proof you say! I'll let you prove it - simply write to Jerry Bixby, editor of Planet Stories. He was in the car ... he was with me ... and still Rich doesn't believe me.

Then Rich complains about not receiving future issues of The UM News which I put out, as well as complaints about it being offered to outsiders. Rich, the UM NEWS is not an official UM publication. It was never mentioned before it came out, and is simply a news sheet. Who the dickens are you? Do you have the right to receive everything not pertaining officially to the club that I print or write? You seem to be doing all the dictating, according to your article, not me! By the way, UM NEWS is still in existence ... what do you say to that!

Now I'll tell you why the stand still this summer ... first of all I was working an ice-cream concession business ... but why bother ----- I'll quote from the early November issue of the NEW ENTERPRISE REVIEW, as well as the same months issue of club publication UNIVEERS:

'Note to fandom by Ron Friedman' Since I have entered the pro field in both publishing and writing, many fans have said that I have used fandom to get myself a position and then let it go to pot. This is absolutely untrue. Though that fandom did help to get me where I am, but under known circumstances do I consider myself any thing but a fan. Illness, business, and National Guard duties among other things have prevented me from having any contact with fandom for many months. I can PROVE this. I deny letting fandom go to pot due to lack of interest, and embezzlement of UM funds. The financial statement in a recent issue of a UM publication shows that the club owes me money in reality, rather than the assumption that I ran away with over \$100.00 dues. I have many witnesses to this affect, as well as authorized bill for services rendered from many fans and publishing houses which put out the first few issues of our official organs. Regardless of all this untrue propaganda in an attempt to destroy my clear reputation in fandom, I have received to date (before I received RE's card - probably why he sent it) not one resignation from members of UM, not one cancellation to subscriptions to NEW ENTERPRISE PUBLICATIONS and not one complaint stating that I'm a no good crook. I believe that my work in the past, and my present work will vouch for my honesty. I'll answer publically and privately all inquires regarding this matter. I thank you.

According to one of the other officers, I embezzled over \$100 cash in club funds. I'd like to clarify this by the following statement

I comes on dues and subscriptions recorded to date ... \$40.00

X-Ray No. 1. Paper - .96		
Stamps - } 2.00		
Stencils .50		
Stamps 50		
X-Ray No. 2. Printing - } 27.00		
stamps -- } 7.00		
stamps donated by me } 30.00		
Univeers - paper } 1.30		
stamps } 4.00		
ink } 1.25		
stencils .75		

Consider the difference donated, as well as free printing of official organs till June 1951 at least. All financial work and membership list is hereby turned to Rose Davenport. Editing of next issue of Univeers & MERCHANT is turned over to Howard Blind, Editor
Ask me for the stencils, and material on hand, Howie.

TOTAL \$45.36 (note in this report I did not include the half plus price of stencils.)

Art Editor is Bill Benulis, How's about a cover for the next issue. Bill? Rich Elsberry is to write me for information. Bill Knapheide, vice President is asked to come back into the organization (He never resigned) since all is explained, I'll let it be known that through emergency powers invested in me, all members are extended free dues till June 1951, as well as all members in the new group he organized. After that, and now - all dues go to Rose to build up our treasury. All for now ... hope you'll

forgive me - Ronald Friedman, President of UM."

Please note that all quoted above was actually printed and mailed out long before Elsberry's article appeared in ODD! Just exactly what does he base his proof on?

To top, it all off - Elsberry ended his article with the following: 'The moral to all this is: If you want to make a little money on the side start a national fan club.

That really burned me up Here I've fought against every statement and have the documentary proof - most of which he has seen...and he tries to destroy me like that ----- BANGO!

I've just reprinted 100 copies of SFW no. 1 just to prove that it had no relation to UM any body sending me a 3¢ stamp will get a return copy by return mail.

I wish the club the best of luck! Hope Rich see's things straight, an although I've ribbed him pretty hard here, I still feel he's a grand guy and he still has a high rating on my list. Any fan who would print an article like this to save the reputation of a club certainly has my congratulations. His information was simply not enough.

I will be only too happy to offer answers to any correspondence on these matters, and will clarify any doubts you may have in your mind, if you'll write to me at PO Box 83, Gravesend Station, Brooklyn 23, NY
Yours for a BETTER, DEMOCRATIC, HONEST, FANDOM - RON FRIEDMAN

-30-30-30-30-

ART AND CULTURE
by Ray Nelson

One should cultivate his mind if one is to ever be a serious writer of living literature. One really should you know. Once around Thomas Wolfe, James, and perhaps a brisk canter thru James Joyce. I really must find out about life. Really must, you know. Pass me that copy of Sigmund Freud if you would be so kind. Umph. Thank you, thank you. I should like to write er-something for the masses, something that really tells about the life of a common man and all that. Uh, pass me that volume by Gunther on Inside USA. and-uh- that book of American Sketches by what's his name? The Britisher. I should like to make it a love story, truly I would, old fellow. Like to have it all real, true to life, moving. You know what I mean. Uh -- pass me the Kinsey report, will you? Uh huh. Saw a fine looking girl this morning in the library. Librarian you know. I shall have to look up her school record. Perhaps she is the one you know. By jove, perhaps she is the one. I wouldn't be surprised if she were Valedictorian. Oh wouldn't we have jolly times together, cataloging my book collection. Been meaning to do it for years, you know, but don't feel quite up to it alone. Ah, Well, someday the right girl may come along. Might even consent to being my mistress. All great writers have mistresses you know. I say, that would be something. Hmmm. Think I'll go out and paint the town red tonight. Take in an opera perhaps. A man must live before he can write, ya know.



((Editors note: For Ghu's sake. Please, please, please double space all manuscripts, PLEASE))

(((Or at least send in manuscripts to double space.))

ANSWERS TO QUIZZ ON PAGE ***** 2½
are below. no fair peeking

1. A	2. I	3. R
4. O	5. H	6. J
7. K	8. Q	9. L
10. T	11. G	12. P
13. C	14. S	15. F
16. D	17. M	18. N
19. E		20. B

IF A CHECK APPERS IN THE SPACE
BELOW, AND YOU GET THIS MAG FOR 4¢
POSTAGE, IT'LL PROVE TO ME THAT THEY
DON'T READ ODD, IF NOT, THEY DO.
(((HY , DOC!)))

- () YOU'VE GOT AL LEAST 2 MORE
ISSUES, PROBABLY MORE
- () You've only got one more issue
and you'd better husell or you
're likely to miss and ish
- () This is your last copy on you'
present subscription. Would you care
to renue it.
- () This is a sample copy would
you like to subscribe
- () We'd be flabbergasted reciev-
ing material from you. How a-
bout it?
- () If ya like this ish, or if you
don't, you aren't going to see
any improvements is you don't
send that %\$#@ letter in.
- () You, God Bless You, are a con-
tributor
- () You review my mag, could you
p-l-e-a-s-e mention that I
need material. Preferably art-
icles, but I will take good
stories
- () You're getting this cause you
are a friend, but if you don't
write me 'damn' quick, this'll
be the last ODD you'll get till
you do.
- () We exhange, or else this is
in hopes of an exchange
- () You're a friend, Muf said