CHUNDER:

December 19, 1978 volume 2, number 11

Chunder: is published every three weeks by John Foyster, GPO Box 4039, Melbourne, V 3001, Australia, and is available at the rate of 8 for one dollar (no subs over a dollar, please) or for contributions.

Registered for posting as a publication (Category B)

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE POST OFFICE - AN EDITORIAL Something rather nasty happened with the previous issue. No, it wasn't the fact that I had to run to 10 pages. It was a little more serious - I ran out of copies. I thought I knew how large the mailing list was, but I underestimated. That means some people missed out on the previous issue.

Up until now I've been fairly lenient with deadbeats, but starting from the first issue of 1979 I'm going to have to say to some of my friends 'yes, but what have you done for me lately?' Chunder! may be cheap, but it's not that cheap.

Some fans in Sydney have rather different views. In the latest EPSILON ERIDANI EXPRESS (even better-looking than SPECTRE) Neville Angove talks about the problems he has had with some of his critics and refers to 'snide remarks and sly innuendos, and the mindless obstructionism' of some of his critics ('mindless'is a pretty appropriate word - E' is more than just good-looking). Words like these have been used sometimes about items which appear in Chunder! (which surprises me a little, since the comments here seem to be fairly direct). For example, back in Chunder! 7 Leigh Edmonds in a letter drew attention to a bid for the '83 Worldcon from somewhere in Scandinavia. This reference was regarded by at least one Sydney fan as the next thing to treason. I don't really think that anyone in Sydney really wants us all to swear a loyalty oath to their self-appointed AUSTRALIA IN '83 committee, but sometimes it looks awfully like it.

Somewhat nearer the truth has been a recent spate of letters referring to rumours of varying degrees of specificity concerning a comment Paul Stevens is alleged to have made about AUSTRALIA IN '83 and IGUANACON. Unlike my Sydney colleagues, who have no time to check up on what they wish to spread all over fandom, I had a chat with Paul. The allegation is that our beloved PJS is spreading stories that AUSTRALIA IN '83 had no ad. in the IGGY Program Book. The fact (so far as I can ascertain) is that one fan asked Paul whether AIN '83 had had an ad. in the Program Book. Paul replied that he couldn't remember one. He was also in the unfortunate position of having his

SPECIAL"EGG-ON-FACE" SUPPLEMENT

After Chunder! 11 had been printed, but before it was mailed, a kind reader informed me of further details concerning the Paul Stevens?IGGYCON booklet/AUSTRALIA IN '83 matter referred to on page 1. Although none of the three Sydney correspondents identified the source of their complaint, it was in fact page 7 of the October AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION NEWS, wherein Mervyn Binns (not Paul Stevens) makes the irritant remarks. Mervyn's remark is quite thoughtless (though possibly intended in a well-meaning way) but I am afraid that I simply hadn't noticed it - it is jumped from page 2 to a gutter corner under some STAR TREK news - and my comments in Chunder! 11 are consequently in ignorance of the source of annoyance. I was in two minds as to how to react to the three letters, but now my course is clear: in future non-specific rumours and whinges will be ignored.

John Foyster