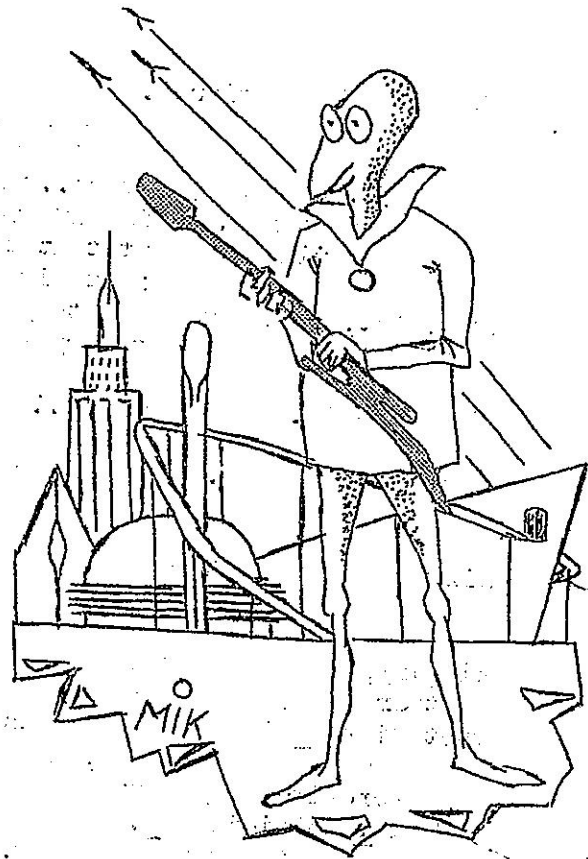


# ENVOY # 14





have  
at  
you!



OFF TRAILS 40 June 1964. AE.

I don't want to start all that fuss about membership requirements again, but I would just like to mention, as a point possibly not noticed that the following people owe 12pp for the September mailing, as of the June mailing.

Armistead, Burgess, ~~XXXX~~ Hunter, Lichtman  
Locke. (Burn is June 54, and Donaho June 64, Metcalf June 64)

Now New members are required to have 6pp "in the next available mailing" to keep membership. The rules covering old members who renew don't specify a mailing. I was just wondering if it might be a good idea to apply the same rule. (admitted this would see all of the above chucked out on their ear(s), but there has been a lot of talk about tightening things up in OMPA, so I don't see why not...theoretically anyhow. (Sadly I see at least two names up there I'd hate to lose). (oh, mebbe even 3 or 4 of 'em).  
Opinions?.

EGOBOO POLL. I rather like the idea of the poll, (OK, OK, so I'm egoboo hungry), but as only 13 people, (10 useful returns) voted, is it really worth while keeping the thing?. (I'm asking, not arguing). And in any case, as BBurn says, the system of voting isn't as good as it could be. The only sensible votes are (probably) from those members who tote up their like/dislikes in each mailing...rateing the zines like TJeeves does, for instance. I (when I've filled in the poll) mainly rely on memory. This can be deceiving. Or vote because of the mental image I have of the person. Actually the damn thing is more of a popularity poll than anything else...with votes thrown in for the people who seem "deserving".

Enough of that. I note with glee, Ethel me girl, that in most cases its the British people and zines who take the top

EGOBOO POLL continued. places. In fact of the zines and people mentioned, more than half are British. So, the British "flavour" still seems to dominate OMPA. (hmmm, I wonder....those 13 voters...were most of them US types?).

One thing. I wish if such is the case - the next person to run the poll would point out that the votes are supposed to be for OMPAns, and however much one might like a non-member contributor. (WAW, Berry, Atom, etc.), nevertheless they should not be voted for. (Unless you want to invent a special category for non-members?).

Elephantasia. Garrrrghhh!!! (and there's MORE where they came from.

Whatsit 8 Meself. the stencil was too long and I had to scratch the caption on....not a good one either, sigh.

Sizar 12 und 13:BBurn I heard somewhere "From each according to his means, to each according to his needs" or something like that, (possibly a socialist slogan), This I interpret as follows;- if one bloke earns £10 a week, and another £100, then each pay 10% tax, a pays £1 and b pays £10. figuring that £1 to a is as valuable as £10 is to b.

On the other hand; it may be argued, why should a and b get the same benefits, (say National Health) yet b pay 10 times what a pays?. In effect b subsidises a.

If a man is clever, cunning, ambitious, ruthless etc., enough to hold a high paying job, why should he be obliged to share his profits with someone who has neither the cunning or intelligence, or ambition to earn the same money?. In the past there was always the cry of favourite-ism for "upper-class" types, they got all the best jobs, the best educations etc., and its still true to a large extent. But a bloke can still make a packet nowadays without such benefits. For instance, the bbbkes in the car and steel industries...If you ask them to give half their pay packets to their unemployed "brothers" you'd get a spanner up your hooter. No, its all right when it comes to shareing other peoples money..but when someone wants a share of your own, thats different.

All this boils down to the fact that the tax system, (and in particular Death Duties..its only natural to want to leave your kids well provided for) is unjust. But the government has to raise money from somewhere. So it has to take money from those who have it. Under the present system.

I'd like to see the government take over and reorganise all the businesses concerned in tobacco, booze, and gambling and brothels, and use the profits to defray tax. (har, har, har.). It all depends of course on what you think a government is for.

Look lads, if we all emigrated to the Isle of Man, (rename it the Isle of Fan, later) and took over a parish council, then an Urban District council, or Rural D C, and so worked our way up, by intimidation and propaganda, we could take over the island, eject all the inhabitants who proved rebellious, and declare independence. No-one would dare invade in case it caused an International Incident....and playing off the West against the East....we get money, aid, etc., and we never need pay tax again...(every year or so we'd regretfully have to ask for more money, have a revolution, repudiate the previous regeims debts, and get more loans...ah, its a grand life, I tell ee' ). Well, anyone game?.

2

Sizar 12/13 BBurn continued. GRAIL, not finished yet. but I'll

run it, if you're still interested, when it's been worked out. We have made some progress.

I didn't like The Dragon Masters either... apart from bits that reminded me of van Vogt, or mebbe Chandler which hinted at being good... mostly this was only bits of background... I thought the thing a very messy "bad-Amazing" type thing.

next time you type stencils BB make the type area a little smaller please. (hum, he won't get this for nigh 6 months... oh well, it'll be another reminder).

When you start comparing me to Don Studebaker I suspect the old Burn buttering. (On god... not that) (tip-toes around row, apprehensively).

Souffle 8 The Baxter. "Gorillas are people too". who is this Dwight MacDonald, and is this quote from a book?,

Hum, at 1600 miles you're BBurns' nearest fanish neighbour. A sobering thought.

Innocent that I am I'd always thought, (previous to my time with EB, and reading books similar to the status seeker type, and your revelations and quote from The Great Gatsby, -whew-) that people bought books to read them. Ah me, how disillusioning. And what will become of me, illusionless?.

Atom won by a tiny majority in the British voting. I was amazed. I can only conclude that Phil Rogers has some hardworking mates, who rallied round, while many Atom supporters were too confident to vote. (or idle).

Here in Britain... I dunno if you've seen anything in the genzines about it... we have been deluged with a new wave of serious and constructive fans. I quote my personal contacts and experience when I say that many of them are intense as a German fan group could wish for... through-blue Gernsbachians, appalled by the fanzines, because they expect fanzines to be about SF. ALL about SF. They are in many cases intolerant of the older fans, (in fandom years I mean) and have picked up lots of misconception from the leading sercon zines, ZENITH Pete Weston, and BEYOND Twisher Platt, whose editors, to a greater or lesser extent, excrete on our type of fandom and yell crusade for a return to The Old and True Path. Sometimes this results in very amusing situations... not the least of which is when one of these militant sercon types gets bitten by the fannish bug.

Ah, the attitude is one of a religious fervour, and at least one recent new-waver addressed a letter to me in a tone of such righteous indignation, with such a "Thou art lower than the slugs under the stones" attitude that I nearly bust a gut. (and might have been tempted to smite him, had he been in reach. Ah well, its all part of lifes rich tapestry.....



MEIN OMP-F 3 Golin F nothing to say about your chattering, that is I have no comments, but chatter on, I like it. We had nissen huts when I was in the RAF, one year we had a plague of earwigs. As you lay in your bunk at night, after the lights had been switched off, there was this pattering sound...which we discovered to be earwigs. They had this game, you see, of climbing up the sides of the hut to the ceiling, and then letting go and dropping on the floor...they must have enjoyed it because they kept this sort of thing up all night. It wasn't safe to have your head above the bedclothes at one time, the little b.....s used to drop onto the beds.

Those nissen huts...I don't know about yours, but ours were freezing cold in the winter, even when we stoked the fire up...-- a sort of pot-bellied thing with an exit pipe going thru' the roof...-- and had the pipe glowing white hot, still it didn't get the corners of the hut warm.

We used to get bread and butter and marmalade from the cookhouse, surreptitiously, and do toast by this stove-pipe... we worked shifts you see, and often didn't get up for breakfast.. Of a weekend we were often more ambitious, Having purchased beans, sausage, etc., from the local town we would have a good mongers up. Often, if there was no weekend flying, no-one went to breakfast or supper, tho' they were dished up. Instead - those who hadn't gone home, or to the local town, we would sit and cook our own breaker, and, more fully, suppers.

I used to go to the market, (if no duty), of a Saturday afternoon and stock up on Second hand SF mags, and pop down to this shop I knew, kept by a pair of dear old ladies, and stock up on these long thin cheroots they used to get for me... The rest of the weekend I'd spend in my bunk reading and smoking...stirring only for meals...oh, and to, er.."answer the call of nature".

Games...hmm, have you tried the TWENTY QUESTIONS type of games?. or spelling bees, (ahem), frankly I can't think of a game for more than 6 people. Our games usually begin, (or stay) as games for only two people, this is true of all our invented games...even Galactic Trader started as a 2-people game... and Grail, which we're working on, was at first for 2, now for 6, if we can get the bugs out of it. (said bugs being the present board doesn't give enough leeway for dirty tricks, and its too slow).

Of course, you could play "Hunt the Bismark".. hmm, that would take too much figuring perhaps. You need a squared-off board about 2 yards by 2 yards. A British fleet, (as in the actual chase) and the Bismark and the Prince Eugen. You each have relative speeds, firepower, range, etc., and, well, you "Hunt the Bismark". nmm, its a bit more complicated than that, actually, because you don't know each others positions until you actually come withing "view" of each other. Oh well.

Betty K. I guess I must be pretty peculiar then, because a pregnant woman, (hmm, well, I've never heard of a pregnant man), tummy sticking out, moving along like a galleon under full sail, is rather appealing to me. I always get the urge to smile, in an amused-tolerent, "don't she look happy" sort of way...as I smile, with no bad intent, at a young couple making that hell of a fuss they do over their first baby. Sort of, "goshwow, ain't we clever, we've invented babies, sheesh, I bet no other baby is half as nice as this one, goshwow, etc". You must be all bitter and twisted if you can only think of pregnancy in this way, is this attitude common Stateside?.

Colin, your idea of evolution seems to be working on a faster time-scale than mine, much faster.

ERG Terry J Soggy in Space, mad kid, mad. there  
is more to come, I see, good, good.  
that damnable Birchby and his  
horrible puns, and you're no better, Jeeves. sheesh.  
the "con-report" (or whatever it was!) was highly  
enjoyable.

I had no idea that Ken MacIntyre was so  
well up in Heraldry, that was an excellent run-  
down and you and Ken are both to be congratulated.  
Its sad to reflect that Heraldry and the knightly  
code developed to its fullest just as the cannon  
made knighthood obsolete.

I'm supposed to say something about your  
poetry? don't be daft, it'd never get past the PO.  
amusing.

I wonder why British monarchs still use  
F:D or Fid;Def on their coins? it seems a bit of  
a cheek really. After all the Pope gave Henry V<sup>111</sup>  
the title, (Defender of the Faith) because of the  
book he wrote blasting Luther and Protestantism,  
when Henry was still Papist. When he got fed up  
and went heretic he should have dropped the title,  
still, I suppose he liked the sound of the phrase  
and kept it in defiance of the Pope...and now I  
guess its interpreted in the light of the monarchs  
position as head of the Church of England..ie;-  
Defender of the (C.of.E) Faith.

I. favour "Save it for use in dire emergency".

BLEATHERINGS 36 Ethel. I wonder what you mean by  
"Brotherhood of MAN" Ethel. I'm not being  
facesiou, or taking pokes at your socialist  
views, its just that I wonder how you see this, Brotherhood. In fact  
this would be worth doing an article on.

I can't, myself see anything like a BoM comming about in the next  
thousand years or so, (a short time), Myself, I would imagine that such a  
Brotherhood would entail world government, equal rights for all, large  
scale automation, better farming methods, (and distribution systems) equal  
opportunities for everyone, (but wealth an anacronism, as everyone would ha  
have - as right - food, clothes, houseing, the basics, free), and lots of  
leisure time. Other things follow from such an outline, but they would  
make too long a list to put down here.

I've read a couple of Heyers books, notably "The Conqurer", (all  
about 1066 and all that) and they're pretty fair. But the ted books  
I've seen are very off-putting.

Ah, ye poor barbarian Scots, time and again us English have  
conquered you, ground your faces in the dust, all you gave left is old  
traditions...all you can do is look backward,...poor miserable lot  
of hairy barbarians that ye are.

Ahem... (dear Chief of Police, if I don't appear in the  
next mailing I suggest you investigate the SFCoL Scots members....)



5

COGNATE 3 & 4 Rosemary H.

did you put this same rabbit cut-out on all of your zines? or was each one different?

Please tell me you're a Sherlock Holmes fan,

Rosemary, then;- "Mr Holmes, the podiatrist, Hickey, has just left" "Aha! Follow me Watson, the games' afoot". ahem.

You write entertainingly but....hmm, these sales types get slyer all the time..that "working through college selling magazine subs" has/is been used over here too. Also some disreputable book people, of the educational book type, go round masquerading as Education Department officials...or say they've been employed or recommended by the Education Authority. Selling is getting harder and dirtier here too...hmm, especially harder. I always groggle at the casual way you Yanks go buzzing off for (to us) great distances at the drop of a hat... a 3 hour trip here, might be from one side of London to the other, or maybe 120 miles by road. (excepting expresses and motorways). 20 miles is a great distance.... still, I live as far from the sea as its possible to get in England, and that's about 1 1/2 hours away, nearest. (and fastest.). and of course, if you travel more than a couple of hundred miles, at most, you end up in a foreign contry, (ie;- Wales Ireland Scotland.....hum, ..weeell. seriously over there you can travel 1,000 miles and still, - more or less - know what the natives are saying...but if we go to the continent there's nowt but hordes of jabbering foreigners. Hardly civilised, most of them, certainly not British. Damn wogs, all of 'em..shoot the lot, hang 'em, off with their heads, etc., etc., (barbarians). (mutter, mutter, mutter).

yus, what is a borrow pit?. (Bisto or Bistow is the name of a sort of gravy powder). Come come lass, if you wan't illos to put on the walls invest in some good ones... get someone to buy you an Eddie, or a Cawthorne or an Atom at the con next year. (you can read upside-down type...an yes, you have had newspaper experience..that explains it. My dad was a printer, before 1930s and the slump, had 8-10 men working for him..in Brum. (he says, feeling very in-groupish).

AMBIE 18 Archie, (G.H.) Mercer. another good Higginbottom, you'll have to reprint them all some time in a genzine, I like them.

About Kennedy, you may indeed have a point there, about how seeing him on TV might make him seem more ..er...personal. Part of the shock, for me, (and perhaps other Britishers) was the fact that an assasination occurred at all. I mean, in this day and age, one does not expect a highly developed nation like the States to resort to violence to accomplish (political?) aims. I don't know that it was Kennedy himself who had the ..er.. admiration of people so much as what he sought to represent. That is;- his youth, his forward lookingness, his tolerance. (I admit that his bad points, and he must have had lots, were lost in transmission of news from the States to this country). Y'know, it seemed so undeserved, him getting murdered, if it had been some nasty type, say Goldwater, I don't suppose many people would have been sympathetic.

Your Fabulous Freds are Fabulous, er, famous fred's are fab, that is um...well, viva Cawthorne anyhoo. (he's v good).

Poor Archie, as one of those who have sinned my mis-spelling your road name I humbly appologise, I'll not do it in future..if I do it will be by the merest accident..honest...(shame, shame, poor soul).



FARRAGO L Crilly. well, the cover wasn't too bad, even if it was done by that horrible method (no, no, not you Terry, the duplicating process..geez.) otherwise...well, what is there to say..you don't say anything, just a page of reviews, a sappy advert, and a...(censored)..daddytorial. (ie;- dead editorial) a pity.

DOLPHIN 7 E Busby. while I'm overawed by your magnificent time of 1 mile per 4 min., I can't help reflecting that you might enjoy your walk more if it was a stroll. re;- Donaho not getting his mailing, thats very curious, but it happens so often..similar thing...I wonder how the PO manage it...they must have a System:

Elinor. I'm not convinced Oswald killed Kennedy, WHAT evidence is this that "was conclusive"?. Nothing I've seen yet convinces me that he did it...in fact I would go so far as to say that everything I've seen so far looks like people using him as a scapegoat. I've no axe to grind, I'd just like to know that the right person (people) get the blame. I'm afraid that calling Oswald names, like Marxist and Cuba-symphiser, smells like MacCarthyism, making the victim so tainted that people are scared to stick up for him in case they get tarred with the same brush. The image of Americans in this respect is pretty unflattering to Americans, who, as a general rule, are regarded as over-excitable, prone to panic, types by most British types. To a large extent, regarding Americans en-mass, I have a kinder, but similar, picture. I might add that I regard lots of other peoples similiary, but if I harp on America its because I like you lot, and hate to see you get a bad image.

Oh, has anyone heard wether a ballistics test was done on the bullets that killed Kennedy?. If so, what results.

Yes, I'm more agressive now. I think its a case of putting on a bold front so that people won't be embarrassed, or pity me. Also its because I have to show people (and myself I guess) that I'm still just as good as anyone else. In fact I've a very high opinion of myself in many ways, and it irks me to get sympathy, (tho' well mean't) from people who I believe are my inferiors.. (sheesh. with a complex like that your question is answered, the only possible career for me is politics...first I'll organise a new party..hmm, lets see... the People of the Country First party, and we'll all wear these green shirts, and a nice arm-band with my initials on it... we'll infiltrate the scouts...hmmm, rename them The Cheslin Youth...and.....).

You sound as if you have isolationist tendancies. Do you believe America could safely back out of world - activities - and still remain safe?.

About civilisation always developing on trade routes...a pity you can't recommend a book..I'd be interested if you come across a title.... I don't believe you, you must be having me on about George Washingtons wooden teeth...it must be a traditional Americal joke like the one about wooden nickles..isn't it?



DOLPHIN 7 Elinor B continued. because the Egyptian and before had better dentistry than that..pshawh. (or even pshaw!)

I think Great Danes are glorious dogs...tho' I sympathise with anyone who has only a city home to keep one in. They are a little too large for modern dwellings. (besides, I wonder how much they eat?..hmmm, could always feed him at night, on wandering citizens, in a city its probable that no-one would notice the disappearance of a few people).

COMPACT @ Ella. ah, me girl, thats a foine Atom cover ye has. Well, being Atom it almost inevitably has to be good, makes me envious.

I disliked Shakespear at school, because it was given in the form of a lesson..something boring that had to be learnt. I re-discovered Shakespear...oh,god knows when, and found I liked it...although I've never gone out of my way to see a play, or bothered to scrutinise all his works. The classic writers (well) like Stevenson,Dickens and Bronte were forced on us too. and even now I've not read more than 2 or 3...although I have a few Dickens's on my shelves...just shows the importance of being introduced properly to these things.eh?.

I liked THEM, even tho' I've seen it about 3 times it still seems a pretty good SF film, all things considered.

Dear Ella, stop smoking this way. First remember that fags are more dangerous than pipes, so start smoking a pipe, besides its a lot cheaper...then, after you've been smoking a pipe for a few months look at yourself in the mirrow. "I look a right nana" you will say, and with that you'll throw the pipe away. Viola! you've given up!

Slimming?. Starve yourself.Take up cycling.Use the stairs all the time, not the lift...go to a steam bath twice a week...hmmm,etc.,

Arthur....doesn't quite sound right somehow. But its nice to see him breaking into print again. yeech, forsooth Forsythe!

Lokk Ella, I keep trying to tell people, colouring covers is no hard graft...it occupies, very restfully, odd moments of leisure between one mailing and the next, and I enjoy doing it. ANYONE of you lot can do the same. You can get coloured pencils, or buy a box of childrens paints for 2-3bob...its that simple.

that oneshot...well. some,if not all,were cut on those horrible stencils, then, foolishly, I tried to use up some old ink, and I was in a hurry too. Sorry Ella. (those stencils, the transparant film soon rpts and falls to bits, if you don't use the stencil up pretty quick you have to cut them without the front sheet, they are worse than ordinary stencils then...I'll not use them again unless I'mm desperate for stencils.) coloured covers..."A thing of beauty is a joy forever" This I'd say if they were beautiful, but I feel a little like that anyhow.

any sign of a new Atom anthology?.

RATHER than start a new comment at the bottom of the page;-

CUM TO BRUM ----- Easter 1965. 5/- or £1 to me.

nice cover. and the kittens illo. I find a lot of your stuff to finely drawn for my taste Bjo. (humble apologies etc.,) but these are very nice.

NAMES are interesting eh?. er..um...how strange that so many fit the people..like "Keneth" means "handsome"...(dum,de,dum,dum.....)

If you dig around some more see if you can find out some surname meanings...(some are pretty obvious of course).

DAVID Hale. (but ... er... I'll resist any remarks re suitable meanings...)

JT has done a very interesting run-down on the English police, history. What more to say eludes me. I enjoyed it tremendously.

KOBOLD Brian Jordan. Well, its different. I'll say that...and that mad Welsh Chinese thing is amusing in a mind-wrenching way...but I wish you wouldn't put staples in THAT edge. please.?.

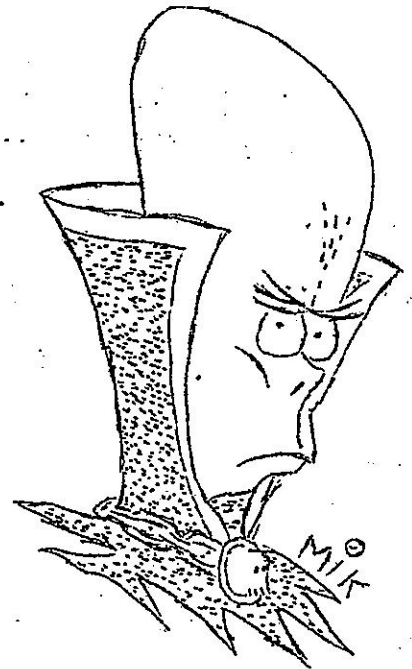
LEFNUI 3 Fred Patten. cover..not bad but, like the interiors on, is too "twee" for me. (er.."twee" means sort of too awfully cute and sweet to please). I'd like to take a longer look at the rest of the stuff in here, but I've not much time left. I'm afraid that the zines noted on this and the following pages will get very short shift...sorry. But I've been very busy.. mebbe next time.

Hmm. if anything comes of Walt Daugherty's beard muttering I'd be very interested.

Whenever I feel a bit down in the dumps I recall something like that statement that if the FBI were to take its agents out of the American Communist Party the thing would collapse from lack of ducs paying members. ...but then..I've got a queer sense of humour.

One thing. I saw a programe built around that book "THE AMERICAN WAY OF DEATH" of TV the other night. Ignoring the content of the programme, I was very forcibly struck by the way that everyone went around saying AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE, OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE, (in capitals) it looks as if the phrases have become a part of normal conversation...in much the same way as the army sargent supposedly uses an obscenity for every fourth word these phrases come trotting out...purely automatic, meaningless, lifeless, ridiculous..tragic. Brainwashed. Moronic. the phrases are so empty and political-speechish..no feeling, sincerity.. just by rpte....

PANTHEON B N Bluem. well, this shogld prove interesting. As far as I can make out Gerfandom is thousans strong, with huge clubs and highly organised..er..well, very organised then. What I have heard is the fear expressed that if Gerfandom got interested in TAFF their far superior numbers would ensure the success of their candidate ovdr anyone we (British fandon) could put up. Opinion please?



BROEDIGNAG. all of them, including the PM ones. v interesting. but I haven't the time yet to look at them properly. The game seems to have great possibilities...hmm,(indicates "Thinks" ) anyhoo, ta.

MORPH 35. J Roles. sheesh. great cover! as for the rest..well I've had another quick run thru". but I dassent start on anything..the RR,as usual,commentless shall pass,but not unappreciated..the MCs and the Shakespeare thing..no time. sorry J.

Vagary. Bobbie. Oh Bobbie, after a fine fat rather sinisterly glorious Vagary I shan't have time to say much. But V is one mag I always hope to find when my bundle comes.

Phenotype Eney... Oh, well I'm gald thats why the children checred. it just goes to show though how easy it is to create a totally different impression of sometjing, merely by quoting the truth...but not the whole truth. (is widely used technique,of course). I have lots of ideas for Olaf cartoons..but its getting them drawn.

Who am I to disagee with Johnson or Jefferson?

VIPER 7 Bill Donaho. and about time too,William. what's worse than no Va in a mailing is no V or Viper. (WR is great) poor pussy's. I have only 2 now. but our don't get lost..where I live is nothing like a built-up area though. (in addition the 3 cats from next door have adopted me as their chief scource of food)(Oh,none of them takes any notice of the dog..them pich things off his plate and if he objects they sort of look at him, all scornful likd, and he goes and hides behind the sofa...ah its a hard life for dogs).

scientific methid.har.also. ta. and the damn "key" is a scream. hmm. I think I know who might be interested in this...

'course I cut me own stencils...I got a corn on my typing finger to prove it.....

UL 11 Norm Metcalf. if thats the kind of thing (MZB) they have in the N3F Manuscript Bureau how come we don't see more items from that scource? of course,this is slanted more for N3F types,the noes (BSFA types). but its good.

Mr SHERLOCK HOLMES in  
A STUDY IN SCARLET, 1882.....?.

that Burnt Njal is in Penguin as Njals Saga. not bad eh?.

the other SF books you mention.hhmmm. I'll keep an eye open for them. ta.

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THIS WAS ENVOY 14 (I hope I counted right)

from Ken M P Cheslin, 18 New Farm Road, Stourbridge, Worcs., England.

for the 41st mailing of OMP. September 1964.

Illios by Mike Higgs, 158 Barrows Rd, Sparkhill, Birmingham, England.

